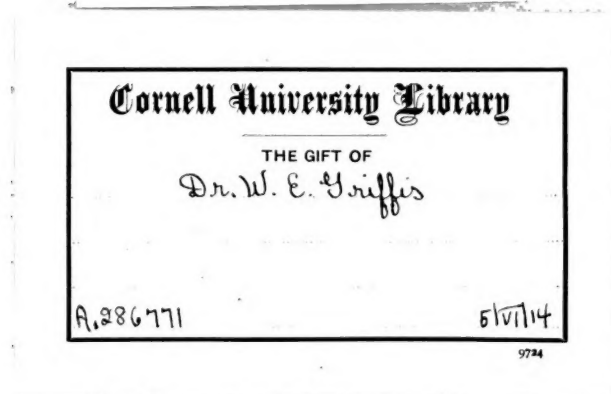
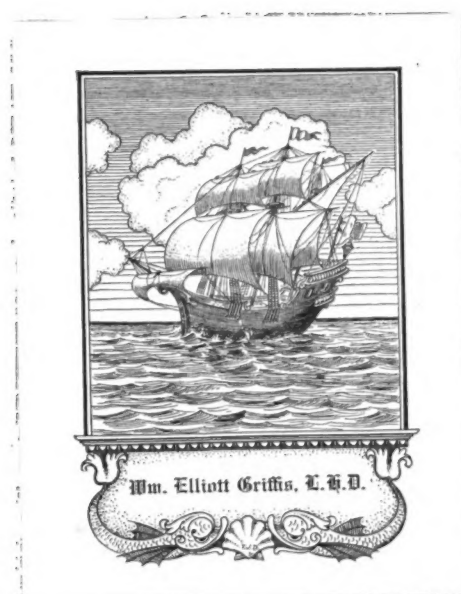
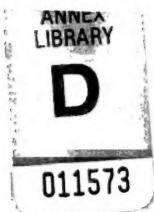


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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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YOKOHAMA, JULY 3RD, 1897.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 3RD, 1897.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Golden Hind* won the "Mary Cup" on Saturday.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA's reception in England has been very cordial.

COL. BUCK, the new U.S. Minister to Japan, has arrived in Tokyo.

It is proposed to establish a Japanese Consulate at Lima, Peru.

ON Monday a royal salute was fired by the warships in port, it being Coronation Day.

AMERICAN Independence Day will be celebrated in Yokohama on the 5th July this year.

MR. VON TREUTLER, *Chargé d'Affaires* for Germany, was robbed of a valuable watch and chain in a railway carriage while travelling to

Kyoto the other day. The thief was caught subsequently and the property recovered.

THE *Albatross* won the Jubilee Gold Cup offered by the Y.C.C. for the 26-raters, on Saturday.

THE Nippon Kangyo Ginko (Japan Industrial Bank), commenced business in Tokyo on the 24th ult.

THE Jubilee review at Spithead was a wonderful affair, the ships extending along a distance of 20 miles.

THE Russian ironclad *Gangoot* has been wrecked on a reef in the Baltic Sea; all hands were saved.

RAIN has fallen in Yokohama every day this week: the weather is very cold for the season of the year.

A CHARTER has been granted to a company to construct and run an electric railway between Osaka and Kobe.

It is reported that War Loan Bonds sold to foreign merchants in Japan now amount to over yen 7,000,000.

THE work of constructing a telephone between Tokyo, Osaka, and Kobe will be commenced during the current year.

A farewell dinner was given to Mr. E. Dun, the retiring U.S. Minister, by the members of the Tokyo Club, on June 28.

THE U.S. Government has replied in a very guarded manner to Japan's protest against the Hawaiian Annexation Treaty.

THE steamer *Shin-Kochi Maru* ran down and sank a coal-laden junk off Himejima on the 25th ult. All the crew were saved.

THE Yokohama Five Staples Exchange is expected to pay a dividend of 25 or 30 per cent per annum for the past half-year.

It is rumoured that the Portuguese Government is about to appoint the Governor-General of Macao to the post of Minister to Japan.

MR. AND MRS. FRANK GILLET of Yokohama, and their little girl, were among the passengers by the P. & O. steamer *Aden* who were saved.

It is proposed to build a detached palace for the Crown Prince at Akashi, on the site of the old palace, which is situated in the midst of beautiful scenery.

THE Nagasaki Shipbuilding Yard, under the management of the Mitsubishi firm, is to be greatly enlarged, with a view of making it the most extensive dock in the East.

MR. H. KESWICK's yacht, *Stella*, broke away from her moorings in Yokohama Bay, during a squall on the night of the 30th ult., and drifted on to the sea wall of the Bund, receiving considerable damage.

A TELEGRAM received from Mr. Kurino, Japanese Minister to France, is to the effect that the revised treaty between France and Japan is likely to pass the Senate, as a majority of the members are in favour of it.

THE ports of Shimizu in Suruga Province, Yokkaichi in Ise Province, and Nanao in Noto Province, have been opened as special import and export ports, and Customs offices will shortly be established there.

THE P. & O. steamer *Aden* was wrecked on the east coast of Socotra on the 9th June. Nine passengers, two engineers, and a steward, and 27 of the crew, were saved and taken to *Aden* by the Lighthouse tender *Mayo*. Sixteen passen-

gers and 34 of the crew, who took to the boats, are missing. Captain Hill and eight passengers were washed overboard and drowned, and the remainder of the crew are missing.

ON the 24th ult. a collision took place at the mouth of Nagasaki harbour between the steamer *Fukuoka Maru*, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, and the junk *Sumiriki Maru*. The latter was cut in two and sank.

AMONG the extraordinary expenditures in the Foreign Office Budget are sums for the establishment of Japanese Legations in Spain, Belgium, and Turkey, as well as several Consulates in various countries.

It is estimated that the cost of the works requisite to prevent the copper poison passing from the Ashio mines to the neighbouring valleys and plains will amount to 800,000 yen. Over 9,000 men are employed in the work.

A CRICKET match was played at Kobe on the 30th ult. between a team from H.M.S. *Narcissus* and eleven ladies of Kobe, the gentlemen using their left hands only and base-ball clubs instead of bats. The ladies were defeated, making 53 runs to their opponents' 76.

A TELEGRAM from Niigata Prefecture reports that a conflagration occurred at Sanjo-machi, Minami Kambara-gun, Niigata Prefecture, on the afternoon of the 30th ult. Another telegram received by the Meiji Fire Insurance Company states that the losses sustained by the Company will amount to about yen 10,000, while a telegram that reached the Tokyo Fire Insurance Company announces the loss to that Company of about yen 20,000.

ACCORDING to information received by the Authorities from London, the treatment extended by the British court towards H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa was equivalent to that tendered a reigning Emperor. The Hotel Cecil, the finest hostelry in London, was guarded by the Royal troops and the Prince was provided with carriages specially sent by the Court. Whenever His Imperial Highness left the Hotel an escort of the Guards attended him. The treatment extended to the suite of His Highness was far more cordial than could have been expected.

No change has occurred in the Import market during the week, dullness being still the prevailing feature in nearly all branches. A few transactions on a small scale have taken place in piece goods, and some business has been done in yarns at former rates. Fancy goods and woollens are stagnant. In metals there has been a small daily business, principally in tin plates and nails, but the tightness in the money market prevents any transactions in this and other lines of imports, except for actual requirements. In sugar, some sales of brown have been effected at slightly lower rates, and some business has been done in white at previous quotations, holders being firm. The kerosene market continues dull, only small orders being placed to fill immediate requirements. In exports the tea market remains *in statu quo*. A fair amount of business has been done at fairly good prices. The *Doric* took 28,387 chests on the 29th ult. for San Francisco, and the *Pelican* 12,806 chests for Tacoma. On the 2nd inst. sales in Yokohama amounted to 204,300 catties, a good day's business, while in Kobe the daily sales averaged about 180,000 catties. In silk there is not much doing. Some new filatures, perhaps 250 bales, have been received, principally from Kofu and neighbouring provinces, but so far there is no real stock in the market, which however, is expected to open next week or thereabouts. At present, prices are very firm and likely to be still higher. Exchange remains weak.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The opening of Japan to foreign intercourse was in the nature of an accident. No outside nation regarded her in the light of a new market. It was known merely in a vague kind of way that on the confines of the Far East lay a little island, the inhabitants of which were stoutly opposed to contact with the outer world, and did not hesitate to drive away by force of arms any intruders from abroad. When Commodore Perry first visited Japan in 1853, his purpose did not extend beyond procuring water and provisions. At that time, however, kerosene oil had not been discovered and candles were the chief means of procuring light. For the manufacture of candles large quantities of sperm oil were needed, and the pursuit of whales constituted an important industry. American seamen engaged in it with special activity, and American seamen had learned that great schools of whales frequented the seas northward of Japan. Hence it became an obvious convenience that whalers should be able to call at Japan for provisions and water. That was the motive of Commodore Perry's second coming; he desired to arrange that the Japanese islands might be available as places of call for his country's whalers. If England and France followed America's example in this matter, it was principally because the talk about opening Japan had become international, and enterprising States did not care to be behind the fashion of the hour. Japan as a centre of commerce was an idea that did not yet present itself to any intelligence. When the foreigners arrived, however, and began to look about them, they found unlooked-for conditions. The Japanese were a civilized, refined people, with progressive tastes waiting and willing to be catered to. Very soon foreign goods, cloth, camlets, shirtings, and such things, began to find a market, and within five or six years after the signing of the treaties, the country was carrying on transactions with the Occident to the value of some two million dollars annually. Thereat foreigners changed their minds, and saw that Japan possessed new and unexpected interest. They therefore paid increased attention to her condition, and endeavoured to promote the introduction of Occidental civilization. That they were more or less instrumental in effecting great reforms can not be doubted. That they contributed to the overthrow of the Tokugawa Government is also matter of history. The English especially are associated with the latter event. Sir Harry Parkes, the British Minister, lent no little aid to the cause of the Restoration, but if we look closely at the motives that actuated him, we find that the interests of his country's trade were his paramount, though not his only aims. It is true that the Bakufu had concluded treaties opening the country to foreign trade, and that the Bakufu officials posed as the advocates of foreign intercourse. But in reality they were strongly adverse to the new order of things, and if the clans had been classed according to their sentiments, the Tokugawa would have stood at the head of the list as the *Fu* (foreign-expelling) clan *par excellence*. Sir Harry Parkes appreciated the state of affairs. If he lent his influence to further the Restoration, it was not in the interests of Japanese civilization, but because he hoped to find in the new Government less inveterate foes to Western contact. Events marched as he desired, but with much greater rapidity and thoroughness than he had expected. The people engaged in a race for the introduction of foreign things and foreign fashions. Whatever foreigners said was counted oracular; whatever advice they gave was adopted. Undoubtedly Japan derived benefit from the advice and assistance that foreigners tendered, yet it is not to be concluded that they concerned themselves much about her benefit. They did indeed, as has been said, come, after a time, to regard her as a market that might be worth fostering, but there was also another project influencing them, a project not recognised by the public at large, but very clear to us (the

Fiji Shimpō, which we are epitomizing). Japan after all, was a petty country. Her commercial capacities could easily be gauged. There was no hope of really great profit by trading with her. But she might be made to serve another and a very much larger purpose: she might be converted into a lever for prising China out of the groove of conservatism. The huge Chinese empire had long presented itself to Occidental imagination in the light of an Eldorado, waiting to pour its wealth into the lap of anyone that could gain access to its stores. Innumerable efforts had been made to exploit the *Crossus*, but every endeavour had been shattered against the vast bulk of the inert mass. Japan offered a fresh chance. If her little neighbour could be induced to adopt Western civilization, the necessary shock might at last be given to China. Actuated by such motives, foreign nations regarded Japan first as a mere market for their commodities, and secondly as a mere instrument for the prosecution of their purposes with respect to China. Her independence did not present itself to them in the light of a tangible reality. Innumerable indications of their mood might be adduced, but one will suffice. At the outset, when the commercial-market theory alone received attention, the Foreign Legations were situated at such places as *Tozen-ji*, *Tempuku-ji* and *Koun-ji*; within the limits of the city of Tokyo, it is true, but at points far removed from the Castle. When, however, the China-lever project entered the field of practical politics, the British Minister insisted on choosing, as a site for his Legation, the high ground at the back of the Castle—a district from which the *Tosama Daimyo* had invariably been excluded by the Bakufu Government, *Hatamoto* and *Fudai Daimyo* alone being permitted to reside there. On that site the British Legation was constructed. It was an extensive pile of buildings, surrounded by a strong wall; comprising quarters for troops, and furnished with a large oven for baking bread. The Minister himself, whenever he moved about the city, was attended by a numerous guard of cavalry with naked lances. Nothing could exceed the laughty defiance of his goings and comings, or the imposing mien of his retinue. He aimed at nothing less than the control of the city and the bending of the Government to his will. No indication of Japan's independence might have been gathered from his methods. Ordinary Japanese, ignorant of diplomatic canons, probably supposed that such doings were not out of the common. But to discerning folks their significance was apparent enough, and among the conservative *Samurai* of the time the *Kojimachi Kamado* (Kojimachi bread-oven) became a by-word. Happily the Government of the Restoration succeeded so soon in introducing order into its affairs, that the designs of the British Minister proved abortive. But the fact established by the story of that time remains undeniable, namely that Japan was regarded merely as a commercial mart, or as a lever to move China, and that she was not counted an independent State. She has reason indeed, to be grateful for the civilization that thus came to her, but she should recognise its origin. Her own aptitude stood her in good stead. No sooner did she become acquainted with foreign ships, than she developed the art of ship-building. No sooner did foreign military systems come under her observation, than she organized and trained an army in Western style. Nothing daunted her, and before twenty years had passed, foreigners began to rub their eyes, and gaze with some surprise at this phenomenon of a nation's birth. Then followed the war with China. Its results gave sudden and definite form to the impression that had been growing for some time. Occidental observers were loud in their praises of the new Power in the Pacific, its resources, its spirit, and its organization, but there was something of bitterness, a note of jealousy, in their applause. No sooner did they see cause to admire Japan, than they found reason to dread her also. The fact is that in its intercourse with the rest of the world the Occident is guided primarily by religious and racial prejudices. Never for an instant

has it been able to shake itself free from the poison of that ancient malady. An example is now before our eyes. Turkey has conquered Greece, and demands the ordinary fruits of victory, an indemnity and the possession of the territory arrested from her enemy. But the Powers of Europe can not endure the idea of Turkey's absorbing so much as a square mile of Grecian soil. Why? Simply because difference of religion and difference of race stand in the way. That is the trouble in Japan's case also. It is owing to that difference that her national development is viewed with uneasiness. She was deprived of the Liaotung Peninsula because she is Oriental and non-Christian. That happened in a time of war, but there are Liaotung incidents in times of peace too. A country, owing to racial and religious prejudices, may be deprived not only of prospective gains, but of profits which it is actually enjoying. An example is the attitude of the United States towards Japan. Japanese products are to be weighted with a prohibitive tariff; Japanese immigrants are to be discriminated against, and Hawaii is to be annexed lest too many Japanese should find a home there. Occidentals protest that they regard it as a sacred duty to spread the light of civilization throughout the globe, and that their intercourse with conservative nations is governed by that high aim. They are doubtless quite sincere in the main, but it seems totally impossible for them to divest themselves of their traditional prejudices as to race and religion. It is a universally recognised principle of political economy that men should buy whatever articles are cheapest and best, and that they should not prefer costly and inferior things. Occidentals are very keen in such matters. They know well how to promote and safeguard their own material interests. Yet when they are required to choose between white labour, as Irish and Italian, which is expensive and scarce, and Japanese labour, which is cheap and plentiful, they choose the white, and legislate to expel the Japanese from their midst. It is a case of racial prejudice, a religious prejudice. In the competitive struggle upon which Japan has entered, Japan has those two great factors ranged against her. It is impossible to foresee what embarrassments they may entail. Even her possession of Formosa may be called in question, and it is certain that the enterprise of her people beyond her borders will encounter serious obstacles. Such is the trend of the time. The duty of all far-seeing men is to lay the facts plainly before their nationals, in order that Japan may at least escape the error of being unprepared for what is before her.

An expression made use of by Count Okuma in a recent speech to the Local Governors furnishes the theme of a long article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Count Okuma said that the Cabinet approves the policy of free industry; in other words, the policy of leaving industrials to their own resources, and not extending to them any measure of State aid. Now that, according to our contemporary, is a complete reversal of the policy adopted by the Cabinet when it came into office, and since Count Okuma is undoubtedly the leader of the Cabinet, his utterances must be interpreted as an expression of the whole Administration's views. It is true that when the Cabinet was formed, Count Okuma's functions were connected with foreign affairs only. He had not yet acquired the direction of agricultural and commercial matters. But he must have been a consenting party to the programme that found expression in the last Budget. The Government's financial arrangements showed provisions for aiding the direct export of silk, deep sea fishing, railways, steam-ship services, the export of tea and so forth. The Ito Cabinet's Budget embodied aids aggregating 2,948,199 yen; the Okuma Cabinet's Budget swelled the amount to 8,691,869 yen; There is no room to mistake the tendency of the policy originally adopted by the present Cabinet in this field. Now, however, it has suddenly performed a *volte-face*. Its leader declares for the abandonment of State aids. The question whether

official protection works advantageously or disadvantageously is open to much discussion. But there can be no discussion about the impropriety of a Cabinet's suddenly departing from the policy unmistakably adopted by it at the outset in such matters. Manufacturers and men of enterprise have been misled, and will probably suffer heavy losses. The *Nichi Nichi* insists that the Government's new departure is the outcome not of conviction but of necessity. They find that their State-aid policy has provoked most inconvenient opposition abroad, and that to carry it out they must have recourse to foreign capital.

The same journal has another article on the general subject of foreign relations. It points out that the value of military preparations is somewhat misunderstood by the Japanese of to-day. The prime purpose of military preparations is to preserve peace. Diplomacy must have armaments behind it, but armaments are to diplomacy what his swords were to the *Samurai* in former times. He carried two blades in his girdle as a symbol of his title to respect, but he never bared them except in cases of emergency, and he never bared them without using them. Armaments are the bulwarks of tranquillity; diplomacy is the instrument. Each is absolutely essential to the other. Every civilized nation talks of peace as the prime object of its existence, but every civilized nation behaves as though war were the one thing that it anticipated. If A organizes an army of a million men, B hastens to collect eleven hundred thousand. If C gets together a fleet of a hundred ships, D builds a hundred and ten. Yet, all the while, diplomacy exerts every artifice of ingenuity and foresight to avert recourse to these engines of destruction. France and Germany have been glaring at each other for twenty-six years, but never a shot has been fired between them. Their diplomats have managed that. The Franco-Russian *entente* confronted by the *Dreibund*—that array of forces imposed quiet by its very vastness. How ready the enemies were to clasp hands even for a moment over the Liaotung peninsula! It is thus that diplomacy and military preparations work together for the preservation of peace. The Occident has grown very wise. It knows how to cast up an exact estimate of balances. It understands that the enormous losses entailed by a single war constitute an ocean in which drops of yearly expenditure to preserve military efficiency disappear incontinently. It never for an instant grudges great annual outlay on account of its armies, its navies, and its diplomats, but neither does it mistake for a moment the ultimate purpose of such financial efforts. Japan must tread the same path. She is spending freely on account of her army and navy. She must spend freely on account of her Foreign Office also, recognising that her diplomats are the means of putting her army and navy to their highest uses. She must choose the very best intellects at her command and entrust to them the conduct of her foreign affairs, supplying them liberally, at the same time, with funds adequate for the work they have to do.

The country's foreign trade is discussed by the *Mainichi Shimbun* in five articles, especially with reference to the remarkable development shown during the present year. The following comparative figures are added:—

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE FROM JAN. 1ST TO MAY 31ST.

	1894. Yen.	1895. Yen.	1896. Yen.
Exports	30,576,100	33,756,300	41,305,300
Imports	38,180,700	33,141,600	46,372,000

Judging from the above figures, the trade for the whole of the current year will probably amount to,

	Yen.
Exports	176,650,000
Imports	211,120,000
Total	387,770,000

Of course account must be taken of two facts; first that owing to the prospect of a heavy increase of import duties in America, Japanese goods are being hastily poured into the States so as to escape the impost; and, secondly, that owing to the starting or increase of many industries during the early months of the present year in Japan, large imports of machinery and raw material have taken place. Moreover, the tightness of the money market may presently exercise an injurious effect upon newly started enterprises, with the result of diminishing imports for the uses of those enterprises. From such points of view, the estimate set down above may not prove an accurate forecast of the year's trade. A disquieting feature is the excess of imports over exports. Last year's experience and this year's indications go to show that Japan must expect an excess of some forty or fifty million yen annually on the side of imports. The *Mainichi Shimbun* has no belief in protection, and is not concerned theoretically about any development of the import trade. But it fears lest the drain of hard money resulting from the want of equilibrium between exports and imports may impair the country's ability to carry out its gold-monometallic programme. The rate of the yearly increase of the foreign trade is very remarkable. Taking the first five months of each year, we find these results:—

PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE IN EXPORTS AND IMPORTS DURING THE JANUARY-MAY PERIOD.

	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Exports	10.4	22.4	19.4	Decrease	38.0
Imports	17.7	30.0	5.8	3.50	24.7

There are some general remarks to be made about the development of Japan's foreign trade. The war with China marks an epoch. Before the war, the principal factor operating for development was the fall in the silver price of gold. Since the war, six factors have been at work. First, a quantity of material has had to be imported in connexion with the expansion of the national armaments. Secondly, the purchasing power of the middle and lower orders has been greatly increased owing to the large sums of money that came into their possession during, and subsequently to, the war. Thirdly, there has been a sudden growth of industrial enterprise since the war, accompanied by an import of machinery and raw material. Fourthly, the Government has undertaken various productive enterprises on a large scale. Fifthly, the export of Japanese productions to silver-using countries has increased appreciably since last year. Sixthly, the export of articles to gold-using countries has increased greatly during the present year. It is to be noted that the development of the trade will henceforth depend mainly upon Japan's own exertions. Before the war, the chief impulse came from without (*tado-teki*); but now that the factor of currency fluctuation has been eliminated, the impulse must come from within (*jido-teki*).

The *Kokumin Shimbun* writes about the connexion between diplomacy and foreign trade. The rapid growth of the latter invests the subject with special importance, and the dangers threatened by America's tariff legislation, as well as by the annexation of Hawaii, serve to illustrate the part that diplomacy plays in the field of commerce. We need not follow our contemporary's arguments. Their character will easily be conceived.

The *Fumiuri Shimbun* suggests that the engrossing character of the questions which have recently arisen on the east of Japan may have unduly diverted the attention of her diplomats from affairs on the west, namely, the affairs of China and Korea. It compiles a long catalogue of matters that demand treatment in Korea, and expresses a hope that the Cabinet will not neglect them.

In Saga and Kochi Prefectures the farmers are quarrelling over the water-supply, owing to the drought. Here in Yokohama people are getting bad-tempered owing to the too liberal and persistent downpour of rain.

RISE IN PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

From the year 1873 to the year 1893, remarks the *Shogyo Shimpō*, every commercial and trading company in the Empire had to send in reports regarding the average prices of commodities. These reports were afterwards digested by the Committee that enquired into the Coinage System, but when that body was dissolved, the custom was allowed to pass from official hands. The work then devolved upon the Bank of Japan which has succeeded in tabulating the average prices of commodities from the 20th year (1887) up to the present day. The commodities taken were limited to the following:—Coal, copper, iron, cotton, cotton thread, muslin, silk floss, timber, charcoal, wood, kerosene oil, *saké*, soy, dried bonito, sugar, barley, salt, rye, wheat, white cotton stuffs, oil cake, manure, rice, bran, wax, foreign spun thread, eggs, Japanese tobacco, tea, matting, *miso*, raw lacquer, domestic fowls, oil, flour, foreign nails, foreign paper, Japanese paper, skins and leather, lining stuffs, silk thread, window glass, hemp, and white silk *crêpe*. In the following table the prices for January in the 20th year (1887) are represented at 100. The list for the 30th year (1897) extends only to May:—

Year.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.
20th (1887).....	105.....	99.....	103
21st (1888).....	109.....	104.....	107
22nd (1889).....	121.....	106.....	112
23rd (1890).....	120.....	111.....	117
24th (1891).....	114.....	104.....	109
25th (1892).....	118.....	110.....	115
26th (1893).....	123.....	115.....	119
27th (1894).....	132.....	121.....	126
28th (1895).....	140.....	131.....	135
29th (1896).....	153.....	140.....	145
30th (1897).....	161.....	146.....	153

Another table gives the following details:—

	1887.	1894.	1896.	1897.
January.....	100.....	123.....	140.....	146
February.....	102.....	123.....	142.....	147
March.....	100.....	120.....	140.....	152
April.....	100.....	125.....	142.....	161
May.....	99.....	123.....	143.....	161

It will easily be seen that prices rose twenty-six per cent. from January 1887 up to the war; forty-three per cent. after the war; and sixty-one per cent. by May this year.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

Vladivostock is at length about to shake off the great disadvantage under which it has laboured from time immemorial: it will no longer be ice-bound in the winter months. Considering the magnitude of Russian interests at Vladivostock, the size of the garrison, the fact that the port is the rendezvous of the whole Russian fleet in the seas of China and Japan, and the immense inconvenience of being cut off from maritime intercourse with the outer world during a long period every year, and considering, also, that devices for ice crushing have been developed to a remarkable extent in recent years, it is strange that the Russian Authorities have not hitherto provided for their Pacific port any of the powerful ice-clearing engines that are at work in the Baltic and elsewhere. For quite a number of years—we can not at present recall exactly how many—communications have been successfully kept open between Denmark and Sweden throughout the whole winter, and that is a task far more difficult than the problem to be solved at Vladivostock. At length, however, steps have been taken to procure an ice-crushing steamer from Denmark. She arrived recently in Vladivostock, having been brought out from Europe under the command of three Danish naval officers. We are not in possession of details as to her power, but inasmuch as they now build steamers in Denmark capable of cutting a path through 28-inch ice at a rate of 4 knots an hour, there can be no question that Vladivostock's maritime communications with the outer world will henceforth be open all the year round.

JAPANESE NOTES.

We observe that a device more ingenious than ingenious is employed to discredit what we wrote on Monday last with reference to the comments of the vernacular press on the question of Hawaiian annexation. The device is to translate notes and articles published subsequently to Monday the 21st, and to adduce them in refutation of what we wrote about notes and articles published prior to Monday the 21st. That is a very nice manoeuvre. A corresponding procedure would be to denounce as inaccurate a precis of a book issued a month ago because it did not also constitute a precis of a book issued to-day. Our weekly summaries of the vernacular press refer to the week just ended. They do not refer to the week just opening. We have no faculty for summarizing the unpublished ideas of journalists. During the week ended June 20th 1897, we found nothing in vernacular newspapers—with one or two insignificant exceptions—that could be called "bellicose" or "violent," on the subject of the annexation of Hawaii. We said that we found nothing. If anything bellicose or violent has since appeared, it does not affect our statement, since we did not write prophetically.

As to what has appeared in the Tokyo newspapers during the week just ended, we fail to perceive that it is so very intemperate. However, that is a matter of opinion. What some vernacular newspapers certainly have been doing is publishing plainly exaggerated accounts of the attitude assumed by the Government towards the United States. We have already stated our own convictions with regard to that attitude. There is no occasion to repeat them. But we may refer to an extraordinary inference drawn by one of our local contemporaries, namely, that the "latitude permitted to the hostile comments of the vernacular press is certainly suggestive" when compared with the circumspection imposed upon them in connexion with the Liaotung affair. We repeat that the comments are not "hostile." They show indignation but they do not show hostility. However, the point is that our contemporary seems to forget that journalistic conditions have changed materially since April, 1895. The Government has no longer any responsibility for the contents of vernacular newspapers. Suspension by administrative order is a thing of the past. There is now no method of restraining the utterance of a Japanese newspaper except by prosecution in a court of law. One might as well say that the British Government's foreign policy was aggressive because one or two London journals "talked tall."

Another surmise propounded by the same local English journal is that Prince Arisugawa, when he calls at a Spanish port in the *Fuji*, will arrange with Spain to declare war against the United States in the event of the latter's persisting in recognising the Cuban insurgents and annexing Hawaii. The ingenuity of that surmise is really quite admirable. The world would have been in ruins long ago if even a moiety of the awful events predicted by the *Japan Gazette* during the past two years had come off.

The annual produce of Japanese mines, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, has risen to

20,129,000 *yen*. There are 45 mines that yield a hundred thousand *yen* and upwards, and among them 5 give returns of half a million *yen* and upwards. Of these 5, Mr. Furukawa owns 2; the Mitsui family, 1; the Tanko Railway Company, 1; and Mr. Sumito, 1. Altogether, out of the 45 principal mines, Mr. Furukawa owns 7, the aggregate yield of which is 3,140,000 *yen* annually, and the Mitsubishi family own 2, the aggregate yield of which is 3,080,000 *yen*. It is evident that the *Mainichi's* statement is defective, so far as concerns mines yielding five hundred thousand *yen* and upwards, since the Mitsubishi mines ought to be included in that category. Mr. Furukawa and the Mitsubishi between them own mines producing a third of the total mineral yield of the empire. Coal, of course, heads the list of products; copper comes next, and then follow gold and silver.

Count Okuma, in an interview reported by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, said:—"It has been stated in some quarters that the Foreign Office was surprised and perturbed about the Hawaiian annexation question. Nothing of the kind. Annexation has long been on the *tapis*. It was brought forward by the Republican Party when Harrison was President, and that it would come up again after McKinley's election went without saying. The Japanese Government paid attention to the matter when it opened negotiations with Hawaii about the immigration complication, and was therefore in no way disturbed, but at once approached the Cabinet in Washington on the subject. The fact is that the annexation project has derived much of its force on the present occasion from the inroads that Japanese subjects have been making upon many branches of trade hitherto carried on by American citizens in Hawaii, and from the fact that whereas there are only some three thousand Americans in the islands, there are over twenty thousand Japanese. In short, the Japanese constitute about one-fourth of the whole population, and their great and increasing numbers have inspired an apprehension that they may ultimately get possession of the islands. The dilemma in which the Hawaiian Administration finds itself with reference to the immigration affair has consequently been seized as an occasion to renew the agitation for annexation. Another reason is that the United States Government has revised its Tariff, and proposes to put an import duty of some thirty dollars a ton on Hawaiian sugar, which has hitherto entered America free of all impost. The margin of profit on the duty-free sugar is only twenty-three dollars. Thence a duty of thirty dollars is prohibitive. That great duty is imposed in order to protect about a hundred and fifty thousand sugar manufacturers in America, on whose account tens of millions of people are to be obliged to pay a high price for their sugar. It is an absurd idea. The planters in Hawaii see no way of escaping the duty except by getting the islands incorporated in the dominions of the United States, and they are therefore doing everything in their power to compass that end. As for us, if we have approached the American Government on receipt of the news that the Annexation Treaty was concluded, our reasons are simple. Hawaii lies in the middle of the Pacific Ocean 2,100 miles from San Francisco, 2,300

miles from Canada, and 3,000 miles from Japan. It is a place of call for ships travelling from the Occident to the Orient and to Australia, and it will possess great importance should the Nicaraguan and Panama canals be cut. Its independence is consequently most desirable, and as its inclusion in the territories of the United States would materially affect the interests of the Powers in the Pacific, we are constrained to oppose that contingency as strenuously as possible. Further, annexation would injuriously affect the rights and privileges that Japan has acquired by Treaty in Hawaii. On these two grounds we have approached the American Government. After Japan, England is most interested in the matter, and it is scarcely probable that she will keep silence. Germany and France, too, are not unlikely to make their voices heard. Apart from other countries, however, Japan has approached the American Government and the question arises, what course will she adopt should annexation become imminent. She will oppose it to the end. England has been several times on the point of annexing Egypt, but owing to the determined opposition of France, has been obliged to desist. In the same way Japan must persist in not recognising the annexation of Hawaii. When a question of foreign policy can not be settled by one country alone, there is such a thing as a combination of two or three countries. If all the States interested in the matter join together and insist on what is right, they are not likely to fail. Of course we have communicated to the British, German, and French Governments the fact of our having approached America on the subject, and we may have an answer from them soon. There is nothing to make a fuss about."

We do not believe that Count Okuma has been correctly reported by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It is most improbable that he ever spoke of England's having repeatedly tried to annex Egypt, and having been prevented by French representations (*shiba shiba Egypt wo sokoku ni shiyo to shita keredo Futsukoku wa hantai da kessh'te mitomenai to itlôsh'ta sono tame Eikoku mo heikô shite yanda*). That is very defective history, and Count Okuma is eminently accurate in his history. The *Yomiuri* has spiced the Minister's remarks liberally out of its own pepper-box.

The "deadly parallel" is always entertaining. Here is an example:—
Japan Gazette, June 26. *Japan Gazette*, June 28.

It is very significant that at this juncture the *Fuji* with Prince Arisugawa on board, is to call at a Spanish port, and that the Prince is to present the King of Spain with a decoration. The United States Senate has repeatedly given to Spain deliberate provocation to declare war. By herself Spain would inevitably be defeated, but a combination between Spain and Japan would be for America a more serious matter.

There was no intention on our part to say that Spain and Japan would declare war, which is nonsense, but that community of interest might lead to unity of diplomatic action.

An Imperial Ordinance published in the *Official Gazette* of the 28th instant, provides that Shimizu in Suruga, Yokkaichi in Ise, and Nanao in Ise shall be added to the list of ports of export.

The *Fiji Shimpô* reports that the Premier, Count Matsukata, on a recent visit

to Kobe, expressed himself very strongly about the insufficient character of the harbour facilities at that place. A survey made of the port shows, according to His Excellency, that in view of the development of the trade and the increase of shipping, the accommodation is quite inadequate. The Count added that he desired to take advantage of his visit to make arrangements for extending the anchorage, improving the landings, and establishing better connexion between the railway and the wharfs.

Count Matsukata, on the same occasion, denounced the unwisdom of a number of small banks working independently with petty sums of capital. They ought to combine, and conduct business on a larger scale. He also condemned the system of securities, and said that advances ought to be made as far as possible on credit notes. With reference to that suggestion he added that the Government was endeavouring to effect such reforms as would secure greatly increased celerity of judicial procedure in matters connected with banking.

The compilation of the Budget for next year is said to be causing the Cabinet considerable trouble. The *Mainichi Shimbun* alleges that the increases demanded by the various Departments aggregate about 30 million *yen*, of which the Communications Department wants 15 million and the Educational Department six millions. The result is that the ordinary and extraordinary expenditures for 1898-9 amount to 280 million *yen* at least, and the question is whence revenue can be obtained to cover such an outlay. The *Mainichi* enters into some details, but they are exceedingly vague. We can not conjecture the purposes to which either the Department of Communications or the Department of Education intend to apply such sums. No indication has been furnished by their proposals hitherto.

According to the *Yomiuri*, the Japanese Government has ordered nine torpedo-boats in Germany, their contract speed to be twenty-eight knots.

It is stated that sweeping reforms will be made in the Formosan administrative system after consultation with Governor-General Baron Nogi, whose return to Tokyo is expected to take place soon. Mr. Okuda, Chief-Secretary of the House of Representatives, will probably be appointed Head of the Civil Government, and extensive changes of *personnel* will take place. It is to be hoped that some tangible results will be achieved on this occasion.

Kikugoro, the great actor, who ranks next to Ichikawa Danjuro on the Japanese stage at present, has just had a very sad experience. His son, Kikunosuke, an actor of much promise, died on the 28th ultimo while Kikugoro was playing in the "Forty-seven Ronin" at the Shintomi-za. Kikunosuke had been ill for some time, and no hope of his recovery was entertained, but his father's sorrow was not lessened by that fact, and he has given to a representative of the *Fiji Shimpō* a simple but pathetic account of his parting from the dying man at 10 a.m. on the 28th, and the feelings that oppressed him while acting his rôle, with the ever-present knowledge that at that very moment his son's eyes

might be closing in death. Kikugoro had to play the part of Hangwan, and in the fourth act, where, as he commits suicide, a prayer for his soul is said by Yuranosuke, he keenly realized the fact that he himself ought to be praying for the repose of his dying son's soul. It was just then that he received news that all was over, and hurrying home between the acts, saw the face of his dead son. He returned to the theatre to finish his part, but in the scene where Fukusuke, personifying Okaru, points to Kampei's mortuary tablet and laments the untimely fate of one who had only entered his thirtieth year, Kikugoro saw that Fukusuke, who had been like a brother to Kikunosuke, was shedding real tears, as was the bereaved father also. "Never," said Kikugoro, "did an audience witness more genuine sorrow in the seventh act of the 'Chiushingura.'"

According to the *Mainichi* and other vernacular journals, a telegram received from Mr. Hoshi Toru in Washington says:—"The clause in the Tariff relating to *Dantsu* (cotton rugs) was passed on the 19th of June without alteration. On the 25th of the same month, the clause relating to Japanese silk fabrics was passed, the rate being 3 dollars per pound. The clause referring to silk handkerchiefs was passed without amendment." The newspapers add that, according to the above information, the tax is 5 cents and an *ad-valorem* duty of 35 per cent. per square yard on cotton rugs valued up to 15 cents per square yard, and 10 cents with the same *ad-valorem* duty on carpets valued at over 15 cents per square yard. As for silk handkerchiefs, the tax is the same as that on silk fabrics in general, except that there is an additional ten per cent. *ad-valorem* according to the quality of the goods.

THE RATIO.

A writer in the *Investors' Review* for April, discussing the question of Japan's adoption of gold monometallism, says:—

The ratio decided upon by Government is Gold 1=32.34 Silver. Such a ratio is unknown as the basis of any currency law in any civilized country, and is an entire departure from anything existing at the present time or known to have existed, so far as history goes. Is it possible to believe that the Japanese statesmen responsible for the change have solved a problem that has baffled the keenest intellects of the financial experts of the civilized world?"

It seems to us that this critic has not looked very deeply into the ratio problem. With much of what he writes on the general phases of Japan's recent legislation we are disposed to agree, but it is pretty evident that when he comes to talk of ratio he has allowed himself to be confused by bimetallic notions. So soon as Japan's new system goes into operation, silver coins are relegated to the place of subsidiary tokens. It really matters very little whether the silver they contain is linked to the gold of the principal coins by a ratio of 32 to 1, or of 20 to 1 or of even 16 to 1. From a theoretical point of view, it is desirable, of course, that the ratio between the two metals for currency purposes should approximate, as closely as possible, to the ratio between their market prices in terms of each other. But in actual practice that desideratum ceases to possess paramount importance. The silver in Great Britain's subsidiary coins is rated at one-fifteenth, approxi-

mately, of the gold in her principal coins weight for weight, whereas an ounce of the white metal will buy only one-thirty-third of an ounce of gold in the open market. Certainly that can not be called a sound system in which silver is over-valued more than a hundred per cent. Of course English financiers did not originally plan a programme of coinage in which the nominal ratio of the two components should vary so largely from the real ratio. On the contrary, they took the utmost care to adjust the weights of pure gold in a sovereign and of pure silver in a shilling so that twenty shillings should be intrinsically worth exactly one sovereign. But the course of events has established such a greatly different relation between the precious metals that the subsidiary coins are now worth less than one half of the gold price at which they circulate. Japan, when she decided to adopt gold monometallism, was at liberty to choose any ratio that suited her convenience for the purpose of connecting her subsidiary silver tokens with her gold standard coins, but she naturally chose what seemed to be the "natural" rates; that is to say, the ratio agreeing most closely with the indications furnished by market quotations. She had no "problem" to solve. She had nothing to do with matters that had "baffled the keenest intellects of the financial experts of the civilized world." Had her object been to establish a bimetallic system, the question of ratio would indeed have been a hard nut to crack, but her object being gold monometallism, pure and simple, ratio presented no difficulty whatever. Bimetallicism is an immense subject. It has exhausted the grey fibre in many brains, and the writer in the *Investors' Review* seems to be one of its victims.

THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND.

It is much to be desired that a guide of some kind should be provided for the evening journals of the Settlement, so as to save them from falling into the ditch that gapes proverbially for the feet of the blind leading the blind. No question of journalistic disgrace or controversial catastrophe is involved. It is an affair of pure pity, for truly the most flinty-hearted individual can not but compassionate the plight to which the *Japan Herald* and the *Japan Gazette* have been reduced by blundering in the dark against each other and with each other. The former newspaper, anxious to prove that Japanese ire had been strongly aroused by the prospect of Hawaiian annexation, and finding, in the columns of the *Japan Times*, certain translations from the vernacular press that seemed to constitute evidence of such a mood, reproduced them "inadvertently" as the Irish pick-pocket observed of his fifteen watches, without reference to the source from which they were extracted. The *Japan Gazette*, anxious to prove that the English evening journals of Yokohama can alone be trusted to publish conscientious translations of the vernacular press, and finding, in the columns of the *Japan Herald*, certain translations which seemed to constitute evidence of that fact, reproduced them, with these comments:—"Needless to say, the *Japan Times* does not translate these warlike effusions, confining itself to reproducing the more pacific essays. Of course, the real test of Japanese public opinion is not

to be found in the *Japan Times*, a paper specially prepared for foreign consumption, but in papers written by Japanese for Japanese. Our evening contemporary, the *Japan Herald* has culled some of the flowers of rhetoric and we make no excuse for reproducing them here." What a coil it is, to be sure! The *Japan Gazette*, in its attempts to establish the disingenuousness of any paper written in English by a Japanese, has accidentally convicted the *Japan Herald* of theft and itself of not even reading the columns that it traduces. The *Japan Herald*, in its attempt to convict the *Japan Mail* of misrepresenting the utterances of the vernacular press, has convicted itself of literary larceny, and has betrayed the *Japan Gazette* into quoting intelligence stolen from the *Japan Times* by way of proof that the *Japan Times* had concealed the very same intelligence. Even a daddy-longlegs becomes an object of pity when it gets tied up in a spider's web. The horrible entanglement that these two journals have woven about each other is too distressing to be funny, and if we can help to extricate them, our services are at their disposal.

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. DUN.

On the evening of the 28th ultimo the members of the Tokyo Club gave a farewell dinner to Mr. E. Dun, United States Minister to Japan, who resigns the charge of the American Legation in consequence of the change of Cabinet in Washington. Few men have ever been so popular in Tokyo as Mr. Dun. The affection and respect entertained for him by all that have been brought into contact with him are too well understood to need any comment in these columns. Practically all the members of the Club now in Tokyo attended to bid a good-bye which happily is only temporary, as it is understood to be Mr. Dun's intention to return again to a country where he has spent so many years and made so many friends. The Foreign Representatives and the Staffs of the various Legations were present, without exception, as were also a number of Japanese officials and private gentlemen of position. Some seventy covers were laid, and the chair was taken by Mr. G. Lowther, H.B.M. *Chargé d'Affaires*, Vice-President of the Club. After the toast of the Emperor of Japan had been drunk, Mr. Lowther rose and said:—

GENTLEMEN,—A few months ago there was offered to a retiring Ambassador of the United States to England a banquet in the Guildhall, at which all the flower of the governing and other classes were present, and no pains were spared to do honour to the departing guest. I allude to the occasion of the departure from London of Mr. Bayard, Ministers of the Crown, a Lord Chancellor, a Lord Mayor, Members of Parliament, and others were present. In fact, it had the character of a spontaneous outburst not only of regret at the imminent departure of the Ambassador, but of an appreciation of the efforts he had made to cement a friendly feeling between his own country and the country he was leaving. We cannot to-night lay claim to compete with that function in grandeur of display. There are no Prime Ministers, no Lord Chancellor, no Lord Mayor, no gold plate, no turtle soup, and no Toast-Master, but yet, in spite of the absence of that important functionary, I am called upon to say a few words to you in proposing Mr. Dun's health. That I do very willingly, for without all that outward display I do not believe that our regret at losing Mr. Dun is one whit less than that of the English people in losing Mr. Bayard, and we cannot help feeling that Mr. Dun has done much to cement the friendly feeling between Japan and the country he was serving. His approaching departure is the out-

come of a system, a system which in this instance we certainly deplore, but one which we cannot criticize, as every country is privileged to know what is best for itself. Many of you have known Mr. Dun very much longer than I have myself. Indeed, I think no foreign Minister has ever left Japan with a wider knowledge of the country than he has, and during his service if he had any reproach to make to himself I am convinced that no one has ever been entitled to make one to him. He has seen many changes in this country, but he has always readily found the way to adapt himself to altered circumstances and altered surroundings. But it is not so much of the part he played in diplomacy that I should speak here in this Cosmopolitan Club, but rather of him as a Club man; and I think he has been essentially a Club man. Reading not very long ago an article on Clubs, the following passage struck me:—"A Club should be a focus of the superficial interests of the day—not of its serious convictions, and the best Club conversation is the foam of keen minds acting and reacting on each other." Well, Gentlemen, I think our guest has contributed very much to introducing that kind of tone into this Club. I have never heard him within the precincts of this building giving vent to his opinions on politics and ponderous diplomatic problems, but I have heard him discussing with an impartial mind the subjects that interested every one, bringing his weighty opinion to bear on them. He has been Vice-President of the Club and has been moreover a strong supporter of the sport of the Club—if I may call it so—a finished billiard player, a master at whist, and I believe, amongst our community here a Champion at Chess. These are qualities that go to make up a pleasant Club companion, and that he has certainly been. Fortunately, to night we only take leave of him as United States Minister and we shall see him again here as a Private Individual. I shall only be expressing the feelings of all here to-night when I say that we hope his return to this country will be prompt and his stay a permanent one. I ask you to drink to Mr. Dun's health.—(Cheers.)

Mr. Dun, who, on rising, was received with loud and long-continued applause, said:—

I cannot find words to express to you, gentlemen, my thanks for the honour and compliment you are paying me this evening. I can only assure you of my grateful appreciation of your kindness. I am also sincerely grateful to Mr. Lowther for the very flattering remarks he has made, all the more so as I am fully aware of the heavy draft on his imagination those remarks have called for. Many of you here this evening know the delight I take in making after dinner speeches; know that in season and out of season my inclination urges me to get upon my feet and talk to my friends.—(Laughter.) Such being the case, you can appreciate in a small degree the restraint I put upon myself in refraining, on an occasion like this, from giving free run to my inclination and talking to you by the hour.—(Loud laughter.) But as I grow old in years I believe I have improved, in one respect, in judgment. This wisdom of experience enables me to appreciate the fact that a speaker's views in regard to the merits of a speech and the views of his audience in regard to the same thing do not always coincide. Such being my belief, gentlemen, I shall refrain from running the risk of having a difference of opinion with you.—(Laughter.) But before sitting down, I wish to say that I feel that I am here this evening under somewhat false pretences. It was a final leave taking of my dear friends of the Tokyo Club, I could not speak to you as I have. It would be too sad a parting for me to speak of lightly. But as the bad penny has the intention of returning to you within a very few months, I can add to the pleasure I have in being with you to-night the hope of soon meeting you all again. I again thank you heartily, gentlemen, for the honour you have done me.—(Loud applause.)

The healths of Captain Barber, U.S.N., and Mr. P. May, Secretary of the Belgian Legation, who are about to leave Tokyo, were subsequently proposed by Mr. Lowther, who said:—

GENTLEMEN,—I will ask you to join me in drinking the healths of two other members of the Club who are present this evening, but who, I regret to say, and I know that you all share my regret, are about to leave us. I mean Captain Barber and Mr. May. Captain Barber, as a naval officer often entrusted by his Government with important duties, has been accustomed to sail under sealed orders, and has acted in such strict conformity with his habit on the present occasion that his friends are entirely in the dark as to the exact time of his departure, what he intends to do,

or whether we may cherish the hope of seeing him again. I sincerely trust that we may, however, for though his stay among us has not been long, we have learned to look upon him as one of the pleasant features of our life in Tokyo. Especially in this Club he has come among us constantly, and we shall miss him very much when he goes away. Mr. May, too, has won many friends during his short stay among us, and it is satisfactory to think that we are not losing him, as he is only going home on short leave. You will join me, I am sure, in wishing him a pleasant voyage and a happy time at home.

Captain Barber, who was heartily cheered on rising, said:—

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN—I am sure that I thank you most sincerely; Mr. Lowther for his kind remarks and you all for the hearty manner in which you have drunk my health. I am reminded, at this stage of my address, of a very apposite remark made by a well known orator. He said:—"If the length of my speech were to be measured by my knowledge of the subject I am speaking about, I have already said too much." That is my case in a nut-shell. Yet I should like to make you one promise before I sit down. It is that I will tell you all about my plans whenever I know anything about them myself. That is the best I can do, except to repeat my sincere thanks.—(Cheers.)

Mr. May said:—

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN—This is the very first time I have ever had to speak in public; the very first time my health has ever been drunk; the very first time I have ever had to return thanks, and the very first time I have ever made a speech in English. I feel that on such an occasion I should try to be witty, and as brevity is the soul of wit, I will say, thank you.

IN HAWAII.

The latest Hawaiian newspapers to hand—namely, of June 11th—contain no allusion whatever to the negotiations with Japan. That incident of their international experience seems to have faded completely out of the repertoire of everyday topics. Even the questions of reciprocity and annexation are scarcely noticed. The *Hawaiian Gazette* contains an article on the subject of annexation, but the writer gives no indication of anticipating speedy action on the part of the Government in Washington. He devotes himself simply to showing that, if the islands were included in the dominions of the United States, the uncertainty that now deters American settlers and emigrants would disappear, and a large white population would soon be built up. The article is only an expression of opinion.

ASHIO COPPER MINE.

The cost of the work undertaken at the Ashio Copper Mine for the prevention of the outflow of poisonous matter, as directed by the authorities, was, according to the *Yorodsu Choho*, estimated at four hundred thousand yen. But as the undertaking is required to be completed within a short space of time, the expenditure will, it is said, be nearly double that amount, or about eight hundred thousand yen. The general progress made may be judged from the following brief account: The men now employed on the works are:—Coolies, 1,880; masons, 240; miscellaneous employes, 1,800; brick-layers, carpenters, and other artisans, over 1,000. These men have been chiefly supplied by Kajima & Co., and other contractors in Tokyo; but the number being still insufficient, some six thousand men, formerly employed in the working of the copper mine, have been called in to aid. The scheme, therefore, for the present monopolises the services of no less than ten thousand men.

WRECK OF THE P. AND O. "ADEN."

DISTRESSING LOSS OF LIFE.

SAFETY OF MR. AND MRS. F. GILLETT.

Private telegrams received in Yokohama on Wednesday convey news of the loss of the P. and O. steamship *Aden*, Captain Hill, R.N.R., on the east coast of the island of Socotra. The disaster took place on the 9th of June, but it was not until the 28th of June that the survivors, including Mr., Mrs., and Miss Gillett, of Yokohama, reached Aden. The telegrams are very meagre, but we learn that the Indian Lighthouse tender *Mayo* found the wrecked people, where is not stated, and brought them off in her boats. The Captain, deck officers, and most of the crew are missing. Two engineers have been landed at Aden with some thirty of the crew.

Mr. Alfred Woolley, the local agent of the P. & O. Company, has received, through Hongkong, a fuller telegram from Aden, under date the 28th instant. This telegram, which was in code, states that the *Aden* went ashore on the east side of Socotra at 3 a.m. on Wednesday the 9th June. Of the passengers and crew the following were rescued by the Government steamer *Mayo*:—Mr. F. W. Velpy, from Perak; Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, from Shanghai, and their eldest child; Mr. and Mrs. Gillett and child, from Yokohama; two amahs, two engineers, and one steward. The following were swept overboard and drowned:—Mr. and Mrs. Strain and two children, from Tientsin; the Misses Lloyd Weller, missionaries from Foochow; Mrs. Pearce's second child, and amah, and Captain R. E. M. Hill. The following escaped from the wreck in boats, but as the weather was bad and no news has been received of them, it is feared they have been lost:—Mrs. Collins and two children; and Miss Margaret Hogan, nurse, from Foochow; Mrs. Smythe (Smythe), from Ningpo; Mrs. Riley and two children, from Singapore; Mrs. Sanderson, from Siam; Mrs. Robertson and three children, and Mrs. Suttie and infant, from Singapore; Mrs. Hewett, from Perak, and 34 of the crew, foreign and native. The remainder of the crew are missing or drowned. The wreck was fast breaking up.

The *Aden*, as most of our readers will recollect, was one of the recently built "intermediate" boats of the P. & O. Company. She was of 3,925 tons register, having a horse-power of 3,000 indicated, and a speed of 14 knots. Her late commander, Capt. Hill, was known to a many of the community as a conscientious and careful master mariner. Among the officers, Mr. Miller, the second mate, was well-known here, having been on the *Ancona* for some time. He was a genial, whole-souled companion, and friends will mourn his loss sincerely. Doctor Forman, also, was familiar to many, having come up on the *Ancona* on several trips, before he changed to the *Aden*.

The meagre particulars thus far received as to the loss of the *Aden* suggest that the boats were, for the most part, destroyed before they could be utilized to take off the passengers and crew. Only thirteen people, including two ladies, two amahs, and two children, were found on board when the *Mayo* reached the scene of the disaster. It was known that nine, including three ladies, an amah, and three children, had been swept overboard, and that seven ladies, a nurse, eight children, and thirty-four of the crew, foreign and native, had gone off in boats. Why thirteen should have remained by the ship is not easy to conjecture, especially as none of the deck officers stayed with them. It is conceivable that the perils connected with entering the boats, exemplified by the death of nine persons, deterred some from making the attempt. Those that are said to have taken to the boats number exactly fifty, which would be just about the complement for one life-boat. Apparently these were independent of the two engineers and thirty members of the crew who are said to have landed at Aden, but the point is not very clear. The interval of seventeen days spent upon the wreck by those whom the *Mayo* rescued must have been a terrible experience.

The island of Socotra at present has a melancholy interest for many residents in the Far East, as the scene of the wreck of the P. & O. steamer *Aden*. It lies about 220 miles south of the Arabian coast. To the Ancients of Herodotus' and later times the island was known as Dioscorides and was subject to the King of the "Incense Country." In the sixth century the people of the land spoke Greek and were largely Christian, having a Persian bishop over them,—so travellers relate. During the Middle Ages the Socotrans remained to all intents and purposes Christian, but by this time intercourse with the outside world had grown very infrequent, and when next history condescends to take note of the lonely island, it was found that the inhabitants had lapsed, in a religious sense, and were practising a form of the old Arabian moon worship. For many years, according to the handbook published by Messrs. John Walker & Co. of London, Socotra was dependent on some Arabian Sovereign, and it was at one time occupied by the Portuguese, those early pioneers of Occidental annexation in Oriental lands. But by a treaty with the Sultan of Keshin, the island was ceded to Great Britain in 1886. It has one big town, Samarida. The island is mountainous and sterile; and as many a passenger coming out to the East can testify, is most uninviting in appearance when viewed from the sea. It is said that the climate is equable and by no means unhealthy, though moist. With an area of 3,000 square miles, it supports a population of 4,000, the people being a mixed race of Arabs, Indians, Africans, and Portuguese. The language used is a dialect of Arabic. An administrative officer belonging to the government of Aden is in charge, visiting the island from time to time, and report says that he finds his subjects well behaved and hospitable. The chief products are gum and aloes.

IMPORTS OF GOLD AND SILVER.

Owing to the receipt of a large portion of the Chinese Indemnity, imports of gold and silver this year and last have been very great. The import figures for the past five years, and for the past five months from January to May this year, are as follow:—

Year.	Gold Coin and Bullion. Yen.	Silver Coin and Bullion. Yen.
1892	8,149,030†	21,303,033*
1893	1,805,949†	703,240*
1794	2,997,172†	4,604,287†
1895	1,762,039†	19,665,494†
1896	8,220,883*	19,322,443*
January, 1897 ...	6,567,066*	2,084,196*
February, 1897 ...	6,599,688*	1,488,689*
March, 1897 ...	7,976,275*	480,195*
April, 1897 ...	8,283,939*	194,804†
May, 1897 ...	15,117,793*	152,452*
Total for five months ...	44,544,763*	4,010,738*
* Imported. † Exported.		

Silver was occasionally imported until 1895, but in no case was gold exported without an excess of silver. In 1896, however, things took an entirely different turn, the import of gold having considerably increased. That was due not only to the receipt of the indemnity, but also to special purchases of gold as a reserve for the enforcement of the new Coinage System. Now that the enforcement of gold monometallism is at hand, further imports of the precious metal may be expected.

THE FOURTH OF JULY.

The Committee in charge of the Fourth of July celebrations have decided to bring off the festivities on Monday, the fifth. A baseball match will be held in the morning, on the cricket field, which will be between the U.S. Flag-ship *Olympia* and the Y.C. & A.C. It begins at 10 o'clock, and a band will be in attendance. In the afternoon a cricket match will take place, while after dark fireworks will be discharged from floats in the harbour.

ARRIVAL OF THE U.S. MINISTER.

The Hon. A. E. Buck, of Georgia, U.S.A., the newly appointed United States Minister to Japan, arrived on Monday morning by the P. M. steamer *Peru*. Mr. Buck was accompanied by his wife and by Mr. Baker, his Private Secretary, Col. Rice, the new military attaché, and his wife, and Mr. Wilson, the new second Secretary of Legation. Mr. Herod, Secretary of Legation, and Commander Barber, Naval Attaché, came down from Tokyo and proceeded on board the *Peru* on her arrival, together with Flag-Lieut. Reamey, of the *Olympia*, to receive the new Minister. Upon landing in the Admiral's steam launch at the English Hatoba, Mr. Buck and his party were met by Mr. McIvor, U.S. Consul-General at this port, and Mr. Scidmore, Deputy Consul, and were conveyed in carriages awaiting them to the U.S. Consulate-General, where an unofficial reception was held by the new Minister, and a number of American residents, including Mrs. Scidmore, Dr. Eldridge, Consul for Hawaii, Messrs. Varnum, Stone, Rogers, Abel, Wheeler, &c., were introduced by the Consul-General. After tiffin with Mr. and Mrs. McIvor, Mr. and Mrs. Buck and party proceeded to Tokyo by rail. On Friday Col. Buck proceeded to Kyoto, accompanied by Mr. Edwin Dun, the late U.S. Minister to Japan, to present his credentials. He was received in audience this morning.

THE FANCY MATTING TRADE.

Japan finds her best market for fancy matting in America, says the *Fiji Shimpō*. Immediately upon the introduction of the tariff question in the United States, last April, the foreign firms engaged in the trade in Kobe bought up all the stock upon the market in order to secure its admission into America before the new tariff became operative. A roll of matting formerly worth three yen or so, suddenly rose to 5.50 yen. The various mat producing districts, however, could not keep pace with the pressure of the time, and subsequently the merchants suspended their operations, until the fate of the tariff bill was decided. A telegram received on the 20th instant, announced the rejection by the Senate of the revised rates on matting and this completely restored activity among manufacturers and buyers, despite the fact that no orders have yet been received from the States to any considerable extent. The amount of matting exported during the four months—February to May this year—was as follows:—

	Rolls.	Value. Yen.
February	44,239.....	267,741
March	78,668.....	540,475
April	84,224.....	342,970
May	10,054.....	668,821
Total	217,185.....	1,820,007

Of this amount about 86 per cent. was exported to America, and 14 per cent. to other countries.

PORT WINE FROM MALT.

When the guileless farmer drops his grains of barley into the cold earth, remarks a home paper, he has not hitherto been led to expect that after its reaping it will be manipulated, and its results vended as the fruit of the grape, and it will no doubt be news to most people that port wine can be made from barley. The British Consul at Naples says the barley is first malted, "then the bacilli of port wine are introduced into the mead, where they fecundate incontinently, and transform it from immature beer into the richest port. When the animalculæ have done their work they can be sterilised, a sufficient stock of microbes being preserved in the laboratory for further use." To what further maladies shall we be indebted to the ubiquitous bacilli?

FOREIGN COMMERCE DURING MAY.

According to reports compiled by the Finance Department, the figures of foreign commerce during May, as compared with the corresponding period of last year, are as follow:—

	May, 1897. Yen.	May, 1896. Yen.
Exports	24,528,243.....	9,370,757
Imports	20,354,495.....	14,432,383

To al 34,882,738..... 23,803,143

The figures for five months, from January to May, compared with those for the corresponding period of last year, are:—

	From Jan. to May, 1897. Yen.	From Jan. to May, 1896. Yen.
Exports	63,982,581.....	46,363,329
Imports	82,548,225.....	66,182,741

Total 146,530,806..... 112,535,771

Excess of imports.. 18,565,643..... 19,829,711

It is clear that foreign trade has of late made extraordinary progress, the exports and imports for the five months showing figures never before reached in the history of the open ports.

The causes of this extraordinary increase are various, but there can be no doubt that the new tariff now under discussion in America, with the high duties it proposes, has been a great influence. Foreign merchants have endeavoured to secure for Japanese goods the benefit of the old rates and have been hurrying forward all possible shipments. Among staples of export which have considerably increased during the past five months those sent to America occupy a conspicuous position, as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The figures are:—

	For the 1st five months, 1897. Yen.	For the 1st five months, 1896. Yen.	Increase.
Raw silk.....	18,049,412	10,791,077	7,258,335
Habutsu.....	4,189,558	2,704,053	1,485,505
Cotton fabrics.....	4,682,170	1,460,533	3,221,637
Mating.....	2,226,513	1,321,185	905,328
Wheat straw braid.....	1,129,334	807,441	321,893
Manufactured tea.....	2,252,721	936,832	1,315,889
Crude and heated copper.....	2,604,120	2,021,215	582,905
Coal.....	4,239,048	3,486,167	752,881

The reason for the increase in imports is due in great measure to the organization of various new enterprises, the expansion of spinning and manufacturing industries, the increased demand for sugar and kerosene, and the rise in the price of rice. The following figures may be taken as evidence of these assertions:—

	1st five months, 1897. Yen.	1st five months, 1896. Yen.	Increase.
Cotton.....	20,000,220	15,172,650	4,827,570
Machinery.....	5,728,138	2,378,604	3,349,534
Railway cars.....	1,903,121	493,704	1,409,417
Steel and iron rails.....	3,533,416	278,770	3,254,646
Materials for railways.....	715,917	179,110	536,807
Rice.....	7,020,667	1,317,185	5,703,482
Peas and beans.....	2,524,092	921,200	1,602,892
Kerosene oil.....	3,119,587	2,399,167	720,420

THE RESCUE FROM A WELL IN KOBE.

We take the following from the *Kobe Chronicle* with reference to the saving of a lady from a well into which she had fallen during the Jubilee celebrations on the night of the 22nd June:—

Further particulars of the accident on the Bund on Tuesday night, which might so easily have been fatal, show how very much credit is due to the coolie who jumped into the fire well to rescue Mrs. Clarke. It certainly required no small amount of courage to go down a well the depth of which must have been quite unknown to the man, but he did it unhesitatingly, though how he managed to scramble down he is unable to tell himself. The water was about ten feet from the surface at the time, and the well is about twenty feet deep, yet the man managed not only to keep Mrs. Clarke afloat but to climb up by means of the fire hose sufficiently high to enable the arm of the lady to be seized by Mr. Sim from above. The coolie, who belongs to the local Fire Brigade, has been rewarded by the husband of the lady whose life he saved and by Mr. Sim for the pluck shown, and he will also receive a present from the Fire Brigade, which, it must be admitted, he well deserves. We are glad to hear that Mrs. Clarke has quite recovered from her unpleasant experience.

SOSHI DOINGS IN NIIGATA.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* publishes the following account of some reprehensible doings of *soshi* lately in Niigata:—Two citizens of Niigata, named Nunokawa and Tatsumi, appear to have circulated a prospectus opposed to the general views of the people, with regard to the site of a railway station in the town. On the night of the 24th June, an alarm bell rang out, and at once more than one hundred *soshi* advanced towards the *Yiyo Shimpō* office, where the prospectus in question was alleged to have been printed. They there made a strong demonstration and tried to ascertain if Mr. Nunokawa was on the premises or not. Not finding him, they departed, but on their way back, met Mr. Tatsumi, one of the persons who had signed the prospectus, and, having bound him with ropes, dragged their victim along until he fell in descending the steps in front of the Niigata Commercial Company's office. This accident, however, was regarded by the ruffians as an attempt to escape, and the unfortunate man was severely beaten with a club and finally wounded on the head and arm with a sword. At last the police interfered, and upon examination it was found that the sword cuts had penetrated dangerously deep into the skull of Mr. Tatsumi, and that his arms were broken. One of the *soshi*, Tachikawa Torakichi, the principal leader in the brutal attack, made confession at the police station, and it is to be hoped he will meet with his deserts.

KOBE LADIES AT CRICKET.

The Ladies' cricket match against H.M.S. *Narcissus*, was held in Kobe on Tuesday afternoon in rather unpropitious weather. The *Herald* says:—The Ladies won the toss and sent their rivals in to bat. For this baseball bats were used, an additional disadvantage—*vis à vis* their fair opponents—being found in the penalty restricting them to left-handed play. Miss Ellerton and Miss Smithers undertook the bowling, while Mrs. Lightfoot, with the regulations gloves on, went behind wicket. Mrs. Matt. Smith acted as wicket-keeper at a later stage. Not all the batsmen succeeded in scoring, the bowling being fairly good under the circumstances, and having the merit of being straight if "all along the ground" as a rule. With the score at 62 Mrs. Skinner was directed to relieve Miss Smithers at the Pavilion end and the change proved a wise one, for, after the first over, made up of wides for the most part, the new bowler proved very deadly, taking two wickets in quick succession. The gentlemen's innings closed for 76. The ladies wore white costumes with red belts and hat bands, and neckties of the same colour. Their innings were opened by Mrs. Lightfoot and Miss Nankivell but the latter retired early, being run out. Miss Smithers and Miss Sowter got into double figures and the innings, which afforded an immense amount of fun to the bystanders—the want of practice being very evident in several cases—closed for 53. The Navy men then commenced their second innings and ran up 54 for seven wickets before time was called. Three of their number were run out.

Referring to the recent Ladies' cricket match, the *Kobe Chronicle* says:—With a little more training the ladies' team might give a good account of themselves. Yesterday they only succeeded in giving the spectators a deal of fun, though indeed a lady—Miss E. Smithers—made the highest individual score of the day. The lady bowlers did not do badly at all. Miss Ellerton took four wickets in 11 overs at a cost of 27 runs. Mrs. Skinner took three wickets for 12 runs; Miss Smithers three for 37 runs, putting all the men out for 76. It will be noticed the ladies made no catches, for in truth—we say it softly—the ladies seemed rather afraid of the ball. The photographer was on the ground, but we believe it is not a fact that he secured a snap shot of a group of ladies gazing with astonishment at the ball descending in their midst.

SENDAI NEWS.

On Sunday, 27th ult., the Miyagi Ken Education Society held a meeting at the Municipal Hall, Sendai, which was attended by over 500 persons, all the schools in the Prefecture and the Military and Municipal authorities sending representatives. Speeches were delivered by the Directors of various schools and by others engaged in educational work. Among the latter was Mr. Walter Denning, who took for his subject "The Urgent Educational Questions of the Day." In the course of a speech in Japanese, which lasted over an hour, Mr. Denning, while urging on school teachers the advisability of preparing the way for mixed residence by insisting on the importance of treating foreigners with due respect, commented fully on the Yokohama Baseball match episode and other displays of rudeness on the part of Japanese students. Mr. Denning's remarks were well received by the audience and the notice accorded to them in the local press is equally favourable. This shows the wisdom of calling the attention of school authorities to acts of rudeness towards foreigners. Mr. Denning said that he had been associated with Japanese students for over twenty years, and could testify that as a class they were characterised by extreme politeness, and that it was unfair to take the behaviour of the rowdies who attended the baseball match as a specimen of the kind of lads met with in the great schools of Japan. If, in some such way as the above, the Elementary School teachers of every Prefecture in Japan could be approached, we should hear no more complaints of insolent conduct on the part of the striplings who attend these schools. The Japanese proverb *Wasawai wa shimo kara* (Calamities come from below) is very applicable in the present instance. The first impressions of Japanese youths, after those made by their parents, are received in Elementary Schools.

On Tuesday, the 29th ultimo, the Miyagi-jogakko held their Fifth Graduation Ceremony. The attendance was large, consisting of representatives from all the schools of Sendai and the foreign residents. No praise is too high for the manner in which, under the management of Miss Zuffuh and Miss Hollowell, the Miyagi-jogakko is managed. The girls, while receiving an excellent foreign education, are not Occidentalised in any way. Their whole demeanour is that of refined Japanese ladies. Their dress, speech and carriage display no signs of the marring and vulgarising that go on in some schools that we have visited. Nothing could have exceeded the grace and delicacy with which every girl who took part in the exercises of the day conducted herself. The manner in which the whole ceremony was performed was a conclusive answer to the charge that the general effect of Western education on Japanese ladies is to rob them of their greatest charm. Much of course depends on the character of the foreign managers of the school. It is they who give to such institutions their tone, whether it be vulgar or refined.

Though the object of the Miyagi-jogakko is to Christianise the girls who attend the school, the adoption of the Christian faith is optional, and it is a fact that not a few have benefited by the training received without joining the church, the teachers fully recognising the importance of what missionaries regard as the secondary benefits derived from Christian teaching.

CHINESE NOTES.

The *North-China Daily News* has justified its title of the leading journal of Shanghai by giving to its readers an illustrated chronicle of the principal events in Her Majesty Queen Victoria's reign. An excellently written and very interesting chronicle it is, too, though it has a defect common to so many similar essays that have appeared in connexion with the Jubilee: it fails to show the seamy side of English life and English manners fifty or sixty years ago. The material progress that the nation has made is, of course, immensely interest-

ing, but the moral progress seems to us to deserve more notice than it has generally received.

We are not yet in receipt of detailed news from Tientsin as to how the opening of the restored Roman Catholic Cathedral passed off on the 21st of June. The anti-foreign feeling in the native city was said to be still very strong at the date—June 18th—of latest advices. But the Chinese General in command had received orders to hold two battalions in readiness for immediate service, and the Consuls and other officials were believed to be thoroughly on the alert. No news in such a case is good news. The crisis, so far as dates are concerned, is now over, and possibly, the excitement among the Chinese may subside completely.

It is now possible to travel from Tientsin to Tungchow by rail. Tungchow is generally supposed to be 15 miles from Pekin, but we see that a writer in one of the Shanghai journals puts the distance at 60 to 70 *li*, that is to say, 30 to 35 miles. Tientsin to Tungchow by the railway route is probably 65 miles, and the train now takes 4 hours to cover that distance. The line seems to have been purposely carried through barren and sparsely populated districts; the constructors preferring the immediate convenience of getting the land cheaply to the ultimate advantage of tapping centres of production. An interval of about 10 miles separates each station from the other. The bridge across the Peiho is condemned from the point of view of the river traffic. It is so low that boats can not pass at high water, a serious blunder on the part of the engineer.

The following account of the latest anti-foreign outrage is supplied by a correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*—

On Friday afternoon, June the 11th, the Rev. A. H. Smith and the Rev. H. D. Porter, wife, and two children left here for their home in P'angchia-chuang, Shantung, returning from the Annual Meeting of their Mission—the American Board—in Ch'ingchau. About dusk, they reached a place a third of a mile distant from the north gate of the city, and tied up for the night. They soon saw signs of excitement on the opposite side of the river in the gathering crowd, which began throwing brickbats, etc., at the boats. After the danger was past at 2.30 Saturday morning, Mr. Smith sent a report from which I quote. He says:—"At first, we supposed that this was a transient affair which would soon subside, which indeed it did for about an hour. At the end of that time, after we were in bed, and had supposed that everything was quiet, the crowd began to re-collect and in a short time the behaviour of the mob was much worse than before. We then sent a messenger with a card to the *yamen* of the river police to Yü Puyeh, to let him know what was going on. As the yells and the missiles were constantly on the increase, we ordered the boatmen to pull on ahead for a little space, which they were reluctant to do, but did at length begin to attempt. But as soon as the mob saw that we were in motion their fury was still more excited, and they said that we should neither go on nor go back. As we saw that they were getting furious and attempted to head us off, we tried to turn the boat about in order to drop down the river to the north gate. This they would not allow, but apparently several hundred men sprang on the grain boats to rush from them upon ours. As Dr. Porter's boat is clumsy and hard to manage it swung about till very near the line of grain boats, and many score of men, yelling like demons, prepared to board Dr. Porter's and mine. Just at this juncture Dr. Porter's servant found a Winchester rifle which he had bought at Tientsin, and loaded and discharged it into the air to frighten the mob. Dr. Porter ran on the grain boats and drove the men off for the moment, as they were not expecting any effort at resistance. After several hours of this state of things the mob, still yelling and reviling, followed us down the river a few paces, when just at this juncture three men sent by the Puyeh arrived, and began to yell back at the mob and discharged their weapons. It was not long till the crowd quieted down, and the soldiers remained with us. We learned from them that another boat just in front of us had been attacked at about the same time. This was a boat carrying passengers, but empty at the time, and for some reason the crowd had accused the boatmen of having kidnapped a child. The mob boarded the boat, and we learned that two persons were seriously injured and the

boat smashed. Had the soldiers arrived a few moments later there is every reason to believe that this would have been our fate. The time of the disturbance was about half-past nine."

THE GOOD CONDUCT OF THE OFFICIALS.

"Since then we have been visited by relays of officials, military and civil, from several *yamens*, whose desire is to learn what has happened and to protect us. We have determined to go on, and they have offered us all the escort we need and as far as we need. We are to start on early in the morning. Under their protection there is probably nothing more to be feared, but we heard that exciting rumours are prevalent for a long distance, so we have asked them to go as far the border of the prefecture of Tientsin, which they will do. Two officials are in my boat at this moment and I have asked them to send this note. Nothing could have been more prompt than the exertions which all the officials have made to put an end to the disturbance.

"P.S. The Taotai sent a Wang Laoyeh and 20 soldiers. The Governor-General has sent 40 soldiers and 2 gunboats from the *Hsinpu*, and the *Hsiang chia-chu-tsung-pan*, Pan. Li *tajen* also came with 20 soldiers. This will indicate not only their energy but their apprehension of the gravity of the situation."

(Signed) A. H. SMITH.

West suburb of Tientsin, 1 *li* from North Gate, 12th June, 2.30 a.m.

The French community in Shanghai showed a most friendly spirit on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Our readers are probably aware that the French settlement in Shanghai stands apart from the general settlement, and consequently might have remained entirely outside the range of the festivities had not its inmates taken special steps to show their sympathy with the occasion. "Our French neighbours," says the *Shanghai Daily Press*, "have not been behindhand in their efforts to do honour to the ruler whom all nations respect for the way she has filled her high position for such a long span of years. There is the same profusion of bunting and lanterns there as in the larger concession, and at the Consulate corner there is an immense arch which fittingly seconds the ones on the English Bund, and this is backed up by another of the same character which spans the road at the first bridge. The new electric light system in our sister concession will add considerably to the brilliance of the illuminations here, as we understand they will be turned on to their full force for the first time on that occasion, and thus another pleasing memento of the day will be added."

NEW FOREIGN TELEGRAM RATES.

The *Official Gazette* of the 28th ultimo contains the following notification of the Department of State for Communications.

The Japanese Terminal Rates for Telegrams between Foreign countries and Japan are fixed as follow:—

Names of countries.	Rate per word.	
	From July After	1.77 to Oct. 1
Japan, Europe (except Russia), and America, and Africa (except all the places to the south of Egypt, as far as Cape Colony).....	sen.	sen.
Japan, Russia in Europe, and Asia (except Russia, China, Shanghai, and the offices in the interior of China), Oceania, and all the places south of Egypt as far as Cape Colony.....	Vladivostok.....	25.9 28
Japan and Russia in Asia.....	Vladivostok.....	11.2 13
Japan, China, Shanghai, and all the offices in the interior of China.....	Shanghai.....	13.5 16
Japan (except Tsushima) and Korea.....	Fusan.....	20 20
Tsushima and Fusan.....	Fusan.....	10 10

The Regulations provide that Japanese words occurring in foreign telegrams must be written in Roman letters; that for the purposes of Japanese telegrams between Japan and Korea, seven *katakana* syllables shall constitute a word, any fraction of seven syllables being also counted as one word; and that, in the case of such telegrams, the address of the recipient shall be transmitted free of charge. For the rest, the International Telegraph Convention and its annexed Regulations are to govern all matters connected with telegrams between Japan and Korea.

PROPOSED YOKOHAMA BOURSE.

The *Hochi Shimbun* states that a compromise has been arrived at between the Yokohama Four Commodities Exchange and Mr. Tanikawa's party, in regard to the several applications for the establishment of a Bourse. The principal officials of the Exchange held a conference on the 25th instant and resolved upon organising a Silver Bourse in combination with Mr. Tanikawa. The terms decided upon were as follow:—1. The Bourse shall be instituted with a capital of fifty thousand *yen*. 2. The capital shall be divided into two thousand five hundred shares of twenty *yen* each. 3. The amount of capital shall be equally subscribed between the two parties concerned. 4. The application for a charter shall be entrusted to the representatives of the Exchange. 5. In the event of official sanction being obtained, 1,250 shares allotted to the Exchange shall be offered for subscription among the shareholders on the 1st October.

THE TURKS.

A correspondent of the *New York Independent* gives the following interesting information about the Turks immediately after the declaration of war with Greece:—

Two days after the publication of the declaration of war, the second division of the Turkish fleet left for the Dardanelles. Fifty thousand people turned out to witness the spectacle from the bridges and from the shores of the harbour. For hours they stood patiently waiting to see the glory of the Empire pass by before them. For twenty years these ships, lying motionless in the inmost harbour, have deceived large colonies of shellfish into selecting the massive hulls as a nursery for their tender offspring, under the belief that the ships were as much a part of the natural riches of God's earth as the rocks or other permanent furniture of the harbour. Fens of these shellfish had to be removed before the propellers could be induced to revolve, or the ships dream of chasing the Greeks from the sea. Finally the ships came out through the draws of the two crowded bridges in imposing column, and with immense effect upon the gazing multitudes. First came the *Orhanie*, thinly armoured in the armour of anti-steel days, but gorgeous in new paint and brilliant bunting, and a display of soldiers lined on the bulwarks and on the yards. Next came a double-turreted monitor, somewhat younger than her predecessor, being only about twenty-five years old. A poor old wooden corvette followed, while four venerable coasting steamers warranted not to go more than eight miles an hour, but painted, decked in flags, and dubbed "Imperial cruisers" closed the procession. The only serious member of the squadron was a little black torpedo boat which silently slipped out unnoticed in the wake of the great vessels whose splendour of paint convinced the people that no other nation in the world has so mighty a navy. The sailors on the ship shouted at proper intervals: "*Padihim cok yasha!*" ("Long live the Sultan!"); and the people wondered and murmured "*Mashallah*," and prayed the prayer "God give them success!" and so the fleet went its way to the fate prepared for it. It is only fair to say in passing, that some better vessels than these exist among those already at the Dardanelles, for one of them has steel armour. But none on board the fleet have ever taken part in evolutions on the high seas, no officer or man in the fleet has ever fired a gun, on shipboard, larger than a six-pounder, and probably but few either of officers or men have ever been to sea at all.

The Turk is no strategist. He sees no use in recitals of the capture of unpronounceable villages on the Greek frontier. His teachers in inculcating the religious duty of military service have based their teaching less upon patriotism than upon the duty owed to God to slay every man who is an enemy of Islam. Of war his one idea is slaughter and loot. The popular idea as to the meaning and object of war has just been illustrated by a question telegraphed to the Porte this week by the Governor-General of one of the provinces of European Turkey. Two women of mature age presented themselves to the authorities of their town. They had dressed themselves in men's clothing, and they each carried a long, well-sharpened knife in their hands. They had felt impelled to serve God, and therefore they demanded to be sent to the army operating in Greece, believing that their strong arms and their long knives would do good service. The sex of these volunteers embarrassed the Governor; yet he felt that so sensible an offer should not be hastily rejected. So he referred it to his superior, and so the question has come before the Sultan's Cabinet for decision, while the Turkish newspapers publish editorials in praise of the spirit of the blood-thirsty ladies.

THAT PRESTIGE.

OUR recent remarks on the supposed disappearance of English-prestige are traversed by the *North-China Daily News*, which journal, being notably addicted to crying "Ichabod" in connection with the missing article, naturally objects to the idea that there has been no disappearance whatever. The Shanghai newspaper opens a loop-hole for our escape by assuming that we refer to the Japanese horizon only when we declare the prestige to be as much *en evidence* as ever. But we can not avail ourselves of that postern. We refer to China also, and we repeat our conviction that the prestige is likely to remain intact unless it has the misfortune to be manipulated by some of the many amateur diplomatists in the Far East who apparently think that unless England thrusts her fingers into every pie lying around, she will be deprived of sustenance altogether. That kind of fussy meddling is precisely the rôle adapted to a Power without any prestige to lose. A great State like England ought not to stretch out its hand unless there is something tangible to grasp, and unless it intends that its grasp shall be resolute and unyielding. What we observe about this outcry is its negative character. England's prestige is gone, we are assured, but how on earth it was lost, or how on earth it could have been kept, or how on earth it can be recovered—on all those points there is silence. Let us see what the position of the *North-China Daily News* is. It says that "England urged on Japan the acquisition of Formosa in order to prevent a European Power's getting possession of the Pescadores." Of course that is a pure phantasy, a ludicrous phantasy. No Power, or combination of Powers, could take or retain the Pescadores without England's acquiescence. England does not want Japan to stand between her and inconvenient aggression. It is only giddy Englishmen that venture to formulate such humiliating notions of their country's proceedings. When the annexation of Formosa by Japan entered the realm of probabilities, the Ichabod Chorus were insistent that England ought to prevent the transfer, since it would place a possibly hostile Power on one of her commercial highways. Now, a leader of the Chorus wants us to believe that England contrived the transfer through fear lest a worse thing should happen. Pshaw! The *North-China Daily News* then reverts to its ancient annals—the "Cassini arrangement," which it published in March 1896, and the "Cassini Convention" which it published in October of the same year. Concerning those remarkable documents our contemporary says:—"The British Legation at Peking unfortunately poolpoohed them. *The Times*, taking its cue no doubt from the Foreign

Office, also poolpoohed them. But now no sane person disputes their practical authenticity." Really! Has not the printer betrayed the Shanghai journal by dropping a syllable from its copy? Ought not the last clause to read:—"But now no insane person disputes their practical authenticity." In truth it is too much to have those bogus documents flaunted in our face again. They were consigned long ago to the waste-paper basket. Where are their results? Where are the symptoms of their being carried out? If England's prestige is to be maintained by opposing the conclusion of imaginary treaties, she had better entrust her Legations to the care of the Ichabod Chorus. However, there is one less nebulous count in our contemporary's arraignment. "China is hopelessly mortgaged to Russia. . . . When Prince OUH-TOMSKY with his suite arrived here a little while ago, the independent Chinese recognised that he had come out as the agent of China's chief creditors to have a look at their security." Well, now, that is really a dreadful thing. Prince OUH-TOMSKY coming out all the way from Russia to gloat over the big pound of Celestial flesh that is to fall presently into the maw of the Bear! Assuredly England ought not to have allowed that. The integrity of her empire will be gravely imperilled if Russian Princes are suffered to make such inspections. Neither should she have allowed China to become mortgaged to Russia. She should have insisted on lending those hundred million taels herself. It would have been a novel sensation for China to find herself threatened with pains and penalties unless she consented to accept a good round sum of British money, but what mattered the oddity of the thing when the prestige of the biggest empire the world has ever seen was at stake? It further appears that "English syndicates come away empty-handed from Peking," and that "the fault is not to be laid on any one in China, but on the Foreign Office in London." How can the Foreign Office in London secure Chinese contracts for English syndicates visiting Peking? There are certain traditions of British diplomacy that interdict meddling with such matters. They are called honourable traditions. There are certain traditions of Englishmen in general that deprecate official interference in trade affairs. They are called sound traditions. But it is by violating those traditions that British prestige is to be supported. We certainly do think that there are injurious influences operating against British prestige. But they are not influences that emanate either from the Foreign Office in London or from the British Legation in Peking.

BRIBERY IN JAPAN.

THE Editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* writes:—

We venture to say from evidence brought before us from time to time, that there is not a single contract for public works in Japan in connection with which bribery of some sort or another is not attempted. * * * We regret to say that, so far as our experience goes, bribery is rampant among all classes in Japan. Scarcely a single transaction takes place, from the sale of merchandise to appointment to an official position, without "squeezes" being expected and paid.

The question here approached by our contemporary is of an interesting character. Not, indeed, that very strong barriers against the spread of bribery seem to exist among any nation. We English flatter ourselves that in our official and parliamentary circles corruption has no existence, yet we have not to travel farther back than the days of WALPOLE and the second of the GEORGES to find an era when ability to slip a five-hundred-pound note under the ruff of his sleeve was counted a necessary accomplishment of an "honourable member" of the House of Commons, and a retrospect of ninety years confronts us with Captain HUXLEY SANDON, Colonel FRENCH and Mr. DONOVAN, gentlemen whose doings in Gloucester Place throw a lurid light on the men and manners of their time. Even in these closing days of the nineteenth century, many an American is ready to declare, with all the vehemence of apparent conviction, that the United States Senate can be bought and sold any day in the year, and is actually bought and sold every day during its session. Let us hope that such assertions have to be extensively pared down before the small kernel of truth that they enclose is laid bare. Let us hope, also, that the same correction has to be applied to the very radical generalization of the *Kobe Chronicle*. To what extent bribery is actually carried on in Japan, we ourselves have never been able to obtain any assurance. That there is a prolific field for the employment of such a device can not be doubted when we consider the wretched salaries paid to judges, procurators, and other public men, who, in the discharge of their functions, often find themselves entrusted with the control of large pecuniary issues. Within the past few years several instances of corruption among persons of these classes have been brought to light, and have been not only punished by due process of law, but also held up to public execration. It would appear, therefore, that to whatever degree bribery prevails, it certainly is not openly tolerated. What is called "a false public conscience" does not exist with regard to it. A modern historian, speaking of the Bill which, in 1867, deprived the House of Commons of the function of hearing and deciding upon election petitions, says:—"The one great and crying evil of our electioneering was then the bribery and

corruption which attended it. A Parliamentary Committee could hardly be expected to deal very stringently with bribery, seeing that most of the members of the Committee were sure to have carried on, or authorized, bribery on their own account. Few men held it really in hatred. * * * As in a former age no gentleman thought it wrong to seduce a woman, so in a very recent day no man with money thought it improper to spend some of his money in corrupting electors. What censure was it likely a country squire would have got fifty years ago if accused before a council of squires of having seduced some tenant's wife or farmer's daughter? Just so much would a rich man have got twenty years ago from a Parliamentary Committee if it were proved that he had allowed his agent to lay out money for him ingeniously in bribes." It can at least be confidently affirmed of Japan that public sentiment does not condone bribery. The newspapers hold it up to obloquy, and any whisper of its employment in the House of Representatives provokes stormy discussion. There is some satisfaction in that. But to what extent does the evil prevail? The experience of the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* induces him to allege that scarcely a single official appointment is made without bribery. That appears to us to be a generalization betraying some rashness. We ourselves have had intimate knowledge of the exact circumstances attending a great many official appointments, and in no single instance was there any shadow of corrupt dealing. We venture to go further, and to affirm that no Japanese Minister of State could remain in office were his nominations procurable by bribes. Speaking broadly, there are two sources of office-conferring authority in Japan; the EMPEROR and the Cabinet Ministers. Practically the latter alone are responsible, for it is in accordance with their advice that HIS MAJESTY confers official posts of the *shinnin*, or *chokunin* grade. Has the experience of the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* furnished evidence that bribes have been given to Cabinet Ministers, and are habitually given to them, by persons seeking appointment to offices of *sonin* grade? Has he discovered that men like Marquis ITO, Marquis YAMAGATA, Count KURODA, Count OKUMA, Count KABAYAMA, Marquis SAIGO, Marquis OYAMA, Marquis HACHISUKA and so forth are accustomed to exact "consideration" from young men to whom they grant appointments? We shall be greatly surprised to learn that he answers in the affirmative. If it were so, if a percentage of the already insignificant salaries received by officials had to be handed over to the Heads of Departments or of Bureaux, we can not but think that the fact would long ago have been proclaimed from the house-top by the phalanx of poli-

ticians who, ever since 1879, have been labouring to destroy the credit of "Clan Government." The expression *Joitsu Naikaku*, signifying "Cabinet of favouritism," has been freely bandied from mouth to mouth, but simply in the sense that appointments were influenced by clan considerations rather than by merit. During thirty years of tolerably intimate intercourse with Japanese of all classes, we have never heard the faintest suggestion that offices are bought and sold. Of course we do not pretend that our experience is conclusive. It is only the experience of an individual and must be taken for what it is worth. But we should greatly like to receive some more explicit information of the grounds upon which the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* bases his wholesale accusation. We are well aware that sweeping charges in connexion with this subject are freely formulated by some foreign residents. Will any man give the precise reasons of his faith? Will any man tell us by whom he has known bribes to be administered, and by whom he has known them to be received? There can be no necessity to "cover up the tracks" of all the guilty persons. There should be no necessity to cover up any of them. Will the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* commit himself to the clear assertion, "I have been directly assured by so and so many officials that they procured their posts by bribery;" will he indicate half a dozen, or only three or four, "contracts for public works" that have been secured by corrupt practices, and will he, or will any one else, inform us of such and such a number of cases of bribery that have come under his personal notice in any class of transaction? We are not denying that bribery exists. To do so on the strength of our own negative experience would be mere presumption. But, on the other hand, we can not be satisfied with vague general declamations, and never yet have we been able to obtain chapter and verse for conclusive reference. We have met men who readily assume a very sapient and a very shocked demeanour; who raise hands of horror over Japanese corruption, and speak with bated breath of the arcana of iniquity that their shrewd observation has penetrated. But not one of them could ever be induced to mention a name. If bribery is rife, there is a singularly successful conspiracy to conceal it.

GREECE'S BLUNDER AND ITS RESULTS.

IT appears to be becoming pretty clearly understood that Greece would not have rushed into war with the Turks had she not counted confidently on British assistance. Exactly what grounds she had for such confidence, there need not be any attempt to discover, but perhaps the most comprehensive explanation is

that she mistook the English people's displays of sentiment for reflections of the views of responsible statesmen. One imagines that history ought to have guaranteed her against such a blunder. She should have remembered Poland and she should have remembered Denmark. When the Poles rose in rebellion, they had no more hope of standing single-handed against the might of Russia, than the Greeks had of making head against Turkey. But the Poles imagined that if they could hold out for a time, some of the Great Powers would interfere in their behalf, and the Power that they reckoned on was England before all others. There is no doubt that the majority of Englishmen entertained the same view at the time. Denmark, too, when she allowed the question of the Duchies to be carried to the tribunal of the sword, firmly believed that she had England at her back. Her experience, and that of Poland, ought to have warned the Greeks. But it is with nations as with individuals: the experiences of another count for little in their calculations. Greece has almost extinguished herself. At the outset Europe's sympathies were certainly with her. Could she have persuaded herself to accept the terms originally proposed, and to rest content with the autonomy of Crete as the immediate outcome of the situation, she would have enlisted in her cause not only the good-will of Christendom, but also the aid of that infallible solvent of all dilemmas, time. Very different is the actual result. She has destroyed her hope of incorporating Crete in her dominions, and of obtaining such a rectification of her frontier as would have rendered her secure against Turkish aggression, and she has apparently given a new lease of life to the Power that Europe is longing to thrust back into Asia.

Apart from Greece's misfortunes, it is a singular historical fact that in all modern European complications involving small States, England and Germany have been ranged on opposite sides. When Poland was struggling for life, it was Prussia that concluded a treaty empowering Russian troops to cross the Prussian frontier in pursuit of fugitive Poles and arrest them within Prussian territory. When English sympathies were entirely with Denmark in the Schleswig-Holstein trouble, it was Prussia that annexed the Duchies in the sequel of a victorious war. And now, when Englishmen of all degrees are pitying Greece's misfortunes and bitterly regretting that some means of aiding her are not forthcoming, it is Germany that supports Turkey in a merciless policy towards the defeated little Kingdom. What makes this last case particularly incomprehensible is that the German EMPEROR has hitherto showed himself markedly apprehensive of the intrusion of Asia into Europe. Everybody remembers the celebrated picture painted by HIS

MAJESTY three years ago, showing the great Christian States of Europe leaguely to defend their territories against the incursion of Asiatic hordes, and everybody remembers the grim possibilities that he connected with the future of the Chinese nation. It is strange that a Potentate holding such convictions should assist in moving Turkey's landmarks farther into Europe, as the EMPEROR is now said to be assisting. That he should insist on the severe punishment of a State which, by wantonly drawing the sword, brought the peace of Europe into imminent peril, would be natural. With that attitude we can all sympathise. But punishing Greece is one thing, and helping to aggrandise Turkey is another. The explanation suggested is that the German Sovereign sees in Turkey a potential ally of very-useful capacities. Granting what seems to be now clearly established, that, as a fighting machine, Turkey is more efficient than ever, and that her efficiency can be raised to a very high degree by German military training, it is easy to conceive the uses to which she could be put in alliance with Germany. Still the EMPEROR must attach great importance to that forecast if it has sufficed to exorcise his bugbear of an Asiatic deluge. Meanwhile, Germany is once more in the opposite camp from England. The exigencies of her position in continental Europe drive her always farther away from the nation with which she has more natural affinities than with any other in the Occident.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT JAPANESE LITERATURE.

(CONCLUDED.)

In fulfilment of the promise we made last month, we now furnish a few more answers to the questions addressed to noted men by the *Sekai-no Nippon*. The questions were (1) What books exercised most influence on your mind when young in assisting you to form a purpose in life? (2) What books affected you most in after life? (3) What books possess a constant charm for you whenever you read?

Mr. Sakatani Yoshirō says:—(1) The "Analects" of Confucius. (2) do. (3) do. My father was an ardent Confucianist; hence the influence of the great Chinese Sage on my life.

Mr. Tsubouchi Yūzō says:—(1) When young I read novels indiscriminately and do not recollect that any one in particular made an impression on me. (2) I was not specially influenced by books in after-life. (3) Shakespeare's "King Lear."

Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō remarked:—(1) I was more influenced in early days by my parents, my teachers, my surroundings, and the natural earnestness of my own mind than by books; but if books must be mentioned, then the works of Confucius and Mencius rank first. (2) Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, Schopenhauer's Philosophical Works, Spencer's Synthetic Philosophy, and Hartman. Then Goethe, specially his "Faust," Rousseau, and various Buddhist works. (3) The books I read are very numerous and it is impossible for me to select a few that strike me as superior to all others. As my reading is that of an investigator I make it a rule to avoid novels. But there have been times when I have enjoyed Bakin. Perhaps I may say that among the books I most love are Goethe, Shakespeare, Byron, Shelley and Schiller. But these books I read for pleasure rather than for

serious study. I may say that the only books that have a constant charm for me are works on Philosophy and Religion. I am most careful as to the selection of books and always endeavour to master the greatest works on any subject I may be studying before reading minor productions. By a thorough study of Kant I derived the power of separating the wheat from the chaff in psychological works of all kinds. The study of a book of that kind enriches one with critical faculties not to be obtained elsewhere.

Baron Iwasaki Yanosuke says:—I spent my early youth in an unruly manner (*sohō ni hi wo kesu*) and when I reached manhood settled down to business; hence I have no recollection of any books that specially influenced me.

Mr. Miyake Shu says:—(2) I was not influenced in early youth by books. My thoughts were moulded by those who taught me. (2) I was not specially affected in after life by books. The works that I perused professionally were scientific works, and these I read with relish; but without preferring one to another. (3) I am specially fond of works on travel, whether foreign or native. The writings of explorers are of special interest to me.

Dr. Kitazato Shibaaburō says:—When a youth in the service of my *daimyō* (Hosokawa) I was sent to Nagasaki to study medicine under Dr. Mansfield*. I subsequently graduated at the Tōkyō Daigaku and then went to study in Germany and progressed from step to step till I reached my present position. It seems to me that in the case of most men who have distinguished themselves in the world it is impossible to attribute their success to the perusal of any special work. Nor did the men who have risen to greatness, as a rule, map out their careers beforehand. Bismarck, the wild, duelling student, had no idea of becoming the greatest statesman in Europe. Hideyoshi, the lad who stole 5 ryō, did not expect ever to be in a position to send an expedition to Korea. By diligence, perseverance, and patience, men rise to greatness imperceptibly step by step. I cannot say that any book in particular influenced my early life. And as for the later years of my life, no book has altogether satisfied me: that is I have not pinned my faith to any one book. Different works suit the different states of mind in which we find ourselves from year to year. Mental food, like that which nourishes the body, must be selected to suit our ever varying tastes and appetites. To the scientific mind objects of nature, material things of all kinds, have an endless interest, but what any one man has to say about these things can only have a limited and a short-lived interest.

Dr. Hozumi Yatsuka says:—I am unable to say with certainty what books have influenced me.

Mr. Sugiura Jūgō says:—(1) The 椿説弓張月, *Chinsetsu-yumiharizuki* (Bakin); the 水滸傳, *Suikoden*, the 西遊記, *Seiyūki*, the 先哲叢談, *Sentetsu-Sōdan*. (2) The lives of men who have died for their country. (3) This question I answered in the *Kokumin-no-tomo* a few years ago, to which I refer.

Dr. Nanjō Fumio:—(1) The 佛祖統記 *Butsu-tōki*. (2) The 佛說無量壽經 *Bussatsu-Muryōju-kyō*. (3) The history of Japan, China, Europe, and America and the lives of eminent Buddhist priests are to me the most entertaining of all books.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi says:—(1). When young no book that I read assisted me in forming a purpose in life. I read books on Chemistry, Physics, and Physiology only. (2) The Poems of Ikkyū and Sorori and the writings of 莊子 Chowangsz. (3) History.

Dr. Motora Yūjiō says:—(1) Smiles' Self-Help. (1) Bacon's *Novum Organum*; Kant's Critique of Pure Reason; Hamilton's Lectures on Metaphysics; Tyndal's "Heat as a Mode of Motion." (3) No book invariably charms me.

* Dr. C. G. van Mansfeld, who was at one time in charge of the Nagasaki Medical School, founded by Dr. Tompe van Meerdervoort in 1857. Dr. Kitazato does not say whether he entered this school or received private instruction at Nagasaki.

Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo says:—(1) I remember nothing in particular as to the influence exercised by any special book unless perhaps it was Smiles' Self-Help. (2) The New Testament (3) The Analects of Confucius, 陽明 Yang-ming, Matthew Arnold's Poems, Tennyson, and Browning, and among novels those of George Elliot, Thackeray, Dickens, Victor Hugo, and Scott.

Mr. Kaneko Kentarō says:—(1) The Confucian "Analects," the works of Mencius. (2) Spencer and Burke's political Essays. (3) The Chinese Classics, the Shiki (史記), the *Nihon-seiki*, the *Gempei Seisuski*, &c.

Mr. Kanō Jigoro says:—(1) Nothing influenced my early days but the instruction I received from my parents. (2) The greatest impression made on me came from friends and society generally, and not from books.

Mr. Kōda Rohan says:—When young I had no such grand purpose in life as your question implies. At one time I thought of spending my life in whaling. No book helped to mould the course of my life. Once when in trouble I derived great consolation from the 報徳記 *Hōtoku-ki*, which gives the experiences of the aged Ninomiya Sontoku, and, for the sake of studying literary style, I perused the 三部抄 *Sambushō*.

Mr. Shimada Saburō says:—The 小學, *Shō-gaku*, the 名臣言行錄 *Meishin-genkō roku*, Self-Help, &c. (2) Other works of Smiles. (3) Mencius, the *Tsurezuregusa*. Brighi's and Cobden's speeches, &c.

The *Teikokubungaku* is publishing a long essay entitled *Indun-Shinkwa-ron*, "The Evolution of Poetry," from the pen of Mr. Tatebe Tongo. The essayist first deals with the evolution of poetical ideas and then proceeds to discuss the development of styles of poetry and the connection of poetry with music. He deprecates the notion that the progress of science and civilization imply the decline of poetry, and contends that the most sublime poetical thoughts are proof against the ravages of time—they renew their youth and retain their freshness from age to age. Mr. Tatebe is also averse to the idea that poetry is essentially retrospective, that it is a worshipper of the hoary past and hence in many cases checks progress.

A writer signing himself Kaishū Gyorō discusses Lyric poetry (抒情詩) at considerable length, in an essay that is still unfinished. Mr. Omachi Keigetsu continues his attack on Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō under the title of "The use of archaisms and colloquialisms in Poetry."

The *Teikoku-bungaku* prints another of Mr. Noguchi's English poems called the "Song of Songs," which for incongruity and oddness of language it would be hard to match. Here are a few lines as a specimen of the whole

"I love the undecorating sound of thousands of birds whose concord of song echoes on the rivulet afar—

"I muse on the solemn mountain which waits in sound content for the time when the Lord calls forth—

"I roam with the wings of high-raised phantasy in the pure universe—

"Oh! I chant of the garden of Adam and Eve."

The epithet *Kyōshi*, Mad Verses, has been applied to a certain class of poetical effusion in this country, and it seems as though Mr. Noguchi is determined that America shall not be without her *Kyōshi*. The last lines of the "Song of Songs" soar to a height of sublimity reached by few poets:

"Hark, the far-off fowl sings of the divine morn of light! I hail the glorious sun's ascent—

"I chant again of the complete order of the universe with the earth, with the heaven above."

The fowl that aspires to be considered a songster and the California Japanese poet are about on a level. But people are fond of eccentricities, and as Thackeray says somewhere, the

world loves the men whose weaknesses afford it constant mirth; hence Mr. Noguchi is encouraged to go on writing.

Among its miscellaneous items, the *Teikoku-bungaku* has a note entitled the "Cultivation of Thought," in which the writer observes that though modern writings are attractive in outward form, the thought expressed is too frequently shallow and illogical. He goes on to say that a foreigner once remarked that the beauty of a Shintô priest resembles the beauty of a *geisha*, and that there is truth in the remark, as in his, the writer's, opinion, there is in Japanese religion a marked childishness and much more is that the case with Japanese literature. (*Waga skûkyô sude ni jigi iwanya bungaku ni oite oya.*) We have been told, continues this writer, that before a foreigner writes a book he spends a long time in developing and moulding into proper shape the ideas he wishes to express, but too many of our writers rush into print without any adequate preparation.

Another note complains of the way in which the Mombushô manages the translation of standard foreign books. This work is too often entrusted to needy scholars for the sake of giving them a means of living, with the most unsatisfactory results. It is a cause of deep regret, says the *Teikoku-bungaku*, that the Diet during its Tenth Session did not come to a decision on the measure brought forward by certain professors of the University respecting the establishment of a translating bureau. It is earnestly hoped that this matter will be finally settled during the present year.

On the subject of the new-style verses the *Teikoku-bungaku* says that it is premature to pronounce decided opinions one way or the other. In literature this is an age of experiment, and it is desirable not to limit the experimenting to too narrow an area. The feeling that Japanese literature has defects that can only be supplied by striking out in new lines is a true one. To take a single example. It is well known that in ancient Japanese, personification is rare, but in the new-style verses, as well as in modern novels, we find such terms as 天人, 天女, 山ノ精, *Kumo no Sei, Ki no Sei, Hana no Sei*. "Heavenly beings, male and female, the spirit of the mountains, the spirit of the clouds, the spirit of trees, the spirit of flowers," &c. As to the depth of modern literature we cannot speak with certainty, says this organ, but of its breadth there can be no manner of doubt. All things are being proved with a view of holding fast what is good.

The long-wished for reform of the stage has begun. The Kabuki-za has consigned old plays to a back seat and has submitted to the guidance of the greatest of Japanese advocates of stage reform, Mr. Fukuchi Gen-ichirô, who is preparing new dramas, to be placed on the boards there.

The *Shinri* has an article entitled *Kyôiku-jigen*, "A word for the times on the subject of Education" contributed by a writer who signs himself "An Aged Teacher." The first part of the article criticises a German book called *Japanisches Schulwesen*, written by a German teacher in the First Higher School. The gist of the "Aged Teacher's" remarks is that the work under review, while doing justice to Japanese progress in educational matters in the past, somewhat misrepresents the present situation. There are no doubt many defects in the methods adopted by the present Department of Education; but the accusations of the *Japanisches Schulwesen* are too sweeping and do not sufficiently allow for the difficulties that have to be contended with. Even a tolerably perfect system of education is only to be obtained by years of experimenting and the expenditure of large sums of money. The most widely felt of all the weaknesses of our present system is the remuneration which school teachers receive. The "Aged Teacher" next takes up the subject of reform in the method of writing. It is clear, he argues, that the use of Chinese characters ought, to a large extent, to be abolished. But there are objections to the employment of

Romaji on national grounds. Just as Bismarck opposed the notion of the Germans discontinuing to make use of their archaic form of writing on patriotic grounds, so do the majority of Japanese object to the use of foreign letters. The Japanese *Kana* with a few additions, to represent sounds which are not heard in Japanese speech, might be made to answer every purpose. The Government ought to take the lead in this reform by publishing all its official notices in *Kana*. So argues the "Aged Teacher."

A new magazine called the 日本主義 *Nihon Shugi* has made its appearance. Its object, as stated in the first number, is to discuss all subjects from a purely national standpoint. It will aim at showing what are the elements which combined go to form the national mind. In the fulfilment of this object it purposes to traverse all subjects. Its tone is not, we take it, conservative, but progressive. It will aim at sketching an ideal nationality which it hopes to see reached at a later date. Whether its staff of writers are of sufficient calibre to play such a rôle is a question on which it would be premature to pronounce opinion, but on which doubts have already been expressed. There are those who represent the *Nihon Shugi* to be nothing more than an ordinary conservative organ.

Mr. Tanimoto Tami, of the Higher Normal School, after many years labour, has just published the first volume of a work on Mental Philosophy called 普通心理學集成 *Futsû Shinri-gaku Shû Sei*. The work is based on the most recent European treatises on the subject. It covers 420 pages, sells at 1 yen 10 sen, and is published by the Rokumei Kwan, Odemmacho, Nichôme, Nihonbashi-ku, Tôkyô.

The May number of the *Kokumin no-tomo* contains a number of interesting articles. Mr. Uyeda Bin is still discussing poetry and Mr. Katayama Sen writes on Sociology, while the subject of female education is treated with great fullness by the Editor. We have only space for a brief notice of the results of this inquiry. According to the statistics collected by the *Kokumin no-tomo*, out of every 100 boys that have reached an age to be sent to school, 77 are under instruction, but only 44 out of every hundred girls are being taught. The total number of boys in attendance at elementary schools is 2,400,000, that of girls only 1,200,000. There are 30,000,000 male students attending Middle Schools. But Middle Schools for girls do not exist. There are high class female schools, which are attended by 2,800 pupils. The parts of Japan where female education has been most neglected are Hokkaidô, O-U, Kyûshû and the Riukiu Islands, the place where it has received most attention is Kyôô and its vicinity.

The following items of literary information are culled from the pages of the *Kokumin no-tomo*:

(1) The Hakubunkan purposes starting a foreign Magazine under the editorship of Mr. T. Ishikawa, hitherto connected with the Yamaguchi-ken Chûgakkô. We learn from another source that the name to be given to the new publication is the "Gwaikoku Gogaku Zasshi."

(2) A translation of the "Arabian Nights" by Mr. Toyama Kanô is about to be published by the Shunyô-dô.

(3) A translation of the "Great Naval Battles of the Nineteenth Century," by Mr. Morita Shiken and Captain Kimotsuki is also to be issued from the press of the Shunyô-dô.

(4) Messrs. Miyake, Shiga, Kuga, Kokubu, and Kagawa are engaged on a work to be called 東大陸人物傳 *Tôdariku-jimbutsu-den*, which will consist of lives of Chinese heroes, 12 vols, one to be published every month.

(5) A giant work which has been in hand many years, the *Tôyô-setsugaku shi* (History of Oriental Philosophy), is to appear shortly. Dr. Inouye Yenyô is the editor. The work is to cover 3,000 pages. The Tetsugakushoin are the publishers.

(6) The Chinese Novel 十二樓 *Shih-rh-*

lau is being rendered into modern Japanese by Mr. Ozaki Kôyô and will appear in consecutive numbers of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*.

(7) The *Hakubunkan*, profiting by past experience, is placing its publishing department under new management and in future will only purchase manuscripts of real merit.

(8) The younger brother of the well-known novelist, Kôda Rohan, Mr. Kôda Nariotomo, is engaged in writing a history of modern Europe to be published by the Fuzambô.

The *Ritugô-zasshi* considers the publication of a small volume of new-style verses entitled 抒情詩, *Jofo-shi* (Lyric Poems) as a step in the right direction. This class of composition belongs to Lyric, rather than Epic, poetry. If Japanese composers will confine themselves to verses whose chief object is the expression of varied emotions, they will succeed, but any attempt to compose an Epic poem must end in failure, says the organ we are now quoting. It seems to us to be impossible to predict to what will succeed or what will fail in the case of a literature which is in a state of constant change, or to say what surprises in the form of epic poets the future may have for us.

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for May, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1896.	1897.
SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	9,370,757.160	14,528,243.800
Imports	14,432,386.280	20,354,495.120
Total exports and imports	34,882,738.920	58,262,251.320
Excess of imports	5,061,629.120	203,445.993
Imports	203,445.993	466,946.348
Miscellaneous	23,109.047	

Total

693,501,388

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
China	5,931,741.120	3,336,930.100	9,268,671.220
Hongkong	8,530,853.700	2,184,037.130	10,714,890.830
British India	440,458.020	3,033,658.880	3,474,116.900
Korea	422,777.440	1,002,835.080	1,425,612.520
Annam & other French	2,031.306	838,033.230	840,064.536
Russian Asia	377,914.210	1,650.310	379,564.520
Philippine Islands	5,437.400	307,097.470	312,534.870
Siam	4,734.900	34,006.870	38,741.770
Great Britain	693,738.150	5,241,137.860	5,934,876.010
Germany	255,330.470	1,577,483.000	1,832,813.470
France	1,311,753.430	389,669.200	1,701,422.630
Belgium	4,850.690	300,000.470	304,851.160
Switzerland	31,799.400	171,394.020	203,193.420
Italy	68,349.600	9,812.250	78,161.850
Austria	34,149.000	7,010.640	41,159.640
Spain	5,136.710	8,318.040	13,454.750
Holland	6,139.300	9,619.600	15,758.900
Sweden and Norway	8,619.080	8,819.080	17,438.160
Russia	2,731.650	5,058.800	7,790.450
Turkey	2,810.050	—	2,810.050
Portugal	—	1,159.380	1,159.380
Denmark	—	601.340	601.340
United States of America	6,037,874.840	2,553,008.480	8,590,883.320
Canada and other British America	238,481.210	3,754.800	242,236.010
Peru	784.000	—	784.000
Australia	112,058.510	20,051.000	132,109.510
Hawaii	30,371.250	—	30,371.250
Other Countries	48,282.230	127,019.800	175,302.030

Total

34,882,738.920

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	7,184,131.670	7,717,970.500	14,902,102.170
Kobe	5,310.4	8,477	13,787.470
Osaka	23,361.820	546,789.180	570,151.000
Nagasaki	51,017.700	1,196,619.230	1,247,636.930
Hakodate	194,821.800	231.300	195,053.100
Niigata	4,802.230	528.040	5,330.270
Shimonoseki	201,851.300	284,075.910	485,927.210
Moji	497,998.500	—	497,998.500
Hakata	—	252.970	252.970
Karatsu	34,796.500	—	34,796.500
Kuchino	231,576.980	38,727.810	270,304.790
Idzumi	2,772.210	20,013.700	22,785.910
Shishimi	1,186.750	1,410.600	2,597.350
Nagano	1,183.240	2,148.500	3,331.740
Hamada	12,979.510	1,115.670	14,095.180
Sakai	519.000	1,099.000	1,618.000
Fushiki	5,193.360	—	5,193.360
Muroan	87,037.000	—	87,037.000
Otaru	4,706.000	806.5	5,512.500
Specie and Bullion { Exports	415	839.100	1,254.100
{ Imports	15,686,085.460	—	15,686,085.460

Total

16,101,925.060

Excess of imports

15,270,246.860

By Japanese Merchants { Exports

3,814,942.770

{ Imports

7,342,670.660

Imported by Government

137,476.410

VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED AND IMPORTED EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

Exports. Imports. Total.

January

22,818,710.020

23,331,023.780

46,149,733.800

February

22,578,703.220

23,518,884.490

46,097,587.710

March

24,481,459.770

17,700,093.500

42,181,553.270

April

21,555,418.430

18,103,514.910

39,658,933.340

May

24,528,243.800

20,354,495.120

44,882,738.920

Total

61,985,381.240

82,548,243.800

144,533,625.040

THE NEW PRESS TELEGRAPHIC RATES.

We have already published a portion of the new schedule of Press Telegram Rates between Japan and foreign countries, but as the rates to France and England were wrongly quoted, and in order that our readers may have the complete schedule without the trouble of piecing the parts together, we re-produce and supplement the translation.

FOREIGN PRESS TELEGRAM REGULATIONS

Art. I.—Telegrams sent by newspaper offices or newspaper agencies to newspaper offices or newspaper agencies, from Japan to foreign countries or from foreign countries to Japan, for publication in newspapers, shall be regarded as press telegrams under these Regulations, and shall be transmitted or received accordingly.

Art. II.—The places where press telegrams may be received and whence they may be sent, and the charges leviable in respect of them are detailed in the following Table:—

	From July 1st to Sept. 30th 1897.	From Oct. 1st 1897 and subsequent years.
Japan and Shanghai	22.2 sen	24 sen
Japan and Amoy	31.4 "	34 "
Japan and Foochow	31.4 "	34 "
Japan and Hongkong	40.7 "	40 "
Japan and Singapore	71.40 "	76.8 "
Japan and British India	77.7 "	84 "
Japan and England	1.0693 yen	1.156 yen
Japan and France	1.0693 "	1.156 "

Art. III.—The recipients of press telegrams must necessarily publish them in a newspaper.

Art. IV.—Press telegrams must be written in the ordinary English language. But Japanese press telegrams between Japan and Shanghai may be written in Romanized Japanese. Provided that trade marks or trade names expressed by means of numerals or letters, shall be regarded as ordinary words.

Art. V.—Postal or telegraph authorities may decline to handle telegrams which they judge not to be press telegrams, though purporting to be such.

Art. VI.—Press telegrams may not be accepted as "urgent," or as "reply paid," or as requiring notice of delivery, or for transmission in duplicate.

Art. VII.—Persons desiring to send a press telegram must first report to the post, or telegraph, office to which the duty of sending the telegram is to be entrusted, the name of the newspaper abroad by which it is to be published, or the newspaper agency, as well as the name of the place where such newspaper or agency exists.

Persons desiring to receive a press telegram must first report to the post or telegraph office by which the telegram will have to be distributed, the name of the newspaper office abroad, or the name of the newspaper agency by which the telegram is sent, as well as the name of the place where such newspaper or agency exists.

Art. VIII.—Recipients of press telegrams must hand to the post, or telegraph, office by which the telegram has been distributed a copy of the newspaper in which the telegram is published.

Art. IX.—In the cases mentioned below, the telegrams shall be regarded as ordinary messages and the difference between the press rate and the ordinary rate shall be levied according to the number of words. Further, according to circumstances, the privilege of transmitting press telegrams may be suspended in the case of persons connected with such acts for six months or under.

a. In the event of telegrams which are not press telegrams being sent as such, in contravention of these Regulations.

b. In the event of press telegrams not being published in the next issue of the newspaper by which they are received, provided that no proper explanation can be given.

Art. X.—The handling of press telegrams may be temporarily stopped if, owing to pressure of telegraphic business, they interfere with the dispatch of ordinary telegrams.

Art. XI.—Matters relating to press telegrams which are not dealt with in these Regulations shall be managed in accordance with the International Telegraph Convention and the Regulations appended to it.

Art. XII.—These Regulations shall go into force from the 1st of July, 1897.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Captain John Ingles has been appointed a Rear-Admiral on the Retired List.

Thirty-three prisoners were released from Victoria gaol, Hongkong, on June 19, by order of the Governor, this being an act of clemency in honour of the Jubilee.

The Kobe C. C. beat the *Narcissus* cricket team badly on Saturday. Kobe made 144 in the opening innings. H.M.S. *Narcissus* then went in and knocked up 53 and 32 in two innings.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, in a recent article, says that the most serious question now facing the medical profession in Japan, is the rapid increase of nervous diseases among the populations of the towns and cities.

The *Asahi Shimbun* reports that, on the night of the 24th June, a burglar broke into the house of Professor Divers, of the Imperial University, Tokyo, and made off with yen 120 in bank notes of the Mitsui Ginko, and War Bonds valued at yen 600.

Monday, the 28th June, being the anniversary of the Coronation of Her Britannic Majesty Queen Victoria, the men-of-war, and several merchant steamers in port dressed ship, and at noon a royal salute was fired from H.M.S. *Grafton* and the U.S.S. *Olympia*.

A cargo of fir lumber containing 200,000 feet has just left Tacoma for Yokohama, Japan. It is sawed half-inch thick, and, it is said, will be converted into tea chests. This is mentioned as a new use for such lumber and may be the means of opening a new field for coast produce.

A report from the Governor of Miyagi received by the Home Department announces that at 2 a.m. on the 16th June inundations caused by seismic waves occurred at Kameoka, Susaki, and Minami Nagahama in his prefecture, and damaged the salt fields to a considerable extent, but no persons or houses were injured.

Nagasaki enjoyed its Jubilee celebrations as heartily as the other treaty ports of Japan. The telegram to the Queen ran:—

Your Majesty's subjects in Nagasaki respectfully tender their most loyal and affectionate devotion and heartily celebrate this happy day.

A small steamboat named the *Nakamura Maru*, owned by the Ozaki Shipping Company, of Yokohama, while on the way from Boshu to Tokyo on the 24th June, struck a rock off Nanyu about 10 p.m. on that night, and sank immediately. It is reported that all the passengers and crew were saved by a fishing boat, with the exception of one woman, who was drowned.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Fushiki Maru*, while on voyage from Tsuchizaki to Otaru, on the 25th ult., met with an accident to her engines when near Sutsu and for some time drifted helplessly about. She was, however, fortunately picked up by the steamer *Kannon Maru* and towed into Hakodate on the 27th ult. The repairs required will occupy five days at least.

Special information received by the *Yhi Shimpō* announces that in Matsuyama, Iyo province, Ehime Prefecture, there are at present five persons above the age of one hundred years, of whom two are women. The following are the number of men and women above eighty years of age in the same prefecture:—Men, above eighty, 3,675; women 4,798, making a total of 8,473; men of the age of ninety or over 263; women, 434, making a total of 697.

The school-boys of England are said to have taken a keen interest in the question that recently agitated Cambridge—the admitting of women students to the degrees. A London evening paper says that it has discovered one straw that shows how the wind of popularity doth blow. A small school-boy who was

enthusiastically "Cambridge" at the time of the Boat-race, and whose enthusiasm was not even damped by defeat, has now gone over to the enemy, and is "Oxford." No more pale blue for him: and why? "Oh," he says, "if you say you are 'Cambridge' the other boys call you 'Nellie,' because you want to go to a college where they admit girls."

On the 21st June, the Bank of Japan altered its rates of interest as follow:—

Private accounts	Interest on loans and discount on notes secured by goods.....	2 sen 9 rin
	Discount of commercial notes.....	2 sen 5 rin
Banks	Interest on loans and discount on notes secured by goods.....	2 sen 4 rin
	Discount on commercial notes held by the Bank.....	2 sen 1 rin
	Discount on commercial notes from other places; Temporary over-drafts and over-drafts through correspondence.....	2 sen 5 rin

Silver bullion, says the *Shogyo Shimpō*, has recently, under the heading of re-export, been sent from Japan to other countries to a very considerable amount, or has been bought up by Chinese merchants. Its price has also risen, one thousand *momme* being now quoted at 144 *yen*. Small exchange merchants have even raised the price to 144 *yen* 75 *sen*, in order to secure a profit through fluctuations in exchange. From the actual condition of the so-called "re-export trade," it may be noticed that the abnormal rise in the value of silver has originated in the competition for both internal and external commerce, on the part of dealers. The appreciation of silver has now reached a point at which no profit is realizable from export.

The *Osaka Asahi* thinks that the company-promoting mania is abating somewhat: at any rate the clamour for money does not appear so insistent as it did even a month ago. Fresh undertakings inaugurated in May involved some 4,085,000 *yen* for railways, 2,650,000 *yen* for banks, and 8,955,000 *yen* for industrial undertakings. If we add these figures to those published for January, February, March and April, we get the following totals:—

Railways	880,820,029
Banks	176,665,000
Industrial Companies	348,594,500
Total	1,326,079,790

It seems, says the *Yomiuri*, that foreign merchants are resolved to buy all the War Bonds that may be offered for sale in the market. The bonds in question were issued in the 27th or 28th year of *Meiji*, the period of redemption being five years. They are therefore to be redeemed from the 32nd or 33rd year of *Meiji*, at their face value. For this reason the foreign buyers have determined not to pay more than the face value. The sales effected up to the present amount to no more than seven or eight hundred thousand *yen*, and it may seem strange that a scarcity in the supply is already felt. The fact is that holders of the bonds are unwilling to sell at the ruling prices, being misled by the notion that the bonds may be sold to foreign countries at a higher rate than the face value.

As no convenient place of payment was specified in promissory notes and bills of exchange hitherto issued by Japanese, it has been customary to cash the same at the offices of their issuers or of their drawees. No little trouble was incurred by this method on both sides. Lately it was determined, at a general conference of the various banks in Tokyo and Yokohama, that from the 16th July instant the payment of promissory notes and drafts should be made on behalf of their issuers on a fixed date by the bankers of the drawees of such notes. This system is similar to one enforced by two or three of the principal banks until last year, but a panic having occurred then in the economic world through the insol-

veney of a number of dealers in piece goods, the operation of the system was suspended for a time. It is satisfactory, says the *Nippon*, that the system, which largely contributes to the development of commercial credit, is to be revived.

On the night of the 25th ult., we learn from the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha's steamer *Shin-Kochi Maru*, while on a voyage from Osaka to Moji, ran down a junk named the *Koshu Maru*, off Himejima, Bungo Province. The junk, with a cargo of 163,280 catties of coal, sunk at once, but the crew were picked up by the boats of the steamer.

The *Hochi Shimbun* is responsible for the following tale of the sea. On the 23rd June, a party of men, who had, according to all accounts, passed through some unusual adventures, arrived in Yokohama by the N. Y. K. steamer *Suminoye Maru*. The sailors landed by the *Suminoye* numbered five, and on the 13th January last, had sailed from Tokyo in the junk *Shitoku Maru*, owned by Mr. Kurota, of Nihonbashi, Tokyo. After passing a point in Izu province, a strong squall, or as it is described, a hurricane, was encountered, in which the rudder of the junk was carried away. After this the vessel drifted at the mercy of the wind and waves, but on the following day, the storm having subsided, a mountain in Mikawa province was sighted and attempts were made to reach the land. But before this could be accomplished, on the 16th January, another storm arose, followed by heavy rain. The crew of the junk were exhausted by their labours, and were driven far out to sea where they lost all reckoning. It was not until the 18th of April that they sighted land, a mountain, and on the following morning they launched a boat and deserting their junk, landed on a small uninhabited island of the Ogasawara group. After staying there some time, the crew succeeded in reaching the main island in their boat, and remained there till the 14th instant, when they were taken on board the *Suminoye Maru*.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has been studying the criminal records of Japan and has found confirmation of the old saw that "the boy is father to the man." In early youth the criminal classes in Japan, as elsewhere, exhibit the traits of depraved character that eventually lead them on to the perpetration of serious crimes. Beginning as pick-pockets and sneak-thieves, the youthful criminals gradually slip into the company of gamblers: the descent is then swift to the strata of greater crimes, highway robbery, incendiarism, and murder. Of course the larger percentage of criminals is found in great cities. Statistics gathered during the period 1882-1894, show that 221,658 crimes were committed by persons under twenty years of age. Of these 196,304 were the acts of lads, and 25,354 the wrong-doings of girls. As the population has increased, so have its criminal classes, if these figures speak aright. The rapid increase in the cost of living has caused a similar increase in the activity of criminal circles, whose numbers are naturally swelled by an influx from the indigent and starving folks of the big towns. One favourable thing has to be noticed—that is a decrease in cases of incendiarism.

Another disgraceful coolie disturbance is reported from Kobe. The *Chronicle* gives the following account of the affray:—On Tuesday, June 29th, about 120 men went out to the *Pakling*, but on account of the weather they were unable to work. They were kept on board, however, in the hope that the weather might clear up, and while they were waiting the Blue Funnel steamer *Orestes* came in. About half the men were required to work the cargo of the *Orestes*, and the stevedore's boatswain (a Japanese) started to tell off the men. Discipline, however, is one of the last things that the Japanese workman learns, be he coolie, seaman, or artisan, and consequently the men who were told off preferred to remain in idleness on the *Pakling*. Lots were then drawn among the twenty stevedoring men for the ten to go aboard

the *Orestes*; three of the men upon whom that duty fell refused to go. The boatswain insisted on their going. Words came to blows; the three coolies drew their knives and savagely stabbed the boatswain about the body. The man bled profusely. He was brought to the American hatoba in a boat with six other men. A policeman stood by, and we are informed asked no questions; the wounded man was taken away to the hospital, where he still lies. His wounds, though serious, are not, we understand, considered to be dangerous.

Mr. James Payn has made an interesting comparison between the state of affairs that existed in London on a great occasion one hundred years ago, and the state of affairs that existed in connexion with the Jubilee celebrations. When the Royal Procession to St. Paul's was about to take place, to return thanks for Admiral Duncan's victory over the Dutch fleet, the following advertisements appeared in *The Times* of December 8th and December 12th, 1797:—

"PROCESSION TO ST. PAULS."

"To BE LET, a DRAWING-ROOM, about 20 feet long, the windows nearly level with his Majesty's Carriage. Twenty persons may be comfortably accommodated. It is wished by the Proprietor of the above Premises, that the Party may be of their own selection: a strange mixture of Company on these occasions is unpleasant to most Families who wish to enjoy their own Society. Price 20 Guineas. Enquire at Salmon's, Goldsmith, No. 49, facing Old Round Court, Strand, between York buildings and the Adelphi."

"ROYAL PROCESSION."

"One of the grandest sights since the days of Queen Anne, and in all probability we shall never see the like again. Those ladies and Gentlemen who are desirous of being accommodated with one of the best views in the City to see the procession (not only as it passes by, but of seeing the Company go into Church) will apply to No. 28 Ludgate-Street, the corner of Ave Maria-Lane, next the Churchyard. The Front Seats in the Dining Room are only 2 Guineas, the second seats one and a half guinea, third seats one guinea: seats in the shop, which is very pleasant, 1 guinea each: a two pair front room, with 3 windows, for large party, at 20 guineas for the day, an excellent prospect."

The 20-guinea dining-room of the first advertisement would be 500 guineas now, and the 2-guinea seats of the second would be 10 guineas. Probably the ratio is fairly typical of the change in the times.

It is now the season, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, for the various silk producing districts to absorb an enormous amount of capital, for working expenses. The demand for money increases day by day, and it is not to be wondered at that stringency in the money market has already been felt. The banks which issued loans at an interest of two *sen* and seven or eight *rin* at the beginning of this month will not now do business at a lower rate than three *sen* per *dien*. The scale of interest has been raised by all banks in spite of the fact that no shortage is noticeable in the supply of capital. So far as the actual condition of the economic world is concerned, it may safely be alleged that the market enjoys perfect tranquillity. Yet there are various sources of anxiety for the bankers who, it would seem, are destined in future to fall into a vortex of bewilderment through their inability to correctly predict the course of events. Two or three points in connection with this assertion may be cited for reference:—(1.) The excess of imports for five months has reached 18,570,000 *yen*, showing a difference of 1,250,000 *yen* as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The total excess for this year may therefore be expected to exceed fifty millions of *yen*. What will be the consequences of this? (2.) What will be the future financial policy of the Government, and what effect will it produce upon the economic affairs of the country? (3.) Will the prices of commodities fall after the enforcement of the gold monometallic system, or will they rise from other circumstances? (4.) What will be the future of shares? Any further fall in their value may lead to the bankruptcy of the smaller banks. (5.) Success in enterprises depends upon the circulation of money and on popular sentiment. Unless

these two conditions are favourable, all undertakings must decay and perish. If so, what will be the consequences? The above questions require the fullest consideration. Panic is ever in the minds of thinkers, and every banker ought to take warning for the future, in spite of the apparent tranquillity of the economic world regarding the supply of capital. It appears to us (*Japan Mail*) that any one competent to answer the *Mainichi's* questions confidently, ought to get an *omphalos* and an *adytum*, and set up an oracle at once.

Mr. Von Treutler, *Chargé d'Affaires* for Germany, appears to have had an unpleasant experience while travelling by rail to Kyoto on the 23rd ult. for the purpose of presenting to the Emperor the decoration recently conferred upon him by the Kaiser. According to the *Yiji*, Mr. Von Treutler left Shimbashi Station in company with a Mr. Kawakatsu, of Kobe, and two other passengers; another entering the compartment at Yokohama. On arriving at Nagoya, Mr. Von Treutler stopped for the night at the Shinachu Hotel, and on resuming his journey in the morning, found the same three passengers, two from Tokyo and one from Yokohama, in his compartment. Mr. Von Treutler and Mr. Kawakatsu appear to have afterwards dropped off to sleep, and while enjoying their nap were quietly relieved of their jewellery by, it is said, the passenger from Yokohama. The German *Chargé d'Affaires* was robbed of a gold watch and chain said to be worth \$400, and Mr. Kawakatsu of a gold watch valued at \$180. The thief was proceeding to ransack Mr. Von Treutler's and his companion's hand-bags when the two sleepers awoke and caught him in the act. The man pleaded for mercy and nearing Samegayemura jumped from the window and took to the woods. The culprit was, however, arrested by the police during the night and the stolen goods recovered and returned to their owners. The two other passengers from Shimbashi who travelled in the same compartment were arrested on suspicion of being confederates of the thief, but what has been done with them since is not reported.

TEA INSPECTION AT PUGET SOUND PORTS.

The Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* of the 4th inst. had the following to say with reference to the recent alleged difficulty in the inspection of Japan tea at Seattle:—

Tacoma, with her usual business foresight, unhampered by scruples of conscience, endeavoured to make capital of the fact that United States Tea Inspector John R. Palmer, appointed for the customs district of Puget Sound, was a resident of that city, by sending a report to Japan to the effect that tea shipped to any ports save Tacoma and San Francisco would not be allowed to enter, as at these ports only was there a government tea inspector. The success of this ruse was evident in the manifest of the Japanese steamship *Yamaguchi Maru*, which arrived from Japan on Wednesday night, June 2nd, with but 900 cases of tea, while the Northern Pacific steamer *Pathan*, which left Yokohama four hours ahead of the *Yamaguchi*, but has not yet arrived at Tacoma (June 4th), is loaded down with it.

The lie sent from Tacoma to Japan did most effective work to the detriment of Seattle. It accomplished by foul means what was impossible by fair. The shippers who had contracted, or were about to contract, with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, considered themselves justified in refusing to ship to Seattle, where, they were informed, tea could not be entered. In response to a cable received recently from the Company, Local Manager James Griffiths sent an emphatic denial.

The tea inspector was appointed for the Customs district of Puget Sound; for Tacoma no more than for Seattle and Port Townsend.

Mr. Palmer was in the city yesterday for the purpose of sampling and testing tea received by the *Yamaguchi Maru*. He anticipates quite a busy season when tea begins to arrive freely, as it will during the months of July and August. With the frequent arrivals of tea vessels at Seattle and Tacoma he will be kept going constantly between the two cities.

LAWS THAT WILL AFFECT FOREIGN RESIDENTS AFTER THE ABOLITION OF CONSULAR JURISDICTION.

It appears desirable to publish translations of the Laws that will have financial concern for the foreign residents after they pass under Japanese Jurisdiction. We proceed to do so:—

REGISTRATION REGULATIONS.

LAW No. 27.

Art. I.—Registration fees shall be levied and collected in accordance with this Law.

Art. II.—Any person desiring to have his estate or buildings registered shall pay fees as classified below:—

1. Purchasers: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of purchase.
2. Successors of a family (in the case of the death or loss of whereabouts of the head; or of succession caused by divorce): $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the market value of the property.

Note.—After the lapse of sixty days from the time of succession $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the market price will be collected.

3. Successors to the estates of the deceased: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the market value of the property.
4. Recipients of gifts either by will or otherwise: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of market price.
5. Mortgagers or pledgers: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the amount contracted.
6. Applicants for sale by auction under compulsory execution by law; $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value.
7. Applicants for the control of property under compulsory execution by law or for temporary distraint or process of dealing with it: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value.
8. Applicants for the withdrawal or alteration of registration: 10 *sen* per application.
9. Applicants for registration for consolidating the previous rights of ownership; $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the market price of the property.

When value is not determined in cases of (6) and (7), the market price shall be taken as the standard.

Art. III.—With regard to the registration of vessels, fees must be paid as classified below:—

1. Purchasers: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the price of purchase.
2. Successors of a family (in the case of the death or loss of whereabouts of the head of family, or of succession caused by divorce): $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the market value of property.
3. Successors to estates left by the deceased: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the market price.
4. Recipients of properties sent as gifts or left by will: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the market value.
5. Mortgagers or pledgers: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the loan contracted.
6. Applicants for the sale of properties by auction under compulsory execution of law: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value.
7. Applicants for the withdrawal or alteration of registration: 10 *sen* per application.
9. Applicants for registration to certify former rights of ownership: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the market price.

When the value is not determined in cases (6) and (7) the market price shall be taken into consideration.

Art. IV.—Any person desiring to have his vessels registered in the Shipping List must pay fees as specified below:—

1. For new registration—
Vessels below 15 tons, 50 *sen*.
Vessels above 15 tons, 10 *sen* per 10 tons.
2. For alteration of registration—
Vessels below 15 tons, 10 *sen*.
Vessels above 15 tons, 10 *sen* per 10 tons.
3. For withdrawal from registration—
Vessels below 15 tons, 5 *sen*.
Vessels above 15 tons, 5 *sen* per 10 tons.
4. Alteration in specific items of registration, 10 *sen* per item.

In the registration of vessels above 15 tons as mentioned in (1) and (2), any fractions below ten tons shall be calculated as ten tons.

Art. V.—If any of the following items are to be registered in the estate ledger, the proprietors of land are required to pay fees as specified below:—

1. New registration, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.
2. Settlement of the value of land, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.
3. Alteration in the value of land, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.
4. Reclamation, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.
5. Grant of hoeing term, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.
6. Grant of a term for the maintenance of the same value of land, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.
7. Grant of a period for the continuation of a hoeing term, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.

8. Grant of a continuing period for exemption from tax on account of reclamation, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.

9. Increase or decrease in the extent of land, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.

10. Separation or combination of land, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.

The above items are to be added to Article V. under (10).

11. Grant of a period for law appraisal, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.

12. Settlement of the value of land according to Article XXII of the Land Tax Regulations, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.

13. Restoration of the former value of land, $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the value of land.

Land of which the value is not settled as mentioned in the foregoing article shall be determined at the rate of the value of similar land in the neighborhood.

Art. VI.—Any commercial company which desires to effect registration in regard to the following items shall pay fees as specified below:—

1. Organization of Companies by a combination of several persons or capital: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the amount of capital.
2. Increase of capital for companies as organized above: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the amount of increased capital.
3. Organization of branches of such companies: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the amount of capital.
4. Establishment of a joint stock company: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the capital paid up for the first term of organization.
5. Payment of capital after the establishment of a joint stock company: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of each payment.
6. Organization of branches of such company: $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the capital actually paid.
7. Supplementary alterations in specific items of registration (items concerning the increase or payment of capital being excepted) 3 *yen* for each item.
8. Dissolution, 1 *yen* for each time.

Art. VII.—Applicants for registration in the List of Councillors at Law shall pay fees as classified below:—

1. New registration..... 20 *yen*.
2. Alteration in registration..... 10
3. Application for withdrawal..... 1

Art. VIII.—In the entry of the following items in the Official Register, fees must be paid as below by physicians, pharmacists, veterinary surgeons, and horse-shoeing smiths:—

1. New registrations.—
Physicians..... 20
Pharmacists..... 12
Veterinary surgeons..... 12
Horse-shoeing smiths..... 5
Physicians commencing practice *pro tempore*..... 5
Veterinary surgeons holding temporary licences..... 3
2. Alteration in the specific items of registration: 50 *sen* for each item.

Art. IX.—For the registration of the following items in the Official Register, mariners are required to pay the following fees:—

1. New registrations.—
Captains of class A..... 15
First mates of class A..... 10
Second mates of class A..... 6
First engineers of class A..... 15
Second engineers of class A..... 10
Captains of class B..... 10
First mates of class B..... 6
Second mates of class B..... 4
First engineers of class B..... 10
Second engineers of class B..... 6
Mates of small vessels..... 4
Pilots..... 20
2. Alterations in the specific items of registration: 50 *sen* for each item.

Art. X.—Applicants for copyright shall pay fees as specified below:—

1. Ordinary writings and pictures, 5 *yen* each.
2. Writings and pictures to be published in successive numbers, 2 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy.
3. Magazines (all sorts), 50 *sen* per copy.
4. Dramatic works involving rights of performance, 50 *yen* each.
5. Musical compositions involving rights of performance, 20 *yen* each.
6. Photographs, 5 *yen* for each publication.

Art. XI.—For the registration of patents the following fees shall be paid:—

1. New registrations.—
Patent for five years..... 20
Patent for ten years..... 30
Patent for fifteen years..... 40
2. Sale, transfer, or possession in common 10
3. Contract of distraint..... 5

Art. XII.—With regard to designs, fees shall be paid as specified below:—

1. New registrations:—
For exclusive use for three years..... 5
For exclusive use for five years..... 5
For exclusive use for seven years..... 7
For exclusive use for ten years..... 10
2. Sale, transfer, or common ownership..... 2
3. Contract for distraint..... 1

Art. XIII.—The following fees shall be paid in regard to trade marks:—

1. New registration or registration for continued use, 20 *yen* per article.
2. Sale, transfer, or common ownership, 10 *yen* per article.

Art. XIV.—In the entry of the following items in the Official Register with regard to mining enterprises the following fees shall be paid by persons under registration:—

1. Trial Working..... 50 *yen*.
2. Chartered working..... 100
3. Increase in the limits of trial working and alterations as to the increase or decrease of limits..... 25
4. Increase in the limits of chartered working and alterations as to the increase or decrease of limits..... 50
5. Purchase or transfer..... 50
6. Distraint of the right of working or postponement of the term for trial mining..... 15
7. Alterations towards the decrease of limits..... 5
8. Combination or separation of mining district..... 10
9. Relinquishment..... 5

Art. XV.—(Rescinded.)

Art. XVI.—Applicants for the registration of national loan bonds shall pay fees as classified below:—

1. New registration:— $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the face value.
2. A fee of $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the face value is to be collected for the following:—

Alteration of the name registered.
Alteration in the number of bonds.
Withdrawal of the name registered.

Art. XVII.—Registration fees shall be paid in stamps. The same, however, may also be collected in cash in case of an Imperial Ordinance being issued for that purpose.

Art. XVIII.—Registration fees must be above one *sen*, and fractions thereof shall be calculated as one *sen*.

Art. XIX.—(Rescinded.)

Art. XX.—This Law shall go into operation from the 1st April of the 29th year of Meiji (1896).

Art. XXI.—Any registration fees prescribed by existing Laws and Ordinances, which may be repetitions of the present Law, are to be rescinded from the date of the enforcement of the latter.

CRICKET.

On Saturday afternoon a match was played between teams chosen and captained respectively by Messrs. Walford and Bugbird. The former opened the batting and put together a total of 130 runs, the captain, in a well played innings, contributing 52 to the score, and W. Goddard, not out, 17. Bugbird's eleven were disposed of for 116, of which F. E. White contributed a capital played 52, and Murray 27. The full scores were as follows:—

MR. WALFORD'S TEAM.				
S. H. Morse, b. F. E. White	...	...	...	9
D. Tyng, c. Murray, b. Bugbird	...	...	...	7
G. S. Alcock, b. F. E. White	...	...	...	5
R. S. Edwards, b. Murray	...	...	...	5
F. Owen, b. Murray	...	...	...	3
A. H. Walford, c. F. E. White, b. W. J. White	...	...	...	52
A. Kingdon, c. Lea, b. Murray	...	...	...	10
I. Schurr, c. Tyng, b. Murray	...	...	...	6
W. Goddard, not out	...	...	...	17
K. V. Smith, b. W. J. White	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	12

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
G. C. Murray	95	45	5	4
F. E. White	50	30	2	3
F. H. Bugbird	35	24	1	1
D. Tyng	30	6	—	—
Coghill Jackson	30	11	—	—
W. J. White	4	—	—	—

MR. BUGBIRD'S TEAM.				
W. G. White, b. Morse	...	...	...	22
F. C. Jackson, b. Edwards	...	...	...	0
F. E. White, b. W. J. White	...	...	...	52
T. S. Tyng, b. Morse	...	...	...	0
G. C. Murray, b. Morse	...	...	...	27
A. Tyng, c. Kingdon, b. Walford	...	...	...	2
F. H. Bugbird, c. Schurr, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	12
H. Tennant, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	0
H. L. a. b. Edwards	...	...	...	0
S. H. Kuhn, c. Morse, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	4
F. Tyng, not out	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	9

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
E. B. S. Edwards	57	28	1	3
S. H. Morse	65	36	1	3
A. Kingdon	65	38	1	3
A. B. Walford	35	15	1	1

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE "MARITANA" PERFORMANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me the use of your columns to protest against the unjustifiable, impertinent and malicious letter that appeared in the *Japan Herald* on Saturday evening addressed to Mr. Twinning. Such a gratuitously insulting attack on a gentleman who had just given us a great musical treat after weeks of hard work, is, in my opinion, deserving of the severest censure, and were the writer known, I feel sure he would be ostracised by the entire community. The tone of his letter suggests the idea that he was the leader of the hissing movement on Friday evening, a proceeding happily hitherto unknown in Yokohama at a performance in which amateurs were taking part.

Yours truly,
Yokohama, June 28th.

JUSTICE.

"YAMAGUCHI EXPULSION CASE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The counter currents of Education and Christianity, which have been growing more antagonistic in the last decade of the *Meiji* Era, lately found another vent in the "Expulsion Case of Yamaguchi Normal School," that took place on the 24th of January last.

Remarks on the event being still confined to some of the local papers and a few Christian periodicals, among which the *Gokyo* stands as a champion for the case, it does not as yet attract the wide attention of the public. But we fear that the fact itself is too stubborn to be cast into oblivion. It is like a mustard seed thrown into the soil, which looks very small at first sight, but shall not fail to grow so big some day, that birds of the air will come and rest their wearied wings upon the spreading branches.

Let me state the true features of the case. Oritake Juro was the only Christian among the students of the Normal School at Yamaguchi, which is quite a famous place for having produced several of the modern able statesmen of Japan, among whom Marquis Ito, the author of the Imperial Constitution, is to be counted.

As Christianity is, as a rule, looked upon unfavourably by the Government schools throughout the empire: especially by the Normal Schools, so Oritake was constantly exposed to the scorn and contempt of the rest of the students. They were always ready to find fault with him. But Oritake is rather an excellent student, both in scholarship and deportment. And therefore they could find no opportunity to exclude him from their community.

On the evening of January 24th last, he came into the common study hall. Nishiyama and Tsukamoto, both of whom belong to higher classes than his own, began to address him with repeated questions as follows:—

N. & T.—"Which is superior, God or His Majesty the Emperor?"

O.—"As a matter of course, God is superior to the Emperor."

N. & T.—"Which is inferior then, God or the Emperor?"

O.—"That's rather an inappropriate word; but compared to God who reigns above, the Emperor, it might be said, is inferior to him."

Oritake's answer is a plain, self evident truth. The Creator of heaven and earth is not King or Emperor, for he is infinitely superior to any human being. Do you say that it is a Christian view? Very well, what will you say of those admirers of Darwin and Spencer, who are rather inclined to think with them, that man is evolved out of the monkey? Are they not more deserving accusation, allowing that an Emperor is a man too? I fear that such theorists are not few in our educational circles.

Thereupon, the two anti-Christian students became mad, and declared that Oritake blasphemed against the Emperor. Then a succession of class-gatherings followed,—first the second year class, to which he belongs, met; the third year class had another meeting; and the fourth year class, which is the highest, had also its own meeting. At last, he was called into one of their meetings to confess his thoughts before them. He committed all things into the hand of God, as he expresses it, thinking not what and how to speak, but expressed what he believed; and meanwhile he spent his time in the usual way.

After this, he was summoned twice before the dormitory managers to speak of his religious conceptions, and yet was never charged with wrong. On the 28th, he was summoned into the presence

of the President, Principals, and two dormitory managers; and was told to speak of his ideas concerning the Imperial Rescript of Education. He did not shrink, but gave it in a proper and polite manner, and retired. The next day, a sentence fell upon him, pronounced as follows:—

"Owing to something wrong in you, you are dismissed from the school. The whole amount of money given to you heretofore for your support, should be paid back at once."

He asked them what reasons they had for expelling him so unexpectedly from the school, and for demanding of him the immediate repayment of the money expended for his support. But all was in vain, and he was driven from the school.

In the meantime, Oritake found these following six items, that were collected by the students with the malicious object of rejecting him from the schools.

1. He says, "God is superior to His Majesty the Emperor."
2. He tries to transform the Imperial Rescript on Education into his own ways.
3. He reads the Bible oftener than he reads his text books.
4. He said that he became more anxious to enter the Normal School after he was converted to Christianity.
5. He talked to the Sunday School Children at Yoshioka during the last summer vacation.
6. He said that he has a great responsibility to lead others to the true religion. He is very blindly led astray into the Christian religion, and so forth.

These six points were the grounds for the appeal presented before the school authorities by the students, with which they insisted urgently for the expulsion of Oritake.

As for our part, we find no candid reason whatever in these things, so as to justify the expulsion of the young man, who was fairly acknowledged even by the school authorities as a good pupil in his student life.

Rev. Y. Nishimura, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Yamaguchi felt much sympathy towards Oritake in his distress. He wanted to look into the case, and, if possible, try to open in his behalf the way for his returning to school. But if he could not get a satisfactory reason for the expulsion, he and his friends decided to go to the bottom of matter, in order that any obstacle like this should be removed from the path.

He called upon the President of the school, as the temporary guardian of Oritake, and asked him for an explanation of the matter. He only replied that "a certain criticism made by Oritake upon the Imperial Rescript was the cause of his expulsion, and that there is no seeming hope for his re-admission into the school."

It is evident, as Oritake himself says, that the school authorities were reminded of the fact that the rest of the points for rejection go into the sphere of religion, one's belief in which is safely guaranteed by the Imperial Constitution; and that the President was constrained to confine the reason of expulsion only to the second item of the data collected by the students as before mentioned.

What serious criticism did he make then? Nothing except as far as we know, that he remarked that the Imperial Rescript says nothing about God; and that it may, or may not, lack in some things in the sight of God. And, it is distinctly to be remembered that he gave his opinions only in answer to the demand made upon him by the students and others. It is very clear that no human being, however wise and great he may be, can claim to be absolutely perfect in all that he says or does. "Fear God, and honour the King" is the teaching of the Bible. Therefore every true Christian is always ready to serve his earthly sovereign with a clear conscience. But no rational man can conceive that the Emperor is not a man; and to think of him as a man does not lessen, even in the least degree, the majesty and power of the throne.

To return to the story, several other calls were made upon the local authorities. But no clear and definite answer was given to any of the callers. Their effort is, however, not to be idle until they shall see a proper end of it.

Deem not that it is a trifling matter. Indeed, this is a sign of the times, portending the great moral strifes between Reason and Prejudice, Conscience and Hypocrisy, and Light and Darkness. Behold! the Mighty Twentieth Century is now approaching with her tremendous billows to sweep everything before her course. How mistaken the man who would have a fancy to stand on the shore, and spread his arms to stop her onward career!

HEIJI HISHI-NUMA.

Kobe.

N.Y.K. SAILINGS FROM SHANGHAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There is a possibility that a grievance made public in your columns may find redress at the hands of the controlling power which, in this case, is in Tokyo. Residents of Shanghai are confined very closely to the settlements. There are no places of suburban resort; no pleasant spots like Kamakura, Enoshima, or Miyanoshita within easy access; the only escape from the heat of a fierce summer is to fly to Nagasaki or Cheloo; and in such expeditions time is of the utmost importance. Formerly, two or three years ago, the excellent passenger-steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha were timed to leave Shanghai generally, if not always, on Friday; arriving in Nagasaki on Sunday morning and there connecting with another steamer leaving Nagasaki for Shanghai on Sunday evening, enabling the "tipper" to be back at his business some time during Tuesday; or giving him a most pleasant and refreshing change, including one thousand miles of sea, in the short space of less than one hundred hours. This agreeable sail is now impossible, because the weekly sailings from Shanghai are on Saturday, the steamer arriving in Nagasaki twelve hours after the departure of the sister vessel to Shanghai, and therefore necessitating a week's delay. The Company, occasionally, announces a sailing to connect; the support they receive should encourage them to make Friday sailing from June to September inclusive; and so confer an immense boon upon hard-working men of business who would take several trips of 100 hours each, but are unable to take one involving a week or more of time.

This subject has been treated before in the local press; but apparently without success; perhaps this appeal may have more effect. If the directors of the Company were to pass a summer in this densely populated place they would agree with me in the reasonable character of the suggestion.

I have been told that one objection against the adoption of this course urged upon the Company is, that Friday sailings involve two days' detention of the vessel in Nagasaki or a Sunday sailing thence, which latter means, in turn, Sunday work for our friends there. Well, in reply to this, or as a comment upon the objection itself, I will say that my experience is that the only day on which much work is done in Nagasaki is Sunday!

I am, &c.,
Shanghai, June 24th.

MUNICEPS.

MRS. CAHUSAC'S SCHOOL.

On Wednesday afternoon, in response to invitations issued by Mrs. Cahusac, Principal of the Girls' High School, 48 Bluff, a number of ladies and gentlemen, parents of the pupils and friends of the institution, assembled at the School to witness the presentation of prizes and certificates to the successful pupils. At the close of afternoon tea—partaken of in Mrs. Cahusac's drawing room, where Miss Burdett Leach and Miss Wilkin acted as hosts in the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Cahusac through indisposition—the guests and pupils assembled in the school-room, and the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine introduced Mrs. J. A. Fraser, who had kindly consented to present the prizes. Before this pleasing ceremony was entered upon, however, Mr. Cahusac addressed those present to the effect that though he himself had no *locus standi* in the School, Mrs. Cahusac had commissioned him to give a few particulars as to the working of the School during the past term. Mrs. Cahusac had usually written out a report, but had been unable to do so on this occasion. She had expressed herself as much pleased with the general work of the School, the prizes were given to the hardest workers and those pupils who had most distinguished themselves, but there were others who had also done well, but had been unable to obtain the necessary number of marks, either through temporary absence from school or from not having joined it in time to obtain such number of marks. Mrs. Cahusac was also glad to note an improvement in the general tone and discipline of the School; the teachers had worked well and the pupils had pulled well together with them.

Mrs. Fraser then presented the prizes and certificates as follows:—

PRIZE LIST JUNE, 1897.

CLASS PRIZES—Class I. 1st in examination, Ethel Fraser; 1st in Term, Hilda Watson; Class II. 1st in Examination and Term, Alice Mendelson; Class III. 1st in Examination, Dorothy Tocque; 1st in Term, Edith Bunting; Class IV. Div. A. 1st in Class, Berthe Cahusac; and Class IV. Div. B. 1st in Class, Elsie Edale.

FRENCH PRIZES (Presented by Miss E. Burdett

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Note.—After the lapse of sixty days from the time of succession $\frac{1}{100}$ of the market price will be collected.

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5. Mortgagers or pledgers: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the amount contracted.
6. Applicants for sale by auction under compulsory execution by law; $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value.
7. Applicants for the control of property under compulsory execution by law or for temporary distraint or process of dealing with it: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value.
8. Applicants for the withdrawal or alteration of registration: 10 *sen* per application.
9. Applicants for registration for consolidating the previous rights of ownership; $\frac{1}{100}$ of the market price of the property.

When value is not determined in cases of (6) and (7), the market price shall be taken as the standard.

Art. III.—With regard to the registration of vessels, fees must be paid as classified below:—

1. Purchasers: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the price of purchase.
2. Successors of a family (in the case of the death or loss of whereabouts of the head of family, or of succession caused by divorce): $\frac{1}{100}$ of the market value of property.
3. Successors to estates left by the deceased: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the market prices.
4. Recipients of properties sent as gifts or left by will: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the market value.
5. Mortgagers or pledgers: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the loan contracted.
6. Applicants for the sale of properties by auction under compulsory execution of law: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value.
7. Applicants for the withdrawal or alteration of registration: 10 *sen* per application.
8. Applicants for registration to certify former rights of ownership: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the market price.

When the value is not determined in cases (6) and (7) the market price shall be taken into consideration.

Art. IV.—Any person desiring to have his vessels registered in the Shipping List must pay fees as specified below:—

1. For new registration—
Vessels below 15 tons, 50 *sen*.
Vessels above 15 tons, 50 *sen* per 10 tons.
2. For alteration of registration—
Vessels below 15 tons, 10 *sen*.
Vessels above 15 tons, 10 *sen* per 10 tons.
3. For withdrawal from registration—
Vessels below 15 tons, 5 *sen*.
Vessels above 15 tons, 5 *sen* per 10 tons.
4. Alteration in specific items of registration, 10 *sen* per item.

In the registration of vessels above 15 tons as mentioned in (1) and (2), any fractions below ten tons shall be calculated as ten tons.

Art. V.—If any of the following items are to be registered in the estate ledger, the proprietors of land are required to pay fees as specified below:—

1. New registration, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.
2. Settlement of the value of land, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.
3. Alteration in the value of land, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.
4. Reclamation, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.
5. Grant of hoeing term, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.
6. Grant of a term for the maintenance of the same value of land, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.
7. Grant of a period for the continuation of a hoeing term, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.

8. Grant of a continuing period for exemption from tax on account of reclamation, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.

9. Increase or decrease in the extent of land, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.

10. Separation or combination of land, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.

The above items are to be added to Article V. under (10).

11. Grant of a period for law appraisal, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.

12. Settlement of the value of land according to Article XXII of the Land Tax Regulations, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.

13. Restoration of the former value of land, $\frac{1}{100}$ of the value of land.

Land of which the value is not settled as mentioned in the foregoing article shall be determined at the rate of the value of similar land in the neighborhood.

Art. VI.—Any commercial company which desires to effect registration in regard to the following items shall pay fees as specified below:—

1. Organization of Companies by a combination of several persons or capital: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the amount of capital.
2. Increase of capital for companies as organized above: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the amount of increased capital.
3. Organization of branches of such companies: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the amount of capital.
4. Establishment of a joint stock company: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the capital paid up for the first term of organization.
5. Payment of capital after the establishment of a joint stock company: $\frac{1}{100}$ of each payment.
6. Organization of branches of such company: $\frac{1}{100}$ of the capital actually paid.
7. Supplementary alterations in specific items of registration (items concerning the increase or payment of capital being excepted) 3 *yen* for each item.
8. Dissolution, 1 *yen* for each time.

Art. VII.—Applicants for registration in the List of Councillors at Law shall pay fees as classified below:—

1. New registration..... 20 *Yen*.
2. Alteration in registration 10
3. Application for withdrawal 1

Art. VIII.—In the entry of the following items in the Official Register, fees must be paid as below by physicians, pharmacists, veterinary surgeons, and horse-shoeing smiths:—

1. New registrations:—
Physicians 20
Pharmacists 12
Veterinary surgeons 12
Horse-shoeing smiths 5
Physicians commencing practice *pro tempore* 5
Veterinary surgeons holding temporary licences 3
2. Alteration in the specific items of registration: 50 *sen* for each item.

Art. IX.—For the registration of the following items in the Official Register, mariners are required to pay the following fees:—

1. New registrations:—
Captains of class A 15
First mates of class A 10
Second mates of class A 6
First engineers of class A 15
Second engineers of class A 10
Captains of class B 10
First mates of class B 6
Second mates of class B 4
First engineers of class B 10
Second engineers of class B 6
Mates of small vessels 4
Pilots 20
2. Alterations in the specific items of registration: 50 *sen* for each item.

Art. X.—Applicants for copyright shall pay fees as specified below:—

1. Ordinary writings and pictures, 5 *yen* each.
2. Writings and pictures to be published in successive numbers, 2 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy.
3. Magazines (all sorts), 50 *sen* per copy.
4. Dramatic works involving rights of performance, 50 *yen* each.
5. Musical compositions involving rights of performance, 20 *yen* each.
6. Photographs, 5 *yen* for each publication.

Art. XI.—For the registration of patents the following fees shall be paid:—

1. New registrations:—
Patent for five years 20
Patent for ten years 30
Patent for fifteen years 40
2. Sale, transfer, or possession in common 10
3. Contract of distraint 5

Art. XII.—With regard to designs, fees shall be paid as specified below:—

1. New registrations:—
For exclusive use for three years 5
For exclusive use for five years 5
For exclusive use for seven years 7
For exclusive use for ten years 10
2. Sale, transfer, or common ownership. 2
3. Contract for distraint 1

Art. XIII.—The following fees shall be paid in regard to trade marks:—

1. New registration or registration for continued use, 20 *yen* per article.
2. Sale, transfer, or common ownership, 10 *yen* per article.

Art. XIV.—In the entry of the following items in the Official Register with regard to mining enterprises the following fees shall be paid by persons under registration:—

1. Trial Working 50
2. Chartered working 100
3. Increase in the limits of trial working and alterations as to the increase or decrease of limits 25
4. Increase in the limits of chartered working and alterations as to the increase or decrease of limits 50
5. Purchase or transfer 50
6. Distraint of the right of working or postponement of the term for trial mining 15
7. Alterations towards the decrease of limits 5
8. Combination or separation of mining district 10
9. Relinquishment 5

Art. XV.—(Rescinded.)

Art. XVI.—Applicants for the registration of national loan bonds shall pay fees as classified below:—

1. New registration:— $\frac{1}{100}$ of the face value.
2. A fee of $\frac{1}{100}$ of the face value is to be collected for the following:—

Alteration of the name registered.
Alteration in the number of bonds.
Withdrawal of the name registered.

Art. XVII.—Registration fees shall be paid in stamps. The same, however, may also be collected in cash in case of an Imperial Ordinance being issued for that purpose.

Art. XVIII.—Registration fees must be above one *sen*, and fractions thereof shall be calculated as one *sen*.

Art. XIX.—(Rescinded.)

Art. XX.—This Law shall go into operation from the 1st April of the 29th year of Meiji (1896).

Art. XXI.—Any registration fees prescribed by existing Laws and Ordinances, which may be repetitions of the present Law, are to be rescinded from the date of the enforcement of the latter.

CRICKET.

On Saturday afternoon a match was played between teams chosen and captained respectively by Messrs. Walford and Bugbird. The former opened the batting and put together a total of 130 runs, the captain, in a well played innings, contributing 52 to the score, and W. Goddard, not out, 17. Bugbird's eleven were disposed of for 116, of which F. E. White contributed a capital played 52, and Murray 27. The full scores were as follows:—

MR. WALFORD'S TEAM.				
S. H. Morse, b. F. E. White	...	...	...	9
D. Tyng, c. Murray, b. Bugbird	...	...	...	7
G. S. Alcock, b. F. E. White	...	...	...	5
F. B. Edwards, b. Murray	...	...	...	5
F. Owen, b. Murray	...	...	...	8
A. H. Walford, c. F. E. White, b. W. J. White	...	...	...	52
A. Kingston, c. Lea, b. Murray	...	...	...	10
G. C. Murray, b. Morse	...	...	...	6
W. Goddard, not out	...	...	...	17
K. V. Smith, b. W. J. White	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	12

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
G. C. Murray	95	45	5	4
F. E. White	50	30	1	1
F. H. B. Bird	85	24	1	1
D. Tyng	20	6	—	—
Coghlin Jackson	30	21	—	0
W. J. White	4	—	—	—

MR. BUGBIRD'S TEAM.				
W. G. White, b. Morse	...	...	...	22
F. C. Jackson, b. Edwards	...	...	...	0
F. E. White, i. b. w., Edwards	...	...	...	38
T. S. Tyng, b. Morse	...	...	...	0
G. C. Murray, b. Morse	...	...	...	37
A. Tyng, c. Kingston, b. Walford	...	...	...	0
F. H. Bugbird, c. Schurr, b. Kingston	...	...	...	21
H. Tennant, b. Kingston	...	...	...	0
H. L. A. b. Edwards	...	...	...	0
S. H. Kuhn, c. Morse, b. Kingston	...	...	...	4
F. Tyng, not out	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	9

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
F. B. S. Edwards	57	9	3	3
S. H. Morse	65	26	1	3
A. Kingston	65	26	1	3
A. B. Walford	35	15	2	1

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE "MARITANA" PERFORMANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me the use of your columns to protest against the unjustifiable, impertinent and malicious letter that appeared in the *Japan Herald* on Saturday evening addressed to Mr. Twinning. Such a gratuitously insulting attack on a gentleman who had just given us a great musical treat after weeks of hard work, is, in my opinion, deserving of the severest censure, and were the writer known, I feel sure he would be ostracised by the entire community. The tone of his letter suggests the idea that he was the leader of the hissing movement on Friday evening, a proceeding happily hitherto unknown in Yokohama at a performance in which amateurs were taking part.

Yours truly,
Yokohama, June 28th.

JUSTICE.

"YAMAGUCHI EXPULSION CASE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The counter currents of Education and Christianity, which have been growing more antagonistic in the last decade of the *Meiji* Era, lately found another vent in the "Expulsion Case of Yamaguchi Normal School," that took place on the 24th of January last.

Remarks on the event being still confined to some of the local papers and a few Christian periodicals, among which the *Gokyo* stands as a champion for the case, it does not as yet attract the wide attention of the public. But we fear that the fact itself is too stubborn to be cast into oblivion. It is like a mustard seed thrown into the soil, which looks very small at first sight, but shall not fail to grow so big some day, that birds of the air will come and rest their wearied wings upon the spreading branches.

Let me state the true features of the case. Oritake Juro was the only Christian among the students of the Normal School at Yamaguchi, which is quite a famous place for having produced several of the modern able statesmen of Japan, among whom Marquis Ito, the author of the Imperial Constitution, is to be counted.

As Christianity is, as a rule, looked upon unfavourably by the Government schools throughout the empire: especially by the Normal Schools, so Oritake was constantly exposed to the scorn and contempt of the rest of the students. They were always ready to find fault with him. But Oritake is rather an excellent student, both in scholarship and deportment. And therefore they could find no opportunity to exclude him from their community.

On the evening of January 24th last, he came into the common study hall. Nishiyama and Tsukamoto, both of whom belong to higher classes than his own, began to address him with repeated questions as follows:—

N. & T.—"Which is superior, God or His Majesty the Emperor?"

O.—"As a matter of course, God is superior to the Emperor."

N. & T.—"Which is inferior then, God or the Emperor?"

O.—"That's rather an inappropriate word; but compared to God who reigns above, the Emperor, it might be said, is inferior to him."

Oritake's answer is a plain, self evident truth. The Creator of heaven and earth is not King or Emperor, for he is infinitely superior to any human being. Do you say that it is a Christian view? Very well, what will you say of those admirers of Darwin and Spencer, who are rather inclined to think with them, that man is evolved out of the monkey? Are they not more deserving accusation, allowing that an Emperor is a man too? I fear that such theorists are not few in our educational circles.

Thereupon, the two anti-Christian students became mad, and declared that Oritake blasphemed against the Emperor. Then a succession of class-gatherings followed,—first the second year class, to which he belongs, met; the third year class had another meeting; and the fourth year class, which is the highest, had also its own meeting. At last, he was called into one of their meetings to confess his thoughts before them. He committed all things into the hand of God, as he expresses it, thinking not what and how to speak, but expressed what he believed; and meanwhile he spent his time in the usual way.

After this, he was summoned twice before the dormitory managers to speak of his religious conceptions, and yet was never charged with wrong. On the 28th, he was summoned into the presence

of the President, Principals, and two dormitory managers; and was told to speak of his ideas concerning the Imperial Rescripts of Education. He did not shrink, but gave it in a proper and polite manner, and retired. The next day, a sentence fell upon him, pronounced as follows:—

"Owing to something wrong in you, you are dismissed from the school. The whole amount of money given to you heretofore for your support, should be paid back at once."

He asked them what reasons they had for expelling him so unexpectedly from the school, and for demanding of him the immediate repayment of the money expended for his support. But all was in vain, and he was driven from the school.

In the meantime, Oritake found these following six items, that were collected by the students with the malicious object of rejecting him from the schools.

1. He says, "God is superior to His Majesty the Emperor."
2. He tries to transform the Imperial Rescript on Education into his own ways.
3. He reads the Bible oftener than he reads his text books.
4. He said that he became more anxious to enter the Normal School after he was converted to Christianity.
5. He talked to the Sunday School Children at Yoshikawa during the last summer vacation.
6. He said that he has a great responsibility to lead others to the true religion. He is very blindly led astray into the Christian religion, and so forth.

These six points were the grounds for the appeal presented before the school authorities by the students, with which they insisted urgently for the expulsion of Oritake.

As for our part, we find no candid reason whatever in these things, so as to justify the expulsion of the young man, who was fairly acknowledged even by the school authorities as a good pupil in his student life.

Rev. Y. Nishimura, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Yamaguchi felt much sympathy towards Oritake in his distress. He wanted to look into the case, and, if possible, try to open in his behalf the way for his returning to school. But if he could not get a satisfactory reason for the expulsion, he and his friends decided to go to the bottom of matter, in order that any obstacle like this should be removed from the path.

He called upon the President of the school, as the temporary guardian of Oritake, and asked him for an explanation of the matter. He only replied that "a certain criticism made by Oritake upon the Imperial Rescript was the cause of his expulsion, and that there is no seeming hope for his re-admission into the school."

It is evident, as Oritake himself says, that the school authorities were reminded of the fact that the rest of the points for rejection go into the sphere of religion, one's belief in which is safely guaranteed by the Imperial Constitution; and that the President was constrained to confine the reason of expulsion only to the second item of the data collected by the students as before mentioned.

What serious criticism did he make then? Nothing except as far as we know, that he remarked that the Imperial Rescript says nothing about God; and that it may, or may not, lack in some things in the sight of God. And, it is distinctly to be remembered that he gave his opinions only in answer to the demand made upon him by the students and others. It is very clear that no human being, however wise and great he may be, can claim to be absolutely perfect in all that he says or does. "Fear God, and honour the King" is the teaching of the Bible. Therefore every true Christian is always ready to serve his earthly sovereign with a clear conscience. But no rational man can conceive that the Emperor is not a man; and to think of him as a man does not lessen, even in the least degree, the majesty and power of the throne.

To return to the story, several other calls were made upon the local authorities. But no clear and definite answer was given to any of the callers. Their effort is, however, not to be idle until they shall see a proper end of it.

Deem not that it is a trifling matter. Indeed, this is a sign of the times, portending the great moral strifes between Reason and Prejudice, Conscience and Hypocrisy, and Light and Darkness. Behold! the Mighty Twentieth Century is now approaching with her tremendous billows to sweep everything before her course. How mistaken the man who would have a fancy to stand on the shore, and spread his arms to stop her onward career!

HEIJI HISHI-NUMA.

Kobe.

N.Y.K. SAILINGS FROM SHANGHAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There is a possibility that a grievance made public in your columns may find redress at the hands of the controlling power which, in this case, is in Tokyo. Residents of Shanghai are confined very closely to the settlements. There are no places of suburban resort; no pleasant spots like Kamakura, Enoshima, or Miyanoshita within easy access; the only escape from the heat of a fierce summer is to fly to Nagasaki or Cheloo; and in such expeditions time is of the utmost importance. Formerly, two or three years ago, the excellent passenger-steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha were timed to leave Shanghai generally, if not always, on Friday; arriving in Nagasaki on Sunday morning and there connecting with another steamer leaving Nagasaki for Shanghai on Sunday evening, enabling the "tipper" to be back at his business sometime during Tuesday; or giving him a most pleasant and refreshing change, including one thousand miles of sea, in the short space of less than one hundred hours. This agreeable sail is now impossible, because the weekly sailings from Shanghai are on Saturday, the steamer arriving in Nagasaki twelve hours after the departure of the sister vessel to Shanghai, and therefore necessitating a week's delay. The Company, occasionally, announces a sailing to connect; the support they receive should encourage them to make Friday sailing from June to September inclusive; and so confer an immense boon upon hard-working men of business who would take several trips of 100 hours each, but are unable to take one involving a week or more of time.

This subject has been treated before in the local press; but apparently without success; perhaps this appeal may have more effect. If the directors of the Company were to pass a summer in this densely populated place they would agree with me in the reasonable character of the suggestion.

I have been told that one objection against the adoption of this course urged upon the Company is, that Friday sailings involve two days' detention of the vessel in Nagasaki or a Sunday sailing thence, which latter means, in turn, Sunday work for our friends there. Well, in reply to this, or as a comment upon the objection itself, I will say that my experience is that the only day on which much work is done in Nagasaki is Sunday!

I am, &c.,
Shanghai, June 24th.

MUNICEPS.

MRS. CAHUSAC'S SCHOOL.

On Wednesday afternoon, in response to invitations issued by Mrs. Cahusac, Principal of the Girls' High School, 48 Bluff, a number of ladies and gentlemen, parents of the pupils and friends of the institution, assembled at the School to witness the presentation of prizes and certificates to the successful pupils. At the close of afternoon tea—partaken of in Mrs. Cahusac's drawing room, where Miss Burdett Leach and Miss Wilkin acted as hosts in the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Cahusac through indisposition—the guests and pupils assembled in the school-room, and the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine introduced Mrs. J. A. Fraser, who had kindly consented to present the prizes. Before this pleasing ceremony was entered upon, however, Mr. Cahusac addressed those present to the effect that though he himself had no *locus standi* in the School, Mrs. Cahusac had commissioned him to give a few particulars as to the working of the School during the past term. Mrs. Cahusac had usually written out a report, but had been unable to do so on this occasion. She had expressed herself as much pleased with the general work of the School, the prizes were given to the hardest workers and those pupils who had most distinguished themselves, but there were others who had also done well, but had been unable to obtain the necessary number of marks, either through temporary absence from school or from not having joined it in time to obtain such number of marks. Mrs. Cahusac was also glad to note an improvement in the general tone and discipline of the School; the teachers had worked well and the pupils had pulled well together with them.

Mrs. Fraser then presented the prizes and certificates as follows:—

PRIZE LIST JUNE, 1897.

CLASS PRIZES—Class I. 1st in examination, Ethel Fraser; 1st in Term, Hilda Watson; Class II. 1st in Examination and Term, Alice Mendelson; Class III. 1st in Examination, Dorothy Tocque; 1st in Term, Edith Bunting; Class IV. Div. A. 1st in Class, Bertie Cahusac; and Class IV. Div. B. 1st in Class, Elsie Edale.

FRENCH PRIZES (Presented by Miss E. Burdett

Leach)—Div. I., Ethel Fraser; Div. II., Alice Mendelson; Div. III., Gerald Irwine; and Div. IV., Pauline Cleveland.

GERMAN—Class I., Ethel Fraser; and Class II., Alice Mendelson.

GOOD CONDUCT PRIZES (Presented by Miss Wilkin)—Class II. neg., Gladys Howard and Alice Mendelson; Class III., Charles Fraser; Class IV. Div. A, Una Brockelbank; and Class IV. Div. B, Sybil Howard.

MUSIC—Florence Wales; Winifred Mitchell.

SPECIAL PRIZES, Class I.—Examinations (proxime accessit), Lily Preston; History and Literature (proxime accessit), Mabel Moulton; Best Stories in School Magazine, Ethel Fraser. (Voted by the girls themselves).

CERTIFICATES.

FRENCH Div. I.—Hilda Watson; Div. II. Vera Irwine; Div. III. Bertie Cahusac; Div. IV. George Neville; GERMAN—Class I. Bessie Burns; Class II. 2nd in Examination, Alice Fraser; 2nd in Term, Gladys Howard; Class III. 2nd in Examination, Una Brockelbank; 2nd in Term, Edna Mendelson.

Mr. Irwine, after the prizes had been distributed remarked that it was a happy precedent to see the mother of several of the most successful prize-winners among the pupils officiate in the presentation, and he hoped that other parents would follow the precedent. He then called upon Mr. J. A. Fraser, who was present, to make a few marks.

Mr. Fraser said he considered it was unfair to call upon him to make a speech, but as he had been called upon, he might express a few words of sympathy with those pupils who had not received prizes, and also regret that Miss Cahusac had been unable to be present, but he was glad to see Mrs. Cahusac's able lady assistants among them—Miss Burdett Leach, Miss Wilkin, and Miss Griffin. Mr. Fraser then called for three cheers for the teachers.

Mr. Irwine paid a well merited tribute of praise to one of the late teachers—Miss Lillie Bourne—and after three cheers had been given for the parents and pupils the proceedings terminated.

BONDED WAREHOUSE CHARGES.

Under the Bonded Warehouse Law promulgated on the 23rd June, the fees for storage per month, are:—

CLASS I.—TEXTILE FABRICS.

Per Cubic Shaku.

	Per Cubic Shaku.
1 Blankets.....	.015
2 Bunting .....	.020
3 Camlets .....	.020
4 Carpets .....	.010
5 Cloths, woollen and cotton mixtures .....	.010
6 Cotton damasks .....	.040
7 Cotton drills .....	.020
8 Cotton duck .....	.020
9 Cotton Italians .....	.015
10 Chinizes, or printed cotton .....	.020
11 Cotton satins.....	.015
12 Cotton velvets .....	.015
13 Ryofu (striped cotton cloth).....	.020
14 Elastic webbing .....	.010
15 Flannels.....	.015
16 Woollen and cotton flannels .....	.020
17 Gunny cloth .....	.010
18 Cotton handkerchiefs .....	.010
19 Italian cloth .....	.020
20 Lastings .....	.030
21 Linen .....	.020
22 Mousseline de laine .....	.020
23 Serges.....	.030
24 Shirtings.....	.020
25 Cloth, silk and cotton mixtures .....	.030
26 Satins, silk and cotton mixtures .....	.040
27 Pongee .....	.055
28 Chinese silk satins.....	.025
29 Taffachellas .....	.020
30 Towels .....	.010
31 Travelling rugs, cotton and Woollen mixtures .....	.015
32 Travelling rugs, woollen .....	.015
33 Victoria lawns .....	.015
34 Woollen cloths .....	.030
35 Woollen table cloths.....	.015

CLASS 2.—YARNS AND THREAD.

36 Cotton thread .....	.030
37 Cotton yarns .....	.020
38 Waste cotton yarn .....	.010

39 Flax and hemp yarn.....	.020
40 Raw Silk.....	.110
41 Flax and hemp thread .....	.020
42 Woollen yarn.....	.020

CLASS 3.—CLOTHING AND APPAREL.

43 Shawls.....	.020
44 Undershirts and drawers, cotton .....	.020
45 Undershirts and drawers, woollen .....	.020
46 Undershirts and drawers, woollen and cotton mixture .....	.030

CLASS 4.—PROVISIONS.

47 Butter .....	.015
48 Cheese .....	.010
49 Coffee .....	.010
50 Condensed milk .....	.015
51 Pepper .....	.010

CLASS 5.—LIQUORS.

52 Beer and ale .....	.010
53 Brandy .....	.010
54 Champaign .....	.015
55 Gin.....	.010
56 Port wine .....	.010
57 Whisky .....	.010
58 Wine .....	.010

CLASS 6.—TOBACCO.

59 Cigars.....	.025
60 Cigarettes .....	.015
61 Tobacco, cut .....	.015
62 Tobacco, in tins.....	.035

CLASS 7.—SUGAR.

63 Sugar .....	.010
64 Refined sugar .....	.010
65 Crystalized sugar .....	.010

CLASS 8.—DRUGS AND MEDICINES.

66 Alum .....	.010
67 Antifebrine.....	.025
68 Antipyrine .....	.190
69 Betel-nuts .....	.010
70 Cassia bark .....	.010
71 Cassia oil .....	.020
72 Cloves .....	.010
73 Gambier.....	.010
74 Glycerine .....	.010
75 Arabian rubber .....	.010
76 Iodine .....	.020
77 Acetate of lead or (Sugar of lead) .....	.180
78 Bromide of potash .....	.020
79 Quinine .....	.020
80 Rhubarb root.....	.010
81 Saffron .....	.050
82 Bicarbonate of soda .....	.010
83 Aniline dyes .....	.020
84 Bronze powder .....	.010
85 Dry indigo.....	.030
86 Mangrove bark .....	.010
87 Oil Paint .....	.010
88 Oil Paint in casks .....	.040
89 Safflower.....	.020
90 Sapan-wood .....	.010
91 Varnish .....	.015
92 Chinese lacquer.....	.020
93 Vermilion .....	.020

CLASS 10.—METALS AND METAL MANUFACTURES.

No. 1.

94 Capsules, for bottles.....	.010
95 Watch springs .....	.010
96 Files (in boxes) .....	.160
97 Files (in casks).....	.020
98 German silver .....	.020
99 Electro-plated ware .....	.010
100 Iron nails .....	.010
101 Iron wire (in casks) .....	.010
102 Lead piping .....	.010
103 Sheet lead (rolled) .....	.020
104 Quicksilver.....	.025
105 Nickel .....	.030
106 Gun shot .....	.020
107 Tin-plates .....	.020
108 Umbrella ribs or frames .....	.010
109 Yellow metal sheathing .....	.030

IRON, SOFT STEEL, AND STEEL.

No. 2.

110 Bar .....	.010
111 Pig .....	.005
112 Rod .....	.010
113 Plate and sheet .....	.010
114 Wire (except in casks) .....	.015

115 Lead (lump) .....	.010
116 Tin (lump) .....	.040

CLASS II.—CLOCKS, INSTRUMENTS, AND MACHINES.

	Per Cubic shaku.
117 Accordeons .....	.010
118 Hanging clocks.....	.010
119 Stand clocks .....	.015
120 Photographic apparatus .....	.015
121 Microscopes .....	.060
122 Organs .....	.032
123 Photographic lenses (except those contained in cameras) .....	.060
124 Pianos .....	.010
125 Sewing machines .....	.010
126 Telescopes.....	.020

CLASS 12.—IVORY, BONES, HORNS, & LEATHER.

127 Bones, cow .....	.010
128 Salted hides .....	.015
129 Hoofs, cow .....	.010
130 Horns of oxen and buffaloes .....	.010
131 Horns, deer .....	.010
132 Tusks of sea-horses .....	.035
133 Ivory .....	.050
134 Varnished leather .....	.030
135 Leather .....	.010
136 Sole leather .....	.010

CLASS 13.—GLASS AND GLASS WARE.

137 Empty bottles .....	.010
138 Looking glasses.....	.010
139 Plate glass, quicksilvered or plain .....	.010
140 Glassware .....	.010
141 Window glass .....	.010

CLASS 14.—OIL AND WAX.

142 Tallow .....	.010
143 Olive oil.....	.010
144 Paraffine wax.....	.010

CLASS 15.—PAPER AND STATIONERY.

145 Printing ink .....	.010
146 Chinese paper .....	.010
147 Wall paper.....	.010
148 Printing paper .....	.010
149 Lead pencils .....	.020
150 Sensitized or other paper for photographs .....	.195
151 Sealing wax .....	.010
152 Straw board .....	.010

CLASS 16.—SUNDRIES.

153 Asbestos.....	.010
154 Leather belting (for machines) .....	.015
155 Velocipedes .....	.020
156 Duck hose.....	.010
157 Portland cement .....	.010
158 Chinese flax .....	.010
159 Flax cord (for ships) .....	.010
160 Corks .....	.010
161 Cotton seed .....	.010
162 Elastic bands.....	.020
163 Lamps for electric light .....	.010
164 Sand paper .....	.010
165 Glue .....	.010
166 Gypsum .....	.010
167 Hair oil .....	.010
168 India rubber, sheet .....	.020
169 Rubber toys .....	.010
170 Malt .....	.010
171 Cocoa nut matting.....	.010
172 Perfumed water.....	.015
173 Porcelain .....	.010
174 Putty .....	.010
175 Rattans .....	.010
176 Sandal wood .....	.010
177 Shoe blacking .....	.010
178 Soap, toilet.....	.010
179 Soap, washing (soft soap excepted) .....	.010
180 Wood, ebony .....	.010
181 Wood, rosetta .....	.010
182 Woollen braid .....	.030

CLASS 17.—VALUABLE ARTICLES.

Storage per month.

	% ad valorem.
182 Aluminium	do.
184 Coral	do.
185 Gold and silver	do.
186 Liquid gold and silver	do.
187 Jewellery	do.
188 Musk	do.
189 Platinum	do.
190 Precious stones & pearls	do.
191 Gold and silver thread	do.
192 Watches	do.
193 Other valuables	do.

Goods not specified above will be charged at the rate of similar goods which are specified. Storage is counted by the month. Until the 15th of a month, the charge will be half, but if later, the entire monthly sum.

Storage fees will be collected on the removal of the goods from the warehouse. The odd *rin* in the total sum of the storage fee will be ignored.—*Japan Times*.

BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.	
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.	
I.—Construction and Repairs.....	46,919.666
1. Construction of Japanese Consulate at Tientsin	13,000.000
2. Construction of Japanese Consulate at Amoy	20,000.000
3. Construction	4,050.000
4. Repairs	9,869.666
II.—Expenses connected with new Japanese Legation	64,500.000
III.—Compiling of Telegraphic Cyphers	2,000.000
Total	113,419.666

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.	
I.—Subsidies	35,200.000
1. Navigation to Sakijima, Okinawa	5,000.000
2. Navigation to Ogasawara-jima, Tokyo-do	6,200.000
3. Navigation to Islands of Oshima County, Kagoshima-ken	6,000.000
4. Navigation to Okinawa Islands	3,000.000
5. Infectious Diseases Investigation Laboratory	15,000.000
II.—Public Works Subsidies	335,634.000
1. Tokyo Water-works	150,000.000
2. Osaka Water-works	50,000.000
3. Kobe Water-works	60,000.000
4. Dredging Osaka Harbour	13,634.000
5. Repairing of Roads in Kumamoto-ken	12,000.000
6. Repairing Nagasaki Harbour	50,000.000
III.—Public Works Expenses.....	5,934,067.042
1. Salaries and Allowances	70,444.000
2. Office Expenses	14,556.487
3. Allowances for Casualties	153.000
4. Travelling Expenses	58,216.000
5. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	42,564.666
6. Building Expenses	2,475.833
7. Investigation Expenses	33,189.527
8. Tanegawa Control Works	294,576.239
9. Kitakamigawa Control Works	75,000.000
10. Mogamigawa Control Works	60,000.000
11. Shinanogawa Control Works	80,000.000
12. Kisogawa Control Works	509,701.290
13. Ogawa Control Works	70,000.000
14. Abukumagawa Control Works	55,000.000
15. Shinanogawa Mouth Control Works	200,000.000
16. Fujigawa Control Works Repairs	34,854.000
17. Tenryugawa Control Works Repairs	58,681.000
18. Yodogawa additional Control Works	3,891,300.000
19. Chikugogawa additional Control Works	330,000.000
20. Akanogawa Control Works	1,250.000
21. Yoshinogawa Control Works	3,825.000
22. Shogawa Control Works	1,200.000
23. Yodogawa Control Works Repairs and Sand Embankment	30,000.000
24. Fujikawa Control Works Repairs	6,880.000
25. Tenryugawa Control Works Repairs	10,200.000
IV.—Construction and Repairs	115,848.426
1. Tokyo Penitentiary Construction Expenses	8,391.254
2. Reconstruction of Onagami Quarantine	15,453.612
3. New Construction	84,988.044
4. Repairs	7,015.516
V.—Ise Shrines Repairs' Office	1,627.902
1. Salaries and Allowances	480.000
2. Office Expenses	204.917
3. Travelling Expenses	403.110
4. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	539.875
VI.—Rewards	166,093.103
Total	6,588,470.473

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.	
I.—Subsidies	2,840,630.638
1. Nippon Railway Company	509,102.638
2. Kyushu Railway Company	100,575.000
3. Sanyodo Railway Company	170,953.000
4. Nippon Industrial Bank	62,500.000
5. Agricultural and Commercial Bank	1,997,500.000
II.—Government Bonds manufacturing Expenses	255,859.930
1. Railway Loan Bonds	24,230.803
2. Redemption Loan Bonds	8,357.589
3. Public Undertakings Bonds	223,221.538
III.—Constructions	3,460,167.525
1. Leaf Tobacco Management Offices	3,083,300.000
2. New Construction	376,867.525
IV.—Extraordinary War Expenses: Auditing	14,856.350
1. Salaries and Allowances	12,600.000
2. Office Expenses	836.000
3. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	1,420.350
V.—Expenses connected with handling Chinese Indemnity	77,156.660
VI.—Expenses for manufacturing Extraordinary prize-cups	170,524.400
VII.—Capital Fund for the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly	4,000,000.000
VIII.—Business connected with Extraordinary War Expenses	2,503.927
Total	10,821,699.430

DEPARTMENT OF WAR.	
I.—Construction of Forts	4,603,237.491
1. Construction of Forts in Tokyo Bay	303,000.000
2. Construction of Forts at Shimoneseki	100,000.000
3. Construction of Forts in the Ki-tan Strait	100,000.000
4. Construction of Forts at Nanto	95,163.000
5. Construction of Forts at Kure	91,598.000
6. Construction of Forts in Yei-yo Strait	276,644.000
7. Construction of Forts at Sasebo	87,439.000
8. Construction of Forts at Tushima	61,134.000
9. Construction of Forts at Nagasaki	43,681.000
10. Construction of Forts at Maizuru	93,990.000
11. Construction of Forts at Hakodate	71,812.000
12. Arms and Ammunition	3,278,776.491
II.—Construction Expenses	452,791.687
1. Construction of New Barracks at Ki-tan Strait Forts	57,431.460
2. Construction of New Barracks at Tokyo Bay Forts	34,298.500
3. Construction of New Colonial Troop Offices, Barracks, &c.	128,879.490
4. New Construction	232,182.237
III.—Surveying Expenses	183,910.209
1. Salaries and Allowances	27,288.000
2. Miscellaneous Allowances	1,256.000
3. Surveying Expenses	153,025.675
4. Office Expenses	349.534
5. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	2,000.000
IV.—Construction and initial equipment Expenses	11,079,004.782
V.—Manufacture of Arms and Ammunition Expenses	3,971,000.000
VI.—Extension of Arsenal	1,294,372.965
1. Additions to Tokyo Arsenal	141,783.676
2. Additions to Osaka Arsenal	137,866.500
3. Plant for Tokyo Arsenal	434,387.530
4. Plant for Osaka Arsenal	580,335.259
VII.—Extraordinary Military Building Bureau	188,462.485
1. Salaries and Allowances	88,002.360
2. Miscellaneous Allowances	3,363.000
3. Clothing Expenses	416.100
4. Horse Expenses	100.000
5. Office Expenses	12,566.140
6. Allowances for Casualties	135.000
7. Indemnities and Expenses of Law-suits	150.000
8. Travelling Expenses	5,100.000
9. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	8,629.585
VIII.—Military Bureau of Special Transportation and Communications	1,371,506.430
1. Salaries and Allowances	48,629.450
2. Miscellaneous Allowances	6,929.300
3. Provisions	58,208.914
4. Clothing Expenses	18,213.047
5. Arms and Ammunition	47.453

6. House Expenses	1,246.401
7. Medical Expenses	3,030.180
8. Transportation Expenses	1,173,185.606
9. Office Expenses	34,350.104
10. Repairs	1,425.000
11. Allowances for Casualties	463.750
12. Indemnities and Expenses of Law-suits	3,250.000
13. Travelling Expenses	5,592.460
14. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	18,934.765
IX.—Expenses connected with Gendarmerie Barracks and initial Equipments at Formosa	212,438.355
X.—Extraordinary Military Expenses	6,802,073.306
Total	30,088,797.710

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.	
I.—Construction of Men-of-War	4,973,400.599
1. Iron-clads commenced in 1893	4,884,588.088
2. Cruisers and Despatch-vessels commenced in 1893	88,812.511
II.—Public Works Expenses	316,734.540
1. Building Expenses at Sasebo Admiralty	116,734.540
2. Building Expenses at Arsenal	200,000.000
III.—Construction and Repairs	91,788.617
1. Construction	90,828.617
2. Repairs	960.000
IV.—Construction and Repairs of Ships owned by private individuals	54,311.000
V.—Mechanics abroad	31,075.240
1. Artillery mechanics	8,564.200
2. Naval construction mechanics	22,511.040
VI.—Hydrographical survey	37,744.276
VII.—Expansion of the Navy	61,860,965.483
(As amended by the House, 60,600,965.483 yen.)	
1. Construction of vessels	36,945,893.373
(As amended by the House, 35,745,893.373 yen.)	
2. Manufacture of Armament	19,405,183.090
3. Building Expenses	5,509,889.020
VIII.—Ship building materials at Admiralty	345,000.000
IX.—Expenses connected with Establishment of Shinosa Gun-powder Manufactory	179,070.910
X.—Repairs of Armament in ships captured during the war	126,791.960
XI.—Reconstruction of the 1st Dockyard at Kure Admiralty	120,000.000
XII.—Special Naval Construction Bureau Expenditure	57,243.395
1. Salaries and Allowances	37,168.875
2. Miscellaneous Allowances	127.750
3. Clothing Expenses	33.544
4. Medical Expenses	18.200
5. Office Expenses	2,364.726
6. Travelling Expenses	3,850.810
7. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	2,855.250
8. Salaries and Allowances to Foreign Employes	10,824.240
Total	68,136,882.625
(As amended by the House, 66,994,180.020 yen.)	

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.	
I.—Construction Expenses	207,441.302
1. Construction of Osaka Appeal Court and Osaka Local Court	89,787.000
2. New construction	117,654.302

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.	
I.—Construction Expenses	156,686.080
1. Reconstruction of Lecture Rooms (for internal external treatment) and Wards of Imperial University Hospital	30,000.000
2. Reconstruction of Lecture Rooms (for Hygiene, Physiology, and Therapeutics) of the Imperial Medical College	30,000.000
3. Construction of Chemical and Metallurgical Laboratories of the 3rd Higher School	20,462.500
4. New Construction	74,723.580
5. Repairs	1,500.000
II.—Equipment Expenses	38,542.000
1. Third Higher School Equipment Expenses	27,690.000
2. Tokyo Technical School Equipment Expenses	8,352.000
3. Instruments and Accessories	2,500.000
III.—Expenses of establishing the Kyoto Imperial University	170,000.000
1. Construction Expenses	160,000.000
2. Equipment and furniture	10,000.000
IV.—Foundation Expenses for Curriculum Departments and Special Branches at Schools	42,473.200

1. Extraordinary Training Department of Middle School Teachers at the Higher Normal School	10,873.200
2. Expenses of establishing the Foreign Languages School attached to Higher Commercial School	3,500.000
3. Civil Engineering Department at Fifth Higher School	28,100.000
V.—Foundation of Imperial Library	40,000.000
VI.—Compilation of Historical Materials at Imperial University	12,900.000
VII.—Extraordinary Outlays for Schools	72,583.732
1. Scientific Investigation Expenses of Imperial University	5,383.732
2. Books and Machinery Expenses of Imperial University	20,000.000
3. Expenses for Books, Instruments, and Specimens for the Civil and Mechanical departments at the Engineering College, and for those of the Science College in College in the Kyoto Imperial University	32,500.000
4. Expenses of Higher Normal School	5,000.000
5. Books, Machines, and Specimen Expenses of Engineering Department, in the 5th Higher School	9,000.000
6. Implements of Tokyo Deaf and Dumb School	700.000
Total	533,185.012
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.	
I.—Forests and Moors Investigation Expenses	39,151.500
1. Office Expenses	4,289.175
2. Travelling Expenses	14,622.000
3. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	20,240.325
II.—Horse Investigation Expenses	12,089.230
1. Office Expenses	622.100
2. Travelling Expenses	3,752.380
3. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	7,674.750
III.—City and Prefecture Joint Exhibition Expenses	21,173.480
IV.—Expenses for Expansion of Foreign Trade	60,000.000
V.—Iron Foundry Establishment Expenses	1,741,621.380
1. Salaries and Allowances	45,800.000
2. Office Expenses	3,125.000
3. Allowance for Casualties	500.000
4. Travelling Expenses	19,746.380
5. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	10,450.000
6. Building and Earth Works	281,000.000
7. Plant and Workshop Expenses	1,357,000.000
8. Salaries and Allowances to Foreign Employés	24,000.000
VI.—Second Marine Products Exhibition	100,654.630
VII.—Paris International Exhibition	31,066.040
1. Office Expenses	4,268.870
2. Travelling Expenses	9,568.826
3. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	15,728.350
4. Expenses connected with exhibiting articles	1,500.000
VIII.—Weights and Measures Periodical Inspection Expenses	81,207.936
IX.—Construction Expenses	35,135.000
1. Sericultural School	2,400.000
X.—Pastures and Shed for Breeding Horses	32,735.000
Total	2,122,099.196
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.	
I.—Subsidy Expenditure	1,733,791.200
1. Subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha	880,000.000
2. Subsidy for Training Mariners	10,000.000
3. Expenditure for Expansion of steamship lines	566,541.200
4. Expenditure for Encouragement of Shipbuilding	277,250.000
II.—Construction Expenses	1,388,033.600
1. Expenditure for laying Telegraph wires at Iki	21,495.679
2. Expenditure for laying Telegraph wires at Etoro	79,067.966

3. Expenditure for laying Telegraph wires between Tokyo and Hakodate	21,431.446
4. Expenditure for newly laying and adding Telegraph wires between Sapporo and Nemuro	15,399.754
5. Expenditure for adding Telegraph wires between Tokyo and Sapporo	181,394.872
(As amended by the House, 188,394,872 yen.)	
6. Additional Telegraph line between Tokyo and Kagoshima	30,317.782
7. Additional Telegraph line between Tokyo and Aomori	15,567.989
8. Nautical Signals at Cape Nyudo	31,346.070
9. Nautical Signals at Cape Kyogamisaki	30,607.133
10. Nautical Signals at Cape Jizo-zaki	23,459.634
11. Nautical Signals at Cape Atoeya	27,999.880
12. Nautical Signals at Cape Muroto	34,150.000
13. Nautical Signals at Cape Shioya	25,008.703
14. Purchase of Ships and Boats	81,191.355
15. Laying of Telegraph Lines	408,592.840
16. Nautical Signals establishment Expenses	43,898.163
17. New Construction	257,568.334
18. Repairs of Nautical Signals	12,822.000
19. Repairs	39,723.000
III.—Extension of Telephone System	577,373.953
(As amended by the House, 2,006,398,876 yen.)	
IV.—Improvement of existing Government Railways	3,000,000.000
(As amended by the House, 3,000,000,000 yen.)	
V.—Extraordinary Foreign Travelling Expenses	26,754.445
1. European & American Railways Inspection Expenses	15,000.000
2. Expenses connected with sending Representative to International Postal Union Conference	11,854.445
Total	6,726,053.198
(As amended by the House, 8,774,978,131 yen.)	
DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION.	
I.—Subsidies	104,458.165
(As amended by the House, 87,000,000 yen.)	
1. Hokkaido Colliery and Railway Company	97,458.156
(As amended by the House, 80,000,000 yen.)	
2. Navigation to Hokkaido	7,000.000
II.—Subsidies to Shrimers	680.111
III.—Public Works	82,778.000
1. Hakodate Water Works	24,444.000
2. Repairs of Hakodate Harbour	58,334.000
IV.—Construction Expenses	55,426.463
1. New Construction	54,344.667
2. Repairs	881.796
V.—Expenses for Constructing Roads, Bridges, and Drainage Embankments Hokkaido	218,267.554
VI.—Protection Expenses for the Immigrants to Chishima, Hokkaido	9,500.000
VII.—Construction of a Railway between Sorachifuto and Asahigawa	275,130.551
VIII.—Expenses connected with exhibiting Hokkaido Products at the 2nd Marine Products Exhibition	3,621.095
IX.—Extraordinary Rewards Expenses	6,168.031
X.—Hokkaido Railway Construction Expenses	1,000,000.000
1. Hokkaido First Period Railways	998,000.000
2. Railway Lines Surveying Expenses	2,000.000
XI.—Construction of Otaru Harbour	250,000.000
Total	2,006,129.970
(As Amended by the House, 1,988,671,605 yen.)	
Grand-Total of Extraordinary Expenditure	127,344,178.582
(As Amended by the House, 128,232,888,735 yen.)	
Total of Ordinary and Extraordinary Expenditures	239,674,459.429
(As Amended by the House, 240,505,996,187 yen.)	

SPECIAL BUDGET OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI.

A SECTION.
(Showing Details of Items of Ordinary Revenue.)
Revenue from Government Industries and Properties.
(N. B. The surpluses of Revenue over Expenditure in the headings of this account are the amounts shown as Revenue in the Section "Receipts from Government Industries and Properties" in the Ordinary Revenue.)

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.	
MINT.	
REVENUE.	
I.—Receipts from Mint Work	1,382,172.008
1. Receipts from Workshops	1,360,559.121
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	21,612.817
EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Mint Workshops Expenses	1,110,082.957
2. Salaries and Allowances	14,250.000
2. Office Expenses	925.056
3. Repairs	395.350
4. Allowances for Casualties	50.000
5. Miscellaneous Repayments	50.000
6. Travelling Expenses	329.880
7. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	42,748.812
8. Workshops Expenses	99,605.936
9. Purchase of Raw Materials	951,637.923
II.—Reserve Fund	1,500.000
Total	1,111,582.957

PRINTING BUREAU.	
REVENUE.	
I.—Receipts from Printing Bureau Workshops	1,039,567.180
1. Receipts from Works	1,034,402.205
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	5,164.915
EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Printing Bureau Work Expenses	870,389.347
1. Salaries and Allowances	27,106.444
2. Office Expenses	3,270.975
3. Repairs	97.500
4. Allowances for Casualties	182.982
5. Travelling Expenses	636.940
6. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	250,104.392
7. Workshop Expenses	342,149.605
8. Raw Materials	246,750.509
II.—Reserve	2,000.000
Total	872,389.347

HIROSHIMA MINE.	
REVENUE.	
I.—Receipts from Workshops	131,530.000
1. Receipts from Workshops	128,780.000
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	2,750.000
EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Work Expenses	129,095.000
1. Salaries and Allowances	4,430.000
2. Office Expenses	568.000
3. Repairs	460.000
4. Allowance for Casualties	50.000
5. Indemnities and Expenses of Lawsuits	20.000
6. Travelling Expenses	1,319.000
7. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	75,725.000
8. Workshops Expenses	31,448.000
9. Raw Materials	8,075.000
II.—Reserve Fund	500.000
Total	129,595.000

CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC LOAN.	
REVENUE.	
(N. B.—Vide Sect. III.—Extraordinary Revenue.)	
I.—Money Raised by Sale of Consolidated Bonds	2,502,550.000
EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Redemption of Public Bonds	2,494,192.411
II.—Appropriation in Extraordinary Revenue, to Fund for the manufacture and issue of Public Loan Bonds	8,357.589
Total	2,502,550.000

PAPER CURRENCY REDEMPTION FUND.	
REVENUE.	
I.—Brought forward from the Fund for Redemption of Subsidiary Notes	705,311.750
EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Paper Money Redeemed	705,311.750

FUND FOR REDEMPTING THE NOTES OF NATIONAL BANKS WHOSE TERMS HAVE EXPIRED.

I.—Fund for redeeming the Notes of National Banks whose terms have expired 11,762,546.000

I.—Redemption of Notes of National Banks..... 11,762,546.000

INTEREST ON MONEY DEPOSITED BY THE TREASURY.

(N.B.—Vide Sect. V. Ordinary Revenue.)

I.—Interest on Money deposited.. 2,479,866.000

I.—Appropriation of Interest on Money deposited to Ordinary Revenue 1,724,185.000

SPECIAL FUND.

(Vide Sect. IX. Extraordinary Revenue.)

I.—Chinese Indemnity 32,193,976.429

I.—Appropriation from Special Fund to Extraordinary Revenue 43,210,127.138

LEAF-TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

(Vide Sect. IV. of Ordinary Revenue.)

I.—Profits and Receipts from Sales 4,955,046.900

1. Profits from monopolizing of Leaf Tobacco 1,984,793.335

2. Receipts from Sales of Leaf Tobacco 2,920,252.755

I.—Cost of purchasing Leaf Tobacco 4,095,348.090

DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

TOKYO ARSENAL.

(N.B.—The surplus of Revenue over expenditure being entirely absorbed into the Reserve Funds, no entry on account of this Industry appears in Budgetary Revenue.)

I.—Receipts from Tokyo Arsenal Workshops 4,989,979.429

1. Receipts from Shops..... 4,965,998.336

2. Miscellaneous Receipts..... 23,981.091

I.—Tokyo Arsenal Workshops Expenses 4,489,679.427

1. Allowances for Casualties..... 478.000

2. Travelling Expenses..... 3,671.720

3. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses 1,178,774.300

4. Work Expenses..... 745,637.724

5. Fund for Raw Materials 2,561,117.683

II.—Reserve Fund..... 500,300.000

1. 1st Reserve Fund 300.000

2. Reserve Fund..... 500,000.000

Total 4,989,979.427

OSAKA ARSENAL.

(N.B.—The same remark applies to the Osaka Arsenal as to the Tokyo. Vide Note to Tokyo Arsenal.)

I.—Osaka Arsenal's Workshops Expenses 4,267,349.462

1. Receipts from Shops..... 4,243,607.672

2. Miscellaneous Receipts..... 23,741.790

I.—Osaka Arsenal's Workshops Expenses 3,767,049.462

1. Allowance for Casualties..... 472.000

2. Travelling Expenses 11,963.210

3. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses 566,115.000

4. Shops Expenses 372,742.425

5. Purchase of Raw Materials..... 2,815,756.827

II.—Reserve Funds 500,300.000

1. 1st Reserve Fund 300.000

2. Reserve Fund..... 500,000.000

Total 4,267,349.462

SENJU WOOLLEN CLOTH FACTORY.

(Vide 14 Sect. III. of Ordinary Revenue.)

I.—Receipts from Workshops..... 1,248,577.448

1. Receipts from Shops..... 1,246,006.293

2. Miscellaneous Receipts 2,571.185

EXPENDITURE.

I.—Working Expenses 745,703.993

1. Salaries and Allowances 7,112.500

2. Office Expenses..... 481.442

3. Repairs 58.800

4. Allowances for Casualties ... 156.000

5. Indemnities and Lawsuits Expenses 50.000

6. Miscellaneous Repayments... 25.000

7. Travelling Expenses..... 134.350

8. Miscellaneous Allowances & Expenses 53.147.170

9. Workshops Expenses 114,251.641

10. Purchase of Raw Materials.. 570,287.000

II.—Reserve Funds 500,700.000

1. 1st Reserve Fund..... 700.000

2. 2nd Reserve Fund 500,000.000

Total 1,246,403.993

DEPARTMENT OF NAVY.

(These items do not appear in the Budget. If the working showed a surplus, the surplus would be credited under State Industries.)

YOKOSUKA ADMIRALTY.

I.—Sale of Ship-building Materials 650,000.000

I.—Purchase of Ship-building Materials 850,000.000

KURE ADMIRALTY.

I.—Sale of Ship-building Materials 682,000.000

I.—Purchase of Ship-building Materials 720,000.000

SASEBO ADMIRALTY.

I.—Sale of Ship-building Materials 160,600.000

I.—Purchase of Ship-building Materials 415,000.000

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

(N.B.—The revenue and expenditures balance, and the Government Grant alone appears in the Budget.)

I.—Imperial University 600,716.608

1. Government Grant 529,283.343

2. Miscellaneous Receipts 71,433.265

II.—Receipts from Imperial University Hospital 82,820.594

III.—Receipts from Tokyo Observatory 3,036.500

IV.—Donations, fixed 4,377.694

V.—Appropriation from Last Fiscal Year 224.988

Total 691,176.384

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—Grant from Government for Compiling Historical Materials 12,900.000

II.—Scientific Explorations Fund (from Government) 5,383.732

II.—Fund for Books and Machines 20,000.000

Total 38,283.732

Grand Total..... 729,460.116

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Imperial University..... 519,986.631

1. Salaries and Allowances 228,946.666

2. Office Expenses..... 117,987.641

3. Repairs 13,959.963

4. Allowances for Casualties ... 10.000

5. Rents for houses and others... 21.500

6. Expenses for supplying water 591.969

7. Salaries and Allowances to Foreign Employés already engaged 87,354.151

8. Indemnities and expenses of Lawsuits 5.000

9. Miscellaneous Repayments... 2.000

10. Travelling Expenses..... 2,995.000

11. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses 48,855.722

12. Students' Expenses 12,126.006

13. Salaries and Allowances to Foreign Employés 7,200.000

II.—Imperial University Hospital 157,209.397

1. Office Expenses..... 126,455.135

2. Repairs 3,500.000

3. Rents of houses, &c..... 1,200.000

4. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses 26,054.262

III.—Tokyo Observatory..... 7,447.674

1. Office Expenses 5,028.374

2. Repairs..... 600.000

5. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses 1,819.300

IV.—Fund already fixed 4,602.682

1. Students' Expenses 4,543.389

2. Machines and Articles..... 59.293

Total..... 689,246.384

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Expenses connected with compiling Historical Materials ... 72,000.000

1. Salaries and Allowances..... 1,146.000

2. Office Expenses 406.000

3. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses 11,348.000

II.—Scientific Explorations in the New Dominion Expenses..... 5,383.732

III.—Books and Machines 21,930.000

Total 40,213.732

Grand Total 729,460.116

CAPITAL FUNDS.

REVENUE.

(N.B.—The various deficiencies in the following accounts of the Education Department are covered by appropriations under the same headings in the Budget.)

I.—Interest on Special Funds..... 82.230

1. Interest on Fund for Encouraging Learning 73.885

2. Interest on Books and Specimens Fund 8.345

EXPENDITURE.

I.—Purchase of Properties (from the Maintenance Fund) 7,233.678

II.—Purchase of Properties (from Learning Encouragement Fund) 5,739.391

Total 12,973.069

KYOTO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—Kyoto Imperial University ... 36,979.247

1. Grant from Government 35,284.747

2. Miscellaneous Receipts 1,694.500

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—Grant from Government for the purchase of Books, Machines, and Specimens 32,500.000

Total 69,479.247

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Kyoto Imperial University ... 36,979.247

1. Salaries and Allowances 15,683.320

2. Office Expenses 11,013.801

3. Repairs 500.000

4. Allowance for Casualties..... 1.000

5. Indemnities and Lawsuits ... 3.000

6. Miscellaneous Repayments... 5.000

7. Travelling Expenses..... 1,000.000

8. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses 3,482.750

9. Foreign Employés Salaries and Allowances 5,290.376

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Fund for Books, Machines, and Specimens 32,500.000

Total 69,479.247

HIGHER NORMAL SCHOOL.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—Higher Normal School 92,514.848

1. Sum Received from Government 77,639.585

2. Miscellaneous Receipts 14,875.263

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—Grant from Government for purchase of Books, Machines, and Specimens 5,000.000

Total 97,514.848

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Higher Normal School 92,514.848

1. Salaries and Allowances 49,666.000

2. Office Expenses..... 14,609.978

3. Repairs 1,577.500

4. Allowances for Casualties ... 1.000

5. Indemnities and Lawsuits ... 2.000

6. Miscellaneous Repayments... 1.000

7. Travelling Expenses..... 1,140.320

8. Miscellaneous Allowances & Expenses 7,180.245

9. Students Expenses 12,786.805

10. Foreign Employés' Salaries and Allowances 5,550.000

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Purchase of Books, Machines, and Specimens 5,000.000

Total 97,514.848

I.—Purchase of Properties (from the Maintenance Fund)

729,822

FEMALE HIGHER NORMAL SCHOOL.

I.—Female Higher Normal School

45,262,114

1. Grant from Government

29,698,614

2. Miscellaneous Receipts

15,563,500

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Female Higher Normal School

45,262,114

1. Salaries and Allowances

24,706,000

2. Office Expenses

6,917,924

3. Repairs

1,370,000

4. Allowances for Casualties

1,000

5. Indemnities and Lawsuits

2,000

6. Miscellaneous Repayments

1,000

7. Travelling Expenses

222,220

8. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses

2,453,170

9. Students' Expenses

9,588,800

EXPENDITURES FROM MAINTENANCE FUND.

I.—Purchase of Properties

1,599,150

HIGHER COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

I.—Higher Commercial School

67,410,000

1. Grant from Government

47,779,520

2. Miscellaneous Receipts

19,630,480

II.—Donations towards Students' Expenses

504,000

Total

67,410,000

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Higher Commercial School

67,410,000

1. Salaries and Allowances

31,486,996

2. Office Expenses

6,492,186

3. Repairs

1,100,000

4. Allowances for Casualties

1,000

5. Salaries and Allowances to Foreign Employés

7,785,283

6. Indemnities and Lawsuits

2,000

7. Miscellaneous Repayments

1,000

8. Travelling Expenses

430,200

9. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses

3,571,335

10. Students' Expenses

120,000

11. Salaries of Foreign Employés

10,510,000

II.—Expenditures from Donation towards Students' Expenses

504,000

Total

67,914,000

CAPITAL FUNDS.

I.—Purchase of Properties (from the Maintenance Fund)

2,592,924

FIRST HIGHER SCHOOL.

First Higher School

107,975,248

1. Grant from Government

73,661,023

2. Miscellaneous Receipts

34,314,225

II.—Encouragement Fund for Students of French Language (from Special Fund)

850,000

Total

108,825,248

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—First Higher School

107,975,248

1. Salaries and Allowances

58,588,000

2. Office Expenses

19,587,039

3. Repairs

2,592,000

4. Allowances for Casualties

1,000

5. Rents for Lands and House, etc.

5,163,120

6. Salaries and Allowances to Foreign Employés

12,000,000

7. Indemnities and Lawsuits

2,000

8. Miscellaneous Repayments

1,000

9. Travelling Expenses

604,390

10. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses

9,436,699

II.—Students' Expenses (from Donations toward the same purpose)

850,000

Total

108,825,248

CAPITAL FUNDS.

I.—Special Funds

526,900

1. Interest on Fund for Encouraging Students

9,111

2. Donation toward Expenses of Students of French

500,000

3. Interest on Fund for Encouraging students of French

17,789

EXPENDITURE.

I.—Purchase of Properties (from Maintenance Fund)

4,273,937

II.—Appropriation from Special Fund towards Fund for Encouraging Students of French

580,000

Total

5,123,937

SECOND HIGHER SCHOOL.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—Second Higher School

60,681,850

2. Grant from Government

43,686,154

2. Miscellaneous Receipts

10,395,696

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Second Higher School

60,681,850

1. Salaries and Allowances

39,791,000

2. Office Expenses

9,417,670

3. Repairs

910,850

4. Allowances for Casualties

1,000

5. Salaries and Allowances of Foreign Employés already engaged

1,200,000

6. Indemnities and Lawsuits

2,000

7. Miscellaneous Repayments

1,000

8. Travelling Expenses

457,000

9. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses

3,800,650

10. Salaries of Foreign Employés

6,500,000

CAPITAL FUNDS.

I.—Interest on Fund for encouraging Students

13,248

THIRD HIGHER SCHOOL.

I.—Third Higher School

89,148,744

1. Grant from Government

72,111,170

2. Miscellaneous Receipts

17,037,574

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Third Higher School

89,148,744

1. Salaries and Allowances

67,186,666

2. Office Expenses

32,294,860

3. Repairs

1,031,683

4. Allowances for Casualties

2,000

5. Indemnities and Lawsuits

3,000

6. Miscellaneous Repayments

6,000

7. Travelling Expenses

918,740

8. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses

5,765,795

9. Salaries and Allowances to Foreign Employés

1,940,000

CAPITAL FUNDS.

I.—Brought over from the Maintenance Fund for the Last Fiscal Year

600,000

II.—Interest on Fund for Encouraging Students

13,248

Total

673,248

EXPENDITURES.

I.—Purchase of Properties (from the Maintenance Fund)

7,120,189

FOURTH HIGHER SCHOOL.

I.—Fourth Higher School

61,625,500

1. Grant from Government

45,111,670

2. Miscellaneous Receipts

10,513,830

II.—Donations towards the Expenses for Encouraging Students

8,922

III.—Appropriation from Special Fund to Students' Encouragement Fund

71,780

Total

61,705,500

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Fourth Higher School

61,625,500

1. Salaries and Allowances

41,136,000

2. Office Expenses

9,395,250

3. Repairs

808,000

4. Allowances for Casualties

1,000

5. Salaries and Allowances of Foreign Employés already engaged

5,040,000

6. Indemnities and Lawsuits

2,000

7. Miscellaneous Repayments

1,000

8. Travelling Expenses

618,960

15. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses

4,023,290

10. Salaries of Foreign Employés

600,000

11.—Donations towards Students' Expenses

80,000

Total

61,705,500

CAPITAL FUNDS.

I.—Purchase of properties (from Maintenance Fund)

381,192

II.—Appropriation from Special Fund to Students' Encouragement Expenses

71,078

Total

452,270

FIFTH HIGHER NORMAL SCHOOL.

I.—Fifth Higher School

85,170,827

ORDINARY REVENUE.

1. Grant from Government

60,296,334

2. Miscellaneous Receipts

24,874,493

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—Grant from Government for the purchase of Books, Machines, and Specimens

9,000,000

Total

94,170,827

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Fifth High School

85,170,827

1. Salaries and Allowances

48,691,994

2. Office Expenses

21,034,562

3. Repairs

1,900,000

4. Allowances for Casualties

1,000

5. Salaries and Allowances to Foreign Employés already engaged

1,100,000

6. Indemnities and Lawsuits

2,000

7. Miscellaneous Repayments

1,000

8. Travelling Expenses

2,247,000

CAPITAL FUNDS.	
EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Purchase of Properties	2,766.122
TOKYO TECHNICAL SCHOOL.	
ORDINARY REVENUE.	
I.—Tokyo Technical School	55,377.376
1.—Grant from Government	49,947.376
2.—Miscellaneous Receipts	5,430.000
II.—Receipts from sale of Experimental shops' productions ...	15,200.000
Total	70,577.376

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Tokyo Technical School	54,777.376
1. Salaries and Allowances	26,893.000
2. Office Expenses	17,371.006
3. Repairs	1,200.000
4. Allowances for Casualties ...	17.200
5. Indemnities and Expenses of Lawsuits	2.000
6. Miscellaneous Repayments ...	13.000
7. Travelling Expenses	430.000
9. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	8,701.170
9. Student's Expenses	150.000
II.—Expenditure on Shops	14,500.000
1. Office Expenses	7,755.000
2. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	6,745.000
Total	69,277.376

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Expenses for Building Shops ..	1,300.000
Grand Total	70,577.376

CAPITAL FUNDS.	
REVENUE.	
I.—Brought over from Last Fiscal year	833.000

EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Purchase of Properties (from Maintenance Fund)	2,052.531

TOKYO FINE ARTS SCHOOL.	
ORDINARY REVENUE.	
I.—Tokyo Fine Arts School	39,303.000
1. Grant from Government	36,415.830
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	2,887.170
II.—Receipts from sale of Experimental workshops' products...	30,000.000
Total	69,303.000

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Tokyo Fine Arts School	39,303.000
1. Salaries and Allowances	23,966.000
2. Office Expenses	9,754.000
3. Repairs	877.000
4. Allowances for Casualties ...	1.000
5. Indemnities and Expenses of Lawsuits	2.000
6. Travelling Expenses	236.000
7. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	4,274.000
8. Students' Expenses	213.000
II.—Experimental Shops	30,000.000
1. Office Expenses	10,341.500
2. Repairs	300.000
3. Allowances for Casualties ...	21.000
4. Miscellaneous Repayments...	10.000
5. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	1,932.750
Total	69,303.000

CAPITAL FUNDS.	
EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Purchase of Properties (from Maintenance Fund)	822.112

OSAKA TECHNICAL SCHOOL.	
I.—Osaka Technical School	23,840.000
1. Grant from Government	22,240.000
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	1,600.000
II.—Receipts from Experimental Shops	2,172.000
Total	26,012.000

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Osaka Technical School	22,012.000
1. Salaries and Allowances	15,312.000
2. Office Expenses	3,606.000
3. Repairs	300.000
4. Allowances for Casualties ...	1.000
5. Indemnities and Expenses of Lawsuits	2.000
6. Miscellaneous Repayments...	700.000
7. Travelling Expenses	700.000
1. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	2,090.000

II.—Experimental Workshops ...	4,000.000
1. Office Expenses	2,470.000
2. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	1,530.000
Total	26,012.000

TOKYO BLIND AND DUMB SCHOOL.	
ORDINARY REVENUE.	
I.—Tokyo Blind and Dumb School ..	7,000.000
1. Grant from Government	9,000.000
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	5,000.000

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.	
I.—Grant from Government towards Cost of Machines	700.000
Total	7,700.000

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Tokyo Blind and Dumb School ..	7,000.000
1. Salaries and Allowances	3,930.000
2. Office Expenses	1,550.000
3. Repairs	496.380
4. Allowances for Casualties ...	1.000
5. Indemnities and Expenses of Lawsuits	1.000
6. Miscellaneous Repayments...	1.000
7. Travelling Expenses	32.620
8. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	578.000
9. Students' Expenses	410.000

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Cost of Machines	700.000
Total	7,700.000

CAPITAL FUNDS.	
REVENUE.	
I.—Donations toward Maintenance Fund	100.000

EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Purchase of properties (from Maintenance Fund)	1,600.000

TOKYO LIBRARY.	
ORDINARY REVENUE.	
I.—Tokyo Library	21,700.000
1. Grant from Government	20,000.000
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	1,700.000

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Tokyo Library	21,700.000
1. Salaries and Allowances	6,543.500
2. Office Expenses	12,061.900
3. Repairs	246.000
4. Allowances for Casualties ...	1.000
5. Indemnities and Expenses of Lawsuits	2.000
6. Travelling Expenses	42.820
7. Miscellaneous Allowances & Expenses	2,802.780

CAPITAL FUNDS.	
REVENUE.	
I.—Brought over from Last Fiscal Year	150.000

EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Purchase of Properties (from Maintenance Fund)	274.596

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

STATE RAILWAYS.

(N.B.—The net profit from Railways appears as item 15, Sect. III. Ordinary Revenue.)

I.—Receipts from Railways	12,068.287.019
1.—Receipts from carriage of passengers and goods	11,569,630.335
2.—Miscellaneous Receipts	498,656.684

EXPENDITURE.	
I.—Railway Working Expenses...	6,442,513.632
1. Salaries and Allowances	398,290.045
2. Allowances for Casualties ...	4,017.124
3. Indemnities and Expenses of Lawsuits	2,448.035
4. Salaries and Allowances to Foreign Employés	33,214.125
5. Money Refunded	990,629.294
6. Business Expenses	5,013,915.009
II.—Reserve Fund	200,000.000
1. First Reserve Fund	100,000.000
2. Reserve Fund	100,000.000
Total	6,642,513.632

STATE RAILWAYS' MATERIALS FUND.

I.—Sale of Materials of State Railways	5,995,093.504
II.—Purchase of Materials for State Railways	5,995,092.504

TELEGRAPH AND LIGHTHOUSE MATERIALS FACTORY.

REVENUE.

(Vide item 16 Sect. III. of Ordinary Revenue.)

I.—Receipts from Telegraph and Lighthouse Materials Workshops	266,867.245
1. Receipts from Shops	264,641.984
2. Miscellaneous Receipts	2,225.261

EXPENDITURE.

I.—Telegraph and Lighthouse Materials Workshop Expenses	263,270.490
1. Salaries and Allowances	3,225.000
2. Office Expenses	296.008
3. Repairs	15.433
4. Allowances for Casualties ...	185.000
5. Travelling Expenses	33.820
6. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	96,389.069
7. Shop Expenses	16,458.034
8. Purchase of Raw Materials...	146,668.126
II.—First Reserve Fund	500.000
Total	263,770.400

DEPARTMENTS OF FINANCE & COMMUNICATIONS.

RAILWAY BONDS.

REVENUE.

(Department of Finance.)

I.—Receipts from the Railway Public Loan	5,327,350.000
(As amended by the House, 6,897,333 yen.)	
(This forms part of money to be raised during the year.)	

EXPENDITURE.

I.—Railway Construction Expenses ..	5,327,333.000
1. Railway between Fukushima and Aomori	1,600,000.000
2. Railway between Tsuruga and Toyama	1,627,333.000
(As amended by the House, 2,127,333 yen.)	
3. Railway between Hachōji and Nagoya	1,350,000.000
4. Railway between Shinanai and Nojiri	650,000.000
5. Railway between Yatsushiro and Kagoshima	100,000.000

THE CHEVALIER DE KONTSKI.

We find in the *Hongkong Daily Press* the following notes about our old friend the Chevalier de Kontski:—

The Chevalier de Kontski, whose pianoforte playing afforded so much pleasure to Hongkong audiences some months ago, is again in Hongkong, but, we understand, will not on his present visit give any concert. Since leaving Hongkong he has visited India and the Netherlands Indies, and he is now on his way to Vladivostok, whence he returns to Europe by the Siberian route. The Chevalier has placed at our disposal some notes on his wanderings, from which we make the following extracts:—

"Our best thanks are due to Mr. Plowden, Resident of Hyderabad, and Mrs. Plowden, who not only entertained us in a most hospitable manner but also granted us their Steinway concert grand, which was carried by thirty coolies from Hyderabad to Secunderabad (five miles) for my concert. The renowned English hospitality was so marked at Hyderabad that we received on one day invitations from two families. We accordingly left the hotel and went to stay with Mr. Feridonji, First Secretary of the Prime Minister. Our visit was one long round of festivities, our host being the embodiment of true nobility. He rendered our stay with him so delightful that we still treasure the remembrance of it. The Prime Minister took two hundred tickets for my concert. "From Hyderabad we went to visit the gold mines at Kolar, in the State of Mysore, where we met with extreme kindness, generosity, and enthusiasm. We enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. R. Hancock at his bungalow; and his friends, Messrs. Brown and Mancejji, the superintendent of the Calicut Mine, moved to tears by my performance, took advantage of the ten minutes' interval in the programme to suggest that we should not be allowed to leave India without a souvenir. The suggestion was accepted with shouts of applause, a sheet of paper was passed from hand to hand and was soon filled with subscriptions amounting to several hundred rupees. On my arrival at Hongkong I was informed by Mr. Von Looper, the German Consul, that there was waiting for me a silver bowl, of an estimated value of 600 rupees,

sent by Mr. Hancock, of Marikuppam, Mysore. This bowl is a true masterpiece and represents the finest class of Indian work. It bears the following inscription:—"Presented to the Great Master the Chevalier de Koutski, a little souvenir and token of esteem, by his admirers, to commemorate a most enjoyable evening spent at the hospitable bungalow of Mr. R. Hancock, the Mysore Mine, Marikuppam, 20th February, 1897."

"On leaving for Burmah my heart ached to leave so many excellent and sincere friends, but such is the destiny of a true globe-trotter. In Rangoon and in Mandalay we again met people of noble and elevated feelings, Messrs. Misquith Brothers, Mr. Charles Orr, Captain and Mrs. Grant, and so many others that we could with great conviction answer yes to the philosophical question 'Is life worth living?' From Burmah we went to Penang, and from Penang to Ajeh, an extremely interesting spot between Penang and Sumatra. That it was a possession of Holland was enough to ensure us a hearty and excellent reception. The Dutch are men of honour and men of heart and in spite of attention being absorbed by the fighting going on there I was able to give three concerts within five days. From Ajeh, passing through Singapore, we came to Saigon. I must admit that this city is exceedingly pretty, full of action, and rich in resources, but a great artist should not venture to places like Saigon or Haiphong, or he will lose his time and his money."

The Chevallier here makes some remarks concerning an amateur pianist at Haiphong which we need not reproduce, and concludes by saying that fortunately at Hanoi he met with such highly cultivated people and excellent musicians that the Haiphong amateur and his intrigues disappeared from his memory.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

London, June 25.

The Jubilee festivities have not yet abated, and the weather is glorious.

The members of the House of Lords, together with those of the Commons, went in procession to Buckingham Palace, to present their respective Addresses of congratulation to the Queen.

A reception was given by the Queen to the various Mayors of the United Kingdom. In all 400 were present.

Following this, the Queen reviewed 10,000 children in Hyde Park, after which she returned to Windsor Castle, not in the least fatigued and feeling quite well.

The Italian Chambers have adopted a motion to present an address to Queen Victoria.

London, June 26.

The Jubilee Festivities still continue. The illuminations were repeated on Wednesday night, when the crowds of sight-seers exceeded those of Tuesday.

A brilliant State Opera performance took place at the Covent Garden Theatre, all the Royal guests being present. The Colonial and Indian representatives were also present, occupying nineteen boxes. It was a most brilliant spectacle.

Colonel Sir E. R. C. Bradford and Lieutenant-Colonel H. Smith, Commissioners of the Metropolitan and the City Police forces respectively, have been decorated with the Grand Cross of the Bath.

UNITED STATES AND HAWAII.

London, June 25.

The question of the Hawaiian treaty has been referred to a sub-Committee to consider what complications are likely to arise, now that it appears that Japan's protest is almost of the nature of an ultimatum.

BRITAIN AND HAWAII.

London, June 27.

The Hon. G. N. Curzon, M.P. (Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs), has made a

statement to the effect that Great Britain is not called on to give any expression of opinion with regard to the proposed annexation of Hawaii by the United States, but should any question arise involving the necessity, Britain will maintain her rights.

JUBILEE DINNER FOR THE POOR.

In accordance with the scheme inaugurated by Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, a dinner was given to 310,000 poor people in London, by subscriptions raised specially for that purpose.

THE HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION TREATY.

London, June 29.

In reference to Japan's protest against the Hawaiian Annexation Treaty, the United States Government has replied in a very guarded and diplomatic manner, which is calculated to lead to further protracted parleying.

WRECK OF A RUSSIAN IRONCLAD.

The Russian ironclad *Gangoot* has struck on a reef in the Baltic Sea. The crew was saved.

Brassey's "Naval Annual" gives the *Gangoot* as a steel turret-ship, of 6,593 tons, length 278 feet, beam 62 feet, draught 21 feet; twin-screw engines 8,300 indicated horse-power; composite hull, with partial belt 17 inches thick, and armoured casemate; armament, one 12-inch, four 9-inch, four 6-inch, and ten quick-firing guns, besides five torpedo-tubes. She was built in 1890, and her speed was given as 14.7 knots per hour.

BRITISH NAVAL REVIEW.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on board the Royal yacht *Victoria and Albert*, escorted by ocean liners conveying the members of the Houses of Lords and Commons and the Jubilee guests, reviewed the Fleet at Spithead. There were 167 ships assembled, including the *Campania* and *Teutonic*, both fully armed as merchant cruisers. The ships were ranged in five lines, of which four were each five miles long. Successive salutes were fired right along the twenty-odd miles of vessels, followed by simultaneous cheers from the whole fleet.

PRESIDENT KRUGER AND THE QUEEN.

President Kruger personally telegraphed his good wishes and congratulations to Queen Victoria.

THE WRECK OF THE "ADEN"

London, June 30.

The P. & O. steamer *Aden* was wrecked on a reef off Socotra at 3 o'clock on the morning of the 9th instant and was totally lost. Nine passengers, three of the European crew, and thirty-three of the native crew were rescued by the Government steamer *Mayo*, last Saturday, as the wreck was breaking up. These were landed at Aden; the names given are Valpy, Mr. and Mrs. Pearce and eldest child, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gillett and daughter, two amahs, Engineer White, Steward Cave, and Seaman Kelt. The remainder of the passengers and crew are drowned or missing.

(GOVERNMENT DISPATCH.)

THE AMERICAN TARIFF.

Washington, June 26.

The schedule relating to rugs was carried through without amendment on June 19th. The duty on Japanese silk goods, carried through the Senate on June 25th, is at the rate of \$3 per pound, and \$3.50 for those dyed in the piece or printed. The duty on handkerchiefs was carried through without amendment.

MOVEMENT AGAINST THE TEA DUTY.

New York, June 30.

The American tea dealers are agitating in favour of the exemption of Japanese tea from the duty.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

ANTI-FOREIGN RIOTS IN THE YANGTSE VALLEY.

NARROW ESCAPE OF FIVE LADY MISSIONARIES. Shanghai, Saturday, June 19, 4.40 p.m.

There has been a renewal of the Anti-foreign riots in the Yangtse Valley.

The English Plymouth Brethren Mission premises at Wuchen, near the Poyang Lake, has been destroyed; also the Rev. Mr. Blandford's house. Five English lady missionaries barely escaped with their lives.

The French mission at the same place was also attacked by the Chinese, but the Mandarins interfered and prevented the destruction of the property or the molestation of the missionaries.

The only reason assigned for the outrages is the old one of allegations against the missionaries of kidnapping Chinese children.

TERRIBLE FATALITY AT CANTON.

Canton, June 18.

Last night an accident happened to some of the lofty "flower boats" anchored off Kuk Fau, involving a serious loss of life. About midnight, a cable snapped, and four of these boats were overturned in the river. It is said that at least a hundred persons were drowned. The accident is attributed to the force of the river current, and to the top-heavy nature of the boats.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

THE CELEBRATION IN HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 23rd June, 4.35 p.m.

The Governor's reception was brilliant, though rain was falling heavily. Addresses were presented to Sir William Robinson from the Colony, the Chinese, and the Freemasons.

The afternoon was fair, but dull. The review, in which over three thousand troops took part, was a magnificent spectacle, though the mud was ankle-deep.

The musical festival was a grand success. The illuminations were splendid, especially in the harbour. The launch procession was good.

The memorial stones of the Hospital and the new Road were laid on Wednesday, in fine weather. The Gymkhana is postponed.

(FROM THE "BRISBANE COURIER.")

NAVAL OFFICERS DROWNED.

London, May 31.

Six petty officers belonging to H.M.S. *Collingwood* have been drowned in Bantry Bay through the capsizing of a boat.

(FROM "TONGKIN PAPERS.")

THE SHAH OF PERSIA.

Paris, June 12th.

The Shah of Persia has left Teheran and proceeds to France for his health.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

KOBE TEA SALES.

Kobe, July 1.

Yesterday 176,400 catties of new tea changed hands. Prices ranged from yen 33.50 to yen 17.50.

FIRE IN KARATSU.

Maratsu, Hizen, July 1.

Last night about twelve o'clock fire broke out at the offices of the Karatsu Railway Company, now in course of construction, and the entire buildings were destroyed.

CHOLERA AT KOBE.

Kobe, July 1.

Yesterday a case of cholera was reported here and the patient is now under treatment.

THE PREMIER'S RETURN TO TOKYO.

Kyoto, July 1.

Count Matsukata, Premier, will leave here for Tokyo to-morrow afternoon.

THE HOKURIKU RAILWAY CO.

Niigata, June 30.

In order to prevent the opening of a special general meeting of the Hokuriku Railway Company convened in Tokyo for the 5th of July by Mr. Watanabe Kaichi, a director of the Company, Mr. Makiguchi Yoshikata and others of the rival party, applied to the Niigata Local Court for the prevention of the proposed meeting in Tokyo, and the Court issued an order prohibiting the meeting. The leading shareholders in Niigata gave an entertainment to their advocates in honour of the event.

MORE TROOPS FOR VLADIVOSTOCK.

Nagasaki, July 1.

A Russian Volunteer steamer conveying 1,888 soldiers arrived here to-day from Odessa en route to Vladivostock.

POST OFFICE OFFICIALS ARRESTED.

Shizuoka, July 1.

Last night a Public Procurator, accompanied by police, proceeded to the Hamamatsu Post Office and arrested several of the officials. Mr. Kawaguchi Eizaburo, the Post-master escaped.

THE NEW U. S. MINISTER.

Kyoto, July 2.

Colonel Buck, the new United States Minister, and Mr. Dun, the late Minister, arrived here from Tokyo to-day at 9 p.m., together with Mr. Komura, Vice-Minister of the Foreign Office. To-morrow they will have audience of the Emperor.

SEVERE DROUGHT IN KOREA.

Soul, July 1.

An extraordinary continuance of drought is reported in Kyong-kwi-do and Chhung-chung-do. Numbers of people are dying on the roads. The district being in a disturbed condition a detachment of troops was dispatched there to-day.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.

The Tokio Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following are the solutions of Problems 323 and 324:—

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 323.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to Q 4	1—B takes P
2—Q to Q B 5, ch	2—K to B 5
3—Kt to K 2, mate	
	if 2—K to B 3
3—Q to K 7, mate	1—P to K 6
	2—K takes Kt
2—Q to K B 5, ch	1—B to B 5
3—P to B 3, mate	2—K takes Kt
	1—P to B 4
2—Q to K B 5, ch	2—K to Q 3
3—Q to K 6, mate	
	if 2—K takes Kt
3—Q takes P (B 5), mate	

We have received correct solutions of No. 323, from W.H.S., and J.W.E.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 324.

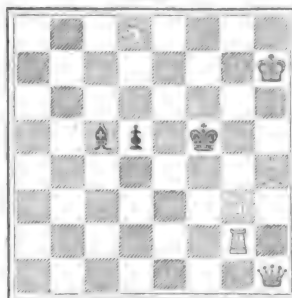
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K 3	1—P takes P
2—Q takes B, mate	
	1—B takes P
2—Kt takes P, mate	1—Kt to B 4
	1—Kt to B 6
2—P takes Kt, mate	1—Kt any other
	1—R to Q 4
2—K takes Kt, dis mate	1—R to Q 2
2—K to Q 3, dis mate	
2—R to K 7, mate	
2—R to B 6, mate	
	1—Moves Q or R
2—K to Q 3, dis mate	(R to Q)

W.H.S., sends us a correct solution of Problem No. 324.

PROBLEM No. 327.

By P. G. L. F.

(Second prize *Manchester Weekly Times* Eighth Problem Tourney.)



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

AMERICAN CHESS.

GAME No. 733.

English chess critics were enamoured with the beautiful games played in the Pillsbury & Showalter match for the championship of America. We reprint from the *Field* the following lovely little game, which was the 8th of the match.

WHITE.—J. W. Showalter.	BLACK.—H. N. Pillsbury.
1 P K4	14 B Q6
2 Kt KB3	15 B B2
3 B K5	16 BxR
4 Castles	17 Q Q6 ch
5 P Q4	18 K Ksq
6 B R4	(e) P KKt3
7 P QB3	19 Q Q2 (f) Q R4
8 KxP	20 Kt Q5
9 Kt Q5	21 Q B3
10 R Ksq	22 KxP
11 B B4	23 KixQP ch, and mates
12 R Kt	in 4 moves (g)
13 KtxP	

NOTES.

(a) As Showalter, with 6—B to R 4, appears to have discovered the correct reply to 5..... Kt to Q 3, no doubt Pillsbury will fall back upon the customary 5..... B to K 2.

(b) Hazardous to the point of recklessness.

(c) 9..... P to Q Kt 4 seems the best of a bad selection.

(d) A protecting move (against 12—Kt takes P) that guards nothing as White immediately shows.

(e) The B queen was driven to K Kt 5 in view of this brilliant continuation.

(f) Far better than 19—R takes B, Kt takes R; 20—Kt to Q 5, Q to K 3; 21—Q takes R, Q takes Kt, and the attack is over.

(g) A magnificent game. Though White's play is in strict accordance with the modern school, it everywhere suggests an old master.

A RUY LOPEZ TRAP.

GAME No. 734.

WHITE.—T. Fulford, Ibis.	BLACK.—E. Jukes, Hastings.
1 P K4	8 R Kt ch
2 Kt KB3	9 Kt Q5
3 B K5	10 KixB ch
4 Castles	11 Q R5 (b) P Kt3
5 R Ksq	12 Q R6
6 Kt B3	13 R R5
7 KtxP	Resigns

(a)

NOTES.

(a) Black falls into a well-known trap. Kt takes Kt loses, but if he plays B to K 2 instead, Black obtains a good defence, i.e., B to K 2; 8—Kt to Q 5, Castles; 9—Kt takes Kt, Q P takes Kt; 10—Kt takes B ch, K to B sq; 11—Q to R 5, B to K 3; 12—R takes B, P takes R; 13—Kt to K 6 ch, K to Kt sq, and there is nothing in it.

(b) Threatening mate in two by 12—Q takes P ch, K takes Q, 13—R to R 5 mate.—*Daily News*.

OVER THE CHESS-BOARD.

Tschigorin has now won his match against Schiffers. It will be remembered, says Isidor Gunsberg, that in the Hastings Tournament Schiffers beat Tschigorin, thereby depriving him of the first prize and giving it to Pillsbury. Yet, in the match between the two, Schiffers stood but little chance. This clearly shows that tournament play is greatly affected by chance, and that match play is the only reliable test of a player's real strength.

It is now asserted with greater positiveness that there will be an international tournament in Berlin in August, and that a definite programme may be looked forward to as soon as a reply has been received from the German Emperor, who has been solicited to give a special prize.

The *London Times* asks:—"When and how should a player resign? We have noted various methods, not all of a graceful character....." Dr. Tarrasch, referring to the indignation felt by the other competitors at the Hastings Congress with Von Bardeleben because of the singular way in which he surrendered lost games, says that he but followed the advice given in a German couplet:—

Liegt Deine Partie aber ganz darnieder.

Dann geh' mal raus und komm' nicht wieder.

This may be freely translated:—

If altogether hopeless be the game you play

'Tis time to run away and stay away.

"Von Bardeleben," again remarks Dr. Tarrasch, "simply vanished, and left the Committee to declare the game lost by time limit. Therefore he acquired the merit of adding one more to the many analogies between chess and war—the flight before an enemy."

One of the "Experts" who sized-up the great masters says:—"The great position players are Lasker, Siemitz and Lapschütz. The great combination players are Tschigorin, Pillsbury, and Blackburne. Dr. Tarrasch is a cross between the two."

The British Chess Company have made quite exceptional efforts to produce a Chess Code of the laws of the game which shall be deemed acceptable by all nations. They have met with success in England, and now it is announced that the Manhattan Chess Club of New York have likewise given adherence to their rules.

A Washington telegram, dated June 1, says:—The international chess match between members of the House of Representatives and the English House of Commons resulted in a draw, each side having won and lost two games, and one being a draw. When the match was concluded by Mr. Shafroth of Colorado winning his game and tying the score, hearty cheers were given on each side of the water for the President and her Majesty, the Queen.

The Moscow Chess Club proposes to hold a Russian National Handicap Tourney this summer. Prizes of 2000, 1000, 500 and 300 roubles will be offered. Count Tolstoy and his wife are the latest converts to the game and both are said to be playing "as if their lives depended on the results."

Mr. Steinitz is reported to be engaged on a work entitled "Das Judentum in Schach" (the Jewish Element in Chess).

For the first time in the history of Australian chess, four colonies tried conclusions by telegraph on one day, the occasion being the Queen's Birthday, May 24th, when New South Wales played Victoria, and Queensland played South Australia. This is evidence of the increase of interest in the cause of Chess in Australia.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 4th
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 8th
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 15th
From Hongkong.....	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 4th
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 8th
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, July 7th
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Friday, July 9th
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Wednesday, July 14th

- 1 *Coptic* left San Francisco on June 17th.
- 2 *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on June 30th.
- 3 *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco via Honolulu on June 30th.
- 4 *China* left Nagasaki on July 1st.
- 5 *Empress of India* left Hongkong on June 30th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 4th
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 8th
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 8th
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, July 9th
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 9th
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 11th
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 17th
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 17th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 26th June.—Hongkong via ports, 17th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Pelican, British steamer, 2,160, Alex Gove, 26th June.—Taku, Tientsin via Moji, and Kobe 25th June, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, A. E. Moses, 26th June.—Seattle, Wash., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, D. C. Gregor, 27th June.—London via ports, 1st May and Kobe 26th June, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 28th June.—San Francisco 8th June, and Honolulu 16th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Trocas, British steamer, 4,200, Edwards, 29th June.—Batoum via ports, and Kobe 27th June, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, Sakai, 29th June.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Della, German steamer, 2,500, Christiansen, 29th June.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 23rd June, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 3,483, Webster, 29th June.—London via ports, and Kobe 28th June, General.—Cornes & Co.

Shibata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,714, Matsumoto, 30th June.—Kobe, 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Dutchanteau, 1st July.—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 29th June, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Bayard (24), French flag ship, Captain Fortin, 1st July.—Kobe 29th June.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 2nd July.—Shanghai via ports, 26th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, Tenji, 2nd July.—Yokkaichi, 1st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, Jones, 2nd July.—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe 1st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, T. Tibbals, 2nd July.—Otaru via ports, 29th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, J. Muramatsu, 3rd July.—Shimonoseki, 29th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Pakling, British steamer, 1,510, H. L. Allen, 26th June.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Oceanian, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmitz, 26th June.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Bogstad, Norwegian str., 1,981, O. Thorbjomsen, 27th June.—Moji, Ballast.—Becker & Co.

Fortuna, Norwegian steamer, 1,921, Christopher, 26th June.—Moji, Ballast.—Frazier & Co.

Pelican, British steamer, 2,160, Alex Gove, 27th June.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Teruick, 27th June.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Shie.

Daikie Rickmers, German steamers 2,314, Muller, 28th June.—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, A. E. Moses, 28th June.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sundai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,064, E. G. Olsen, 28th June.—Kule, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Z. Yasuo, 28th June.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 29th June.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 29th June.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. Brady, 29th June.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenesh, British steamer, 2,275, E. Darke, 30th June.—New York via Suez Canal, and way ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 30th June.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Cheang Hye Teng, British steamer, 923, Scott, 30th June.—Kobe, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 30th June.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Thos. Golding, 30th June.—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Onsang, British steamer, 1,787, Kynock, 1st July, Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 1st July.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Handy (6), British torpedo boat destroyer, Lieut. Com. A. Gillespie, 2nd July.—Hakodate.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Pechwitzky, Miss Pechwitzky, Rev. and Mrs. Perry and child, Mrs. Wyman and son, Lieut. C. Sasakia, Mr. H. J. Owen, Mr. Treglow, Mr. R. Oda, Mr. R. E. Goepfert, and Mr. F. Hanold in cabin; Mr. Mrs. Master and Miss K. Tagawa, Mr. and Miss Pomevantsoff, Mr. J. Yokousu, Mr. S. Kurase, Mr. Bredenberg, Mr. S. Koro, and Mr. Chuu Minam in 2nd class; 52 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric* from Hongkong and ports:—Mr. Wm. Whaley, Mr. Arthur Flint, Mr. Nielsen, Lieut. V. Garde, Mr. A. Nielsen, R.D.N., Mr. M. Von Teutler and servant, Miss Fanny Fuller, Mr. O. Liman, Mr. T. Rowan, Mrs. Lapsynska, Mr. S. Hansen, Capt. Schinzinger and servant, Mr. B. C. Howard in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. M. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Bennett and son, Mr. Chang Y. Tang and son, Capt. P. de Lemascheffsky, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Flood infant, and Mrs. Flood's amah.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mrs. Jane McWilliams in cabin; 2 Japanese and 1 Chinese in steerage. For Nagasaki:—Mr. J. Flessing, Mrs. Lizzie, Misses Rosa and May, and Mr. Henry Flessing Mr. Prokupiz, Mrs. H. Prokupiz, and Mr. J. Greenburg in cabin.

Per British steamer *Pelican*, from Taku via ports:—For San Francisco Mr. H. S. Flood in cabin. For Victoria, B.C.:—43 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Canton*, from London via ports:—Mr. L. M. Sogolowitch, Mr. W. W. Johnstone, Mr. Gardiner, Mr. E. Buxton, Mrs. Pakenham & infant, and Miss G. Southon in cabin; 24 Europeans and 65 Natives 65 in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco:—Col. A. E. Buck, U.S. Minister to Japan, Mrs. A. E. Buck, Mr. Huntington Wilson, Secretary of Legation, Mr. W. D. Baker, Secretary U.S. Minister, Col. Rice, Military Attaché, Mrs. Rice, Dr. H. M. Heller, Mr. A. C. Harrison, Jr., Mr. Leroy McChesney, Miss Annie L. Howe, Mr. F. T. Ganse, Mr. Y. Fukai, Mr. J. Tokutomi, T. Yoshikawa, Rev. Matakagu Tai, Mr. Takedo Iketani, Mr. S. Matsumoto, and Mr. T. Tasujiro in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Miss Margaret Best in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss E. Canor Read, Mr. F. Ayscough, and Mr. Nicolas de Perelquine in cabin.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Marseilles and ports:—Mrs. Porson, Messrs. S. Peyre, Bent, Radley, Bell, Middleton, S. Hoshi, Légar, Miss Mary Brand, Miss J. A. Nering Bögel, Messrs. Eymard, Southern, E. Hashe, Li Aichi, and Li Atong in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Lieut. General Yamaji, Captain Tsukata, Mr. H. Katow, Miss H. Riddel, Mr. W. K. Wilson, Sub-Lieut. Sakamoto, Mrs. A. M. Sykes and daughter, Mrs. McGuinness and child, Dr. & Mrs. J. C. Worck, Rev. J. Y. McGuinness, Rev. and Mrs. L. L. Little, Rev. & Mrs. Haden, Miss K. L. Ogborn, Miss Miwall, Mr. Benjamin, and Mr. T. Okubo in cabin: Mr. Delbourgo, Mr. F. S. Chimeny, Mr. Beak, Mrs. Y. Kawashima, and Mr. I. Otani in 2nd class; 60 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Oceanian*, for Shanghai and Kobe:—Mr. S. Makino, Mr. and Mrs. Pollard, Mrs. N. Kai, Mrs. N. Ho, Mr. J. Delbourgo, Mr. L. F. Chimeny, Mr. Rorey, Mr. Aday Boule, Mr. A. M. Luna, Mr. S. S. Bailey, Mrs. Wyman, Mr. John S. Stuart, Mr. Takanaishi, Mr. and Mrs. Stunum and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Sarne and boy, Mr. Cayean, Mr. Sers, Mr. Chauvet, Mr. Arse, Mr. M. Tomii, Mr. T. Inouye, Mr. M. Ogata, Mr. G. Terano, Mr. James Taylor, Mr. G. S. Hammond and servant in cabin.

Per British steamer *Pelican*, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:—Mr. H. S. Flood in cabin; 113 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Messrs. T. W. Hellyer, F.

Schoene, K. Nanbu, A. H. Pollard, Goetz, D. Ford, A. R. Morris, Mrs. C. A. Pass, Mr. G. Feldsteen, and Mr. Yoshisue in cabin; Messrs. S. Nakamura, Y. Ikeda, R. Tsuruta, S. Nonaka, Onufrikewich, Tom Pow Ching, and Mr. and Mrs. Oka and son in 2nd class; 51 Japanese, 4 Chinese, and 2 Europeans in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. W. Bennett and son, Mrs. A. B. Brolly, Captain and Mrs. J. W. Bryan, Mr. G. van der Burg, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Flood, child and amah, Miss Hari, Mrs. Jacoby, Mr. I. Kehren, Mr. H. Kobbe, Capt. P. de Lemascheffsky, Prof. and Mrs. Loow and infant, Mr. Julius Hannich, Mr. Joseph W. Sprague, Mr. Chang Ying Tang, Mr. A. von Vietinghoff, Mrs. Wheeler, and Mr. K. Yamasaki in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British str. *Pelican*, for Tacoma, Wash. and Victoria, B.C.:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL
	CANADA, AND WEST. AND EAST. COAST. PACKING.				
Kobe	2,392	3,492	1,105	—	7,089
Yokohama ...	903	2,076	2,138	—	5,117
Total	3,295	6,168	3,243	—	12,806

Per French steamer *Oceanian*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe 460 bales; Waste Silk for Europe 13 bales.

Per American steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL
	CANADA, AND WEST. AND EAST. COAST. PACKING.				
Shanghai ..	1,010	347	345	—	1,702
Higo	76	254	3,201	1,434	5,235
Yokohama ...	1,634	1,126	4,042	449	7,251
Hongkong ...	343	—	—	—	343
Total	3,263	1,727	7,588	1,181	13,759

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market, generally, has not improved much since last week. A few transactions in piece goods have taken place, for the most part to fill country orders, and there has been a fair business in yarns, at former rates. Little has been done in woollens or fancies.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 36 inches	\$2.50	to 3.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds. 45 inches	2.80	to 3.50
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 36 inches	1.60	to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds. 44 inches	1.95	to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 50 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Salts and Blacks, 36 inches	0.20	to 0.25
Volants—Black, 35 yards, 21 inches	7.75	to 9.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.75	to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.50	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.40	to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.00	to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Flannel—	\$0.30	to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35	to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30	to 0.39
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35	to 0.37
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 44 yards, 51 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 54 @ 56 inches	0.15	to 0.50
Cloths—President, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50	to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds, per lb	0.50	to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$30.00 to 41.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	45.00 to 47.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.00 to 53.00
Nos. 8/10, Plain	61.00 to 63.00
Nos. 2/50, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	70.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	85.00 to 91.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	116.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$24.00 to 24.50
Indian Broach	21.00
Chinese	21.50

METALS.

The business of the week has amounted to very little. Holders do not appear inclined to lower

prices and only absolute requirements are filled. Tin plates and nails are the lines in which, whatever business was doing, has been effected. Quotations remain nominally the same.

PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, 1 inch.....	4.00 to 4.10
Flat Bars, 1 inch.....	4.20 to 4.30
Round and square up to 1 inch.....	4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted.....	4.00 to 4.40
Sheet Iron.....	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized Iron sheets.....	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted.....	6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box.....	5.70 to 5.80
Pig Iron, No. 3.....	1.95 to 2.00
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch).....	4.80 to 5.00

KEROSENE.

No change in quotations, and little business doing, while stocks are gradually increasing.

American.....	\$2.00 to 2.05
Russian.....	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat.....	—

SUGAR.

Sales of Brown at current prices still continue, but it appears probable these rates will have to fall a few points before stocks can be reduced to any considerable extent. White continues steady at old quotations, but sales have been only for immediate requirements.

PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao.....	\$3.50 to 3.55
Brown Manila.....	4.20 to 4.40
Brown Daitong.....	2.80 to 2.90
Brown Canton.....	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang.....	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined.....	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Not much doing but prices firmer, and the market will presently open in earnest at higher rates. There is no stock of new silk yet, but Filatures are coming in from Kofu and the nearer provinces. Probably next week there will be regular quotations again. At present prices are more or less nominal until the regular course of trade is resumed.

QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.....	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.....	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers.....	\$3.50
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	800
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers.....	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	—
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/19 deniers.....	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers.....	—
Kakedas—Extra.....	—
Kakedas—No. 1.....	—
Kakedas—No. 1.....	—
Kakedas—No. 2.....	—
Kakedas—No. 2.....	—
Kakedas—No. 2.....	—

WASTE SILK.

Nothing to report this week.

QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filature, Best.....	—
Noshi—Filature, Good.....	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best.....	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good.....	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium.....	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best.....	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good.....	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best.....	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good.....	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium.....	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good.....	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair.....	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best.....	—
Kibiso—Filature, Second.....	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good.....	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair.....	—

TEA.

The market is still quiet, with a fair amount of business at, for the most part, former prices, though some parcels of choicest have been disposed of at rates a trifle in advance of those of last week. The *Doric*, leaving on the 29th ult. took 28,389 chests for San Francisco and the *Pelican*, for Tacoma, 12,806 chests. The tariff question in the United States is still unsettled.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest.....	\$30 to 33
Choice.....	27 to 31
Finest.....	25 to 26
Fine.....	23 to 24
Good Medium.....	21 to 22
Medium.....	19 to 20
Good Common.....	17 to 18
Common.....	15 to 16

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Urr's List]

Yokohama, July 2nd.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50.....	155 B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100.....	355 B.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100.....	305 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100.....	75 B.

Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100.....	140 St.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Ord.), \$125.....	450 B.
North and Rae, Ltd., \$100.....	275 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., \$10.....	7.50 B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100.....	800 Sa.
Hing Gao Co., Ltd., \$100.....	180 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb., \$100.....	110 B.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100.....	110 B.
Yokohama United Club Deb., \$100.....	200 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100.....	104 B.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo, July 2nd.

Five per Cent. Capitalised Pension Bonds.....	94 7/8
Redemption Loan Bonds.....	97.00
War Loan Bonds.....	98.00
New Public Loan Bonds.....	97.00
Old Public Loan Bonds.....	93.00
Naval Loan Bonds.....	96.80
Tokyo City Loan Bonds.....	100.00
Japan Railway Company—paid up yen 50.....	92.50
Sangu Railway Company—paid up yen 35.....	41.80
Ryomo Railway Company—paid up yen 50.....	88.00
Kanagi Railway Company—paid up yen 50.....	56.50
Kobu Railway Company—paid up yen 45.....	111.00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 45.....	35.50
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up yen 35.....	38.80
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 50.....	85.70
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 25.....	81.00
Kawagoye Railway Company—paid up yen 50.....	52.00
Chikuo Railway Company—paid up yen 50.....	77.50
Hantan Railway Company—paid up yen 50.....	43.50
Boso Railway Company—paid up yen 50.....	40.00
Sobu Railway Company—paid up yen 50.....	111.00
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50.....	85.00
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up yen 44.....	59.00
Toyokawa Railway Company—paid up yen 35.....	36.50
Hokuyetau Railway Company—paid up yen 33.....	27.50
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47.50.....	30.00
Selwa Railway Company—paid up yen 8.....	1.00
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 12.50.....	7.00
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 30.....	10.40
Kozoko Railway Company—paid up yen 30.....	35.00
Nanso Railway Company—paid up yen 37.50.....	50.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50.....	55.00
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up yen 25.....	25.00
Domestic Transport Company—paid up yen 40.....	28.00
Japan Transport Company—paid up yen 15.....	5.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 200.....	200.00

Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25.....	22.50
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up yen 25.....	27.00
Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 50.....	55.50
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50.....	70.00
Miye Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50.....	90.00
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 15.....	16.00
Japan Weaving Company—paid up yen 50.....	30.00
Tokyo Tramway Company—paid up yen 50.....	200.00
Japan Beer Company—paid up yen 40.....	71.00
Japan Cement Company—paid up yen 25.....	3.50
Tone Canal Company—paid up yen 70.....	73.00
Fuji Paper Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 50.....	65.00
Sapporo Sugar Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 47.....	6.50
Hokkaido Hemp Mann. Co.—paid up yen 50.....	50.00
Japan Seaweed Company—paid up yen 35.....	33.50
Yokohama Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 40.....	60.00
Shinagawa Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 37.....	41.00
Tokyo Electric Light Company—paid up yen 15.....	54.00
Tokyo Gas Company—paid up yen 50.....	59.00
Doshin Kaisha—paid up yen 50.....	10.00
Tokyo Marine Insurance Co.—paid up yen 200.....	70.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50.....	310.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50.....	155.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 150.....	372.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50.....	54.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50.....	16.50

EXCHANGE.

No change either in rates or silver.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	1/11 1/2 to 1 1/8
— Bills on demand 1/11 1/2 to 2/0	
— 4 months' sight.....	2/0 1/8
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2/0 1/8
— 6 months' sight.....	2/0 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2.50 1/2 to 1
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2.54 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1 1/2 to 1 1/8 p.
— Private 10 days' sight.....	1 1/2 to 1 1/8 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	74
— Private 10 days' sight.....	74 1/2
On India—Bank sight.....	161
— Private 30 days' sight.....	167
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	48 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight.....	49 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight.....	2.03 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2.07 1/2
Rai Silver (London).....	27 1/2



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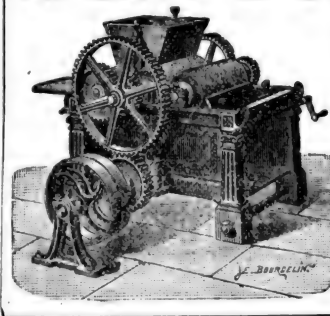
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November 21st, 1896.

37.

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17.

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June, 1896.

37

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 2.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 10TH, 1897.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 10TH, 1897.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT GOTO is seriously ill.

THE Emperor's and Empress' return from Kyoto to the capital has been further postponed.

A JAPANESE afflicted with *hakke* attempted suicide in Yokohama Bay on Wednesday.

THE cable between Formosa and Japan will be opened for public service on the 16th inst.

MR. LAFFIN's Yacht *Mary* won the United States Minister's prize on Independence Day.

THE P. & O. steamer *India* has arrived at Suez with the survivors of the *Aden*, all doing well.

FIFTEEN hundred contract emigrants are to leave Kobe for Brazil by the *Tosa Maru* next month.

THE Kobe Ladies won the return cricket match against the *Narcissus* on Tuesday, by 12 runs.

THE re-opening of the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Tientsin, on the 22nd June, passed off quietly.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha will pay a dividend of 5 per cent per annum for the first half of the current year.

RAIN has fallen on four days this week in Yokohama. Severe floods are reported from some parts of the country.

THE list of Chinese subscribers to the Diamond Jubilee Fund in Hongkong contains 166 names, with total subscriptions amounting

to \$24,685, or an average of over \$148 per subscriber.

THE ports of Mok-pho and Chempum-pho in Korea are to be opened to foreign trade from 1st October next.

THE presentation of diplomas to the graduates of the Tokyo Higher Commercial School took place on the 6th instant.

THE plague is still prevalent in Amoy and neighbouring districts, but the foreign residents have escaped the contagion.

THE north of England was visited by very heavy gales on the 15th June. Glasgow and Liverpool suffered severely.

THE Hawaiian Government have decided to enforce the increased duty on saké imported from Japan from July 1st.

H.M.S. *Grafton's* cricket team offered very slight resistance to the Yokohama Club on Saturday, the bowling being weak.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA, accompanied by Mr. Kato, Japanese Minister to England, left London for Paris, en route for Spain, on the 5th inst.

COLONEL BUCK, the new United States Minister to Japan, and Mr. Dun, late U.S. Minister, returned from Kyoto to the capital on the night of the 4th instant.

It is reported that the Emperor of Russia will attend the assembly of the International Medical Conference to be held in Moscow in August next.

DURING the month of June, the Kanagawa Kencho issued 53 passports to Japanese for travel abroad. The passports issued to foreigners for travelling in the interior numbered 194, for 250 persons.

THE *Empress of Japan*, which arrived at Yokohama on the 7th instant, made the record passage from Victoria, B.C. in 10 days, 3 hours 39 minutes, beating the best previous passage by fourteen hours and a half.

THE Tedzuna coal mine in Taka-gun, Ibaraki Prefecture, one of the principal mines in the Kwanto district, caught fire on the 20th ultimo and the flames are still raging, in spite of desperate efforts to extinguish them.

ABOUT four hundred coolies employed by the Yokohama Cargo Boat Corporation, who went on strike the other day, have gained their point and have had their wages raised 20 per cent. They resumed work on the 5th inst.

THE annual meeting of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works was held on the 6th instant. The accounts and report were passed and Messrs. Fraser and Lowder re-elected Directors, Mr. Kirby also joining the Board.

THE Embassies of the Powers at Constantinople have insisted on a prompt decision by the Porte on the question of the delimitation of the new frontier. The Turkish Ministers in Council have resolved to maintain Turkey's right in Thessaly.

CANADIAN papers received by the *Empress of Japan* contain graphic reports of the grand pageant furnished by the procession and the decorations in London on Diamond Jubilee day. Eight million people are said to have been assembled in the metropolis on the occasion.

A FAREWELL dinner was given by the President and Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, on the 5th instant to

Mr. E. Dun, the late U.S. Minister to Japan, and to Mr. Blabon, a Director of the Great Northern Railway Company of America.

A CONFLAGRATION occurred at Sanjo-machi, Echigo Province on the 30th ult. in which 376 houses and six temples were destroyed and sixteen persons injured.

THE U.S. Secretary of State has replied to Japan's protest, that the annexation of Hawaii will not prejudice the legitimate interest of Japan or other Powers, but the United States cannot entertain any suggestions as regards the *status quo*.

A CONFERENCE of Chief Jailers was held at the Home Department on the morning of the 3rd inst., when the Home Minister delivered a speech as to the necessity of reformation in the gaol system when the new treaties come into operation.

THE *Yorodzu Choho* reports that the Foreign Department received a telegram on the 5th inst. from Mr. Shimamura, Japanese Minister in Hawaii, to the effect that no hindrance will be exercised hereafter in the landing of Japanese contract immigrants in Hawaii. The Department has wired to all the Local Governors to that effect.

THE steamer *Tamsui Maru*, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which left Kelung, Formosa early in June for coast ports of the Island, has not been reported or heard from since and much anxiety is felt as to her safety. The steamer *Katsuyama Maru*, in the Government service, is reported to have started from Kelung on the 30th ult. in search of the missing vessel.

NATIONAL taxes to be collected during this month are, according to the *Hochi Shimbun*, estimated at 10,616,481 yen. The details are as follow:—

Classification.	Amount. Yen.
Houses and land, for the 1st period	400,483
Saké, for the 1st period	7,150,960
Mixed tax (<i>kousei sonri</i>), for the 1st period	23,740
National Banks, for the 1st half of the year	58,548
Patent medicines, for the 2nd half of the year	48,996
Trades, for the 1st half of the year	2,937,084
Total	10,616,481

BUSINESS prospects in Yokohama were brighter this week, and a more wholesome tone pervades the various markets than we have noted for some time past. Piece-goods are moving off better than usual, the demand from up-country causing buyers to come in and take up goods at higher rates. Yarns also have looked up a bit. In metals, importers have been obliged to raise prices, owing to further advances in laid-down cost, yet in spite of this dealers have purchased largely of bars, plates, sheets, and pig-iron. The kerosene market, after months of depression, now promises brighter times, both American and Russian moving off briskly this week. A good business has been done in sugars, browns having risen slightly, while white sorts remain unchanged. In raw silk a re-action has to be noted, holders having overstood their market, and all is naturally in suspense. Samples of the new waste crop are coming in, but no business has yet been done. A steady demand has continued throughout the week just passed for tea, a fair business being put through at former rates. The quality of the second picking is said to be below that of last year, but the crop will be fair. Total settlements to date for this season are 140,367 piculs. Exchange closes weak.

SPRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The *Fiji Shimpo* has a remarkable article which will probably offend the susceptibilities of many Japanese conservatives. Briefly stated, our contemporary's contention is that although Japan is on the eve of being legally recognised as the equal of Western States, her equality will be practically unreal unless she seeks to assimilate not merely her codes but also her customs to those of the Occident. It is of little use to abolish distinctions of a judicial and Conventional character, if distinctions of costume, social fashions, and other externals that immediately force themselves on the attention are preserved. There can be no half-way house on the road to civilization. A nation must make up its mind to travel the whole way. Tradition and hereditary practice endear certain habits to a people, and if those habits are not opposed to the canons of enlightened progress, there is no theoretical reason for their abolition. But in so far as they interfere with freedom of international intercourse and the levelling of racial distinctions, they ought to be ruthlessly remodelled. From that point of view Japanese conservatives who advocate the preservation of old fashions in the realm of art, tea ceremonials, music, and so forth, must be called *bummei no soku* (traitors to civilization). Every salient difference of custom is an obstacle to unembarrassed association. No one understood that fundamental principle better than Peter the Great. A reformer of immense moral breadth, he nevertheless descended to such a detail as the question of men's beards, and by imposing a tax on those appendages, sought to check a habit which imparted to his people the aspect of animals in the eyes of strangers. Legislation of that kind may seem trivial, but the principle that dictates it is beyond cavil. Peter the Great saw clearly that if the Russian nation was to take its place in the ranks of civilization, it must not merely seek to develop the moral attributes of civilization, but also lay aside all externals that differentiated it from civilized peoples. Had his policy been steadily pursued by succeeding generations, Russia's moral status in Europe would be different to-day. Japan must make up her mind to let go the old and open her hands unreservedly to the new, imposing upon her liberalism only one restriction, namely, that of not adopting what is manifestly hurtful, or discarding what is plainly beneficial. She will have to carry her radicalism even into the field of the four great ceremonies—the *Kwan-kon so sai* (coming of age, marriage, funeral rites, and religious celebrations). Her own advantage is at stake. It is not a question of abandoning any revered custom in deference to foreign opinion or foreign example. It is solely a question of abolishing everything that tends to preserve racial prejudices, and thereby to handicap her in the struggle towards progress.

The same journal reverts to a topic already discussed by it in previous issues, namely, the true purpose of military preparations. There are not wanting critics, even among foreigners, who allege that Japan might very well have been content with her *ante-bellum* armaments, and who ask what nation she regards as a potential enemy, since she devotes herself to making such large expansions of her Army and Navy. Arguments and questions of that kind are shallow. They indicate ignorance of the true object of military preparations. That object is, not to fight, but to avert the necessity of fighting. A country whose strength is too well known to be underestimated, can count on immunity from the embarrassments that involve an appeal to the sword. Had China known Japan's strength, there never would have been any war between the two countries. Had Japan clearly appreciated China's weakness, the war would have been brought to an end much sooner, and many lives would have been saved. But it is not to be denied that up to the moment of fighting the battle of the Yalu, the Japanese felt much nervousness about the issue. The bulk

of their opponent deceived them, just as she was deceived by Japan's comparative insignificance. Unquestionably if the Chinese had gauged Japan's fighting capacities, they would never have entered upon the route of insulting impracticability that led to war. Moreover, if Japan had been strong, and if her strength had been appreciated, she would never have been subjected to the humiliation of having to retrocede Liaotung. The Japanese are not fools. Their eyes are not blind, nor are their memories unretentive of instructive experiences. They see the enormous financial sacrifices made by European Powers to avert the stupendous calamity of war, and they remember the calamities that they have themselves suffered by shrinking from these sacrifices. They may have to put their hands deeply into their pockets, may have to increase the burden of taxation, or resort to other inconvenient expedients to complete their programme of armament expansion. But it must be completed, in order to ensure the country in the enjoyment of the greatest of all blessings, the blessing of peace. Only what the public must understand thoroughly and never forget is that the unique purpose of national armaments is to avert the necessity of using them.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* discusses the question of the national armaments in much the same strain as that adopted by the *Fiji*, but carries the argument into somewhat different routes. It calls the Army and Navy "bulwarks of the country's wealth" and also instruments for increasing that wealth. As to the latter point, it reminds the public that one direct result of the war with China was the receipt of a large indemnity, constituting so much addition to the national capital; and one indirect result was the development of a spirit of enterprise which promises to produce, in its turn, an immense development of the national resources. The industrial and commercial Japan of to-day is conspicuously different from the industrial and commercial Japan of *ante-bellum* days, and the difference is due almost entirely to her victory over China. It is a mistake, therefore, to describe the money spent upon armaments as unproductive expenditure. There are folks that lament the strain to which the nation's finances are subjected by the effort of carrying out the armament-expansion programme. Do such persons consider what would be Japan's present condition had she suffered defeat at China's hands? She would have had to pay a large indemnity and would now be saddled with the double task of finding money for that purpose, as well as for the purpose of making to her Army and Navy such additions as should suffice to restore her prestige. Moreover, she would have been performing that heavy labour amid industrial and commercial circumstances showing nothing of the elastic development that now renders her financial burdens comparatively light. If any one seriously estimates the sufferings she would now have been enduring had she not made some sacrifices in *ante-bellum* days, and if any one, with that estimate before him, shrinks from the sacrifices now required to prevent still greater sufferings, he may be a Japanese in appearance, but he is not a Japanese at heart.

Criticism of the police force furnishes a topic of discussion in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The article is long and somewhat prolix. Its gist is that the methods of the police are slack in some directions and over-strict in others. As to their slackness, we find no very tangible evidence in our contemporary's columns, except that, after allowing the advertisement and sale of "Virgin Cigarettes" to proceed uninterrupted for several weeks, they suddenly awoke to the illegality, or supposed illegality, of the business, and instituted judicial proceedings. As to their over-strictness, our contemporary is even less explicit. It refers to the rumours that cruelties are occasionally resorted to for the purpose of extorting confessions; rumours to which it does not attach much importance, but which, nevertheless, must have some foundation. Whatever truth there may be in the stories, or

to whatever extent they may have been exaggerated, the mere fact that they are circulated is more or less a reproach to the police. It can not be too strongly impressed upon them that the days when such doings were permissible have long passed, and that the slightest reversion to them would be a national disgrace. The *Nichi Nichi* thinks that something should be done to attract a better class of men to the ranks of the police, and to keep them there when once enlisted. In that context its advice is that the task of providing pensions for them should be undertaken by the Central Treasury, instead of being left to the charge of the localities.

That the encroachments of foreign Powers upon China threaten the preservation of peace in the East, is a proposition upon which the *Yomiuri Shimbun* descants at some length. Russia from the north, England from the West, and France from the south, are all pressing upon the ancient empire. Germany's hand has not yet been very plainly shown, but that she is playing the same rôle as the other Great Occidental Powers can not be doubted. The *Yomiuri* details, at considerable length, the doings of Russia, of France, and of England, and draws the inference that the balance of power in the Far East must soon be seriously disturbed. There is only one remedy, our contemporary thinks, namely, that China should abandon her conservative attitude and frankly adopt Occidental civilization. Notably in three directions reform is called for: military organization, finance, and education. There is a show made at present in the matter of military improvement. Foreign drill instructors are engaged and their efforts appear to be attended with results more or less successful. But there is nothing like army organization; nothing like provision for uniting the scattered forces of the empire into one homogeneous whole. A similar defect is observable in the field of finance. There is no organization. The country has immense resources, but they are not available for national purposes. The only certain asset possessed by the Central Government, namely, the Customs yield, is pledged on account of a foreign debt which, though insignificant in dimensions, weighs heavily on the empire. As for education, there is practically no organization whatever. That most important of all factors of national progress is totally neglected. The *Yomiuri* thinks that Japan should set before herself the duty of getting China out of the conservative groove. The task should be undertaken, not in China's interests alone, but in the interests of the peace of the East.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* urges the advisability of combination on the part of marine insurance companies. Heavy and repeated losses have been incurred by the various companies of late, and the very existence of some must be threatened. Union is their only resource. As to the cause of such numerous misfortunes, the *Shogyo* thinks that the recent acquisition of large numbers of old vessels is more or less responsible. During the war, ships were purchased hastily, to meet the urgent need of the moment, and many of them, after a brief period of use, were found to be in want of repairs for the execution of which sufficient means were not forthcoming. But the chief cause doubtless is to be found in the fact that the development of the mercantile marine has not been accompanied by a corresponding development of skilled personnel. Expert navigators and trained sailors are not procurable, and until that want is supplied, losses must be anticipated. The insurance offices must recognise the facts and combine to remedy them as rapidly as possible.

Reference has already been made to the fact that a German decoration has just been presented to His Majesty the Emperor, and that the German Representative proceeded to Kyoto for the purpose of making the presentation. We may explain that the decoration was the Crown of Wurtemberg, sent by the King of that country.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

In referring to the rumour that the Department of Education would ask for an additional appropriation of five or six million *yen* next year, we stated that the objects of such an increase of expenditure were not plain. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* now sets them forth. It says that they are these:—First, to establish Higher Middle Schools in the provinces; secondly, to add a dendrological section to the present Second Upper School; thirdly, to add a marine architectural section to the Osaka Industrial School; fourthly, to establish a central education inspection bureau; fifthly, to organize in the Education Department a bureau for practical instruction; and sixthly, to purchase plant and engage instructors for the Industrial School. All these projects commend themselves. There is undoubtedly a general feeling in Japan that the progress of educational affairs is not commensurate with the progress made in other directions, and the public will welcome a resolute advance on the part of the *Mombusho*.

Another of the perennially recurrent rumours about secret surveys by Russian officers is ventilated in the columns of the *Chuo Shimbun*. The place of the performance is said to be the neighbourhood of Banshuzan in the southern Tsugaru district of Aomori Prefecture. A Russian officer recently came there, and having taken up his quarters, applied himself to survey the ground. It is added that the War Office recently caused a survey of the same place to be made with the intention of making it a coast artillery station. The police, our contemporary says, have been instructed to look after the Russian officer. We imagine that the story must be received with much reserve.

It appears to be pretty generally agreed that next year's Budget will show an increase of some thirty million *yen* on the side of expenditure, and many views are expressed as to the devices that will be adopted to obtain a corresponding increment of revenue. One rumour is that the Government proposes to sell the State Railways, a step that would bring forty or fifty million *yen* into the Treasury. The calculation seems to be very vague. Judging by the net revenue now obtained from the State Railways, we should say that they ought to sell for at least a hundred million *yen* in the open market. Even at that price, a return of seven or eight per cent. might be confidently anticipated. But, in truth, we believe that the rumour does not deserve credit. The Railways are now an important source of regular annual revenue, and to dispose of them for the purpose of meeting a temporary expenditure would be very questionable finance. A different and much more credible forecast is formulated by the *Mainichi Shimbun*. We there read that there is no intention of resorting to increased taxation or any other exceptional measure. Owing to the prosperous condition of the nation and the development of foreign trade, it is confidently expected that from railways, telegraphs, and customs an additional revenue of ten million *yen* may be anticipated. Further, the fears that the yield from the Trades Tax would be much below the official estimate are not likely to be realized. The total collection may

fall short of the $7\frac{1}{2}$ million *yen* originally anticipated by four or five hundred thousand *yen*, but that will be about the limit. Now the revenue derived from the Registration Tax, the *Saké* Tax, and the Tobacco Monopoly during the current fiscal year is set down as $6\frac{1}{2}$ million, less than the total yield ultimately expected from these taxes. Hence, assuming that the Trades Tax and Registration Tax give $\frac{1}{2}$ million less than the original estimate, there still remains an additional income of five millions to accrue from these four sources next year. Thus an increment of 15 million *yen* altogether is fairly within sight. But where to get the other 15 millions required to meet the total additional expenditure of 30 millions? There is talk, the *Mainichi* says, of increasing the Income Tax, and of revising the Tax upon Building Lands. Public opinion, however, is likely to be somewhat exacting with regard to such a prospect, so that, on the whole, it will probably not be carried out. Nothing remains, then, except to reduce the expenditures, and the easiest way to effect that would be to extend the period of Army Expansion. There may be some difficulty in getting the Minister of War to consent, but the attempt will be resolutely made. Such is the gist of the *Mainichi's* information, at any rate.

It is to be hoped that the above information is correct. In these columns it has been pointed out, more than once, that there seem to be grounds for criticising the Government's armament expansion scheme from one point of view alone, namely, that the arrangements for increasing the Army are precipitate. The country has no need of an army of half a million men at home. Such a force can not have any logical *raison d'être* except the contingency of service abroad. But for service abroad, troops must be carried over the sea, and there is no discernible prospect that by the year 1904, when, according to the present programme, the Army will attain its full strength, a transport service capable of conveying even a moiety of such a force can be expected to be available. Instead of fixing the Army-expansion period at 8 years, the Government might extend it to 12 years without any inconvenience. But even if that were done, we can not see that any large measure of financial relief would be secured. The Army-expansion programme involves a total expenditure of 79 million *yen*, in round figures, of which $37\frac{1}{2}$ millions will have been paid out in the years 1896-7 and 1897-8, leaving only $41\frac{1}{2}$ millions to be paid between 1898-9 and 1903-4. The latter sum is divided thus, omitting fractions, for the 8-year period:—

1898-9	.....	$13\frac{1}{2}$	million <i>yen</i> .
1899-0	.....	10	do do
1900-1	.....	8	do do
1901-2	.....	6	do do
1902-3	.....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	do do
1903-4	.....	$\frac{1}{2}$	do do

Were the period extended to 12 years, the annual appropriations would stand thus:—

1898-9	.....	$9\frac{1}{2}$	million <i>yen</i> .
1899-0	.....	7	do do
1900-1	.....	5	do do
1901-2	.....	4	do do
1902-3	.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	do do
1903-4	.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	do do
1904-5	.....	3	do do
1905-6	.....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	do do
1906-7	.....	2	do do
1907-8	.....	$\frac{1}{2}$	do do

Thus the relief in the approaching fiscal

year would be only 4 million *yen*, when the relief required is 15 millions. We suspect that the *Mainichi*, also, has only a fragmentary conception of the financial programme. Possibly the Cabinet itself has not yet mapped out anything final.

The first newspaper prosecution under the new Press Law has been inaugurated, the Public Procurator being the accuser, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Tokyo Shimbun*, the *Chuo Shimbun* and the Tokyo News Agency, the defendants. The incriminated matter is a marching song (*Shinko-ka*) supplied by the News Agency and published by the above journals. The song is supposed to be sung by the Liberal Party in grand procession from the Office in Shiba to Ueyeno Park, and the author is said to be Mr. Komuro—a somewhat vague designation. The song runs thus:—

Senriyaku mubō musaku no hatushin wa
Tada kensei wo musaboorite kimi no tame
Mata kuni no tame nasu-beki jutsu wo shirasu
Zaisei funran shi kokken hoka ni kutsujyokushi
Senshō-koku no kungyō wa kiye use
Rikken seiji no tanamono wa horobi
Seme-yo togame yo daijin wo
Shiken ifuku wo senō shi
Kōron seigi wo fumi-yaburi
Kokuji wo ayamaru mono wa
Mina waga kokumin no hōtekiso
Fumpatsu seyo waga tomo yo
Atsumari kiteare shonin yo
Tiyu no hata wa nabiku nari
Tenchī ni hibiku hataraki wa
Imi ni koso ari okururu na.

Ministers without political project or plan,
 Grasping only at power and knowing naught
 Of the duty they owe to their Country and their
 Prince;
 The finances in disorder, the national prestige
 disgraced;
 The achievements of the victor-country marred
 and effaced;
 The gift of constitutional Government destroyed.
 Attack, accuse the Ministers!
 Assault, overthrow the Cabinet!
 Glorifying only in personal power and luxury,
 Trampling under foot public opinion and right,
 Blundering in every national affair—
 They are all the public foes of our people.
 Stir yourselves our partisans!
 Assemble, come together one and all!
 The flag of liberty waves;
 Delay not! Now is the time
 To do a deed that shall sound to the skies.

A pretty tall kind of ditty, it must be confessed. The foreign public will find it silly and hot-headed, but what the law will say remains to be seen.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* confidently alleges that arrangements have been almost concluded for the sale of a long stretch of State Railways to the Japan Railway Company. The lines concerned are the Aomori-Igaraseki (35 miles 40 chains) and the Igaraseki-Fukushima (262 miles 46 chains), a total length of 297 miles 86 chains. The price is said to be about twenty million *yen*; a figure which seems scarcely credible since it represents over sixty-seven thousand *yen* a mile. The reason assigned for the sale is financial necessity, the Government not finding it desirable to float any part of the Public Undertakings Loan at present. We are in a position to say that the statement is erroneous. No such arrangement has been effected, and seeing that it could not be effected without the consent of the Diet, we find it surprising that the *Nichi Nichi* should have published it.

The Hawaiian question continues to be discussed by the vernacular press, the *Mainichi* especially professing to be in a position to state the arguments advanced by the Japanese Government in its last communication to Washington. We have

already explained clearly the attitude that we believe to have been assumed by the Foreign Office in Tokyo, and nothing subsequently published by vernacular newspapers appears to be as accurate as our own version. There is, consequently, no occasion to reproduce the *Mainichi's* note, above all in view of the fact that the American Senate is not likely to take any action with regard to the annexation question before next December.

With reference to the above, a strange statement is made by the *Chuo Shimbun*. It is to the effect that before the Annexation Treaty was sent by the President to the Senate, the Secretary of State asked Mr. Hoshi Toru, the Japanese Representative in Washington, what view he entertained on the subject. Mr. Hoshi replied that, in his private capacity, he had no objection to offer, but if he were required to speak in his capacity as Japanese Representative, he must await the instructions of his Government. The *Chuo* adds that so soon as the above conversation was telegraphed to the Foreign Office in Tokyo, Mr. Hoshi was instructed that he had been very injudicious, and he is now in bad odour at the Foreign Office, Count Okuma being much annoyed about the line taken by him. We (*Japan Mail*) do not think that the slightest faith can be placed in the *Chuo's* story. Not only would Mr. Hoshi have been most unlikely to commit himself to such a declaration, but the incident is altogether inconsistent with the intelligence already published about the communications that passed between the Secretary of State and Mr. Hoshi on the subject of the Treaty.

The idea that the rate of the Land Tax should be doubled seems to be gaining ground. We find it now advanced by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The argument is that the present rate was fixed on the basis of the price of rice, when the ratio between gold and silver was 1 to 16.17. The system of national currency was then gold monometallic. Subsequently it became bimetallic, and finally silver monometallic, and now gold monometallism has been once more adopted, the ratio being fixed at 32.34 to 1. In short, the original tax, assessed in gold, was exactly twice the tax now levied under the new gold system. There would, therefore, be nothing harsh or unjust in doubling the rate of the tax. The result to the Treasury would be an additional income of about 38 million yen annually, which would, of course, make everything very easy and pleasant. It must be confessed that the times have greatly changed if the project of doubling the rate of the Land Tax can be calmly mooted. Six years ago, the cry was all for reducing the rate. That was the great bone of contention between the Diet and the Government in the early days of parliamentary institutions. Is it conceivable that the House of Representatives could be induced to vote for doubling the rate? We doubt it. If such a project be pressed, it will probably constitute a new line of cleavage in political circles.

The following items of intelligence are contained in a report from the Governor-General's office in Formosa, dated the 24th of June at Taipeh:—

On the 9th of June, a detachment from the garrison of Chin-keuk-ching, numbering 23 of all ranks, and a gendarme, pro-

ceeded to Lo-tin-hang and killed six rebels.

On the 11th of June, Ensign Yamamoto Shogoro, belonging to the second Regiment, now garrisoning Fat-lai, was returning from She-hang, whither he had proceeded to make a search, when he was drowned in a flood.

On the 15th of June, news having been received that 30 rebels were assembled at Fak-tak-kong, in the house of one of the inhabitants, Lieut. Yamada marched from Tau-wei with thirty-three men, killed 3 of the rebels, scattered the remainder, and took three field-pieces and 130 rounds of ammunition.

On the 19th of June, Captain Morita, who commands the garrison at Tau-wei, attacked 30 rebels at Tai-chok-wei, killed 5 of them and took 23 prisoners.

On the 19th of June, Ensign Ban Kihachi marched with 56 men from the Tai-faham garrison, and relieved the detachment at Sam-kok-chung.

On the 19th of June, Sergeant-Major Takeda, with a party of police, drove out twenty-odd rebels who were in hiding at Hau-liu-an, killing one of them.

It is stated that the Emperor has given the name "Shin-taka-yama" to Mount Morrison in Formosa. "Shin-taka-yama" means "new high mountain."

We read in an exchange that the building of Bartlett Hall in Knoxville has brought into prominence the name of Mr. Takahashi Kin, a Japanese student. Here is what the *Knoxville Daily Journal* has to say about him:—

"The scheme for the building was proposed by Mr. Kin Takahashi, a student from Japan. The scheme was that the students begin making practical demand for the desired building by burning their own bricks. The scheme was adopted and the students went to work. They burned 300,000 and this summer they will burn 150,000 more. In this manner they will have saved some \$2,000. Where there is such demand for a good cause there is some supply. The boys continued to work and pray and to give and ask others to give. Thus beginning without one cent they laid the foundation for the building they need, one modern and sufficient in all its apartments, and when the foundation was finished they were not one cent in debt.

To the generosity of kind friends in Chicago, New York, Wilkesbare, Philadelphia, Cleveland, and many other cities, this is largely due. The students and college faculty are deeply appreciative of this fact and it gives them great pleasure in thankfulness send them reports of the triumphant laying of the corner stone and of the cordial support given to the movement at home.

Kin Takahashi is one of the most picturesque characters of Maryville college, and his many excellent qualities stamp him as a man of sterling worth. Certainly the launching of the present scheme and the direction of his energies with so telling effect in its execution distinguish him as a leader among the Christian college men of the south. He entered this great work in faith and in that faith he yet abides. None who know him doubt his sincerity in the cause or his gratefulness for assistance rendered. He was a senior two years, yet he has remained after graduation to see the building stand complete. When it is finished he will return to his home, which he left years ago. Across the seas great things await Kin. A Christian education and a son of the Orient his people will hear him and he will surely take them only the best. He is prepared for the work and they prepared to receive him, while friends here in America are demanding much for him and are united in wishing him every good thing. Kin is appreciative of this latter fact, but because he is devout you can read in his face his trust and know his strength and tenderness are in that he knows in whom he has believed because the Lord is his shepherd.

The Minister of Home Affairs is reported as having delivered a speech on the subject of prison improvement to the Council of Prison Authorities. Among

various necessary reforms Count Kabayama found none so urgent as the reconstruction of prison buildings. The expenditure involved would be very great, but the reform must be undertaken, not alone in the interests of the prisoners themselves, but also in view of the near approach of the time when the Revised Treaties will go into operation. The Government was determined to put the matter through. Another point was the distinction that should be made in the treatment of prisoners according to their age and physical condition, and also in view of the great difference between the habits and customs of foreigners and those of the Japanese. Count Kabayama then referred to the effect of prison discipline in turning men from their evil ways. He did not think that any success was achieved in that direction in Japan, and in proof of his assertion he adduced the case of the prisoners released at the time of the recent amnesty. Instead of appreciating the generosity shown them and mending their ways, many of them had again violated the law. The money granted by the Emperor to the localities after the death of the Empress Dowager ought to be made the nucleus of a prison-gate fund, to save time-expired convicts from lapsing again into evil ways.

With reference to the Council of Authorities, which commenced its sittings on the 3rd instant, it is stated that twenty points have been submitted for its consideration by the Government, of which the principal relate to the manner of dealing with foreigners arrested after the Revised Treaties go into force. Three of these points are said to be:—(1) The question of providing for foreign prisoners clothes and food different from those provided for Japanese prisoners. (2) The question of the kind of labour to which foreign convicts should be put. (3) The question whether prison officials should study a foreign language. Attention is also to be given to the problem of making an appropriation from the Treasury in aid of prison reconstruction, seeing that the local funds available for that purpose are insufficient. The Diet will probably be asked, next session, to pass a vote for that purpose.

According to the *Yamiori Shimbun*, the long mooted problem of appointing Counsellors of *Chokunin* rank in the Departments of State is likely to be solved immediately after the Premier's return from Kyoto. The following nominations will be made in a few days, adds our contemporary:—Mr. Ozaki Yukio to the Department of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Shiba Shiro to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce; and Mr. Gamo Sen to the Department of Colonization. These three gentlemen are prominent members of the House of Representatives.

Hisshi undo no nochi are the words employed by the Central Tea Guild's New York Agents to describe the nature of their fight against the proposed import duty of fifty cents a pound. A Japanese uses *hisshi* when he speaks of "fighting for bare life." We wonder what is implied by the expression "life-and-death agitation." What have the agents been doing, and is there a big bill coming by post?

The *Fiji Shimpō* publishes a telegram from Söul, dated the 5th instant, to the effect that the Korean Government, inde-

pendently of its treaty with Japan, intends to open Mokpho and Chinnampho to foreign trade from the 1st of October next. An intimation in that sense has been conveyed to the Foreign Representatives. The opening will be effected by royal ordinance, and the rules relating to the Settlements will be compiled after consultation with the various Legation.

The recent rapid rise in the price of rice has produced a degree of excitement that threatens to push men to lawless measures. On the 5th instant the first sales of September rice commenced in the Tokyo market, and before long things grew very lively. About fifty desperate characters arrived upon the scene, led by Messrs. Deko-iwa and Hirano, of Nippon-bashi notoriety. They declared that they intended to assist the "bears" at all costs, and it was understood that each carried a dirk which he was quite prepared to use, the intention being to spring in and put to the sword any buyer, friend or foe, that ventured to bid thirteen *yen* and a half (per *Aoku*). The buyers, intimidated by this demonstration, started the price at twenty-six *sen* lower than the quotation of the previous day, so that the market opened at 12.84 *yen*, and gradually declined to 12.80 *yen*. Thereat the leader of the "bulls," Mr. Shima Kei, grew excited, and began to bid up, until 12.89 was reached, when a *soshi* "danced" out of the crowd, and calling out "Hold on, Shima Kei," sprang upon the latter and dealt him three or four blows. The assailant was promptly arrested by the police. He declared that he had not acted at anybody's instigation, but had merely been prompted by a feeling of pity for the sufferings that such prices must entail. Meanwhile a party of men with a band and a flag assembled near the offices of the brokers, and called out that the "bulls" ought to be attacked. It was a hot scene, but nothing serious resulted.

A point is raised in connection with the general election of members of the House of Representatives, which takes place next year. The term of membership is four years full, and the present members having been elected on September 1st, 1894, retain their right of membership until September 1st, 1898. But the law provides that the ordinary general election shall take place on July 1st. There is thus an evident difficulty. It will be overcome, says the *Miyako Shimbun*, by holding the elections at the time indicated by law, but allowing the old members to remain nominally members until Sept. 1st.

Mr. Kawashima, President of the new Industrial Bank, has been expressing his views about the new taxes that will have to be imposed for budgetary purposes. He speaks, first, of what he calls *Buppin Shōhi-zei*, or "tax on articles of consumption." This he divides into two classes, namely, a tax on retail transactions in alcoholic beverages, and a tax on wholesale houses dealing in sugar, oil, candles and paper. As to the former impost, it would be levied on clear *saké*, beer, claret and all alcoholic beverages, the rate being from 5 to 10 per cent. the cost of each bottle or cask sold by a brewer or wholesale dealer to a retailer. The method of collecting would be by means of stamps. Mr. Kawashima insists that such a tax would be quite distinct from the impost on brewers of *saké*, since it would fall entirely on

consumers, but we fail to appreciate that difference. He thinks that, if properly manipulated, the tax would yield a revenue of from five to six million *yen* annually. With regard to the tax on the consumption of sugar, oil, candles, and paper, his plan is to have middle-men dealing in those articles alone, whether of foreign or of domestic production, and to make them all pay a fixed amount. In levying the tax, he would follow the methods prescribed in the Alcohol Tax. An income of ten million *yen* might easily be obtained, he thinks. His next project is a large extension of the stamp tax. Thus the shares of all companies, acknowledgements of debt, schedules of the property of nobles, documents relating to the leasing or renting of houses, publications, and advertisements, would have to be stamped. So also would have to be railway and steam-ship tickets, and tickets for the carriage of goods, for admission to theatres, and all places of public entertainment. Finally Mr. Kawashima proposes to increase the tax on urban building lands, as suggested by the Diet last session. Two millions are procurable from that source.

The Commencement Exercises of the Academy of Music in Ueno Park are announced to take place on Saturday at 3 p.m. The following is the programme:—

PROGRAMME.

- I. Report by Mr. Uehara, Manager of the Academy.
- II. Presentation of Diplomas.
- III. Address to the Graduating Class by Mr. Kanō, Director of the High Normal School.
- IV. Address by His Excellency the Minister of State for Education.
- V. Response by the Representative of the Graduating Class.
1. Chorus:—
 - a. Der alte Barbarossa, ("O-tō no Miya" by M. Kurokawa, *Bungakuhakushi*) Friedrich Silcher.
 - b. Segen des Wortes Gottes, ("Megumi" by Mr. Hatano).....Ludwig Hellwig.
2. Piano Solo:—
 - a. WiegenliedchenSchumann.
 - b. TarantelleLoeschhorn.
 Mr. Hashimoto, *Graduate*.
3. Chorus:—
 - a. Waldstille, ("Sanchyū Yūkan" by M. Kurokawa, *Bungakuhakushi*)Boenicke.
 - b. Das Vaterland, ("Amatsu Hitsugi" by Mr. Owada).....Reichardt.
4. Organ Duet:—Sonata I.....Bach. Messrs. Kōyama and Amaya, *Graduates*.
5. Chorus:—Seasons, ("Okuno no Karikura" by Mr. Torii)Haydn.
6. Violin:—
 - a. Lied, (with Organ)Schubert.
 - b. Kleine Fantasie über eine russischen Melodie, (with Piano)Blumenstengel. *Graduates* and others.
7. Chorus:—
 - a. Robert der Teufel, ("Hashiki waga tomo" by Mr. Nakamura)Meyerbeer.
 - b. Es ist das Glück ein plüchtig Ding, ("Shōnen oi yasushi" by Mr. Hatano).....Dürner.

We referred in a recent issue to the fact that the increased import duty on Japanese *saké* entering Hawaii had been levied from the 1st of July, despite the protests of the Japanese Government. A paragraph in the *Mainichi Shimbun* explains the matter, and it seems desirable that the facts advanced by our contemporary should be made known to our readers. The imposition of the increased duty in question was duly discussed by the Hawaiian Legislature some time ago, and the proposal having been approved, was embodied in a law and promulgated. Not until after the promulgation of the law was any objection raised by the Japanese Government, and it could scarcely have been expected that the law would be at

once suspended or modified in consideration of that objection. Had a protest been lodged before the project of law was submitted to parliament, the situation would be different. But that precaution not having been taken, nothing remains now except to pay the tax. The Hawaiian Government has been approached on the subject, and may possibly agree to reduce the tax to the old figure—15 cents a barrel—in which event the surplus will be returned to importers. But in the meanwhile there is no just cause of complaint, nor can Hawaii be said to have disregarded Japan's protest, inasmuch as the law in question was promulgated before any protest had been made.

Even the *Fiji Shimpō* has a paragraph about the projected purchase of coal mines by foreigners. The particular firm to which the intention is attributed by our contemporary is the Pacific Mail S.S. Company, which is supposed to have conceived the programme of supplying its own steamers from its own mine and placing the remaining output on the market. A very sensible enterprise, doubtless, but we are not disposed to place any credit in the rumour. Possibly, in view of the recent rise in the price of coal, the P.M. Company is taking some special steps to obtain a supply on reasonable terms, but between that and buying a mine there is a wide interval. Mines in Japan can not be bought by foreigners—or, to speak more accurately, can not be lawfully held by foreigners in their own names—and the idea of acquiring a mine and working it under nominal Japanese ownership is not likely to commend itself to any prudent foreigner.

A mysterious paragraph appears in the *Yorodzu Choho* to the effect that a plot is on foot to undermine the influence of the Mitsubishi Company. The chief plotters are said to be Mr. Nakano Buyei in Tokyo and Messrs. Kimura Riyemon and Hirayama Senzo in Yokohama. These gentlemen are credited with the singular belief that the days of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are numbered, and that public opinion being hostile to the Bank of Japan, the latter's power of issuing convertible notes may be withdrawn, by some process or other. The paragraph says that in Osaka the scheme has some five hundred supporters, who intend to apply themselves zealously and vigorously to the accomplishment of their aim. We do not understand the thing in the least, and the *Yorodzu Choho* is obviously not more enlightened, but it calls the affair a very "interesting secret plot," so perhaps our readers will be entertained by hearing of it.

It is stated that the Nobles' School (*Gakushuin*) is to be moved to Takata, the south-western suburb of Tokyo, and that the Nobles' Club will put up seven hundred hundred thousand *yen* by way of endowment. Prince Konoye, the President of the Club, submitted the project for the new building and the educational divisions to the Imperial Household Department on the 6th instant, and it is expected that the Emperor's sanction will be obtained immediately after His Majesty's return to Tokyo. The programme includes a university connected with the School, and the work of building is to commence from February next.

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. E. DUN AND MR. BLABON.

On the evening of the 5th instant the President and Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha entertained a large party at dinner in the Imperial Hotel by way of farewell to the ex-Minister of the United States, Mr. E. Dun, and Mr. Blabon, a Director of the Great Northern Railway Company. Their Excellencies Count Okuma and Viscount Nomura were among the guests, as were several of the leading business men of the capital. Twenty-six sat down to dinner in the Western dining-room, which was beautifully decorated with a mass of greenery and lanterns of various colours. Mr. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, who occupied the chair, proposed the toast of the evening, speaking with all the ease and polish that distinguish Japanese orators. His remarks were rendered into English by Mr. Hayashi, the Yokohama Manager of the Company, whose pronunciation and elocution elicited much applause. Mr. Kondo said:—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN.—Mr. Blabon, who has been visiting this country, representing Mr. President Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, having just returned from a flying visit to Shanghai and Hongkong, is now about to return to his own country, and at the same time H. E. Mr. Dun, late resident Minister of the U.S., being also about to proceed to America, I took the liberty of asking these gentlemen to give us the pleasure of their company at dinner this evening, to let us have the opportunity of saying farewell, and I must thank these gentlemen and their Excellencies the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Communications, and all the other gentlemen present who do me the honour of attending here this evening in spite of their many pressing engagements. The idea of opening an American route by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha with the co-operation of the Great Northern Railway Company, was first broached several years ago. Since then the negotiations were step by step proceeded with, until in July, last year, we were enabled to close the contract with the Great Northern Railway Company, and to open our American line. The Great Northern Railway Company, which was first established in 1890, is a large and influential Company of forty million dollars' capital, and although it is barely seven years since its establishment, the Company possesses not only over 5,152 miles of Railroads now working, but also to steamships on the American Lakes averaging about 4,000 tons, under its control, the whole concern being under the able and experienced direction of Mr. President Hill, and his able staff, of which Mr. Blabon is a prominent official. The future advancement and prospects of such a Company are assured, and I consider it to be a great honour for N.Y.K. to be able to share the business interests with such a Company in undertaking the Trans-Pacific connection. Although scarcely a year has elapsed since that event, the connections between the Great Northern Railway Company and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have grown far closer than before, and judging from our past experience, the line seems to be making most encouraging progress, when we consider the short time it has been in operation, and I firmly believe that if this state of things can be maintained in the future, the most favourable results will before long be obtained. As you are well aware that as one of our national undertakings, resulting from the late war with China, our Company has, since last year, opened new steamship lines to Europe and Australia, in consequence of which our business transactions both at home and abroad have suddenly and greatly increased, preventing us, I regret to say, from putting our whole energy into the working of our American business, which in turn hindered us from gaining complete satisfaction, not only from the Great Northern Railway Company, but also from the people of the United States; and I feel sincerely sorry that as regards the object of Mr. Blabon's mission we have not been able to entirely meet the views conveyed by him as we should have wished. However, as the Great Northern Railway Company are sparing no effort in the development of our trade since opening the line, for which we are very grateful, and upon which we place our great reliance, we shall also gradually further our efforts, and I sincerely

expect that there will soon be a time when we shall mutually share good results through the development of the trade. The present visit to this country of Mr. Blabon is one that we had always hoped for, and has enabled us to go fully into all the business details of importance. It is also most satisfactory that Mr. Blabon has personally seen the real state of our Company as well as that of Japan's finances at the present juncture, and I trust that his present visit will be productive of great effects upon the trade of the U.S. of America and Japan, not to mention increasingly improved relations between the G.N.R. Co. and the N.Y.K. The inauguration of our American service having taken place during H.E. Mr. Dun's residence in this country as United States Minister, I have now the great pleasure in communicating to His Excellency the results so far obtained by the said line on the eve of His Excellency's return to his country. Mr. Dun has been a resident in this country for the last 25 years, during which time he has ever been attentive to the maintenance of the warm relations between the two countries, and the fact of our having opened the American line being one that will tend to bring about such results, I trust it has given much satisfaction to him. While we feel sincere regret at losing Mr. Dun from this country we are in great hopes that when he returns to the United States he will be so good as to diffuse amongst the American people a knowledge of the true state of this country, and also the real circumstances of the minds of our people in regard to the United States, so that the intercourse between the two countries will henceforth become more free and sympathetic even than hitherto. I must express my great regret in my not having been able to show Mr. Blabon a proper reciprocation of the courtesy and kindness, which our Mr. Iwanaga and his party had the fortune of meeting while in the United States last year. I now sincerely and respectfully hope that Mr. Dun and Mr. Blabon will ever preserve the best of health, and conclude by wishing both gentlemen a safe and expeditious voyage to their respective homes.

Mr. Dun, who, on rising to respond, was received with loud cheers, said:—

MR. PRESIDENT, YOUR EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN.—Your great kindness in drinking my health has taken me somewhat by surprise. Owing to my absence from Tokyo, I failed to receive Mr. Kondo's kind invitation until this morning, and it did not occur to me even then that I should be called upon to speak this evening. I am, therefore, quite unprepared, and unfortunately preparation is most essential to one so deficient as I am in the faculty of after-dinner speaking. For your sakes, therefore, I shall limit myself to a few very brief remarks. I need scarcely say how much I feel, and how fully I appreciate, your goodness. It is in accord with all my experiences during my lengthy residence in Japan, to which Mr. Kondo has alluded, and concerning which I can assure him that it has been the happiest epoch of my life. I have heard, with much satisfaction, Mr. Kondo's description of the relations established between the great steamship company of which he is President and the Great Northern Railway Company, represented here this evening by Mr. Blabon. Nothing would please me better than to be able to preach upon such a text, but the technicalities of railway and steamship management are matters with which I can not claim any familiarity, and I have no doubt that Mr. Blabon will tell you all that is necessary. I should like to say, however, that in so far as the connexion between the two companies tends to promote closer relations between Japan and the United States, it is a matter of sincere congratulation and from that point of view I trust that Mr. Kondo's predictions of success will be more than justified by results. You have asked me, Mr. President, to contribute, as far as lies within my power, to a wider and better understanding of the kindly sentiments entertained towards my countrymen by the people of Japan. That is a task to which I shall devote myself with the utmost heartiness, for I have seen many evidences of those sentiments during my residence in Japan, and I can speak as one that knows. I thank you again very sincerely for the honour that you have paid me.

Mr. Blabon said:—

MR. PRESIDENT, YOUR EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN.—Permit me to thank you for the very kind manner in which you have drunk my health, and for the terms in which it was proposed. Mr. Kondo has been good enough to express regret that circumstances have prevented him from showing me all the attention and hospitality he could have wished. Well, I do not know by what standard these things are measured in Japan, but I do know that I have lived in a

perfect shower of hospitalities during my stay here. Entertainment has succeeded entertainment, and attention been heaped upon attention, so that, although I had heard a great deal about Japanese courtesy before I came to the East, the reality has far surpassed any expectation I might have founded on report. I am sorry that my stay has been so short, for I should have liked to look around a little more and examine the many subjects of interest that present themselves here. But I have seen enough to show me that you are an industrious people, an enterprising people, and a self-reliant people. I think I have seen, too, that while you are ready to adopt whatever good things foreign nations have to offer, you do not take any one country for your model. You do not propose to be a second Germany, or a second England, or a second United States. Your ambition is to go beyond any of these in your own way, and I think you are right to entertain independent hope of that kind. I should like it to be clearly understood that I did not come out here to make any investigations, or to carry an any scrutiny. It is true that the Company of which I am a humble official does not want to be associated with any failures. Had it not been well assured that no danger of that kind need be apprehended, it would not have entered into the association which this pleasant meeting helps to cement. We knew that we were dealing with the strongest shipping company in the Far East, and we were quite satisfied that the results would be good. So I did not come here to spy out the land. I came here simply to convey to you the good wishes of the Great Northern Railway Company. President Hill and the Directors thought that some such means should be adopted to show their appreciation of the connexion. It is true that I have made various business propositions to Mr. Kondo, and that he has made various propositions to me, and it is true that we have not entirely agreed upon every point. Mr. Kondo has his own standpoint for looking at things, and I do not by any means say that he is not right. At any rate I have learned a good deal from him. But what I want to make plain is that matters of that kind were not the purpose of my coming. I am here to convey to you an expression of the pleasure that our Company feels in the connexion with yours, and I beg you to accept my assurances on that point. At the same time, from what I have seen during my brief stay, I have formed an impression very different from the crude ideas that I had of Japan before I left the United States, and I carry away a strong conviction that you are going to succeed in what you undertake, not merely because you have succeeded thus far, but because, if I may be allowed to say so, you have the elements that ensure success. I only wish that I could see similar energy and enterprise exercised in the cause of my own country's trade in Japan, but I am bound to say that there appears to be great room for improvement in that field. I thank you again for your kind hospitality, not only on my own account, but also on behalf of the Company that I represent.

HIGHER COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

The graduating exercises of the Higher Commercial School took place in the Lecture Hall of the above institution last Tuesday and eighty-four students were graduated. In the course of the Director's address he drew the attention of the audience to a life-size portrait of Mr. Shibasawa Eiichi that hung upon the wall, which had been "unveiled," so to speak, on that day in commemoration of that gentleman's constant and earnest interest in behalf of the institution ever since its foundation in the 8th year of *Meiji*. Mr. Shibasawa, at the close of his usually fluent and interesting address, in a few apt words, said that he would feel reluctant to have such an honour done to him personally but would accept it most gratefully on behalf of the cause of commercial education in Japan. Mr. Masuda Takashi then made an instructive address, in the course of which he said that he regretted the almost universal desire of the graduates of the institution to go either to Europe or America, for in his opinion China was, from more than one consideration, the field of operation for Japanese traders. The Minister of Education, Marquis Hachisuka, also read an address. Addresses were expected from Count Okuma, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Takashima Kayemon, but both gentlemen were unavoidably prevented from taking part in the

exercises. The guests present were Marquis Kuga, Mayor of Tokyo, H.E. K. Tsuzuki, Vice-Minister of Education; President A. Hamano, and several professors of the Imperial University; Mr. R. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; Mr. S. Takata, Director of the Bureau of Commerce; President Sameshima, of the Naval Academy; President Harada of To-yama Gakko, and others.

SILK FROM CHINA.

Japan has hitherto received a very considerable amount of imports from foreign countries, but she had to a very small extent supplied her market with commodities from China. Before the war with the Celestial Empire the public scarcely knew anything of the import trade of Japan with China. After the war, however, things began to present a different aspect. The import of silk textiles from China suddenly and considerably increased. The following table shows the amount of silk imported from China at various ports of Japan, during the past two years:—

IMPORTED AT KOBE.				
	28th year, 1895.		29th year, 1896.	
	Tan.	Value, Yen.	Tan.	Value, Yen.
Crépe	2,824...	20,118...	7,932...	50,662
Pongees	26,384...	59,350...	56,666...	130,638
Satin	2,077...	49,202...	4,089...	79,668
Silk Damasks ...	1,748...	22,825...	2,293...	21,402
IMPORTED AT YOKOHAMA.				
Crépe	54...	551...	101...	1,254
Pongees	4,070...	11,954...	5,795...	18,543
Satin	1,298...	27,083...	1,877...	42,219
Aya	997...	1,167...	1,800...	1,598

IMPORTED AT NAGASAKI.			
Crépe.....	2,100...	20,962...	2,635... 28,932
Pongees.....	1,902...	5,571...	4,245... 15,331
Satin	2,997...	63,063...	4,444... 101,899
Aya	1,002...	4,514...	4,164... 11,124

Comparing the figures for the 28th or 29th year with the quantity imported in the 26th or 27th years of Meiji, it will be found that the trade has more than trebled, and the import for this year is supposed to have increased to a still greater amount.

With regard to this steady increase in the import of Chinese fabrics, it is alleged that the durability and delicacy of the goods, as well as their comparatively low cost, are among the chief causes of their popularity.

THE GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE AND THE TRAIN ROBBERS.

It turns out that the detailed accounts published by the vernacular press and reproduced in these columns with reference to a robbery of which Major von Treutler was said to be one of the victims, while en route by train from Tokyo to Kyoto, was made out of the whitest of whole cloth. Nothing of the kind occurred. The through journey was performed without mishap of any kind, so far as Major von Treutler was concerned. It is a quaint instance of the tales manufactured from time to time by newspaper reporters. Somebody else may have been robbed, perhaps, but even on that point we are now doubtful.

JAPANESE IN KOREA.

According to investigations completed at the end of May, Japanese residents in Seoul, says the *Nichi Nichi*, numbered 2,003, of whom 1,191 were males and 812 females, constituting altogether 482 families. These figures show an increase of 67 in population and 8 in families, as compared with the previous month. The Japanese population in Inchon aggregated 4,026, with 2,410 males and 1,616 females, in 748 families; showing an increase of 16 in population but a decrease of one family as compared with the previous month. Wonsan contains 4,034 Japanese, including 917 men and 517 women, constituting 318 families. The Japanese population had increased in this town by 48 (five families) as compared with the previous month.

JAPANESE SHIPS OF THE LINE.

The following table gives the names and tonnages of the war-vessels of Japan, their armaments and the year in which they were launched:—

	Tonnage.	Guns.	When launched.
<i>Fuji</i> (battleship) steel.....	12,649	38	1896
<i>Yashima</i> do do	12,517	38	1896
<i>Chinyen</i> * do do	7,335	20	1881
<i>Itsukushima</i> (coast defence) steel	4,278	33	1889
<i>Matsushima</i> (coast defence) steel	4,278	30	1890
<i>Hashidate</i> (coast defence) steel	4,278	31	1891
<i>Takasago</i> (cruiser) steel.....	4,227	30	1897
<i>Yoshino</i> do do	4,216	36	1892
<i>Pusô</i> (ironclad corvette) steel	3,777	26	1877
<i>Naniwa</i> (cruiser) steel.....	3,709	24	1885
<i>Takachiho</i> do do	3,709	24	1885
<i>Akitsusu</i> do do	3,150	23	1892
<i>Isumi</i> do do	2,967	22	1883
<i>Suma</i> do do	2,700	24	1895
<i>Chiyoda</i> (steel clad cruiser)	2,439	27	1890
<i>Saiyû</i> * (cruiser) steel	2,300	13	1883
<i>Kongô</i> (corvette) wood, with iron sheathing.....	2,284	17	1877
<i>Hiyei</i> , do do	2,284	19	1877
<i>Heiyen</i> * (gunboat) steel ...	2,100	15	1888
<i>Tsukuba</i> (corvette) wooden,	1,978	11	1871B
<i>Takao</i> (cruiser) steel frame armoured	1,777	16	1888
<i>Yayeyama</i> (despatch boat) steel	1,609	11	1889
<i>Tenryû</i> (sloop) wood	1,547	12	1883
<i>Katsuragi</i> (sloop) iron and wood	1,502	17	1885
<i>Yamato</i> (sloop) do.....	1,502	14	1885
<i>Musashi</i> (sloop) do.....	1,602	14	1886
<i>Tsukushi</i> (cruiser) steel.....	1,372	13	1883B
<i>Kaimon</i> (sloop) wood	1,367	13	1882
<i>Amaki</i> (sloop) wood	926	13	1877
<i>Tatsuta</i> (torpedo gunboat) steel	864	6	1894
<i>Iwaki</i> (gunboat) wood	667	6	1878
<i>Oshima</i> (gunboat) steel.....	640	10	1891
<i>Maya</i> (gunboat) iron.....	622	6	1886
<i>Atago</i> (gunboat) steel and iron	622	4	1887
<i>Chokai</i> (gunboat) iron	622	4	1887
<i>Akagi</i> (gunboat) wood	622	10	1888
<i>Soko</i> * (gunboat) wood	610	5	1865
<i>Chinto</i> * (gunboat) steel.....	440	7	1879
<i>Chinsai</i> * (gunboat) steel ...	440	7	1883
<i>Chinhoku</i> * (gunboat) steel.....	440	7	1879
<i>Chinpen</i> * (gunboat) steel	440	7	1881
<i>Chinchu</i> * (gunboat) steel.....	440	9	1881
<i>Hosho</i> (gunboat) wood	321	5	1871
<i>Kaikyo</i> * wood	1,450	—	—

Vessels now building are:—

Name.	Tonnage.	Guns.
<i>Shikishima</i> (battleship) steel	15,037	50
<i>Kasagi</i> (cruiser) steel	4,978	30
<i>Chitose</i> (cruiser) steel	4,836	30
<i>Akashi</i> (cruiser) steel	2,800	24
<i>Miyako</i> (despatch boat) steel	1,800	12

The *Akashi* and *Miyako* are to be launched this year. The other three vessels will be completed by the 32nd year of Meiji (1899). The *Shikishima* will be the largest battleship in the world. Besides the vessels enumerated above, there are torpedo-boats running from No. 1 to No. 29—with the exception of Nos. 16 and 22, the former having sunk off the coast of the Pescadores in 1895, and the latter having been destroyed at the time of a night attack on Weihai-wei. The number of vessels that have sunk or fallen into disuse is twenty-six in all.

* These were captured from China during the war. The *Kaikyo* is a vessel captured near Port Arthur. It is pretty old and is now undergoing repairs and re-armament.

COLLISION IN THE HARBOUR.

Shortly after the steamship *China*, Captain Seabury, had arrived at her moorings on Monday afternoon, the *Hakata Maru*, Captain Nivison, entered the harbour, and the fairway being blocked by men-of-war and merchant vessels, the only way for the *Hakata Maru* to pass in order to reach her moorings, was close under the stern of the *China*. In attempting this, with a strong flood tide setting in, she drifted against the *China's* stern, damaging her own port side slightly, from midships aft, and carrying away the *China's* stern railings and flag pole. When is the long talked of Harbour Master, or berthing officer, to be appointed?

SCHOOL OF THE MORNING STAR.

The annual ceremony of graduation and distributing prizes at the School of the Morning Star in Tokyo took place on the afternoon of the 7th instant. These affairs seem to assume greater importance year by year in the capital. Not merely the precincts of the school but also the vicinity presented a most busy scene on Wednesday, crowds of visitors attending from all parts of the city, as well as from Yokohama. The new buildings of the School, which are of spacious dimensions and excellent plan, were available for the occasion; a fortunate conjuncture, for even the large gymnasium in which the ceremony was held, barely sufficed to accommodate the throng of visitors, and assuredly the old school-room would have been quite inadequate. The buildings have not yet been ceiled or freed from scaffolding, and their interiors are still in a rough state, but the Director acted wisely in utilizing them for Wednesday's purposes. Sa Grandeur Mgr. Archbishop Osonf presided. The exercises performed by the students—of which we append the programme—evinced even more than the usual degree of industry and zeal on the part of the lads, and patience and high capacity for imparting instruction on the part of their teachers.

PROGRAMME.

Chœur d'Ouverture : *Que tout s'anime !*
Rogueries of Scapin, (Adapted from Molière).
Characters:—
Gérondo..... D. Ailion.
Leander..... R. Meiklejohn.
Uncle Tom..... S. Yamaguchi.
Scapin..... K. von Fallot.
Karl..... K. Thompson.
Les joyeux bandits. (Symphonie par F. von Suppé). Orchestre de l'Ecole.
Extraits du Cid. (P. Corneille).
Personnages:—
Don Diègue..... A. Jourdan.
Comte de Gormas..... M. Tsuchiya.
Don Rodrigue..... K. von Fallot.
Don Arias..... J. Gray.
Le Convoi du Rossignol. (Romance par Ch. Gounod). P. Harmand.
Die Raizenichen. (X. * * * *).
Personen:—
Dahlman..... I. Jesselsen.
Gimrod..... Cr. Esdale.
Der Mirth..... R. Baillod.
La Fille du Régiment, (Solo de violon par Donizetti). L. Rischow.
Ninjabakama. (Un "hakama" pour deux).
Takasago Hyôe..... Hong-Chow.
Umanosuke..... Y. Okuno.
Sumiyoshi Saemon..... Y. Kawamoro.
Dontarô..... J. Watanabe.
Valse de Faust. (Ch. Gounod)... { D. Ailion.
Le Lièvre et la Tortue. (W. Moreau)... Chœur.
Distribution des Prix.

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

Kobe papers print the following letter that Mr. J. C. Hall, H.B.M.'s Consul, has received in acknowledgement of the subscriptions sent from Kobe for the Indian Famine Relief Fund:—

Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund,
Royal Exchange Building, Calcutta.
27th May, 1897.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 29th April last received to-day. On behalf of my Committee and myself, and the famine stricken people of India, I tender our most grateful thanks to your subscribers, and though in these cases it is invidious to make any distinctions, I hope I may be allowed to thank specially those of Japanese nationality. Their sympathy and generosity has been deeply appreciated.

I have the honour to remain

Yours very faithfully,

FRANCIS W. MACLEAN,
Chairman,
Central Executive Committee.

RELIGIOUS FUTURE OF JAPAN.

MR. ARTHUR MAY KNAPP, in his recently published work, "Feudal and Modern Japan," expresses the opinion that the Japanese nation will never be converted to Christianity. The *Japan Times* endorses the prediction. The Rev. E. SNODGRASS disputes it. Mr SNODGRASS wants to know the reason why. So do we. So does everybody. Why should there be anything inherently impossible, or even improbable, in the idea of Japan's becoming Christianized? Mr. KNAPP and the *Japan Times* make the very suggestive assertion that "religiously and politically Japan will remain the unconquered Island Realm." If that statement is to be interpreted according to the rules of ordinary intelligence, it drags the question into the dust: it announces the victory of national prejudice over the forces of reason. We do not suppose that Japan's honour is concerned in upholding the cause of error. We do not imagine that she expects a crown of glory for clinging to her own creed without regard to its superiority or inferiority. Political independence is a very fine thing, but moral independence is a much finer, and moral independence does not signify slavish obedience to a form of faith merely because it is national. There are no distinctions of race where truth is concerned. If the truth is embodied in Christian doctrine, Christian doctrine will win the day. It would be a rational contention to deny that Christianity has any moral advantages over Buddhism or *Shinto*, and to take pride in its rejection by the Japanese from that point of view. But to sing a psalm because Christianity, being an alien creed, is kept at arm's length, is as rational as it would be to take pride in living in a wooden house because one's ancestors were unacquainted with the building uses of brick or stone. We do not intend to speak of Buddhism or *Shinto* as a false faith. We do not intend to institute any comparison whatever between the creeds in question. What we insist on is that racial prejudice, not reason, dictates the assertion, "religiously and politically Japan will remain the unconquered Island Realm," and racial prejudice is as much out of place in the field of moral philosophy as charcoal would be in a loaf of bread. Besides, it is historically false to say that Japan is religiously an unconquered realm, unless, indeed, the title "religion" be denied to Buddhism. Japan was "conquered" by Buddhism twelve centuries ago; conquered by an alien creed. It is true that RYOBEN, GYOGI, SAICHO, KUKAI and other propagandists of Buddhism paid Japan the compliment of adopting their doctrine to her traditions. They preached the identity of the tutelary deities and the Buddhist god, describing the former as successive manifestations of the latter. That facilitated matters per-

ceptibly, and very possibly formulators of the prophecy that Christianity must be re-modelled in order to suit the genius of Japan, may find a warrant for their contention in the eclecticism displayed by great teachers like DENGYO-DAISHI and KOBO-DAISHI in the ninth century. Still there is no getting over the fact that Buddhism invaded and conquered Japan, and that the creed which now holds the national fortress against the assaults of Christianity is no more indigenous than the doctrine of the Nazarene. Why, then, should not Japan receive the tenets of CHRIST as readily as she received those of TATHAGATA? The acceptance of the latter subjected her nationalism to a strain incomparably greater than that to which the acceptance of the former would subject it. At the time when the first image of AMIDA and the first *sutra* came to Japan, the nation worshipped only the terrestrial and celestial divinities, and, regarding the *Tenshi* as their incarnation, held him in supreme reverence. But the new creed imported from Korea taught that BUDDHA was the one supreme being, and that even the *Tenshi* must pay him homage. That was a complete subversal of the traditional cult. If ever patriotism should have been enlisted against an alien religion, that was the time. Patriotism, however, remained indifferent to the threatened invasion; a plague of boils proved a much more potent "defender of the faith." Christianity demands no sacrifice of any national sentiment. One of its mandates is "Fear GOD, honour the KING." There is a record that when the Emperor KIMMEI consulted his prime minister about the propriety of opening the doors to Buddhism, SOGA-NO-NAME replied that, since all nations in the West worshipped TATHAGATA, there seemed to be no reason why Japan should reject the doctrine. To-day we are told, in effect, that since Christianity is the creed of all Western nations, Japan must reject it. The spirit of enlightened liberalism has not grown, apparently, since the year 555 A.D. No one living in the times of OTA NOBUNAGA and KONISHI YUKINAGA could have pretended to think that Japan would never be converted to Christianity. On the contrary, every intelligent observer must have admitted that there was an imminent prospect of the Christianization of the whole people. Has Christian doctrine become tainted since that time? Has it lost anything of the truth that then made it powerful? Or have the Japanese themselves changed? They were persecuted, indeed. Many of them died the martyr's death. Many of them lost their worldly possessions. Many were condemned to misery or exile. But to have vindicated truth by suffering for it has never begotten bigotry in error. We can not believe that because the Japanese of the seventeenth century were driven, at the point of the sword, to trample on the Cross, they

developed a hereditary desire to set their feet on the sacred symbol. Neither can we believe that the "Bateren" prejudice, which grew out of the blunders of Christian propagandists and out of the real or pretended association of politics with religion, blinds the eyes of modern Japanese. Why, then, we repeat, should there be anything inherently impossible, or even improbable, in the Christianization of Japan? One of the latest teachings of wisdom is embodied in the saying that the nearer a man believes himself to the truth, the farther he is from it. The moral attitude of all should be one of frank inquiry. Japan has not reached the goal. She can not retire into a shell of self-complacency, and close her ears to the echoes of the great controversy in which all the intellectual earnestness of the civilized world is engaged. It is either pitiable bigotry or a most insulting libel to say that this country in beyond the reach of any religious influence coming from without.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

We now fulfil the promise made in our last summary respecting Mr. Sakamoto Seitoku's *Shinkyō Tetsugaku*. There have been many attempts to revive Shintō during the Meiji era. This of Mr. Sakamoto and his fellow-thinkers is not only the latest but the most philosophical. The author of the treatise under consideration fully realises that if a religion is to hold its own in the last decade of the nineteenth century, it must be capable of being stated in terms sufficiently rational to invite the respect of intellectual men. That Mr. Sakamoto contends is the case with Shintō, properly understood and interpreted. But we will allow our readers to judge for themselves by placing before them the chief ideas insisted on in the monograph. There are three things essential to the prosperity of a nation: (1) Morality; (2) Industrial and commercial activity; (3) Naval and Military power. In the two last Japan is making rapid progress, but in the first, the most important of all, she is gravely deficient in these modern days. Buddhism and Confucianism, both of which in former times contributed largely to moral enlightenment, have become corrupt and have lost their influence over men's minds. Christianity has elements which are anti-national and its doctrines are by no means of a class to commend themselves to our minds. As for Shintō, as hitherto understood, it would not be true to say that it is of a character to exercise adequate control over men's lives. The Shintō of our sacred books, according to which Japan is the chosen country of the gods and her people are the objects of their care, is little known. That learned men who are versed in our national history should turn atheists is utterly astounding. It can only be accounted for by considering how neglectful Shintoists have been in expounding the doctrines of their religion. With a view to remedying this defect, it is proposed to found a new Society to be called the 大覺神教協會 *Taigaku-Shinkyō Kyōkai** (An association for the attainment of a thorough knowledge of Shintō). To this body should be entrusted the task of compiling books on practical morality designed for popular use. The doctrines which it is important to teach by means of these books may be stated as follows:—(1) The universe is without beginning and without end and extends through all space. In it there is one supreme god only:—Ame-no-mi-nakanushi-no-kami,

* The terms 大覺 and 神教 are used by Shintoists, the first as the equivalent of a thorough knowledge, and the second as the equivalent of partial knowledge, of the religion.

(*Kami no Tet to wa ni (=) ni shite itsu; itsu ni shite ni (=)*). The attributes of this God are intelligence, valour and love (智 *chi*, 勇 *yū*, 愛 *ai*). (2) By means of his spirit (靈 *rei*) and vital energy (氣 *ki*) the god Takami-musubi and the goddess Kammi-musubi were created. These forming a trinity in unity and unity in trinity. From these gods came a variety of other deities and the parents of the human race, Izanagi and Izanami. Man's spirit was derived from God's spirit and hence is immortal. His body was made by means of God's vital energy, but did not receive a sufficient quantity of it to be capable of existing for ever. This original nature was neither good nor bad. The union of spirit with flesh has given rise to a number of feelings, which contend with each other for supremacy in man's heart. (4) Man's duty lies in cultivating the three divine virtues, intelligence, love, and courage. Derived from these are the seven virtues loyalty, filial piety, chastity, obedience to elder brothers, sincerity, truth in friendship, kind feeling (仁), and compassion for the unfortunate (*Megumi*). (5) The path of happiness is the path of virtue. (6) The lot of each man is settled by the gods. There is a law of cause and effect extending over two worlds, this one and the next. (7) By repentance even the greatest criminals may merit God's favour and forgiveness. (8) The actions of men are closely observed by the gods and rewards and punishments are meted out.

So far Mr. Sakamoto. Some of our readers will no doubt be aware that the system which is proposed as the basis of Twentieth Century Shinto is composed of elements by no means new. Not a few Japanese authorities are of opinion that the Shintō Cosmogony has been borrowed from China as well as its system of ethics. The very name Shintō (神道) is derived from the Chinese Classic called *易* *Yeki*, and to the same source may be traced the chief features of the account of creation furnished by Shintō authorities. Mr. Sakamoto's seven virtues are of Confucian origin, his doctrine of cause and effect (因果 *in-gwa*) comes from Buddhism, and his Trinity in Unity from Christianity. Hence Mr. Sakamoto's proposed system of Philosophical religion is essentially eclectic, and as such, if the history of similar attempts is to be a guide, cannot succeed.

In a report of a conference held at the Shokubutsu-en, Koishikawa, on April 21st, published in the *Nihon Shūkyō*, a curious fact is recorded bearing on the preparation of the translation of the *Yeki* 易 for exhibition at the Chicago World's Fair by Mr. Zumoto (of the *Tokyo Times*), and Mr. Sugiura. As is well known, the greatest living Japanese authority on the meaning of the *Yeki* 易 is Mr. Takashima Kayemon. Some four or five years ago, while staying at Ikao, Mr. Takashima became acquainted with a shampooer who had a most remarkable memory, whom he taught to repeat by heart the whole of *Yeki* 易 together with explanations of the difficult passages. Of that shampooer Mr. Zumoto made use in preparing his translation, thus obtaining an explanation of the meaning of obscure passages.

The *Nihon Shūkyō* publishes an article from a writer signing himself 東根, Tōkon, which discusses the contest now going on between Individualism, Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism. Nationalism has some very strong supporters. Not only is it advocated by magazines like the *Nihon-jin*, but it receives the support of scholars like Dr. Inouye Tetsujiro, Dr. Motora Yūjiro, Messrs. Yumoto Takehiko and Kimura Takatarō; and the Buddhists and Shintoists naturally favour the principle on religious grounds. In addition to this there is no doubt that the administration of the Mombushō under the late Viscount Inouye was intensely pro-national, the effects of which are still visible in various quarters. Tōkon is of opinion that neither Cosmopolitanism nor Individualism has much chance of asserting itself in this country. But there are journals like the

Rikugō Zasshi and the *Shūkyō* which maintain that the three principles are by no means irreconcilable and that it is desirable that they should modify each other.

In an article entitled *Dotoku-kai no Kinjō*, "The present state of the moral world," the *Tōyō-tetsugaku* observes that there is no doubt that the methods of teaching morality pursued by Shintoists, Confucianists and Buddhists are quite inefficient and out of date, and as for Christianity, its influence is not felt. There is no denying that men's minds have undergone great changes, and what is needed is moral teaching to suit the age; teaching that recognises and embodies the new ideas that have been adopted from the West. What we wish to recommend to religious teachers, says this organ, is more discernment in dealing with things as they actually exist. To attempt to get rid of many things that exist in the world is a fruitless task. The only course open to would-be reformers is to regulate and modify. It is customary to hear preachers denouncing riches, worldly power and reputation, the devouring of the weak by the strong (弱肉強食 *jakuniku-kyōshoku*), and warfare generally. But it is plain that, constituted as the world now is, these things are bound to exist, and hence the diminution of the evils incidental to them is all that can be accomplished.

The *Tōyō Tetsugaku* can see no good in the conferences between representatives of different religions that are taking place. For the sake of being friendly the discussion of points of difference is kept in abeyance, and hence nothing of permanent value is accomplished. That, we believe, is the opinion of a large number of Christian missionaries.

Under the heading of *Bukkyō-Kai no hyōsetsu Gakusha* (Buddhist thieving Scholars) the *Tōyō tetsugaku* accuses prominent Buddhists of the most flagrant plagiarism. It gives an instance of the publication of no less than ten volumes reprinted without any change from the works of various authors.

The *Shinri* has articles on "Meditation": "Do Christians know the position they now occupy?" (By the Rev. R. Minami); "Brahmanism" by Dr. Christlieb; "Do all living beings come from the same origin?" by the Rev. Heinrich Ritter. Mr. Minami takes a somewhat gloomy view of the position occupied by Christianity at the present day. The following is the gist of his remarks. Christians are far too apt to be lost in the contemplation of heavenly delights and to fail to realise the situation of things around them. No one well versed in the course of events during the past five or six years can deny that Christianity has lost ground. The nationalism encouraged by such leading scholars as Dr. Inouye Tetsujiro has done it very much harm. Dr. Inouye's book on the antagonism between the principles of Christianity and the principles which it is essential to insist on in Japanese education is read and discussed by school teachers and others throughout the length and breadth of the land. In former times, Christian schools were very numerous and no doubt exercised wide influence over the minds of the rising generation, but now Government schools have in most cases taken their place and these are anti-Christian. There are those that recommend combination with Shintō as a remedy for the present situation of affairs. But that is absurd. No union between two creeds is possible. The origin, history, and doctrines are all different. Christianity must be made to flourish on its own merits. In late years too much attention has been given to preaching and too little to education. In my opinion the most urgent duty to be undertaken is the opening of a number of elementary and middle schools where a religious as well as a secular education shall be imparted. Then more

* The full rendering would be *Yowai mono no niku wa tsuyoi mono no shokumotsu to naru*. We commend this term to the consideration of those who wonder why the Japanese are averse to the abandonment of Chinese ideographs.

should be done in the line of charity. The efforts hitherto made in that direction have been fitful and lacking in organisation. What is wanted is a system of charity that can be applied regularly and that can give relief to a great variety of sufferers.

The *Rikugōzasshi*, writing on the subject discussed above, says that Christians make a mistake in showing indifference to politics: the way to influence the thought and action of the nation is to take part in all public business. Christianity needs to identify itself more with Japanese national life. Christian ideas are to a large extent western ideas, and the progress of Western Civilisation and Christianity go hand in hand. Christians are as a rule versed in foreign ways, and hence, if they exert themselves, may play an important part in bringing foreigners and Japanese closer to each other. Intercourse between our people and foreigners ought to be rendered easy by the efforts of Japanese Christians.

The *Shūkyō* shows no signs of dearth of matter from month to month. In the number before us a great variety of subjects are discussed, all more or less connected with religion. There are articles on "Religion and the Spirit of the Time"; "Social Problems"; *Shintō*; "Mr. Murakami Senjō and the Otani Sect"; The attitude of school authorities to religion, and many others. On the last subject, the writer maintains that education without religion is a mistake, that there is no real opposition between the objects aimed at by education and those kept in view by the religious teacher. It is only a certain class of religious teaching that is opposed to the principles of educators in Japan. The majority of school teachers are ignorant as to what true religion consists of. It is the province of religion to furnish an ideal to education. Though there has been considerable discussion as to what is the ultimate object of man's existence, to me it appears plain, says the writer we are quoting, that man is destined to grow more and more perfect as time goes on till he becomes God-like. Those that have an ideal ever before them which they are striving to reach can afford to think lightly of the things of the world. That the youth of this country are being educated without a knowledge of such an ideal life is certainly a great calamity.

The new magazine, mentioned in a former summary, called the *Nihon Shugi*, is the organ of a small clique of scholars who aim at a revival of Shintō. Among them Dr. Inouye Tetsujiro, Dr. Motora Yūjiro, Messrs. Yumoto Takehiko, Kimura Takatarō, and Takenouchi Nanzō are the chief. They have formed an Association called the 大日本協會 *Dai Nihon Kyōkai*, and the above named magazine is an organ of the Society. The contention of these scholarly conservatives is that Japan is in danger of losing her nationality by wholesale borrowing from foreign countries; that an attempt must be made to exercise a strong influence on the sentiments of the masses, and that the best way to do that is to revive the worship of Japan's ancient gods. We cannot say that we follow the enunciation of principles published in the first number of the *Nihon Shugi*. In one sentence we are told that the members of the Nihon Kyōkai object to their body being called a religious body, as the term religion is associated with superstition (迷信); in another that they intend to encourage the worship of the national gods, who, as no doubt Dr. Inouye would admit, are no other than deified men. But we forbear from discussing these points and content ourselves with stating briefly the alleged objects of the new movement. The following heads are taken from the *Nihon Shugi*:—(1) The worship of the ancestors of the nation (*Kokuso wo sōhai su*). (2) 光明 *Kōmei wo mune to su*. The aim of the Association will in all things be publicity, openness, activity, enlightenment. (3) They will make much of this human life of ours and of its perpetuation and will discourage asceticism. (4)

They will endeavour to obtain the most perfect mental development attainable. (5) They will aim at purity and cleanliness of every kind. (6) The life of Society will occupy an important place in their thoughts. (7) National Consolidation will be one of their great objects. (8) Military power and skill will be held in honour. (9) They will endeavour to promote the cause of peace in every part of the world. (10) They will encourage friendliness of sentiment towards all men. Some writers complain, not without cause, of the vagueness of the above programme. In another part of the magazine we are informed that Christian morality is considered to be denationalising in tendency and hence must be rejected; that Buddhism encourages indifference to the things of this life and absorption of the attention on the future life, and consequently is injurious to the nation; and that Confucianism is altogether out of harmony with the spirit of the age and therefore can lend no assistance to the cause espoused by the new set of reformers.

The following items are from the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*:—The President of the Meiji-gaku-in, the Rev. K. Ibuka, has gone to America to attend a great meeting of representatives of Young Men's Associations to be held in Northfield.

News from New York has been received announcing the arrival there of the famous Buddhist priest Shaku Kūen. As a traveller and investigator Mr. Shaku certainly has no equal in Japan. He is only 27 years of age, but has visited most of the great countries of the world. He went to India at the age of 15 and studied hard there for seven years. He then travelled through Afghanistan, Persia, Turkistan, Arabia, and various parts of Asia Minor; after visiting Palestine he went through Egypt, Turkey, Greece and subsequently traversed Italy, Russia, Austria, Germany, France, and England. The year before last, he set out on another tour, travelling through Mexico, Canada and America, and afterwards paying a second visit to Rome. He is now on his way home, but is engaged in certain religious investigations in New York.

Among students crime is on the increase. In Tōkyō alone, since the beginning of the year, more than 50 students have been arrested for theft. Suicides among this class are also becoming common. Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki has founded a society whose object it is to rescue students from a life of crime.

The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* quotes Viscount Tani on the subject of conformation to the rites and ceremonies of other countries. Viscount Tani is of opinion that Christians are wrong in attempting to introduce Western religious ceremonies in the place of time-honoured Japanese rites. He calls attention to the fact that M. Boissonade, though a devout Christian, invariably took part in Shintō and Buddhist ceremonies when attending funerals and other public services, and that members of various nationalities have to compromise in the matter of outward forms. The refusal to do so often leads to great national discord. The Turks refuse to remove their turbans in deference to Russian custom, but it is said that a certain Chinese diplomat recognised the principle that when in Rome you must do as Rome does, and consented to do what in his own country would be considered humiliating. As long as the essentials of religion are retained, says Viscount Tani, liberty to leave national rites and ceremonies unchanged should be claimed by Japanese Christians.

The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* perceives a worldly element in the various social schemes which have of late been set on foot by Christians. The essence of religion, says this organ, consists in the worship of God, in prayer and praise, and not in conducting bazaars, starting musical societies, or even in founding reformatories. The various works in which Christians are engaged, though their objects may be worthy, may, and often do, tend to divert the mind from those more spiritual duties on the performance

of which the development of their religious faculties depends.

We read in the *Seikyō Shimpō* that the Archbishop of Jerusalem has sent an image of Christ rising from the dead and certain relics to the Japanese Greek Church, the significance of which was explained in detail by Bishop Nicolai on the occasion of their first exhibition to the public. Portions of the wood of which the image is made were said to be taken from the remains of the wooden Church erected on the site of Christ's sepulchre many centuries ago. Bishop Nicolai observed that the Greek Church established in Jerusalem was to be regarded as the mother of the Japanese Greek Church, and that it was desirable that the closeness of their relationship should be recognised by Japanese converts. With a view of furthering that aim, the presents exhibited had been forwarded.

The *Bukkyō* pens some very severe strictures on the character of Buddhist priests in general. One thing it says is that the term priest may be regarded as a pronoun for the word fool—(*Sōryo wa baka no daimetishi to serare*). The charges brought are by no means new. Stated briefly, they amount to accusations of money-worship, place-worship, and general sycophancy. According to this authority, all that remains of Buddhism is its literature. Buddhists, in the true sense of the term, there are none. One great reason for the comparative success of Christianity in this country, says the *Bukkyō*, is the prominence given to the doctrine of the equality of all men—a doctrine that in Europe and America is carried into practice in a thousand ways. The poor are helped because they as human beings have equal claims on the Church with the rich. High and low, rich and poor are all alike to the heralds of the Cross. That is a doctrine which Buddhists sadly need to learn at the present time.

Foreigners interested in Japanese Buddhism will be glad to learn that at last the long promised Buddhist Encyclopedia, called the *Bukkyō Iroha Jiten*, has made its appearance. It covers 1,500 pages, contains one million ideographs, is published in 4 volumes, and sells at 2 yen 50 sen at the Keisei Shoin, Yoshinomachi, Asakusa, Tōkyō. The compiler is Mr. Wakahara Keikei and the revisor Dr. Nanjō, the famous Buddhist scholar. It contains biographies of all noted Japanese Buddhists, histories of the establishment of temples, sects, &c., explanations of obscure terms, Chinese and Sanscrit, and a great variety of other useful information.

The Shintō organ, the *Pui-itsu*, is very jubilant over the enterprise in which Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō and others have embarked—the revivification of Shintō by injections of philosophic elixir. The one thing that Shintō has lacked, says this organ, is a philosophy, and now we find a number of scholars, attracted by the solidity of the body known as Shintō, coming forward and undertaking to furnish it with a garment suited to the tastes of men in the last years of the nineteenth century. Hitherto Shintō has lived on from century to century without making any attempt to imitate Buddhism and Christianity in the adoption of attractive costumes or in assuming imposing attitudes, but she now makes this concession to the spirit of the age—she consents to clothe herself in philosophic dress!

Among Shintō sects the 實行教 *Yikō-Kyō*, of which Mr. Shibata Kei-ichi is the leading spirit, is by far the most liberally disposed towards alien religious bodies. In No. 55 of the magazine from which we have just quoted, mention is made of the umbrage caused among Shintoists generally by Mr. Shibata's overtures to Christian Ministers. The *Pui-itsu* defends the course adopted by Mr. Shibata, and adds that it ill-becomes earnest Shintoists to be slinging opprobrious epithets at Christians. The sect to which Mr. Shibata belongs dates from the closing days of the Ashi-

kaga Shogunate, when an earnest priest called Hasegawa Kakugyō, at the age of 18, felt so distressed at the civil strife and all its attendant evils under which the nation groaned, that he resolved to try what prayer and abstinence would do towards the deliverance of his fellow-countrymen from the miseries of their existence. He ascended Fuji-yama, entered the cave known as Hitoana, and there prayed that the land might be blessed with peace. Not long after, Japan's greatest hero, Hideyoshi Toyotomi, appeared, and the recluse lived to see his prayer answered. Since peace had been prayed for and peace had been granted, the sect which was founded by Hasegawa regarded it as its chief mission to preach peace to the world. Its object has ever been to pour oil on the turbulent waters of life, to promote concord between man and man, village and village and even between Japan and foreign countries. In fraternising with Christians at the Chicago Religious Conference, in extending the hand of friendship to men like Dr. Barrows, Mr. Shibata, says the *Pui-itsu*, is but acting up to the traditions of his sect, whose gospel is that of peace on earth and good-will toward men.

The great Daijingu festival held at Yamada, in Ise, which closed on May 18th, was attended by a vast concourse of people. The actual worshippers are stated to have numbered 250,000. Even the extra railway accommodation provided was not sufficient to meet the demand for seats. The takings of the tea-houses in the district are said to have exceeded the amount realised in three ordinary years.

The advice given to Christians by the *Seikai-no-nihon* is to make more use of lecturing and to publish better magazines than they now possess. There is a good deal of anti-foreign agitation going on among Buddhists and Shintoists. This can best be met by the establishment in Tōkyō of a thoroughly efficient lecturing society and the regular delivery in some large hall of Christian lectures.

The *Kokumin-no-tomo* observes that crimes of a thoroughly un-Japanese nature are largely on the increase, such as the murder of husbands by wives, parents by children, and the like. That is due to the general looseness of morality. The blow that science has dealt religion in this country, says this organ, is very serious. Religious doubt has resulted in an abandonment of the safe anchoring ground which in former times kept ships from going ashore. In proportion to the number of Buddhist and Shintō temples and the priests connected with them the moral results are lamentably poor. The following tables show the number of Shintō and Buddhist temples and priests, &c.

Year.	Shintō Temples.	Shintō Priests.
A.D. 1883	189,873	14,743
" 1885	192,176	14,670
" 1887	192,359	14,192
" 1889	193,291	14,665
" 1891	193,153	14,700
" 1893	193,430	14,751

Year.	Buddhist Temples (Tera).	Butsudō or Shrines.	Buddhist Priests.
A.D. 1883	72,017	32,194	56,803
" 1885	72,164	34,504	56,340
" 1887	71,988	35,334	56,280
" 1889	72,164	35,925	51,995
" 1891	71,859	35,959	52,511
" 1893	71,839	36,265	52,562

In addition to the above, there were in 1893 46 heads of sects, 143,375 instructors and 45,271 employes of various kinds. The maintenance of the foregoing, involves a large annual expenditure, for which the *Kokumin-no-tomo* maintains, there is no adequate return in the form of good received.

The *Kokumin-no-tomo* maintains that what passes as cosmopolitanism in this country is not the real article, but a clever counterfeit. To breadth of view and liberality of sentiment our contemporary has no objection, but to the scepticism to hide or excuse which cosmopolitan principles were professed by certain Japanese, it has a most decided aversion. The course of numerous young men is from ortho-

doxy to unitarianism and from unitarianism to secularism or atheism. There is nothing more injurious than the falsehood that resembles truth. Its speciousness causes it to retain a hold in the mind not possessed by errors that appear unmasked. The tendency on the part of professing Christians to join hands with Buddhists and Shintoists, to embark on a study of comparative religion, and the like, is not a healthy sign. It shows that religious zeal has cooled and that minds are seeking diversion outside the Christian church. That as an antidote to the intense nationalism displayed in some circles, the cause of cosmopolitanism should be championed is but right and proper, but the champions who have come to the front on this occasion are not working representatives of cosmopolitan principles as understood and practised in Western countries.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Whatever may be said in defence of protective tariffs, it is certain that they act like intoxicants: a nation that has once dosed itself with them finds that it can not overcome the habit. America makes an occasional break away from the pernicious system, but she comes back to it inevitably. She seems to be hopelessly pledged to the vicious principle that prosperity means the taxing of the many for the benefit of the few. The two great parties now stand on distinctly marked platforms: one is for high tariffs, the other for free silver on terms that represent a new and most perilous form of protection. Apparently the national mind has become imbued with protective doctrine. Of course the outcome of such a mood is socialism. From the theory that business should be protected against inconvenient competition by special artificial arrangements to the conviction that official power should be exercised in such a way as to make everybody happy and comfortable, the interval is not long. If the powers with which a Government is entrusted may be legitimately employed in the interests of producers, they must be legitimately employable in the interests of consumers also. The popular mind, slow to grasp great truths but sure to reach them in the long run, is plainly recognising that *sequitur*. And, of course, the recognition signifies socialism.

One of the Bryan Democratic organs writes in this quaint strain about President McKinley and Cuba:—"Apparently, he doesn't know whether a cyclone has struck Cuba, or whether the troubles of American citizens are caused by an earthquake or a tidal wave. But he admits that their condition is almost as bad as that of our own people will be as the result of the administrations of Cleveland and McKinley. Already in this country, where everything is peace, there are thousands of American citizens who are without work, food, or money. We know what has caused the trouble here, but what has caused it in Cuba? Mr. McKinley doesn't know. If he knew he would inform Congress and the country. But he's in the dark, and he doesn't want to commit himself to mere rumours. There has been, at odd moments, some talk of a war in Cuba. Mr. McKinley heard about it when he was in the West, but when he got to Washington, he met M. Dupeter De Lome, who informed him that the rumour of war in Cuba grew out of the fact that a warm bottle of sarsaparilla soda-water exploded in General Weyler's coat-tail pocket. The gist of Mr. McKinley's message is to the effect that certain American citizens in Cuba have become the victims of an unexpected train of circumstances, and he doesn't want them to be caught out in the rain. The action of Reed's House in refusing to consider Mr. Bailey's amendment to the Hitt resolution shows that the attitude of the Republican administration toward Cuba and Cuban liberty is precisely the same as that of Cleveland. The conclusion is inevitable that the same money syndicate which had a mortgage on Cleveland's views and acts owns the Republican Administration outright."

The *Inter-Ocean* of Chicago contains a sug-

gestive cartoon. On a highway stands a long-armed, decrepit looking individual, who seems to have just traced the word "Cuba" in the dust, and thrown down beside the device a flaming torch and a knife on whose broad blade is inscribed "massacre." Sweeping towards this diminutive figure is a huge waggon, labelled "aid for Americans in Cuba." It is drawn by an elephant and driven by Jonathan, who rings a big alarm bell as his immense equipage dashes towards the pigmy in the road. The picture bears the legend, "He will probably know enough to get out of the way."

Burns as a plagiarist is something new. He has, however, been convicted of plagiarism, and very flagrant plagiarism at that. It appears that the antiquary David Heard printed a miscellany when Burns was in his childhood, and that the book was probably in the hands of the poet as early as 1787. In its pages are to be found pieces which may be virtually called the originals of some of Burns' best known productions. For example the celebrated "Whistle and I'll come to you, my lad" appears in Heard's M.S. thus:—

"Whistle and I'll cum to ye, my lad!
Whistle and I'll cum to ye, my lad!
Gin father and mither and a' should gae mad,
Whistle and I'll cum to ye, my lad!"

The facts are brought out by Mr. Henley, in a new edition of Burns. *The Academy*, reviewing the work, divides Burns' songs into three classes; "first, those in which the song is written about a stanza or two from an older source; secondly, those which are more or less vamped from one or several other poems; and thirdly, the songs which are pure Burns, which is a small class." With reference to that exquisite ballad "My love is like a red red rose," the reviewer, says:—

Of the second class an admirable example is a poem into which Mr. Henley has gone minutely, with results so interesting that they would alone justify the value of his Notes. As this is a matter of closer comparison, we quote Burns' song entire:

'O, my love is like a red, red rose,
That's newly sprung in June;

'O, my love is like the melody
That's sweetly play'd in tune,

'As fair art thou, my bonnie lass,
Sae deep in love am I;
And I will love thee still, my dear
Till a' the seas gang dry,

'Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,
And the rocks melt wi' the sun;
And I will love thee still, my dear,
While the sands o' life shall run.

'And fare thee weel, my only love,
And fare thee weel a while!
And I will come again, my love,
Tho' it were ten thousand mile!

This beautiful and famous song is almost entirely a cento from no fewer than four different sources, as Mr. Henley with great labour and clearness shows. The first stanza is from a black-letter, 'The Wanton Wife of Castle Gate':

'Her cheeks are like the Roses
That blossom fresh in June,
O, she's like a new-strung instrument
That's newly put in tune.'

The greater part of the second stanza is Burns (for anything yet known); but its last line and the whole of the third stanza are compounded from two different stanzas in a couple of songs, both in a collection which it is highly probable was in Burns' hands. (They are inscribed with his name in a boyish writing, says Mr. Henley, but the signature has not been authenticated.) One is:

'The Day shall turn to Night dear Love,
And the Rocks melt with the Sun,
Before that I prove false to thee,
Before my Life be gone, dear Love,
Before my Life be gone.'

The other runs:

'The seas they shall run dry,
And rocks melt into sands;
Then I'll love you still, my dear,
When all those things are done.'

The fourth stanza has a resemblance to one in the former of these two songs; but it appears to be derived more particularly from a chap-book poem in the British Museum, 'The True Lover's Farewell':

'Fare you well, my own true love,
And fare you well for a while,
And I will be sure to return back again,
If I go ten thousand mile.'

Here, then, thanks to Mr. Henley, we are able to show a perfect and undoubted example of our second class; a song which—except three lines—is entirely a

mosaic, as composite as the case of a caddis-worm. The piecing is done with admirable, even wonderful skill.

Mr. Henley's view of the matter is this:—

Here is Burns' chief claim to perennial acceptance. He passed the folk-song of his nation through the mint of his mind, and he reproduced it stamped with his image, and lettered with his superscription; so that for the world at large it exists, and will go on existing, not as he found, but as he left it. . . . No such artist in folk-song as he has ever worked in literature. But a hundred forgotten singers went to the making of his achievement and himself. He did not wholly originate those master-qualities—of fresh and taking simplicity, of vigour and directness, and happy and humorous ease, which have come to be regarded as distinctive of his verse; for all these things, together with much of the thought, the romance, and the sentiment for which we read and love him, were included in the estate which he inherited from his nameless forebears; and he so assimilated them that what is actually those forebears' legacy to him has come to be regarded as his gift to them. . . . He is thus national as no poet has ever been, and as no poet ever will, or even can be, again.

It is alleged that a new metal has been discovered. "In the island of Barbadoes, West Indies," says the *London Engineer*, "the discovery was made some months back of large quantities of a certain mineral—locally called 'Manjak'—which bids fair to outrival in point of utility all the similar substances that occur in various parts of the world. Manjak is of a black colour possessing high lustre, and having bright conchoidal fracture, an appearance closely resembling newly broken pitch. In Barbadoes it is found very near, and sometimes upon, the surface of the ground in seams varying from 1 foot to 2 feet in thickness, running usually at an angle of about 40° and in close proximity to rocks. It is supposed to have been formed by the drying up and consolidation of petroleum, which occurs in abundance in the same localities, and is often seen oozing out of the ground or floating down the streams. In composition it is not unlike Trinidad pitch, the Utah gilsonite, and the Canadian albertite, but is of superior quality to any of these. It is supposed to equal the Egyptian asphaltum in quality, but there is a doubt as to the correctness of this view. . . . Among the various uses to which Manjak has been successfully applied may be mentioned: 1. As insulation for electric wires. 2. As varnishes of the best quality. 3. As bituminous concrete in asphalt roads and pavements. 4. As patent fuel, mixed with peat or other organic matter. 5. In small percentages, as an intensifier of the illuminating power of coal gas. Such satisfactory results have been obtained by its use for insulation that it is expected by some experts that it will soon supplant rubber in all waterproof work."

The general view appears to be that the rebellion in Cuba is subsiding. Fighting is said to have come virtually to an end at the close of January, and the rebels, driven out of the four Western provinces, are now confined to Santiago, which has always been the final stronghold of insurrections in the island. Zarroga, who surrendered with the men under his command in April, is reported to have said that "the white insurgents were no longer in a position to carry on the struggle, and that, if Spain were to withdraw from Cuba at this date, the island would be completely at the mercy of the coloured section of the population." It is estimated that the Spanish losses throughout this long struggle totalled about twenty-two thousand, killed, wounded or died from disease, and that they had to invalid home some twenty thousand who could not stand the climate. The rebel losses aggregate sixteen thousand, and four thousand have been taken prisoners, or have surrendered.

H.M.S. *Powerful* was commissioned on 8th June by Captain the Hon. Hedworth Lambton, with a complement of 840 officers and men, for the China Station. H.M.S. *Aurora* was commissioned for this station the same day. These ships were present at the Naval review at Spithead, after which they were to proceed to their station.

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

Monday was generally observed as a holiday in Yokohama. The day was gloriously fine, but a breeze tempered the rays of an ardent sun. The ships in harbour were dressed at eight o'clock and presented a pretty sight. At half-past nine o'clock a baseball match was played on the Cricket ground between a nine from the Y.C. & A.C. and a team from the U.S.S. *Olympia*, which the home side won by the narrow margin of one run. At ten o'clock Mr. N. W. McIvor, Consul-General of the U.S. at Kanagawa, held a reception, and at 11 o'clock Admiral McNair and officers were at home on the flagship *Olympia*. At noon a salute was fired and day fire-works were discharged. In the afternoon a cricket match between the Y.C. & A.C. and H.M.S. *Grafton*—the former winning easily—and sailing races took place, while some amusing sports came off on the *Olympia*. *Mary* won the U.S. Minister's prize and the Weston Challenge Shield, in the Yokohama Yacht Club races. Admiral McNair and officers made delightful hosts during the afternoon and the large company assembled on the ship thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In the evening a grand display of fireworks was made from floats moored in the harbour opposite the Grand Hotel, which was crowded with spectators. The display included several very effective set-pieces—the dates 1776-1897, "Old Glory," etc.—with a grand fountain for a finale. Altogether, what with the glorious weather, the sporting contests, the decoration of the town in the day, and the illuminations at night, Independence day was most fittingly celebrated.

CHINESE NOTES.

On the 28th of June a laying on of hands took place at the Roman Catholic Mission of Kiangnan. Nine candidates for the priesthood were ordained, twenty-five priests taking part in the solemn ceremony. In its report of the ordination, the *N.-C. Daily News* gives the interesting particulars that the mean age of the candidates was 32½ years; that the time spent by them in the Jesuit Order had been 14½ years; and that they had averaged 6 years in China. It follows that a man joins the Jesuits at the average age of 18, and that he has about 14 years of religious training, study and college work before being admitted to the priesthood. Thereafter he has another year for the completion and general review of his theological studies, preparatory to a rigorous examination, and, finally, yet another year for religious exercises and the cultivation of spiritual perfection. Among the nine priests ordained, three were Chinese. Of them we read that two were 29 years of age and the third over 30. They had all had twelve years of seminary training and probation, the seminary course consisting of four years of Latin; two years of philosophy—namely, logic and metaphysics with the elements of mathematics, cosmography and physics—four years of divinity proper and two years of probation in missionary work.

The plague is still raging in Amoy and all the inland districts. It is said that scores of victims perish daily. But the foreign community seem to escape the contagion.

Chungking is suffering from an epidemic which seems to partake of the nature of famine fever. The distress is still terrible, but despite the want and suffering that pervade the city and province, expensive festivities have been held.

The anti-foreign feeling recently reported from Chêngtu has not yet calmed down completely, but the authorities are said to be showing such a bold front that no disturbance of the peace is likely to occur.

The re-opening of the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Tientsin passed off quietly on the morning of the 22nd of June. The fact is taken as an indication that the Chinese authorities are perfectly well able to preserve the peace and protect foreigners when they please to do

so. It is stated that there is much ill-feeling among the rowdies against the Viceroy, on account of his strenuous proclamation. He is suspected of having received bribes from foreigners, or of being afraid of them.

A little Japanese pet dog went mad last month, in Shanghai, and seems to have bitten some five persons, one of them a young lady. Two of the victims have left Shanghai to be treated at the Pasteur Institute in Saigon.

The native guilds in Shanghai have put up a sum sufficient to enable the wheelbarrow coolies to pay their extra license fee. Doubtless, therefore, the 1st of July, on which day the fee was levied, passed off quietly. But it is naturally asked, "how long will the guilds continue to find money for such a purpose?"

The Rev. Gilbert Reid's project for an international institute in Peking is discussed by a writer signing himself "Taw Sein Ko," and speaking as though he were really what his name implies, a Chinese. He advocates the scheme most enthusiastically, but declares that unless it has a more practical basis than the mere "promotion of friendliness between representative men of China and the West," and the "diffusion of enlightening and liberal influences among the Mandarins and educated classes," it will not be a permanent success. He suggests that it should take part in the actual examination and probationary training of candidates for the public service; that the governing body should include the leading members of the Chinese Government; that Sir Robert Hart—whom he calls "the Nestor of the Chinese Imperial Service"—should be President, and that the Foreign Representatives should be *ex-officio* members.

"It is reported from the newly opened port of Shasi," says the *N.-C. Daily News* "that a severe epidemic is raging there, and already a large number of people have succumbed to the disease. Whole families are reported to have been cut down within three or four days of the first attack. The epidemic is stated to have also spread across the river into Wuchang within the past week."

The Chevalier de Kontaki is in Shanghai, where he has given a highly successful concert assisted by Professor Merck, Mrs. Fried, and Commander Vela.

GERMAN NOTES.

The German Geographical Society have bestowed upon Dr. Nansen the Humboldt gold medal. The Emperor has also conferred upon the Arctic explorer the gold medal for science and art, "the highest distinction which can be bestowed in Germany for peaceful achievements." When Dr. Nansen lectured at Copenhagen before the Danish Geographical Society, he received from the King the gold medal of merit with the royal crown.

The possibility of helping the blind to see by means of the Roentgen rays is minutely discussed in the *Photographisches Archiv* by Dr. Czermat, who concludes that the feat can be accomplished in a very limited manner only. He calls attention to the fact that photographs have been produced without a lens—that is by the pinhole camera—so he proposes to employ such an instrument to project the Roentgen rays, making use of a disc of lead pierced with a small opening, and covered with an aluminum, or black-paper, plate so as to effectually exclude all ordinary light. By the application of such spectacles, Dr. Czermat thinks the blind might be made to see a little.

In the Annual Report of German manufacturers for 1896 it is stated that 2,800,000 pounds of needles were produced against 1,830,000 in the previous year. The factories of Aix-la-Chapelle alone produced 50 million needles a week, and their output is said to be for the most part of superior quality. As showing the rate at which the German export business has been growing, it is stated that in the eight

years, from 1880 to the end of 1887, the shipments were 11,615,000 pounds, and in the following eight years, ended 1895, 15,425,000 pounds. The best market was found in China, which in 1896 took 60 per cent. of the whole export, as compared with not more than 20 per cent. in 1894. Other markets of importance are:—British India, France, Great Britain, the United States, Austria-Hungary, Italy, and Turkey.

Prince Hohenlohe, the Imperial Chancellor, Baron Marechal von Biebrstein, Dr. von Boetticher, and Dr. Miquel were outvoted at a Cabinet meeting which fixed the wording of the bill for the abolition of the most liberal paragraphs of the old law of associations. Since it was certain that the measure would be overwhelmingly defeated in the Reichstag, it was decided not to introduce it there, but to place it before the Prussian Diet, where the Conservatives hold nearly half the seats. It would have required only three or four votes from the National Liberals to give the bill a majority. But these few Liberal votes could not be secured, and so the measure was defeated.

Another telegram sent by the Emperor Wilhelm, has caused considerable excitement in Europe; this time not on the part of the English, but of the Germans themselves. It appears that the Kaiser despatched a telegraphic message to his brother Prince Heinrich, who is in command of the battleship *Koning Wilhelm*, expressing his displeasure at being obliged to send such an unimportant ship to the Queen's Jubilee, owing to a set of "unpatriotic fellows" voting against an increase of the German Navy. This telegram was read out to the men on board the *Koning Wilhelm*, and from thence found its way into the press, where, needless to say, it met with strong comment. Meanwhile, several important journals have raised their voices in defence of the Emperor, declaring the whole story to be untrue.

Rumours were current in Berlin and elsewhere when the last mail left, of an approaching Reichskanzler and ministerial crisis. The Emperor is said to be so annoyed at the scanty sums voted for the enlargement of the navy—his pet project—that it is feared he will have nothing to do with the reforms of the military penal code, or the Prussian Civil Code, as planned by the Reichstag. In that case it is thought probable that Prince Hohenlohe and other Ministers will tender their resignations.

German shipbuilders, says *Das Echo*, are jubilant over the fact that last year and up to the end of April their output, so far as size of vessels in the course of construction is concerned, exceeds that of England. Never before did German shipbuilding yards produce so many large vessels, some of which are of previously unheard of dimensions. The most important of these floating palaces are the vessels ordered by the North German Lloyd in Bremen and intended for their New York Mail line. For this purpose two twin screw steamers of 21,000 tons each have been ordered at the Vulkan shipbuilding yards at Stettin and at Schichan, Danzig. They will be called *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse* and *Kaiser Frederick*. Besides these, four more twin screw steamers of 20,000 tons each are in course of construction, two of which are being built at Vulkan's, one at Blohm and Voss, of Hamburg, and one at Schichan's; and further, three twin screw passenger steamers of 3,500 registered tons each for the trade with Brazil. There are altogether, in eight German shipbuilding yards, twenty vessels in hand, and nearly completed—all for the German Lloyd. By the simultaneous construction of six of the first of these steamers, with an aggregate displacement of 121,000 tons, the German Dockyards have, as before stated, beaten the English record.

A wire was received on Wednesday morning by the local agent of the P. & O. Co. from Suez, desiring him to inform the friends of Mr. and Mrs. F. Gillett, that they and their child were all well. This should be comforting news to their numerous friends.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The "Abunai Cup"—in the Mosquito Yacht Club—was won on Saturday by *Kodoku*, the new boat; with *Nandaka* second, and *Sodeska* third.

It is a melancholy fact that Captain Hill, of the ill-fated P. & O. steamer *Aden*, intended retiring from the sea upon his return to England.

A Washington telegram, dated June 14th, states that the Senate that day confirmed the appointment of Mr. John F. Govey of Washington to be Consul-General at Kanagawa, Japan.

The Japanese community at Singapore gave an exhibition of fireworks in connection with the Diamond Jubilee, which seems to have been much admired.

Very alarming reports of the cholera epidemic in Java have reached the Singapore newspapers. All over the colony the disease is virulent amongst the natives, and many Europeans have died.

It is announced that the Government of British North Borneo is prepared to make a limited number of free grants up to 500 acres of land each for the cultivation of tapioca. The fact may be worth the consideration of some of our readers.

At the suggestion of Mr. John Carry Hall, H.B.M.'s Consul, the Japanese authorities have consented to institute a daily patrol of British shipping in Kobe harbour, to check the coolie ruffianism that has been increasing there so rapidly of late.

The *Times* says that if the Jubilee procession reminded those who may have forgotten the fact, of the unexhausted and virtually inexhaustible resources of the Empire, it has not the less clearly proved that the monarchy now rests on broader and firmer foundations than at any former period in the history of England.

The *London Chronicle* says:—The Jubilee procession was an Empire parade and one of which all the uncounted millions whose peace and freedom are guarded by the English flag may well be proud. We have a hundred faults. As makers of an Empire we are insolent, masterful and aloof, but we at least have done what the world never has seen before.

From the excellent Silk tables compiled by Mr. Geo. H. Allcock, Public Silk Inspector, we gather that 48,549 bales of silk were exported during 1896-97, against 54,774 last season. The United States took 25,382 bales against 29,284 bales in the previous season. Messrs. Siber, Brennwald & Co. did the largest business, exporting 10,722 bales.

The *Standard* says:—"It would be a most ungracious omission to forget to offer sincere thanks to all foreign countries that have participated in the Jubilee. They have added materially, to the pleasure of the Queen and her people by their never-to-be-forgotten kindness. So far as Americans are concerned, we believe they are almost as pleased and proud as though the Jubilee were their own."

Kobe beat the U.S.S. *Yorktown* at baseball on Monday by 24 runs to 10. The *Chronicle* says that among the features of the Kobe men's play was Putnam's excellent work as pitcher, and McGlew's as catcher. On the Kobe side there was a record of 11 struck out, 3-base hits by Ball and Lightfoot; 3-base hits by Putnam (2) and Wheeler (1). Edwards made two home runs. On the other side there were 5 base strokes, and 9 struck out. Martin was the naval team's pitcher and Ubelhoar the catcher.

The Queen has been pleased to give and grant unto Mr. Arthur Stanhope Aldrich, Her Majesty's Royal licence and authority that he may accept and wear the Insignia of the Order of the Sacred Treasure of the Second Class, and to Mr. Francis Henry Trevithick, the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure of the Third Class, which his Majesty the Emperor of Japan has been pleased

to confer upon them in recognition of their services whilst actually and entirely employed beyond Her Majesty's dominions in the Japanese Railway Department.

Details arriving from Calcutta since telegraphic communications were re-established indicate that the loss of life from the recent earthquake was fearful. It is believed that 10,000 people were killed in Assam. Eighteen feet of Calcutta's Cathedral spire were displaced. The shock occurred just before the hour when most people go out for an evening drive, consequently in the European quarters the great majority of ladies and children appeared on the streets in the scantiest attire.

Government and bank paper in circulation at the end of May and on the 1st of June aggregated 17,272,171 yen, showing a decrease of 206,224 yen in Government paper and 3,270,024 yen in bank notes as compared with the previous month. The following are the details:—

	1st May to 1st Jun.	1st Jun. to 1st May.	Increase.
Government paper of all denominations	8,617,900	8,824,124	206,224
Bank paper (including notes from closed banks)	8,654,271	11,935,215	3,270,024
Total	17,272,171	20,759,339	3,487,168

We learn from the *Nagasaki Shipping List* that a daring robbery was committed a few days ago at the house of a well-known resident of Nagasaki, Mr. Ringer. Prior to taking his bath, Mr. Ringer laid his gold watch and chain upon a table in the bed-room, but on returning to his room the articles were found to be missing. A strict examination of the servants was made, but as yet no clue has been found as to either the whereabouts of the watch and chain or the perpetrators of the daring theft.

The *Nagasaki Shipping List* of the 1st inst., appears under the editorship and management of Mr. H. O. Palmer, and contains a notification to the effect that the *Nagasaki Press* had that day taken over the business of the *Rising Sun* Printing Office, but that the publication of the *Nagasaki Press* was unavoidably postponed, owing to the non-arrival of a portion of the new printing plant from England. The *Rising Sun* and *Shipping List* will therefore continue in their present form for a few days longer.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* justly protests against the strange statement made by the *N.C. Daily News* that the honour bestowed by Her Majesty on Mr. Geo. Jamieson is marred by the simultaneous bestowal of the same honour on Mr. Chater of Hongkong, who "has done nothing to deserve the distinction beyond being a successful speculator." Mr. Chater is one of Hongkong's most prominent public men in the best sense of the term, and that Her Majesty has acted wisely in making him a C.M.G., no one that has watched the course of events in Hongkong for the past fifteen years, can doubt.

The Canadian papers are filled with column after column of Jubilee rejoicings. All over the world the day was celebrated, and nowhere more heartily than in the United States. On the morning of June 21st the Chamber of Commerce of New York State cabled the Queen as follows:—

Her Gracious Majesty, the Queen of England:—The Chamber of Commerce, of New York, which received its original charter directly from the hand of your illustrious ancestor, King George III., tenders its congratulations on this happy occasion, and, in the spirit of National amity, unites with your loving subjects in the earnest prayer that God may bless the Queen.

(Signed) ALEXANDER HECTOR ORR, President.

A discordant note was sounded in Ireland on June 21, at a meeting held near College Green in connection with the Jubilee. A black banner was displayed bearing the statement:—"During Victoria's reign, one and a half millions of people have starved in this Island, three millions have been evicted, and four millions have been compelled to emigrate." A body of undergraduates marched out from the grounds of Trinity College, carrying the Union Jack. It came into collision with the crowd, and there was considerable fighting. Phillip Callan

was severely wounded in the head, and several others were more or less injured. Only with difficulty did the police restore order. After the rumpus the crowd paraded the streets and destroyed the decorations.

According to the Canadian papers, Her Majesty the Queen looked very well indeed on Jubilee Day. She impressed all the Envoys with the sincerity of her thanks for the national compliments paid to her. All the Envoys presented their letters with the lowest obeisance. The Queen took each letter and smilingly addressed two or three sentences of thanks and compliments to each Envoy. Mr. Whitelaw Reid, Special Ambassador of the United States, was received in the most cordial manner possible. Her Majesty expressed her sincere thanks to President McKinley and to the "great nation of our kinsmen."

Mr. N. W. McIvor, Consul-General for the U.S. at Kanagawa, announces that until further notice the following tariff is established for the collection of fees at that Consulate. Invoices should be made out in silver yen, which, for the purpose of this notice, are estimated as equivalent to forty-seven and eight-tenths (\$0.478) cents, U.S. currency:—

For Invoice Certificate	yen 5.23
For Extra Copy of Invoice	2.10
Marriage Certificate	2.10
Landing Certificate	5.23
For Bill of Health	5.23
For Supplemental Bill of Health	1.05
For Personal Effects Certificate	1.05
For Emigration Manifest	53

According to investigations made by the Finance Department, coins in circulation at the end of May amounted to 81,038,509 yen, an increase of 1,587,041 yen as compared with the previous month, and of 12,250,824 yen as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The following comparative table gives details:—

	At the end of May.	Compared with previous month.	Compared with corresponding period of last year.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Gold	5,214,655	-73,137	-90,689
Silver	59,879,612	+1,712,140	+10,685,211
Nickel	6,586,653	+50,050	+699,844
Copper	9,357,517	-2,005	-43,471
Total	81,038,509	+1,587,048	+12,250,824

An attempt at suicide was made on Wednesday last, from the small steamer *Teiki Maru*, which plies between Yokohama and Yokosuka. At about 3 p.m., when the boat was off Honmoku, on her way from Yokosuka to Yokohama, one of the passengers suddenly sprang overboard. The alarm steam whistle was blown and the steam launch *Hiryu Maru*, of the Water Police, which was in the vicinity, came up and after a short search succeeded in picking up the man half-dead. He was revived after a time and brought to Yokohama, and was found to be a resident of Nihonbashi, Tokyo, who was suffering from *hakke*, which prevented him from earning a living, and in despair he decided to drown himself.

The Kobe Ladies turned the tables on the cricketers of H.M.S. *Narcissus* on Tuesday afternoon, by winning the return match on the first innings by 12 runs. The scores were, Officers, 34; Ladies, 46. The *Higo News* remarks:—The ladies again appeared in their chosen costumes, but a curious tendency was observed with an extreme minority to go one better than before in the matter of abbreviating the dresses. If we may offer a suggestion, it would be that in any future matches the ladies confine themselves absolutely to a single innings game instead of playing out time; they were noticeably tired before the drawing of stumps yesterday, and the fielding which had begun well went a good deal to pieces. Runs were stolen from them wholesale, and the bowlers had good cause of complaint against this destruction of averages. In the first innings the bowling was very good. Mrs. Skinner being the most successful; if cricket is to be continued by these ladies, how-

ever, they should in fairness pitch the ball up a bit. The visitors bowled all for catches and very few were missed. There was more vigour generally in the batting and Miss Ellerton (21) in particular did wonders. Miss Smithers (4) showed as much confidence as any one, but very foolishly ran herself out. Some of the others made quite long stays without scoring; Mrs. Lightfoot contributed a useful score (12). Four naval bowlers were tried, McNeile taking five wickets for six runs.

The C. P. steamer *Empress of Japan*, which arrived in port at about 1.30 p.m., on Wednesday, has broken the record across the Pacific. She left Vancouver at 10 a.m. and Victoria, B.C., at 7.45 p.m. on the 26th June, the time occupied by the voyage from the latter port being only 10 days, 3 hours and 39 minutes. Her daily runs were as follow:—31, 396, 415, 414, 421, 441, 433, 432, 429, 417, 415, and 26 knots; total 4,270 knots. The previous record, made by the same vessel, but on the voyage from Yokohama, was 10 days 18 hours. She sailed from Vancouver five days behind schedule time, the reason for her delay being, we understand, a washout on the C. P. railway line, which prevented the mails arriving at Vancouver on time. The *Empress* has made up three days of her lost time and as she was got away at 5 this morning, is expected to make up the balance before reaching Hongkong. It speaks well for the steaming powers of these fine vessels, and for their skillful handling, that such a feat should be possible.

The demand for Japanese yarns in Shanghai, says the *Yoroku Choho*, increased very suddenly after the outbreak of plague in Bombay. Japanese yarns seem to have obtained a good reputation in China for quality and weight, and owing greatly to that well-earned credit, the product of Japanese mills is now superseding the Bombay manufactures. The market price of yarns varies between seventy-eight and seventy-nine taels per horse-pack of 20's, while 16's are quoted at over seventy six taels. Despite the circumstance that the sericultural season is now at its busiest, when the demand for yarns generally falls off for a space of two or three months, the Spinning Companies are now finding themselves embarrassed with an excess of orders, the extensive shipments to Shanghai this year having cleared the market of all superfluous produce. Contracts for delivery in November have already been concluded. Goods are taken delivery of as soon as they arrive in Shanghai.

One of the striking incidents of the royal procession through the City of London was the presentation of the "Very Goodbye Sword," known as Queen Elizabeth's pearl sword, presented to the Corporation by the maiden queen at the opening of the royal exchange in 1570. This was carried by the Lord Mayor. On the arrival of the Queen at the confines of the City's liberties, on Jubilee Day, she found the corporation awaiting her. The Lord Mayor uncovered. Approaching the carriage of Her Majesty, his Lordship, with all due obeisance, presented the hilt of the sword, which was undrawn. This is called the ceremony of dutiful submission. The Queen quietly touched the hilt, and returned it to the Lord Mayor. Sir Faudel Phillips wore an earl's robe, to which Lord Mayors are entitled when crowned heads visit the city, a cloak of ruby silk velvet and a gown of white silk edged with ermine. The robe is identical with the coronation robes of peers.

The *Yoroku Choho* states that the revised draft of the Criminal Code, to be presented in the 11th session of the Diet, has lately been completed. The principal alterations are said to be the division of offences into crimes and delicts, instead of maintaining the criminal classification as heretofore, police offences being included in the category of delicts. The distinction between ordinary offences and those connected with treason is removed, and terms of imprisonment are fixed for crimes and delicts as "above or below so many years," for the purpose of

rescinding the periods specified by each article in the former code, thus extending the sphere of application. Nevertheless, a fresh suggestion having been made in certain quarters for a further revision of the Code, it is supposed that not only will radical changes be made in the system, but also an exclusion of the French principles of individualism will be effected. The compilation of the Code is to be based on the so-called principles of State.

Most of the Japanese who go abroad are labourers, remarks the *Mainichi Shimbun*. In Hawaii, Mexico, and the islands of the southern ocean are found Japanese immigrants of the lowest classes. That they have had the courage to risk going across the wide ocean to foreign countries is evidently the result of a spirit of adventure and enterprise with which they were inspired. There is nothing to blame them for in the matter. But it is of paramount importance that in connection with the emigration of labourers some influential men of practical enterprise should also endeavour to pursue a similar career and take up their abode in Japanese settlements abroad. The late war with China won for Japan extensive concessions in Hanchow, Soochow, and Shashi, but it is to be deeply regretted that very few, if any, Japanese have settled in those places. Schemes are being contemplated by the Government to encourage emigration to China, with a view to the development of Japan's foreign commerce.

The Princess of Wales' Jubilee dinners to the poor were very successful. About 300,000 denizens of the "slums" were sumptuously entertained at various centres. The Princess, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Princess Victoria of Wales, and Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark, visited the principal halls where the feasts were given. The Princess of Wales requested the Lord Mayor to deliver this message to all the diners as follows:—"Although I am unfortunately unable to be present at all the dinners for my poor, I shall be with them in spirit, hoping that they will enjoy themselves and give three cheers for their Queen." At Central Hall, Holborn, 17,000 people, young and old, partook of the banquet. When the Royal party entered the Hall the food was apparently forgotten. All present stood up and cheer after cheer shook the building. On making a tour of the room, the Princess of Wales turned to an old Irish woman and expressed the hope that she had partaken of a good dinner. To this the old woman replied:—"God bless you dear," and patted the Princess on the shoulder.

We wonder if the following paragraph, that appears in the *N.-C. Daily News*, refers to the poor, half-demented fellow who passed as Muir, alias Wilson, alias various other names, when in Yokohama, and who, after claiming first American and then British nationality, led a battle-dore and shuttle-cock life between the treaty ports of Japan and China for some 12 months:—A mysterious affair happened on board the *Tatung* on her last passage up river. Just previous to leaving Shanghai a foreigner, who gave the name of Moor, went on board and booked a first-class passage to Chinkiang, but omitted to provide himself with a ticket. He was seen in his cabin at about two o'clock on the following afternoon, but an hour later was missed. The ship was searched, but no trace of him could be found. He brought no luggage on board with him, with the exception of a small parcel, which disappeared with him. On the settie in his cabin were found a coat, waistcoat, and shirt, while two life-belts which were on a rack in the room were missing. The whole affair is a mystery, as the fact of his taking the two life-belts with him precludes the idea of suicide. After arriving at Chinkiang one of the native passengers stated that he saw a foreigner swimming some time before the vessel's arrival, but thought he was amusing himself!

NATIONAL LOAN BONDS.

Since the promulgation of Law No. 5, in February of the 29th year of *Meiji*, in regard to the purchase of national loan bonds for withdrawal, purchases made at twelve different periods amounted, says the *Shogyo Shimpō*, to 10,610,016 *yen*, against 10,643,550 *yen* in face value, including some pension bonds bearing five per cent. interest. The profits thus realized by the Government do not fall short of 33,533 *yen*. The following details will be interesting:—

	Date of purchase.	Face Value. Yen.	Purchase price. Yen.
1—New Public Bonds	March, '96	357,375	351,701
2—	31st Mar., '96	231,400	221,865
3—Pension Bonds	and Sept., '97	175,000	174,450
4—New Bonds	8th Sept., '96	1,000,000	999,696
5—(New Bonds)	29th Sept., '96	32,050	31,915
6—Consols	do.	700,000	700,000
7—(Pension Bonds)	22nd Oct., '96	9,750	9,690
8—(Naval Bonds)	do.	60,000	59,000
9—(Pension Bonds)	do.	10,000	9,850
10—(Pension Bonds)	Jan., 1897	90,800	90,000
11—(Naval Bonds)	Feb., 1897	90,800	89,379
12—(Naval Bonds)	do.	2,014,000	2,010,886
13—Naval Bonds	March, 1897	80,000	79,980
14—Naval Bonds	April, 1897	5,717,400	5,711,618
15—Pension Bonds	June, 1897	313,950	309,996
Totals		10,643,550	10,610,016

Measures must be taken this year to gradually redeem 29,823,320 *yen* of five per cent. pension bonds. Although the period of redemption extends to the 39th year of *Meiji* (1906), the amount to be actually redeemed in the current fiscal year is estimated at 3,904,470, of which 313,950 *yen* worth of bonds having been purchased and destroyed, a balance remains of 29,509,373 *yen*.

THE "ADEN."

From a telegram published in the London *Daily Mail* we learn that the wreck of the *Aden* occurred during a violent storm. Two boats were lowered but were swamped. The lifeboat got away amidst tremendous seas, and has not since been seen. The Captain and other officers were washed off the deck. The survivors remained on the wreck for a week, during which time the weather was frightful, the rations were of the scantiest, and they were despairing of safety.

The *China Mail* prints the following list of Officers of the ill-fated P. & O. steamer *Aden*:—

Capt. R. E. Hill, R.N.R., who joined the *Aden* in February, 1894.
Chief Officer, E. Carden.
Second Officer, A. Miller (late of the *Ancona*).
Third Officer, R. Manning, R.N.R.
Fourth Officer, E. Huddleston.
Surgeon, G. H. Forman (late of the *Ancona*).
Chief Engineer, D. Carmichael, R.N.R.
Second Engineer, C. J. Chisholm, R.N.R.
Third Engineer, T. A. White.
Fourth Engineer, P. McL. Kelt.
Winchman, W. Atkins.
Carpenter, H. Holmes.
Boatswain, C. McKie.
Stewards, Ada Nichols (late of the *Ancona*).

The *Hongkong Daily Press* gives the following particulars with reference to the *Aden's* passengers:—

Mr. Strain, who with his wife and two children were swept overboard and drowned, was a chemist at the Imperial Arsenal at Tientsin. Miss Lloyd and Miss Weller, who shared the same fate, belonged to the Church of England Zenana Mission at Foochow.

Mrs. Collins, who with two children left the wreck in the missing boat, was evidently the widow of the late Rev. J. S. Collins, of the Church of England Missionary Society at Foochow. Her case is a particularly sad one, as it is only two months since her husband met his death by drowning while on a missionary tour in his district. The accident occurred on the 20th April, while the rev. gentleman was on his way from Yeng Ping to Kucheng. The large steering oar of the boat in which the reverend gentleman was travelling broke in passing down one of the rapids of the river and the boat became unmanageable. Mr. Collins then jumped into the river, but although he was a good swimmer he was unable to cope with the strength of the current and was drowned.

Of the others in the missing boat, Mrs. Smyth of Ningpo, is believed to be wife of Dr. Smyth of the Church of England Missionary Society. In the Directory we only find one entry under each of the names of Reilly and Suttie, namely, Captain

Reilly, of the Army Service Corps, Singapore, and Mr. D. Suttie, Assistant Manager of the Central Borneo Company, Labuan; two ladies of the same names are amongst the missing and surmise points to the probability that they were the wives of the gentlemen mentioned.

Of the passengers saved we find that Mr. Valpy is an assistant overseer of the Perak Sugar Cultivation Co.; Mr. Pearce is an assistant with Messrs. Ibert and Co., merchants, Shanghai; and Mr. Gillett, an assistant with Messrs. Mollison & Co., merchants, Yokohama.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiments or opinion of our correspondents for the accuracy of their assertions or for the deduction they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE OTHER SIDE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with interest the correspondence in your columns on the rude conduct of the Japanese toward foreigners. I do not deny any statements which your correspondents make, but aside from the rudeness of children which, by the way, is not nearly so exasperating as the barking of the dogs, I have met no more cases of rudeness in Japan during a period of five years than I met in America during the same period. It is probably true that in Japan the foreigner is not held in higher esteem than John Chinaman in America, and John has the reputation of having rough treatment from the polite, well-mannered Americans.

So far as my own experience goes the police have always been obliging and helpful to the extent of their ability. Railroad officials have taken extra trouble on various occasions to be accommodating. Shopkeepers are proverbial for their good conduct. And as for jinrikishamen I think they have received and receive more abuse than they deserve. I have been repeatedly surprised by their honesty and, as a rule, they are ready to go more than half way in meeting kindness with kindness.

That these men and policemen and trainmen should have soured on the foreigners, if that is the fact, is not strange. I have been called upon occasionally to interpret for foreigners under what seemed to be rather exasperating circumstances, but I have never considered it a breach of faith to change angry words to the politest phrases which I could use. The open ports so much frequented by drunken sailors are undoubtedly responsible for the rudeness which cooies in such places manifest.

In Tokyo I pass crowds of students every day. I have seen no scowls, and I am not blind. I have heard no jeers, and I am not deaf. They have on the whole, been as orderly as American college students. Now, I wonder, Mr. Editor, whether the scowls and jeers and sticks and stones to those who meet with such experiences, do not depend very largely on the conduct of the foreigners. It looks to me like a rather rash act for a foreigner to collar a Japanese boy and march him to his parents. The parents might give the boy a licking, but they would set the foreigner down as *Yakamashi* and cherish toward him no very generous feelings notwithstanding his laudable efforts to maintain his dignity. Some people can extract the honey without getting stung and some can't. Why is it?

I think the mistake which your correspondents make is to charge upon the whole nation of Japan the individual acts of a very few people. One of your correspondents in his recent letter mentions an incident which occurred at Yokohama several years ago, unless my memory is badly at fault. Such writing certainly does not help the situation.

This experience of mine is not the exception. I have inquired of others what their experience has been with the rude Japanese. But almost invariably it is the testimony that rudeness has been the result of provocation on the part of the foreigner.

In regard to quarrels about jinriksha fares, is it not always better to have an understanding with your man when you employ him? And in general is it not better to pay a little more than is just sometimes rather than have a fuss?

Yours truly,

A. D. WOODWORTH.

Tokyo, June 21, 1897.

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LIMITED.

The tenth ordinary yearly general meeting of shareholders in the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Limited, was held at Keit's Building on Tuesday afternoon. There were present Messrs. Jas. Walter (Chairman), J. F. Lowder, J. Johnstone, J. A. Fraser, A. B. Walford, J. H. Curtis, R. J. Kirby, C. K. M. Martin, H. Pinckney and Geo. Charlesworth, Secretary.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the minutes of the last half-yearly meeting be taken as read. Mr. Curtis seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then read the report and accounts for the year ending 31st May last, which were as follow:—

REPORT.

The Directors have the pleasure of submitting to you their Report with a statement of Accounts for the year ended the 31st of May last.

The net profits for that period, including the sum of \$8,013.40 brought forward from last year, amount to \$114,041.47 from which amount the following payments have been made:—

On 4th August, 1896, Dividend for the year ended 31st May	\$13,000.00
On 4th August, 1896, Bonus to Employees	1,125.50
On 24th December, 1896, Interim Dividend	13,000.00
	\$27,125.50

leaving a balance to credit of Profit and Loss account of

On the 18th July, 1897, the sum of \$55,000.00 was applied to the reduction of Capital from the Cash then in Bank.

The Directors propose to declare a final Dividend for the year of \$20 per share, which will absorb

To give a Bonus to employees of

And to carry forward to new account

\$85,915.97

The business and the working of the Company during the year just expired have been highly satisfactory, and there is every prospect of continued prosperity.

Messrs. J. F. Lowder and J. H. Curtis have been appointed by the Board to fill the vacancies created by the resignation of Messrs. Davis and Gillett; and the number of Directors has been increased by the addition of Mr. R. J. Kirby, whose appointment requires the approval of this meeting. Messrs. Fraser and Lowder retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

The Accounts have been audited by Messrs. O. Keil and C. H. Fearon; and the Directors have pleasure in suggesting that these gentlemen be elected Auditors for the current year.

JAMES WALTER, } Directors.

J. A. FRASER, }

Yokohama, 1st July, 1897.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on May 31st, 1897.

ASSETS.		
Property	Plant, Machinery, Steam Launches and Wrecking Gear	\$2,205.00
Stock as per Inventory	...	57,102.10
Fire Insurance Policies	...	39,398.85
Sundry Debtors	...	616.50
Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.	...	31,151.90
Cash in hand	...	23,115.48
		219.12
		\$166,806.85

LIABILITIES.		
Capital	...	\$65,000.00
Suspense Account	...	7.32
Sundry Creditors	...	14,157.01
		\$79,164.33
		\$86,915.97
		\$166,806.85

Balance, Profit and Loss Account ...

\$166,806.85

Profit and Loss Account for the Year ending May 31st, 1897.

To Dividend to May 31st, 1896, 10 per cent, on

\$130,000 ...

" Bonus to Employees to May 31st, 1896 ...

" Interim Dividend \$20 per share paid 24th December, 1896 ...

" Bad and disputed Debts ...

" Suspense Account; doubtful debt ...

" Property Account, Depreciation of Buildings ...

" Plant, Machinery, Steam Launches and Wrecking Gear, Depreciation ...

" Fire Insurance ...

" Rent ...

" Wages and Working Expenses ...

" Directors' and Auditors' Fees ...

" Balance ...

To be dealt with as follows:—

Dividend at the rate of

\$20 per share ...

Bonus to Employees ...

Carried forward to new account ...

June 1, 1896.—By Balance ...

May 31, 1897.—By Gross Earnings ...

" Interest ...

" Transfer Fees ...

June 1, 1897.—By Balance ...

Geo. CHARLESWORTH, Secretary.

We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the books and vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

O. KEIL, } Auditors.

C. H. FEARON, }

Yokohama, July 1st, 1897.

The CHAIRMAN said that at the last yearly general meeting an error had been made by the chair in taking the sum of \$65,000 to be accumulated profits and using them for the reduction of capital. This had been rectified by placing that amount back again to the credit of profit and loss account. The balance carried forward still remained very high, but would eventually be reduced when the material now in stock, was worked up into contracts, some of which were now in hand. The gross earnings of the company during the year, over \$100,000, showed a very satisfactory state of affairs, and that the business was improving under the present management. The earnings were larger than in any previous year except the last, which could not be taken as a criterion, owing to exceptional circumstances. In 1895 the gross earnings had been \$95,000 and this was the best year previous to the one under review. If any one had any questions to put he would be glad to answer them, and in the meanwhile would propose that the report and accounts as presented be passed.

Mr. WALFORD noted that wrecking gear appeared among the assets of the Company and asked if wrecking was a part of their business.

The CHAIRMAN said it was a very important part of the business of the Company to assist in getting vessels afloat that had got ashore, or raising sunken ships, and they had to keep the necessary plant and gear to carry on this work.

Mr. WALFORD said that from the way it was worded in the accounts it looked as if the Company were engaged in wrecking vessels.

The CHAIRMAN—It might perhaps have been differently worded.

Mr. WALFORD regretted that no notice had been taken by the Chairman of the remarks he had made at the last half-yearly meeting regarding the sum of \$65,000, which appeared in the profit and loss account, instead of being returned to the shareholders, though it was said that a portion of the sum had been returned in the form of dividends. If it was used as capital—as it was—it should be put down in capital account. It made it appear that the profits were abnormal, 60 per cent. on the capital, while as a matter of fact they were only 30 per cent.

The CHAIRMAN, in replying, said that he thought Mr. Walford was wrong in supposing that the \$65,000 was continually carried forward; it was being paid off by degrees. Six thousand of it had been paid during the past year and the ratio of payment might be greater in future. Of the \$39,000 paid in dividends, \$33,000 was from their earnings and \$6,000 from the \$65,000. Eventually it would all be returned to the shareholders.

Mr. LOWDER then seconded the Chairman's motion that the report and accounts be passed and it was carried *nem con*.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the election of two Directors in place of Messrs. Fraser and Lowder, who retired by rotation.

On the motion of Mr. J. H. Curtis, seconded by Mr. Martin, Messrs. Fraser and Lowder were re-elected to the Board.

Mr. KIRBY proposed the re-election of Messrs. Keil and Fearon as auditors, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN said the Directors had asked Mr. Kirby to join the Board, but the appointment required the confirmation of the meeting.

Mr. MARTIN proposed that Mr. Kirby's appointment be confirmed. Mr. Fraser seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

This concluded the business and the meeting dissolved.

INDEPENDENCE DAY IN TOKYO.

The American residents of Tokyo celebrated Independence Day this year for the first time, we believe, in the history of the metropolis, and had a thoroughly enjoyable occasion. The celebration was the outcome of the enthusiastic patriotism of the Rev. Edgar Leavitt, who inquired last Thursday (July 1st) in the Tsukiji Reading Room, if the American Tokyoites couldn't get up an old-fashioned "Fourth of July." The query aroused others to make the attempt, and consequently Messrs. Leavitt and Tyng that afternoon and evening circulated a call for a meeting of American citizens in the Parish Building, Tsukiji, Friday afternoon.

At that time a number of Americans assembled and chose Prof. H. T. Terry as Chairman, and Rev. Edgar Leavitt as Secretary. Inasmuch as the Yokohama celebration was to be on the 5th, the Tokyo affair was set for Tuesday, the 6th. Several plans were discussed; but it was finally voted to hold a basket picnic at Omori during the afternoon and evening of that day. A committee

of arrangements was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Terry, Leavitt, R. S. Miller, and Clement, and Mesdames Smith and Gardiner; but, as Mrs. Gardiner asked to be excused, Mrs. Swift was named to fill the vacancy. This committee at once went to work to "hustle things" on short notice.

But, by Saturday evening, it became clearly evident that the obstacles in the way of going to Omori were insurmountable. A committee meeting was, therefore, held again on Monday morning, July 5th, when it was decided to hold the celebration in Tsukiji. The spacious Episcopal compound was generously offered for the occasion and gladly accepted.

This statement of the inception and development of the plans will certainly be interesting, because it shows forth the genuine American spirit of "push," and may also excuse any mistakes or shortcomings in the carrying out of the plans. It is, however, really cause for wonder that so successful a celebration was arranged on such short notice and in spite of such obstacles. It was not only the hard work of the committee but also the hearty co-operation of the American community that rendered success possible.

The jubilee exercises were held in the Parish Building, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion with flags, bunting, flowers and plants, and began about 6.15 p.m. There were perhaps 150 people present, including children. The U.S. Legation was represented by Col. A. E. Buck, U.S. Minister; Mr. and Mrs. Herod, Mr. H. Wilson, and Mr. R. S. Miller.

The programme was as follows:—

Music.—"Hail, Columbia, Happy Land."
Prayer.—Rev. D. Thompson, D.D.
Music.—"The Star-Spangled Banner."
Declaration of Independence.—Rev. J. W. Cate.
Music.—"The Red, White and Blue."
Speeches.—{ Prof. J. O. Spencer,
 { Hon. A. E. Buck, U.S. Minister.
Music.—"America."
Benediction.—Rev. C. H. D. Fisher.

The music was in charge of Rev. T. S. Tyng, who conducted the singing most efficiently. In the case of the first three songs the audience joined in the chorus only; but all united with vigour in the last song, "America." The first song was rendered by a choir; the second by Mrs. J. W. Wadman, the third by Rev. F. C. Veitz.

The Declaration of Independence was read in Mr. Cate's usual expressive style. Prof. Spencer delivered an eloquent speech and extended a cordial welcome to the new Minister, who responded most appropriately. When Col. Buck rose to speak, he was greeted with a rising salute and three cheers; and, after the exercises, he was introduced to most of those present. The Chairman of the meeting was Prof. H. T. Terry, who presided with both gravity and gaiety. The programme occupied only a little over an hour.

The songs of the occasion were printed in blue ink on white paper with a red margin; and on the first page was an American flag. This document made a very nice souvenir of the celebration.

At about half-past seven o'clock supper was served in the little rooms off the assembly hall; and, after supper, fireworks were let off in the campus of St. Paul's College. No more convenient spot could be found for such a celebration. The fireworks were fine and closed with a beautiful set piece representing two American flags.

Special credit is due to the ladies on the general committee for their indefatigable labour; and thanks are due to many volunteers who helped largely.

It was altogether a very delightful and inspiring occasion, to be long remembered by all present. One man remarked that he had not attended such a "Fourth of July" celebration for 21 years. It is to be hoped that hereafter this may be an annual function; and that thus once a year the American residents of Tokyo may unite in showing their love for their native land, that

"Centre of equal daughters, equal sons,
Chair'd in the adamant of Time."

BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI.

1.—Construction of Tientsin Consulate—	
30th fiscal year	13,000.000
31st fiscal year	14,436.800
Total	27,436.860
2.—Construction of Amoy Consulate—	
30th fiscal year	20,000.000
31st fiscal year	33,000.000
Total	53,000.000

3.—Construction of Forts at Tsushima—	
30th fiscal year	61,134.000
31st fiscal year	61,234.000
32nd fiscal year	21,234.000
33rd fiscal year	20,970.180
Total	164,572.180
4.—Construction of Forts at Nagasaki—	
30th fiscal year	43,681.100
31st fiscal year	50,171.000
32nd fiscal year	66,417.000
33rd fiscal year	65,585.000
34th fiscal year	45,512.300
Total	271,366.300
5.—Construction of Forts at Maidzuru—	
30th fiscal year	93,990.000
31st fiscal year	107,860.000
32nd fiscal year	131,630.000
33rd fiscal year	131,630.000
34th fiscal year	131,334.409
Total	596,444.409
6.—Construction of Forts at Hakodate—	
30th fiscal year	71,812.000
31st fiscal year	73,382.000
32nd fiscal year	109,154.000
33rd fiscal year	143,862.000
34th fiscal year	133,806.916
Total	532,016.916
7. Arms and Ammunition—	
30th fiscal year	982,457.515
31st fiscal year	982,457.515
32nd fiscal year	982,457.515
33rd fiscal year	982,427.925
34th fiscal year	966,320.134
Total	4,896,120.604
8. Construction and initial equipment Expenses—	
30th fiscal year	8,344,575.179
31st fiscal year	3,867,691.716
32nd fiscal year	2,218,313.045
33rd fiscal year	2,164,020.390
34th fiscal year	1,192,469.629
35th fiscal year	998,667.944
36th fiscal year	578,009.023
Total	19,363,746.926
9. Manufacture of Arms and Ammunition—	
30th fiscal year	1,642,000.000
31st fiscal year	1,642,000.000
32nd fiscal year	1,642,000.000
33rd fiscal year	1,642,000.000
34th fiscal year	1,642,000.000
35th fiscal year	1,644,538.429
Total	9,854,538.499
10. Despatch of Mechanics abroad—	
30th fiscal year	22,511.040
31st fiscal year	15,492.000
32nd fiscal year	18,618.240
Total	56,621.280
11. Expansion of the Navy 30th year fiscal year—	
Construction of Ships	16,755,944.703
Manufacture of Arms	6,514,993.990
Buildings	1,720,099.015
Total	24,990,947.708
31st fiscal year—	
Construction of Ships	21,565,227.200
Manufacture of Arms	4,564,093.850
Buildings	680,108.460
Total	26,809,429.510
32nd fiscal year—	
Construction of Ships	17,961,223.443
Manufacture of Arms	7,317,740.920
Buildings	4,368,186.763
Total	26,647,158.126
33rd fiscal year—	
Construction of Ships	9,131,585.073
Manufacture of Arms	8,409,179.000
Buildings	1,061,478.537
Total	18,602,242.712
34th fiscal year—	
Construction of Ships	9,048,122.184
Manufacture of Arms	4,358,013.330
Buildings	722,372.410
Total	14,121,507.894
35th fiscal year—	
Construction of Ships	2,708,221.417
Manufacture of Arms	917,137.900

Buildings	505,136.841
Total	413,496.158
36th fiscal year—	
Construction of Ships	1,429,615.000
Manufacture of Arms	838,543.920
Buildings	142,501.956
Total	2,410,660.876
37th fiscal year	
Construction of Ships	237,478.000
Manufacture of Arms	256,189.900
Buildings	49,273.360
Total	533,928.260
38th fiscal year—	
Construction of Ships	55,982.000
Manufacture of Arms	7,524.000
Buildings	8,841.850
Total	72,347.850
12.—Foundation Expenses of Shimose Gunpowder Factory—	
30th fiscal year	179,070.910
31st fiscal year	45,720.875
32nd fiscal year	270.000
Total	225,061.785
13.—Reconstruction of the 1st Dockyard of Kure Admiralty—	
30th fiscal year	120,000.000
31st fiscal year	48,613.490
Total	168,613.490
14.—Reconstruction of Lecture Rooms—	
30th fiscal year	30,000.000
31st fiscal year	60,000.000
32nd fiscal year	70,000.006
33rd fiscal year	86,325.000
Total	246,325.600
15.—Foundation Expenses of Kyoto Imperial University—	
30th fiscal year—	
New Construction	80,000.000
31st fiscal year—	
New Construction	170,000.000
Machines and Repayments	20,000.000
Total	190,000.030
32nd fiscal year—	
New Construction	170,000.000
Machines and Implements	10,000.000
Total	180,000.000
33rd fiscal year.	
New Construction	170,000.000
Machines and Implements	10,000.000
Total	180,000.000
34th fiscal year.	
New Construction	92,795.000
Machines and Implements	6,560.000
Total	99,355.000
16. Founding of Engineering Department in 5th Higher School—	
30th fiscal year	28,100.000
31st fiscal year	28,100.000
Total	56,200.000
17. Founding of the Imperial Library—	
30th fiscal year.	
New Construction	40,000.000
31st fiscal year.	
New Construction	40,000.000
32nd fiscal year.	
New Construction	40,000.000
33rd fiscal year.	
New Construction	28,000.000
Equipments	12,000.000
Total	40,000.000
34th fiscal year—	
New Construction	29,200.000
Equipments	19,800.000
Total	40,000.000
35th fiscal year—	
New Construction	30,000.000
Equipments	10,000.003
Total	40,000.000
36th fiscal year—	
New Construction	40,000.000
37th fiscal year—	
New Construction	40,000.000
18.—Paris International Exhibition.	
30th fiscal year—	
Office Expenses	4,268.870
Travelling Expenses	9,568.820

Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	15,728.350
Expenses connected with displaying Articles	1,500.000
Total	31,066.040
31st fiscal year—	
Office Expenses	4,750.870
Travelling Expenses	768.840
Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	10,458.350
Expenses connected with displaying Articles	108,500.000
Total	124,478.060
32nd fiscal year—	
Office Expenses	43,191.370
Repair and Construction	15,000.000
Travelling Expenses	49,437.490
Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	51,673.350
Expenses connected with displaying Articles	273,500.000
Total	423,802.210
33rd fiscal year—	
Office Expenses	16,420.070
Travelling Expenses	63,371.670
Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	98,125.920
Expenses connected with displaying Articles	95,000.000
Total	272,917.660
34th fiscal year—	
Office Expenses	13,747.320
Travelling Expenses	1,404.100
Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	14,060.850
Total	29,211.270
19.—Periodical Inspection of Weights and Measures—	
30th fiscal year	81,207.936
31st fiscal year	37,894.864
32nd fiscal year	2,031.348
Total	121,104.148
26.—Additional Cable between Tokyo and Sapporo—	
30th fiscal year	188,394.872
31st fiscal year	34,784.049
Total	223,178.921
21.—Additional Cable between Tokyo and Kagoshima—	
30th fiscal year	30,317.782
31st fiscal year	18,722.700
Total	49,040.482
22.—Additional Cable between Tokyo and Aomori—	
30th fiscal year	15,567.989
31st fiscal year	8,958.671
Total	24,526.660
23.—Construction of Nautical Signals at Cape Nuroto—	
30th fiscal year	34,150.000
31st fiscal year	34,150.000
Total	68,300.000
34.—Construction of Nautical Signals at Cape Shioyasaki—	
30th fiscal year	25,008.703
31st fiscal year	49,482.594
32nd fiscal year	25,008.703
Total	99,500.000
25.—Expansion of Telephone System—	
(29th fiscal year)	1,677,964.930
30th fiscal year	577,373.953
(As amended by the House, 8,000,000 yen)	
31st fiscal year	1,971,915.112
32nd fiscal year	1,915,032.423
33rd fiscal year	2,019,043.968
34th fiscal year	1,677,269.429
35th fiscal year	1,514,581.993
36th fiscal year	1,448,924.923
Total	12,802,106.731
26.—Improvement of Existing Government Railways—	
(29th fiscal year)	4,500,000.000
30th fiscal year	3,000,000.000
(As amended by the House, 3,600,000 yen)	
31st fiscal year	3,600,000.000
32nd fiscal year	3,600,000.000
33rd fiscal year	3,600,000.000
34th fiscal year	3,800,000.000
35th fiscal year	3,853,000.000

36th fiscal year	600,000.000
Total	26,553,000.000
27.—Construction of Hokkaido Railways—	
30th fiscal year—	
Hokkaido First Period Railway	998,000.000
Railway Lines Surveying Expenses	2,000.000
Total	1,000,000.000
31st fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	998,722.726
Surveying Expenses	1,277.274
Total	1,000,000.000
32nd fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	998,722.726
Surveying Expenses	1,277.274
Total	1,000,000.000
33rd fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	998,722.726
Surveying Expenses	1,277.274
Total	1,000,000.000
34th fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	998,722.726
Surveying Expenses	1,277.274
Total	1,000,000.000
35th fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	1,935,722.728
Surveying Expenses	1,277.272
Total	1,937,000.000
36th fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	1,935,722.728
Surveying Expenses	1,277.272
Total	1,937,000.000
37th fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	1,935,722.728
Surveying Expenses	1,277.272
Total	1,937,000.000
38th fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	1,935,722.728
Surveying Expenses	1,277.272
Total	1,937,000.000
39th fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	1,935,722.728
Surveying Expenses	1,277.272
Total	1,937,000.000
40th fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	1,935,722.728
Surveying Expenses	1,277.272
Total	1,937,000.000
41st fiscal year—	
Hokkaido 1st Period Railway	1,938,772.728
Surveying Expenses	1,277.272
Total	1,940,050.000
28.—Construction of Otaru Harbour—	
30th fiscal year	250,000.000
31st fiscal year	215,500.000
32nd fiscal year	215,500.000
33rd fiscal year	215,500.000
34th fiscal year	215,500.000
35th fiscal year	215,500.000
36th fiscal year	215,500.000
37th fiscal year	215,500.000
38th fiscal year	215,500.000
39th fiscal year	214,618.369
Total	2,188,618.369
29.—Aid to Navigation on Yangtze—	
30th year	22,600.000
31st to 39th year	149,517.000
40th year	112,160.160
30.—Aid for extending sale of Tea—	
30th to 36th year inclusive	70,000.000

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE IN ENGLAND.

HER MAJESTY RETURNS THANKS.

London, June 20th.

Queen Victoria began the celebration of her Jubilee to-day, as was befitting her entire career, by rendering thanks to God. Throughout London, the United Kingdom, and the Empire were held services similar to those at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, where Her Majesty paid her devotions and offered solemn thanks to the Almighty.

The announcement that the services at St. George's Chapel would be private and for members of the Royal family, prevented the gathering of a large crowd. The scene was most impressive and the services very simple. Her Majesty sat in the chair of state immediately in front of the communion rail, and just behind the brass plate, the inscription on which designates the spot which was the temporary place of interment of the Prince Consort. The Duke of Devonshire and Lord Rosebery occupied their stalls as Knights of the Garter. The rest of the Chapel was empty, the seats of the Royal family being near the Queen's.

The Dean of Windsor, wearing the insignia of Chaplain of the Order of the Garter, officiated, assisted by the Lord Bishop of Derry and several canons. Punctually at 11 o'clock, amid the soft strains of an organ voluntary, the Queen arrived at the cloisters from the entrance. Assisted by her Indian attendant she walked slowly to the chair of state, the congregation standing. She was dressed all in black, except for a white tuft in her bonnet. The Empress Frederick of Germany, attired in deep black, took the seat at the right of the Queen, while the Duke of Connaught, wearing his Windsor uniform, seated himself at her left. The others grouped closely behind, and looked very like a simple family of worshippers. Among them was the Duchess of Connaught, Prince Henry of Prussia and Princess Henry, Prince and Princess Christian, with their children, Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Grand Duke Sergius and the Grand Duchess.

After the first collect, a special collect was read, and instead of the prayer for the Queen and Royal Family, two special prayers were substituted, containing the following:—

"Almighty God, who rulest over all the kings of the world and disposest of them according to Thy good pleasure, we yield Thee unfeigned thanks, for that Thou wast pleased to place Thy servant, our sovereign lady, Queen Victoria, upon the throne of this realm. Let Thy wisdom be her aid and let Thy arms strengthen her, let justice, truth, and holiness, let peace and love flourish in her days. Direct all her counsels and endeavours to Thy glory, and the welfare of her people; and give us grace to obey her cheerfully. Let her always possess the hearts of the people; let her reign be long and prosperous and crown her with immortality in the life to come."

A special prayer for unity was said, and there were special Psalms and Gospels used instead of those for the day, the Gospel being Matt. xxii. 16. "Render therefore unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's."

There was no sermon, but a special hymn, written by the Right. Rev. William Walsham How, Lord Bishop of Wakefield, with music by Sir Arthur Sullivan, was sung at Her Majesty's request. The third verse was as follows:—

"O, royal heart, with wide embrace,
For all her children yearning,
Oh, happy realm, such mother grace,
With loyal love returning,
Where England's flag flies wide unfurled,
All tyrant wrongs repelling;
God make the world a better world,
For man's brief earthly dwelling."

Before the Benediction the following special thanksgiving was offered:—

"O Lord, our Heavenly Father, we give Thee hearty thanks for the many blessings which Thou has bestowed upon us during the sixty years of the happy reign of our gracious Queen, Victoria. We thank Thee for the progress made in knowledge of Thy marvellous works, for kindlier feelings between rich and poor, for wondrous preaching of the Gospels to many nations, and we pray Thee that these and Thy many gifts be continued to us and our Queen, to the glory of Thy holy name, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen."

The choir of St. George's Chapel rendered the musical portion of the service, Sir Walter Parrett presiding at the organ. The service lasted forty minutes, the Queen remaining seated throughout and following closely the special prayers and hymns.

At the end there was a pause. The Queen, with bowed head, continued in silent prayer. Then followed a touching scene, which will ever linger in the memory of those who witnessed it. Summoning the Empress Frederick, who bowed low at her side, the Queen kissed her on both cheeks. The Duke of Connaught and the others of the family receiving on bended knee a similar token of affection. In many cases the recipient was kissed several times. The Queen was profoundly moved and tears rolled down her cheeks. At last, and evidently with great reluctance, she beckoned her Indian attendant, and leaning on his arm, passed slowly out of the chapel, the entire congregation standing, the soft light falling through the multi-coloured windows, and the exquisite strains of the organ rising and swelling beneath the bannered, gothic roof. It was a scene never to be forgotten, and thrilled all present with strong emotions.

SERVICES AT ST. PAUL'S.

London, June 20th.

There were two services at St. Paul's Cathedral to-day, at 11 o'clock a.m. and 3 p.m.

Immense crowds filled all the approaches to the Cathedral at the morning service to catch a glimpse of the royalties and distinguished persons who were announced, including all the Representatives and Envoys. The first to arrive and to be recognised with the greatest interest was the Archbishop of Finland, in purple and black vestments, accompanied by two deacons, and General Kirren in full uniform. Then followed the Chinese Envoy, in gorgeous garments. He was escorted to the choir, where were seated also the Envoys of the United States, Russia, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Brazil, Japan, and Hawaii. Under the dome and behind the richly crimsoned royal pews were the peers and peeresses in full robes, other foreign Envoys and five Colonial premiers, with their families. Others seated in this portion of the edifice were the special delegations from the Royal Society of Antiquaries, the Royal Academy of Art, and the Royal Academy of Music; the Presidents of the principal hospitals and colleges in London, Sir Richard Webster, the Attorney-General, and 200 Queen's counsel in their wigs and gowns.

Just before 11 o'clock the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and the Dean of the Cathedral, with the Cathedral clergy and choir, proceeded to the west door to receive the members of the Royal Family. The aisle was lined with a guard of honour, consisting of the Medical Staff Corps, in view of the fact that it was Hospital Sunday. The members of the Royal Family arrived punctually, and were received with the profoundest respect as they drove through the streets to the Cathedral. Among them were the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, Prince Charles of Denmark and Princess Charles, Prince Albert of Prussia, the Grand Duke and Duchess of Hesse, Grand Duke Sergius of Russia, Prince Waldemar of Denmark, Prince Eugene of Sweden, the Grand Duke of Luxembourg, and the Prince and Princess Frederick-Charles of Hesse. Preceded by the clergy and amid the strains of the processional hymn, "O, King of Kings, whose reign of Old hath been from Everlasting," they proceeded to their seats.

The service was conducted by the Lord Bishop of London; and the Cathedral choir of 100 male voices, assisted by an orchestra of 150 pieces from Covent Garden Opera House and several of the principal theatres, rendered the musical service. The form of service was the same as at St. George's Chapel and was participated in by the vast congregation with evident feeling. To the invocation of the priest,

"Send her help from Thy holy place,"

came the deep response of the kneeling multitude;

"And evermore mightily defend her:"

while in impressive unison came the

"Amen"

following the priest's words,

"Let her reign be long and prosperous, and crown her with immortality in the life to come."

Holy Communion was celebrated, and the sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of London, who touched upon many events in the reign of Victoria, and eloquently extolled her piety, charity and motherly love for her people.

CELEBRATED THROUGHOUT EUROPE.

Special despatches from Paris, Berlin, Vienna, St. Petersburg, and nearly every large city in Europe, show that thanksgiving services were held in the local English churches and were numerous attended. The newspapers in many cities, especially in Vienna and St. Petersburg, publish long eulogistic articles upon the Victorian reign. At

Constantinople the Sultan sent a number of high Ottoman officials to represent him at the service, and the entire diplomatic corps was present. A guard of English bluejackets was drawn up along the main approach to the chapel.

THE QUEEN ARRIVES IN LONDON.

London, June 21st.

Queen Victoria left Windsor Castle at noon, by the Sovereign's entrance, and traversed part of High Thames-street of Windsor on her way to the railway station. Her Majesty's carriage was drawn by a pair of greys with postillions and outriders. The Queen was accompanied by her eldest daughter, the ex-Empress Frederick of Germany, Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and Princess Henry of Battenberg, who occupied the carriage preceding that of Her Majesty. The Queen on arriving at the railroad station at Windsor walked through the private waiting room, leaning on the arm of her Indian attendant, and by a sloping gangway entered her saloon carriage. The train started at 12.10. The royal train arrived at Paddington at 12.30 p.m. The weather was fine and warm. The Queen graciously received the addresses presented to her by the Vicar of Paddington and handed back to him a written reply, expressing gratification at the generous instincts of her people toward the poor, aged, sick and young and which had produced such remarkable results. "The late Prince Consort, like herself," Her Majesty continued, "manifested much interest in charitable institutions and her children shared that feeling, which formed not the weakest tie between herself and her people."

The first triumphal arch was very handsome. It was a castellated structure in imitation of gray stone, covered with ivy and bore the motto: "Their hearts are our throne." The second triumphal arch was at the end of the Edgewater-road. It was covered with a crimson cloth, flowers and flags, and bore the motto, "God Bless our Queen." Next to Paddington the crowds selected Buckingham Palace as the most interesting point to view the proceedings, as the gathering of Envoys and their suites and the officers invited to luncheon to be afterwards presented, had already begun at noon and many were the speculations as to the identity of the officers, as they drove up in special carriages. The police were kept busy attending to fainting women, but the crowds were in the best of humour. A few minutes before 1 o'clock a hoarse roar of cheering in the distance announced the approach of the Queen. The cheering grew in strength until it amounted to a deafening storm as the Sovereign reached the vicinity. The Queen bowed slowly to right and left to the greetings of her subjects. Princesses Christian and Henry of Battenberg sat opposite the Queen and the Empress Frederick. Two Scotch gillies rode behind the carriage. The carriage passed direct to the quadrangle. On entering the palace yard the Duke of Connaught saluted the Queen and she was saluted by the Life Guards. The Queen, after entering the palace, proceeded to her private apartments for luncheon and the Royal and other guests had luncheon in the State supper room. Levee costumes were worn and the suites who were also in levee dress had luncheon in the garden and in the vestibule.

IN PARLIAMENT.

The House of Commons was crowded to-day when the First Lord of the Treasury, Mr. Balfour, moved and Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Liberal leader, seconded an address of congratulation to the Queen. Mr. John Dillon, Chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party, protested. Mr. John Redmond, Parnellite leader, amid laughter from the Conservatives and Unionists, moved an amendment to the address and caused an animated scene. Mr. Redmond protested against Great Britain's rule in Ireland and asked the House to adopt the amendment to the effect that it deemed it its duty to place on record that during the 60 years of Her Majesty's reign Ireland had suffered grievously from famine, poverty, and the continued suspension of its constitutional liberties, with the result that the Irish are discontented and are unable to join in the celebration.

Mr. Redmond's amendment was rejected by a vote of 436 to 7. The address of congratulation to Her Majesty was then adopted by a vote of 439 to 44. When the amendment was put, the anti-Parnellites left the House, but they returned for the main question and on the Speaker saying "The ayes have it," the anti-Parnellites shouted loudly, "Noes have it," whereupon a vote had to be taken. Mr. Balfour then moved that the address be presented to the Queen by the whole House, to which Mr. John J. Clancy, Parnellite member for North Division of Dublin County, said, that after what had occurred the motion was absurd and an absolute untruth. A vote was then taken and it resulted in the adop-

tion of Mr. Balfour's motion by 441 ayes to 41 noes.

In the House of Lords to-day the Marquis of Salisbury, amid cheers, moved and the Earl of Kimberley, Liberal leader, seconded, an address of congratulation to the Queen. The motion was carried unanimously.

JUBILEE HONOURS.

All the Colonial premiers, Mr. William Lecky, the historian, and Sir Herbert Maxwell, the author, have been made Privy councillors. The Prince of Wales is made Grand Master and Principal Knight of the Grand Cross of the Bath; an Earldom is conferred upon Baron Egerton of Tatton, and peerages of the United Kingdom are conferred upon the Earl of Glasgow, Viscount Downe, Lord Justice of Appeal Lopes, the Rt. Hon. Ian Trant Hamilton, and Sir John Burns. The mayors of Leeds and Sheffield are made Lord Mayors, and the Lord Mayor of London, Mr. George Faudel Phillips, is made a Baronet. Mr. Bancroft, the actor, is knighted, and the Chief Justices of Manitoba, Quebec and Ontario, Messrs. Taylor, Taggart, Tait, and Haggerty, are knighted. Sir John Blundell Maple is made a Baronet, and the same honor is conferred upon Sir William MacCormick, M.D., President of the Royal College of Surgeons. Mr. James Pender, the son of the late Sir John Pender, M.P. for the Middle Division of Northamptonshire, and Mr. Samuel Wilks, M.D., President of the Royal College of Physicians and Physician Extraordinary to Her Majesty; Mr. Wyke Bayliss, President of the Royal Society of British Artists; Professor William Crookes, Vice-President of the Royal Society, are made knights. Sir Francis Henry Jenne, President of the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division of the High Court of Justice, is made a Knight Commander of the Bath. The Duke of Coburg has been appointed Admiral of the Fleet. The Order of the Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George has been conferred upon Mr. Wilfrid Laurier, Sir Richard Cartwright and Sir Oliver Mowat.

ENVOYS RECEIVED BY THE QUEEN.

London, June 21.

The Envoys from the different foreign Powers arrived at Buckingham Palace about 2 o'clock and were received by the Master of Ceremonies and his esquires. They were entertained at luncheon and then awaited the summons to present their letters of congratulation from their respective governments to Her Majesty.

Ten minutes before 4 o'clock the Envoys stood in line and went singly to the audience room, to which they were conducted by Colonel the Hon. Sir James Colville, the Master of Ceremonies. The Bow drawing-room in which the Envoys were received is a large room heavily ornamented with gilt and hung with silk. The Queen was dressed in black and wore a widow's cap, the ribbon of the Order of the Garter, and some other orders. She sat in a gilded chair near the centre of the room, the Prince of Wales standing immediately behind her. At her right hand was the Princess of Wales and others of the Royal Family were near Her Majesty or scattered about the room. The Duke of Auerstadt and the Duke of Sotomayor, representing France and Spain, preceded the United States Envoy, Mr. Reid, who was third and followed by the Papal Envoy, Monsignor Sambucetti. All the Envoys presented their letters to the Queen with the lowest obeisance. The Queen took each letter and smilingly addressed two or three sentences of thanks and compliments to each Envoy. Mr. Reid was received in the most cordial manner possible. Her Majesty expressed her sincere thanks to President McKinley and to "the great Nation of our kinsmen."

The Queen looked very well, indeed, she impressed all the Envoys with the sincerity of her thanks for the international compliments paid to her.

The crowds remained about the Palace until a late hour watching the coming and going of the many notabilities.

The Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of York, on returning to Marlborough House, were received with roar upon roar of cheers.

The children of the Duchess of York occupied seats on the garden wall at Clarence House. Their identity was soon discovered and for hours the garden wall was the Mecca of crowds of enthusiastic women and thousands of nurses and children.

THE STATE BANQUET.

The Queen at 8.45 entertained at dinner 90 of her most distinguished guests in the State supper-room at Buckingham Palace. The spacious apartment was a fairy sight, exquisite costumes, diamonds, and countless gems, the most brilliant of uniforms, stars, orders, and crosses without

end, the Royal liveries, the tables and buffet loaded with the famous gold plate, the value of which runs into millions, and Dresden china, flowers and lights glittering up to the highly enriched ceiling, with its foliage and floral ornamentation, while around and over all was that air of old world dignity which is of itself so impressive. This seemed even to be reflected from the great mirrors between the windows and to command the approval of the stately George IV. in his coronation robes upon the walls. Among those present were the Prince and Princess of Wales, with all the members of the Royal Family, the Royal guests, the Envoys of States with the rank of ambassadors, and the great officers of the Household, who were in full court dress. During the progress of the banquet, music was discoursed by the band of the Royal Engineers. The suites of the Envoys and the ladies and gentlemen in attendance dined in the Garden Vestibule. The Yeomen of the Guard were on duty in the Grand Hall and Vestibule. After dinner the Queen proceeded from the grand salon to the ball room to receive her guests, the Envoys and their suites, the Indian princes, the officers of the Imperial forces and of the native Indian escorts, and the officers of the Queen's German Regiment. The Colonial premiers with their wives were presented to Her Majesty by Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the suites of Royal and other guests were presented severally by their chiefs. The Great Officers of State attended in full court dress.

THE SCENE IN THE STREETS.

If the streets to-night can be taken as a forecast for to-morrow, the "Queen's Day" will be signalled by the assembling in London of not less than eight millions of human beings. At all the London termini since early morning people have been pouring into the Metropolis in thousands, and for thousands there is no other shelter than the streets, but the utmost good humour prevails. At midnight the weather is quite warm, but the skies are overcast.

OTHER JUBILEE NOTES.

London, June 21st.

The following is the text of the personal letter to Queen Victoria, which was delivered to Her Majesty by Mr. Whitelaw Reid, the Special Envoy of the United States:—

"To Her Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India: Great and Good Friend,—In the name and on behalf of the people of the United States, I present their sincere felicitations upon the sixtieth anniversary of Your Majesty's accession to the Crown of Great Britain.

I express the sentiments of my fellow-citizens in wishing for your people the prolongation of a reign illustrious and marked by advance in science, arts and popular well-being. On behalf of my countrymen I wish particularly to recognise your friendship for the United States and your love of peace exemplified upon important occasions. It is pleasing to acknowledge the debt of gratitude and respect due to your personal virtues. May your life be prolonged, and peace, honour, and prosperity bless the people over whom you have been called to rule. May liberty flourish throughout your Empire under just and equal laws, and your Government continue strong in the affections of all who live under it.

And I pray God to have Your Majesty in His Holy keeping.

Done at Washington this 28th day of May, A.D. 1897.

Your Good Friend,

WILLIAM McKINLEY.

(By the President.)

JOHN SHERMAN,

Secretary of State."

London, June 21st.

There was a great scene of enthusiasm on the Stock Exchange to-day. The members introduced their lady relatives and friends, which is almost unprecedented. The building was packed to the utmost when Chairman Hatch proposed a vote of congratulation to the Queen. The proposition was received with deafening and repeated cheers, and then all the members sang "God Save the Queen," "Rule Britannia," "God Bless the Prince of Wales," and "Auld Lang Syne." A despatch was received from the New York Stock Exchange, which created an excellent impression.

A FRENCH-CANADIAN OFFERING.

Chicago, June 21st.

The following cable was sent to-day as an expression from the French-Canadian residents of Chicago:

"To Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, London, England:

In this day of universal jubilation, please offer to your Gracious Sovereign the respectful homage of 50,000 compatriots, who cherish the memory of having lived under her beneficent dominion, and take occasion to express their ardent wishes for her happiness and the prolongation of her glorious reign.—(Signed).—Daniel Bergivin, Z. P. Brosseau E. A. Bauvais, Gabriel Franchère, Césaire Gauthier."

A JUBILEE ODE.

London, June 22nd.

The Times this morning publishes a Jubilee Ode from the pen of Sir Lewis Morris. It begins:—

"Rejoice, give thanks for all the centuries
Since first our little Island's crescent story
A feeble radiance, woke the waning skies,
To rise in full-orbed glory."

The ode proceeds to describe the birth and growth of the mighty Empire until the coming of the present reign, and then says:—

"Ne'er in our crowned republic's story yet
Of all that men remember or forget
This strange, this precious thing had been
No reign of three-score years of King or Queen."

"Our annals hold, till, in this waning age
Time's finger writes it on the storied page,
This is the golden link which bind in one
All British hearts beneath the circling Sun."

JUBILEE DAY IN LONDON.

London, June 22nd.

The last stroke had not died away in the midnight air when from a hundred metropolitan steeples a tumultuous peal of bells announced diamond jubilee day. The vast crowd which filled the streets and squares answered with ringing cheers, and here and there singing "God Save the Queen."

The crowds which peopled the streets and squares all night in the hope of a good view of the procession to-day were amazing in their sublime patience. Waiting for twelve, fourteen, and sixteen hours, as many of these people are doing, jammed together, is a feat of endurance that could only be caused by some overmastering desire. Quite half of these jubilee waiters are women, many of them with the pale, careworn look of the London worker, yet all enduring the back-breaking tediousness with the utmost good nature. Some had camp stools, some sat on projections of buildings, on curbstones, or lanned in the doorways and angles made by the stands. Refreshments were in order everywhere, the police had little trouble, a cheery good humour being the note of the night. During the long hours the snatches of song and occasional bursts of cheering showed that the people were determined to enjoy the festival with patriotism and loyalty to the utmost.

A clear, starlit sky and cool air kept the spirits of the crowd at topmost point through the vigil, and with the dawn the hope for Queen's weather merged into certainty, and the world prepared itself in the fullest confidence for a day of pleasure.

The earliest indication of the great event—apart from the people waiting for it—was, shortly before six, the arrival of vestry carts on the freshly-gravelled roadways, after the fashion which prevailed in the good old days of Sam Pepys. Then, a little later, the inevitable precursor of any procession, the police, began to arrive in great numbers, eight thousand being distributed along the line of route. The streets on the north side of the Thames had been closed to ordinary vehicular traffic at 7.30, and on the south side at 8 a.m. London Bridge had been closed to all traffic at midnight, and Westminster bridge and the other bridges between at 5 o'clock this morning, at which hour all persons were removed from Westminster and London bridges.

The first great difficulty of the police was in assisting the owners of seats on stands and houses to get up to them, for there was a vast interval between the title to a seat and the actual possession. The crowds on the sidewalks were quite willing to give a passage to the favoured mortals who owned seats, but to do so was difficult. It was an attempt to divide six into four with no remainder, and the difficulty was further increased by the arrival of troops after 8.30, taking up their appointed places. The wise, however, had reached their seats on the stands and obtained access to the houses, where they had bought windows, by 7 o'clock to 7.30. It was only inevitable that late-comers, who had to push and struggle, in the case of ladies did much damage to their toilets. At length order was evolved out of chaos—many extreme late-comers were peremptorily shut out, and everybody settled down to wait. The picture was complete. The last touches of the decorator and florist had been given, and the fine effect of the decorations could be viewed.

The decorations for Her Majesty's jubilee have

been universal and without stint. Could the Queen have passed this morning through some of the wretched streets of her great London, some of those narrow ill-favoured alleys where pale-faced children have come to believe that the sky is only a yard wide, where there is want and hunger and disease the year around, she could not have found a more striking evidence of her abiding place in the hearts of her people. The resplendent West End, with its crimson glory of great banners, triumphal arches, paterres and costly blossoms mean no more, if half so much, as the tiny paper flag, or a yard or so of narrow red, white, and blue stretched along the window sill and round the common flower pot with its single root—the modest decorations which formed to-day shrines for children in the shadows in Whitechapel, Spitalfields, Hoxton or Shoreditch alleyways.

It is, however, to the six and three-quarter miles of the processional route that one must turn for what is considered the Jubilee decorations. The means employed here have been as varied as the ends achieved. While there is plenty of red, white, and blue, the greater reliance has been placed on royal crimson, trimmed with gold mottoes, beautiful with scrolls, banners, regalia, royal arms, the imperial monograms, portraits of the Queen in every possible form of reproduction and allusions to 1837-1897. In the richer streets there are countless costly blossoms, but paper flowers have not been disdained, and especially in such decorations as are in the streets proper, and the green of evergreen and fir and laurel is the garment on the triumphal arches. Venetian masts, with thin, idly waving pennons and flowers lend more of the picturesque than perhaps anything else. There were no scrolls or decorations stretched across the street, by the Queen's express desire, owing to an accident which befel in the Jubilee 10 years ago, when a falling motto bade fair to frighten the Queen's horses. Naturally, flags of all nations figured conspicuously in this carnival of colour.

Buckingham Palace itself was undecorated save for the Royal Standard, which floated above it. The stands in front and along the garden as far as Hyde Park corner, which were filled with civil servants, household servants, and their friends, were to be noted more for the happy faces they contained than for any prominent decoration, although the long lines of national colours under the trees were decidedly effective. Indeed, it was not until passing Constitution Hill that one was face to face with the great effect and noted what the gradual adornment of last month led to. All old landmarks are there, of course, but the streets are transformed beyond recognition. All seemed like some large fair or gigantic festival. All the houses and clubs, especially from Hyde Park-corner to St. James-street, are ablaze with multi-coloured draperies, relieved with flowers. Red, white, and blue was the prevailing combination, not only in the bunting and cloth, but also in the blooms of the scarlet geraniums, white marguerites, and deep blue lobelias. Of the houses, Devonshire House and Bath House were the most prominent. Bath House was most artistic, having scarlet draperies festooned with yellow and red stripes, escutcheons, and groups of flags, with baskets of flowers here and there. The universal "V.R." with the imperial crown, were not lacking.

St. James-street was completely transformed and presented a brave appearance with its tall venetian masts, streamers, laurel wreaths, and rich festoons. The Devonshire Club was notable with its rich draperies, bearing excellent portraits of Her Majesty. In Pall Mall much colour was shown by the stands. The Wanderers' Club, at the foot of Waterloo Place, was decked in a suit of red, white, and blue. A little further on at the Pall Mall entrance to St. Martin's Parish more ambitious decorations were attempted. Between this point and Exeter Hall were placed eighteenth arches formed of coloured globes or balloons of celluloid, of the kind used in Paris during the Czar's visit. Supporting poles about five feet high were decorated with oriflamme or banneret, and an escutcheon with two flags. The masts carried a garland of 118 globes, each arch and every balloon containing a lamp.

At Exeter Hall, entering the domain of the Strand Board of Works, an abrupt change was made from celluloid balloons to a line of venetian masts paralleled with the footways extending to the law courts and city limits. The masts were gold, with bannerets between graceful loopings, garlands of paper and muslin flowers, which was quite effective, the design being light and striking. The Griffin, the site of Old Temple Bar, was so covered with decoration for both day and night as to be almost unrecognizable.

The Queen started the royal procession at 11.15, and as she did so the sun broke through the

clouds. There was constant cheering during the procession and the best of order prevailed. The ceremony at St. Paul's cathedral passed off without a hitch, and the Queen returned to Buckingham Palace at 12.30 p.m.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE FRENCH ENVOY IN ENGLAND.

London, July 1.

The French special envoy who attended the Jubilee celebrations has expressed himself as deeply gratified at the extremely flattering reception accorded him by Her Majesty the Queen and the Prince of Wales.

REVIEW OF COLONIAL TROOPS.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will inspect the Colonial and Indian troops at Buckingham Palace on Saturday.

MOVEMENTS OF GERMAN MINISTERS.

Herr von Bülow, German Ambassador to Rome, has been replaced.

Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, German Minister for Foreign Affairs, is going to Auerstadt.

GERMAN MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

Dr. Miguel has been appointed Vice-President of the Prussian Council of Ministers, retaining his present position as Minister of Finance. Dr. von Boetticher, Minister of the Interior, has resigned, Graf von Posadowsky-Welmer replacing him.

RIOTING IN CALCUTTA.

London, July 3.

Serious riots have broken out at Chintpur, a suburb of Calcutta. Several Europeans have been injured. Strong forces are patrolling the streets to preserve order.

THE "ADEN" DISASTER.

The survivors from the *Aden* proceed homeward by the P. & O. steamship *India*.

Her Majesty the Queen has telegraphed her sincere sympathy and condolence with the survivors and the bereaved.

The Right Hon. C. T. Ritchie, M.P., President of the Board of Trade, has stated, in reference to the wreck of the *Aden* off Socotra, that he is determined to spare no pains to overcome the difficulties that have hitherto operated against the efficient lighting of Cape Guardafui and the Island of Socotra.

THE JUBILEE REVIEW.

The review of troops at Aldershot was a most brilliant spectacle. Her Majesty the Queen was cheered enthusiastically.

The Colonial, Indian, and Cingalese forces marched past first, with Field-Marshal Lord Roberts at their head, and received a great ovation.

THE TEA TARIFF NEGATIVED.

The following, timed New York, 10.15 a.m. July 3, reached the Tea Guild's Central Office yesterday morning.

After active agitation in favour of the exemption of tea from duty, the proposal to impose duties on tea was disapproved, mainly by the Republicans, and was at last thrown out.

THE U.S. SUGAR TARIFF.

The United States Senate has adopted the clause imposing an extra duty on sugars which have received bounties from the country of production.

THE HAWAIIAN DUTY ON SAKE.

Honolulu (via San Francisco), July 1st. In spite of the protest of the Japanese Government, the Hawaiian Government

has decided to enforce the increased duty on *sake* imported from Japan after the 1st of July.

NEW OPEN PORTS IN KOREA.

Söul, July 5.

At a Cabinet meeting held last night, it was decided to open the ports of Mok-pho and Chin-pam-pho [after the 1st October this year, by a special Ordinance of the King, not specially in pursuance of the Japan-Korea treaty, and the Government notified the decision to the Ministers of different Powers in Korea. Various regulations and by-laws concerning the opening of the ports will be discussed and drawn up at a conference to be held later on.

KOREAN INTELLIGENCE.

Söul, July 6.

Cho Pyöng-ho, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, has resigned, and Min Pyöng-hyök (a younger brother of Ming Yong-chu) has succeeded him.

THE HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION.

THE "STATUS QUO" NOT ACCEPTED.

London, July 6.

Mr. Sherman, U.S. Secretary of State, in his reply to the protest made by Japan, declares that the annexation of Hawaii will in no wise prejudice the legitimate interests of Japan or any other Power in the Pacific, but that he cannot entertain any suggestion with regard to the maintenance of the *status quo*.

THE U. S. TARIFF.

The discussion in the United States Senate on the Tariff Bill has concluded.

TURKEY AND THE POWERS.

Owing to the Porte's repeated delays, the Embassies at Constantinople have presented a Note insisting on a prompt decision of the outstanding question with respect to the delimitation of the new Greco-Turkish frontier.

The Turkish Ministers in Council have unanimously adopted a resolution to maintain Turkey's rights in Thessaly.

THE "ADEN" SURVIVORS.

The P. & O. steamer *India* has arrived at Suez with the survivors from the *Aden*, who are all doing well.

GREAT BRITAIN AND AFRICA.

London, July 7.

An agreement has been signed and sealed, under date 14th May, between King Menelik of Abyssinia and the British Commissioner, Mr. Rodd.

The Hon. W. St. John Brodrick, Under-Secretary for War, has announced that the Egyptian Government will conduct the operations along the Nile, and that it is not intended that Major-General Sir H. H. Kitchener shall be superseded in any way.

The Hon. G. N. Curzon, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has stated that the concession granted to the Mozambique Company has been further extended for twenty-five years. He further declared he was not aware that the Company had been granted fresh privileges in Delagoa Bay.

(GOVERNMENT DISPATCH.)

THE UNITED STATES TARIFF.

New York, July 1.

(Received in Tokyo, July 4.)

The Senate has amended the proposed tariff rates on Japanese silk goods as follows:—On raw *habutaye* (unbleached?) weighing not less than a third of an ounce

and not more than one and a third ounces per square yard, or on pieces dyed in the thread, \$2½ per pound; \$3 on gummed pieces, and \$3½ on goods dyed in the piece or printed.

The final vote on the new Tariff will be taken on July 3.

THE TEA DUTY NEGATIVED.

Washington, July 6.

The Committee of Ways and Means of the Senate has concluded not to impose the duty on tea.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, July 7.

H.M. torpedo-destroyer *Handy* has just arrived.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY")

THE GRAND PRIX.

Hongkong, June 28th, 5.16 p.m.

The following is the result of the Grand Prix de Paris, run on Sunday:—

Doga	...	...	...	...	...	1
Roxelana	...	...	...	...	...	2
Parasol	...	...	...	...	...	3

WRECK OF A PILGRIM STEAMER.

MANY LIVES LOST.

The steamer *Su lan*, of Bombay, has foundered near the island of Socotra. The crew were all saved, being rescued by the P. & O. Australian Mail Steamer *Valetta*. A great many of the native passengers, who were Mahomedan pilgrims, went down in the vessel.

SEVERE EARTHQUAKE AT CALCUTTA.

A terrible earthquake occurred at Calcutta on the 12th inst., the shock lasting for five minutes.

Buildings rocked to and fro on their foundations, and split from roof to basement.

The offices of the *Indian Daily News* and the *Statesman* have been entirely demolished, nothing but a heap of *débris* indicating where they once stood.

Enormous damage has been done to public buildings and other private property besides the offices above referred to.

The railway system has been entirely disorganised, and the lines twisted or rent from the sleepers. The damage is especially severe in Calcutta itself, at Darjeeling, and Tipperah, but so far as can be ascertained Europeans have escaped with their lives.

In Assam a railway train was wrecked.

(FROM "L'AVENIR DU TONKIN")

THE ATTEMPT ON PRESIDENT

FAURE'S LIFE.

FULLER DETAILS.

Paris, June 14.

A leaden tube charged with gunpowder exploded in a thicket in the Bois de Boulogne as M. Felix Faure was proceeding to the race-course at Longchamps. Nobody was injured. The crowd gave the President an ovation. Three individuals who had been arrested on suspicion have been released. The perpetrator of the outrage is unknown. The newspapers consider the affair as of no importance, holding that it was the work of a madman. President Faure has received dispatches from foreign sovereigns and numerous marks of sympathy from France and abroad.

THE EARTHQUAKES IN INDIA.

Several earthquake shocks have been experienced in Calcutta, and much damage is reported. Eight persons were killed. Earthquakes were also felt in Bombay, Simla, Manipur, and Darjeeling.

ANOTHER BOMB OUTRAGE IN PARIS.

Paris, June 17.

This afternoon, a bomb exploded in the Place de la Concorde beside the statue of Strasburg. No damage was done, and no lives were lost. The Place was deserted at the time because of the rain. It is believed that the perpetrator had no intention of killing anyone.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.
The Tokio Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following are the solutions of Problems 325 and 326:—

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 325.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1—Kt to K 5 | 1—K takes Kt |
| 2—B to B 6, ch | 2—K to Q 4 |
| 3—P to K 4, mate | |
| 2—P to K 4, ch | 1—P takes Kt |
| 3—B to B 6, mate | 2—K to Q 5 |
| 2—Q to Q 3, ch | 1—K to Q 5 |
| 3—Q takes P (Q 6), mate | 2—K to B 4 |
| | if 2—K takes Kt |
| 3—B to B 6, mate | 1—Kt to B 6 |
| 2—Kt takes Kt | 2—Anything |
| 3—P to K 4, mate | 1—Kt to B 3 |
| 2—Kt takes Kt | 2—Anything |
| 3—P to K 4, mate | 1—B to Kt 2 |
| 2—Q to Q 3, ch | 2—K to B 4 |
| 3—Q takes P (Q 6), mate | 1—Kt to B 6 |
| 2—Kt to B 6 | 2—Kt takes B |
| 3—P to K 4, mate | 1—P takes P |
| 2—Q to Q 3, ch | 2—K takes Kt |
| 3—B takes P, mate | |

We have received correct solutions of No. 325, from W.H.S., and J.W.E.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 326.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1—P to Q 3 | 1—Kt (B sq) moves |
| 2—B to K 6, mate | 1—B to K 5 |
| 2—P takes B, mate | 1—B to B 6 |
| 2—B takes B, mate | 1—B to R 8 |
| 2—Q takes B, mate | 1—B to R 6, or B 8 |
| 2—B to B 3, mate | 1—Q takes Kt |
| 2—R to B 5, mate | 1—Q to Q 3 |
| 2—Kt to B 3, mate | 1—Q takes P |
| 2—Q takes Q, mate | 1—Kt to Kt 6 |
| 2—Kt to B 3, mate | 1—Kt to B 3 |
| 2—Kt to B 7, mate | 1—Kt to B 5 |
| 2—P takes Kt, mate | 1—P to K 3 |
| 2—Kt to B 6, mate | 1—Kt takes P |
| 2—Q takes Kt, mate | 1—Q to Kt 5 |
| 2—Kt takes Q, mate | |

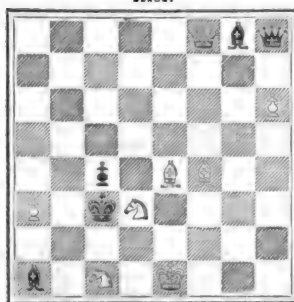
Correct solution of No. 326 has been received from W.H.S.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNEY.

A Chess Tournament by correspondence will be started next month and players desirous of taking part, are requested to forward their names and addresses at earliest opportunity. Further particulars will follow shortly.

PROBLEM No. 328.

By CARL KONDELK.



WHITE.
White to play, and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 734.

The following is the 21st, and last, game in the recent Pillsbury-Showalter match:—

(QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.)

- | White—H. N. Pillsbury. | Black—J. W. Showalter. |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 P Q4 | 1 Kt xB |
| 2 P Q4 | 2 B K5 |
| 3 Kt QB3 | 24 P B4 |
| 4 B K5 | 25 R QKt |
| 5 P K3 | sq |
| 6 Kt B3 | 26 P K5 |
| 7 R B xq | 27 R Kt7 |
| 8 B B4(a) | 28 P xP |
| 9 B xP | 29 Q xB |
| 10 B Kt13 | 30 P R6 |
| 11 B Q3(b) | 31 K K2 |
| 12 P xKt | 32 Q xQ |
| 13 P B4(c) | 33 K xKt |
| 14 P xP | 34 P Kt4 |
| 15 K B xq | 35 R Kt7 |
| 16 P B5 | 36 P xR |
| 17 B Q6 | 37 P xP |
| 18 Kt K5 | 38 B xP |
| 19 Q B3 | 39 R Kt sq |
| 20 P KR4 | ch |
| 21 Q Kt3 | 40 B K4 |

NOTES.

- (a) It is no retreat to retire here, for 4—Kt to Kt 5 is no more a wasted move than the pin of the Kt in the Ruy Lopez.
(b) Better than 21—B to Kt 3, as in an earlier game, whereupon 22.... P to Q R 4.
(c) He must prevent P to B 5, fixing him with a weak QBP and an inferiority of pawns on the Queen's side.
(d) This loses him the game and the match. He does not see that his other bishop can be deprived of further interest in the game.
(e) No doubt Black feared the sacrifice, if 19.... P to B 3, of 20—Kt takes P, P takes Kt, 21—B takes P, with winning prospects.
(f) This loses right off, but we think White should win anyhow.

OVER THE CHESS BOARD.

The *China Mail* reports under date July 1st:—At the Hongkong Chess Club, Mr. Pollock the donor of the Championship cup, has won back this trophy from the most brilliant of our numerous brilliant Portuguese players, Mr. P. C. de Souza. The score of the final match was Pollock 2, Souza 1, drawn 3. This cup was held first by Mr. E. Bischoff, who lost it to Lieut.-Colonel the O'Gorman, who in his turn was defeated by Mr. Souza. From him Mr. Pollock won the cup in April of last year, and having held it for nearly three months resigned it to him again without a contest in July. A few weeks longer in Mr. Souza's possession would have made the cup his own property, but now it will have to be held a twelve-month.

Mr. Lewis Walker and other well-known Ceylon players have organised a Chess Club for Colombo. The subscription is ten rupees so it should speedily become a numerous body. They anticipate the support of the Bishop when he returns to the island, and if successful such a Club should serve a use that is almost world-wide, a chess port of call for players travelling out or home to and from all parts of the East and Australia.

The International Tournament in Berlin has been postponed until September and will very probably be well attended. It is said that both Pillsbury and Steinitz will specially come over from New York to play, and as there seems to be no chance of any masters' tournament in England, most of the English masters will likewise compete.

On June 2nd, in the Washington Chess Club, Pillsbury played simultaneously thirty games of Chess, and six of Checkers, against the best players of Washington. After five hours, the last game was finished. Pillsbury won 27 games of Chess, and four of Checkers, and lost only one game of Checkers; the others were draws.

TIPS IN THE OPENINGS.

I.—CENTRE GAMBIT.

Roger J. Wright (Vice-President of the Sussex Chess Association), has suggested a new variation in the Centre Gambit, which deserves consideration. He works it out thus:—

- | WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 P K4 | P K4 | 3 Q xP | Kt QB3 |
| 2 P Q4 | P xP | 4 Q Q3 | |

White's fourth move, instead of the usual move of Paulsen's—viz., 4—Q to K 3—is the novelty. It avoids the annoying attacks on the Queen which generally follow the usual move.

II.—EVANS GAMBIT.

E. Lasker maintains (1) that the compromised defence is favourable to the second player; (2) that the normal form of the Evans yields to White a lasting and very dangerous attack on the King's side; and (3) that Black has a simple and safe way of evading all difficulty if he will immediately give back his material advantage. Thus:—

- | WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|----------|----------|---------------|------------|
| 1 P K4 | P K4 | 6 Castles (b) | P K3 |
| 2 Kt KB3 | Kt QB3 | 7 P Q4 | P Q3 (c) |
| 3 B QB4 | B QB4 | 8 P xP | P xP |
| 4 P QKt4 | B xP | 9 Q xQ | Kt xQ |
| 5 P B3 | B R4 (a) | 10 K xP | Kt KB3 (d) |

NOTES.

- (a) Better than the usual 5.... B to B 4, which gives White more chances for attack.
(b) If White plays 6—P to Q 4 Black has the option of bringing about the "Compromised Defence," which is favourable to the second player.
(c) Black gives up the pawn previously gained for the purpose of simplification.
(d) White queen's side is disarranged for the end game, and Black has a better disposed position for the ending. The white Queen's Bishop's pawn is weak. It is also an obstacle to White's effective development.

The above, says Mr. Gunsberg, may be quite true, but, with due respect to Mr. Lasker, we believe that ordinary amateurs will find much smoother sailing by declining the Gambit with B to Kt 3.

III.—ANDERSSON OPENING.

Prince Dadeau A. Mongrelia points out in *La Strategie* that, although the opening 1—P to Q R 3 followed by 2—P to Q 4 is generally believed to be the invention of Anderssen, it is to be found in a game played between Kieseritzky and St. Amant, and published as No. 1,009 in Walker's "Chess Studies."

IV.—KIESERITZKY'S DEFENCE IN THE "EVANS."

Kieseritzky's Defence, in the Evans gambit of 5.... B to Q 3, is thought to be the best way of meeting that formidable attack. "The Theoretical Big Wigs" declared such a defence to be bad, because it cramped Black's game unnecessarily, but they apparently overlooked the fact that Black had just gained a pawn, and to maintain the advantage he had better be content to have a cramped game for some considerable time. If he can maintain the material advantage without losing more in position than will counterbalance it he must inevitably win the game. By playing the suggested move, viz., B to Q 3, Black prevents White from establishing his pawns in the centre as in most variations, and White's pawn at Q B 3 not only becomes isolated, but for a long time is actually an obstruction, preventing Q Kt from coming out to his best advantage and otherwise remaining a source of weakness and aggravation to White—more so perhaps, than Black's cramped position is to him. Now, it is clear that if Black can only emerge from the opening moves without being overwhelmed by the attack, the result must be favourable to him. Such no doubt was Kieseritzky's idea, and practical play has demonstrated its goodness. Of course, it spoils the beautiful Evans gambits, which are produced when the moves are played in the so-called "regular" manner—that is to say in the way laid down by analysts, which makes the play mostly in favour of the attack.

V.—STAUNTON'S OPENING.

Miron, of the *New York Clipper*, says, that Staunton's opening is likely to become fashionable again in the States. Recently he defended the attack in this wise:—

- | WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| 1 P K4 | P K4 | 5 K P xP | Q xP |
| 2 Kt KB3 | Kt QB3 | 6 Kt xP | Kt xKt |
| 3 P B3 | P Q4 | 7 Q xKt | Q xQ |
| 4 P Q4 | K P xP | | |

And Black won in a little over 20 moves.

VI.—RUY LOPEZ.

E. Lasker holds that 3.... Kt to B 3 is the only safe defence to the Ruy Lopez attack. By means of sundry variations which he has worked out on his own account he proves that Steinitz's favourite 3.... P to Q 3 is weak. He also demonstrates that 3.... P to Q R 3 is unsound. He does this by showing that the first player in addition to forcing the second player to weaken his queen's side, can compel him to engage both the Queen and the Queen's Rook in looking after the advanced pawn on the Queen's wing. When the first player has succeeded in these lines of play, he can attack the adverse knight at his leisure.

AN END GAME.

THE FORSYTH NOTATION.

The young player might take out his chessboard and men. Place the board in the position for action, with himself as the white general. Place a black rook on the top left-hand corner square, leave four spaces, and place on the adjoining square a black rook, and a space is then followed by the black king. In the next row leave five spaces, and then put a black pawn on each of the three remaining spaces. The next two rows have no pieces on them. In the fifth row first leave three spaces, then put on a black pawn, a space is followed by a white knight, after which are

two spaces. In the next row one square is followed by a white bishop, a black bishop and five spaces. The next row has two spaces, a white pawn, and five empty squares. The last row has an empty square, a white king, a white rook, four spaces, and another white rook. Black has eight and White six pieces.

Instead of so writing the position of the pieces, a neater method was first pointed out by Mr. Forsyth, of Scotland, in 1883. It is exactly as above, only the White pieces are represented by capital, and the Black pieces by small, letters. Numbers represent spaces. Thus:—r 4 r 1 k 5 p p p 8/8/3 p 1 Kt 2/1 B b 5/2 P 5/1 KR 4 R/; or, more briefly, r 4 r 1 k 5 p p p 19 p 1 Kt 3 B b 7 P 6 KR 4 R. (Instead of Kt, N is sometimes written) 8 + 6. White to play.

The reader has now on the board before him a position set up from the Forsyth Notation. It shows the ending of a game between moderately good players. He will observe that White is threatened with..... R to Q R 8 mate. While meditating whether it would not be more dignified to resign than be checkmated, a gleam of hope shot before him in his desperate plight. On examination the fact was revealed that White can win the game. How is it done? The problem is not too difficult.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 10th.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 9th.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Wednesday, July 8th.
From Hongkong.....	per O. & O. Co.	Wednesday, July 8th.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 12th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. F. R. Co.	Monday, July 13th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 9th.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Aug. 4th.

- 1 Ancona left Nagasaki on July 7th.
- 2 City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco via Honolulu on June 26th.
- 3 Ernest Simon leaves Shanghai on July 9th.
- 4 Belgic left Hongkong on July 6th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 12th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 11th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 11th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 12th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. F. R. Co.	Monday, July 13th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 14th.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 10th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 3rd July,—San Francisco, 17th June, Mails and General.—O & O. S. S. Co.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Williams, 4th July,—Australia via ports, and Hongkong, 27th June, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Ferguson, 5th July,—London via ports, and Kobe 3rd July, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 5th July,—Hongkong via ports, 26th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,879, A. D. Baker, 5th July,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 4th July, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

St. John, American ship, 1,820, Fales, 6th July,—New York, 18th January, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Senta, German steamer, 2,660, Voss, 7th July,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 29th June, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Henry Fybus, 7th July,—Vancouver, B.C., 26th June, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Frey, Norwegian steamer, 1,948, Bentzen, 7th July,—New York, and Kobe 5th July, General.—Frazar & Co.

Hohenollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker, 7th July,—Hongkong, 2nd July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, P. O. Marshall, 8th July,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 7th July, Mails & General.—C. P. R. Co.

Eclairer (10), French cruiser, Captain Texier, 8th July,—Kobe.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Day, 9th July,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 20th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 9th July,—Shanghai via ports, 3rd July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 4th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, R.N.R., 5th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O & O. S. S. Co.

Tamarind, Norwegian steamer, 750, John Dannevig, 5th July,—Moj, Ballast.—Captain.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, E. Warrall, 6th July,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Trocas, British steamer, 4,200, Parsons, 6th July,—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 6th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, D. C. Gregor, 7th July,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Della, German steamer, 3,200, Christiansen, 7th July,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Henry Fybus, 8th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails & General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 8th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, Jones, 8th July,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Williams, 8th July,—Melbourne via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Grafton (12), British cruiser, Capt. E. P. Jones, 8th July,—Hakodate.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 9th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco:—Mrs. S. Brower, Messrs. T. L. Brower, S. Ishida, F. Morrison, H. B. Plant, and J. W. Wilson in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. W. W. Hoole in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. T. W. Ogilvie in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Schiller, Mrs. C. Gorham, Miss H. Stone, Mr. D. Dalymple, Mr. T. Takata, Mr. C. Wilkins, Miss. Fried, Mrs. N. Arthur, Mr. J. W. Adams, Captain W. H. Crawford, Mr. W. Eckenstein, and Mr. R. Finch in cabin. For San Francisco:—Genl. Del. Kemper, Mr. E. H. Kemper, Mr. W. B. Leabury, Jr., Mr. J. N. Boyd, Miss M. Aldrich, Captain C. M. Nichole, Baron V. der Goetz, Mr. G. F. Gardner, Miss S. Kemper, Mr. Del. Kemper, Jr., Mr. V. Porter, Captain Rich, Mr. Lee Foh, Mr. F. Such, Mr. L. Y. Fong, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ah Ping, and Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Ling, child and maid in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. B. N. Gray.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver:—Mr. G. R. Akau, Mr. E. R. Bender, Miss Ella Blackstock, Mr. Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. Delorme and maid, Mr. & Mrs. Dautremere, infant and two maids, Master Dautremere, Miss A. Dautremere, Miss Marie Dautremere, Mr. Hardt, Mr. Ikuto, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Kidston, Mr. T. A. J. Noorblai, Com. C. L. Napier, R.L., Mr. J. F. Riepert in cabin; 6 in second class; 70 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. Caldicott, Mr. F. Hobson, Mr. G. F. M. Ennis, Mr. Wong Hee Chong, Mr. and Mrs. Hope-Murray, Mr. and Mrs. Bratton and child, Rev. and Mrs. Williams, Lt. P. G. Davies, Lt. E. C. Creagh, Mr. G. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Stevens and 2 children, Miss Lasson, Mr. W. S. Emers, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Caldicott, Miss L. Rankin, Master Hearn, Mr. L. J. Cubitt, Mrs. P. B. Weff, Rev. B. D. Lucas, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Garrit and child, Mr. G. Detring and servant, Miss Morton, Mrs. Drummond and child, Mr. A. R. Colquhoun, Mr. J. R. Michael, Col. E. Bernoff, Capt. Ballman, Mr. and Mrs. Vail and 3 children, Rev. J. H. Correll, Miss A. Byng, Miss Russell, Rev. Fulkerson, Rev. Rev. A. Oltmans, Miss Kidwell, Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Wilson and 2 children, Miss Zivemar, Miss Morrison, Rev. and Mr. Demaree and child, Rev. and Mrs. Moseley and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kuhn, Mr. N. E. Reynell, Mr. and Mrs. T. de Berigny, Mr. P. Kleinwort, Mr. W. W. Campbell, Mr. A. H. Koch, Mr. Pow Tong-chow, Mr. Abenheim, Mr. A. N. McConnell, Mr. E. T. Bethell, Mr. and Mr. Voorhees, Master Voorhees, Mr. C. N. Crosse, Mr. and Mrs. Bull, Mr. Ah Chun, Mrs. Collins, and Mr. Collins in cabin; 4 in second class; 352 steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Ah Ping, child and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Ah Sing, Miss Aldrich, Miss Mary Alexander, Mr. W. T. Barbour, Miss E. S. Barbour, Mr. G. W. Bargmann, Miss Beesley, Mr. J. W. Blabon, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Baron F. van der Bruggen, Mr. Jas Cheetham, Mr. W. H. Conrad, Mr. Blaze M. Doroshevitch, Mr. W. Eckenstein, Mr. A. H. Emanuel, Mr. C. Fairchild, Baron Henry Foy, Baron von der Galetz, Lt. V. Garde, Mr. C. F. Gardner, Miss Gordon, Mr. R. N. Gray, Lieut. S. Hansen, Miss Johnson, Mr. F. Kammerzell, Mr. del Kemper, Miss del Kemper, Mr. H. del Kemper, Genl. del Kemper, Mr. Lai Yik Fong, Mr. Lee Foh, Mr. and Mrs. A. Lecler, Mr. M. Lennon, Mr. H. D. Levinsohn, Mr. Paul May and valet, Miss Moore, Lieut. Neilson, Capt. Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Neumann, Capt. C. M. Nichols, Mrs. L. Oliver, Mrs. V. Porter, Captain W. W. Rich, Mr. T. Schwarz, Mr. W. B. Seabury, Jr., Mrs. Seymour and maid, Miss Seymour, Mr. W. S. Stone, Mr. T. Snick, Mr. A. Von Vietenghoff, Mr. K. Watanabe, Mr. Albert Waterhouse, Mr. H. Waterhouse, Miss Wehnann, Mr. O. B. Wickham, and Miss H. K. Wilder in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver:—Mr. Edgar Allen, Mr. N. Ariga, Mr. J. C. Bancroft, Col. E. Bernoff, Capt. Bollman, Mr. R. Brunner, Mr. G. R. Burnham, Mr. H. Caldicott, Mr. Hong He Chong, Mr. E. G. U. Clark, Mr. Ugo Cohen, Mrs. Ugo Cohen, Mr. A. R. Colquhoun, Mr. A. Coxon, Mr. L. J. Cubitt, Rev. T. W. B. Demoree, Mrs. T. W. B. Demoree and child, Mr. G. Detring and valet, Miss Donnelly, Mrs. Drummond and child, Col. W. A. Eden, Mrs. W. A. Eden, Mr. G. F. M. Ennis, Mr. A. Finch, Rev. J. C. Garrit, Mrs. J. C. Garrit and child, Master Hearn, Mr. W. N. Johnston, Mr. M. Koike, Mr. H. W. Lea, Rev. B. D. Lucas, Mr. J. R. Michael, Mr. G. N. Monkhouse, Miss M. C. Morrison, Miss Morton, Rev. C. B. Moseley, Mrs. C. B. Moseley and 2 children, Mr. H. J. Owen, Miss L. Rankin, Mr. F. R. Sothern, Mr. Geo. R. Throne, Mrs. Geo. R. Throne, Miss Thorne, Mr. A. E. Trew, Miss Veazey, Mr. James Walter, Mrs. James Walter and maid, Miss Alice Walter, Master Hebdon Walter, Master Maurice Walter, Mrs. F. B. Webb, Mr. Percy Williams, Mr. T. Yamashita, and Miss N. Zwemar in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market, generally, has improved slightly. A few transactions in piece goods have taken place, for the most part to fill country orders, and there has been a fair business in yarns, at better rates. Little or nothing has been done in woollens or fancies.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$2 50 to 2 80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds, 45 inches	2 80 to 3 35
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 32 inches	1 80 to 1 90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1 95 to 2 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2 00 to 3 75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens black, 32 inches	0 18 1/2 to 0 25
	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 9 90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0 75 to 1 00
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 2 4 1/2, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 50 to 1 70
Turkey Reds—2 8 to 3 1/2, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 75 to 2 10
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4 1/2, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 40 to 2 70
Turkey Reds—4 8 to 5 1/2, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	3 00 to 3 50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel.....	\$0 30 to 0 50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0 35 to 0 41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	
Medium.....	0 30 to 0 32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	
Common.....	0 25 to 0 27 1/2
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0 15 to 0 22
Cloth—Pilots, 51 1/2 56 inches	0 35 to 0 50
Cloth—Presidents, 51 1/2 56 inches	0 60 to 0 75
Cloth—Union, 54 1/2 56 inches	0 50 to 0 85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0 50 to 0 60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PIECE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles.....	\$3 00 to 41 50
Nos. 28/32, Singles.....	41 00 to 43 00
Nos. 38/42, Singles.....	40 00 to 48 00
Nos. 42, Doubles.....	46 00 to 48 00
Nos. 42, Doubles.....	51 75 to 54 50
Nos. 1/60, Plain.....	61 00 to 62 00
Nos. 2/80, Plain.....	75 00 to 77 00
Nos. 2/100, Plain.....	99 00 to 100 00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed.....	72 00 to 79 00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed.....	89 00 to 95 00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed.....	110 00 to 127 00

RAW COTTON.		PER PICUL.
American Middling	.....	\$24.00 to 24.50
Indian Broach	.....	21.00
Chinese	.....	21.50

IMPORTERS.
Importers have again raised their prices on account of further advances in laid-down cost. In spite of this dealers have purchased largely of Bars, Plates, Sheets, and Pig iron.

PER PICUL.	
Round and square 4 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.20 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.20 to 5.50
Galvanized iron sheets	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Pig Iron, per box	5.70 to 5.80
Pig Iron, 100 lb. to 15 inch	2.00 to 2.15
Loop Iron (1 to 15 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

IRON.
The market has slightly improved, and promises to be brisker. Sales have been made both in American and Russian at former rates.

American	.....	\$2.00 to 2.05
Russian	.....	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	.....	—

SUGAR.
A good business has been done in Brown, sales amounting to 29,923 piculs against 34,886 piculs arrived, rates having risen slightly in some sorts. In White sales have been steady at former rates.

PER PICUL.	
Brown Taka	3.50 to 3.70
Brown Manila	4.25 to 5.00
Brown Dailong	2.80 to 3.00
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.
RAW SILK.
A reaction has taken place in the last few days. Holders have oversteered their market and all is in suspense. Buyers are holding off entirely for New York and not much doing for Europe. We withdraw quotations until there is some regular market.

QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 2, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 3, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 4, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 5, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 6, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 7, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 8, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 9, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 10, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 11, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 12, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 13, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 14, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 15, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 16, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 17, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 18, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 19, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 20, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 21, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 22, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 23, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 24, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 25, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 26, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 27, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 28, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 29, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 30, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
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Filatures—No. 33, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
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Filatures—No. 87, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
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Filatures—No. 90, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
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Filatures—No. 92, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 93, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 94, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 95, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 96, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 97, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 98, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 99, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 100, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—

WASTE SILK.
Samples of new crop are coming in but there is no talk about quotations at present.

QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshi, Good	—
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Second	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	—

TEA.
The demand has been steady during the past week and a fair business has been transacted at former rates. The quality of the second picking is not so good in leaf as last year, but the cup is fair. Daily sales in Yokohama have varied from 12 to 78,000 catty, the average being about 25,000 catty, and in Kobe from 70,000 to 80,000 catty. The *Kaisu* on the 6th took 46,000 lbs. for Europe, the *China*, sailing on the 8th for San Francisco, took 23,239 chests and the *Empress of India* on the 9th, for Vancouver 21,139 chests. Total settlements to date for the season are 140,367 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest	30 to 31
Choice	27 to 28
Finest	24 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

EXCHANGE.
Exchange, in sympathy with silver, remains weak.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11 1/2
— Bills on demand	1/11 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/4
On Paris—Bank sight	2.50
— Private 4 months' sight	2.54
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3/0 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	3/0 1/4
On Shanghai—Bank sight	74
— Private 10 days' sight	74 1/2
On India—Bank sight	159 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	165 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	49 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.02 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.06 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[MESSRS. BISSET & URB'S LIST.]

Yokohama, July 9th.
Mail advices from China bearing dates up to the 30th ultimo from Hongkong and 2nd instant from Shanghai report the following changes in the share market.

Canton Insurances have declined from \$182.50 to \$180; Olivers Mines B shares \$7 to \$6.50; Hongkong Hotels \$49 to \$48.50; Hongkong Ropes \$174 to \$173; Campbell, Moores \$8.50 to \$8; Perak Sugars Tls. 40 to Tls. 38; Shanghai Cottons Tls. 107 to Tls. 106; International Cottons Tls. 120 to Tls. 115; Laon-Kung-Mows Tls. 123 to Tls. 118; American Cigarettes \$72.50 to \$72; Sumatras Tls. 114 to Tls. 109; Shanghai Lankats Tls. 585 to Tls. 580 and Municipal 1893 Debentures from Tls. 105 to Tls. 101.

The only rise to be reported is in Green Islands from \$35.50 to \$36.

In forward settlements China Fires have been registered at \$107 for September (\$103 cash); China Sugars at \$147, \$148 and \$149 for September (\$141 to 144 cash); Hongkong Banks at 192 per cent. premium for July (190 per cent. cash); Indo-Chinas (Tls. 26 cash) at Tls. 37.50 for September; International Cottons (Tls. 120 to Tls. 115 cash) at Tls. 117 and Tls. 116 for July and Tls. 120 for December; Laon-Kung-Mows (Tls. 123 to Tls. 118 cash) at Tls. 120 and Tls. 119 for July; Sumatra Tobaccos (Tls. 111 to Tls. 109 cash) at Tls. 112 for July and Tls. 115 for September; and Shanghai Lankats (Tls. 580 cash) at Tls. 610 for August and Tls. 670 for December.

A wire was received in Hongkong from the Manager of the Olivers Mines reporting a crushing of 200 tons at the Eureka Mines from which an ounce of gold to the ton was obtained.

It is rumoured that the profits of the H. & S. Bank exceed those of the last half year by \$350,000, which means a net profit of over \$1,800,000, not including the balance of over \$300,000 brought forward from last year.

Locally, we have no change to report. The market is very strong with buyers of nearly every stock, viz: Grand Hotels at \$215; Club Hotels at \$75; Iron works at \$165; Breweries at \$355; North & Raes at \$175; Langfeldts at \$200; Brewery Debentures at \$110 and Y. U. Club Debentures at \$100. There are sellers of Oriental Hotel Founders at \$450; Breitts at \$7.50; Hyogo Gas at \$180; and Breitt Debentures at \$104. We quote Oriental Hotels steady at \$140.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50	185 ex div. Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100	315 B.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	315 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	75 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	140 St.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Pdn.)	\$100	410 S.
North and Raes, Ltd.	\$100	275 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd.	\$100	750 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd.	\$100	800 Sa.
Illoilo Gas Co., Ltd.	\$100	180 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb.	\$100	110 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	210 B.
Yokohama United Club Deb.	\$100	300 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	104 S.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo, July 9th.

Five per Cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds	94 7/8
Redemption Loan Bonds	97 1/2
War Loan Bonds	97 1/2
New Public Loan Bonds	95 1/2
Old Public Loan Bonds	95 1/2
Naval Loan Bonds	96 1/2
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99 1/2
Japan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	91 1/2
Sanyo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	45 1/2
Ryomo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	88 1/2
Kansai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	56 1/2
Kobe Railway Company—paid up yen 45	111 1/2
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 41	35 1/2
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up yen 25	34 1/2
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 50	85 1/2
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 25	83 1/2
Saigai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	80 1/2
Kawagoe Railway Company—paid up yen 50	84 1/2
Chikuo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	72 1/2
Hantan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	43 1/2
Boso Railway Company—paid up yen 50	44 1/2
Sobu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	96 1/2
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50	77 1/2
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up yen 44	5 1/2
Toyokawa Railway Company—paid up yen 35	38 1/2
Hokuyetsu Railway Company—paid up yen 33	32 1/2
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47 1/2	30 1/2
Seiwa Railway Company—paid up yen 5	1 1/2
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 18 1/2	7 1/2
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 30	18 1/2
Kozuke Railway Company—paid up yen 50	35 1/2
Nanase Railway Company—paid up yen 37 1/2	99 1/2
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	55 1/2
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up yen 25	25 1/2
Domestic Transport Company—paid up yen 40	28 1/2
Japan Transport Company—paid up yen 25	5 1/2
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	800 1/2
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25	83 1/2
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up yen 25	77 1/2
Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 50	56 1/2
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	79 1/2
Miyu Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	90 1/2
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 15	16 1/2
Japan Weaving Company—paid up yen 50	80 1/2
Tokyo Tramway Company—paid up yen 50	800 1/2
Japan Beer Company—paid up yen 40	70 1/2
Japan Cement Company—paid up yen 45	31 1/2
Tone Canal Company—paid up yen 70	73 1/2
Fuji Paper Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 50	65 1/2
Sapporo Sugar Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 47	65 1/2
Hokkaido Hemp Mann. Co.—paid up yen 50	30 1/2
Japan Seaweed Company—paid up yen 25	33 1/2
Yokohama Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 41	80 1/2
Shingawa Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 31	41 1/2
Tokyo Electric Light Company—paid up yen 45	62 1/2
Tokyo Gas Company—paid up yen 50	89 1/2
Doshin Kaisha—paid up yen 50	18 1/2
Tokyo Marine Insurance Co.—paid up yen 100	70 1/2
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	312 1/2
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	150 1/2
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 150	372 1/2
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	54 1/2
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	16 1/2

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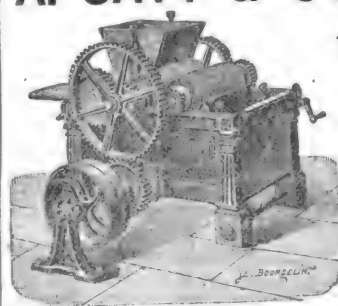
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November 21st, 1896.

37.

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17.

969



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June, 1896.

37

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 3.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 17TH, 1897.

月三年五十二明治 Vol. XXVIII.
西曆一千九百零七年七月三十日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 17TH, 1897.

DEATH.

On the 15th July, at the Yokohama General Hospital, CAMILLE LASSUCHETTE, of Paris, aged 28 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE weather still continues very damp and cold.

MOUNT SHIRANE and Bandai-san have broken out in eruption.

FORTY-FIVE emigrants left Kobe for Hawaii on the 14th instant.

H. I. H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA, left Paris for home on the 13th instant.

TURKEY is putting every obstacle in the way of peace negotiations.

THE Yokohama Electric Light Co. has declared a dividend of 11 per cent.

THE *Fiyuto*, or Liberal Party, are arranging to have a grand procession at Ueno, Tokyo, on the 18th inst.

FIVE men were killed in an explosion on board the Italian cruiser *Bassan*, when firing a salute on the 26th ult.

THE American sealing barque, *Cape Horn Pigeon*, has been wrecked at Hakodate. The crew were saved.

Molly Bawn won the first, and *Mary* the second prize presented by the French Residents,

on the Fourteenth of July in the sailing race for the big boats, and *Undine* that for the 17 Raters.

A GRAND regatta is to be held on Lake Biwa on the 18th inst., in which a number of schools will compete.

THE Liberals (*Fiyuto*) are to hold a grand lecture meeting at the Kinkikwan, Kanda, on the 19th inst.

THE heavy rain of Wednesday evening did considerable damage to property on, and at the foot of, the Bluff.

THE Imperial Court is still at Kyoto. It is expected that the Crown Prince will pass the summer at Hakone.

THE Tokyo Tramway Company has declared a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 30 per cent. per annum.

AT the Jubilee review of the British fleet at Portsmouth there were assembled 167 British and 15 foreign warships.

THE Mitsu-bishi Company propose constructing a dock at Wada, Kobe, capable of accommodating vessels of over ten thousand tons.

THE revised treaties between Spain, Portugal and Japan having been ratified, will shortly be promulgated under Imperial Ordinance.

ABOUT 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 14th inst. a violent thunderstorm, accompanied by a perfect deluge of rain, visited Yokohama.

MR. WOLHEIM, formerly *Chargé d'Affaires* for Mexico at Tokyo, now at home, is expected to return to Japan as Minister at an early date.

THE presentation of diplomas to the graduates of the Nobles' School (Boys) took place at the Akasaka Detached Palace on the 15th instant.

A TORPEDO, believed to be one which was lost by H.M.S. *Edgar* last year, was fished up by some fishermen off Honmoku on the 15th inst.

SEVERE floods have resulted from heavy rains in Fukui Prefecture. Several persons have been drowned and over 4,000 houses have been flooded.

A TELEGRAM from Taipeh under date of 8th inst. reports that the new cases of plague at Tainan numbered 11 in all from the 4th to the 6th inst.

CAPTAIN UCHIDA and the crew that are to bring out the new cruiser *Takasago Kan* from England, left here by the *Hakata Maru* on Tuesday for London.

MR. LI KAI, late Korean Minister to Japan, who returned to the Peninsula some months ago, will again come to Japan about October in the capacity of Minister.

FIRE broke out in the coal bunkers of the steamer *Kinryu Maru* on the 11th inst., but was extinguished without serious damage to the hull or cargo of the vessel.

THE British steamer *Pegu* has been pirated in the Straits of Malacca by Achinese, and the Captain and seven of the crew murdered, sixteen others being wounded.

THE new steamer *Taihoku Maru*, built in England for the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, has sunk near Lisbon, after being in collision with another vessel. The crew were all saved.

MR. HARMAND, Minister for France, presided at the dinner of French residents at the Club Hotel on the Fourteenth of July, and delivered a patriotic speech appropriate to the occasion.

THE presentation of diplomas to the graduates of the Imperial University took place on the

10th instant. Among those present were Count Matsukata, Premier, Marquis Hachisuka, Minister for Education; Surgeon-General Ishiguro; Rear-Admiral Yamamoto, and many foreign and Japanese gentlemen. The graduates numbered 275.

REPORTS from India show that the damage done by the recent earthquake have been under rather than overstated. The mortality in the Cherra hills is estimated at from four to six thousand.

THE tea business done in Kobe from the commencement of the season up to the 30th of June was as follows:—Arrivals 7,719,200 catties, sold, 9,879,200 catties, direct export, 494,749 catties.

A FINE display of fireworks was made on the evening of the Fourteenth of July, off the Bund, but the torrents of rain which occurred between 7.30 and 8.30 put a sudden end to it and to most of the illuminations in the settlement.

THE Fourteenth of July, the anniversary of the capture of the Bastille, was celebrated this year by the French community in Yokohama more extensively and enthusiastically than usual. There were sports and entertainments on board the flagship *Bayard* and the cruiser *Eclairer*, a dinner at the Club Hotel and a reception and dance at the Consulate in the evening.

A COLLISION occurred on the Nakasendo line of the Japan Railway Company on the 11th, between a passenger train and a luggage van and locomotive. One passenger carriage was smashed to pieces and others thrown off the line into the paddy fields. Seven passengers were, it is feared, fatally injured, and a considerable number received more or less serious injuries.

THE negotiations between Turkey and the Powers are still in a very unsatisfactory condition. The Ambassadors have jointly urged the Sultan to cease his obstructive measures, and he has telegraphed direct to the Sovereigns of the Powers desiring a concession as to the Thessalian frontier. The Porte has also proposed sending Turkish reinforcements to Crete.

THE week's trade in Yokohama has been greatly interfered with by the *Bon* holidays and the turn-over is consequently small. Shirtings have hardened and look more promising for the immediate future, but nothing is doing in fancies or woollens. The demand for yarns has petered out, dealers having satisfied their present requirements. In metals the only important business has been in pig iron and sheets. The news of the strike among the iron workers in Belgium has rather upset dealers, who had been figuring on steady supplies of cheap, second-grade iron from that quarter. The strike should have some influence on the English iron-trade, for Belgium has been cutting into that rather seriously of late, though of course only for the cheap and inferior qualities. A fair business has been done in kerosene at unchanged rates. Sugars have again had a steady sale, some sorts hardening a trifle as the week closed. Turning to exports, we note that raw silk has seen practically no change, buyers being scarce and holders very firm. The ideas of shippers and holders being so much apart, all talk of quotations is still in abeyance. The waste silk market has not yet opened. A brisk business was done in the earlier part of the week in tea, but the spurt died out during the *Bon*. Shipments have been quite up to the average, while 14,000 lbs. were sent to Europe by the M.M. steamer *Melbourne*—about the first big shipment to that quarter that we remember. Exchange improved somewhat at the close of the week, a rise of $\frac{1}{4}$ taking place on Friday.

SPiRiT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* devotes a long article to the question of ship-building. It sets out by expounding the immense benefits that a nation derives in time of peace from the development of that industry, and then insists on the fact that the very existence of a State depends on its ability to be self-supplying in the matter of ships, since, owing to the scrupulous observance of international law, which is one of the characteristics of the era, the services of neutral countries' dockyards are not available to a belligerent in time of war. The immense dimensions of the ship-building industry in England are instanced as an index of her prosperity and power, and the *Nichi Nichi* goes so far as to say that, in these closing days of the nineteenth century, the strength and resources of a country may fairly be estimated by the producing capacity of its dockyards. Then follows an indictment of the Japanese Government for blowing hot and cold. There are only five private ship-building yards in Japan, the Ishikawa-jima yard in Tokyo, the Tekkoji yard in Osaka, the Kawasaki yard in Kobe, the Mitsubishi yard in Nagasaki, and the Shiramine yard at Kuniyoshi-ura in Aki. Of these the last alone can be called an independent enterprise from the outset: all the others received more or less assistance from the Treasury. At the time of their initiation, the idea of officialdom was merely to encourage individual enterprise. Subsidies and grants were given to persons, and little, if any, pains were taken to superintend the progress of these State-aided enterprises. Then, after the war, a purely impersonal and general policy was adopted. Aids, liberal enough, were promised, not to this company or to that, but to ships that satisfied certain tests. But the tests are such that vessels constructed in Japan have very little chance of attaining the necessary classification, and the result is that there has been a sudden leap from the paternal methods of former days to a system which virtually constitutes no encouragement at all. Japanese builders, unless they have a prospect of selling a ship to the Government, can not afford to attempt anything fine. They must cater to the tastes and capacities of their customers: in other words, they must build a cheap and inferior class of vessel. In such conditions the *Nichi Nichi* sees little prospect of the development of the industry. But it indicates no remedy. A general exhortation represents the sum of its suggestions.

A lengthy and wearisome essay appears in the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun* on the subject of the decline of the *hambatsu* and the rise of the *shobatsu* system; that is to say, the decline of personal government and the development of plutocratic government. We may remark, *en passant*, that the estimate formed by some Japanese editors of the patience of their readers must be phenomenal. The article that we are now considering is packed with platitudes and crowded with commonplaces, and the conclusion resulting from its perusal is, either that the Japanese people must be in need of most elementary instruction, or that some Japanese editors find insuperable difficulty in saying what they have to say briefly and concisely. However, the article derives considerable interest, first, from the general fact that the wealthy members of the merchant class have gradually attained a position of unparalleled eminence and influence in the State, and secondly, from the special fact that a movement is on foot to dispute their supremacy. Ever since the inauguration of parliamentary institutions in Japan, the shibboleth of the Opposition has been, "down with the *hambatsu seifu*;" that is to say, down with a Government composed of clansmen because they are clansmen. Otherwise expressed, the campaign was directed against the *Sai-cho* clique that presided over the work of the Restoration and thereafter monopolized the places of power. It did not appear to outsiders that the members of the clique abused their privileges: that they great-

ly enriched themselves at the expense of the country; that their administration tended to impede national progress. But their political opponents thought differently, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which appears to have lent its columns for the nonce to Mr. Nakano Buyei, or some other *Shimpo-to* leader of his stamp, now congratulates the nation very earnestly on the fact that the reign of the clansmen is over. On the other hand, they have been succeeded by the plutocrats, a far more formidable party. For whereas the clansmen could be attacked and overthrown in the arena of pure political discussion, the plutocrats govern not by principles but by the force of wealth, and by that same force a large section of the community is indissolubly bound to them. The particular plutocrats indicated by our contemporary are, as will easily be guessed, the Mitsui, the Mitsubishi, and the Nippon Ginko. It is not denied that the talents and proved capacities of these new leaders entitle them to their places of prominence, but the *Mainichi* dwells at length on the immense power they wield, and on the wide-spread disaster that would be caused by any abuse of it. On that point the *Mainichi* is explicit. But it thinks that the part of wisdom is to prevent evils rather than to deal with them after they have arisen, and it therefore urges combination on the part of minor capitalists, and the organization of a large private bank to compete with the three plutocratic principals. That is the gist of our contemporary's article. We can not weary our readers with the details of the argument.

The *Yiji Shimo* writes about the importance of placing a larger sum at the disposal of the Foreign Office for secret service. It is impossible to attain ends consistent with the magnitude of the country's interests if only eighty thousand yen are available. In former days, when Japan was regarded by Western nations merely as an interesting child to which no special attention need be paid, the appropriation granted to the Foreign Office was not so insufficient. But since the war with China, Japan has become an object of scrutiny and suspicion. The Americans complain that her industrialists threaten them with serious competition; the Hawaiians, though possibly their recent action was, in some degree, connected with annexation projects, are unquestionably afraid of the growth of a Japanese element in the islands; the Australians are legislating against the introduction of Japanese labour. On every hand it is plain that Japan has to face a greatly altered state of affairs. She has been frequently taken by surprise. She was taken by surprise in connexion with the retrocession of Liaotung, and she was taken by surprise in connexion with the annexation of Hawaii. The truth is that she does not possess a sufficiency of agents because her Foreign Minister can not pay for them. He must be enabled to do so. To deal with difficulties after they have arisen is an incomparably clumsier policy than to prevent them.

The same journal (*Yiji*) has a strong article advocating an increase of taxation. The national financiers have to choose between one of two things: they must either raise a foreign loan or increase the taxes. The adoption of gold monometallism was intended primarily to open an avenue for the inflow of foreign capital, and to a certain extent that object has been obtained. But one inevitable effect of the introduction of foreign capital will be a general appreciation of prices, with a corresponding augmentation of the wealth of the producing and distributing classes, the agriculturists, the industrialists, and the merchants. That means development of imports and still further disturbances of the balance of trade. In the face of such conditions, how can there be any hope of maintaining the gold reserves of the Treasury? So long as the Indemnity is available, any outflow of the yellow metal through commercial channels can be recouped, but the indemnity will not last for ever. So soon as it is expended, and so soon as a suspicion gets abroad that

the Treasury's reserves of hard money are becoming inadequate to maintain gold specie payments, the country-folk will resort at once to the habit so largely practised by them in the days of the *fat* currency, the habit of hoarding. At that epoch every one that could get hold of a piece of silver, hid it away at the bottom of a bag or in some secret nook of the family chest-of-drawers. Gold is much easier to hoard. Value for value it is only a thirtieth part of the weight and bulk of silver. The people will not be slow to hoard it if they begin to have doubts of the Treasury's solvency. Thus, on the one hand, gold would be flowing out of the country to pay for the excess of imports over exports, and, on the other, it would be withdrawn from circulation all over the country for hoarding purposes. That is the prospect inevitably to be contemplated if recourse be had to a foreign loan. Were the people unable to endure an increase of taxation, the case would be different. But there can be no doubt whatever about their ability. More or less hardship would, of course, be entailed. But one consequence would be a reduction of general purchasing power, and, therefore, a tendency towards the restoration of the balance of trade. Above all, the national finances would be placed on a sound basis, and all danger of the Treasury's solvency being averted, there would be nothing to tempt the people to hoard. If the Ministers of the Crown have not the courage to inaugurate new or increased taxes, it is the duty of publicists to try to remove their timidity.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* also advocates increased taxation, and appeals strongly to the patriotism of the people. It reminds them how unhesitatingly they granted a sum of two hundred million yen to carry on the War, and it asks whether they will now shrink from comparatively small sacrifices, not merely to secure the results attained by the War, but also to ensure the maintenance of peace. Our contemporary plainly indicates the Land Tax as the source from which additional revenue ought to be sought, its argument being that the Land Tax, as actually levied to-day, does not represent a fraction of the original assessment. The times have certainly changed when we find an increase of the Land Tax advocated by political organs; the Land Tax whose reduction was the watchword of all political parties five years ago.

The Government, according to the *Shogyo Shimo*, has at length determined to abolish all export duties and the Budget for next year will be compiled on that basis. Nothing could be more satisfactory. Hitherto certain publicists have laboured under the egregious mistake that export duties were paid by the foreign exporter, and that to abolish them would be merely to put so much money into his pocket. But the era of such misconceptions has happily past. It is now well understood that export duties constitute an obstacle to the development of the country's commerce, and thus inflict upon it a loss immeasurably greater than the sum accruing to the revenue. There are over fifty articles of export that pay duty at present, but the total sum raised does not exceed two million yen annually. In 1896, silk paid 954,001 yen; tea, 312,441 yen; and copper, 274,664 yen. The other 47 odd staples brought the total figure up to 1,707,237 yen. The vexatious and paltry character of the tax is illustrated by these figures. As for the contention advanced in some quarters that no impulse would be given to the export trade by removing the duties, it is only necessary to look at the Customs Returns. Duty-free articles were exported in 1886 to the total value of 13,420,000 yen, whereas in 1896 the figures was 67,240,000 yen—an increase of 500 per cent. At that rate of development, the present export trade of a hundred and twenty million yen will amount to six hundred millions in 1906, and that the import trade will grow in proportion can not be doubted. Supposing that, in 1906, the import trade is only 500 millions, still the duty collected under the new Tariff would be 10 millions. The Treasury can afford, therefore,

to adopt a liberal policy, apart from the enrichment of the country that would certainly ensue.

The *Yorodsu Choho* writes ably and frankly about the results that have to be recorded in the sequel of the War. Japan fought to secure the independence of Korea by eliminating the baneful suzerainty of China. She won the victory, but is Korea independent? Is not the little Kingdom's neck bowed under another yoke more puissant and weighty than was that of China? She fought to promote the maintenance of peace in the Orient. Have her successes contributed materially to that end? As for herself, it is true that she won glory by the war, and that the world suddenly awoke to a sense of her national capacity. But does she not now see her people discriminated against as dangerous rivals in countries to which they previously enjoyed free access. Formosa was the sole accession of territory that the war brought her. Has the possession of Formosa contributed to her reputation? Has it not rather exposed her to the world as a nation lacking administrative ability? At the Shimoda Conference, when the cession of Formosa was proposed, the Viceroy Li said that the Formosans would not easily be brought to submit to Japan's rule, whereupon Marquis Ito is said to have laughed scornfully. Yet it appears that the Viceroy was right. There is no moral tonic more wholesome than the frank recognition of one's failures. That conviction dictates the *Yorodsu Choho's* articles.

THE JUBILEE SERMON AT ST. ANDREWS.

The Venerable Archdeacon Shaw has published, "by request," the sermon preached by him in St. Andrew's Church, Tokyo, on Diamond-Jubilee Sunday. It is rather an essay than a sermon, for it reviews the leading events of Her Majesty's long reign as a historian might review them, and while emphasizing the moral aspects of the Victorian era, does not give them sole prominence. Referring to the American War of Secession and to the mistaken part that England played in it, the Archdeacon says:—"Some here can still remember how, when at a crisis in our history, many of our fellow-countrymen, led away by what is, after all, a noble instinct of the Anglo-Saxon race, in a contest, to side with the weaker, were ready, on provocation, to take an active part in that dreadful struggle then rending in twain our brethren in America, the Prince Consort, with his own hand, weak with the weakness of approaching death, inscribed with the authority of the Queen a dispatch which, by the moderation of its tone, was the chief means by which was averted that which would perhaps be the greatest calamity that could befall our race, a war between the mother country and her kin beyond the sea." We wish that the Americans of the present generation could be persuaded to take the Archdeacon's view of the motives that impelled the English people on that most unhappy occasion. But the Americans are set in their own view. The Archdeacon is an optimist, as it becomes him to be. "It is certain," he says, "that at no previous period of our history has there been anything like the same serious recognition of the evils of society, or the same resolute, sustained, earnest effort to grapple with and overcome them." So we think, too, but at the same time, we are obliged to confess that those evils are still stupendous, and that, in some respects, they have attained unparalleled dimensions. It is on record that a prominent philanthropist, addressing an assembly of working-men in the early sixties, warned them above all things to abstain from striking. Could he have looked forward to the America of the year 1897, he would have seen a country in which strikes on the part of employers are the rule not the exception. The great trusts by which the American consumer is robbed to-day, are nothing but strikes *sui generis*. Happily free trade has saved us from such abuses in Eng-

land. They are one of the results produced by the demoralization of protection. But we have other social evils which seem to be further than ever from effective remedy. However, the Archdeacon's sermon glows, as it should glow at such a time, with hope and exultation, and as we read it now we are not surprised that it received the plaudits of its hearers. We quote a few paragraphs:—

In the midst of this new exuberant life of our nation growing, seething, with a lately born knowledge of its power, deeply stirred with strange dim hopes for the future; and in that almost turmoil of effort we see going on about us, in the cause of purity, of temperance, of suffering, it is impossible to over-estimate the influence that the pure and noble life of our Queen has had, in quickening and sustaining all spiritual and moral growth.

It might have been so different. We know what the English court is capable of being; what it has been under other Sovereigns. And all who value purity, and truth, and right; who believe in the high destiny of their country, and her position in the history and moral training of the human race, may well thank God on this day, with a boundless thankfulness, for the bright example of our beloved Queen, and the long years of her glorious reign.

May well thank God, I say, that amidst the wonderful changes and upheaval of society, so confusing to the minds of men, which we have witnessed; amidst the sudden and unparalleled increase in the wealth of the nation, fraught with such danger to its moral welfare, there has been, at the very centre of influence and example, one, not only whose own life has in all things been above reproach, but into whose presence nothing impure, no one on whose name lay a stain of open shame, has dared to enter. And who has ever been foremost among the first, in every cause of love, and sympathy, and help; in every cause that could turn to the improvement, material, moral, or spiritual, of those world scattered millions, over whom God's providence has made her ruler.

I spoke but now of the moral training of the world, and of the place which God has given us in it. From out of that little group of fog-girt islands in the Northern Seas, which shows so small on any map of the world, from that mixed race of hardly islanders, there has sprung a people of an imperishable instinct and of a world wide dominion. It has peopled—it has given its free institutions—to two continents and is busy assimilating a third. Its language is destined in no long time to be the language of the world. Is it not a sign to us, that we, an English congregation, should meet in this city to celebrate to-day? To us who believe in God and the unity of man, who believe that our Father in Heaven is ordering the affairs of men, using, training our race for His own purposes in the world—that there is "one far-off Divine event to which the whole creation moves,"—to us I say, the position which the providence of God has given the English speaking race,—growing, into great nations here and there throughout the earth,—with its invincible love of freedom, with, after all is said, its deep moral and prophetic of the part it is destined to play, in shaping the future character of civilization, and the destiny of the world.

IMPOVERISHING THE LAND.

The agricultural products of Japan, remarks the *Shogyo*, take more from the soil than they yield to it. Should this anomaly continue, the soil will become more and more unproductive year by year, and agricultural industry, which now occupies a most conspicuous position in the general economy of Japan—realizing a return of six hundred and sixty million yen—will steadily decline to nothing. Investigations have recently been made by the Geological Section of the Mining Bureau of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce into the relation that phosphoric acid bears to the soil. The following results were found:—

1. The amount of phosphoric acid in the fertilizers produced in the interior is reported as being 10,994,419 *kwamme*, which, together with 432,542 *kwamme* of phosphoric acid contained in the fertilizers imported from foreign countries, aggregate 11,426,962 *kwamme*. This is the amount of phosphates put into the soil of Japan per year. The quantity of phosphates in rice and other agricultural crops taken off the land was 16,986,432 *kwamme* two years ago. Subtracting the former amount from the later a balance is left of 5,559,470 *kwamme* representing the quantity of nutritious material taken from the soil. In other words, the agricultural products of Japan are depriving the soil of phosphoric acid to the amount of about 5,560,000 *kwamme* per year. Fertilizers used in Japan consist principally of fish, oil

cake, and rice-bran, most of which contain a large quantity of nitrogen and potassium. More phosphates will have to be used if the yield from farming operations is to be satisfactorily maintained.

According to Mr. Fesker's theory, 1,200 *momme* of phosphates are required per *tan* of land. As fertilizers hitherto employed in Japan contain but 630 *momme* of phosphates per *tan*, a deficiency of 570 *momme* has to be made good if the soil is to be properly nourished. Cultivated land in the empire amounts to 50,125,750 *tan*, so 28,571,678 *kwamme* of phosphates are immediately required. Whence shall Japan obtain such a quantity of phosphates? The world's yield is only two million tons annually, of which 750,000 tons are used in America. Europe buys most of its phosphates from America, and Japan will have to go there, or to Africa, to fill her requirements. In view of the necessity of the times we think the Government would be wise if it lowered the import duty on fertilizers from twenty per cent. *ad valorem* to five per cent.

THUNDERSTORM IN YOKOHAMA.

During the thunderstorm and extraordinary deluge of rain which visited Yokohama on Wednesday evening, a piece of the hill-side near the Kyoritsu Jogakko (Boys and Girls School), Bluff, fell in and crushed a Japanese house below, No. 219, Motomachi Gochome, inhabited by a carpenter. One of the inmates had a very narrow escape of being buried in the debris but fortunately no one was injured. A small land-slip also occurred near Dr. Wheeler's residence on Camp Hill. The wall of the General Hospital, facing the main Bluff road, also collapsed and is now nothing but a heap of ruins. The road in front of the Japan Brewery Company's stables was piled with stones, mud, and other debris washed down from the roads above, and presents a curious spectacle. Other damages have been done in different parts of the Bluff.

A part of the hill-side behind No. 57, Bluff, slid down, the mass carrying before it three Japanese houses standing below and moving them a distance of one *ken*. A lamp that was hanging in one of the houses fell and set fire to the house, but the flames were subdued without much damage being done. Lightning struck the hill-side at No. 2, Ichome, Ishikawa Nakamachi and brought down a mass of mud on to a house below the hill, but no one was hurt. In Aikawa-mura, Naga-gun, Kanagawa Ken a stroke of lightning struck the garden of a farmer but without any accident. A Japanese lady, Miss Iijima Tomi, who was walking near Kishimojin Shrine at the time, was rendered insensible by a flash of lightning which struck a huge tree near the Shrine. Miss Murashi Kiyu and four other persons were also rendered insensible by the lightning.

Wednesday's storm will teach the useful lesson to many Bluff residents of keeping their drains as clear as possible. Many of the most serious washouts would have been sensibly lessened in extent had this precaution been observed. By-the-way, the huge stone embankment at the back of No. 34, Bluff—the Baptist Mission School—is bulging in the middle, beside having big cracks down its front, and in its present condition is a serious menace to the folks living on the lower level.

The Tokyo Rice Exchange suspended transactions on the 10th instant for the purpose of adjusting accounts. Further suspension became necessary, however, on account of eleven prominent brokers refusing to pay the increased deposits now demanded for security. It is supposed that the intercession of Mr. Amenomiya will lead to a speedy compromise. In the event of the brokers persisting in their refusal the Exchange is resolved to take steps towards prosecuting them for breaches of the regulations.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

In more than one leading vernacular journal we find a paragraph explaining that, owing to difficulties experienced in carrying out new industrial undertakings, on account of which appropriations have been made in the Budget, it generally happens that considerable sums have to be carried over to the following year's accounts. During the present year, for example, the Communications Department is supposed to lay telephones in four hundred new districts, and the necessary funds were included in the Extraordinary Expenditures passed by the Diet last session. But not more than one-half of the work will be accomplished, and there will be a proportionate sum to be carried forward to the expenditures for 1898-9. In connexion with this subject, our contemporaries note that the sums carried over during the past six fiscal years have been:—

	Yen.
1891-2.....	4,581,200
1892-3.....	7,864,875
1893-4.....	6,741,210
1894-5.....	6,070,397
1895-6.....	5,934,069
1896-7 (probably).....	27,000,000

These sums are liable to be regarded, and are in fact often regarded, as actual surpluses of revenue, but that is a misconception.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that, according to the ledgers of the Finance Department, the actual revenue and expenditure for the fiscal year 1896-7, were:—

Revenue.....	186,886,312.981 yen
Expenditure.....	166,890,243.350 „

Excess of Revenue..... 19,996,069.631 yen

This information is practically valueless without further details. The estimated revenue (ordinary and extraordinary) for the year exceeded 200 million yen, as did also the estimated expenditure. How the figures became reduced to 187 and 167 millions, respectively, we are unable to conjecture; unless indeed, a large part of the contemplated works were not carried out, and a correspondingly smaller draft was made on the Indemnity.

There appears to have been some misapprehension about the Government's guarantee to the new Industrial Bank. The general supposition has been that the Treasury pledges itself to make to the Bank annually, for the next decade, grants in aid sufficient to ensure to the shareholders 5 per cent. on the paid-up capital. The *Hochi Shimbun* points out that such is not the case. According to the 55th Article of the Bank's Charter, the sum paid by the Treasury is not to exceed 5 per cent. of the capital under any circumstances. Hence, if the Bank makes a loss, the sum available for the purposes of a dividend will be, not 5 per cent., but the difference between 5 per cent. and the loss. The *Hochi* says that many persons, not fully understanding the conditions, sold five-per-cent. bonds in order to buy shares in the Bank, and that they are now much disappointed.

A good deal of information with regard to the revised Criminal Code which, together with the unacted portions of the Civil Code, will be submitted to the next Diet, is contained in the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, but since it is not possible to be sure of the accuracy of our contemporary's statements, and since the

facts have, for the most part, no very great interest, we shall not reproduce them. A few points, however, may be noted. The first is that whereas, in the absence of any special provision, offences against foreign sovereigns or princes visiting Japan have to be treated as though ordinary persons were in question, the revised Code will contain separate clauses relating to such crimes. The same is true with regard to foreigners who, while abroad, contemplate offences against public peace and good order in Japan, and come to Japan before actually committing the offences; and with regard to Japanese subjects who, while in foreign countries, contemplate offences punishable by Japanese law, and return to Japan before committing them. The present Code does not provide for such cases. It is further alleged that the majority of the delicts included in the present code will be removed from the revised Code, the duty of dealing with them being left to policemen.

A telegram from Honolulu published by the *Fiji Shimpō* says that Mr. Shimamura having named the 25th of June as the day on which he must ask for a definite answer from Hawaii to the demands preferred by him, received on that day a reply rejecting the demands. The alleged telegram adds that Counsellor Akiyama's return to Japan for the purpose of explaining Hawaii's attitude, is considered necessary. We believe the whole story to be baseless.

The Government has published a little volume containing the "Law and Regulations relating to the Bonded Warehouse, Imperial Customs, Yokohama." The Law is translated into French and English; the Regulations and the Tariff of Storage charges are in English only. Appended are the Japanese originals. We have to acknowledge the receipt of a copy. The book was printed at the Yokohama Bunssha, where, presumably, a copy can be obtained by anyone. The Japanese title is *Hōsei-Shōgō*.

Long accounts are published by the vernacular press with regard to judicial proceedings recently instituted in Taipei against a number of Japanese who are charged with fraud. The accused include six or seven private individuals and three officials, clerks in the Governor-General's office. Briefly speaking, the fraud consisted in chicanery connected with the sale of some thirty houses to the Government. Having ascertained that the Authorities were willing to pay 20 yen per *tsubo* for the buildings, the band of traders and petty officials induced the owners to sign documents investing them with competence to dispose of the houses. A Chinaman assisted them in this part of the fraud, but he has eluded justice by running away. In some cases it was found necessary to forge the owners' consent. Of course, had the title deeds of the property been in the hands of the owners, things would have been greatly facilitated for the plotters, but unfortunately all documents of that kind were held by the Government. However, the preliminary difficulties were successfully overcome, and the sale having been effected at 20 yen per *tsubo* some 2,750 yen were kept back from the owners. A curious part of the affair is that the higher officials, upon whom no suspicion of any kind seems to rest, having taken the precaution of caus-

ing inquiries to be instituted into the character of the Japanese who figured most prominently in the transaction, were informed by the police that he was a dishonest person who made his living by fraud. Nevertheless, they did not decline to deal with him or to hand over to him a large sum of money. Further charges were brought against a chief accountant and three chiefs of sections for conspiring to over-charge the Government to the extent of 20 per cent. on all materials purchased for public works. About two thousand yen were thus peculated. All the prisoners have been remanded for trial.

The election of new members for the House of Peers from among the Counts, Viscounts, and Barons took place on the 10th instant at the Nobles' Club. Out of 81 Counts eligible for election, 6 signified their unwillingness to sit; out of 317 Viscounts, there were 20 similar refusals, and out of 170 Barons, an equal number. The results of the election in the case of the Viscounts are not yet announced, but the Counts and Barons elected are as follow:—

NAME.	Count.	Votes Poll.
Ogimachi Sanemasa*	70
Shimazu Tadaakira*	69
Tokugawa Satotaka	68
Mibu Motoosa	67
Ohara Shigetame*	66
Madenokoji Michifusa*	66
Tachibana Tomoharu*	65
Yoshii Kozo	65
Uyesugi Mochinori*	64
Matsura Akira*	63
Hirosawa Kinjiro	60
Hojo Toshaki	59
Kwanji Akikoto	57
Kyoshi Iyemori*	57
Omura Sumio	55

Of the above, those marked with an asterisk sat in the last House, and have been re-elected.

NAME.	Barons.	Votes polled.
Honda Chikao*	137
Akamatsu Noriyoshi	137
Aoyama Tei*	136
Senge Takatami*	136
Kaniyama Gunrei*	135
Arichi Shimanosuke	135
Kaneko Arisato*	135
Date Munetsu*	135
Sonoda Yasukata	134
Kikuchi Takeomi*	134
Nakagawa Okinaga*	134
Nakajima	133
Suyematsu Kencho*	133
Sugitani Kotonaga*	133
Kitasaji Kihisa	132
Kajitani Motohiko	132
Watanabe Kyoshi*	132
Honda Sukemoto*	132
Yoshikawa Shigeyoshi	132
Ando Naoyuki	132
Shimazu Uzahiko	132
Iwakura Tomotake	132
Hirano Nagayoshi	129
Nishiitokuji Fuminaka*	129
Tsuji Kensuke	129
Ikoma Chikatada	128
Minami Mitsutoshi	126
Ki Toshitide	125
Tamamatsu Masaki	125
Niita Tadazumi	124
Sakai Tadahiro	121
Takasaki Asuhiko	120
Mori Goro	117
Sakata Yukio	115
Shira Senichi	115

Of the above, those marked with an asterisk sat in the last House.

It is stated that the Nobles contemplate establishing a college for the educational training of military officials. Mention has already been made of the fact that in the new college which they are about to build at Takata, in the suburbs of Tokyo, there will be a section devoted to the education

of diplomatic officials. That project is now to be supplemented—or, at any rate, there is talk of supplementing it—by a military school. The *Fiji Shimpō* has an article highly approving the idea, on grounds that will easily be divined; for example, that the military profession is specially adapted to men of rank; that the country has urgent need of officers in connexion with the scheme of national armament expansion; that the question of emoluments ought to be a minor consideration to military men, from which point of view the *Kwasoku* are notably qualified; that a man's hesitation to sacrifice his life in battle is mainly due to uneasiness on account of his wife and children, which apprehension would not disturb noblemen; that in Japan soldiers attach much value to the leadership of princes and nobles; that the *Kwasoku* of to-day are the descendants of the feudal chiefs who represented the great captains of their time, and that it is most desirable to divert the attention of the nobles from the tendency which they have lately developed to turn to trivial pursuits.

According to investigations made by the Metropolitan Police Board, the total number of *jinrikisha* now plying in the 15 urbans and 8 suburban districts of Tokyo is 39,388, of which 32,925 are single *jinrikisha* and 6,463 are double. The number seems singularly small, and does not consist with the theory held in some quarters, namely, that the earnings of *jinrikisha* coolies are large. We believe that these men do not make more than eight or nine *yen* on the average monthly, a wage which, considering the hardships of the life, can not be called large. We may mention that there is now no tax on *jinrikisha*. Persons who earn a livelihood by farming out *jinrikisha* at so much a month, have to contribute to the Treasury under the heading of "business tax," but the sum formerly levied on each *jinrikisha* is no longer collected.

Our readers may remember that subsequently to the recent attack upon Tuatutia by Formosan rebels, the Foreign Consuls in the island were said to have forwarded to their respective Governments a protest against the apparent inefficiency of the protective measures adopted by the Japanese. It now turns out that no such step was taken by the French Consul. The British and German Consuls did protest, but not the French.

Provisional charters have been granted to the following railways:—

NEW LINES.

The Seinan Railway; from Kokubu in Kagoshima to Nōbioka in Miyazaki: 100 miles; capital, 55 million *yen*.

The Mino Railway; from Seki to Kami-arachi in Gifu: 35 miles: 1,300,000 *yen* capital.

The Kwachi Railway; from Sumimichi (on the Kwansei Line) to Kashiwara (on the Osaka Line): 8 miles 40 chains: 300,000 *yen* capital.

The Fuji Railway; from Suzugawa to Ōmiya in Shizuoka: 8 miles: 250,000 *yen* capital.

EXTENSION OF LINES ALREADY BUILT.

The Chiuyetsu Railway; from Takaoka to Fuseki: 5 miles: 400,000 *yen* capital.

The Kwansei Railway; from Kano to Kizu: 3 miles 65 chains: 185,000 *yen* capital.

We read in the *Fiji Shimpō* that Shirane-san and Bandai-san have again given evidence of dangerous activity. Shirane-san began to emit rumbling sounds on the afternoon of the 7th inst., and continued to be noisy until 2 a.m. on the 8th. Two hours later, namely, at 4 a.m., a violent eruption took place from a spot known

as "Iwo-ike" (sulphur lake.) The rails and a bridge on the line leading from the mine were destroyed, and rocks weighing 115 to 225 *cho* were scattered over the vicinity. Happily there was no loss of life, nor any injury to man or beast. The ashes were ejected as far as Kusatsu. As for Bandaisan, it had remained quiescent ever since its celebrated performance in 1889, but at 10 a.m. on the 5th instant, and between that time and the evening of 8th, eleven rumblings were heard. On the 8th, smoke was emitted, to the great alarm of the people in the neighbourhood.

Two banks in Osaka are said to have made arrangements for amalgamation. They are the Thirty-fourth National Bank and the Hundred and Twenty-first. The former has a paid-up capital of 375,000 *yen*, and the latter, of 200,000 *yen*. The union will become a practical fact from Sept. 1st, and the capital of the new concern will be 2,100,000 *yen*.

In a recent issue we reproduced, from the columns of the *Hochi Shimbun*, a very explicit statement, which we ventured to contradict, to the effect that the Government had decided to dispose of the Aomori-Tsukushima State Railway, and to devote the proceeds to public works planned by the Communications Department. Our contemporary appears to have discovered the incorrectness of its information, for it now states that nothing has yet been decided on the subject.

The Liberal Party's projected demonstration on the 18th inst. promises to be a great affair. They call themselves the *Kwantō Jiyū-to Seinen-daikwai*, and it is their intention to assemble at the Party's head-quarters in Shiba, whence they will march to Ueno in procession. Squadrons of 100 persons each are to be formed under squadron leaders; there will be a band, and a hundred and fifty special constables will be told off to preserve order. If the day be wet, waterproofs, rain-hats and straw sandals will be worn, and as the procession advances, it will sing a march; presumably the march recently published by the *Nichi Nichi* and other journals. Great numbers of members are expected to come to Tokyo from the provinces, and the members representing the Party in the Diet, persons of note, editors of Japanese and foreign newspapers and others have been invited to attend. An invitation, we may mention, has reached our own office. The Liberals are evidently waking-up.

Japan may have a small edition of Ireland on her hands before long. In the *Riukiu Islands* there is a party calling itself the *Fukuhān-to*, or advocates of the restoration of the feudal system. They are about to send a committee to Tokyo for the purpose of petitioning the Government; first, to make the former King their chief; secondly, to remove all officials belonging to other parts of Japan, and thirdly, to put an end to all interference on the part of the Tokyo Government. In short, they want to have *Riukiu* made independent.

The *Sekai-no-Nippon*, which, as our readers probably know, is the chief organ of the Opposition, describes the last Cabinet meeting in terms that suggest a speedy rupture of the Ministry. In the first place, says our contemporary, when the question of appointing Departmental Counsel-

lors of *chokunin* rank came upon the *tapis*, and when it was announced that Messrs. Ozaki Yukio and Shiba Shiro, prospective Counsellors, insisted on sharing the confidence of the Ministers in all important matters, certain members of the Cabinet denounced the idea as extravagant, and it was decided to postpone the question of appointment. In the second place, when Governor-General Baron Nogi's programme of Formosan reform was introduced, Viscount Takashima urged that the Civil Administration Bureau be abolished, and that the Southern Bureau of the Colonization Department undertake its functions, whereas Count Okuma's advice was that, simultaneously with the reform of the Governor-General's Office, it should be made entirely independent of the Colonization Department. Count Matsukata merely listened to those discussions, and refrained from expressing any opinion. It is probable that the story has lost nothing by the *Sekai-no-Nippon's* telling.

We read in the *Tokyo Asahi* that although an appropriation in aid of the Formosan Railway was duly voted by the Diet last session, and can be obtained at any time from the Treasury, the project has hung fire, and the shares having fallen in market value, difficulty is experienced in getting the first calls paid up. A million and a half *yen* ought to be paid on 300,000 shares, but only seven hundred and fifty thousand *yen* have been received on 15,000 shares. With the latter sum it would be hopeless to make a commencement. The idea now is to try to procure payment of the first call on 20,000 shares, and to ask the Imperial Household Department to take the remaining 10,000.

In connexion with Formosan administrative reforms, we read that it is proposed to try to induce a better class of officials to go to the island by granting special privileges. For example, whereas in Japan proper a service of 15 years is necessary to make a man eligible for pension, 7 or 8 years will suffice in Formosa. Moreover, officials in the island will be given higher rank than those occupying similar posts in Japan proper.

A SONNET.

Here is a lovely sonnet by Edward Cracraft Lefroy, who died six years ago, a poet wholly unnoticed by the public, but whose work is now beginning to receive the recognition that it deserves—the subject of the sonnet was a fine young fellow killed by a fall from his horse:—

"O kiss the almond-blossom on the rod!
A thing has gone from us that could not stay.
At least our sad eyes shall not see one day
All business treading where all beauty trod.
O kiss the almond-blossom on the rod!
For this our budding Hope is called away
From growth that is not other than decay
To bloom eternal in the halls of God;
And though of subtler grace we saw no sign,
No glimmer from the yet unrisen star,—
Full-orbed he broke upon the choir divine,
Saint among saints beyond the golden bars,
Round whose pale brows new lights of glory shone—
The aureoles that were not and that are."

In some verses published by the *Spectator* under the old Horatian heading "Labuntur anni," occur these beautiful lines descriptive of old age:—

Now there is no distance more, near the goal at last:
Time has nothing left to give; all is of the Past:
Fathers, mother, sister, brother, none are left behind;
Only in the old tree still sings the old sea-wind.

THE FOREIGNER AND THE JAPANESE.

IT appears to be very difficult to avoid equivocal statements when discussing the conduct of Japanese towards foreigners in Japan. The Rev. Mr. WOODWORTH in a recent letter to this journal, expressed the opinion that the foreign resident is probably not more highly esteemed in Japan than John Chinaman is in the United States. Another correspondent signing himself "A Foreign Resident," strongly traverses Mr. WOODWORTH'S assertion. And well he may. The great objection to the Chinaman in America is that he represents a comparatively degraded element of the population. He lives on a low level, and constitutes a demoralizing factor in the social system. We are at a loss to conceive how Mr. WOODWORTH can have instituted such a comparison, for it is beyond query that the average foreigner in Japan stands considerably above the average Japanese in everything that establishes a title to respect. It is not a question of the superiority of Occidentals to Japanese in general, or *vice versa*. On that point we say nothing. Our contention is—and the Japanese themselves will readily admit it—that the foreign community in this country contains a much smaller per-centage of the lower elements of society than the nations from which it is drawn, and therefore than the Japanese nation also. In other words, the foreign residents of Japan represent a higher average of intelligence, education, social culture, and moral refinement than would be represented by an equal number of individuals blocked out without selection from any European people or from the Japanese people. Precisely the opposite is true of the Chinese in the United States. The point need not be elaborated. It is quite patent, Mr. WOODWORTH'S conception reflects very injuriously upon Japanese intelligence and discernment. He will perhaps, be able to explain it. We can not.

But observe what "A Foreign Resident" himself says. "All the Japanese know of civilization has been taught them by Foreigners." Surely that is even less consistent with facts than Mr. WOODWORTH'S comparison. "All that the Japanese know of civilization!" Why, the Japanese had attained a high plane of civilization when our British ancestors were in a state of comparative barbarism. Their scientific, industrial, and commercial development was in a backward condition, it is true, but the refinement of their lives, the courtesy of their manners, the elaborateness of their social etiquette, and may we not even add, their ethical codes, showed a degree of civilization that did not fall below the best Occidental standards. Our correspondent is doubtless well aware of all that, and has no intention of disputing it. His meaning, we imagine, is

simply that foreigners have been Japan's teachers in almost everything that contributes materially to national prosperity and national strength; a proposition not to be denied. But his want of explicitness lays him open to a damaging rejoinder from Mr. WOODWORTH.

There is one thing that should not be left unsaid. This controversy had its origin in the base-ball incident. Some of the spectators, presumably students, behaved rudely on that occasion, and we strongly condemned their conduct. But whatever protest may be entered against the occasional bumptiousness of the student class, the insolence of *jinrikisha* men, or the truculence of coolies, there is no denying that in all games of skill or chance the Japanese are ideal opponents. Has any one of our readers ever seen a Japanese lose his temper at a game of cards, of tennis, of billiards, or of base ball? We never have. Never once have we heard a Japanese anathematise his own bad luck or resent his adversary's good-luck. He is invariably imperturbable, courteous, pleasant. That he takes a keen interest in such games is proved by the proficiency he develops in playing them. But without exception he plays them like a perfect gentleman. The term is hackneyed. We know of none better fitted to convey our meaning, however. Further, our remark applies not merely to contests between mixed nationals, but also to contests in which Japanese alone are engaged. Good-humoured courtesy always reigns, and we strongly suspect that if the Japanese could be persuaded to indicate frankly what they find least refined and most inexplicable in the social conduct of the average foreigner, they would point to his want of self-restraint in playing games of skill or chance. The fact is interesting. Our readers, if they do not happen to have paid particular attention to it already, will at once recognise the truth of what we say when they give the matter a moment's thought.

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

IN reply to our comments on the sweeping charges of bribery and corruption preferred by it against Japanese officialdom and Japanese business men, the *Kobe Chronicle* writes at some length, its chief argument being the marshalling of cases, some of which have been actually proved in Courts of Law and some rest on mere rumour. All these instances are matters of public knowledge, and while they undoubtedly show that grounds exist for impugning the integrity of some Japanese officials, we can not for a moment think that they warrant the wholesale accusations originally advanced by our contemporary. Fuller testimony is required from independent sources; above all, testimony that rests on something more solid than vague hearsay. We entirely

agree with the *Kobe Chronicle* that the pay of many officials, notably judicial officials, is glaringly inadequate, and that the insignificance of their emoluments compared with the magnitude of the interests they have to decide exposes them to undue temptation. Further, we appreciate the fact that officials have been convicted of corrupt practices, and that, from time immemorial, there has existed in Japan a habit of making presents to men of position and influence. As to the former fact, however, it is to be remarked that the open arraignment of offenders against the code of strict honesty is, in itself, not only a wholesome sign but also an evidence that corrupt practices constitute the exception, not the rule. As to the latter fact, everybody knows that the presents in question are usually of insignificant value; that they can not reasonably be regarded as investing the giver with any claim on the interested assistance of the recipient, and that it is a point of carefully observed etiquette to make more than equivalent acknowledgment in kind or coin. For our own part, we have not assumed, and do not assume, any positive attitude towards this question. Experiences vary, and it has not been our fortune to encounter any one who could affirm, of his own knowledge, that bribery and corruption were commonly practised. On the contrary, we have invariably found that those most positive in the character of general accusers were found to be the worst equipped with testimony in support of their accusations. The *Kobe Chronicle* itself does not seem to constitute an exception to that rule. Confronted by the inevitable consequences of its charges, it shrinks back, and protests against "the utter futility of entering upon a discussion if expressions and statements are to be credited to it which were not made." What expressions and what statements? Our contemporary's *ipsissima verba* were:—"Scarcely a single transaction takes place, from the sale of merchandise to appointment to official position, without squeezes being expected and paid." In analysing such a charge, it is essential to consider, first, how official appointments are made; and secondly, by what process bribes could be employed to secure them. That is the plain line that any intelligent inquirer must take. We took it, and it led to conclusions with which our *Kobe* contemporary now declines to be saddled. It led, first, to the conclusion that all, or nearly all, the prominent statesmen of the *Meiji* era must be cognisant of, and privy to, the alleged system of bribery. There is no escape from that inference. If "scarcely a single appointment to official position takes place without squeezes being expected and paid," it results beyond possibility of evasion that the men in whom the power of making official appointments is chiefly vested must expect

and receive "squeezes." Brought face to face with that logical interpretation of its charge, the *Kobe Chronicle* says:—"The *Japan Mail* has an unfortunate habit in controversy of slightly shifting the ground of argument and then defending positions which were not attacked." Are we to understand, then, that the "*Meiji* statesmen"—"Men like Marquis ITO, Marquis YAMAGATA, Count KURODA, Count OKUMA, Count KABAYAMA, Marquis SAIGO, Marquis OYAMA, Marquis HACHISUKA and so forth"—are entirely exempted from connexion with a system under which "scarcely a single official appointment takes place without squeezes being expected and paid?" We have not the slightest desire to put any forced construction on our contemporary's writing. Our object has simply been to trace the steps of the alleged corrupt dealing; to think the matter over quietly, and see how the disgraceful system actually works in practice. If the *Kobe Chronicle* intends to acquit all, or nearly all, the leading statesmen of the *Meiji* era, then it acquits all, or nearly all, the men in whose hands the bestowal of official appointments has rested for the past thirty years. In that case, what becomes of the charge that "scarcely a single official appointment takes place without squeezes being expected and paid?" It appears to us that the trouble is, not "a slight shifting of the ground of argument by the *Japan Mail*," but a remarkable shrinking from the consequences of its own accusations on the part of the *Kobe Chronicle*. Passing, then, from the recipients' "squeezes" to the nature of the squeezes themselves, one naturally asks, in what form is "consideration" given? A percentage of the emoluments attaching to the office in question suggests itself as a probable and simple device. But the *Kobe Chronicle* repudiates that idea. Indeed, our contemporary betrays some indignation at being supposed to entertain any suspicion of the kind. It "points out the utter futility of entering upon a discussion if expressions and statements are to be credited to it which were not made," and, it says that "handing over a percentage would be altogether too open and palpable." What then is the process? It is this, according to the *Kobe Chronicle*:—"Presents from applicants for appointments are frequently made to men who are supposed to be influential with those who appoint to official posts, and in some cases to the men who appoint." We arrive thus at two conclusions: first, that the leading *Meiji* statesmen are innocent of any collusion with the alleged corrupt practices; and secondly, that the recipients of bribes in the form of presents are, as a rule, not the men that actually appoint to office, but men possessing influence with the latter. Is it to be understood, then, that the men by whom the appointments are made seldom receive any "consideration"? Is it to be under-

stood that there exists a class of influential individuals who batten upon "squeezes" paid them for procuring posts while the high officials in whose gift the posts lie have little share in the "squeezes"? It is impossible to conceive anything of the kind. If dishonesty exists on the whole-sale scale indicated by our contemporary, if "scarcely a single appointment to an official position takes place without squeezes being expected and paid," then all ranks of officialdom must be permeated by the poison, and however unwilling our contemporary may be to face the logical sequel of its indictment, there is no escape. As for the presents alluded to, we are well aware that the habit of making them prevails widely, but in the vast majority of cases they represent mere compliance with an old-fashioned code of etiquette, and their intrinsic value is altogether too insignificant to warrant their classification as bribes. We would ask our *Kobe* contemporary to be assured that our remarks are not dictated by any controversial spirit. If abuses exist, it is the duty and interest of every journalist to expose and denounce them. But before assuming their existence, we must examine clearly whether the assumption leads us, and in this case it leads us to a position inconsistent with common sense and apparently repudiated by the *Kobe Chronicle* itself. Positive evidence, one way or the other, is, of course, very difficult to obtain. But there is one piece of evidence probably familiar to many foreign residents; namely, the fact that policemen, and officials on Government railways, in Japan do not accept "squeezes." It must have happened to the great majority of our readers to tender a *douceur* to a railway porter, and we venture to say that the offer was invariably refused. As for the police, their worst enemy has never accused them of corruption, scanty as their salaries have hitherto been. Is it not difficult to reconcile these two cases with the theory that bribery exists on the scale alleged by the *Kobe Chronicle*?

There is one other point to which we must allude, though we would gladly leave it untouched. The *Kobe Chronicle* writes:—

The editor of the *Japan Mail*, whose knowledge upon these matters is "negative," alleges that "public sentiment in Japan does not condone bribery," "the newspapers hold it up to obloquy, and any whisper of its employment in the House of Representatives provokes stormy discussion. We would suggest that to the last clause should be added 'when all do not get their share.'" Will the editor of the *Japan Mail* explain, for example, why Mr. Shimada refused to support the Nippon Yusen Kaisha subsidy?

What does that mean? Even at the risk of being rebuked for crediting our contemporary with "expressions and statements which were not made" by it, we fail to see how the paragraph can be read except as an assertion that the whole House of Representatives is corrupt; that provided all the members get their share of a bribe, no protest is raised against bribery, and that Mr. SHIMADA SABURO

would not have opposed the subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha had he been paid to support it. Such accusations do not require refutation, nor can we pretend to attach much value to the general argument of a critic so biased and so injudicious as to advance them. Elsewhere, the *Kobe Chronicle*, by way of proving "the existence of corruption among officials," mentions "the removal of Count OKI from the Presidency of the Privy Council, and the resignation of Count GOTO and Mr. SAITO from the Ministry of Agriculture;" and cites "the charges brought against Governor OKI and Secretary MITSUHASHI in connexion with the Yokohama Waterworks and Harbour Works, and their removal from office." Further, as examples of "contracts for public works secured by corrupt practices," it adduces "the Tokyo Water Pipe scandal and the Yokohama Harbour Works scandal." With regard to these things we have only to say that our contemporary does gross and unpardonable injustice to every one of the officials named. Count OKI, Count GOTO, Mr. SAITO SHIUCHIRO, Governor OKI and Mr. MITSUHASHI are above all suspicion of dishonesty. Nothing has ever been proved against them, and we are astonished that a journal seeking to be just should have allowed itself to point the finger of obloquy at such men because, in the heat of political controversy, wild accusations were levelled against them without a shadow of substantial confirmation. Further, although gross chicanery was certainly practised by the contractors for the Tokyo Water Works' pipes, it is erroneous to allege that they "secured the contract by corrupt practices." Intimidation had to do with the matter, and so had unbusiness-like sentiment, but to speak of the contracts being secured by corrupt practices is to accuse the Tokyo Municipality of accepting bribes—an accusation which betrays much ignorance, and which the *Kobe Chronicle* has the honour of being the first to formulate. Finally, with regard to what our contemporary calls the "Yokohama Harbour Works scandal," we have yet to learn what the scandal is. After months of exhaustive experiment and investigation, an official committee of experts failed to expose any "scandal." Assuredly it has never been shown that contracts were "secured by corrupt practices" in the case of the Yokohama Harbour Works. If it is upon evidence of such a nature that our contemporary founds its belief, we are glad to think that more careful reflection and research will probably induce it to modify its verdict.

Early on the morning of the 14th inst. the dead bodies of a man and a woman were found on a tea-stool near the Ise Shrine, Iseiyama, by a policeman on duty. Upon examination it was ascertained that they had committed suicide together. As the bodies were not identified the Yokohama Town Office had to take charge of them for burial.

A JOURNALISTIC INCIDENT.

We have before us an example of journalistic devices which for good solid knavery surpasses anything that has previously come under our notice. The incident will probably amuse our readers, and we accordingly give it space. In its issue of the 9th inst., the *Japan Herald* says:—

The *Japan Mail* takes occasion to make merry at the expense of the *Japan Gazette*, by drawing attention to its alleged contradictions by means of what the *Mail* calls "the deadly parallel." But it would seem that the *Mail's* jealousy has been aroused, and it by no means is disposed that our evening contemporary should have a monopoly of that sort of performance, as witness the subjoined:—

"JAPAN MAIL," AUG. (sic) 7TH. "JAPAN MAIL," AUG. (sic) 7TH.
"Despite the protest of the Japanese Representative, the increased import duty upon Japanese *saké* entering Hawaii, went into operation from July 1st. The Hawaiians evidently intend to make things unpleasant for the Japanese immigrants. This *taxing of saké* seems to us a miserable performance. There can be no appreciable revenue in it, and so far as protection is concerned, the only attainable end is to drive the Japanese labourer to the whisky saloon instead of letting him have his comparatively harmless measure of rice wine at home. Certainly the conduct of the Hawaiian Provisional Government towards Japan during the past few months is disfigured by a degree of race prejudice that constitutes a disgrace to all white men."

Now observe the conscientiousness of the editor by whom the above "deadly parallel" was manufactured. The two paragraphs extracted from our columns have been carefully mutilated so as to make it appear that they represent statements advanced by us on our own responsibility, whereas, in reality, the facts they embody were distinctly attributed by us to independent sources, namely, a telegram from Honolulu and an article in the *Mainichi Shimbun*. Here are the uncut commencesments of the paragraphs as they appeared in the *Japan Mail*:—

"JAPAN MAIL," JULY 7TH. "JAPAN MAIL," JULY 7TH.
A telegram from Honolulu says that, despite the protests of the Japanese Representative, the increased import duty upon Japanese *saké* entering, etc.

The sentences italicized have been carefully deleted, it will be observed, by the critic who manufactured our ingenious contemporary's "deadly parallel." In cutting extracts from the *Japan Mail* for his honest purpose, he took pains to insert his scissors at such points as should make it appear that our statements were original, whereas by us they were explicitly attributed, the first to "a Honolulu telegram," the second to "the *Mainichi Shimbun*." The exceeding clumsiness of the fraud makes it quite conical, though of course corresponding tricks in business affairs would soon relegate their perpetrator to the rank of the pariahs.

We pointed out on Tuesday that the *Japan Herald* had been guilty of gross chicanery in deliberately mutilating two paragraphs taken from the *Japan Mail*, so as to deceive the public about their provenance, and create the false impression that the second as well as the first contained a statement of our own views, thereby convicting us of inconsistency. The second paragraph was prefaced by the words:—"A paragraph in the *Mainichi Shimbun* explains the matter" (of the increased duty on Japanese *saké* entering Hawaii) "and it seems desirable that the facts advanced by our con-

temporary should be made known to our readers," with which exordium we proceeded to epitomise the *Mainichi's* article. From first to last not the faintest expression of our own opinion was advanced, nor is it for an instant conceivable that any sane reader of a paragraph prefaced by such words could be betrayed into the small delusion about the source of the views it embodied. Nevertheless, the *Japan Herald* now pretends to imagine that a part of those views was our own. Having dishonestly excised the preface that indicated the *Mainichi Shimbun's* responsibility for the views, and having been convicted of that dishonesty, it now seeks to shelter itself behind a simulation of inconceivable stupidity; and with the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun* to refer to for confirmation or refutation of its pretended suspicion, it will not take the trouble to refer to them but calmly accuses us of "descending to lying and mere abuse." It is impossible to deal with a writer so hopelessly unscrupulous. We must assume that he has ceased to be morally responsible, and substitute pity for the contempt that would otherwise be his due.

VARIOUS TOPICS.

We have received from the "The English Church Building Committee," of Innsbruck, in the Tirol of Austria, a printed circular, which runs as follows:—

Whilst the Alpine Regions of Central Europe are being more and more frequented by travellers, and especially by members of the English nation, who come thither from all parts of the world, in the city of Innsbruck, at once the capital of the Higher Alpine Regions and the most widely-known centre for summer visitors to the Austrian Alps an ever increasing English colony has settled itself. Those who have taken up their permanent residence here have been influenced, no doubt, by the magnificent situation of the city, by its healthy climate, and also by the fact, that its excellent institutions afford exceptional advantages.

There exist in Innsbruck, which with its suburbs has 40,000 inhabitants, churches and places of worship for Roman Catholics, Lutherans and Jews—only for members of the English Communion are there no such advantages provided.

A committee has, therefore, been formed under the Patronage of His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Horace Rumbold, Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador in Vienna, for the purpose of collecting, by issuing an appeal to all English countries in the world, the means of building a Church which shall serve as a place of worship for the English Colony in Innsbruck, and for the nearly 10,000 members of the English Communion who are yearly gathered together during both the summer and winter seasons from Great Britain and Ireland, America and India, as well as from the Colonies in Africa and Australia; some of whom wander through the Alpine districts of the Tyrol, in pursuit of pleasure, while others again are seeking restoration to health and strength in its watering-places and health-resorts.

The members of the Committee are of opinion that they are justified in expecting contributions from the inhabitants of all English countries, even from those who dwell in the most distant colonies, and so they take the liberty of addressing to you a request that you will insert in your widely-read and influential paper the appeal, free of charge.

Trusting that you will be kind enough to forward the cause which we have at heart by granting our request, we have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servants,
Imperial Councillor FRIEDRICH PICHLER
Vice Mayor of the Capital of the Tyrol
(President of the Committee)
J. C. PLATTER C. L. LANDSER
Publisher Town Council and Hotel Proprietor
(Secretary) (Treasurer)
On behalf of the English Church Committee.

We have nothing to say about the merits of the above appeal, but we deem it a duty to bring the facts to our readers' knowledge.

The *Yorodsu Choho* appears to be in a very bad humour at present. A few months ago, it had nothing but good to say of the *Japan Mail*, but now it attacks us with a degree of rancour that is quite entertaining. It has set up on high that terribly battered old dummy that we are paid to paint Japan in delusive colours, and it tilts at the ancient effigy with a degree of vigour that is absolutely refreshing. What amuses us particularly about the *Yorodsu* is the moral that it preaches. "The desire to appear well in others' eyes while in reality they are not so well, is a very lamentable weakness of the present Japanese." It is a weakness very common in the world, for the matter of that, but we can not see that our Tokyo contemporary's practice constitutes a corrective example. What, for instance, was the purpose of the

Yorodsu Choho in engaging an American citizen to write original articles and paragraphs for its columns month after month while declaring, all the while, in the most emphatic terms, that its English columns were from Japanese pens? Could not that be described as a specimen of "the lamentable weakness of desiring to appear well in other's eyes while in reality they are not so well"? When, on the departure of the said American, a representative of the *Yorodsu* called upon the editor of the *Japan Mail*, and asked him thenceforth to correct the English matter for the columns of the *Yorodsu*, and when the editor of the *Japan Mail* declined to associate himself in any way with a journal that had been guilty of such chicanery, we very well understood, and were quite content, that the *Yorodsu Choho* would thereafter figure, not as our panegyrist, but as our assailant, and we were not unprepared to find that the same moral obtuseness which had betrayed it into deceptive devices in the past would lead it to make use of very wretched weapons in the future. But that it should profess to be shocked at a failing on the part of its countrymen which had already been displayed to a flagrant degree in its own columns, affords quite a striking illustration of the pot and the kettle. Its present programme seems to be the pursuit of notoriety through the channels of general abuse. Like the proverbial Scot, it's "just awearing at large." It works itself into a veritable pother of excitement about "Choshu insincerity, Higo hypocrisy, Satsuma covetousness and Fukuzawa mammonism," and having thus thrown as much dirt as possible at the leaders of its own nation, it turns upon the Yokohama foreign residents, and, in a series of refined articles, lays to their charge crimes that must remain unrefuted since decency forbids their discussion. We do not think that there need be the slightest apprehension lest the practices of the *Yorodsu Choho* should make the Japanese appear in other's eyes better than they really are. It would seem, on the contrary, that our patriotic contemporary has deliberately adopted the self-sacrificing rôle chosen by the American propagandist of teetotalism, who presented himself to his audiences in a state of beastly drunkenness in order to demonstrate the disgusting effects of inebriety.

A terrible interest attaches to the discovery of no less than 24 bodies of persons who had caused themselves to be buried alive in pits near Tiresopol. We read that these fanatics are descendants of the dissenters who were persecuted in Russia during two centuries, thousands of them having been knouted in the reign of the Empress Sophia. The consequence was that they developed a spirit of fierce fanaticism, and embraced the doctrine of salvation by martyrdom. Six of the twenty-four recent victims were wallied up by a man who frankly avows his deed. Among the six were his own wife and two little children. The latter, of course, can not have been consenting parties. It is appalling to think that such barbarism should still exist in Europe. A cognate case, in our opinion, is that of the poor girl killed recently in Berlin, while supporting an object at which her brother, the professional marksman Kruger, shot with a pistol. The girl received the bullet in her mouth, and died almost instantaneously. What justification can be found for permitting such exhibitions? The same justification, we presume, that exists for allowing bull fights in Spain, prize fights in America, and the brutal defiance of lions and tigers in circus cages everywhere. The day can not be very far distant when all such displays will be remembered as relics of pristine savagery.

Another effort is on foot for the elaboration and adoption of a language of universal communication. The new plan appears to have been conceived by Mr. L. Samenhof, of Grodno, Russia. He has prepared, and caused to be printed, circulars which indicate a great deal of trouble and must have involved considerable outlay. But of course no prospect of final success is suggested by the plan. We say "of course," because the compilation of such a

language can never be effected until the Governments, or, at any rate, the leading scholars, of all nations agree to coöperate for the purpose. Even then the experiment would be doubtful. The only rational hope, so far as we can see, lies in the possibility that some one of the languages already in use will eventually become the tongue of the civilized world. Practically the choice is limited to English and French, and considering the enormously greater and constantly growing vogue of the former, there should not be much room for doubt. However, Mr. Samenhof's plan is to invite expressions of opinion on the subject from persons in every part of the world, and to embody their essays in a three-volume book of 960 pages, no contributor being allowed more than 10 pages, and the contributions being inserted in the order of their receipt by the editor, without distinction of persons. Each subscriber to the work—which is to cost four shillings—will be entitled to vote for the language of his choice, provided that he subscribes before the issue of the last volume, which will contain a list of the voters. It is plain that, connected with such a scheme, there are contingencies of a purely commercial character. As to that, our readers can draw their own conclusions.

The *Saturday Review* summarizes a Blue Book recently published with reference to the Cocos Islands, thus:—

The Cocos Islands, some twenty in number, are situated in the Indian Ocean, to the south-west of the Dutch island of Java, far removed from the ordinary trade routes. They form a roughly broken circle, with a shallow lagoon in the centre, protected by an outer barrier of reefs. The population at the present time numbers about six hundred, of whom the greater proportion are native-born Cocos people, and the minority Malays from Batavia. The Ross family are the only Europeans inhabiting the group, and though all the male members of the third generation were educated in Scotland and are described as well educated, quick and intelligent, they have almost all contracted native marriages and thrown in their lot with the people among whom they live. Their sons and daughters, with few exceptions, neither speak nor understand English, and Mr. George Clunies Ross, the head of the family, and a man of remarkable force of character, was at one time eighteen years without hearing English spoken, and confesses to being a little rusty in its use. The system of government is sufficiently remarkable. There are no written laws, and Mr. Ross has successfully resisted the suggestion that the penal code of the Straits Settlements should be introduced into the islands. There is no police force and no crime. Mr. Ross owns the whole of the land and is the sole employer of labour. The currency is parchment currency, convertible at a fixed ratio into rupees or dollars when an islander makes a rare visit to Batavia or Singapore, or when a Bantamese coolie leaves the island to return home. The natives, who are Malays by race, profess Mohammedanism, but there is the utmost freedom in religious matters, and the influence of the Ross family, exercised through three-quarters of a century free from disturbing elements, has effected many striking changes in the habits and customs of the people. One after another the officials from the mainland confess that they find it difficult to institute a comparison between the Cocos-born Malays and the Malays with whom they have previously been brought into contact. The Cocos islanders live in neat houses comfortably furnished on the European model, and kept scrupulously clean. They have adopted the institution of a weekly washing day, and sit at table to eat their food with the aid of knives and forks. But is not only in externals that European influence is clearly discernible. "The marriage laws," Mr. Hugh Clifford states in the 1894 Report, "which to most Malays represent the Alpha and Omega of Mohammedan law, have been entirely superseded by the English marriage customs. Polygamy is unknown on the island, at any rate among the Cocos-born Malays, and public opinion on the subject is sufficiently strong to induce any Bantamese who has more than one wife to dispense with this superfluity." The sole export of the island is copra, which is sent once a year in a vessel chartered for the purpose by Mr. Ross to England for sale. From England, too, supplies for the islands are obtained, although formerly everything was bought in Batavia, with which port communication is kept up by a small schooner belonging to Mr. Ross. Of the people subjected to this paternal and benevolent despotism, and cut off from all contact with the outer world, the uni-

versal testimony of the reports is that they are contented and happy. They make no complaints, and look upon Mr. Ross as their benefactor and friend. It is surely a curious fate that has brought this sturdy and capable Scottish family into a remote corner of the Indian Ocean, and has enabled three generations of Europeans to influence and mould the character and habits of an alien and inferior race, from the intrusion of conflicting forces.

The ladies of Paris are beginning to avenge themselves on the men that behaved with so little courage and so much brutality on the occasion of the burning of the bazaar. It is said that a list containing sixty-two names has been compiled, and that the leaders of society—the ladies of course—have all agreed to turn their backs upon the men thus catalogued. A story is told of the manner in which the resolution was carried out in the case of one "gilded youth." One of the ladies that had escaped from the holocaust was entertaining a number of her friends. To them arrived a young elegant, one of the "gardenia wearers," against whose name the black mark had been set. A handsome youth, versed in all the *convenances*, he had been accustomed to a cordial reception everywhere. But on the present occasion a chilling silence fell upon the group of ladies, and when he advanced with artistically rounded shoulders and gracefully extended hand, the dame of the mansion, *très froide avec la dignité un peu sèche que l'on devine*, said:—"Sir, pray do not forget that you were formerly a friend of the family. But to-day the door is closed to you. I beg you to save me from having you shown out by my servants who, for their part, have shown themselves men of courage. You understand me. Good evening." It is a clumsy tale, spoiled by transmission through a vulgar medium, but it illustrates what Paris is saying.

The surprising fact has been demonstrated by Mr. Flinders Petrie that the builders of the Pyramids were half pervaded by the customs of cannibalism. He made the discovery by investigations among tombs in Egypt. Numerous remains found there show very plainly that the bodies had been dissected and stripped of their flesh in a manner pointing clearly to habits of cannibalism. It does not appear that all the inhabitants of Egypt three thousand years before Christ were cannibals. The conclusion arrived at by the learned Egyptologist is that the custom prevailed chiefly, if not entirely among the Libyan invaders. In an essay setting forth the facts, Mr. Flinders Petrie describes the wide area of the world over which cannibalism used to be, or still is, practised, and analysing the motives for it, tabulates the result thus:—

Honour, kindness, future good, love	20 per cent.
To obtain strength or magic results	19 do.
As a ceremony or to acquire position	10 do.
As a punishment	5 do.
[per cent.]	
From hunger or need of food	18 54
From preference as food	28
46	

FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.

At 8.15 on Wednesday night an alarm of fire at No. 73 Settlement, was received at the Central Fire Station. Superintendent Morgan, with a party of Brigade men, hose reel, and stand pipe, proceeded promptly to the spot, and found that the ceiling and shingles of the roof of one of the upstairs rooms, occupied by Mr. F. H. Bugbird, were on fire. Water from a hose attached to a neighbouring hydrant very soon extinguished the flames, and comparatively little damage was done. It appeared that a Japanese *hibachi* had been placed too near a wooden partition in the servants' room and set fire to the woodwork, which burned up through the ceiling of the room and ignited the shingles under the tiles of the roof.

FOREIGN CAPITAL IN JAPAN.

Many erroneous assertions, remarks the *Yiji*, have lately been made with regard to the introduction of foreign capital into Japan. It is alleged that the introduction of foreign capital will supply the deficiency of funds for all enterprises, now regarded as the cause of serious abuses in the economic world, and that while tending to contribute to the development of new enterprises, it will also lead to a fall in the current rates of interest. These allegations are the outcome of ideas entertained by the public at present, and even form the basis of a discussion as to the propriety of the late change in the Coinage System. The rates of interest depend, as a matter of fact, upon the relations between demand and supply of capital. The practical effect that may be produced upon the rate of interest and the circulation of money by the introduction of foreign capital can only be attained by the capital in question being introduced in the form of internal loans and passing into the hands of enterprising business men. Foreign capital is at present only obtained by the sale of public securities raised to meet expenditures required in the expansion of armaments and other new undertakings of the Government. Even if Industrial or Railway Bonds should be sold to foreign countries in future, the scheme conduces only towards preventing the funds in the interior from being absorbed. It does not effect any increase of capital in the banks for the issue of a greater number of loans. Relaxation in the circulation of money is not therefore to be hoped for in this direction. On the contrary, it seems not improbable that the import of foreign capital will enhance the prices of commodities and tighten the circulation of money. To assert that the introduction of foreign capital will lead to a fall in the rates of interest while the methods of its appropriation remain uninvestigated, is no better than the unenlightened allegation that an increase of the currency would remedy the distress caused by pressure on the circulation. The rates of interest are invariably influenced by the amount of capital in hand. An increase in the volume of currency could scarcely fail to raise the prices of commodities, and would necessitate the appropriation of a greater amount of funds for any given enterprise than was required in former times. The demand for capital thus increases, and with the increase in demand interest rises. If one desires to promote the circulation of money through the instrumentality of foreign loans, schemes must first be formed to redeem the internal loans bearing high interest with foreign capital at low interest, so that the loans so redeemed may, through the holders of bonds, be delivered to the various banks in the form of deposits to increase the Banks' loan-issuing capacities. To issue the Bonds of the Industrial Bank at a low rate of interest in foreign markets and to dole out the Bank's funds in loans to persons in the interior, engaged in agriculture and industry, is, it seems, the best means of employing foreign capital. But the scheme cannot be expected to be carried into practice within a short space of time. The import of foreign capital therefore is to be limited for the present to the sale of Bonds by Government, and the economic community can hardly expect to reap any great advantages from these transactions. The Government seems to have counted on success in financial adjustment through the introduction of foreign capital, but will fail to attain its end for the reasons above stated.

The *Shogyo Shimpō* remarks that the ship-owners of Japan are already experiencing considerable inconvenience owing to the paucity of docking accommodation in the Empire. The only two places where ships of from 5,000 to 6,000 tons can be repaired are Nagasaki and Yokosuka, but owing to the niggardliness of the Diet in voting supplies, the latter place has to refuse work, even when the ships are disengaged. Some remedy will soon have to be found if profitable work of this description is to be kept in Japan.

KOREAN TOPICS.

The "chief event of the week" ending June 17th in Chemulpo was the election of an honorary secretary of the Lawn Tennis Club. "Eleven persons cast ten ballots for four persons." What a week! What an event!

The Colonel commanding the Taiku regiment in Korea has given the Authorities a piece of his mind. It appears that the War Office, without assigning any reason, dismissed one of the regiment's most capable and useful lieutenants and appointed an ignoramus in his place. Thereupon the Colonel resigned, declaring that he would not retain the command of a regiment subject to such incidents.

Incidentally we learn that the pay of a soldier in Korea is \$5.50 per month. The custom of the War Office hitherto has been to retain 50 sen of that amount, and hand the accumulation to a soldier on the expiration of his term of service. But, for reasons not stated, the whole pay is now issued.

The *Independent* says:—"We are informed that the work on the Sŏul-Chemulpo railway is being vigorously pushed, and as soon as the final surveying work is finished a thousand more men will be put to work. At present the graders are pushing the surveying party closely, being at work on the Chemulpo side of the pass, and from there to Chemulpo. The small Decauville construction track is laid from the outskirts of Chemulpo to a distance of about five miles from Chemulpo, most of the way now being continuous, with temporary trestles. We hear the Korean coolies are very satisfactory as workmen and are able to take small contracts for grading. They take well to the use of the small construction railway and other foreign tools."

The Korean tradesman is not without ideas. Recently a vendor of a marvellous medicine wanted to obtain the patronage of the Palace, his conviction being that the Crown Prince would derive much benefit from the use of the drug. By way of advertisement he hired a drum, and beat it "in a most frantic manner," having mounted to the top of the south gate for the purpose. The police took charge of him.

The King of Korea reviewed the students of the English, Russian, and French Schools on the 22nd of June. All three schools sent their students simultaneously to the ground, but the exercises were conducted independently. The lads of the English School wore khaki uniforms with red stripes and facings. The first company carried rifles, but the rest had not yet attained sufficient proficiency to be entrusted with arms. The French scholars were in Korean costume. Various evolutions were performed by the English and Russian students, but the French lads do not appear to have taken any part other than that of joining the parade.

CHINESE NEWS.

In Wenchow the Chinese recently spread a rumour that the Formosans had risen, and were driving out the Japanese.

The sum subscribed by the Chinese in Hongkong to the Diamond Jubilee Fund aggregated \$29,845 on the 2nd of July.

We gather from the reports thus far published of the Blackburn Commissioners' inquiries in China, that foreign goods have to pay very heavy taxes before they pass into the hands of Chinese consumers. That was the question, above all others, that the Commissioners were interested in investigating. Doubtless they have obtained statistics, but these they have not yet made public. They limit themselves to the assertion that foreign imports have to pay very large duties.

The Commissioners speak in glowing terms of the wealth of Szechuan. The annual export of opium from that province is estimated at 140,000 piculs; the salt wells supply the wants of the whole of China, and the production of drugs, hides, silk

and wool is very large. But the population is excessive. It is in Szechuan that a famine is now raging owing to a succession of bad harvests and the want of proper means of communication with other centres of supply.

The 1st of July came and went in Shanghai without any serious trouble in connexion with the wheelbarrow licences. Up to noon only 60 licences were taken out in the English Concession, but in the afternoon 800 were applied for. On the preceding day some attempt was made to harangue a crowd of coolies into resisting the tax, but the chief agitator was promptly seized, and an attempt to rescue him, led to the arrest of fourteen others. The Chinese Magistrate sentenced three of the men to 700, 600 and 500 blows respectively.

In marked contrast to Szechuan, the Commissioners found the country about Yunnan-fu in the poorest and most miserable condition. Yunnan-fu is the point to which the French have just obtained permission to extend their railway from Tonkin *via* Kwangsi. Mr. Bourne, of the Consular Service, who accompanied the Commission, had been in Yunnan ten years previously, and it did not appear to him that any improvement had taken place in that time. A leading Chinese banker of the city told him that a century must probably elapse, under normal conditions, before any appreciable change for the better could be effected in the plains of southern Yunnan. Devastation by successive rebellions has been the cause of this wide-spread indigence. The people are without farming implements or oxen; water communication does not exist, and the roads are execrable even for China. It is supposed that in projecting a railway over the barren plains of Kwangsi and the impoverished plateau of Yunnan, the real objective point of the French in Szechuan.

The China Mail says:—

Colombo exchanges to hand contain reports from several steamers which had been in the vicinity of Socotra about the time the *Aden* was lost. The *Sultan*, also wrecked near Socotra, experienced terrific weather on the 8th and 9th June; the sea was lashed into a perfect fury, and the water broke continuously over the vessel, one big wave tearing open the hatches and filling the holds. The vessel began to settle down, and falling in with the *Valetta* on the 10th Captain Collin decided to abandon his vessel. With great difficulty the passengers and crew (including the captain's wife) were saved—125 lives in all; but several of the boats were swamped and ten lives lost. Two passengers died from exposure and shock, and Capt. Collin was badly injured by having his hand jammed by a door during the height of the gale. His mind is also said to have become unbalanced by his fearful experiences. The *Sultan* was built twenty-three years ago by J. Elder and Co., Glasgow, and was formerly named the *Prins Hendrik*. The names of the Europeans (all saved) are—Messrs. W. F. Collin (and wife), Master; J. H. Collin, Chief Officer; Wm. C. Marshall, 2nd Officer; H. H. Scallan, 3rd Officer; Wm. Keir, Chief Engineer; J. H. Meyer, 2nd Engineer; Jas. E. Mylan, 3rd Engineer; J. R. W. de Cruz, 4th Engineer. The China Mutual steamer *Chingwo* also encountered bad weather. Eight passengers died from the effects of the weather and natural causes and the chief cook was washed overboard and drowned. The P. and O. *Himalaya*, as well as the *Valetta*, must have been in the neighbourhood of Socotra when the *Aden* was making her worst weather. The *Sultan* was loaded down to the centre of the Plimsoll disc, and was laden with 3,000 tons of salt.

At the dedication of the re-constructed Roman Catholic Cathedral in Tientsin, on the 21st of June, the French Representative delivered an address, the principal points of which were:—

1.—The ceremony took place in memory of the unfortunate French people who were massacred in 1870. The Cathedral was built over their very tombs; it is a lasting monument elevated to their memory.

2.—The massacre of 1870 outraged the whole Christian world; as the Chinese Government has given its consent to the reconstruction of this sacred monument, satisfaction has been given to the Christians, and Frenchmen may now pardon and forget the terrible event of 1870.

3.—We are permitted to hope that such a massacre will never be repeated. The Chinese

Government has arrived at the recognition of the fact that Christianity will be an important factor in the civilisation of China, and that the Empire has already realised its advantages.

In connexion with this we note that our Shanghai contemporaries now congratulate the French on their firm action of carrying out the dedication ceremony on the anniversary of the massacre, 27 years ago, and not making any postponement in deference to threatened interference by Chinese roughs. Such congratulations contrast strangely with the utterances of the same journals before the ceremony.

GERMAN NOTES.

An interesting case was heard last month in the Berlin court, when George Knaak, former proprietor of the Berlin firm "Deutsche Waffenfabrik," had to defend himself against a charge of fraud. The affair dates back—says the *Tageblatt*—to the recent China-Japanese War, when the well-known firm of Mandel & Co., of Shanghai, made a contract on behalf of the Chinese Government with Moritz Magnus, of Hamburg, to supply a large quantity of cartridges, to be delivered at Hamburg on board ship 10 days after receipt of order. To enable him to execute the order within such a short period of time, Magnus was obliged to contract with various manufacturers, one of whom, the defendant, agreed to supply over 40,000 cartridges. The order was completed within the contract time. Twelve months later, a letter was received from Mandel & Co. complaining that part of the shipment of cartridges had not been according to contract, some of the cases having contained blank cartridges only, and others had the shot loosely packed. In consequence, Magnus had to pay a sum of 5,000 marks for damages. After a good deal of negotiation, Magnus finally laid a charge of fraud against the defendant. It seems that Knaak had hoped that the cartridges would be landed and distributed amongst the Chinese soldiers at some port or other before reaching Shanghai; so that his irregularity would not become known to the Shanghai merchants. Defendant admitted having supplied several thousand blank cartridges containing only 3 grammes of powder instead of Mauser cartridges, model 71, containing shot and 5 grammes of powder as agreed; but stated that it was done with the knowledge of Magnus. This contention he eventually substantiated, and the judge found that if any fraud had been committed against Messrs. Mandel & Co., it had been done by the connivance of both Knaak and Magnus: He therefore non-suited plaintiff.

It is difficult to describe the scenes of rapture and enthusiasm evoked last month at a concert given in Paris by the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra. An audience of over four thousand filled the spacious Concert Hall, representatives of the best Parisian society being present. Amongst them were the German Ambassador, Count Münster, several members of other legations, and M. Crozier, Master of Ceremonies at the Elysee. After Beethoven's 7th Symphony, the "Freischütz Overture," and Wagner's "Siegfried," the performers received round upon round of applause which lasted many minutes. Again and again the conductor, Herr Nikisch, was called before the curtain, and when the concert concluded with a most artistic rendering of the "Tannhäuser" Overture, the audience rose to their feet, frantically waving hats and handkerchiefs, and calling "Au revoir." Herr Nikisch once more appeared, tears running down his cheeks, and bowed his thanks to the French audience, calling out, "de tout mon coeur au revoir." Outside, on the Boulevard du Temple, the ovations were continued and hundreds of enthusiasts accompanied Nikisch and his wife to their hotel.

The *Contemporary Review* for June publishes, over the signature of "Germanicus," a singularly outspoken article about the Emperor of Germany. No newspaper or periodical in Germany itself could venture to be the medium of circulating such views. The essay

abounds with quaint sayings and sweeping assertions. The Emperor, we read, is profoundly disappointed at not having been invited to England for the Diamond Jubilee. Had he come "heaven only knows what he might have done to attract people's attention." "He might have asked the Queen to allow him to put himself at the head of the whole population of England to march past Her Majesty; for a march past is the Emperor's ideal of bliss. Not without good reason do his witty Berlin subjects say with bated breath that their Emperor is suffering from *defilurium tremens*." . . . "Omniscience he claims as one of the attributes of his kingly majesty. Popular wit expresses this in the words, 'God knows everything, but the Emperor William knows everything better.' He annulled the decision of a jury of experts as to which drama ought to receive the Schiller prize. He set aside the award of a committee of architects as to the prize for the Reichstag Palace. In short, he acts always up to the principle *Regis voluntas suprema lex*. 'Germanicus' gives a most disquieting idea of the state of affairs that is gradually growing up under such conditions. 'The middle classes see, with sullen discontent, that the administration of justice is tarnished as soon as the slightest question arises between the feudal nobility and the members of the citizen class. . . . The situation is getting more and more dangerous. The feeling of discontent increases in intensity every day. . . . A violent conflict between this autocratic, headstrong monarch and the people seems unavoidable. . . . Prudent people in Germany, men who have rendered service to their country, look with grave anxiety upon the present state of affairs. They know that the headstrong monarch who, at this moment, guides the destinies of the Fatherland, constitutes a danger to their country; that what he considers to be energy is generally only fussiness; that he possesses neither wisdom nor patience; and that his efforts to put back the clock of Germany to the time of the dark ages can but end in ruin for the crown and for the country.' 'Germanicus' may be a Social Democrat, who, finding in Germany no vent for his extreme views, carries them to England for publication in the *Contemporary Review*. But he may also be an impartial observer. We can only hope that he is egregiously mistaken.

The scene in the Austrian Reichsrath on the 24th of May must have been striking. The "unparalleled violence resorted to," say the Vienna correspondent of *The Times*, "was due to the course adopted by the majority with the object of depriving the Opposition of one of their weapons. This resulted in a vehement outburst of party and personal rancour which soon converted the Reichsrath into a veritable pandemonium. 'Insolent Jew,' 'pack of thieves,' 'Jewish dogs,' 'Christian Socialist vagabonds,' and 'paid agitators' were some of the epithets hurled at each other by his Anti-Semitic allies and his opponents in the presence of the Austrian Prime Minister. The latter was himself greeted from the German side with cries of 'Down with Baden! Be off with you!' while the Vice-President was received with shouts of 'Fie upon you!' The defeat of the minority led to a scene of indescribable confusion and disorder. Certain members of the Opposition seized the notes from the hands of the official stenographers, tore them to pieces, and flung them on the President's desk. The others, following this example, destroyed their copies of the Standing Orders, and used the fragments as missiles or scattered them on the floor of the House."

The improvement of the harbour of Wakamatsu, Kyushu, is to be undertaken by the Wakamatsu Port Construction Company, which intends to increase its present capital of yen 400,000 to yen 3,000,000, to facilitate the work. It is stated that there are now about 3,000 vessels, including steamers and junks, inside the port, with cargoes of coal averaging 10,000 cattiees each, making a total of 30,000,000 cattiees.—*Chugai Shogyo*.

EVOLUTION AND CREATION.

It is a pity that Mr. Herbert Spencer found "the amounts of time and energy remaining to him" too small to justify his entering into the general question recently raised again by the Duke of Argyll. When we speak of "natural selection" we infer the existence of things from which to select. When we talk of the "survival of the fittest," we imply that there must have been originally some organisms among which the struggle for differentiation commenced. The former term is Darwin's; the latter, Spencer's. The Duke of Argyll now declares that the very language employed by the two great philosophers constitutes a profession of belief in a creative power. "Selection, as we know it, can not make things: it can only choose among materials already made and open to the exercise of choice. Therefore selection, whether by man or by what men are pleased to call nature, can never account for the origin of things." Spencer's "survival of the fittest" means nothing but a mere truism; namely, that the creatures fittest to survive do survive. It explains nothing and tells us nothing about the origin of creatures. With regard to the wider generalization "organic evolution," it is nothing more than "the general idea of development in its special application to organic life," and all Spencer's great heads of evidence from Geology, Classification, Distribution of Species, Embryology, and Rudimentary Organs, are merely proofs that "nothing we can see or know, nothing that we can even conceive, is produced at once as a finished article, ready made without any previous processes of growth." The Duke's arguments run in this strain:—

We know as certainly as we know anything in the physical sciences, that organic life must have had a definite beginning, in time, upon this globe of ours. If so, then, of course that beginning can not possibly have been by way of ordinary generation. Some other process must have been employed, however little we are able to conceive what that process was. All our desperate attempts, therefore, to get rid of the idea of creation, as distinguished from mere procreation, are self-condemned as futile. The facts of nature and the necessities of thought compel us to entertain the conception of an absolute beginning of organic life, when as yet there were no parent forms to breed and multiply.

Darwin, as is well known, recognized this ultimate necessity. He clothed the conception of it in words derived from the old and time-honored language of Genesis. He spoke of the Creator first breathing the breath of life into a few, perhaps only into one single organic form, (his followers generally seem to regard this as a weak concession on the part of their great master. They never dwell on it. They never realize that without it, or without some substitute for it, the whole structure of what they call organic evolution is without a basis—that it represents a chain hanging in mid-air, having no point of attachment in the heavens or on earth. It is as certain as anything in human thought that, when organic life was first introduced into the world, something was done—some process was employed—differing from that by which those forms do now simply reproduce and repeat themselves.

But the moment this concession has been fully, frankly, and intelligently made, another concession necessarily follows—namely this: that we can not safely conclude that the first, and more strictly creative, process has never been repeated. Yet this is the assumption tacitly involved in all the current materialistic theories of evolution. It is an assumption nevertheless in favor of which there is assuredly no antecedent probability.

If the processes of ordinary generation have never been reinvigorated by a repetition of that other process—whatever it may have been, in which ordinary generation was first started on its wonderful and mysterious course—then all the more certainly must the whole of that course have been foreseen and prearranged. It has been a magnificent and orderly procession. It has been a course of continually fresh adaptations to new spheres of functional activity. We deceive ourselves when we think or talk, as the Darwinian school perpetually does, of organs being made or fitted by use. The idea is, strictly speaking, nonsense. They were made for use, not by use. They have always existed in embryo before the use was possible, and, generally, there are many stages of growth before they can be put to use. During all the stages the lines of development were strictly governed by the end to be attained, that is to say, by the purpose to be fulfilled.

This, indeed, is evolution; but it is the evolution of mind and will; of purpose and intention. . . . I quite agree with Mr. Spencer that most men when they talk of separate or special creation do not realize, or 'visualize,' what they mean by it. But exactly the same criticism applies to the language of those who are perpetually explaining organic structures as developments governed by the absolute necessities of external adaptations. They do not really see the necessary implication of their own language. If the organism is to live at all, they frequently tell us, such and such developments must arise. Quite so—but who is it, or what is it, that determines that the organism shall live, and shall not rather die? The needed development will not appear of its own accord. The needed perception of its necessity must exist somewhere; and the needed power of meeting that necessity must exist somewhere also. Moreover, the two must act in concert. Those therefore, who talk about that combined perception and

power existing in nature are using words with no meaning, unless by nature they mean a conceiving and a perceiving agency. It is on this principle alone that we can explain very clearly why some apparatuses are common to all living things.

Mr. Spencer, as we have said, has declined to raise the gauntlet thrown down by the Duke. He calls himself too feeble to enter the lists. It is a pity, for on whichever side our sympathies are enlisted, a collision between two such intellects could scarcely fail to strike some sparks of truth.

FORMOSAN REFORMS.

Radical reforms are to be made in the administration of Formosa, remarks the *Fiji*, but the details are still secret and it is impossible to ascertain the exact nature of the alterations contemplated. We hazard the opinion, however, that the points given below will be attended to:—

1. For the present nothing should be done in regard to the native tribes. They ought to be regarded as beyond civil administration. Energy should be entirely devoted to the pacification of the natives in the interior of Formosa that are already under the influence of civil administration.

2. To make the natives sensible of the advantage of the Imperial administration, it will be absolutely necessary to guarantee the safety of their lives and property; facilities of communication are of paramount importance for the attainment of that end. A railway between Taipei and Tainan should be constructed, and highways repaired, so that travelling may be undertaken by *jinrikisha* and goods transported in carts.

3. As the construction of roads would be of small effect for the protection of lives and property, unless an efficient police force is provided, the fullest consideration should be given to the question of the distribution of police inspectors and men.

4. The police should be persuaded to learn the native language as soon as possible.

5. The necessity of learning the native tongue does not lie with the police alone: it is incumbent on all officials in Formosa. A portion of the office hours ought to be set apart for the study of the language, and extra pay, or reward, should be granted by way of encouragement to persons who have attained proficiency in it.

6. Matters of taxation should be conducted in conformity with old usage and customs. Should any necessity arise for fresh taxation, discretion should be exercised in the investigation of the subject.

7. No interference should be made in the customs and manners of the natives; time alone can effect such changes.

8. The teaching of the Japanese language to the natives has produced advantageous results beyond expectation, and the expansion of the scheme is highly to be commended.

KEROSENE IMPORTS.

The demand for kerosene oil, remarks the *Sekai no Nippon*, increases year by year. The amount distributed from Yokohama has, it is said, increased by five hundred thousand cases per *ensem* as compared with last year. Arrivals of kerosene from America and Russia and the quantity sent to the interior during the half year from January 1st to June 30th this year, are as follow:—

	From	Arrivals.		Transport to interior.
		Cases.	Cases.	
January ...	America	40,000	152,484	
	Russia	8,255	55,115	
February ...	America	54,000	71,459	
	Russia	150,923	88,881	
March	America	196,000	17,444	
	Russia	135,200	82,704	
April	America	436,250	132,763	
	Russia	47,869	62,432	
May	America	71,000	156,361	
	Russia	47,868	66,077	
June	America	80,000	111,435	
	Russia	42,917	55,963	
Totals...	America	879,250	793,946	
	Russia	505,032	451,172	

From the above it may be perceived that the arrivals from America and Russia during six months aggregated 1,384,282 cases, of which 1,245,018 were distributed for internal consumption.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The abolition of the Colonial Department is said to be gaining favour in official circles.

Bandai-san and Shirane-san, which have been quiescent for a long period, are reported to be in eruption again.

The U.S.S. *Forktown*, in the return baseball match against the Kobe C.C., beat the home side by 14 runs to 9.

The crew that will bring home the *Takasago Kan* from England, left Yokohama by the *Hakata Maru* on Tuesday.

The Crown Prince will probably spend the summer at Hakone. His health has been in different of late, at least so the vernacular press states.

We notice two former Yokohama lads among the team that represented the H. & S. Bank in a cricket match played against the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa in May—Sidney Wheeler (34 runs), and E. H. Moss (21).

The *Porodsu Choho* declares that "dark clouds are now seen hanging over the Department of Colonization," and the promotion of Mr. Mizuno, President of the Civil Administration Bureau of Formosa, to be Vice-Minister of the Department, is in abeyance.

The floods in Fukui are said to have involved damage to 4,300 houses. In Sakai-gun 160 houses were inundated, while seven men were drowned in Ono-gun. Damage to crops, railway-tracks, and river embankments is reported from all parts of the Prefecture affected by the rains.

James Mullens, an ordinary seaman on board the U.S.S. *Boston*, has been sentenced by Mr. Hunter Sharp, acting U.S. Consul at Kobe, to 60 days' imprisonment, for obstructing the police while in the execution of their duty. The man was tipsy and threw a policeman into the water. After which he drew the constable's sword and brandished it.

The Japan-Mexico Colonizing Company, which was organised by Viscount Enomoto, having lately completed arrangements for the purchase of land as well as the establishment of a company in Mexico, has determined to raise the necessary capital. The shares are to be 4,000, of which the Viscount himself takes 1,000, another 1,000 being allotted among the promoters of the scheme. The remaining 2,000 are to be offered to the public.

A bluejacket named Brown, belonging to H.M.S. *Narcissus*, had the misfortune to ride over a Japanese woman in Division Street, Kobe, last week. The woman was badly injured and Brown was proceeded against in the British Court, on a charge of furious riding, with the result that he was fined \$5; ordered to pay costs of Court, \$1.50, and compensation of \$83.46. At the suggestion of the *Kobe Chronicle* a subscription list was started, and the \$90 was raised for Brown, who is a married man by a warm-hearted public.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Sakura Maru*, while on her way from Oginohama to Yokohama, on the morning of the 7th instant, sighted a vessel flying signals of distress. The *Sakura* steered for the distressed vessel and found her to be the steamer *Koyo Maru*, owned by the Kochi Imperial Steamship Company, whose shaft was broken. At the request of the Captain of the disabled steamer, the *Sakura Maru* took her in tow and brought her safely into Yokohama harbour on the 8th instant.

From the Manila *Comercio* we gather that a disastrous eruption of the volcano Mayon—in the south west of Luzon—occurred on the 26th June, and fifty-six persons lost their lives, many more being injured. Only a brief telegram had been received at Manila in reference to the catastrophe and further details were anxiously awaited. Since 1716 the volcano has been in eruption thirteen times, at long intervals, speci-

ally calamitous outbreaks occurring in 1766, 1814, 1853, and 1871. It became active again on the 6th July, 1881, and has continued so slightly ever since. On the 26th June last it broke out in complete eruption, causing great alarm and damage in the surrounding district.

The books of the Tokyo Rice Exchange have been seized by the police, and also the private account books of Mr. Yonekawa, Chief Director of the Exchange; and those of Messrs. Matsuzawa and Shimada, prominent brokers. It is said that all three men are involved in a charge of violating the Regulations in connection with time bargains for July and August.

The *Hochi Shimbun* ascribes the recent rise in outward freights from Europe to the machinations of Russia and China, forgetting—or probably not knowing—that the real cause is the activity now prevailing in the South and North American trades, the South African trade, and the shipping trade of Europe generally, which are absorbing every available steamer and sailing vessel.

The *Sekai no-Nippon* has received information of a piece of cruelty recently perpetrated by a prison inspector in Hokkaido, which it denounces in vehement terms. Inspector Wakamatsu was in charge of a band of convicts engaged in weeding the grounds of the penitentiary, when a venomous snake was discovered. He thereupon ordered one of the prisoners, Yasuda Chiutaro, to capture it alive. The man attempted to do so and was bitten by the reptile. In a few hours he died. Inspector Wakamatsu is reported to have expressed surprise at the death. We have never heard of venomous reptiles in Japan that kill a man in a few hours. We have heard, however, of venomous slanderers who try to kill men's reputation with a paragraph.

The Japan Railway Company, says the *Porodsu Choho*, proposes to double the following lines in view of the necessity of extending the means of transportation. The work will be extended over five years and is estimated to cost 3,854,026 yen. The principal officers of the Company having agreed on their views, the scheme is to be presented for approval at the general meeting of shareholders.

Section of Railway.	Distance Miles.	Expenditure Yen.
Takata-Zōshigaya	5.00	503,700
Omiya-Kamio	5.02	90,386
Omiya-Shirakawa	98.79	2,237,317
Matsukawa-Fukushima ...	8.22	260,952
Iwanuma-Iwakiri	15.73	384,754
Minami Senju-Kita Senju	1.52	105,082
Shinagawa-Zoshigaya	9.40	271,835
Total	144.28	3,854,026

The Formosa Opium Regulations, says the *Fiji Shimpō*, were to be enforced from the 1st April in districts where the police authority is thoroughly organised. The population of the localities where the Regulations were put in operation, being only 150,000, does not exceed one-seventeenth of the whole populace of the island, which may be supposed to aggregate 2,500,000. Opium smokers are 15,123 in number, while the amount of opium transported from the manufactories is as follows:—

Opium paste.	Amount boxes.	Value Yen.
1st class	84	29,207
2nd class	219	69,917
3rd class	694	172,271
Total	997	270,486

It is supposed that in the event of the Regulations being enforced throughout the island, by September this year, receipts from opium, including fees for the delivery of licenses, will not fall short of 2,500,000 yen.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* reports that a benevolent association is about to be formed in Tokyo, whose object will be to take charge of remittances and other funds sent to the capital for the support of country students. Many a promising young fellow comes up to Tokyo to study, but before long he is induced to visit a

brothel or other infamous resort with of some his fellow-collegians and soon he enters upon the slippery path that ends in profligacy. The evil has grown seriously of late, cases of suicides, murder and fraudulent exactions of money connected with the student class having reached a total of 170 for the first half of this year. The root of the evil is undoubtedly the possession of larger sums of money than the lads have ever handled before—contributed towards their support by parents, brothers, and other relations—which, not having been earned by their own exertions, they consequently undervalue. The temptations which surround these country lads in a place like Tokyo are much greater than those to be met with in smaller places. With a view to maintaining a restraining influence over the lads, the new association proposes to take charge of all remittances and make monthly allowances to the students. Men well-known for their probity are said to be at the head of the project.

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, in the course of an article dealing with the land tax, remarks that a change has come over public opinion since the first few sessions of the Diet. Then clamours were raised on all sides for a reduction in the tax, now people are openly advocating its increase. One strong party in financial circles is of opinion that the revenue can be increased more easily by a revaluation of the standard price of rice. This was last fixed in 1874, since when it has risen in value very considerably. It is therefore suggested that a new average be struck, taking the values of rice for the past few years as a standard. This would bring in some 15 million yen to the Treasury and allow of the land tax being left as it is.

The *Nagasaki Shipping List* contains the following notes on the *Empress of India's* rapid run from Yokohama to Nagasaki:—The steamer left Yokohama at 5 a.m. on the 8th inst. and reached this port at 7.30 a.m. on Saturday (the 10th). Special arrangements had been made for rapid coaling and nearly 1,500 coolies were waiting the ship's arrival. These were in full swing shortly after eight o'clock and, in spite of the showery weather and fresh breeze, they succeeded in loading 1,360 tons by 12.30 p.m., thus enabling the *Empress* to sail punctually at her advertised time, 1 p.m. This may be considered a record for Nagasaki coaling, the actual time taken in loading the coal being only a fraction over four hours. The *Empress* will now probably be able to reach Hongkong not only in time to save her contract time, but with a few hours to spare.

In connection with the Military Tournament, says a home paper, a large contingent of Japanese sailors from the warship *Fuji* were honoured guests of the Tournament Committee on the 1st June. They came, some 200 strong, marching from King's-cross Station headed by the drums and fifes of the Scots Guards. Nearly all wore medals for the sea fights in which they took part off the mouth of the Yalu, and at Wei-hai-wei, in the war against China, and some were further decorated with the Order of the Black Hawk for conspicuous gallantry in action. They looked like good fighters, and perhaps it is the highest tribute one can pay to their discipline to say that they moved with the smartness of British bluejackets. The young lieutenant in command of them was received later by Sir Redvers Buller, who occupied a seat in the Royal box. At the conclusion of the performance, they paraded in the arena, and, headed by a band, marched out by way of the officers' enclosure between lines of British bluejackets. Among the visitors in the evening were the Chinese, Japanese, and the Siamese Ministers. On the 2nd ult. another contingent of the Japanese sailors visited the Tournament, and were equally well received.

A report from the Governor-General's Office in Formosa as published in the *Tokyo Shimbun*, runs as follows:—On the 24th of June, Lieut. Okuda, in command of a detachment of the First Mixed Brigade, encountered a small band

of insurgents in the vicinity of Wantan, and, after a brief struggle, killed one and captured two, together with some rifles. A similar encounter was reported by Sub Lieutenant Tagu-sari, the same day, which resulted in the death of one of the rebels. The district of Ilan is at present infested by rebels, entailing not a little injury to innocent people. Major Yemura, Commandant of the garrison, gave orders to Captain Ishimori on the 25th June to take some men and a company of artillery and attack insurgents in the neighbourhood of Shaoshian. When the firing began, the rebels fled in all directions, leaving a rifle and other articles behind. On the 28th June Lieutenant Azuchi with some non-commissioned officers and men, while inspecting the district of Limbisong, fell in with a number of rioters who made a desperate resistance. They were dispersed within an hour. The commander of the First Brigade proceeded on the 1st July towards Loosan with a view to the extermination of the rebels in that locality.

Silks from various districts are now being subjected to inspection at the Offices specially erected by the Government in Yokohama. Arrivals are increasing day by day, says the *Mainichi*, but it seems that the examination is as yet confined to fine silks from Kwansei, no Shinshu goods of any reputation having yet been presented. The result of a general scrutiny shows that the quality of cocoons this year is excellent and the silk a trifle superior to the production of previous years. Owing, however, to the late growth of some worms and the faster growth of mulberry leaves, silks reeled from some cocoons are rough to the touch and have a comparatively greater number of nibs. It was found that some of this silk had 1,700 nibs in 500 metres of thread. Two causes are alleged. One is already mentioned: the other arises from the use of cocoons imperfectly dried. Another defect lies in the whiteness of the thread. It is true that foreigners have shown particular interest in this sort of silk, and thus its production is the outcome of a desire to gratify their taste. But silk can never be turned out in the autumn and winter of a uniform colour. Yet foreigners display strong antipathy to silk that shows a want of uniformity in colour.

Mr. Garry, the diver of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, was the victim of a dastardly attack by Japanese coolies on Monday last. It appears that a few days previously a man who entered the compound of Mr. Garry's house on the Bluff at the very unreasonable hour of 1 a.m., was bitten by a dog kept by Mr. Garry. The injury inflicted was not severe, but Mr. Garry offered to pay the man 60 cents a day while he was incapacitated from work, and all medical expenses. This, however, does not appear to have satisfied the man or his friends, and at about 7 p.m. on Monday three men, armed respectively with a club, an iron bar and a handful of big stones, entered the compound and forcing their way into the house, attacked Mr. Garry, who, fortunately, dodged a blow aimed at him by the man with the iron bar, and successfully wrested the club from the hands of another assailant and, armed with this weapon, succeeded in beating off the three men. About 8 o'clock, the men returned, this time reinforced by about a dozen more roughs, who entered the compound. Mr. Garry now armed himself with a revolver and standing inside the half opened door, warned the crowd that he would fire on the first man who attempted to enter the house, he having meanwhile despatched a messenger to fetch the police. On an attempt being made to rush the doorway, Mr. Garry fired a couple of shots over his assailants' heads, and they then beat a hasty retreat just before the police arrived. A report was lodged at the Bluff Police Station, but so far no arrest has been made, though the Inspector in charge has taken the precaution to lodge a couple of policemen in Mr. Garry's house at night.

RULES FOR THE INSPECTION OF SILKWORMS.

ORDINANCE NO. 8 OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

It is hereby notified that the Rules for the enforcement of Law No. 10, issued in the 30th year of *Meiji*, providing for the inspection of silkworms, are as follow:—

Count OKUMA SHIGENOBU,
Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

June 24th of the 30th year of *Meiji*.

Art. I.—Silkworm egg producers shall, according to Form I, report to the Local Government Office before the 15th February each year the number of worms hatched from the original eggs of the year and the estimated production of eggs.

Art. II.—The silkworm egg breeders shall plainly state on the standard paper or card the particulars specified in the first clause mentioned below, before entering upon the raising of silkworms; and those specified in the second clause before the inspection of the eggs:—

1. The distinction, on the face of the card, as to spring, summer, and autumn worms, and the respective names of the same.
The residence and names of breeders, on the face or back of the card.

2. The exact date of production.
Art. III.—Should the silkworm egg producer desire to produce standard eggs, he shall cause one female moth to lay eggs in one section and affix the mark for the moth and the section so provided.

Art. IV.—Should the silkworm egg producer desire to obtain eggs from cocoons produced by summer or autumn worms, he must limit the manufacture to those which were reared from the original eggs hatched in the first period of the year.

Note.—The original cards from which the eggs were hatched in the first period of the year shall be preserved until after the inspection of the produce of the eggs.

Art. V.—Silkworm eggs which are subject to inspection according to Article V. of the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Law shall be examined in the following order:—

1. When the cocoons are produced, the cocoons and the original worms shall be brushed off.
2. After the eggs are produced, the eggs and the pierced cocoons used in the production of the same, shall be shown.
3. In the case of original eggs, the female moth used for the production, shall be examined.

Art. VI.—The inspection specified in the first and second clauses of the preceding Article shall be enforced upon producers of eggs; and the inspection required by the third clause of the said Article and in the second clause of Article VIII. of the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Law shall be conducted at the office specially established for the purpose.

Art. VII.—Silkworm egg producers shall, before undergoing the inspection specified in the first clause of Article V., set apart the cocoons eligible under Article III. of the Silkworms Inspection Law, and ascertain the amount thereof and that of the cocoons to be taken for producing eggs, separately from each other.

Note.—No cocoons of different species shall be mixed together.

Art. VIII.—If it is deemed that the standard cocoons selected as specified in the foregoing Article are imperfect, the Inspector of Eggs may issue orders for a fresh selection.

Art. IX.—Should the Inspector (after effecting the examination specified in the first clause of Article V.) judge that there is nothing incompatible with Articles III. and IV. of the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Law, he shall issue a certificate according to Form VI.

When the Inspector has examined the original cards from which the eggs were hatched he shall affix his seal on the back of the cards.

Art. X.—If the Inspector of Eggs (on the completion, of the examination specified in the second clause of Article V.) is of opinion that the amount of the production of eggs, pierced cocoons, and cocoons for eggs can be justified with reference to the certificates delivered for them, he shall affix on the back of the original a seal as provided in Form III., in the case of eggs for rearing purposes, and another seal, as shown in Form IV., in testimony of the qualifications attained in the case of eggs reserved for reeling purposes.

Art. XI.—If the silkworm egg producer desires to sell or cede a portion of a card to be appropriated for reeling, he shall draw a line or lines

on its back, denoting which portion is intended for reeling and which for breeding, prior to the inspection being made.

With regard to the eggs specified in the foregoing Article, the seal testifying their qualifications shall be affixed in each section on the back of the cards.

Art. XII.—The inspection specified in the third clause of Article V. shall be conducted according to the following process:—

Each moth is put in a mortar and then ground with a small quantity of distilled water.

The liquid so obtained is to be subjected to examination through a microscope. Should microbes be found in it, the seal indicating the presence of virus, as shown in Form V., shall be affixed, and in case of the absence of microbes another seal, testifying to the non-existence of any poisonous matter, as shown in Form VI., shall be placed on the external part of the section of the card reserved for breeding purposes. The card so prepared shall also be attested with a seal as shown in Form VII., indicating the qualification for appropriation as a standard.

The seal mentioned in the foregoing article, certifying to the qualifications after examination, shall only be affixed after that portion of the card which contains injurious eggs is removed.

Art. XIII.—The examination specified in the second clause of Article VIII. of the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Law shall be carried out according to the following method:—

About one hundred shall be taken from the whole surface of each card, and divided into ten parts. Each part shall then be put in a small mortar and crushed with a small quantity of diluted solution of caustic potash. The liquid is then to be strictly examined through a microscope in order to discover the presence of microbes. If no microbes are found after the fourth examination with a microscope, the seal, as indicated in Form IV., certifying the qualifications for purposes of reeling, shall be affixed to the back of the card.

Art. XIV.—In case the Inspector shall not attend to examination as specified in the first clause of Article V., even at the approach of the hatching period, the producers of eggs may report the fact to the nearest police station and demand inspection.

Art. XV.—In case a police officer has received such a demand, he shall select two persons whom he deems most suitable from among the producers of eggs in the nearest district, and cause them to hold the examination in his presence.

The persons so chosen are not allowed to refuse the work of examination without justifiable cause.

Art. XVI.—In case the temporary examiners specified in the foregoing article, find that Articles III. and IV. of the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Law are in no way violated, they shall prepare two copies of certificates for cocoons qualified for the production of standard eggs according to Form II. and obtaining the seal of the police officers thereto, deliver one of them to the applicant for inspection and send the other to the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Office having jurisdiction.

When the original cards from which the eggs were hatched have been examined, the seal of the examiner must be affixed to the back of the card.

Art. XVII.—In case the silkworm egg producers have lost or disguised the certificates for cocoons qualified for breeding purpose, they shall apply to the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Office for the delivery of another copy or a fresh certificate (authorised copy).

Art. XVIII.—In case the silkworm egg producers have sold, bought, transferred, or accepted through transfer, the whole or part of cocoons bearing certificates of qualification for breeding purposes, they shall present to the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Office having jurisdiction an application counter-signed by the other party, together with those certificates, for delivery of rewritten or fresh copies of certificate.

Art. XIX.—In case the local Governor wishes to alter the position and jurisdiction of the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Office, he shall previously report the fact to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and issue notice thereof throughout his jurisdiction.

This provision applies also to cases when the Inspection Office is opened or closed.

Art. XX.—The period of commencing the inspection specified in the 3rd clause of Article V. or the 2nd clause of Article VII. of the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Law shall be from the 1st September every year.

Art. XXI.—As regards Inspectors of eggs, the local Governor shall appoint them from among persons characterized by good conduct and possessing one of the following qualifications:—

1. Persons who are in possession of diplomas of graduation in the Sericultural Training

Institute belonging to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, in the former Silk Industry Experimental Station, under the Bureau of Agricultural Affairs, or in the Section of Sericulture of the Temporary Experimental Station of the Agricultural Bureau.

2. Persons who are in possession of certificates showing that they have satisfactorily passed the examination for qualification in the Agricultural Bureau.
3. Persons holding certificates of graduation from a school, Training Institute, or Experimental Station, which is held trustworthily by the local Governor, and where they have completed the course of studies relating to sericulture industry; or those who have attained proficiency in sericulture in the inspection of cocoons.

Art. XXII.—If the local Governor has appointed or released from office any Inspector of Silk-worm Eggs, he shall report the fact to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and issue notice thereof within his jurisdiction.

XXIII.—The local Governor shall, on the appointment of an Inspector, furnish the latter with a certificate according to Form VII.

Art. XXIV.—In case of the said certificate being lost or defaced, the Inspector shall apply to the local Governor for the delivery of a new one.

Art. XXV.—When a report is made by the Inspector as to the loss of his certificate, the local Governor shall notify the fact throughout his jurisdiction.

Art. XXVI.—The silkworm eggs produced in a School, Training Institute, or Experimental Station (recognised by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce or by the Local Governor), may be sold or transferred as standard eggs after they have been examined according to these Rules and to the Silk-worm Eggs Inspection Law.

Note.—In such cases, the seal or name of the institution above mentioned shall be impressed to show the qualifications certified by the examiners.

Art. XXVII.—The local Governor shall present to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce on or before the 15th May every year, a report on the results of inspection in the previous year, according to Form IX.

Art. XXVIII.—Any violation of Article I. shall be punished by a police fine of from fifty *sen* to one *yen* ninety-five *sen*.

Art. XXIX.—The method of supervising the Inspectors and of enforcing the inspection shall be determined by the Local Governor and reported to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiments or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deduction they may choose to draw therefrom.]

"ANOTHER SIDE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I read with amazement Mr. Woodworth's remarks under the heading "the other side" which appeared in your issue of 3rd July. He said "it is probably true that in Japan the foreigner is not held in higher esteem than John Chinaman in America, and John has the reputation of having rough treatment from the polite, well-mannered American." I feel loath to admit that any sensible inference can be drawn from such nonsense, but waiving that point, the conclusion forced on one is, that in Mr. Woodworth's opinion the Chinese who emigrate to the States are relatively to the polite and well-mannered American as are the foreigners resident in Japan to the Japanese Public. How does this pan out? The bulk of the Chinese who go to the States are drafted from the labouring classes of a country low down in the scale of civilization, and they find it advantageous to labour in one where a higher civilization exists. They are satisfied to occupy themselves in employments distasteful to the white working man, in fact, to become the proverbial hewers of wood and drawers of water in the American land of promise. Now in what esteem (to use Mr. Woodworth's word) is the intellectual and well bred American justified in holding the above class of Chinese provided they are well behaved? Clearly in just the same as he would hold similar labourers of his own or any other nationality. Turning to Foreigners in Japan, it will probably be admitted they are fairly representative of the middle classes of their respective countries, and the bulk of them are citizens of the three or four most highly civilized countries in the world; countries far and away in advance of Japan. These foreigners do not come to Japan to wait on Japanese, wash their clothes,

etc. On the contrary, they pay Japanese to serve them in all such matters whilst they occupy themselves in Merchant's offices, Banks, etc., that is, in just such occupations as the rising middle-class Japanese youth is trying to fit himself for. If this was all that could be said for Foreigners resident here, it would be amply sufficient to show they are altogether on a different footing relatively to the natives to that occupied by the Chinese relatively to Americans. But it is far from all. All the Japanese know of civilization has been taught them by Foreigners. Foreign Experts have been employed by the Government in the Army, Navy, Communications, and Public Works Departments to teach its nationals. The foreign mercantile community has been for years past and still is an involuntary teacher of the Japanese commercial classes. Look where you will, the Foreigners are the teachers; the Japanese the pupils. Repeating my former question, with a slight variation, I would ask in what esteem might the Japanese middle and labouring classes be expected to hold such Foreigners as those above referred to? Well, Mr. Woodworth has given us his opinion on the matter; as to which I will remark, that though I have by no means a high opinion of the reasoning powers of the Japanese, I cannot but take strong exception to a view which, if true, would place their intelligence on much the same level as that of a baboon. Well might the Japanese cry, save us from our friends! That the Japanese middle and labouring classes cherish a very considerable amount of ill-feeling towards resident foreigners is, I think, unfortunately a fact beyond dispute, but that they should hold these foreigners in the same esteem as the better class of Americans do the Chinese labouring classes in America is simply impossible. For all that, I venture to think the Japanese have already gone much too far in that direction for their own good. I have observed many cases of unprovoked impudence or insolence on their part towards foreigners, and the sooner they learn that this comes especially from people so much indebted to Foreigners for the advances their country has made, the better, particularly when under no circumstances can any good come of such conduct, while evil may.—Yours, etc.

A FOREIGN RESIDENT.

June 6th, 1897.

AN APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The columns of the *Japan Mail* contain appeals for help in many directions, at various times, and a generous public is apparently long-suffering and sympathetic, and will doubtless, should the revised treaties bring about the annihilation of such a medium as the *Japan Mail*, greatly regret it for more reasons than one. Certainly foreigners in the interior knowing of worthy and needy enterprises may be perplexed as to how to bring to the public a knowledge of such interesting humane work. Much more might be said, for other reasons, of the public disaster both to foreigners and Japanese, should a paper which has been one of the greatest factors for enlightenment that has existed in Japan, be abolished.

My object now is to present the needs of the Maebashi Orphan asylum, a non-secretarian and purely Japanese institution. It has been presented here before, but as children keep on eating and growing, their needs expand in every direction. The institution has no endowment as capital, save a house, a good-sized garden and apparatus for cultivating a limited number of silk-worms, these with the good, strong, right hand and brains of its father-founder, which do not flinch at any toil however humble. This only meets the daily, necessary wants of the little waifs. With firm and constant faith in the All-Father, and his own God-given mission, Mr. Kaneko does not flinch, though sometimes he finds the family funds reduced to ten *sen*. They have never gone hungry, help has always come, though at the last minute perhaps. Receiving much inspiration from Mr. Ishii and his Okayama work, he believes that the needs of Joshu are as great as those of the Okayama region, which is doubtless true, since Joshu is said to be the hotbed of criminals and boisterous men, a large proportion of the criminals of Tokyo coming from Joshu. He has undertaken this work in the same simple-hearted faith as did his friend Mr. Ishii, believing his to be a work to which he has been called of Heaven.

It is just five years since the Asylum became a fact, and Mr. Kaneko has never abated an iota in his individual self-denying efforts for the little ones; showing an unselfishness and an unswerving purpose which we wish might be true of more young men in Japan.

Afflicted in the death of his first wife, who seemed particularly fitted and peculiarly called to be

a helpmeet in such a work, many a less brave soul would have faltered. The second Mrs. Kaneko is a worthy successor to a noble work. Coming of a good family, she has relinquished pleasures, position, personal adornments, even to the selling of her own clothes, for the needs of the family. Mr. Kaneko makes his wants known to his Heavenly Father, but it is only rarely and then with the greatest repugnance that he makes the wants of the family known to others.

Even I who have lived less than a quarter of a mile from the Asylum for nearly five years, knowing that there were one or two benevolent Christians in town who had been benefactors of the asylum from the first, had always supposed that this asylum never got into great straits. So it was with something of a shock the other day, while talking with Mr. Kaneko about the asylum and making inquiries, I learned the true state of the case. When I asked why he had not told of Mrs. K.'s selling her clothes, he said it was "hadzukahishii."

While Mr. Kaneko would probably not turn away any who came to him needy, it is his present thought and desire to receive only so many as he can care for as a father would, though doubtless should his work increase in time he would call helpers to himself as Mr. Ishii has done. It is his desire that the children should be decently, healthfully, fed, clothed, and educated to be respectable, honourable self-supporting members of society.

Most of the 19 children are now either in the common schools or kindergarten, where the former has repeatedly received certificates of superior good behaviour and lessons, while the conduct of the latter has been so good that an official of position in town—a strong Buddhist—has made a request to Mr. Kaneko that one of the children be allowed to come and reside in his own family for a time, for the sake of the good influence upon his own children who also go to the same kindergarten. There is no question but that Mr. Kaneko has unusual power and influence over children.

It is said that the silk spun in Joshu is in general inferior, because the aim is quantity rather than quality, and the condition of the employed spinners—mere children—is often little different from that of slaves, being compelled to begin work at 2.30 a.m. in summer and kept at work until midnight, turning their wheels to the accompaniment of obscene songs. Then, if they fall asleep over their task, they are beaten with a rod,—kept at work day in day out, no Sundays, only two holidays a year, and for this they receive twenty *yen* per year and perhaps two or three *kimono*, with the poorest and coarsest food. It is not much wonder that they become diseased and are short lived.

Mr. Kaneko has now a small plant for raising silk worms; he wishes next year to increase his plant, so that the older children may be taught how to spin thread of the best quality while themselves living under wholesome healthful conditions. This will require considerable outlay at the start, and bring in little or no returns in money for two or three years. The first year being only expense as far as the thread produced, and probable loss rather than otherwise.

At present Mr. Kaneko has only the children and this laudable desire,—no means by which to accomplish it. If the thought and desire are God-given—he is sure the children are—he believes means will come for it.

It is my own thought to write this letter, not Mr. Kaneko's at all. I take the liberty to say that should any be inclined to help him in this noble work they can send directly to Mr. Kaneko at the Orphan Asylum, Iwagami-mura, Maebashi, Joshu, or to the writer.

H. FRANCES PARMELEE,

Iwagami Mura, Maebashi, Joshu.

Mr. Kaneko will visit Karuizawa again this summer, at my advice, to solicit funds for the asylum, also, as he has arranged to leave home for a time, he would be glad to serve as teacher of Japanese to any who might need such service in Karuizawa.

He has given the best of satisfaction in this capacity already. H. F. P.

AQYAMA CONFERENCE.

The members of Japan Conference of the M. E. Church, both native and foreign, together with the ladies of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the same Church, met at half-past seven, on July 8th, in Goucher Hall, Tokyo, to celebrate the holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, the introductory service to the opening of the fourteenth session of the Conference. Bishop J. W. Joyce conducted the service assisted by the presiding elders.

At the conclusion of Sacrament, the Bishop took the chair, and instructed the former secretary, Rev. J. W. Wadman, to call the roll. Forty-seven members in full and fifteen members on trial responded to their names. The Rev. J. W. Wadman was then chosen Secretary in English, and Rev. K. Ishizaka, Secretary in Japanese, and each chose an assistant. Rev. M. S. Vail was made Treasurer of the Conference, and Rev. E. R. Fulkerson, Statistical Secretary. Revs. S. Ogata and H. Yamaka were chosen interpreters, and Miss J. Vail organist. Standing committees were appointed on Bible Cause, Church Extension, Conference Relations, District Conference Records, Education, Epworth League, Fraternal Relations, Missions, Sabbath Observance, Sunday School, Temperance and Tracts, on nomination by the presiding elders. These committees usually consist of one foreign and two or more Japanese members.

The fraternal delegate of the Japan Methodist Episcopal Church South, Rev. C. B. Mosely, was introduced, and gave a spirited address. Visitors were then introduced, Misses Osborn and Merrill from the M. E. Mission in China; Misses Spencer and Wilson, who have recently come from America to reinforce the work; and Misses Bender and Blackstock, who have just returned from furlough in the U.S.A., and Miss Parish, of the Women's Temperance Association.

Bishop J. W. Joyce recently returned from an extensive tour of inspection and Episcopal supervision of the work of the M. E. Church in Korea and China. The Bishop and his wife travelled far into Western China to places hitherto never visited by a Bishop of the church, but he seems none the worse, physically, for his long journey, but on the contrary appeared better in health than a year ago. His remarks to the Conference were full of deep spirituality, and flashed here and there with wit and humour. The large audience seemed to be in the best of spirits; any differences of country and language were lost sight of in the common love and interest in the work of the M. E. Church in Japan.

The second day of the Japan Conference opened with a prayer meeting, led by Mr. K. Waneke. The business session was called to order by Bishop Joyce at 9 a.m. The Revs. Magaki and Tada, fraternal delegates from the Church of Christ, were introduced and gave addresses. The Revs. Aibara, Draper and Sasamori were appointed a committee to convey the good wishes of the conference to the Synod of the Church of Christ now in session, and were excused attendance to proceed in company with the Revs. Magaki and Tada.

The regular reports of the Presiding Elders of the Aomori, Sendai Nagoya, Nagasaki, Kagoshima, East and West Tokyo Districts were read.

The Bishop announced that he held a draft for \$446, gold, from the profits of the Book Concern, New York, payable to the Conference. This was received by the Conference with thanks.

The afternoon session was given up to the reception of statistical reports and collections for the various benevolent societies of the Church. In the evening a large audience gathered to listen to the missionary sermon, preached by the Rev. Tanaka.

The third day of the Methodist Conference was held on July 10th. The devotional exercises were led by Rev. Kambe. After the minutes were read, the Rev. Oldmans, of the Dutch Reformed Mission, was introduced and delivered a fraternal address in Japanese. Rev. A. Morgan, of the Prot. Methodist Church, and Revs. Knight and Takano of the Evangelical Association, fraternal delegates, were introduced and made short addresses.

The President of the Yokohama Gospel Society read the report of that Society. It showed that there is a Boarding House, Free Reading Room and Library, and Night School in connection with the Society.

Bishop Joyce then addressed the candidates for full membership in the conference. He said:—Preaching is not to show your learning, but to move the hearts of men. When you start to prepare a sermon kneel down with an open Bible before you and ask the Lord to teach you what to write. While writing the sermon, if the preacher's heart is not moved he will not move the hearts of others. The pastor of a church should learn the art of getting money out of the people. Keep sweet, no matter what people may say about you. Do not get cross and scold. Visit among your people, but do not gossip, and never betray a secret. "I am more afraid of one preacher who gossips than of ten women gossippers." Preach repentance, regeneration, and sanctification. If any one is afraid of the word sanctification tell him that it means taking the evil out of a man's heart. "Here and now God can save us from head to foot." Be familiar with the Bible for it is the preacher's tool-box.

The candidates were then asked the disciplinary

questions, to which an affirmative answer is required for admission to Conference; and the questions in regard to tobacco and debts have to be answered in writing. The business of the Conference was continued in the afternoon, and in the evening the annual meeting of the Home Missionary Society was held.

The weather on July 11th was all that could be desired at this season of the year, and a large audience gathered at Aoyama to enjoy the services of the day. At nine o'clock the Love Feast began. This is a service peculiar to the M. E. Church. Bread and water are passed round, and all who partake of these simple elements signify by the act that they are in love and fellowship with each other. Many testified to the power of God to save from sin, and the songs of praise were sung with spirit and understanding. After prayer by Rev. J. H. Correll, D.D., and reading of the scriptures by Rev. Dr. Soper, Bishop J. W. Joyce delivered an excellent sermon, full of wisdom and practical advice to the class of deacons who were to be ordained later by the Bishop. Directly after the sermon the Bishop ordained seven young men deacons. The large and intelligent audience listened with great pleasure to the Bishop's sermon, which occupied over one hour, and was interpreted by the Rev. S. Ogata. In the afternoon Bishop Joyce ordained ten men elders. After the ordination service a service of song, and gratitude to God was held. Several interesting speeches were made by those who had been Christians a number of years, and who called to mind the time when sign boards forbidding Christianity were hung at the corners of the streets.

In the evening a praise and consecration service, led by Rev. G. F. Draper, was held.

The fifth day of the Japan Conference began on July 12. After the usual devotional exercises that preceded the business meeting in the morning, Rev. Dr. Scott and Mr. Murimatsu, fraternal delegates from the Methodist Church of Japan (Canadian), were introduced and gave fraternal addresses. A vote of thanks was tendered Dr. Scott.

At ten o'clock the special business of the hour was taken up, the vote on the two questions submitted to annual conference by the General Conference of the M. E. Church. The question of admitting women to the General Conference was first taken up and received twenty votes in favour to thirty-seven against. The vote on the amendment to the constitution of the Church allowing equal lay representation in the General Conference received twenty-five votes for and thirty-three against.

The afternoon session was given up to hearing reports from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. The annual report was read by Mrs. Van Petten in English and Japanese. It was such an excellent report that we hope it will be printed in full.

Mrs. Joyce gave an interesting account of her trip to Korea and China; and Miss Osborn, of Kiukiang, spoke of the work in Central China.

Rainy weather prevented many from attending the temperance meeting of the Conference on Monday night, and listening to the eloquent addresses of Hon. T. Ando, Mr. Ito, and Miss Clara Parrish.

On Tuesday morning, the sixth day of the Conference, Mr. T. Hara, who is engaged in work among, and for the benefit of, discharged prisoners was introduced and addressed the Conference.

Rev. R. A. Morgan, formerly President of the Methodist Protestant Mission, but who has recently severed his connection with that body, was admitted into membership of the Conference by vote.

The reports of the Presidents and Deans of the schools of the Conference were presented at the afternoon session. The annual meeting of the Church Extension Society was held in the evening.

On Wednesday morning, the seventh day of the Conference, the great question of the session came up, viz. the separation of the island of Kyushu and the islands to the south and west of it, and the making of this southern portion of Japan into a Mission Conference. The question was debated for nearly two hours, and finally disposed of by the Conference voting to postpone action until next year.

SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN JAPAN.

The Synod met at 9 a.m., on July 6th, in Shiba Church, Tokyo, and continued its sessions for five days in succession. The number of delegates representing the several presbyteries throughout the country was between thirty-five and forty. The delegates, with a single exception, were all Japanese. Three or four missionaries were present as

advisory members, and a number of others as spectators. The latter were invited to sit as corresponding members.

In the absence of the retiring Moderator, the opening sermon was preached by the Rev. M. Uemura, editor of the *Fukui Shimpō*. Mr. Uemura's discourse was based upon several texts chosen from different parts of the Acts of the Apostles, and dealt in a practical way with different phases of the spiritual evolution which the Apostles underwent after the ascension of Christ. At first their ideas were narrow and selfish, not extending beyond the limits of Judaism, and were well expressed in the question which they put to their risen Lord:—"Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the Kingdom to Israel?" But as the Holy Spirit came upon them with power from on high these crude notions were broadened and spiritualized until the faith of the Apostles embraced the whole world and they came to realize that they had a mission to all mankind. The purely nationalistic spirit with which they started out gradually gave place to the broad and loving spirit of the Master Himself. The sermon was from first to last deeply spiritual in tone and made a profound impression upon the audience.

At the close of the sermon the election of officers took place, resulting in the choice of the Rev. Mr. Yamamoto, pastor of the Shioh Church in Yokohama, as Moderator, and of the Rev. Mr. Wada, pastor of the Shiba Church, as clerk. The committee of arrangements then reported, recommending that the forenoon be devoted to the transaction of business and that the afternoon be given to meetings for conference and prayer. This report was accepted and adopted. Among the important resolutions passed by the Synod were the following:

1. A resolution defining the meaning of the term *Co-operation*. At the meeting of the Synod two years ago in Nagoya the presbyteries were directed to appoint committees to inquire into the state of co-operation between the Church and the Mission within the bounds of the presbyteries, and to report upon the same to the Synod at its next meeting. The reports were accordingly prepared and presented before the Synod at the Meeting just closed. They with one accord called attention to the fact that there has been of late years almost no such thing as genuine co-operation between the Japanese Church, as represented by its presbyteries, and the Missions working within the bounds of the presbyteries. In view of these reports the Synod passed a resolution expressing what it as a body understood true co-operation to imply and to involve, and appointed a committee to confer with the missions upon the subject and, if possible, to secure co-operation of the character indicated in the resolution. Co-operation, as defined by the Synod, would involve the appointment in every presbytery of a committee consisting of an equal number of Japanese and missionaries to which all matters pertaining to evangelistic work should be submitted for decision. The discussion called forth by this resolution was animated throughout by the best of feeling toward the Missions, and by a strong desire for a more real and sympathetic co-operation, in order to effect the advancement of the cause of Christ in this country.

2. On Self-Support:—Upon this subject three separate resolutions came before the Synod. The first proposed to make all organized Churches self-supporting, the implication being that organizations which are unable to support themselves shall cease to be recognized by the Synod as Churches. After a spirited discussion this motion was laid upon the table in view of approaching consultation with the missions concerning co-operation. The advocates of self-support, however, were not content to leave the matter in this shape. They therefore brought up the question in a slightly different form. This second motion proposed that all Churches which did not become self-supporting within one year should be disbanded. After a full discussion this resolution was lost. At a later session the subject was brought before the Synod a third time in the form of a resolution proposing that the members of Synod agitate on the matter of self-support with a view to putting all churches on an independent basis within the next two years. This resolution was finally adopted. Self-support may be said to have been the keynote of this meeting of Synod as evangelistic work was that of the meeting two years ago.

3. A resolution enjoining upon the Churches a stricter observance of the Sabbath:—This resolution was passed in view of the fact that many Japanese Christians, owing to the materialistic tendencies of the times, the mad rush for wealth, &c., have ceased to keep the Lord's day, as a day sacred to rest and to spiritual improvement. The action of the Synod laid down no specific rules on the subject, but simply emphasized the importance of keeping the day as a means

of grace. This resolution, together with other resolutions relating to temperance, marriage, and divorce, etc., was ordered to be printed and distributed freely among the churches.

4. Among other resolutions on the general subject of evangelistic work, the Synod passed a resolution directing its Board of Home Missions to give increased attention to work in Formosa. There are already more than ten thousand Japanese in Formosa, among whom are many Christians belonging to the Church of Christ in Japan. A Church has already been organized in Taihoku and a preaching station established in Tainan. It was the desire of the Synod that this work among the Japanese on the island should be prosecuted with greater vigour, and that as soon as possible a helping hand should be extended to Formosans themselves.

The Committee on the State of Religion reported seventy organized churches in connection with the Synod, with an aggregate membership of 11,324; and the number of adult baptisms during the past year 774; Sunday School pupils 5,891.

The business sessions, as well as the meetings for conference and prayer, were attended by a large number of spectators who took a lively interest in all the proceedings. The feeling of interest among these on-lookers was at times very noticeable. This was especially true during the discussion on self-support, when some persons in the back of the house rose to their feet and even paced the floor back and forth.

The afternoon meetings were well sustained. The subject on the first afternoon was, "How to promote a truer faith and a higher tone of spiritual life in ourselves and in the Churches." On the second afternoon questions of practical import, such as preaching, pastoral work, etc., engaged the attention of the meeting. On the third day the programme was altered so as to provide for a business session in the afternoon and to postpone the meeting for conference till evening. In the evening of that day two lectures were delivered on theological and ethical themes.

The forenoon of the last day, July 10th, was set apart for the observance of the Lord's Supper, followed by a consecration meeting. The sermon preceding the Holy Communion was preached by the Rev. Mr. Hattori, pastor of the Church in Yamaguchi. His theme was "The Christian Minister an Example to his Flock." In all matters of Church work the pastor should be an example of patience, self-sacrifice, and zeal. Especially in the promoting of self-support a Minister should never ask the question, "How much salary am I to have?" but accept the situation whether the amount offered be 30 yen, or 3 yen. At the Consecration Meeting, which followed, the hour was all too short for the many who were eager to speak a word, or offer prayer.

A business meeting on Saturday afternoon brought to a close the session of the Synod, which then adjourned to meet again in Tokyo on the second Thursday of July, 1898. A truly Christ-like spirit of unity and brotherly love pervaded all the meetings, and one could not rise from them without feeling that the Church of Christ is already a power in Japan, and that she is to play an important part in the future of this country, as she has done in the history of western lands in the past.

FORMOSAN INTELLIGENCE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Taipeifu, June 30th.

His Excellency Lieut. General Baron Nogi, Governor-General of Formosa, has departed for Tokyo for a reported stay of a month or so. It has been rumoured, however, that the special object of his visit is to hand in his resignation, in consequence of the attack on Taipeh by the rioters some weeks ago. This is probably not true. Many of the Japanese newspapers, I believe, consider that he, as the highest officer of the Formosan administration which has given such a vivid example of weakness, should resign, and admit that he was not equal to the task.

I believe that I am voicing the views of the whole foreign community, missionaries included, and the better class of Chinese, when I state it is considered that to recall Baron Nogi at this critical period would be a great calamity for the island. There has never been in Formosa a man so generally respected as His Excellency. The most virulent foreign writers, the most complaining of the respectable Chinese, have no word of complaint to say against him.

I can conceive of no more effective way of making affairs in the island more difficult than they are at

present than by changing two or three higher officials. During the two years of Japanese administration in the island, we have had three governors, all good men, but each bringing forth his own ideas and putting them into execution to the detriment of the Chinese, who were so constantly subjected to changes of system, the imposition of new regulations, etc., that they knew not where they stood; and trade was thrown into confusion.

I believe that the Chinese would have no objection to a little mild oppression were they allowed to carry on their usual vocations without official interference. But the Japanese, with the best of intentions, desire to give them the extent of freedom and equality enjoyed upon the main-land, and accordingly introduce them to the intricacies of law and a mass of regulations, a great number of which are of course absolutely necessary. But the Chinese, whose experience with officials in their own land has been far from pleasant, place all Japanese officials in the same category, and the sight of a policeman with a note book very nearly throws them into hysterics. It is this dread of everything official that makes it so often difficult to inflict punishment upon guilty parties when the Chinese are the victims. As an example; a few weeks ago a Japanese coolie was arrested for beating a Chinese. The Chinese in question was told to follow to the Prefectural Police office, which he did. But after his arrival he was in such a great funk that it was necessary to postpone the examination until the man could make a plain statement. This was explained to him fully, but no sooner was he released than he fled and has not again been seen to this day.

Under General Nogi, many reforms were introduced, peacemaking officers were arrested to a considerable number, and Formosa residents were hoping at last to see peace and order restored when the attack on Tawatutia occurred. While the country is still disturbed and rumours of attacks by bandits are constant, Tawatutia has not again been troubled, and the Japanese are keeping a closer guard on the settlement. It seems to be the desire in Japan to place the blame on the shoulders of some one official, and the Japanese press have apparently selected Lieut. General Baron Nogi for the burden, while the main Government has believed criticised Mr. Hashiguchi, Taipei Prefect, and severely censured Commander-in-Chief Major-General Nakage. Neither Governor-General Nogi nor Prefect Hashiguchi are to blame, and to one who views affairs from the outside it would seem that the Central Government in Tokyo could with much propriety shoulder a large portion of the responsibility.

The area of Formosa is nearly 15,000 miles square, every mile of which, excluding that occupied by the savages, contains some enemies of Japan. It has been considered necessary to place all under Japanese administration and there are not troops or policemen enough to give each district the number required. I believe this has often been pointed out to the Central Government, perhaps even by the two officers above mentioned. The members of the Diet cannot understand the situation at all by viewing affairs from Tokyo. The fact, unpleasant as it is, must be faced: the Chinese throughout the island generally dislike the Japanese. That will no doubt in the future be changed for the better. The Chinese must in time see that the intentions of the Japanese are the best, and that the advantages of civilization and education, &c., are given them for their benefit. However, the present is to be considered. The situation must be reckoned with as it is, not as it ought to be. More troops, more gendarmes, and more police are needed, and the police should be selected not from raw recruits but be picked out from the police now on duty in Japan, old and trusted men.

The attack on Tawatutia was beneficial in one way, that it taught a lesson to the Japanese and exposed to them their own weakness. Governor-General Nogi and every other officer in North Formosa has profited by it. It has been instructive to them. They are better able to cope with similar affairs in the future. But one Chinese street in the market place suffered on that occasion. Had the mob's numbers been greatly increased—and it must be admitted that there was plenty of material to draw from—the mob might have gone five blocks further and entered the walls of the capital. As it was, they confined themselves to the rich merchants and then escaped, but not, however, without serious loss. Now that the lesson has been learnt and taken to heart, it is suggested by some of the press that the Governor-General should be recalled. I should say that it was now all the more necessary that he should stay. He is known to be a man of courage, com-

mon sense, and energy. Experience is of prime necessity, but can only be obtained with time. Let the Central Government send back His Excellency with increased powers, and when he has introduced the reforms he has in view, let the Central Government keep "hands off." The Chinese will, with time, absorb the new regulations, and when they find that they are lasting, all will be well and good in the island and reflect to the credit of the Empire.

RAMBLES IN FORMOSA.

(SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

HOR-LENG-KANG (KHILAI PLAIN).

Rain, rain and everlasting rain! As Daudet's jolly Nabob said: *et s'il n'y en a plus, il y en a encore*. It needs no stretch of imagination to enter into the feelings of that discouraged batch of savages, who, a hundred years ago, turned their back upon these over-irrigated shores and, disgusted with the never-ceasing downpours, set their sails toward the brighter islands of the south, whence their ancestors had emigrated to the east-coast of Formosa. Rain at Kelung, rain at Sao, and still no glimpse of the sun at Khilai. We couldn't help it, though, and since everybody seemed to enjoy being freshened up continually, we pretended to like it too, and talked highly of the admirable fertility of the soil and the splendid green hue of everything in sight, a greenness, so vivid, so poison-like, that an adherent of the earlier plain-air school would have died of delight and enthusiasm.

Sao-bay is probably much more valuable in the eyes of a painter than in those of a trader, affording an extremely pretty, but rather unsafe anchorage. Not a single trading vessel was to be seen there at our arrival and we heard afterwards that, on the average, only five Chinese junks call in a month, and these not from China, but from some Formosan port. The bay was known to the earliest Chinese immigrant, and subsequently to the Dutch. It served for a long time as an export-place for the agricultural products of the rich Kapsalan plain, but seems of late to have become partly superseded by the anchorage of Toi, a few *ri* N.E. of Gilan, and also, perhaps, by the growing importance of the mountain-road from Kelung. At present there is a small force of Japanese policemen in Sao village, three or four Japanese merchants, and one or two *yadayas*. The natives are exclusively Chinese, hailing from Foochow and Swatow. About three miles distant, there is a settlement of Pophuan, and thirty to forty miles away there lurk the head-hunting savages. Life is not smooth at Sao and an insurance company could scarcely be prevailed upon to do business preferably in that corner of the world. Only the other day, five Chinese peasants were killed by the mountaineers in a rice-field which is but 5 *cho* from the village. Nor are the robbers less active. A Japanese, who was a passenger in our ship and who had travelled all the way from Japan to see his brother, arrived in Gilan only to hear that his brother had been killed by brigands the day before. The poor fellow sat speechless the whole day. The Japanese do, however, what they can. Two companies guard the road to Gilan, which is held by two other companies.

Paying a visit to Mr. Ando, who had come to Sao in the interest of the energetic president of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, Mr. Asano, we heard many interesting details about the savages and their curious ways, and were treated to the sight of two tottering Pophuan, whose ages were 65 and 87 years respectively. From these wizard-like specimens of a once powerful race we secured a great number of words, and Mr. Ando furnished us with a small vocabulary of the Nanyo-tribe of mountain-savages, amongst whom he had spent some days. It is an amusing task to pump unsophisticated natives for their wealth of expressions and I relished it keenly; besides I scented the smoke of a coming battle and the enchanting vision of a new theory seemed to dawn upon me. The fact is, most of the writers who authoritatively discuss the aborigines of Formosa, like Dr. Mackay, the enthusiastic Canadian missionary; Imbault-Huart, the brilliant French Consul; Dr. Riess, the solid German scholar, and many others, take it for granted that all pre-Chinese settlers of the fair island belong to the Malayan race. An exception is made, however, by a German naturalist, Schetelig, who visited the Kapsalan plain in 1867. He thinks, though rather vaguely, of the Miaotse, the aborigines of China, whose descendants still exist in Kwantung and Yunnan, as possible kinsmen of the early Formosans. There is also on record a tradition of the Chiu-wan to the effect that their ancestors came from the mainland in the west before its

being settled by the sons of Han. Dr. Riess (of the Imperial University), introduces a non-Malayan race in his recently published history of Formosa, giving, as his opinion, that the island was originally settled by Liu-kiu people, but he evidently believes that all traces of them, outside of dusty chronicles, have been irretrievably lost. The problem is no doubt a very attractive one, the more so because its solution may throw light on the origin of the Japanese, who confessedly have a considerable strain of the blood of a more southerly race in their veins. Now, I don't say that language proves everything, being aware of the fact that the Tataric Bulgarians adopted a Slavonic language, the Celtic Gauls took to the idiom of their Roman, and the Fellahs to that of their Arab, conquerors. But if Formosan tribes are found to speak non-Malayan dialects, I do assert that other than Malayan influences have been at work in the mountain fastnesses of the beautiful island. For, nobody who has looked at all into the subject, be it ever so superficially, can gainsay that there are two entirely and decidedly different sets of native languages throughout Formosa. On the other hand, the local differences within these groups are far smaller than it is commonly alleged; they are less indeed than between Tuscan and Sardinian. The words which I secured from Mr. Ando, agree wonderfully with the idioms that obtain in the Dodd range and east of the Dragon-lake, while the wholly distinct Pepohuan expressions were joyfully recognized later on in the Khilai plain and are nearly identical with those of Long-kian in the extreme south and those of Bam-kim-sing, two journeys east of Takau. As I am afraid lest a too special investigation might prove tiresome, I shall only point out that between the Malayan numerals of the Pepohuan, *isa, dua, tolu, sipat, lima* (1-5) and the Chin-wan terms *ko-toch, sai-yin, chin-hoat, ba yet, ma-gal* (1-5) there is no similarity whatever. Now since *lima* is invariably the Malayan term for hand and five from Honolulu to Madagascar, we conclude that the dialect which employs another word is non-Malayan. Besides also the flexion in the respective groups is shaped after distinctly incompatible patterns.

I left Sao village after dark, and returned to our vessel, but not without having dropped two *yen* to four unwilling Chinese boatmen. Perhaps they trembled for their lives, fearing the cunning of the mountaineers. Anyhow, half a *yen* for scarcely a half hour's work is not half bad for Chinamen, and still they are always talking about the starving wages of the children of Asia. And the Japanese boat-men, who evidently could not bear the idea of taxing their efforts cheaper than those of the vanquished Chinese, demanded still higher fares! In dim moonlight, which made the fantastic crags and spires of the surrounding peaks appear even more unearthly and fairy-like, we slowly sailed out of the pretty bay and beat our course southward again. Every four or five miles there sprung upon our eyes an unexpected inlet, washed out by the relentless attack of the foaming waves, and cut from the very heart of the wooded giants, that seemed like sentinels to guard the hidden treasures and beauties of the mysterious island. Then rain set in again and we went to bed. In the early dawn, we passed the famous cliffs, which have invariably moved to a panegyric frenzy the few travellers that have as yet beheld them. Owing perhaps to our distance from the shore, I could not quite share this enthusiasm. Guillemaud, in the "Cruise of the Marchesa," says, the precipices of the Semie dwindle into nothingness before those of eastern Formosa." I think that a sad exaggeration; and if the Rev. Campbell and others declare, that these sea-cliffs are the highest in the world, they forget that the towering peaks in some Norwegian fiefs attain a height of 10,000 feet, immediately along the coast. A rather vague and probably exaggerated estimate fixes the height of the Formosan rocks at seven thousand.

Later in the morning, we reached Hoe Leng, at the mouth of the Khilai (*Japonica Karengo*) river. I think that Khilai is identical with the Paichien and Buntang (S. Formosa) word *achilat*, meaning water. Thus the term *ache*, meaning simply water, has in Germany become the name of several brooks, and the Orange is by the Hottentots called *gerist*, meaning just "river."

CRICKET.

A match was played on Saturday afternoon between Club teams chosen and captained by Messrs. F. E. White and Coghill Jackson. The latter's team went in first and knocked up a total of 127, of which 38 were contributed by Edwards, in a well played innings which included 3 fours and a five. White's team failed to reach their oppo-

nents' score and were disposed of for 107, in spite of a very prettily played innings by F. E. White for 35 not out. Lias and Kingdon were the only others of the twelve who got into double figures. The full scores were as follow:—

MR. COGHILL JACKSON'S TEAM.

D. Tyng, b. F. E. White	...	...	...	23
W. Y. Showier, c. W. Goddard, b. F. E. White	...	...	...	3
E. B. S. Edwards, c. Alcock, b. Goddard	...	...	...	38
Coghill Jackson, b. Lias	...	...	...	19
A. B. Walford, b. Lias	...	...	...	24
E. Owen, c. and b. Kingdon	...	...	...	9
H. S. Goddard, c. F. E. White, b. Lias	...	...	...	9
S. Kuhn, b. Lias	...	...	...	8
N. Page, b. F. E. White	...	...	...	5
A. Tyng, run out	...	...	...	0
L. Dewette, run out	...	...	...	2
C. Moss, run out	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	8

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
Kingdon	75	39	3	1
White, F. E.	74	38	3	5
Goddard, W.	90	6	1	1
Lias	65	23	—	—
Alcock	30	9	—	—

MR. WHITE'S TEAM.

G. Alcock, b. Edwards	...	...	...	0
A. Kingdon, c. Jacks-n, b. Edwards	...	...	...	13
H. Bent, run out	...	...	...	10
F. J. Lias, c. and b. Walford	...	...	...	6
T. S. Tyng, lb.w. Edwards	...	...	...	9
E. F. Kirby, b. Walford	...	...	...	4
F. E. White, run out	...	...	...	35
W. Goddard, c. Owen, b. Edwards	...	...	...	9
E. Edinson, b. Goddard	...	...	...	0
W. J. White, b. Goddard	...	...	...	7
Gibbs, b. Edwards	...	...	...	4
H. R. Mair, b. Goddard	...	...	...	15
Extras	...	...	...	12

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
Edwards	60	31	4	4
Walford	45	18	—	3
Goddard, H. S.	49	20	9	3
T. ne, D.	30	11	—	—
Tyng, A.	30	23	—	—

A VISIT TO VLADIVOSTOCK.

A correspondent writing from Vladivostock on the 29th ult. gives us the following account of his impressions of the place and its people:—

Vladivostock is a booming town of about 15,000 inhabitants, exclusive of the peripatetic Chinese and Koreans. The community is, of course, naturally and distinctly Russian. Probably seven out of every eight men in business are Russians. The Germans come next numerically and in commercial importance, but some of these sturdy Teutons have become naturalized Russian subjects. There is now and then a son of La Belle France to be found in business here. The entire American contingent numbers a baker's dozen—but there is nothing unlucky about the number it would seem, for they are all doing well. There must be about 6,000 Chinamen, and a thousand or so of white-robed representatives of the Hermit Kingdom—or rather the Kingdom that might have something of the hermit aspect did not Russia and Japan make the peninsula the theatre of political intrigue and rivalry. The Chinese and Koreans are strictly the "hewers of wood and drawers of water" in Vladivostock. Most of the Celestials are from Shantung Province. They are stout, able-bodied fellows, and generally pretty good workers. These Chinamen and Koreans return to their respective homes during winter. The general condition of business can be judged from the fact that there is not an unoccupied stone building or dwelling house in the town. New buildings, mostly of brick, are in course of construction. The city has a very substantial appearance. There is no doubt but that a veritable "boom" will follow the completion of the great trans-Siberian railway. The hearts of local business men were gladdened the other day when it was learned that the chief-engineer of the Manchurian-Siberian railway, accompanied by a good many assistants, had arrived on the steamer *Nagato Maru*. The chief-engineer had had audience of the Emperor of China. After meeting representatives of Manchurian interests the engineer and his large party will repair to Manchuria, and at once begin the final section of the route. This work will be prosecuted with all possible vigour. The final survey, it is expected, will be completed within 8 or 10 weeks. The general Government, it is understood, is going to prosecute the construction work in a way that will be rapid as compared with the earlier work done on the system. The saving in distance by running the road through Manchuria, instead of following the original route, will be about 1,000 versts—something like 700 or 800 miles. This purpose of the Government is of course exceedingly agreeable to the local business community. Another act of the Government's that is pleasing to those engaged in commercial pursuits here is the purchase of a tremendous ice-breaking boat.

The vessel arrived in this port from Copenhagen a few weeks since. There were in charge of the craft experts representing the manufacturers. These engineers say they are absolutely convinced that the boat, by itself, will be able to keep the harbour open through the entire winter. Business men also think there is no doubt at all as to the success of the undertaking, and are making arrangements accordingly. The several steamboat companies report a greatly increased business as compared with last year. That enterprising Japanese company, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, is particularly fortunate in enjoying an increase of business. The company's service, both passenger and freight, is entirely satisfactory.

BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI.

FIRST GENERAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR.

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

IX. I.—Appropriation from the War Indemnity 1,339,895.104

THE DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

XI.—Supplementary Funds for Work-shops..... 1,339,895.104
1. Supplementary fund for the Tokyo Arsenal Work-shops... 650,528.664
2. Supplementary Fund for the Osaka Arsenal Work-shops... 582,614.836
3. Supplementary Fund for the Senju Woollen Cloth Factory Work-shops..... 106,751.604
(N.B.—The numerals prefixed to the items in the above and all supplementary Budgets refer to the places that these amounts would occupy were they included in the regular Budget.—Ed. J. M.)

SECOND GENERAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

IV. 5.—Receipts according to the Public Officials Families, &c., Relief Law 18,324.947

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

IV. 2.—Donations for Manufacturing men-of-war 183,249.479
IX. 1.—Appropriation from the War Indemnity 6,420,330.341

Grand Total..... 6,621,904.857

THE DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

XII.—Supplementary Fund for the Formosan Expenses 6,420,330.431
(N.B.—The item "Donations for manufacturing men-of-war represents 10 per cent. of the salaries of Formosan officials.—Ed. J. M.)

THIRD GENERAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR. A SECTION.

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

II. 2.—Money Refunded..... 1,183,266.768
VIII.—Bought over from Revenue of last fiscal year..... 102,096.372
Total..... 1,285,363.140

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

VIII.—The Audit Board..... 33,366.230
1. Salaries and Allowances 18,580.000
2. Office Expenses..... 1,491.000
3. Repairs 300.000
4. Travelling Expenses..... 11,459.680
5. Miscellaneous Allowances ... 1,535.550

THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I. 13.—Expenses of the High Educational Council 3,264.000
IV. I.—The Imperial University. 1,130.661
Total 4,394.661

THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

II. 7.—Aid-fund for the Yokohama Water Works..... 1,027,843.099

III. 16.—Supplementary Expenses for Reconstructing the Fuji-kawa Embankment	42,575 427
Do. 25.—Expenses for Reconstructing the Tenryu-gawa Embankment	19,000,000
VII. 1.—Grants on account of Disasters in Cities and Prefectures	92,833 920
VIII. 1.—Expenses for Constructing additional Wharfs in Kobe	84,127 926
IX.—Extraordinary Allowances to Local Officials in Okinawa Prefecture	104,054 138
Total	1,370,434 510

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

IX.—The Law Codes Investigation Committee	39,040 000
1. Office Expenses	1,620 000
2. Repairs	120 000
3. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	37,300 000

THE WAR DEPARTMENT.
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

II.—5. Expenses for New Constructions after Fire	28,272 500
XII.—1. Expenses for supplying Articles after fire	27,625 165
Total	55,897 665

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

I.—3. Repairs	31,808 052
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THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

I.—3. Expenses for newly Constructing the Teaching Rooms of the Agricultural College ...	40,000 000
VII.—7. Expenses for purchasing Substitutes for Articles destroyed by the late Fire at the Agricultural College	10,000 000
Total	50,000 000

AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

X.—1. Travelling Expenses for the Representatives to be sent to the International Geological Congress, and Expenses for inspecting the state of Geological Investigation in Europe and America	18,168 600
Grand Total	1,603,109 718

B SECTION.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Expenses for Newly Constructing the Agricultural College Teaching Room	102,677 000
1. The 30th fiscal year	40,000 000
2. The 31st fiscal year	62,677 000
II.—Expenses for purchasing substitutes for articles destroyed by the late Fire at the Agricultural College	20,000 000
1. The 30th fiscal year	10,000 000
2. The 31st fiscal year	10,000 000

FOURTH GENERAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI.

DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION.
EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

IX.—1. Appropriation from the War Indemnity	176,250 000
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
XII.—1. Aid to the Formosan Railway Company	176,250 000

FIFTH GENERAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH YEAR OF MEIJI.

A SECTION.

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

VIII. 1.—Brought over from the previous fiscal year	139,306 637
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THE HOME DEPARTMENT.
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

IV. 5.—Reconstructing Expenses of the Miyagi Penitentiary damaged by Earthquake	10,798 000
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THE FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

X.—Expenses of the Committee for preparing for the operation of the Revised Treaties	5,949 904
1. Office Expenses	1,263 644
2. Travelling Expenses	2,000 000
3. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	2,686 260

THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

I. 7.—Expenses for Repairing Earthquake Damages	946 073
VII. 8.—Expenses of observing the total eclipse of the sun, by the Imperial University	9,012 000
Total	9,958 073

THE DEPARTMENT FOR AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

XI. 1.—Subsidy for Extending the Sale of Manufactured Tea ...	70,000 000
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THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

I.—Subsidies	42,600 660
3. Extension of Navigation	22,000 000
5. Aid on account of shipwrecks, &c, &c.	20,000 000
Grand Total	139,306 637

B. SECTION.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

I.

IV. 5.—Reconstruction of the Miyagi Penitentiary	21,596 360
The 30th fiscal year	10,798 000
The 31st fiscal year	10,798 360

ADDENDUM TO THE FIFTH GENERAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH YEAR OF MEIJI.

Appropriations on account of Liabilities to be incurred for Payments by the Treasury over and above the Budgetary Items.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

I.

THE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

XI. 1.—To grant a subsidy of yen 70,000,000 per annum, for seven consecutive years, beginning with the 30th year of Meiji, to promote the export of manufactured Tea.	
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II.

THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT.

I. 3.—To grant subsidies of yen 22,600,660 for the 30th fiscal year; yen 149,547 160 each year from the 31st till the 39th; and yen 112,160 370 for the 40th fiscal year, in aid of steamship services on the Yangtze-Kiang.	
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III.

THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT.

I. 5.—To grant a sum of 20,000 yen annually from the 30th to the 32nd fiscal year, in aid of the Maritime Disasters Relief Society of Japan.	
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FIRST SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR OF "MEIJI."

(N.B.—These Supplementary Special Budgets as far as No. 5 are merely explanatory of the General Supplementary Budgets.)

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.
SPECIAL CAPITAL FUNDS.

I.—Appropriation from indemnity	1,339,895 104
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DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

TOKYO ARSENAL.

I.—5. Tokyo Arsenal (purchase of Raw Materials)	650,528 664
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OSAKA ARSENAL.

I.—5. Osaka Arsenal (purchase of Raw Materials)	582,614 836
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SENJU WOOLLEN CLOTH FACTORY.
REVENUE.

I.—Receipts from Senju Woollen Cloth Factory	285,104 240
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EXPENDITURES.

I.—Senju Woollen Cloth Factory Working Expenses	285,104 240
4. Allowances for Casualties ...	60 000
7. Travelling Expenses	23 490
8. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses	17,016 550
9. Work-shops Expenses	42,240 567
10. Purchase of Raw Materials ...	225,763 633

SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

SPECIAL CAPITAL FUNDS.

EXPENDITURES.

I.—Appropriation from Special Capital Fund	6,420,330 431
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DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION.

FORMOSA GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S ADMINISTRATION OFFICE.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—Revenue of Formosa	8,112,264 910
1. Inland Taxes	1,098,714 063
2. Custom Duties	582,898 676
3. Receipts from State Industries and properties	5,452,666 877
4. Miscellaneous Receipts	77,984 877

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—Sales of Government properties	9,240 000
II.—Grant from Central Government	6,420,330 431
Total	6,429,570 431

Grand total

14,541,855 341

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Miscellaneous Expenses of administering Formosa	10,202,040 871
1. Expenses connected with Civil-Government	5,515,308 301
2. Expenses connected with Custom-Houses	209,771 210
3. Expenses connected with Communications	1,581,464 590
4. Expenses connected with Medical Factory	2,846,866 770
5. Secret Service Fund	48,560 000
II.—Miscellaneous Repayments and Supplementing of Deficiencies	22,000 000
1. Miscellaneous Repayments ...	21,004 525
2. Deficiencies Supplemented ...	995 475
III.—Reserve Fund	300,000 000
1. 1st Reserve Fund	50,000 000
2. 2nd Reserve Fund	250,000 000

Total

10,524,040 871

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

I.—Formosan Enterprises	4,017,794 476
1. Constructions, Repairs, and Public Works	3,360,800 200
2. Investigation Expenses	70,530 560
3. Immigration Expenses	91,963 701
4. Sanitary Expenses	40,000 000
5. Subsidies	514,500 000

Grand Total

14,541,835 341

ADDENDUM TO THE SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET.

DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION DEPARTMENT.

To engage a foreigner for the Governor-General's Office for investigating the history and customs of commerce and industry in Formosa, at a salary of 500 yen a month, from April 1st of the 30th year of Meiji to July 31st of the 34th year.

THIRD SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION—THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

I.—1. Grant from the Government	1,030 661
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EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

IV.—1. Grant from Government for replacing Articles for the Agricultural College, similar to those lost by the late fire ...	10,000 000
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Total

10,030 000

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
I.—13. Miscellaneous Allowances to Foreign Employes.....	4,184,906
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	
IV.—1. Expenses for purchasing the Articles Similar to those lost by the Agricultural College.....	10,000,000
Total.....	14,184,906

FOURTH SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

THE MINT.

REVENUE.

I.—1. Receipts from Works.....	9,000,000,000
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EXPENDITURE.

I.—Working Expenses of the Mint.....	8,115,057,941
7. Miscellaneous Allowances and Expenses.....	13,752,000
8. Shops Expenses.....	39,986,470
9. Purchases of Raw Materials.....	8,061,319,471

FUND FOR REGULATING THE COINAGE SYSTEM.

I.—Receipts from the Sales of Bullion.....	10,000,000,000
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EXPENDITURES.

I.—1. Cost of exchanging Coins.....	10,000,000,000
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FIFTH SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

SPECIAL CAPITAL FUND.

EXPENDITURE.

I. 1.—Appropriation from Indemnity.....	176,250,000
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DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION.

FORMOSA GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S ADMINISTRATION OFFICE.

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

II. 1.—Supplementary Fund.....	176,250,000
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EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

VI. 1.—Aid to the Formosa Railway Company.....	176,250,000
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ADDENDUM TO THE FIFTH SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR.

Appropriations on account of Liabilities to be incurred by the Treasury over and above the Budgetary Items.

DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION.

To grant in aid of the Formosa Railway Company according to the following terms:—That the whole line may be divided into three sections, namely between Kiyu and Daichyn; between Daichyn and Kagi; between Kagi and Daku, with branch line to Anpei.

That the Capital be fixed at 15,000,000 yen, to be either increased or decreased according to circumstances. That the whole line be completed in five years from the day of concluding the agreement. That Aid shall be given at the rate of six per cent. of the paid-up capital, counting from the month after the payments of the same.

That the Aid shall be given to the Company for 12 years after the opening of each section to traffic.

That if the Company violate this contract, it shall at once refund all the money hitherto received in Aid.

SIXTH SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR OF "MEIJI."

A. SECTION.

THE DEPARTMENTS OF FINANCE AND OF COMMUNICATIONS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

REVENUE.

I. 1.—Sales of Railway Bonds ...	6,227,350,000
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THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

I.—Railway Construction Expenses	6,227,350,000
1. Railway between Fukushima and Aomori.....	1,600,000,000
2. Railway between Tsuruga and Toyama.....	2,527,333,000
3. Railway between Hachioji and Nagoya.....	1,350,000,000
4. Railway between Shinonoi and Shiojiri.....	650,000,000
5. Railway between Yatsushiro and Kagoshima.....	100,000,000

B. SECTION.

Total Railway Construction Fund	68,025,044,000
Sum paid out up to the 29th fiscal year.....	11,580,000,000
Sum to be paid out from the 30th fiscal year.....	56,445,044,000

The 30th Fiscal Year.

Railway Construction Expenses ...	6,227,333,000
Railway between Fukushima and Aomori.....	1,600,000,000
Railway between Tsuruga and Toyama.....	2,527,333,000
Railway between Hachioji and Nagoya.....	1,350,000,000
Railway between Shinonoi and Shiojiri.....	650,000,000
Railway between Yatsushiro and Kagoshima.....	100,000,000

The 31st Fiscal Year.

Railway Construction Expenses ...	8,364,813,000
Railway between Fukushima and Aomori.....	2,200,000,000
Railway between Tsuruga and Toyama.....	1,780,217,000
Railway between Hachioji and Nagoya.....	2,850,000,000
Railway between Shinonoi and Shiojiri.....	1,034,596,000
Railway between Yatsushiro and Kagoshima.....	500,000,000

The 32nd Fiscal Year.

Railway Construction Expenses ...	8,712,874,000
Railway between Fukushima and Aomori.....	2,200,000,000
Railway between Hachioji and Nagoya.....	4,000,000,000
Railway between Shinonoi and Shiojiri.....	762,874,000
Railway between Yatsushiro and Kagoshima.....	1,750,000,000

The 33rd Fiscal Year.

Railway Construction Expenses ...	8,743,747,000
Railway between Fukushima and Aomori.....	2,143,747,000
Railway between Hachioji and Nagoya.....	4,000,600,000
Railway between Yatsushiro and Kagoshima.....	2,000,000,000
Railway between Himeji and Sakai.....	600,000,000

The 34th Fiscal Year.

Railway Construction Expenses ...	8,050,000,000
Railway between Hachioji and Nagoya.....	4,000,000,000
Railway between Yatsushiro and Kagoshima.....	2,050,000,000
Railway between Himeji and Sakai.....	2,000,000,000

The 35th Fiscal Year.

Railway Construction Expenses ...	8,326,792,000
Railway between Hachioji and Nagoya.....	4,000,000,000
Railway between Yatsushiro and Kagoshima.....	1,826,792,000
Railway between Himeji and Sakai.....	2,500,000,000

The 36th Fiscal Year.

Railway Construction Expenses ...	6,000,000,000
Railway between Hachioji and Nagoya.....	4,000,000,000
Railway between Himeji and Sakai.....	2,000,000,000

The 37th Fiscal Year.

Railway Construction Expenses ...	2,019,485,000
Railway between Hachioji and Nagoya.....	1,170,771,000
Railway between Himeji and Sakai.....	848,714,000

SEVENTH SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 30TH FISCAL YEAR.

THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

V. 1.—Money received from the Government for observing the Total Eclipse of the Sun.....	9,012,000
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EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

V. 1.—Expenses of observing the Total Eclipse of the Sun.....	9,012,000
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(Attached to the General Budget.)

LIABILITIES TO BE INCURRED BY THE TREASURY OVER AND ABOVE THE BUDGETARY ITEMS.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

I.—To make a contract with a foreign Employe now in the service of the Department who receives 600 yen a month for an increase of 2,800 yen per year, from April 1st of the 30th of Meiji to March 31st of the 33rd year.	
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II.—To make a contract for a house in Mexico for the new Japanese Legation, the rent to be 2,700 dollars in Mexican silver, per annum, and the term five years.

III.—To make a contract for a house in Brazil for the new Japanese Legation there, at a yearly rent of £400 in English coin; for a period of five years.

IV.—To make a contract for a house in Siam for the new Japanese Legation there, at a yearly rental of 2,200 yen a year, for a period of five years.

V.—To make a contract for a house in Sydney, Australia, for the new Japanese Consulate there at a yearly rental of £238 in English money, for a term of 5 years.

VI.—To make a contract for a house in Anvers, Belgium, for a new Japanese Consulate there, at a yearly rental of 3,600 francs in French money, for a period of 5 years.

VII.—To make a contract for a house in Chicago, the United States, for a new Japanese Consulate there at a yearly rental of \$2,000 in American money for a period of 5 years.

VIII.—To make a contract for a house in Manila, in the Philippines, for the new Japanese Consulate there, at a yearly rental of 1,200 yen, for a period of 5 years.

IX.—To make a contract for a house in China for a new Japanese Consulate there, at a yearly rental of 1,200 yen for a period of 5 years.

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

Mr. J. Troup, H. M. Consul, has handed us the following letter for publication:—

To JAMES TROUP, Esq.,

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul,
Yokohama, Japan.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letters dated the 24th and 29th April, forwarding a list of your subscribers, together with a copy of letter from Mr. J. C. Nicholson, and a draft for Rs. 176-8, being the balance of subscriptions received in Yokohama and Tokyo, for the benefit of the Indian Famine Fund.

For this amount I have great pleasure in sending herewith the formal receipt.

I hope you will be good enough to convey to your subscribers in Yokohama and Tokyo, how deeply we appreciate this mark of their sympathy with the sufferers from Famine in India, and how grateful we are to them for the practical and generous shape in which that sympathy has been evinced.

When I tell you that, at the present moment, there are over 4,000,000 of people on the Government Relief Works, our friends in Japan will understand how serious is the situation.

It only remains for me on behalf of the Central Executive Committee and myself, to tender to the subscribers in Yokohama and Tokyo, and to yourself, as I sincerely do, our very grateful thanks; and, without desiring to draw any invidious distinction, I venture to add a special word of thanks to Mr. J. C. Nicholson, to Mr. K. Kawakami and the other Japanese gentlemen who have so generously come forward with their assistance; and our thanks are also due to the Great Northern Telegraph Company for so kindly wiring your remittances to Calcutta, free of charge.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

FRANCIS W. MACLEAN,

Chairman, Central Executive Committee,
Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

ABYSSINIA AND THE SOUDAN.

London, July 9.

The British Mission to Abyssinia has obtained from King Menelik a promise that he will observe a benevolent neutrality regarding the Anglo-Egyptian operations in the Soudan.

THE U. S. TARIFF.

THE SENATE AMENDMENTS REJECTED.

The United States House of Representatives has refused to accept the amendments made by the Senate in the Tariff

Bill. Both Houses of Congress are now conferring.

RE-IMPOSITION OF THE DUTY ON TEA.

The following telegram is said to have reached a Yokohama resident on the evening of Tuesday:—

Judged from the progress of the conference now being held by the Deputies of the two Houses of Congress about the new Tariff, it is feared that the amendment to impose an import duty at the rate of 10 cents per pound may be revived and carried through.

London, July 13.

We (*Japan Times*) understand that a telegram has reached Tokyo saying that the Deputies of the two Houses of the American Congress have decided in favour of the imposition of an import duty on Hawaiian sugar, as had been proposed by the House of Representatives.

WAR CORRESPONDENTS' LIBEL ACTION.

Mr. Atteridge, who was the war correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* with the Dongola expedition, has obtained a verdict for one thousand pounds as damages from Mr. Knight, war correspondent of *The Times*, for libel, consisting in an imputation of cowardice and of neglecting a sick comrade.

TURKEY AND THE POWERS.

TURKEY STILL RECALCITRANT.

London, July 9.

On July 7th the Turkish Minister announced that his Government declined to accede to the collective Note presented by the Powers. This communication, which is practically a negative reply, is regarded as a virtual rupture of negotiations. The Ambassadors are now deliberating.

THE GRAND VIZIER'S ATTITUDE.

The Grand Vizier, Khalid Rifaat Pacha, is stated to have declared that he will never sign an agreement based upon the strategic line proposed by the Ambassadors.

LORD SALISBURY ON THE SITUATION.

Lord Salisbury states that the delays at Constantinople are entirely due to Turkey, who is carrying her usual methods of deliberation to excess, thus causing great injury, possibly even attended by danger, to the prospects of an early and satisfactory settlement. This, he adds, will increase in proportion as the situation becomes more analogous to that of the year 1878, when the Russian Army was at the gates of Constantinople.

RUSSIA'S SUGGESTION.

A circular from the Russian Representative, under date of July 8th, suggests taking steps to expedite peace.

FURTHER COMPLICATIONS.

London, July 11.

The Embassies at Constantinople presented a Note calling on the Porte to cease its obstructive measures. The Sultan thereupon telegraphed direct to the Sovereigns of the foreign Powers, and to President Faure, making a fresh appeal for the concession of the River Pineas (Salembría) as the Thessalian frontier. To this request, the French President and all the Sovereigns replied advising the Sultan to conform to the wishes expressed by the Concert of the Powers.

A circular has been issued by the Porte, proposing to send Turkish reinforcements to the island of Crete. This has further complicated the situation.

CAPE COLONY AND THE NAVY.

At a banquet to the Colonel Premiers

held at St. George's Club, the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, M.P., Secretary of State for the Navy, announced that Sir J. Gordon Sprigg, Premier of Cape Colony, had intimated that the Cape was prepared to provide a first-class ironclad to be placed at the disposal of the Empire, no conditions being stipulated regarding local defence.

CRICKET.

OXFORD V. CAMBRIDGE.

London, July 9.

In the Annual Cricket Match between Oxford and Cambridge the latter University were victors by 179 runs.

"PLAYERS" V. "GENTLEMEN."

London, July 11.

The "Players" beat the "Gentlemen," at the Oval, by eight wickets.

ETON V. HARROW.

The Eton and Harrow match ended in a draw in favour of Harrow.

BLACK PLAGUE.

Taihoku, (Taipei), July 11.

On July 6th, two fresh cases of bubonic plague were reported in Taipei, making a total of 595 from the outbreak of the pestilence.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA AND SUITE.

Paris, July 12.

H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa and suite will leave Paris to-morrow for London. On the 17th inst. the party will leave Liverpool for New York, and on August 2nd they will leave Vancouver for home.

PIRACY IN THE STRAITS OF MALACCA.

A BRITISH SHIP LOOTED.

CAPTAIN ROSS AND SEVEN MEN KILLED.

London, July 13.

A gang of Achinese (passengers?) on board the British steamer *Pegu* murdered Captain Ross and seven of the crew, natives, wounded sixteen others, looted the ship, and afterwards fled to the Achene coast with their booty.

BRITAIN AND TUNIS.

Sir Harry Hamilton Johnston, K.C.B., British Commissioner and Consul-general in Nyassaland, has been appointed Commissioner and Consul-general in Tunis.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

THE FIRE INSURANCE CASE AT KOBE.

STRONG REMARKS FROM THE BENCH.

JUDGMENT FOR DEFENDANTS.

Kobe, July 16, 7.45 p.m.

Judgment was given in the British Consular Court to-day, by Mr. John Carey Hall, Consul and Judge, in the fire insurance case that has aroused so much interest here. The Court found for the defendants—Messrs. Lucas & Co., Agents for the Union Fire Assurance Company. The plaintiff was J. A. Sylva, and the claim arose on some rolls of matting, cases of screens, and other goods, alleged to have been destroyed or seriously damaged at a fire that broke out on May 17 in a godown rented by the plaintiff. The Consul, in delivering judgment, said that the whole case reeked with fraud and defendants had rendered signal service to the public and to commercial morality.

H.M.S. "GRAFTON."

Hakodate, July 11.

H.M.S. *Grafton*, Rear-Admiral Oxley's flagship, arrived here yesterday.

Hakodate, July 14.

H.M.S. *Grafton* and the torpedo-boat destroyer *Handy* have left here for Korniloff Bay.

WRECK OF A WHALING VESSEL.

The American Whaling Barque, *Cape Horn Pigeon* has stranded outside the harbour. The wreck is rapidly breaking up, but a portion of the valuable cargo of sperm oil is being salvaged.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

JAPANESE STEAMER FOUNDERS.

Osaka, July 14.

According to a telegram received from London, the steamer *Taihoku Maru* (3,100 tons), built in England for the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, while on her way out from England, collided with a steamer in the vicinity of Lisbon, Portugal, and sank immediately. All the crew are reported to be safe. The vessel is fully insured.

Kobe, July 15

The new steamer *Taihoku Maru* of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which sank near Lisbon, left London for Japan on the 8th inst. and was lost on the 12th. The cargo on board was most likely iron goods. The captain of the steamer was Mr. Conrad who brought out the steamer *Anpei Maru* to Japan some time ago.

THE FLOODS: DAMAGING RAILWAY TRACKS.

Niigata, July 10.

Owing to the heavy rainfall since the day before yesterday, many rivers have risen considerably, breaking their embankments, and have flooded several towns and villages. The Shinano River has burst its embankment and inundated the town of Niigata. The inhabitants are working night and day on temporary repairs to prevent further mischief. The rain is still falling.

The railway line between Fukui and Imasho having been repaired, traffic was resumed to-day. The repairs to the line between Tsuruga and Imasho will be completed in a few days.

Naoyetsu, July 14.

In order to clear away the accumulation of water caused by the overflow of the river Hokura, the line of the Hokuriku Railway has been broken through at nine places by the farmers of the district. Mr. Okune Kanjo, Chief of Minamigawa-mura, and over 50 other persons have been arrested on suspicion of having taken part in the work of destruction.

Niigata, July 14.

Towards dark on the 13th inst. rain began to fall in torrents and the River Shinano overflowed its banks. Nearly the whole of the town is inundated.

Mayebashi, July 14.

This morning the river Tone rose ten feet. Some bridges were removed to save them from being washed away.

Niigata, July 15.

The water of many rivers that rose over 10 feet by noon to-day is now rapidly falling, the rain having ceased.

Osaka, July 15.

To-day at 1 p.m. rain began to fall in torrents and is still continuing. There is fear of floods should the rain continue.

Nagata, July 14.

The embankment at Koshi-gun along the River Shimano was broken at three places to the extent of 100 *ken*, 30 *ken*, and 200 *ken*, while smaller breaks are numerous. Some steamboats are now plying on the rice-fields to render assistance. Many of the rivers are now falling.

Tochigi, July 14.

The river Watarase rose ten feet and much damage was done. Some persons are reported to have been drowned.

HIRANO SPINNING CO.

Osaka, July 10.

The general meeting of the Hirano Cotton Spinning Company took place to-day when a dividend of 40 per cent. per annum was decided upon.

DISASTROUS RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Urawa, July 12.

Yesterday, about 1 p.m., a passenger train collided with a luggage van at Fukaya-yeki on the Nakasendo line, and 12 passengers were fatally injured and many slightly wounded. Several cars were smashed.

Later.

The collision which occurred at Fukaya-yeki was caused by a mistake being made in the time of departure of the train. The passenger train was struck on the side by the luggage van and several of the cars were thrown off the line into the rice-fields. Mr. Kubomura, a Police-Inspector, and others who were severely wounded, will succumb to their injuries.

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

Kyoto, July 14.

The new Portuguese Minister, who had audience with the Emperor yesterday, when he presented his credentials to His Majesty, again proceeded to the Palace to-day. The Minister will return to Tokyo this evening.

TROOPS FOR FORMOSA.

Ujima, July 15.

Over 200 troops have arrived here to-day by a train, and leave for Formosa to-morrow morning by the steamer *Yorihime Maru*.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Kobe, July 16.

According to a telegram received here yesterday a passenger car and a mail car were capsized on the line of the Hantan Railway and two other cars derailed. Though 20 passengers were in the capsized car all escaped without any serious injury. The accident was caused by a defect in the line.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.

The Tokio Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem 327:—

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 327.

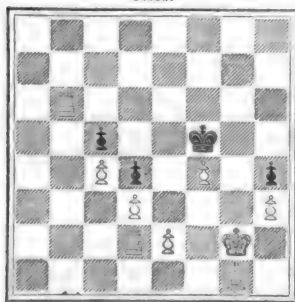
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—B to B 6 | 1—K takes B |
| 2—Q to R 4, ch | 2—K moves |
| 3—Q to B 4, mate | |
| | 1—K to Kt 5 |
| 2—Q to R 5, ch | 2—K takes Q |
| 3—P to Kt 4, mate | |
| | 1—K to K 5 |
| 2—R to Q 2, dis ch | 2—K moves |
| 3—Q or B, mate | |

Correct Solutions of Problem No. 327, received from W.H.S., J.W.E. and D.D.

"D.D."—(1) Of course. (2) In a problem, if the defence can by any possibility delay the 'mate' beyond the stipulated number of moves, that problem is "unsound." In a game, if mate be announced by your opponent in n moves, and on examination you discover that he cannot do it, you can only laugh at him; the mere announcement of checkmate is meaningless when it cannot be done.

PROBLEM No. 329.

By R. A. CLELAND, DUNEDIN, N.Z.



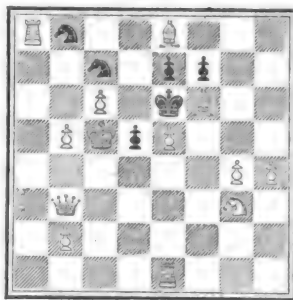
Mate in three moves.

OVER THE CHESS BOARD.

"A PROBLEM."

It is sometimes the best player, in his idle moments, who is responsible for the most audacious burlesques of chess; and it may be granted that such a player has as much right to burlesque chess as a good poet has to parody good poetry. The late Dr. Zukertort, in a looser mood, constructed a mate in two which he evidently intended as a touch of humour—of satire—a problem *pour rire*, over which solvers might rack their brains or crack their sides; chess he never meant it to be. After this preface, the reader can play with the puzzle if he likes, and he will soon satisfy himself that there is no mate in two according to the canons. Here it is:—

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

(Solution. To be looked at only in urgent cases.)

White must begin with a check, or his own king will be assailed, and as B to Q 7 is useless he must take something. To be brief, the key move is: Pawn takes queen's pawn, en passant discovering check from queen and rook. This is quite as diverting as it was meant to be. There are times when all rules may be broken by particular persons. Zukertort found himself at such a time, and he did well to break as many rules as possible. He introduced into a two-mover the necessity of considering Black's previous moves; and this previous move was utterly unimaginable, because the position of the white bishop behind the three pawns was impossible. The position of the black king is all but inconceivable, and there are sundry pieces of both colours which have no bearing on the puzzle. The joke is perhaps unintentionally ingenious, for if the walling up of the bishop be defended on the ground that a problem need not be regarded as a phase of a regular game of chess, this argument is overthrown by the various ante-initial assumptions which it is necessary to make. One can affirm at least three previous moves, taking them backward, before the statement of the problem: 1. Black pawn to queen's fourth. 2. White queen checks. 3. Black knight from queen's fourth to bishop's second. Does the reader see why Black must have made this last move?

We are reminded of another chess joke somewhat similar in its character, proposed by a chess editor, several years ago, for solution as an ordinary problem. In this case the white king was on his own square, and all the squares on his left were unoccupied. There was apparently no solution to the problem as it stood, but there would be one if the king could be transferred to queen's bishop's square in a single move. Here the key was, "Castles on the queen's side." There was no rook to castle with, but that did not signify; you had only to imagine one. The tenth law of the B.C.A. Code lays down that "when the odds of either rook, or both rooks, are given, the player giving the odds shall be allowed to move his king as in castling, as though both rooks were on the board." It has been said that the most useful quality in chess is imagination; and the man who is fond of chess puzzles must imagine backwards as well as forwards.

AMATEUR AND HIS FRIEND.

In the following classical game "his friend" ought to have got the advantage of the "Amateur." Unfortunately, however, he was mated before he got a chance to show off his abilities:—

Danish Gambit.

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| White—(Amateur). | Black—(His friend). |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| An excellent opening; both players are rapidly developing. | |
| 2—P to Q 4 | 2—P takes P |
| 3—P to Q B 3 | 3—P takes P |
- White is playing a risky game. The masters and books are all agreed that the pawns should not be thus wasted.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 4—B to Q B 4 | 4—Kt to K B 3 |
| 5—Kt takes P | 5—Q to K 2 |

"Amateur" repents in good time his reckless ways, but "His Friend" is determined to get another pawn.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 6—Q to B 2 | 6—Kt to B 3 |
| 7—B to K Kt 5 | 7—P K R 3 |

Every experienced player knows that the Danish Gambit is unsound. It is only a matter of driving the white forces back judiciously.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 8—Kt to Q 5 | 8—Q takes P ch. |
|-------------|-----------------|

Black knew perfectly well that the attack could not last, and that he was bound to gain another pawn. White might imagine that he would gain a rook, but he overlooked that he would lose two pieces for it. The exchange of queens must paralyse White's efforts.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 9—Q takes Q ch | 9—Kt takes Q |
| 10—Kt takes P | |

Checkmate!!!

Those wretched traps! Just as you are winning the game!

JOTTINGS.

"Dangers are no more light if they once seem light, and more dangers have deceived men than forced them; and it were better to meet some dangers half-way though they come nowhere near us, than to keep too long a watch upon their approaches, for if a man watch too long it is said he will fall asleep."—Bacon.

The kind of game which, however masterly, I call radically bad in style may be simply illustrated by a game in sixty moves, in which the combatants exchange first their bishops, then their knights, and afterwards their rooks, and pass the rest of their time skulking about the board with their odd rooks in search of each other's pawns. —John Ruskin.

We hope that the suggestion for a chess match between the House of Commons and some of the Australian Legislatures will be taken up. The match with America had the most excellent effect in promoting friendly feelings between Parliament and Congress, and we should be even more pleased with a scheme which would bring the House of Commons into cordial relation with the Legislatures of our own Colonies. The telegraphic difficulties are, we believe, considerable, but Mr. Henniker Heaton has undertaken to tackle them, and if he does not persuade the authorities that they are not insuperable he is not the man we take him for. —Globe.

Some old-time Chess-players, who strolled into the Judiciary Committee-room during the recent parliamentary cable-match, where the games were reproduced, were puzzled to see that on every board the King stood where the Queen ought to stand and vice-versa. This was readily explained, however, by the statement that this had been done for many years by British players, in honour, of Queen Victoria, the piece bearing the crown now representing the Queen instead of the King, as in the days when the royal game had its origin. This has been done in England, it is said, ever since the time of Henry Staunton, a famous Chess-player, who first changed the pieces out of compliment to the then young and beautiful Queen Victoria. However, while the pieces have thus been changed, the play has not. The crowned head, representing the Queen, does not stay at home near her Castles for self-protection, but skims with rapid movements over the whole field of war, just as kings were wont to do, while the quondam Queen, now the King, trembles as of old at the constantly threatening danger of checkmate.—*Washington Post*.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNEY.

Two players have so far entered the lists, and we hope more will follow before the entries close on the 15th of August next. The exact mode of conducting the Tourney can not be definitely arranged before we know the approximate number of players that will take part. Everything will be done to facilitate rapid play. To that end arrangements have been made to have the moves and replies printed in each daily issue of the *Japan Mail*.

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.
SHIMBASHI—4.40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 19th
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 20th
From Hongkong.....	per P. M. Co.	Friday, July 24th
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Wed'day, July 28th
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 29th
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 3rd
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Aug. 4th

1 *Gaile* left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 8th.

2 *Empress of China* left Vancouver on July 19th.

3 *Feru* left Hongkong on July 19th.

The English mail is on board the steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 17th
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 17th
For Hongkong.....	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 18th
For Europe, via Shang- hai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 19th
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 20th
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 21st
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 24th
For Europe, via Hong- kong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, August 6th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. Brady, 10th July.—Otaru via ports, 6th July, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 11th July.—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, July 2nd, Mails & General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Ghaese, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 11th July.—Vladivostok via Otaru, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,813, Goodwin, 11th July.—Liverpool and Kobe 10th July, General. Butterfield and Swire.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, T. Tibbals, 11th July.—Kobe, 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 12th July.—Vancouver, B.C., 25th June, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 12th July.—Shimonoseki, 8th July, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, F. J. Brown, 12th July.—Hakodate, 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, T. Okamura, 12th July.—Yokkaichi, 11th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ernest Simons, French str., 3,370, De Mauberge, 13th July.—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 12th July, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Poole, 13th July.—Kobe, 12th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shiga Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, M. Suda, 13th July.—Otaru via ports, 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kwannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Z. Yano, 13th July.—Soya, 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,622, F. Birman, 14th July.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 8th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Cassius, German steamer, 1,830, Unruh, 14th July.—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe 13th July, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, N. P. Pollock, 14th July.—London via ports, 15th May, General.—O. & O. S.N. Co.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Makiyama, 14th July.—Kobe, 13th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 15th July.—Hongkong 6th July, Amoy 7th, Shanghai 10th, Nagasaki 12th, and Kobe 14th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, Truebridge, 16th July.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 14th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 16th July.—San Francisco 26th June, and Honolulu 3rd July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,055, P. Goings, 15th July.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 14th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 16th July.—Shanghai via ports, 10th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rattler (6), British gunboat, Lt. Com. G. A. Harding, 16th June.—Hongkong.

DEPARTURES.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,376, H. Bleeker, 10th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 10th July.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tolna, American yacht, 78, Count Festetics, 10th July.—Kobe, Ballast.—Captain and Owner.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Ferguson, 10th July.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 11th July.—Kobe, General.—Carnes & Co.

Grastes, British steamer, 2,879, A. D. Baker, 11th July.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Dutchantean, 11th July.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Day, 11th July.—Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. Brady, 12th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Senta, German steamer, 2,660, Voss, 12th July.—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 13th July.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, T. Okamura, 13th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,692, R. Nivison, R.N.R., 13th July.—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 13th July.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, T. Tibbals, 13th July.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghaese, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 14th July.—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Strathallan, British steamer, 1,489, Macondrey, 14th July.—New York via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 14th July.—Hakodate, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Kawamura, 14th July.—Hakodate, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, T. Okamura, 15th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, K. Shiina, 15th July.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, J. Higo, 15th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Poole, 16th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shiga Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, M. Suda, 16 July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Dr. H. Kempe, Messrs. H. Hanauer and servant, O. de Glandille, H. Bunge, and W. Daniels in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles via ports:—Messrs. Gogg, Morgin, Henry Jenny, Ireelsch, Marmand, Antski, Paul Autine, Hayashi, Hayet, G. N. Apar, Escobillon, Mrs. C. L. B. Richmond and 2 infants, Mr. and Mrs. H. Heib, Mrs. R. Maynard, Messrs. J. Prigent, S. Nicolas, F. Betrigs, de Malherbe, Mr. & Mrs. Young, Messrs. Reinhardt, Schawz, Rohel, and Evans in cabin.

Per British steamer *Malacca*, from London via ports:—Mr. A. F. Evans in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from Hongkong and ports:—Capt. G. C. Anderson, Mr. A. A. Souza, Mr. J. Sykes, Mrs. Dudgeon, child and maid, Mr. J. Rief, Mrs. P. St. John, Mr. A. Wirth, Mr. J. Vidal, Mr. J. O. H. Thyen, Mr. J. Byrne, Mr. M. Marshall, Miss J. J. Anderson, Mr. G. Stafford Northcote, Mrs. C. Ken, Mr. F. Bornemann, Mr. J. Buchet, Mr. H. P. Wadman, Mr. F. Gil, Mr. C. Hencho, and Mr. G. W. Middleton in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. Wong Chow in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. McVey, Mr. J. W. Snyder, Mr. H. Lihmann, Dr. J. Fryer, and Mr. H. Brewer in cabin.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, from Hongkong and ports:—Messrs. L. C. Arlington, P. McCar-

ville, A. McCarville, A. J. Correa, J. N. Hatch, J. Northey, E. B. Webster, H. Dixon, and W. C. Hixon in cabin; Mr. Carruthers, and 5 Chinese in 2nd class; 155 Chinese, and 22 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco and Honolulu:—Mr. Gustav Kaemmerling, U.S.N., Mr. E. Bowditch, and Mr. Herman A. Heydt in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Vice-Admiral Ito, Mr. Komuro, Mr. Ito, Lieut. Uchida, Lieut. K. Osawa, Mr. K. Matsuda, Rev. and Mrs. Caldwell and 3 children, Rev. and Mrs. Rowland & 2 children, Mr. & Mrs. Deguchi & child, Mrs. Wilson, son and daughter, Miss Read, Miss Parmester, Miss Brown, Mr. de Ryke, Mr. Toki, Mr. P. J. Gillings, Rev. F. B. Webb, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mr. Matsuo, Mr. W. Cross, Mr. Reinhardt, and Mr. C. R. Joy in cabin; Mrs. Fujita, Misses Tsuki, Shinta, Usui, Motokawa, Messrs. J. Neavy, W. E. Knight, J. N. Boyd, L. A. Carst, and I. P. Large in cabin; 38 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss Barrett, Miss Rogers, Professor Dr. Koch, Captain Whale, Mr. H. E. Reynell, Mr. C. N. Crosse, Dr. M. Niida, Dr. Onoduka, Mr. J. Leinfelder, and Mr. J. Logan in cabin; 1 European in steerage; 8 Chinese on deck.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Master Chope, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Cowan, Mr. Wadman, Mr. A. J. Feinick, Mr. Blum, Mr. and Mrs. F. Collins, Mr. Macgregor, Mr. So Chow Fley, Mr. Bell, Mr. Middleton, Mr. René Dubuffet, Mr. and Mrs. Grubbe, Mr. A. F. Sevrin, Mr. and Mrs. Suk King Yucy, Mr. Sung Cham Yang, Mr. E. Chosler, Mr. and Mrs. de Montfort, Mr. Kloss, Mr. Imamiya, and Mr. E. Freyvogel in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Baron H. Iwasaki, Mr. T. Inagaki, Mr. Ralph H. Foster, Mr. E. L. Mondon, and Sister Marie Auguste in cabin; Messrs. Aoki, Wakichi Takenouchi, Naosaburo Kusakabe, and Seinen Yokota in cabin; Messrs. J. Johansen, J. Mathens, 3 Chinese, and 91 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakata Maru*, for London via ports:—Capt. M. Uchida, Lieut. H. Ishibashi, Mr. K. Hirose, Mr. Y. Yegashira, Chief Eng. K. Baba, Capt. James, Mr. B. Bridger, Director of Marine Bureau Satoh, Mr. Alexander N. McConnell, Capt. N. Yoshizawa, Sub-Inspector of Machinery O. Shimajo, Chief Surgeon K. Mochizuki, Staff Paymaster K. Sakura, Mr. Y. Tano, Military Engineer K. Munata, and Mr. H. Hirakata in cabin; Messrs. J. Sekiyama, T. Mochizuki, Y. Ohta, T. Moriwaki, T. Umezawa, M. Ishiduka, T. Sudzuki, B. Erichsen, M. Bogh, J. Petterson, Theodor Ericksen, C. Honda, Kawashima, Mrs. Ellis, and Mrs. Takenouchi in second class; 12 Japanese, and 7 Europeans in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe 58 bales, and Waste Silk for Europe 26 bales.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe 130 bales; Waste Silk for Europe 81 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Owing to the *Bon* holidays little or nothing has been done. Shirts have hardened in price and look more promising for the immediate future. The demand for yarns has fizzled out, buyers having filled their requirements. Nothing doing in fancies and woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8½ yds., 38½ yds., 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9½ yds., 41 inches	2.80 to 3.35
1. Cloth—7½ yds., 24 yards, 33 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	1.95 to 2.20
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italiane and Satteens black, 33 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42½ inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.8 yds., 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.8 yds., 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4½ yds., 24½ yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5½ yds., 24½ yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENIS.		PER YARD.
Flannel.....	30 yds.	0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds., 32 inches		0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds., 32 inches		0.30 to 0.34
Medium		0.30 to 0.37
Italian Cloth, 30 yds., 32 inches		0.35 to 0.37
Common		0.25 to 0.27
Mousseline de laine—Cape, 24 yds., 31 inches		0.15 to 0.22
Cloth—Pilot, 51 to 56 inches		0.15 to 0.20
Cloth—Pilot, 51 to 56 inches		0.15 to 0.20
Cloth—Union, 51 to 56 inches		0.60 to 0.75
Hosiery—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb.		0.50 to 0.85
per lb.		0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.		PER POUND.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles		\$30.00 to 41.50
Nos. 28, 32, Singles		41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38, 42, Singles		46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 32, Doubles		46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles		51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 2, 60, Plain		61.00 to 63.00
Nos. 2, 80, Plain		75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2, 100, Plain		90.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2, 60, Gassed		72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2, 80, Gassed		80.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2, 100, Gassed		110.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.		PER POUND.
American Middling		\$24.00 to 24.50
Indian Broach		21.00
Chinese		21.50

METALS.		PER POUND.
Little doing, but rates are hardening.		
Round and square 1 inch, and upward		4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted		4.20 to 4.50
Sheet Iron		5.20 to 5.30
Galvanized iron sheets		10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted		6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box		5.70 to 5.80
Pig Iron, No. 1		2.00 to 2.15
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)		4.80 to 5.00

A fair business was doing during the earlier part of the week at former rates, which remain steady.

American	\$2.00 to 2.05
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	—

SUGAR.		PER POUND.
Brown Takao		\$3.50 to 3.70
Brown Manila		4.25 to 5.00
Brown Daitong		2.80 to 2.90
Brown Canton		3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang		6.60 to 6.70
White Refined		7.00 to 7.10

EXPORTS.		PER POUND.
RAW SILK.		
No practical change in the situation. Buyers are very scarce, holders are very firm, foreign markets do not respond to such an attitude and very little is in consequence done. Quotations still remain in abeyance, the ideas of holders and shippers being far apart.		

QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/11 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/11 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 2, 10/11 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 4, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 5, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—

WASTE SILK.	
As yet the market is not opened. Buyers are not eager and dealers have occupied themselves this week with Bon holidays.	

QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	—
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Second	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	—

At the beginning of the week a brisk business was done, which has fallen off during the last few

days owing partly to the Bon holidays. The sales in Yokohama amounted on the 9th to 127,600 catties, the 10th, 96,500, 12th 22,000, 13th, 4,700, 14th, 22,900, and 15th 38,900 catties. Very little has been shipped since the *Empress of India's* departure on the 9th. The M. M. steamer *Melbourne* took 14,000 lbs. for Europe on the 11th. Quotations are about the same.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choice	\$30 to 31
Choice	27 to 28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

A general rise of $\frac{1}{8}$ took place at the end of the week, but is probably only local and temporary, as it is not founded on any rise in silver in London.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11 1/2 to 1 1/4
— Bills on demand	1/11 1/2 to 1 1/4
— 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	248 1/2 to 9
— Private 4 months' sight	252 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/11 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	1/11 1/2
On Shanghai—Bank sight	74 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	74 1/2
On India—Bank sight	156
— Private 30 days' sight	163
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2 to 1
— Private 4 months' sight	49 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.02
— Private 4 months' sight	2.05 1/2
Bull Silver (London)	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Urr's List.]
Yokohama, July 16th.
Hongkong quotes by wire to-day:—H. & S. Bank 187 per cent. prem. sellers; Hongkong Lands \$77 sellers; China Fires \$107 sales; H. & W. Docks 243 per cent. sellers; H. & K. Wharfs \$66 50 sales; Douglasses \$66 sellers; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$35 sellers; Panjom Mines \$8 sales; Raub Mines \$26 sellers; Hongkong Fires \$360 buyers; National Banks \$24 sales; Indo-Chinas \$51 buyers; Straits Insurance \$17.50 buyers; Union Insurance \$22.50 buyers; and China Traders \$77 buyers.

Telegraphic advices of the H. & S. Bank's profits for the half year ending 30th ultimo arrived here to-day. The Directors propose, subject to audit, the payment of a dividend of 25 shillings, transfer of 5 lacs to Reserve Fund, bringing this account to \$7,000,000, and carrying forward 3 lacs to the current half-year.

National Banks have changed hands to-day at \$23. S. & H. Wharf Debentures have been sold locally to Shanghai at 115. 104 ex accrued interest to date. H. & K. Wharfs have been purchased by Hongkong from a local investor at \$66.50.

Club Hotels are now in demand at \$90. Grand Hotels remain unchanged at \$220 ex dividend. Iron Works are enquired for at \$165. Bretts are wanted at \$7.50. North & Raes have buyers at \$175. Other stocks are unchanged at last quotations.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50	185 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100	400 B.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	100 ex div. Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	85 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	140 St.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdra.)	\$100	450 S.
North and Rae, Ltd.	\$100	175 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd.	\$100	7.50 B.
Langfield & Co., Ltd.	\$100	615 Sa.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd.	\$100	180 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb.	\$100	110 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	110 B.
Yokohama United Club Deb.	\$100	100 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	104 S.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo, July 15th	
Five per Cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds	95.30
Redemption Loan Bonds	97.70
War Loan Bonds	98.30
New Public Loan Bonds	95.30
Old Public Loan Bonds	97.30
Naval Loan Bonds	97.30
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100.00
Japan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	100.00
Sanyo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	48.50
Yokohama Railway Company—paid up yen 50	88.00
Kansai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	38.40
Kobe Railway Company—paid up yen 50	170.00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	37.30
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up yen 35	35.00
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 50	86.00
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 35	55.50
Sangu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	80.00
Kawagoye Railway Company—paid up yen 50	50.00
Chikuo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	45.00
Hantan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	43.00
Boso Railway Company—paid up yen 50	44.00
Sobu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	98.00
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50	77.50
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up yen 44	50.00
Toyokawa Railway Company—paid up yen 35	39.50
Hokuyetsu Railway Company—paid up yen 33	34.50
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47.50	30.00
Selwa Railway Company—paid up yen 3	1.30
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 10.50	7.00
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 30	16.30
Kozuke Railway Company—paid up yen 50	35.00
Nano Railway Company—paid up yen 37.50	30.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	58.30
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up yen 25	45.00
Domestic Transport Company—paid up yen 40	20.00
Japan Transport Company—paid up yen 15	5.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	80.50
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25	83.50
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up yen 25	27.00
Kanagatani Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 50	37.40
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	70.00
Miyu Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	50.00
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 15	16.00
Japan Weaving Company—paid up yen 50	80.00
Tokyo Tramway Company—paid up yen 50	300.00
Japan Beer Company—paid up yen 40	70.00
Japan Cement Company—paid up yen 25	31.50
Tokai Canal Company—paid up yen 70	73.00
Fuji Paper Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 50	65.00
Sapporo Sugar Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 47	6.50
Hokkaido Hemp Mann. Co.—paid up yen 50	50.00
Japan Seaweed Company—paid up yen 25	31.50
Yokohama Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 40	50.00
Shinagawa Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 31	41.00
Tokyo Electric Light Company—paid up yen 45	51.00
Tokyo Gas Company—paid up yen 50	59.00
Doshin Kaisha—paid up yen 50	12.00
Tokyo Marine Insurance Co.—paid up yen 100	70.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	300.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	133.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 150	373.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 30	54.00
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	16.30

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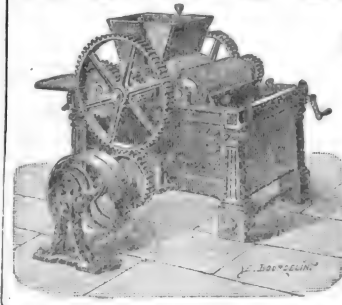
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17.

969



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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 4.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 24TH, 1897.

月三年五十二拾明 Vol. XXVIII.
可配寄信通日三十

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE VOUS DEVEZ: ADVISEZ-EN QUE VOUS POUVEZ!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 24TH, 1897.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MARQUIS ITO will remain in Paris until August and then proceed to Italy.

THE weather suddenly set in very hot on Thursday: it is the *doyo* season.

THE survivors from the wrecked P & O. steamer *Aden* have reached London.

It is reported that the Government has decided to abolish all export duties from the beginning of next year.

THE yacht racing on Saturday was very close, *Mary* only winning first prize by one minute from *Molly Bawn*.

MARQUIS SAIONJI, ex-Minister of Education, who was reported to be seriously ill in Paris, is now convalescent.

THE presentation of diplomas to the graduates of the Yokosuka Gunnery School took place on the 19th instant.

COUNT GOTO is in a very critical condition, and presents have been sent to him by the Emperor and Empress.

THE military authorities in Formosa have decided to construct a light military railway between Shingchiku and Taichu.

THE foreign trade of Japan during six months from January to June last, was as follows:—Exports, yen 75,071,484, and imports yen 99,041,224. These figures show an increase of yen 21,138,000

in exports, and yen 18,674,000 in imports, over last year's returns for the same period.

MRS. GILLET, of Yokohama, seems to have behaved with great courage on the *Aden* during the 17 terrible days that they remained upon the wreck.

Two cases of plague having occurred on board the *Toyo Maru*, she was kept at the Quarantine Station at Nagahama, Yokohama, for three weeks.

It is reported that the new trade tax regulations having given rise to much complaint, the Authorities will make a reduction of 30 per cent. in the tax.

A LIBRARY is to be established at the new Kyoto Imperial University, for which a grant of 60,000 yen per annum, for five years, is to be given by the Government.

THE presentation of diplomas to the graduates of the Kazoku Jo-Gakko (Nobles' School for Girls), Nagatacho, Kojimachi, was held on the morning of the 17th inst.

THE accounts of the military expenses defrayed during the China War were made up on the 19th inst., when it was found that they amounted to over yen 170,000,000.

A CASE of hydrophobia occurred in Yokohama a few days ago, the sufferer being a Japanese. The dog which bit the man, and which had rabies, has been killed by the police.

THE discussion of the proposed amalgamation of the Sanyo and Hantan Railway Companies, which has been under consideration for some time past, has now turned out unfavourably.

A grand lecture meeting of the Liberal Party took place at the Kinkikwan, Kanda, on the 19th inst., the audience numbering over 2,000. All the speakers attacked the present Cabinet.

A grand conference of Commandants of the Eastern, Middle, and Western Section Headquarters took place at the General Staff Office on the morning of the 17th inst. Other general officers were also present.

THE presentation of diplomas to the graduates of the Tokyo Semmon Gakko, Waseda, Tokyo, took place in the hall of the institution on the afternoon of the 20th instant, the 15th anniversary of the College being also celebrated at the same time.

On the 19th inst. a collision occurred between the steamers *Sokaku Maru* and *Arisoura Maru* near Nagahama, Kanagawa Ken. The former steamer was considerably damaged, but reached Yokohama safely without any loss of life.

It was reported that over one hundred soldiers at Mayebashi were attacked with cholera. Later information showed that the men were not suffering from cholera, but from fish poisoning, having eaten some bad fish, *namaribushi*. They all recovered in a few days.

It is stated that a company is now under formation with the object of constructing a harbour at Funakawa, the eastern port in Japan to Vladivostok, while a steamship company is also to be started, and a railway line to Funakawa is being projected. The port is certain to become a great commercial port in the future.

OWING to the heavy rains of the past week serious floods have occurred over a wide area in the central and southern parts of Japan. Many towns

and villages have been flooded, river embankments broken, railway lines damaged, and traffic stopped, telegraph lines washed down and other damage done; there has also been some loss of life.

THE conversations given by Count Okuma, Foreign Minister, at his official residence, Nagatacho, on Thursday evening was attended by the Ministers of State and many others.

THE regular general meeting of the Koku-yetsu Sekiyu Kaisha (Kerosene Company) took place on the 21st inst. The net profits during the first half-year amounted to yen 16,670, out of which yen 6,720 were appropriated for payment of a dividend at the rate of over 10 per cent. per annum.

THE Authorities have received a telegram that Mr. Mutsu Hirokichi, Second Secretary of the Japanese Legation in the United States, left Washington on the 15th instant for home on account of the critical condition of his father, Count Mutsu, ex-Foreign Minister, and that Mrs. Hoshi, wife of the Japanese Minister, will also return home with him.

THE Government received a telegram a few days ago from Mr. Kurino, Japanese Minister to France, to the effect that the revised treaty between France and Japan, which was reported to have poor prospects of passing the Senate, has been favourably reported on by the Committee of the French Senate. The French Senate was to close from the 14th of July until October next and the treaty will not be submitted to the Senate until after the recess.

In Onuma district, Fukushima Prefecture, there is a valley known as the Taki-no-Sawa (Valley of the Cataract), where, in days of old, judging from its name, there may have been a waterfall, but until recently there was none. On the afternoon of the 14th inst. the district was visited by a heavy rain and thunder-storm, causing much damage, and at the same time a spring of clear water sprang from the precipice of Mount Ohira, creating a cataract over 50 feet high. It is stated that the spring is still gushing forth in a great stream and that the valley is crowded with people from neighbouring places who have come to see the wonder.

In the phrase of the Japanese middleman, business in Yokohama has "gone up country to sleep." The spurt of a fortnight ago has died out completely, and absolutely nothing is doing. Manchester prices having risen all round, the buyers who came into the market a week or so ago and filled their books, are now making a handsome return for their foresight. Business is dull in metals, as is usual at this time of the year, only a few hundred tons being booked "to arrive." Prices are firmer in sympathy with the increased cost of lay down, and buyers do not feel inclined to come up to the figures asked. Kerosene is moving moderately, at steady rates. The market continues dull for sugar, and stocks of white refined are accumulating, Hongkong sending up the stuff a little too freely. A little disposition for business was shown by silkmen at the beginning of the week, a few orders having come from abroad, both for flatures and re-reels, so outgoing steamers will have some cargo, though the trade is far from being in full swing yet. Nothing fresh has transpired in waste silk, no business being done. Tea has been brisk, and though prices are firm in the ordinary grades, lower sorts have advanced. Both the *Belgie* and *Olympia* carried away good shipments. Exchange closes weak.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS
DURING THE WEEK.

The *Fiji Shimpō* addresses to its readers a wholesome warning against the spirit of inflated vanity that seems to have taken possession of so many Japanese in recent times. People talk largely of Japanese progress, but, after all, what is that progress? By what standard is it judged? If Japan's former condition be taken as a basis of comparison, it is undoubtedly true that she has made great advances, but if the condition of Occidental countries be considered, she is still in a very poor state. She conquered China, it is true, but the victory signified very little, for China was already tottering, and a slight push from Japan sufficed to overthrow her. Thirty-five years ago, England and France, with a handful of men, marched across China and seized the capital, and in more recent times, Admiral Courbet, with a small squadron, effectually paralysed the naval strength of the Chinese. Undoubtedly the China of 1894 was much better equipped than the China of 1861 or 1884, but the Chinese themselves had not changed: a victory over them can not be taken as any indication of special prowess on the part of the conqueror. Since then, Japan has elaborated a scheme of military and naval expansion, and many of her people are astonished at its dimensions. But what a paltry affair it will be, after all, in comparison with the armaments of Occidental Powers! Some folks point with pride to the growth of Japan's foreign trade. There has certainly been a great development. From a total of fifty or sixty million *yen*, it has grown to nearly three hundred millions. On the other hand, is such a figure worthy to be mentioned in the same breath with England's 738 millions sterling, France's 724 million francs, Germany's 794 million marks, Russia's 1,228 million roubles, and America's 1,642 million dollars? The fact is that Japan having so much ~~less~~ *to make up*, her progress is remarkable in comparison with her former backwardness, but all the while that she advances, Western countries are advancing also, and it will be time enough for her to feel some satisfaction when she gets fairly within sight of them. A similar criticism applies to the field of education. The number of public schools and private schools has increased largely, but has the intellectual condition of the people been greatly raised? Do we not still see folks believing in charms and amulets and worshipping at the shrines of imaginary deities, and do we not see that even men wearing foreign dress and professing to be leaders of progress are tainted by the same superstitions and traditions? This progress so much vaunted is in truth, only relative: it looks large because the unit of measurement is small. There is, indeed, one solid fact, namely, that since the war foreign countries have begun to pay attention to Japan and to think it worth their while to place obstacles in the path of her national development, and the Japanese have the pleasure of feeling that their condition is described by the old aphorism *gashin shōtan* (sleeping among faggots and living in dread). But there are few indications that the situation is appreciated. Scholars and leaders of thought seem content to let things take their course, and to amuse themselves composing verses, making tea, collecting objects of art, and gazing at pictures. There must be a large access of earnestness and honest appreciation if real progress is to be achieved.

The same journal discusses the present economical conditions, and arrives at the conclusion that currency is too plentiful and too easily procurable. To that cause it assigns the rapid rise of prices that has taken place during the past two years, the disturbance of the balance of trade and the other disquieting indications presented by the money market. It was natural that prices should rise after the war, and that a spirit of enterprise should impel the people to engage in various undertakings, but it is dangerous that too great facilities should be furnished by the banks, on the one hand, while,

on the other, the Government is drawing large sums from abroad and spending them for unproductive purposes. So long as prices show an upward tendency no serious complaints will be heard, but a reaction must set in sooner or later, and the great thing is to take such steps as shall prevent it from being attended by a panic. To that end the *Fiji* recommends that the Bank of Japan should raise its rate of interest so as to place an obstacle in the path of speculators who busy themselves starting new enterprises.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* writes in strong but not unfriendly terms about the singular tardiness shown by Austria-Hungary in the matter of Treaty Revision. Every Western State, with the one exception of the Dual Monarchy, may now be said to have revised its treaty on the model of Great Britain's, and the sole reason assigned for Austria-Hungary's delay is her desire to obtain an independent tariff. Such an ambition is very singular. Her import trade with Japan does not exceed twenty-five thousand *yen* annually. Twenty five thousand *yen* is not to be despised, and Japan does not yield to Austria-Hungary in a friendly desire to augment the bulk of their mutual transactions. But when it is considered that countries like Russia, Belgium, and so forth, which sell to Japan goods aggregating from 60 to 80 times the amount sold by Austria-Hungary, have not thought it necessary to ask for separate tariffs; and when it is further considered that among the few staples dealt in by Austro-Hungarians, all, with one or two exceptions, are already included in the British, French or German Tariffs, and that the exceptions have already been legislated for in the Japanese General Tariff, where they properly find a place, the unreasonable character of Austria-Hungary's demand becomes apparent. Japan's patience is sorely tried by the fact that not only is the great work of Treaty Revision impeded, but also the operation of her own laws is postponed by the strange obstinacy of Austria-Hungary. It would be a great pity were Japan driven to the unfriendly alternative of denouncing the Austro-Hungarian Treaty, and the *Yomiuri* hopes that no efforts will be spared to avert the necessity for such action.

* * *

The *Kokumin* writes in a vague but grandiose strain about the absence of any perennial elements in the policy of Japan's present statesmen. They are content to limit the range of their foresight to their own days, and deal simply with whatever presents itself for immediate management. It is alleged on their behalf that no change has come over their policy since the beginning of the *Meiji* era; that progress and enlightenment have been their unvarying watchwords. That kind of talk serves only to delude tyros. What the *Kokumin* calls a perennial policy finds its every-day counterpart in the case of a man who drafts a programme to be commenced by himself and consummated by his grandson or his great-grandson—as, for example the accumulation of a million *yen* or the acquisition of two million acres of land. There is no indication of any such programme in the State policy of Japan to-day. Compare her conduct with that of Russia, whose steady advance in Eastern Asia is the work of generation after generation, and who pursues through cycle after cycle the path mapped out by Peter the Great. The *Kokumin* gives no indication of the particular kind of perennial policy on which it would have the Japanese Government embark. With the usual exasperating vagueness of Japanese journals, it leaves the matter there.

* * *

Between January 1st 1895, and May 31st 1897, there were started in Japan joint stock companies, exclusive of banking and railway companies, the aggregate capital of which was 348,594,500 *yen*. The figure, large as it is, does not seem to surprise the public at all. People appear to regard the whole thing as a species of *Kumai sōba* (market price of imaginary rice). The total production of rice in

Japan is only some 40 million *koku*, but the quantity dealt in at the various exchanges amounts to several hundred millions of *koku*, whereas not more than a small fraction of that actually changes hands. The public looks upon the joint-stock-company performance pretty much in the same light. But that is an erroneous view. At least one-fourth of the capital of a company must be paid up before it can sell its shares in the open market. Hence the sum actually subscribed during the past two and a half years has been 87,148,625 *yen*, and if we assume that the remainder has to be paid in installments spread over ten years, it results that 26,144,587 *yen* has to be put up annually. The question is, does the people's financial strength suffice for such an effort. Industrial, commercial and agricultural companies are means of developing the national wealth, say some apologists. Undoubtedly they are. But companies started for the purely speculative purpose of dealing in shares do not belong that category. The *Nippon*, from which we quote, is of opinion that too much latitude is allowed to projectors of companies. It thinks that a stricter programme of investigation should be prescribed for the officials charged with the responsibility of granting charters, and it wants to know whether Count Okuma finds the duties of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce too heavy to discharge in conjunction with those of the Foreign Office, or whether he is growing old.

* * *

It has hitherto been the custom to call Japan an agricultural country, writes the *Shōgyō Shimpō*. But if we consider her products in the year 1895, it will be apparent that the appellation threatens to become inappropriate. Here are the figures:—

	<i>Yen</i> .
Agricultural Products	499,370,000
Industrial Products	321,270,000
Marine Products	48,040,000
Mineral products	18,830,000
Total	887,560,000

It thus appears that agricultural products constitute 56 per cent. of the whole; industrial products, 36 per cent.; marine products, 5 per cent., and mineral products, 2 per cent. On the other hand, the country's foreign commerce is rapidly developing. Until 1887, its total value remained below 100 million *yen*. In 1888, it rose for the first time to 130 millions; in 1893, it was 230 millions; in 1896, it amounted to 289 millions, and during the first half of the present year it totalled 170 millions—an increase of 39 millions as compared with the corresponding period of last year—, so that there is every reason to expect an aggregate of over 300 millions for the whole year. Nor will the growth stop at that point. The development of manufacturing industry means a corresponding development of foreign commerce, and exports will be further encouraged next year by the abolition of export duties. Thus while industry presses on agriculture, commerce in turn presses on industry, so that, before many years have passed, Japan will have to be called an industrial-commercial country, not an agricultural. In other words, she will become the England of the East. The Government should spare no effort to promote that result by removing every obstacle from the path of industry and commerce.

The Osaka *Asashi* has an article about Formosa, but it amounts to nothing more than a warning that unless greatly improved methods of administration be adopted, the world will conclude that Japan has no executive ability, nor any right to increased empire. Our contemporary advances the statement that since Japan lost Korea fifteen hundred years ago, Formosa is the first foreign territory she has been required to govern. We fancy that it would be difficult to substantiate that statement historically.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

The trial of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Tokyo Shimbun*, the *Chuo Shimbun*, and the Tokyo News Agency for publishing the marching song of which we recently gave a translation, commenced on the 15th instant in Tokyo Local Court. We may mention that, owing to a printer's error, one line of the original was omitted from our columns, though the translation was complete. The omitted line was:—

Tsuke-ya kususe-ya naikaku wo.

Assault, overthrow the Cabinet.

Judge Nakajima presided, and the Public Prosecutor briefly opened the case by reading the incriminating matter, and declaring that it violated the Press Law, being calculated to bring the Ministers of State into contempt in the discharge of their duties and to disturb public good order. The presiding Judge then questioned the defendants as follows, according to the reports appearing in the journals concerned.

Judge—It is stated in the *Tokyo Shimbun* that this matter was received from Komuro Kusan. Is that correct?

Editor of the *Tokyo Shimbun*—As a matter of fact it was received from the Tokyo News Agency, but it is not our custom to indicate the source of such matter.

Judge—What was your idea in publishing it?

Editor—I regard it as an ordinary item such as all newspapers commonly insert.

Judge—Do the epithets *muno musaku* (without brains or policy) apply to the Ministers of State.

Editor—Well, they are used in a light sense. Certainly they may be supposed to refer to the Ministers, but they are written without any special meaning.

Judge—How about the words "attack, accuse the Ministers, assault, overthrow the Cabinet?"

Editor—These too are used in a literary sense. The form of the expressions is a point of linguistic force only.

Judge—"Grasping at personal power and emolument" and so on—did you publish these words because you had reason to believe them true?

Editor—I had no special reason. I merely thought of reforming the Ministry.

Judge—Do you know what effects were likely to be produced on the authority of the Ministers by the publication of such a song? You must have understood that it would impair their reputation.

Editor—All newspapers now-a-days publish language equally strong. I had no special idea of bringing the Ministers into contempt or injuring their reputation.

Judge (to the publisher and printer of the *Tokyo Shimbun*)—Did you decide to publish this matter after examination?

Publisher.—We merely observed that it was headed "marching song." We had no particular idea about it. It often happens that we do not consult about matter for insertion.

Judge—Then do I understand you to say that you did not consult with the editor about the fact that these words are calculated to bring the Ministers of State into contempt in the discharge of their duties?

Publisher.—We did not even read the song, and of course formed no conception as to the effect it might produce.

The trial was resumed in the Tokyo Local Court on the 20th inst. The defendants were represented by Mr. Isobe and twelve other barristers. The Presiding Judge put the following questions to the editor of the *Chuo Shimbun*:—

Q.—Whence did you obtain this marching song?

A.—From the Tokyo News Agency.

Q.—What does it mean?

A.—I know nothing about its meaning.

Q.—Does the word "Ministers" refer to the members of the present Cabinet.

A.—I don't know.

Q.—What does the words "Ministers of State" mean?

A.—I don't know.

Q.—Is this matter placed before the public with the intention of injuring the discharge of their duties?

A.—I don't know.

Q.—Is it intended to be injurious to public order?

A.—I have no idea.

After some further procedure with regard

to testimony, which was of an unimportant character, the Public Prosecutor summed up for the prosecution. His argument was simple. He claimed that there could not be the slightest doubt as to the song's being intended to apply to the present Ministers of the Crown, or as to its being calculated to bring them into contempt in their official capacity. The Cabinet Ministers differed from other officials in that they were appointed direct by the Sovereign to advise and aid His Majesty in the conduct of the Administration, and to adopt measures for the promotion of the national interests and the people's prosperity. If to charge the Ministers with being incapable, and with disorderly conduct in office, was not an attempt to bring them into contempt, it was difficult to see what constituted an attempt. He then proceeded to review the circumstances that distinguished the cases of the various defendants, and to indicate the provisions of law that they had violated.

Mr. Toshimitsu, on behalf of the defendants, alleged that it was a pure conjecture to assume that the members of the present Cabinet were referred to in the expression "Ministers without brains or policy." Even supposing that the present Cabinet were referred to, the words did not exceed the limits of free speech as now fixed by law. There could no longer be any such crime as that of "bringing officials into contempt" by public criticism. As for the charge of disturbing public order, it was extravagant. Did an attack upon the Cabinet amount to a disturbance of public order?

Mr. Okazaki, also for the defence, contended that to try to bring about a change of Cabinet was an ordinary proceeding under a constitutional system of government, and had nothing to do with disturbing social order; and that the language of the song did not go beyond the legitimate realm of free speech as now granted to the Japanese press.

The other advocates argued much on the same lines. Mr. Tomitsu, the last that spoke, contending that to institute a public prosecution on grounds so slender as this paltry song was calculated not to convict the defendants of wrong-doing, but rather to demonstrate the extreme slenderness of the foundations upon which the prestige and authority of the Cabinet rested.

Judgment was reserved.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* thinks that President McKinley's suddenly adopted resolve to sign the Hawaiian annexation treaty was really due to apprehension of Japan's designs, and that the despatch of the *Naniwa Kan* to Honolulu was interpreted in the sense of a menace. Subsequently, however, being re-assured as to this country's intentions, and having learned that, under no circumstances at present conceivable, would Japan be disposed to bring her difficulties with Hawaii to the arbitrament of the sword, the President changed his mind, and ceased to be solicitous in the cause of annexation. As for the Senate Committee, it will investigate the matter with such care that its report can not possibly be presented during the present session, nor does there appear to be any likelihood that a continuing committee will be appointed. Our contemporary further thinks that the Hawaiian Government will now show itself willing to settle the immigration question in an amicable and fair spirit.

With regard to the taxing of Hawaiian sugar entering the United States, we yesterday reproduced, from the columns of the *Japan Times*, a telegram to the effect that the two Houses of Congress had decided in favour of imposing a duty on Hawaiian sugar. We now learn that the telegram actually received on that subject reads as follows:—"The Tariff Bill, as passed by the Lower House, contained a proviso against the section relating to the imposition of duty on sugar, the proviso being in the sense that Hawaiian sugar should be free of duty on account of the existence of the Reciprocity Treaty. This proviso the Finance Committee of the Senate struck out, with a recommendation that the Executive should make such arrangements with Hawaii as would enable them to impose a duty on Hawaiian sugar. But the Annexation Treaty having been signed, the Committee restored the proviso, and thus the result now is that Hawaiian sugar can be imported into the United States free of duty, and will continue to be importable duty-free, so long at least as the Annexation Treaty remains in the Senate without any steps being taken upon it."

It is stated in the *Kokumin Shimbun* that Mr. Ito Kozayemon, a business man of Muroyama, in Miye Prefecture, has devised a means of employing steam power in the manufacture of soy, and that he will presently apply for a patent. If the news be correct, Mr. Ito should have a golden future before him.

Here is an article which we translate from the *Tokyo Asahi*, and which will probably prove interesting to some of our readers:—"The cardinal points of foreign policy at present are the encouragement of direct trade in exports and imports, and of emigration. In other words, the objects to be attained are first, the wresting of our country's foreign trade from the hands of the foreign middlemen in the Settlements, and its transfer to Japanese who shall go abroad to conduct it; and secondly, the emigration of Japanese to countries beyond the seas, so that the strength of the empire may be developed and the people's interests furthered. Upon these objects the attention of the nation is now concentrated. The quantity and value of the exports and imports passing direct through the hands of Japanese merchants are gradually becoming larger in proportion to the bulk of the trade, and, moreover the number of Japanese that apply to the Foreign Office for passports to travel abroad is yearly increasing. Here are figures:—

Number of passports granted in	1894...	16,726
" " " "	1895...	22,411
" " " "	1896...	27,585

Further analysis shows that among those going abroad in 1896, 811 went on public business; 211 went to Europe and America, 29 to Korea, 26 to China 17 to England and 84 to various other countries, for purposes of study, at public or private charge. Korea attracted the largest number of business men, namely 1,414; China came next, with 434; then followed the United States with 360; Russia with 327; Hawaii with 225; and other countries with smaller figures, the grand total of mercantile men being 3,124. In connexion with agriculture and fishing 2,323 went to Russia; 828 to Korea; and others elsewhere, making a total of 3,295. Labourers aggregated 17,689; of whom

9,206 went to Hawaii; 4,121 to Russia; 1,066 to the United States; 630 to Korea; 865 to Canada; 778 to Australia; and 211 to China."

Concerning Japanese and foreign swords, a writer in the *Hochi Shimbun* has this to say:—"Among the accomplishments of the Japanese *Samurai*, fencing had made most progress, and the skill developed by the Japanese swordsmith was such that a blade forged by him was far superior to any foreign weapon. For example, the slight curve given to the edge was to obviate the danger of the sword's turning at the moment of delivering a cut, in which case a blow with the flat resulted. The massing of material in the back was to give momentum sufficient to cut through a foeman's bones, and the rounding off of the dorsal edges was to facilitate withdrawal from a wound. Further, the fact that the possession of a Japanese sword increases the courage of troops was proved in the war with China. An opinion has been advanced, therefore, that cavalry should be armed with Japanese blades. On the other hand, it is contended that, fine as are the cutting capacities of a Japanese sword, its weight renders it inconvenient for wielding with one hand, and to arm a trooper with it would be to incapacitate him for long action. The swords now in use have been proved to work well in practice. There have been a few cases of fracture at the hilt, but they were attributable to unskillful use rather than to defects in the weapon, which has been known to cleave a skull without the edge's turning. So the question is not settled." We can not, for our own part, see why the objection raised on the score of weight should have validity. The weight could be altered by the forger at will.

A telegram received in Tokyo on Saturday morning announces that the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate has reported favourably on the Hawaiian Annexation Treaty, but adds that the Senate is not likely to take any action this session. Hitherto it has been very confidently predicted that the Senate Committee would not make any report during the present session, and that prophecy having now been falsified by events, it is possible that the anticipated inaction of the Senate may be similarly contradicted. However, the composition of the Senate renders it improbable that any very strong inclination to endorse the Treaty will manifest itself. There is no legal limit of time in such matters. They are determined simply by the courtesy of debate.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* has a detailed account of the negotiations between the Japanese Representatives in Honolulu and the Hawaiian Government. If our contemporary be well informed—and the very circumstantial nature of its statements leads us to think that its intelligence is derived from official sources—, Mr. Shimamura experienced great difficulty in arriving at an understanding. Not only did the Hawaiian Authorities endeavour to evade the points raised by him, but when at length they sent, on June 25th, what professed to be an exhaustive reply, it appears that, although not definitely reflecting the whole of Japan's claims, they had shifted their ground so as to render a clear understanding more difficult than

ever. Thus, whereas at first they had not raised any question about the *bona-fide* possession of the money carried by the immigrants—which was generally understood to be the real grounds for refusing to permit their landing—but had confined themselves to asserting that, while seeking entrance as free labourers, the men were, in fact, contract labourers, and had failed to comply with the forms prescribed for persons coming in that character, they turned round at the end, and abandoning the latter contention, adopted the former, namely, that the money had not been the *bona-fide* property of the immigrants. Persuaded that no hope of arriving at a satisfactory settlement could be entertained in the presence of such shiftiness, Mr. Shimamura waited on the Minister for Finance and intimated that nothing now remained except to ask the Japanese Government to formulate its ultimatum. Before doing so, however, he considered it due to the friendly relations hitherto existing that he should let the Minister know what he contemplated. Mr. Smith at once recognised the gravity of the situation, and asked Mr. Shimamura to defer making any such communication to the Tokyo Cabinet until he had seen President Dole. Accordingly, on the following day (June 27th), the Japanese Representative met President Dole. He found the Chief Magistrate of the island republic in much the same mood as the Finance Minister had been. After some conversation, the President spoke of appealing to the arbitration of some other independent country. Mr. Shimamura replied that the points at issue were really too plain to call for any reference to a third party. He could not say, therefore, whether or no his Government would consent to arbitration, but if Hawaii desired to take that course, he begged to have an official communication made to him on the subject, and he undertook, on his part, to forward it with a covering despatch of his own describing the state of affairs in Hawaii. The following day, a despatch came from the Minister of Foreign Affairs suggesting arbitration, and adding that if the proposal was accepted, it would be desirable to have recourse to the good offices of some country near at hand, so as to avoid unnecessary expense in submitting the case.

As to the attitude of the Japanese Government, our contemporary thinks that its wish from the outset having been to settle the matter amicably, it will accept Hawaii's proposal and submit the dispute to arbitration. With regard to the method of arbitration, a tribunal consisting of publicists sent by each of the disputants and presided over by the sovereign or chief magistrate of some independent and entirely neutral state, might be appointed, to sit in the capital where the president resides. That, however, would be a decidedly costly process and Hawaii would consequently be embarrassed by it. The other course is that each party should forward a written statement of its case to the arbitrator, and entrust the matter to his sole judgment. That will probably be the plan selected. Concerning the choice of an arbitrator, it is evident that the United States, England, France and Germany have interests which render them unsuitable. The *Mainichi* further thinks that Hawaii would object to Spain, Portugal, or Austria-Hungary, and that the choice is thus narrowed to Switzerland or

Norway and Sweden. Japan's disposition will be to select the latter.

It has been anticipated from the first that if Hawaii could not see her way to conceding what Japan asked, the trouble would end in arbitration, but the public will nevertheless see reason to congratulate both parties on selecting the only civilized exit from an international difference that involves a mere question of compensation. It must be conceded, too, we think, that Japan has shown commendable moderation in the matter. She has been blamed for sending a man-of-war to Honolulu, but unless we are greatly misinformed, the *Naniwa* was despatched, not at all for the purpose of making an armed demonstration, but simply to secure the peaceful and orderly behaviour of Japanese subjects in Hawaii. Had excitement broken out, and had anything like a riot occurred the Japanese Government would have been justly and severely criticised for not making provision to impose restraints which lie virtually beyond the ability of the Hawaiian Administration. This is the first instance of a serious complication between Japan and a non-Asiatic power, and its ending is fortunate. As to the verdict of the arbitrator, not much doubt can be entertained.

Vernacular newspapers say that the association formed to bring about Baron Iwasaki's resignation of the presidency of the Bank of Japan, have decided to call themselves the *Jitsugyo Kiasai Domei-Kai*, or union for promoting business interests. Their plan of procedure is to address to the Baron written communications, urging him to give up the position; and indeed, they have already sent one such letter over the signature of "the patriots of No. 1 Ward, Horiye-cho, Nihon-bashi." There is an air of mystery about the whole affair. The public are kept carefully in the dark as to the nature of the errors or mismanagement on Baron Iwasaki's part that have led these patriots to combine against him. So far as we can see at present, the incident is another example of that curiously meddlesome propensity that seems to suggest a decided lack of moral balance among certain classes of Japanese.

It is a curious and noteworthy fact that Mr. Mizuno, an official concerning whom foreigners in Formosa have had nothing but good to say, should be precisely the official now singled out for something like disgrace. We have often heard Mr. Mizuno spoken of as a thoroughly competent and upright administrator, who, unfortunately, was not able to carry out his own efficient and wise methods owing to the obstructive influences of the military authorities. Possibly the verdict was incorrect, but it has certainly been unanimous, so far as foreign critics are concerned. People were not surprised, therefore, to learn that Mr. Mizuno was to be promoted to the post of Vice-Minister in the Department of Colonization. Some mysterious obstacle prevented that consummation, and now the vernacular press talks calmly of his dismissal. The affair is perplexing.

The inquisition into the conduct of officials in Formosa is proceeding vigorously. In vernacular newspapers we read that the police of Taipei visited and searched the residences of no less than eleven officials and several private persons, on the 7th instant, with the result that three

officials were arrested and lodged in prison, as well as the chief partner in a business firm. Formosa is evidently destined to cause much humiliation to Japan, but the Government acts wisely in not burking the ugly facts. Resolute and uncompromising investigation and punishment may create a temporary scandal, but will ultimately prove beneficial to the country's reputation.

A brief allusion is made by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* to a question that has been causing much controversy and perplexity during the past two years, the question of foreign ownership of land in Formosa. Not only are several foreigners in possession of land in the neighbourhood of Twatutia which they obtained in their own name from the Chinese before the cession of the island, but there are also others who appear as normal owners of lands which have been transferred to them by natives so as to avoid complications with the Japanese Administration. The laws of Japan do not sanction ownership of land by aliens, and an attempt was accordingly made at the outset to place the matter on a publicly recognisable footing. But many difficulties presented themselves, and now, after more than two years delay, a settlement does not appear to be nearer than it was before.

It is observed by Japanese newspapers that America will probably feel some diffidence about approaching Japan on the subject of seal and sea-otter preservation in the northern seas. England, the United States, Russia, and Japan are all interested in the question, their hunting grounds being contiguous. But English experts and American experts seem unable to reconcile their views as to the form that protection ought to take, and if Mr. Sherman's message to Her Majesty's Government, conveyed through Colonel Hay, be correctly reported by Reuter, the Cabinets in Washington and London are again at loggerheads. At all events, Japan has to be consulted, and in view of recent events some Tokyo journals think that she may not show any strong inclination to entertain proposals coming from the McKinley Government. We should be surprised if such forecasts were warranted by events. Japan is concerned in the preservation of seals and seal-otters, and the discussion of measures to that end ought to be quite independent of irrelevant matters like the Dingley Tariff or the annexation of Hawaii.

A telegram from Formosa, dated the 17th instant, at Taiwan, says that, on that day, Mr. Mizuno, Chief of the Civil Government Bureau; Mr. Yamaguchi, Chief of the Finance Bureau; and Mr. Doi, Chief of the Bureau of Communications, sent in their resignations. The telegram adds that others are likely to follow. Tokyo journals, commenting on this event, note the remarkable fact that such a step should have been taken by the leading civil officials of the island during the absence of the Governor-General in Tokyo, and unanimously conclude that Mr. Mizuno and his colleagues must have made up their minds to resign immediately on receipt of the news that the intention of appointing Mr. Mizuno to be Vice-Minister of Communications had been abandoned. It will be remembered that the contemplated change was openly announced, and that the name of Mr. Mizuno's successor, Mr. Okuda, was also

published. But on the arrival of Governor-General Nogi in Tokyo the programme was changed, and the Government then decided to leave Mr. Mizuno in Formosa and to give the post at the Colonization Department to Mr. Okuda. Our Tokyo contemporaries think that Mr. Okuda's appointment was announced in Formosa on the 16th, and that it gave the signal for the resignations above announced. But we prefer to think that some other explanation will be forthcoming. It can make very little difference to Governor-General Nogi whether Mr. Okuda or any one else holds the position of Vice-Minister at the Department in Tokyo, but it must make a great difference whether a man of proved capacity presides at the *Minsei-Kyoku* in Formosa. If the Governor-General has objected to Mr. Mizuno's removal from the island on the ground that he can not be spared, Mr. Mizuno ought to stay there, it seems to us. His resignation under such circumstances would savour of unworthy pique. But it may be that his rejection for the Tokyo post would have precluded his removal from the *Minsei-Kyoku* also, in which case his resignation assumes a different complexion.

The innumerable allusions made by vernacular newspapers to next year's budget, continue to be as conflicting as ever. According to the latest story, published by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, a section of the Cabinet, headed by Viscount Nomura, are now distinctly in favour of increasing the taxes, their principal contention being that, whereas the prices of all commodities have risen largely, with a corresponding increase of administrative expenses, no addition has been made to the revenue of the State. Their proposal now is to raise the *Saké* Tax to 10 *yen* per *koku* and the Land Tax from 2½ to 3 per cent. These changes would give an additional revenue of 20 million *yen* approximately. On the other hand, it is feared that, as the general elections take place next year, there would be much difficulty in inducing the House of Representatives to vote increased taxes. Something will have to be done, however, for although the Finance Minister may insist on large reductions being made in their estimates by the various Departments, he will have to provide for some augmentation of expenditure, whereas, on the other hand, the new sources of revenue devised in 1895 are not likely to prove as prolific as was anticipated. The Business Tax is understood to be showing more or less unsatisfactory results, and it is still difficult to predict how the tobacco monopoly will turn out. The *Saké* Tax and the Registration Tax, indeed, are giving unexpectedly good yields, but against their extra productiveness has to be set the fact that, owing to floods and storms, the return from the Land Tax will probably be below the average. A "situation" has to be faced, therefore, and there is nothing to be gained by shrinking from it.

Does it not appear to our readers that there is a strong tendency among amateur financiers in Japan to create an impression that the people are crying out before they are hurt? Here is a nation contributing a pittance of only six shillings per head for the support of the State, and yet the question of paying another shilling—for that is what an additional revenue of twenty million *yen* means—provokes discussion of the most portentous character.

It may be urged, indeed, that the case is capable of being stated differently: that instead of talking of an additional shilling we should speak of an increase of sixteen per cent. But per-centages are fallacious guides in such matters. The point is that Japan wants to enter the society of nations, and that it her wish is to be gratified, she must live up to her new position.

The agitation recently started in the Riukiu islands and the petition drawn up for presentation to the Tokyo Government, were interpreted, as our readers know, in the sense of a movement towards the recovery of the little archipelago's independence. But we now read in the *Jiji Shimpō* that no such idea is entertained. What the petitioners desire is chiefly that the former King, Sho, and his descendants should be appointed hereditary Prefects, and that, having regard to the geographical position of the islands, and the great divergence of their manners and customs from those of Japan proper, a correspondingly different form of administration should be organized. The people of Riukiu are said to entertain a traditional aversion to Satsuma officials. In former times the islands were an appanage of the Satsuma fief, and the southern *samurai* proved themselves very stern taskmasters; whereas at the hands of the Chinese the Riukiuan received always most considerate treatment. The result was that, regarding Satsuma men as fair types of the Japanese nation in general, they privately entertained a conviction that they would be happier under Chinese rule. After the Restoration, however, they found the *Meiji* officials much more endurable, and the majority of them are now tolerably reconciled to Japanese administration. But there is still a strong conservative party, and by its leaders the present agitation has been fomented.

We observe that the fifth number of the *Jitsū-Yei-Zasshi*, Japanese-English Magazine, a monthly periodical, has been published with considerable improvements. The editor, Mr. Kondo, is principal of the Yokohama English School. He has evidently found that his magazine is useful for English students of Japanese as well as for Japanese students of English—a fact about which there never should have been any doubt, in our opinion—and to increase its usefulness, he has added special columns of Japanese conversations with English equivalents. There is also an interesting collection of Japanese proverbs with excellently chosen English representatives. These are published by permission of Mr. Okoshi, Superintendent of Customs in Yokohama. We notice, by the way, that *mi kara deta sabi* is rendered "who spits against the wind, spits in his own face," which seems to be a doubtful translation. The editor promises that in the next issue of the magazine the part intended for foreign students of Japanese will be extended, in which event he ought to secure a good many subscribers, for the little volume costs only ten *sen*, and is excellent value for the money. The proceeds of the book's sale are to be devoted to paying for the school buildings, which have now to be purchased.

Our readers are aware that the final accounts of the war expenditures have not yet been published. It has hitherto been understood that the outlays would aggregate something like 130 million *yen*, but nothing precise was known. We

now read in several of the vernacular journals that the statement of figures relating to the military expenditures alone was submitted to the Board of Audit on the 19th instant, and that the total is 170 million yen. The figures for the amount actually sanctioned are these:—

Amount for the disbursal of which sanction has already been obtained	164,248,864 693
Details—	
Expenses of Headquarters and Field Divisions	84,662,067 234
War Department and Detached Offices	109,586,797 459
Total	164,248,864 693

The difference (5,751,135 307 yen) between this total and 170 millions, seems to represent an unexpected increment.

Through an oversight we have hitherto failed to publish the names of the Viscounts recently elected by their Order to sit in the House of Peers. The names and votes are as follow:—

	VOTES.
* Tani Tateki	87
* Soga Sukenori	287
* Tachibana Taneyasu	285
* Nagaoka Moriyoishi	280
* Naito Masatomo	278
* Kuroda Kiyotsuna	276
* Nabeshima Naoyoshi	276
* Hirohashi Aomasa	266
* Kuze Michibumi	268
* Sengoku Masakata	265
* Funahashi Naotkata	263
* Umenokoji Sadayuki	251
* Ito Sukenari	240
* Yui Kinmotsu	236
* Takenouchi Koretada	231
* Okabe Nagamoto	230
* Hase Nobunatsu	220
* Hotta Masayasu	219
* Yamaguchi Hiroyoshi	219
* Kyogoku Takanori	217
* Hayashi Tomoyuki	215
* Yamanouchi Toyoshige	210
* Sagara Yorisugu	209
* Ogawara Hisanaga	209
* Itakura Katsumichi	208
* Matsudaira Naotkata	208
* Anyama Yukioyoshi	204
* Hisamatsu Sadahiro	204
* Irie Tamemori	204
* Uchida Masaakira	203
* Okubo Tadatoshi	203
* Yamamoto Kanebumi	203
* Toda Tadayoshi	202
* Honsho Hisanari	202
* Nabeshima Naotora	202
* Mishima Yadaru	199
* Ii Naoyasu	197
* Hiramatsu Tokiatu	192
* Matsudaira Yasutami	192
* Shishido Naonobu	190
* Fukuhara Nobutora	189
* Tsutsumi Iwanaga	189
* Hiotsuyanagi Sukeyori	187
* Takano Muneyoshi	186
* Yamamoto Saemochi	185
* Hosokawa Okitsura	183
* Chigusa Atsuyone	179
* Matsudaira Sadanori	179
* Nabeshima Naotora	179
* Inazuki Motoyoshi	177
* Inouye Masaru	177
* Oniya Motosuye	176
* Okuchi Masatada	175
* Kurushima Mochihiko	175
* Niwa Nagayasu	175
* Tsurii Tadabumi	174
* Kuroda Yoriyuki	174
* Nomiya Sadayoshi	174
* Kyogoku Takanori	174
* Nishigori Yukihisa	173
* Takagi Masayoshi	172
* Fujii Yukimichi	171
* Matsudaira Naohira	170
* Makino Tadatsu	170
* Nagai Naotoshi	168
* Matsudaira Tadayuki	167
* Aoki Nobumitsu	166
* Kyogoku Takatsugu	164
* Akita Akisuye	163
* Matsudaira Noritugu	157

Those marked with an asterisk are re-elected. Grouped according to political parties, the results are, *Shoyu-kai*, 44;

Neutrals, 23; Strong Party, 3. The *Shoyu-kai* are supposed to be adherents of the Ito Cabinet, but they will probably support the present Ministry.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* writes in a sensible and liberal strain on the subject of the Hawaiian arbitration. There has been talk, it says, of asking the King of Norway and Sweden to arbitrate, but Hawaii is understood to be desirous of appealing to the good offices of the United States. To that some folks reply that America can scarcely be expected to bring an unbiassed judgment to the consideration of the problem, but the *Mainichi* has no sympathy with any such apprehension. Under any circumstances, it declares, the Government of the United States might be expected to pronounce a fair decision, and under existing circumstances if there were any bias at all, it would probably be in Japan's favour. The question is, however, would the United States Government be willing to undertake the task. We (*Japan Mail*) think it most unlikely.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that a German, a Chinese, and a Russian teacher have been engaged for the new School of Foreign Languages, which is to open from September. Baron Hayashi has telegraphed from St. Petersburg that the Russian will set out for Japan in a few days.

An item of intelligence from Formosa, published by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, is to the effect that, on the 16th instant, a party of insurgents, numbering over sixty, attacked the police barracks in Tamsui and that a detachment of troops from the Tamsui garrison, with three half-companies from Taisui, put the rebels to flight. When shall we cease to hear of such disturbances?

Commenting on the new periodical *Gaikoku Gogaku Zasshi*, we remark in another column that it ought to find a purchaser in every student of any of the languages to which its pages are devoted. We have since learnt that the whole of the first issue, 7,000 copies, was sold off at once, and that a second edition is being printed. That is a satisfactory result, and we can not but share the pleasure that the publishers must feel, for if enterprise ever deserved a reward, theirs does. A correspondent who has excellent means of informing himself about the intention of the compilers, says:—"The magazine aims at teaching practical English, and is not intended to be a text-book of either grammar or rhetoric. In the section devoted to correspondence, for example, the usual method of teaching the letter-writer style is abandoned, and letters that have actually passed through the post are reproduced. The standard of English scholarship in Japan, and the means of encouraging the study of the language, are such that a work like the *Gaikoku Gogaku Zasshi* is in great demand. The magazine has for its supporters and contributors all the talent that can be found among Japanese scholars of English. It is designed expressly and solely for Japanese students, and as its programme has been framed by men that have been engaged for many years in the work of teaching English, they probably know what the Japanese student wants."

There appears to be an element of uncertainty in the telegram sent by Mr.

Kurino on the subject of the Franco-Japanese Revised Treaty. The words attributed to him by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* are:—"The Senate Committee has reported to the Senate that the Franco-Japanese Revised Treaty is conducive to our (*ware*) interests, but in view of the imminent termination of the session, the Treaty will not be brought up now for discussion. It will probably be submitted in the ordinary session next autumn." What "our interests" means exactly is a question, but the impression is that the Committee has reported favourably, and that the passing of the Treaty next session is pretty certain.

Baron Iwasaki, President of the Bank of Japan, has the honour and very doubtful pleasure of being elevated to a prominent place in the world of politics by Opposition organs. The *Chuo Shimbun* attributes to him a declaration that Count Matsukata is evidently incompetent to control the Cabinet and that the only course now open is for the Count to confine himself to the portfolio of Finance, with Marquis Ito for Minister President. Everybody would be pleased to see a powerful coalition Cabinet, including Marquis Ito, Count Okuma and Count Matsukata, but as for the *Chuo's* story, it looks to us as though it were made out of whole cloth. Sometimes the paragraphs published by Japanese journals suggest the impression that they have been constructed wholly out of the imagination of an enterprising news monger, whose plan is simply to put his own ideas into the mouth of any one occurring to him on the spur of the moment.

MR. HOSHI ON THE U. S. TARIFF.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce lately sent a telegram to Mr. Hoshi, Japanese Minister to the United States, requesting him to use his influence to persuade the Senate to reject that part of the revised import tariff dealing with Japanese goods. The Minister, according to the *Shogyo Shimpō*, is said to have replied as follows:—

"I beg to acknowledge receipt of a telegram in which you request me to oppose the new customs tariff to the utmost, in view of its being detrimental to Japan's trade with America. An increased tariff was affirmed almost simultaneously with the victory of the Republicans at the election of the new President in November last. Conferences have frequently been held by the Republican Party since that time with regard to the tariff question, and I have from the outset requested the authorities not to levy heavy taxes upon imports from Japan. Moreover, after Congress met in special session, I openly approached the United States Government upon the subject and presented a memorial to both Houses pointing out the gross injustice that the revised tariff would inflict on Japan; also intimating that should the tariff be enacted, not only would it injuriously influence Japan's commerce with America but it would also bring about lamentable consequences in the friendly relations of the two countries. In short, I did all in my power towards effecting the curtailment of the tariff. The Finance Committee of the Senate has not only cut down certain figures in the Import Tariff, but also seems, so far as the actual circumstances are concerned, to have resolved upon the entire rescission of the increased duties upon tea. There is also a prospect of the 25 per cent. *ad valorem* duty upon fancy matting being decreased. The only difficulty that now lies before us is the reduction of the taxes on silk textiles, it being found that there is no alternative but to maintain the rates advanced by the Senate. Nevertheless, I will still exert my energies to the fullest extent of my power."

The R. F. Syngé, of the Foreign Office, and Captain Beaumont, R.N., A.D.C., were attached to the suite of Prince Arisugawa during his stay in London. Major Cavendish was attached to the Korean Ambassador.

THE "JIYU-TO'S" DEMONSTRATION.

The mass meeting and procession of the *Jiyu-to* (Liberal Party) took place on Sunday as arranged. From early morning hundreds of members poured in from the rural districts, many coming from places as far away as Nagoya and Utsunomiya. These farmers and country *soshi* presented a queer sight as all were clad in straw rain-coats and wore huge hats, in contrast to the foreign-style hats and garments worn by the towns-folk. The Party's headquarters in Shiba Park was the rendezvous and for many hours this place was crowded with throngs of people, notwithstanding the threatening aspect of the weather. All the members of the Party were decorated with pink favours, while the general public who cared to take part in the proceedings received yellow rosettes. Several political speeches were delivered, among them one by Count Itagaki, while telegrams of congratulation, received from all parts of the country, were read amid enthusiastic shouts of "Banzai." At a little past noon a procession was formed, under the guidance of Mr. Terasaki, Chief Manager, which, headed by a band, made its way towards Ueno Park. The police forbade the unfurling of any political banners, —bearing expressions and sentiments of the most liberal order—and the singing of the Marching Song was also interdicted, but plenty of noise was made otherwise in the frequent shouting of "Banzai." The procession passed into Ueno Park under a triumphal arch of red. A display of fencing, in which Mr. Imai, of Niigata Ken, took a prominent part, helped to while away the afternoon, the meeting dispersing about 4 o'clock. Refreshments were provided for all upon the grounds out of the Party's treasury.

At the demonstration of the Young Liberals held in Ueno on the 18th, the following declaration and resolutions were passed:—

DECLARATION.

Of what generation is to-day? The national finances are completely disorganised, our foreign diplomacy is humiliated, and the internal administration of our land is corrupt. Ah! in what part of the Empire lies this territory? Do not the eight provinces of Kwantō occupy the most conspicuous position among the noted places of Japan? A man standing on a high peak seeks to enjoy a distant view; whoever descends into the abyss feels himself surrounded by tombs. A catacomb surely produces sorrow, while the appearance of a sacred shrine inspires feelings of veneration. The soul, quiescent as it appears, can hardly avoid being influenced by local characteristics. No part of our country is lacking in public-spirited men ready to rise and give vent to their opinions with regard to the common welfare of the State. With tears they sometimes appeal to the sword, or their unconquerable spirit sometimes makes them so fearless that they tread upon fire and water without shrinking from the ordeal. Yet these actions are nothing but the outcome of sentiments aroused by the sad condition of affairs in their country. We, the members of the Liberal Party, do hereby declare before the public on this 18th day of the 7th month of the 30th year of Meiji, that unless Count Matsukata be . . . and unless the facts be notified throughout the country in regard to his financial mismanagement, the responsibility cannot be made clear; that unless Count Okuma is . . . and the facts notified throughout the Empire in respect to the diplomatic humiliation of Japan, the national prestige can never be restored; nor can the corruption of internal administration in any way be cured on the source of abuses extirpated without . . . Viscount Takashima. [The spaces left blank are to be filled in with characters meaning political action in a constitutional sense, and appealing to the bar of public opinion.]

RESOLUTIONS.

We, the allied members of the Liberal Party, recognising that the proceedings of the present Cabinet are utterly incompatible with the Spirit of the Constitution, prejudicial to the national prestige, and productive of financial disorganization, have made a vow to bring about its dissolution.

1. In order to carry out the resolve of the Party, a special committee shall be appointed.

2. This Committee shall be composed of men of like spirit, and consist of not more than five persons from each prefecture or town in Kwantō, who will thereafter reside in Tokyo.

3. The Party shall endeavour to attain its ends by co-operation with men of similar ideas throughout the country.

Immediately after these declarations had been carried, the following motion was introduced amidst applause:—

"In order to give serious warning to the three Ministers of State—Counts Matsukata and Okuma and Viscount Takashima—constituting the leading party in the present Cabinet, who are bringing ruin on the country—the Liberals' Club proposes to present to the said Ministers three public documents."

The Yuichikwan (Liberals Club) then made public announcement of its sentiments. It recognises in matters involving contempt or humiliation the truth of the principles underlying acts of vengeance, viz., violence against violence, unconstitutional acts against unconstitutional acts, blood for blood.

At the close of the conference Count Itagaki, rose and remarked:—This meeting has come together with my hearty approval. It has been organized by Young Liberals of the Kwantō and is the result of a combination effected between public-spirited men of eminent loyalty and public-spirited men imbued with a sense of true patriotism. What is the actual condition of society at the present moment? Our marching song had been interdicted and freedom of speech is entirely lost sight of. Our members have been forbidden to march in companies, and freedom of public meeting is thereby crippled. The people of the electoral districts have parted with their franchise for a consideration; while members of Parliament have placed their fidelity at the bidding of a purchaser. Are not liberty and popular rights in Japan literally dead? Is not the constitutional form of Government as now carried on a mere farce? The nation's finances are utterly disorganised, and under the control of a few millionaires. True, practical industry is in a morbid condition. Such abuses will continue unremedied so long as ignoble apostates in the political field are suffered to proceed without censure. In all these things we see nothing but the utter lack of energy now shown by the people. The spirit of probity has been swept from the land, and public morality has completely disappeared. There is no gainsaying the perfect decay of society at large. Men on the point of death require a stimulant. So does society. It is the legitimate duty of all patriotic and public-spirited men to administer such needful medicine. This function more particularly devolves upon striplings who possess pure ideals. By speaking of striplings, I do not mean young persons only, but every one, even men gray with age, who are yet full of energy and spirit. I hope all of you are willing to be considered youths in that sense. Look at the present condition of our country? The revision of the treaties is not yet completed; friendly relations with the treaty Powers are not fully cultivated, and the country, having aroused the jealousy of other nations by its victory over China, is now considerably embarrassed. To attempt to escape from such a situation is honourable, but to be content to remain in it displays the horrible stage of degradation into which we have descended. Victory over competition alone leads to independence. The inhabitants of the State ought to be, one and all, young men, and ought to cultivate the spirit and energy of youth. This meeting has set an example to the whole country, and it prescribes the stimulant that society now so urgently needs. I congratulate you with all my heart. Be ardent all of you.

If Count Itagaki wants youth, he certainly has it. His own speech is intelligible enough so far as mere language is concerned, but we lay it down with a sense of vacuity. What is the matter? What has gone wrong? What is the situation to be saved? "The nation's finances are utterly disorganised, and under the control of a few millionaires. . . . The revision of the Treaties is not completed"—these appear to be the only specific charges preferred by the Count. They seem to us to be empty accusa-

tions. The finances are not disorganised, and the revision of the Treaties is practically achieved. The Liberal leader talks vaguely about "the spirit of probity having been swept from the land" and about "members of parliament having placed their fidelity at the bidding of a purchaser." Perhaps he could not afford to be more explicit. At any rate we are disposed to think that the real source of his dissatisfaction is embodied in those plaintive phrases. After nearly twenty years of toil, this noble old man, against whose perfect integrity and singleness of purpose no whisper of suspicion has ever been raised, sees his Party paralysed by dishonesty. Such, at all events, is his obvious conviction. He believes that the disintegration of the Liberals in the House of Representatives last session was accomplished by the strength of gold, and he turns as a forlorn hope to the rising generation since the risen has proved base under the test. He ought to know what he is talking about. But he ought also to know that the corrupt are blameworthy as well as the corrupters. Does he shrink from proclaiming the fact? Do the Young Liberals shrink from proclaiming it? Young in truth they are. The embroidery of their Declaration is extremely verdant. But they make one thing plain, namely, that in their opinion Viscount Takashima is the exploiter of parliamentary venality. If it be true that a nation has the rulers it deserves, and a community the journals it merits, it must also be true that constituencies have representatives worthy of them. There will be a general election next year, and it is to be hoped that Count Itagaki and the Liberal leaders have put a black mark against the names of the men that sold themselves, if in truth there were any such.

THE SECOND HIGHER SCHOOL.

The graduation ceremony of the Sendai Second Higher School was held on the 10th inst. The number of graduates was unusually large compared with previous years. The total number of graduates in that section of the school which prepares students for the University, during the six years of its existence on its present basis is 269. Of these no less than 103 graduated on Saturday last. This fact speaks well for the reputation of the school throughout the country. From year to year the number of students in attendance has increased and the Director stated on the 10th that a still further increase was anticipated in September next, when the new academical year begins. With a view of meeting the increasing applications for entrance, the sum of \$10,000 is to be spent in building new class rooms and providing other accommodation. The address delivered by the new Director on Saturday was decidedly hopeful in tone and showed a determination to keep the school up to the requirements of the age. The student chosen to represent the graduates and to read the usual reply to the Director's address was Mr. Sagara Tsumato, who graduated at the head of the Law Class. The School reopens on September 11th.

DEPARTURE OF MR. DUN.

Mr. E. Dun, ex-Minister of the United States in Japan, left Tokyo by the 9.45 train on the morning of the 17th instant. A large number of people, official and non-official, assembled at Shimbashi to bid farewell to the departing Minister, whose popularity among all nationals has been of the strongest character throughout the long period of his service at the Legation, as Second Secretary, or First Secretary, and finally as Minister. Among those present at the station were Their Excellencies Marquis Saigō, Count Okuma, Baron Sannomiya, the Representatives of Italy, the United States, Great Britain, Spain, Holland and China, and many other prominent officials, as well as a host of private friends, several of whom accompanied Mr. Dun to Yokohama. Mr. Dun left Yokohama for the United States by the *Belgic*.

CHRISTIANITY & THE JAPANESE.

SOME interesting comments have been evoked in connexion with the question of the possibility of Japan's becoming Christianized. In a criticism of Mr. A. M. KNAPP'S recent work "Feudal and Modern Japan," the *Japan Times* quoted and endorsed the sentence "religiously and politically Japan will remain the unconquered Island Realm," and we, in turn, traversed that assertion, devoting our remarks especially to the romantic and irrational sentiment that it seemed to embody, namely, the sentiment that Japan might take pride in beating back the invasion of any alien creed, just as she has successfully beaten back political aggression from whatever quarter. Mr. KNAPP, in a letter published elsewhere in our columns, disavows all intention of suggesting that Japanese patriotism has been perverted into such an obstacle to the exercise of liberal intelligence, and explains that the chapter of his book from which the *Japan Times* quoted is, in truth, "an exhibit of the unusual openness and susceptibility of the Japanese to religious influences from without." We frankly accept the disavowal and the explanation. The *Japan Times*, also, in subsequent articles, excludes spurious patriotism and false emotion from the arena, and approaches the problem from the standpoint of calm reason and historical research. Into that realm we gladly follow our contemporary.

The first question that presents itself is—did Buddhism conquer Japan. We allege that it did. We further allege that it achieved its first victory in the garb of an alien creed, and its second, in the form of an alien creed modified to suit the indigenous faith of the nation. We further allege that when Buddhism was first introduced into Japan, its acceptance subjected her nationalism to a strain incomparably greater than that to which the acceptance of Christianity would subject it now. And from these propositions we deduce the inference that what Buddhism did can be done by Christianity, a higher and worthier form of religious belief. The *Japan Times* does not agree with us. It sets out by saying that we read history incorrectly. Its allegations are these:—"Buddhism, eleven hundred years ago, was a welcome instrument in the hands of the advisers of the Crown in carrying out their plan of consolidating the nation." "The conquering Imperial race had succeeded in establishing a nominal suzerainty over the whole country, but the power of the Court did not extend to the aboriginal tribes in the provinces, which, under the rule of their hereditary chiefs, practically enjoyed independence." Thereupon the EMPEROR and KAMATARI, founder of the FUJIWARA family, evolved "the gigantic scheme of political change known in history by the

name of the *Taika* Revolution, the object of which was to establish a centralized monarchy by breaking down the power of the semi-independent local chiefs." "One of the measures employed * * * was the encouragement given to the spread of Buddhism among the provincial population. * * * It was expected that by turning the people's attention to spiritual matters, the political bonds between them and their various chieftains would be weakened." * * * "Yet, even with the powerful assistance of the newly centralized Government, the clear-sighted leaders among Buddhists were not slow to discover the truth that the new faith had little chance to supplant the old, and that the only way to reach the hearts of the people was to effect a compromise with the indigenous creed. GYOKI and RYOBE then originated the doctrine of the identity of Buddhist and Shinto deities. * * * It was only when this radical change was effected in the fundamental tenets of Buddhism that it began to be really received into the homesteads of the people in general. But even then it could not supplant the original national faith: it was only suffered to co-exist with the latter by accommodating its cardinal principles to the national genius of the people." * * * "The people remain Shintoists first and then Buddhists, to some extent. There are villages which have no Buddhist temple, but there is not one which has not a shrine dedicated to its tutelary deity."

Such are the historical views expressed by the *Japan Times*. We have quoted them verbatim in order to avoid errors of construction. Broadly stated, they amount to this: first, that Buddhism was employed by the Imperial Court and its advisers as a political engine for bringing the semi-independent aboriginal tribes within the pale of the Court's authority. Secondly, that despite the power of Imperial propaganda, the alien creed had to be modified so as to accord with the indigenous faith. Thirdly, that the modification was effected by inculcating the doctrine that the Buddhist and Shinto deities were identical. And fourthly, that, despite such modification, the people remained Shintoists at heart.

Now, in the first place, Buddhism came to Japan in the middle of the sixth century, and was definitely adopted by the Court during the reign of the Empress SUIKO (591-629), when an Imperial Rescript encouraged the spread of the faith; when orders were given that the Prince Imperial, the Princes of the Blood, and the Ministers of the Crown should have images of Buddha made; when ranks and rewards of land were bestowed upon the makers of such images, and when envoys were sent to China to obtain copies of the *sutras*. It is recorded that, in the year 627 A.D., there were 46 temples, 816 priests, and 569 nuns in Japan. For 32 years the imported creed

had failed to obtain a footing, but from 584 A.D. its progress had become rapid. The *Taika* reforms commenced in 645 A.D. It is therefore certain that the Buddhist doctrine had been accepted by the Imperial Court, that vigorous measures had been taken to propagate it, and that a large degree of success had attended those measures long before Prince KATSURAGI and NAKATOMI-NO-KAMATARI set themselves to compile the *Taika* Code; which indeed, was not promulgated until the year 702.

Our first conclusion, therefore, is that Buddhism had been firmly established among the educated classes in Japan several years before the compilation of the *Taiho-ryo* was undertaken.

Let us pass now to the proposition that the alien creed was used by the Court, in the middle of the seventh century, as a political instrument for bringing the aboriginal tribes under the full sway of the central government. We do not deny that Buddhism continued to receive Court patronage during the reigns of the sovereigns immediately succeeding SUIKO, but we have to ask, who were the aboriginal tribes in question, what ultimately became of them, and what was the indigenous faith spoken of by the *Japan Times*. The point made by our contemporary that Buddhism would not have permeated the nation had not Imperial influence been exercised to propagate it among the aboriginal tribes, and that, despite such powerful propaganda, it had ultimately to be modified so as to bring it into accord with "the indigenous creed"—that point ceases to have any value unless proof can be furnished that the creed of the so-called aboriginal tribes was the creed of the Japanese nation. We are considering how Buddhism made its way among the Japanese nation, and when we are told that it would not have made its way had not the Government used political influence to spread it among the aboriginal tribes, and that it had nevertheless to be subsequently modified so as to avoid conflict with the indigenous creed, we must accept the implication that the aboriginal tribes represent the bulk of the Japanese nation, and that theirs was the creed in deference to which Buddhism had to be modified. Startling propositions, are they not?

The doctrine enunciated by RYOBE and GYOKI and elaborated by SAICHO and KUKAI was that the *Shinto* deities and the Buddhist god were identical; that the *Kami* were simply incarnations of the one and only divine being, *Hotoke*. Who were the *Kami*, the gods celestial and the gods terrestrial? Were they not the denizens of *Takama-no-hara*, the immediate ancestors of the first semi-divine rulers of Japan in the age called *Kami-no-yo*? Are we to suppose that the aboriginal tribes, while acknowledging the divine origin of the Emperors, refused to pass under their

sway, and preferred allegiance to their own chieftains? There is something very perplexing about all this. It seems to us that the aboriginal tribes and the methods of propagating Buddhism among them may be left altogether out of the discussion. Long before the conversion of the aborigines became politically expedient—if it ever did become politically expedient—and still longer before RYOBEN, GYOGI, SAICHO and KUKAI undertook their eclectic modifications, Buddhism had been accepted by the educated classes in Japan. And its acceptance, we repeat, had subjected Japanese nationalism to a much greater strain than that to which the acceptance of Christianity would now subject it. For in the days of BIDATZ, of SUIKO and of SHOTOKU TAISHI, the reconciliations of RYOBEN had not yet been imagined, and in imperial, noble, and official circles an alien creed prevailed, according to which the numerous deities of *Takama-no-hara* were the only gods entitled to human worship, and their title to reverence was also the title of the empire's Sovereigns to the allegiance of their subjects. But the acceptance of Buddhism meant that those deities were supplanted by one god and one god only, and that, too, a god with whom the imperial ancestors had no connexion. Are we not justified, therefore, in saying that Japan was conquered by Buddhism? It is probably true, as the *Japan Times* says, that the great majority of the villages throughout the country have shrines dedicated to their tutelary deities, and that "the first thing a villager does after morning ablution is to clap hands and worship *Shinto* deities." That may be true, but of what value is it as an argument against the possibility of Japan's Christianization? If it proves anything, it proves that the Japanese are so wedded to polytheism as to be incapable of accepting a monotheistic faith, and that Buddhism could not find any favour among them until it bowed itself to the level of their comparatively uncivilized moral condition, and lent to the multitude of their gods the sanction of its own supreme being.

THE HAWAIIAN COMPLICATION AT WASHINGTON.

IF the judgment of America is fairly reflected in the press of that country, the annexation of Hawaii is strongly opposed by a large proportion of the community. The scheme is denounced by journals of every political shade, only a few official organs supporting the efforts of the little knot of speculators whose fortunes depend upon the success of this dubious project. When the question was suddenly reopened, some four months ago, it was at once evident that the advocates of absorption had established close relations with the news agencies of the United States, and made themselves masters of

almost every available channel of publicity. For several weeks the papers of all parts were deluged with communications in which the immediate possession of Hawaii was set forth as the one supreme need of the Great Republic, while effective precautions were apparently taken against the circulation of arguments on the other side. Rarely has a more determined attempt to manufacture popular opinion been put in operation. But while the news columns were thus captured wholesale, the independence of the editorial pages remained unshaken, and so far as they were concerned, a stolid indifference to the entire subject was maintained until the execution of the Treaty was unexpectedly announced, when a storm of condemnation and protest burst, the severity of which must have startled the PRESIDENT and his advisers in the movement. The hasty transaction was declared a scandal to the Government and an outrage to the nation. Writers who claimed to have accurate knowledge of the circumstances did not hesitate to assert that a shameful story of corruption and fraud would inevitably be disclosed if the plot were carried further, and warned the Executive against pursuing an enterprise which would bring lasting discredit upon all participants therein.

How far these expostulations were justified, and to what extent the ominous predictions are likely to be fulfilled, it is not for us now to inquire. But there is a feature of the business which cannot be overlooked by those interested in the Japanese view of the proceedings. We refer to the singular attitude assumed by Mr. SHERMAN, the Secretary of State, not only in renouncing the principles to which he has always professed allegiance, but in exhibiting a lack of consideration for Japanese susceptibilities, and a disregard of diplomatic courtesy, for which no excuse can easily be conceived. It is well known that Mr. SHERMAN placed himself on record, not long ago, as an undeviating opponent of territorial expansion, proclaiming that as long as his life lasted, he would do nothing to extend the limits of his country, or "to add new dangers by acquisition of foreign territory." He now appears as one of the principals in an act of aggrandizement, his share in which seems peculiarly calculated to aggravate the "dangers of acquisition," by inflicting a slight upon a nation which has never shown itself unmindful of the obligations of friendly intercourse. The story is published in several newspapers, not as a matter of irresponsible report, but as an array of undisputed facts. And very extraordinary facts they appear to be, from beginning to end.

It is first stated that the Japanese Minister at Washington, although disinclined to believe that the PRESIDENT would abruptly reverse the policy laid down in his inaugural address, was induced by the prevalence of annexation rumours to inquire

directly at the State Department, on June 16th, as to what the intentions of the Government were. He was then assured by Mr. SHERMAN that no treaty was in course of negotiation, and that the acquisition of Hawaii would be contrary to the interests of the United States and the wishes of those in authority. Mr. HOSHI then took occasion to explain, with care and precision, the position of the Japanese Government and its relations toward the Hawaiian republic; giving the most emphatic pledges that Japan had no desire to take possession of the islands, and that under no conceivable circumstances could they be regarded as a valuable addition to the imperial domain. Mr. SHERMAN expressed satisfaction with this declaration, and the interview terminated with, to all appearances, a thorough understanding on both sides. Early the next morning, the Treaty was signed. Mr. HOSHI lost no time in sending a document to the State Department which was generally spoken of as a "protest" in some form, though not acknowledged to be precisely that by the members of the Japanese Legation. On the same day, Mr. SHERMAN was visited by the German Ambassador and the Portuguese and Chinese Ministers. Before evening, reports were flying through the diplomatic circle to the effect that the Secretary of State had admitted to one or more of these gentlemen that the annexation was displeasing to him, and that he had steadfastly and consistently disapproved it. When called upon for confirmation or denial, the foreign representatives in question declined to answer, with the exception of the envoy from Portugal, who would give no information respecting the particular conversation of that day, but acknowledged that Mr. SHERMAN had frequently expressed unqualified objections to the union of Hawaii with the United States.

Whatever he may or may not have said on the 17th of June, it is certain that on the 18th the Secretary announced his complete accord with the PRESIDENT, professing to have discovered a reason why his general conviction with regard to exclusion should not hold good in this special instance. The reason was made public in an authorized newspaper statement on the morning of June 19th, in which Mr. SHERMAN declared that his hostility to the broad policy of annexation was unchanged, but that he had been obliged to make the present exception "on account of the claim of Japan to these islands." The effect of this injurious imputation, which, it is alleged, was not merely dictated by Mr. SHERMAN, but was read over by him and formally approved, prior to its publication, was to create an extremely unpleasant impression in diplomatic society. Within three days, the leader of the Cabinet had as many times shifted his position on the most important international question yet taken in hand by the new Administration. On Wednesday, he is reported to have

assured the Japanese Minister that no treaty of union was in immediate contemplation—and this, we may incidentally mention, is understood to be in agreement with intelligence received by the Government of Japan. On Wednesday, also, he accepted with apparent acquiescence and trust Mr. HOSHI'S announcement that Japan had never thought of possessing the islands. On the morning of Thursday, he signed the Treaty which he had declared non-existent the day before. And on Friday, he authorized the statement in a Washington newspaper that he had consented to the incorporation of Hawaii with the United States because of the claim which Japan had asserted to the territory.

The comments of the best American journals upon this remarkable series of occurrences indicate a deep and sincere regret that a friendly country should have been subjected to what is necessarily regarded as a grave affront, the painful effects of which, it is frankly avowed, "will be limited only by the forbearance of the Japanese Government." No attempt to defend Mr. SHERMAN'S course is made in any quarter, but a plea of extenuation is set up, on grounds scarcely less astonishing than the incidents they are intended to account for. It is plainly asserted, not alone by newspapers addicted to sensational exploits, but by many of the worthier class, that the venerable Secretary's intellect is impaired by age and toil, and that his incompetency to conduct the business of the State Department has been an open secret from the time of his appointment to office. The mistakes of the Hawaiian negotiation are said to be not the first proof of his failing powers, several other exhibitions of weakness having been previously observed and criticized. His condition was, indeed, a matter of public discussion before the Hawaiian difficulties arose. But his manner of dealing with these complications has naturally drawn additional attention to the subject. It is now affirmed that Mr. SHERMAN'S denial of the Government's purpose was due to the circumstance that he had not been consulted in the affair when he received the Japanese Envoy, and that he knew nothing of what was impending until the evening preceding the execution of the Treaty. The entire transaction, including the preparation of the report of negotiations which was signed by him, is said to have been arranged by subordinates, the PRESIDENT having recognised the inexpediency of intrusting so laborious a task to the chief of the department, in his present feeble state. The details of evidence brought forward to sustain the charge of mental incapacity are certainly striking, and unless they are promptly refuted, there seems to be no escape from the conclusion drawn by various New York newspapers, that the dignity and credit of

the Government may at any moment be dangerously compromised by Mr. SHERMAN'S prolonged control of diplomatic affairs. For many reasons it would be a relief to learn that his infirmity has been exaggerated, and that his mind is still sufficiently alert for the requirements of the public service; but should this be demonstrated, the embarrassing circumstances above narrated, and especially the unwarrantable treatment of the Representative of Japan, will remain without explanation of any sort. The dilemma is a painful one, whichever horn we may seize in the endeavour to reach a solution of the awkward problem.

THE "YORKTOWN" CASE.

ON the 19th instant, the United States Vice-Consul at Kobe, Mr. HUNTER SHARP, was called on to decide a case that has interest for foreign residents, inasmuch as the incidents were precisely of the kind that may occur at any moment, and that would probably occur very often if the foreigner did not exercise forbearance. A *jinrikisha* coolie preferred a charge of assault and battery against Ensign EVERHARD, of the U.S.S. *Yorktown*. It was the old familiar story. Mr. EVERHARD had hired a *jinrikisha*; had paid the men their full fare; and had been dunned by one of them for more. Thus far the experience was one of almost every-day occurrence to people engaging *jinrikisha* in Yokohama. The sequel, however constituted a departure from the ordinary routine. Mr. EVERHARD struck the coolie several heavy blows with a Malacca cane over the head and hands. The coolie's contention was that he had done nothing whatever to provoke such treatment, that he had not laid hands on Mr. EVERHARD; that he had been severely beaten merely because he asked for some more money, and that, when he grasped his assailant's cane, Mr. EVERHARD had drawn a pistol and pointed it at his face, and had also pulled out a knife and cut him above the eye. Mr. EVERHARD'S story was that the man had followed him demanding money; had grasped his arm and used force to turn him round; and had shouted at him; that a crowd had collected and joined, apparently, in the pursuit; that he deemed himself in imminent danger, and that he had acted entirely in self-defence. Our readers will at once recognise a position in which any one of them may be placed at any moment. It is certain that *jinrikisha* coolies have of late developed a tendency to lay hands on a foreigner by way of enforcing a demand for extra fare. What is the foreigner to do under such circumstances? He is the victim of an assault. Were he similarly treated by a cabman in his own country, he would promptly give the man in custody, and there could be no doubt about the verdict that a magistrate would

pronounce. If he knocked the cabman down, the law would hold him guiltless. But in Japan, if he meets assault by assault, he may find himself summoned as Ensign EVERHARD was summoned, and then the very dubious question arises whether his simple statement will constitute a sufficient defence against the charges that may be preferred by the other side, especially in the face of wounds inflicted by him while himself remaining scathless. Fortunately for Mr. EVERHARD several circumstances told in his favour. There was, first, the strong inherent improbability that a naval officer of generally placable and self-possessed disposition as Mr. EVERHARD was proved to be, would lay open a coolie's head with a heavy cane merely because the man asked for a few *sen* in addition to his fare; there was, secondly, the fact that the blows which fell upon the coolie were admittedly received at considerable intervals, thus demonstrating persistence in the conduct that provoked them; there was, thirdly, the circumstance that the coolie followed Mr. EVERHARD for a distance of about 250 yards, and had followed him for half that distance before being struck; and there was, fourthly, the fact that Mr. EVERHARD entered the house of a foreigner and asked for protection, thus showing that he believed himself to be in imminent peril. The Vice-Consul acquitted him, very rightly we think, and happily an injustice was avoided. But the affair might have had a very different ending, and in view of the fact that such happenings are liable to be repeated at any moment, it becomes a question whether the police should not address to *jinrikisha* coolies some warning against laying hands on a foreigner. We do not wish to be understood as suggesting that *jinrikisha* men are usually uncivil or extortionate. Quite the contrary, indeed. They are a hard-working, cheerful and most courteous set of fellows, and in general the foreigner takes genuine pleasure in paying them a little more than the pittance for which they toil. But that a few of the men plying in the Settlements make a habit of over-charging, and are ready to seize a foreigner's arm or obstruct his path unless he accedes to their demand, is beyond question. We can not suppose that they entertain the slightest intention of committing an assault, or of perpetrating a rudeness. Their object is to get money, not to annoy wantonly. But they believe that a verbal appeal will not be intelligible, and that recourse to the hands is not governed by the same rules among foreigners as among Japanese. A coolie would never dream of taking hold of one of his own nationals. He recognises such an act to be grossly and unpardonably impolite. But he has not the same perception where a foreigner is concerned, and our point is that if the police conveyed the knowledge

to him, a source of considerable danger might be removed. It is too much to expect that foreigners should always remain placid when a *jinrikisha*-drawer grasps them by the arm, or places himself in their way, and if the coolie knew that such conduct puts him hopelessly in the wrong and constitutes an assault in the eyes of the law, he would soon abandon it.

There is one point in the Vice-Consul's judgment that calls for brief notice. Mr. SHARP, according to the newspaper reports, "quoted from a case settled at Kanagawa in 1862 to decide the relative value of testimony on oath and statements made under a mere warning." It seems to us not only improper, but also impolitic that any reference of the kind should have been made. The United States Consular Court is conventionally open to every Japanese suitor that has a complaint or a claim to urge against an American citizen. A Japanese is entitled by treaty to bring his case before that Court. He has no other place to bring it. The Court does not primarily derive its jurisdiction from any sovereign right vested in the United States. It derives its jurisdiction from a power delegated to it by the SOVEREIGN of Japan. It is in the very essence of such jurisdiction that no technical discrimination should be exercised against a Japanese suitor; that he should not be placed at any disadvantage under which he would not labour in the Japanese Court for which the American tribunal is conventionally substituted. But he is placed at a manifest and very serious disadvantage if credit be denied to his testimony merely on the ground that his method of vouching for its truth—the method prescribed by the laws of his own country and accepted by the tribunals of his own country—differs from the method pursued in American courts. Justice, in short, is denied to him because, not being a Christian, he can not take a Christian oath, though justice is guaranteed to him by Treaty independently of his religion or his nationality. These are fundamental questions. They have been threshed out long ago, though possibly Mr. SHARP's perception of them may not have been ground fine in the weary mill of protracted controversy. We can appreciate the position that he took. It is a natural position, and, after all, if a Consul in Japan follows the principles of the law of evidence as applied in his own country, he may claim exemption from harsh criticism. But there is a nice question involved and we entertain no doubt that Mr. SHARP will agree with the view here advanced. Moreover, there was no occasion whatever to make such a discrimination. The prosecutor's case would not have been a whit more credible even had he kissed the Bible, and nothing could be more unfortunate than to proclaim to Japanese suitors that their nationality and their religion place them at a *prima-facie* disadvantage in an American Consular Court.

THE SUICIDE OF A HAILEYBURY BOY.

THE papers recently received from England contain accounts of a sad event which cannot fail to have been read with painful attention by all interested in our English Public Schools. The facts are shortly as follows:—A Haileybury School boy, CUTHBERT EVANS, aged 16, on Monday, May 31st, deliberately committed suicide by laying his head on the metals in front of an approaching train between the stations of Ware and St. Margarets on the Great Eastern Railway. On the grass near the body two letters were discovered, a short one of farewell to his father and mother, and one to the Headmaster, Canon LYTTLETON, in which he gives at length the motives that prompted his act of self-destruction. The latter letter from beginning to end is a charge against three of the boys in his house, whom he specifies by name, for conspiring to make his life a misery to him. The cause to which he attributes the beginning of their persecutions is almost incredible. "Last term," he writes, "they conceived the vilest dislike to me for nothing at all except my opinions about Crete." We know how party spirit in politics can run high among school-boys, and how a boy may bring himself under provocation by taking up a line against the popular views of his school-fellows; but we can hardly imagine how the Cretan question could be enough to stir up political passions in the school-boy breast, or, even if it did, how it could lead to the prolonged persecution of an individual boy carried to the extent of making his life unbearable. Yet there can be no doubt, whatever the cause may have been, that his life was made miserable and that the boy's sensitiveness—an element in character that boys, of all people, have least consideration for—aggravated and intensified the misery of his condition. We gather this again from what he writes. "It was the haunting feeling, he says, that they were continually talking to my disparagement, that I was the object of derision to all in the house . . . that drove me to this." Finally he anticipates that his act will be ascribed to unsoundness of mind—a charge which he repudiates in the strongest language:—

"I solemnly declare that A, B and C (here he again mentions the names) are the sole agents in my death. . . . This I write in full and perfect possession of my senses, having thought over this step since Friday last."

This letter was read at the inquest, where, in the face of the above solemn declaration and on the evidence of the Headmaster that he had fully enquired into the circumstances and that the whole thing amounted to simple "teasing," the jury returned a verdict of suicide during tem-

porary insanity. However opinions may differ as to the legitimacy of such a verdict, the matter was one that neither a jury's verdict nor the simple statement of a Headmaster could suffice to lay at rest. All the suspicions on the part of parents and others as to the existence of bullying at our public schools are again aroused and the distressing event once more brings criticism to bear on our public school system. Now, with all our belief in our public school system, and while we thankfully recognize the more humanizing influences brought to bear on the school life of our English boys in the present day, we grant that like all other systems it is liable at times to break down and for that reason sad occurrences like the present one at Haileybury may well open the eyes of trustees and masters to the grave responsibility of their position.

We know nothing of Canon LYTTLETON: he may, for all we know, be an admirable headmaster, but if the words he is reported to have used at the inquest are correct, we cannot help thinking that he showed a lamentable ignorance of school-boy nature. "The whole thing," he is reported to have said, "amounted to simple teasing, and the unfortunate boy might have ended it all by reporting the occurrence to him." But that is just what a boy would never have done. Whatever persecution he might be subjected to, he would never, if he had the true boy spirit, say a word to his own house master, still less to the headmaster, about it. Masters must use their own eyes, and a discerning master, who has the interest of his boys at heart, will, without any vile methods of espionage, quickly acquaint himself with the character of the boys under his charge and know whether things are going on rightly with them or not. The weaker and younger boys should be especially objects of his care and, by availing himself wisely of the aid of the prefects in his house, the captains of dormitories, and of other lads to whom a measure of authority is delegated, he will seldom fail by honourable means to discover and check any mischief that is abroad, and to secure for the weaker boys the protection they stand in need of. A headmaster should be something more than a successful teacher, something more than a disciplinarian; he should be an expert in the training of boys' characters, earnestly watching over their development and requiring of the masters under him to do the same.

The *Chugai Shogyo* learns that the result of the trial of foreign made quick-firing guns which has been going on at Narashiro, Chiba Prefecture, having proved eminently satisfactory, the Military Authorities have recently ordered from abroad a number of mountain and field quick-firing guns through Messrs. Illies & Co. of Yokohama. We (*Japan Mail*) believe that this statement is premature. The trials have been concluded, so far as target practice is concerned, but other tests have still to be applied.

JAPANESE PROVERBS TRANS-
LATED INTO GERMAN.

We have received from Mr. T. Ehmann a work entitled "Sprichwörter Bildliche Ausdrücke der Japanischen Sprache. Gesammelt Übersetzt und Erklärt." The volume is a reprint from the paper contributed to the German Asiatic Society by Mr. Ehmann on the same subject and is the first of a series. The proverbs and metaphors, 465 in number, are printed in Romaji as well as in Japanese and are arranged alphabetically, the first volume going to the end of the letter G. Mr. Ehmann states in his preface to the work that he has collected over 3,000 proverbial sayings and figures of speech, all of which are to be translated and explained at a later date. Of the value of such a work when compiled in the scholarly way in which Mr. Ehmann has accomplished the task there can be no question. It is the metaphors of the language that a student of Japanese finds most difficult to master, on account of their being so unlike those with which he is familiar. We have only one doubt in connection with Mr. Ehmann's book. Is not its scope somewhat too large? We observe that the author includes such terms as *baka*, *dasshi suru*, *deiri ga aru*, *gongo-dōdan*, *gyō wo migatu* among the expressions selected for explanation. Such latitude, it seems to us, prevents Mr. Ehmann's work from being rendered tolerably exhaustive in its own line, which, were its scope more limited, it might become.

In his preface Mr. Ehmann discusses a number of interesting topics. Among them the subject of personification in the Japanese language will probably attract most attention. Mr. Ehmann is entirely at issue with Mr. Percival Lowell, and to a considerable extent is opposed to Mr. B. H. Chamberlain's views on this point. Mr. Chamberlain says on p. 272 of his "Handbook of Colloquial Japanese":—"Inanimate objects are rarely, if ever, personified," &c. Mr. Ehmann, on the contrary, maintains that personification is quite as frequent in Japanese as in any European language. The Japanese objects of worship are personifications of nature, the terms male and female are used of a number of inanimate objects, and legendary tales abound with personification. According to Mr. Ehmann, it is a matter of no importance whatever whether personification appears in the verb or in the noun. The following instances are given as a few among hundreds that might be cited. *Akire ga rei ni kuru. Akufi senri wo hashiru, kōji mon wo idesu. Ari no Kwannon mairi. Ari no omoi mo ten made to do ku. Ashita no koto wo iu to tenjō de ntsumi ga warau. Daikai wa chiri wo erabasu. De mono haremono tokoro kirawasu.* Students of the language will do well to read what Mr. Ehmann has to say on this interesting subject.

BICYCLE ACCIDENTS.

Bicycle accidents increase in number in Paris. Last week two fatal falls were recorded, without mentioning ordinary sprains which hardly merit passing notice. Some of these accidents are due to the ill-will of coachmen, or rather to their lack of good-will. If there are few to-day who deliberately contrive to jam a cyclist against the kerb of the side-walk or against the inhospitable tramway rails, there are still many who pretend to pay no more attention to a cyclist than to a stone lying on the road. They turn suddenly without warning, stop short without making the least sign, and seem to think ironically that the cyclist, more fortunate than the camel in the Bible, can pass through the eye of a needle.

But it must be acknowledged that a large number of accidents, perhaps the majority, are due to the rashness or inexperience of the riders. The rule for the riding of cycles prescribes "a moderate speed" in crossing centres of traffic or places where streets interlace. This wise warning is ignored or despised by a number of

high-spirited people, who shoot like a train across the most frequented ways, sometimes without holding the handles, as if they were in open country between two rows of apple trees. Most accidents happen to young people who think themselves disgraced if they obey the advice to be prudent which their elders give them. They have a kind of bravado in courting danger, bravado the worse misplaced as it is not their own persons alone that they risk.

It is, however, impossible to erect in a city like Paris warning notices at every dangerous passage. One would be needed wherever streets cross, or rather one for all Paris. And besides the notices are useless, for it is generally only quiet riders, those who do not need to be called to order, that attend to them. Others pass proudly by the warnings as if their dignity did not allow them to think that the warnings were meant for them. And a hundred yards beyond the despised warning they come to grief in a cart hidden behind a turning or in the barrier of a level crossing, or perhaps they make a splash over the parapet of a bridge across a ravine, such as may be found in the turning of several mountain roads. The warning-notices* which the Touring Club has erected along French roads are all Greek to the mad-caps, whose only idea of riding is to go 30 kilometres an hour like the winners in the Bordeaux-Paris race. A curious example of this obstinate rashness is supplied by the last number of the *Revue Mensuel* of the Touring Club. In the Maritime Alps not far from Nice and Monaco there is a descent of great danger, for it is complicated by a treacherous turning, where a bridge overhangs a ravine. It is the bridge of Ramingas, a picturesque structure, but whose parapet, being low so as not to obstruct the view, gives but poor protection to cyclists who have lost control of their machines. After many accidents had occurred, a warning notice was erected on the summit of the hill. Accidents however, increased rather than diminished. The Touring Club had to decide to save the precipitated cyclists in spite of themselves. With the consent of the Department of Roads and Bridges it placed a net for the purpose of catching in their flight cyclists in process of performing the dangerous leap over the parapet. I must acknowledge that at first I hardly believed the announcement of this net stretched over the abyss like a providential spider's web. But the Ramingas net is no myth. It exists, it acts, and corpses are not the only fish it catches. It is a firmly fixed net of iron wire. Only placed there on the 5th of last April, it was four days afterwards occupied by a poor fellow who had been shot over, whose machine was crushed against the parapet, and who was making his way to a better world when he had the pleasant surprise of finding himself brought up in his career and laid on something like a spring mattress. Here is a new sensation which recommends itself to lovers of sport. Since then four other victims have been in the same way saved from certain death, which gives an average of one every week. One asks then how many tourists must have fallen into the ravine of Ramingas in three or four years.

The Touring Club has done well in putting an end to this hecatomb. But is it not incredible that advice and example should so long remain inefficacious, and that it should be necessary, weary of the struggle, to stretch a net over the abyss because numbers of people prefer the risk of falling in these, to taking the least measure of precaution?

The Ramingas net is positively symbolic. The life of the present day is like a steeple-chase. Everybody wishes to arrive quickly even at the risk of not arriving at all. Moralists' precepts are like the notice-boards of the Touring Club. They do not stop those who wish to precipitate themselves. Only statesmen seek in vain for the protecting net which may save the break-neck from his final catastrophe.—Translated from the *Journal des Débats*, of May 29, for the *Japan Mail*.

* Some 17 years ago, the Cyclists' Touring Club began to erect at the top of certain hills the notice:—*To Cyclists: This Hill is Dangerous.*

HAWAII.

The articles evoked in Hawaii by the news of the signature of the annexation treaty make no allusion whatever to the complication with Japan. So far as folks in Hawaii are concerned, it would seem that they do not connect annexation with any Japanese contingencies. In correspondence from Washington, however, we find the following:—

The present condition in Hawaii, it is said, has had much to do with the favourable consideration of the treaty. The present Government of Hawaii and the people who support it are much concerned about the Japanese situation. Private information received by Hawaiians in this city is to the effect that the Japanese may at any time take some action looking to the acquisition of the islands. The advice officially received are of much the same tenor. The sentiment in the Senate seems to be that Japan in no way should control the islands or get a foothold there. This argument has been used to prevent even notice of the abrogation of the present treaty in the tariff bill. It is said that such notice might be followed by Japanese occupation and the islands could not be regained by the United States without a struggle.

The *Hawaii Gazette* publishes the following interview with Mr. Shimamura:—

"You may say that the rumour that Japan has withdrawn its request from the Hawaiian Government for an explanation of the reasons for rejecting the Japanese immigrants is unqualifiedly false."

This was Minister Shimamura's reply to a question by an *Advertiser* reporter yesterday regarding the rumour that the request for a settlement had been withdrawn by him, and that Hawaii would come out top side high in the unpleasant affair, which has occupied the attention of diplomats all over the world.

"There has been no correspondence between this Legation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs since June 4th," continued Minister Shimamura. "At that time I addressed a letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and, as yet, though it seems a very long time, I have received no reply."

The reporter suggested that a great many letters might be written in 14 days.

"Quite so," ventured a member of the Legation; "long enough time in which to write a book."

"The position is this," said the Minister:—"Before the steamer having the immigrants on board left Honolulu I made a formal protest to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. His answer was incomplete and unsatisfactory. In due time I received instructions from my Government, and sent a request to the Minister of Foreign Affairs for the reasons for the expulsion of the Japanese labourers. Extracts of the contents of my letter and this Government's answer have already been published in the Honolulu papers. I considered the answer vague and indefinite. On June 4th I wrote again, and for two weeks the letter remains unanswered. I am waiting for a communication to arrive, have been waiting for several days and I think now that it must come to-day or to-morrow."

"One paragraph in your leading editorial to-day is rather misleading. Does your paper believe that Japan has taken Hawaii by the throat and said: 'Give me your money?' Such a thought is preposterous. I may say an object is black; you will insist that it is white. I would not take you by the collar and shake you for your opinion; I would ask your reasons for saying so. Another misleading sentence is the one regarding indemnity. No demand has been made, and that phase in the controversy has not been mentioned, beyond my saying that I would like this Government to recognize the principles of indemnity, as governed by international law. Japan has shown no hostility toward Hawaii in this matter. We ask, simply, that justice be done if it is proven that Hawaii is wrong. Indemnity to the Japanese immigrants will be asked only in this event. If the affair is settled satisfactorily, then immigration may continue from Japan as formerly, not otherwise."

"Those Japanese left their homes under the laws of their Government, and they are innocent of any wrong intent in coming here. If the agents of the immigration companies in Honolulu committed a wrong in bringing them here against the laws of Hawaii, then, it occurs to me, it is the duty of the Government to punish them, not their dupes. The men who were connected with the companies were tried in the courts and acquitted. If there was nothing wrong in their actions, upon what grounds were the immigrants sent back? That is the question I am endeavouring to get an answer to from the Minister of Foreign Affairs."

"One would infer from the editorial that we have made a peremptory demand, but such is not the case. We have given the Minister of Foreign Affairs an excellent opportunity to explain why the Japanese were not permitted to land; it was the main question in my first letter to Minister Cooper and was repeated in the second, mailed June 4, and yet I have had no reply. You have been misinformed if you think I have not given the Government an opportunity to furnish me with reasons for sending back the immigrants."

Counsellor Akiyama and Secretary of the Legation Koya were present during the interview and expressed themselves very emphatically in supporting Minister Shimamura's denial of the rumour that he had withdrawn his request for an explanation.

"There are all kinds of rumours floating around," said Counsellor Akiyama. "One ridiculous one was that the Japanese sailors were to land and take charge of the Custom House. Another is to the effect that the *Naniwa* is to leave on Wednesday next. You may say regarding that rumour, as with the other, it is without any foundation whatever. About two months hence another man-of-war will be here, and the *Naniwa* is not likely to leave before then."

KOREAN TOPICS.

The *Soul* correspondent of *The Times* has displeased some of the residents of that city by his caustic comments on the ceremony of laying the foundation of the arch of independence. Well, it was certainly a celebration that lent itself to ridicule. But when we come down to hard pan, as the Americans say, the chief item of comicality in any attempt to assert Korean independence is that the Koreans themselves do not seem to care about being independent. King Log or King Stork, 'tis all the same to them, but King Frog has a poor show. If they were really imbued with a spirit of nationalism or independence, what a long distance towards that goal the mere mood would carry them. Let them only get their own right aim ready to help themselves, and a very little good will on the part of their eastern neighbour would effect the rest. Therefore all friends of a nation's independence should be ready to sympathise with, rather than to laugh at, the independence-arch demonstration. It was a means to a good end.

Cow stealing is rather an uncommon kind of fraud: the portage of the prize presents a difficulty. The other day, however, a Japanese milkman of Chemulpo missed two of his cows. A Chinaman had quietly walked them off to *Soul* and sold them to a compatriot who keeps a dairy there. So far as we can gather, nothing happened except that the Japanese owner went to *Soul* and drove the cows home again.

The Korean War Office has set itself an interesting problem. A squadron of cavalry numbering 100 is to be organised for patrolling the city. The company is to be divided into watches of not less than 33 each. The watches are to be divided into patrols of not less than 8 men each. The streets are to be perpetually patrolled. Each watch must be off duty not less than 8 hours in every 24. If a patrol observes "a really suspicious character" he must be at once arrested. No patrolmen is to dismount from his horse under any circumstances. See how that works out. Suppose that *A*, *B* and *C* are the watches. *A* goes on duty from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.; *B*, from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.; *C* from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Which watch takes the next relief? Necessarily *A*: otherwise *B* and *C* would not have their regulation time off duty. Thus it results that each watch goes on duty at the same hour each day, and *C* never gets a night in bed from year's end to year's end. How the arrest of a man on foot is to be effected by troopers forbidden under any circumstances to dismount is another problem.

There is great building activity at Chemulpo. Nearly a thousand houses are said to have been put up since January. Timber is 100 per cent. higher than it was two years ago, and a plot of land measuring 15 square metres (less that 4 *tsubo*) in the business part of the town was sold lately for \$600.

The *Independent* says that the vice of opium

smoking is increasing in Korea, and mentions a rumour that a number of Chinese smugglers recently brought a quantity of the drug to Peking. They were arrested, but their release quickly followed, for reasons unexplained.

The *Independent* has this quaint note:—

"We are very much amused to learn the belief with which the Koreans pray for rain at the time of drought as at present. It is an elaborately formulated ceremony which consists of various grades of service, the first of which is conducted by a low official in the Government, and the sacrifice consists of a bowl of rice, two dishes of fruit, and three cups of wine. If the God of Rain does not send rain after this sacrifice, it is evident that he is not satisfied with the offering. Then the second service is ordered after waiting three days. At this service the officiating Master of Ceremony must be of the sixth rank in the Government, and the *menu* is increased, that is, two bowls of rice, four dishes of fruit, and six cups of wine are offered as exchange for rain. If the God of Rain does not get "roped in" by this treat (some years he is insatiable), the third service must follow. The officiating priest of this service must be of the third rank in the Government and the sacrificial bill-of-fare is accordingly improved both in quantity and quality.

The improvement is kept up as long as there is not enough rain; sometimes it necessitates the Prime Minister to honour the obdurate Rain Deity by one or two calls with equally appropriate *vin et viande*. On such occasions a roasted pig, a broiled sheep, and sometimes a boiled ox head, are offered.

In case the efforts of these officials all fail, the King must pay a call on him with grand ceremony and a most alluring feast. It is said that the Keeper of Rain Water always gets flattered at the honour of a call by the King and pleased with the delicious repast which has been prepared by the expert *Chef* who belongs to the Palace, and invariably loosens the spigot which locks the water tank, and the desired hydrogen oxide, which the French call *eau de pluie*, comes down in abundance.

However, it very seldom requires the last resort, as it rains generally before the royal visit. It takes a month or more for the officials to complete their series of the ceremony, and by that time the drought usually ceases. We are informed that the first service was held a few days ago, and was begun by a chusa. We voice the sentiment of many in expressing our wish that the present universal thirst be thoroughly quenched before reaching the stage of offering a roasted pig.

Lads in *Soul* are said to be developing a military fever. They form companies in the streets; go through various drill exercises to Japanese or Russian words of command, and blow tin bugles with much expertness. The next episode of this fancy will be mimic battles between the Japanese and the Russian squads.

A Ladies' Society has been organized in *Soul* by Mrs. Kato, the wife of the Japanese Representative. Its object is to discuss affairs domestic, charitable, and social, for which purpose meetings will be held once a month.

Another batch of "conspirators," five in number, has been arrested in *Soul*. The object of the plot is said to be identical with that of the recent affair. We are not much the wiser for that information.

A *Yang-ban* of Kong fu was suspected of murdering his female serf. The Governor ordered the Magistrate to examine the body. The Magistrate declined to undertake any such dirty work: he had once been an official in the household of the Crown Prince, and his person must be held sacred from contamination. The Governor did not press the point lest he should be denounced for disloyalty; he procured the assistance of another magistrate.

The son of a woman murdered in Yung-heung set out five years ago in pursuit of the murderer. He travelled through every province in the Kingdom and found the man at last in an inn at Eijn on the Yalu. A duel ensued, and the murderer was killed on the bank of the river. The son gave himself up, and the Law Department has ordered that he receive 60 light bows.

CHINESE TOPICS.

Willison Circus was to have left Shanghai for Japan on the 10th instant, and the horses and properties were duly shipped in the *Kobe Maru*, but owing to some misunderstanding, the whole were put ashore, and the steamer started without them.

A correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* who recently visited Weihaiwei, says:—

I found that the Japanese troops are being rapidly reduced and that only a comparatively small garrison now holds the place. The forts are all dismantled and in ruins; expensive Krupp guns of large calibre lying about, some broken and fractured by charges of dynamite and all thrown down and damaged in such a way as to be rendered utterly useless. One wonders why these costly cannon were not preserved, as it was the Japanese conquerors who destroyed them, not the Chinese, who simply ran away and left them intact. One would have supposed that they could easily have been transported to Japan and used there in coast defence. These dismantled forts which were quite new and had been built at great cost under foreign supervision, give one an impressive sense of the desolation that war brings in its train, and a distressing sense of the impotence of the Chinese in the use of these modern modes of warfare and their utter helplessness as opposed to any European Power or a Power like Japan. The thrifty husbandman has, in the meanwhile, changed the aspect of affairs by using the ground occupied by the forts as an addition to the adjoining fields of millet or sweet potatoes.

A most inviting account of the new summer resort at Kuling—properly Ku-niu-ling—is given in the leading Shanghai journal. Kuling is a section of the Lushan range in Kiangsi, 13 miles from Kiukiang on the Yangtze. "It consists of a gently sloping valley, about four thousand feet above malaria level, which is checkered with numerous streamlets of pure, cool, fresh water (not often seen in this part of the country) and shot to the core with sunshine. The tiny rills which come down from the mountain sides unite to form a main stream which flows through the centre of the valley. This valley has been bought by foreigners and divided by them into 130 large lots, all of which have been re-sold, and the proceeds have been devoted to building three rest houses—one in Kiukiang, one at the foot of the hills, another on the Estate—and cutting the road up the mountains. Kuling is controlled by foreigners, and a lot is forfeited if sold to a Chinese. There is plenty of building stone, and fifty handsome residences have been erected.

Two ladies driving to the fête at the French Municipal Ball, at Shanghai, on the 14th of July were struck with stones thrown from among the crowd.

Nothing whatever has been done to improve the state of the river at Tientsin. The Chinese Authorities have proposed a scheme estimated to cost a million taels, whereas the plan elaborated by foreign experts would have involved only one-fourth of that outlay. It is said to be too late to effect anything this season.

The Ching-chong match factory on the Singkeipang Creek, Shanghai, and some forty-five adjacent buildings, inhabited by factory hands, were destroyed by fire on the afternoon of the 15th instant. The conflagration originated in the dipping room, and was caused by a workman's treading on some loose matches. The factory was insured for Tls. 30,000 and the houses for Tls. 3,000.

A seaman, named A. White, died suddenly at the Shanghai Sailor's Home on the 14th inst. from heat apoplexy induced by excessive drinking. At 8 o'clock he was put to bed by a comrade and was singing a song when the latter left him. At a quarter to 10 he was dead.

The *China Mail* is informed that Emilio Aguinaldo, the rebel commander in the Philippines, has succeeded in breaking through the Spanish lines confining him to Cavite Province, and has joined forces with the Central Luzon army. In the last engagement at Montalban, to the North of Manila, in which the Spaniards lost over 100 men, Aguinaldo commanded in person.

GERMAN NOTES.

Prince Louis William August of Baden, died on April 27th. He was born in 1829, became a General of Prussian Infantry and was President of the first Chamber of the Grand Duchy of Baden. He was married in 1863 to the Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

It is reported that Germany has given definite notice to the Russian Government that it will not be represented in any way at the forthcoming International Congress of Medicine at Moscow, unless all restrictions with regard to the passports of the Hebrew members of the German delegation are at once withdrawn. This is creditable to the German Government. A goodly number of distinguished physicians and surgeons in Germany are Jews.

The Vienna *Stein der Weisen* says:—"The stories of magnetic mountains exerting an attraction upon vessels that come into their vicinity seems to have some real foundation. It has been demonstrated in the neighbourhood of Germany. Bornholm, a little island situated in the Baltic Sea, and belonging to Denmark, seems to be a huge magnet. True, the power of this magnet does not approach that of the legendary magnetic hills that drew nails out of ships—and caused such trouble to Sinbad in the brave days of Arabian story—still it can occasion a great deal of trouble to passing vessels. The magnetism of Bornholm influences the magnetic needle so as to turn it perceptibly from its true direction. A rocky reef near Bornholm is also composed of a magnetic substance."

When Frithjof Nansen passed a day with Emperor William, the Emperor introduced his children to his guest in a peculiarly characteristic manner. After dinner the young princes were called. They filed in, and stood "to attention" in military style. "Shake hands with this gentleman," said the Kaiser, "look well at him, some day you will be able to understand what his work is, and then you will be glad to be able to say, you have met him."

There has been considerable discussion going on of late among experts, as to the value of sugar as a food for manual workers. In this connection *Die Deutsche Zuckerindustrie*, of Berlin, says that Alpine climbers appreciate sugar very highly, not a few of them, though they never eat candy at home, consuming a notable quantity of sugar in the course of their excursions in the Alps. All the guides are very fond of it. This is because, as everyone knows, the source of muscular force is not in nitrogenous or albuminous substances (lean meat), but in the carbohydrates (starch, sugar, and fats). After muscular work the blood becomes very poor in saccharine matter, but a small quantity of sugar eaten suffices to restore the muscular energy, a result that agrees with the observation of Alpine climbers.

One of the most important and significant appointments made of late to a theological chair in Germany is the call given to Dr. Warneck to lecture on mission work at the University of Halle. Dr. Warneck has long been recognized as a leading authority in Germany on mission affairs, and through his most excellent *Missionstseitschrift*, a monthly magazine, has contributed more than any other man to the arousing of a lively interest in the cause of missions in the Fatherland. No man is better acquainted with the theoretical and scientific life-problems of foreign mission work than is this new Halle professor. It is to be noted that this is the first chair of the kind ever established and manned in Germany.

The crisis which the German Liberals have brought about in Austria, says the *Globe*, shows very distinctly what is the weak point in the constitution of the Dual Empire. The long truce which the misfortunes of 1866 and the personal ascendancy of the Emperor had forced upon the jarring parties has at last definitely come to an end, and the discord, which has been threatening for so many years, has now broken out. The question of the Austro-Hungarian compromise

is for the moment almost overshadowed by the necessity of a *modus vivendi* between the Germans and the Czechs. It is rumoured that the Emperor will convoke the Diet of Prague to find some means of solving the problem, but it is quite as likely that he will order a revision of the Constitution to be undertaken, in order to gratify the desire of the various provinces for a sort of Home Rule. Austria is, in fact, passing through a very serious crisis, and one which is in all probability the beginning of the break-up of the Empire. If these things happen in the lifetime of the Emperor Francis Joseph, it is difficult to say what may not take place when, in the course of nature, he is succeeded by a ruler without his vast experience and personal popularity. That the home affairs of Austria are exciting the greatest interest in Germany and Russia may well be imagined, for everything that weakens Austria strengthens Russia in the Balkans. Germany, too, cannot see without alarm a state of things which paralyses her colleague in the Triple Alliance, and this fact probably explains why she is so anxious to be on good terms with Turkey, and has lent so many of her best officers to reconstruct the Ottoman Army. William II. sees clearly enough that the coming struggle in South-Eastern Europe will be between German and Slav, and not between Christian and Turk.

The Volksraad of the Orange Free State has adopted a motion of reducing the residential qualification for the franchise to three years, and rendering it unnecessary for those desirous of exercising it to relinquish their nationality. Candidates for the franchise, however, renounce their former burgher rights. Transvaal burghers to be placed on the same footing as others. Before becoming law the resolution will have to be confirmed next year.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT JAPANESE LITERATURE.

A close perusal of Japanese modern literature reveals the fact that pessimistic writers are very numerous. They do not figure prominently in these summaries, for the simple reason that we see little use in reproducing predictions that in many cases represent the despondent condition of individual minds rather than the tendency of things in general. There have been prophets of evil in all times and in all countries, but some how or other the world manages to jog along and to improve its condition in spite of them. In an article published in the *Meiji Hyoron*, a modern Jeremiah pours forth his lamentations under four heads. The title of the essay is *Dai-hakwai no Yidai* (The Age of Great Ruin), and the writer attempts to show that (1) the political world, (2) the religious world, (3) the educational world, and (4) the moral world are all in a state of disorganization and corruption. Though occasionally the critic's remarks accurately describe the state of affairs, as a whole, the article is too one-sided to require more than passing notice at our hands.

The *Meiji Hyoron* pens some timely words on the subject of commercial education, the gist of which we now give. There are at present in Japan 17 Commercial Schools of an ordinary type, in addition to the Tōkyō High Class School. These schools are attended by 2,000 pupils. Their annual cost is 100,000 yen. America has 200 Commercial Schools, attended by 44,000 pupils, Germany 80, with about 30,000 students. It is desirable that Commercial Schools should not all be of one type, but should be adapted to the special needs of the districts in which they are situated. This principle was fully recognised in an order issued by the Monbushō in November, 1893. But in practice it has been ignored. Existing Commercial Schools are all of one class, the only perceptible difference between them being that the instruction given is more thorough in some than in others. But there is no attempt to provide schools suited to the industry or trade of the districts in which they are situated, as is done in other countries. The education

given is general, where it would achieve greater results by being made special.

The organ we have just quoted is of opinion that in modern education too little attention is paid to the cultivation of the æsthetic faculties and to supplying students with noble ideals. According to the *Meiji Hyoron* the spirit of the students at the University is growing more and more mercenary.

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* maintains that modern novelists can in no sense be regarded as instructors of the nation. Some of them write in good style and that is all that can be said. Unlike Western writers of romance, they display no intimate knowledge of the customs and modes of life of the Japanese people.

The same magazine asserts that, so far, the present year has been marked by the fewness of books of importance that have appeared. Among those published, by far the larger number are by writers of the old school.

The *Shigaku Zasshi* has an article entitled "The Christians of Kurosaki, Hizen," in which it is stated that a number of images and Christian relics have been found concealed in the walls and roofs of old houses in Kurosaki. These were no doubt placed there at the time of the Tokugawa persecution.

It is stated in the same magazine that under the superintendence of Messrs. Okakura Kakuzō and Fukuchi Mataichi a history of Japanese Fine Art is in course of preparation, which will be translated into French and sent to the Paris Exhibition in 1900.

Writing on Formosa, the same journal says that a paper contributed to the German Asiatic Society by Dr. Riess on Formosa, since expanded into a book, is undoubtedly the most scholarly account of the island that has been published in Japan. The *Shigaku Zasshi* purposes issuing a translation of Dr. Riess' work in successive numbers of the magazine.

In order to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of its foundation, the Hakubun-kan issued last month a special edition of the *Taiyō*, covering 700 pages and selling at 38 sen per copy. The number is well worth preserving on account of the stock of information it contains. We think its contents merit a fuller notice than we usually accord to a single magazine. A number of first class writers have contributed to its pages and to crown all Mr. Takayama Rinjū, until recently a teacher in the Sendai Second Higher School, now one of the staff of the *Taiyō*, contributes an able article entitled *Meiji no Shōsetsu*, Fiction in the Meiji Era. It is stated that since its establishment the Hakubun-kan has issued 1,176 books and magazines. In commemoration of the anniversary a foreign magazine appears this month called *Gwaikoku Gogaku Zasshi* (A Magazine for the Study of Foreign Languages). It prints contributions in English, German, French, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean. The special number of the *Taiyō* referred to contains Mr. Tsubouchi Shōyō's "Character of students at the present time"; Mr. Ayeba Kōson's "Modern merchants"; Mr. Hasegawa Shimei's, "Floating Cloud"; Mr. Yano Ryūkei's *Ukishiro* (浮城) *Monogatari*; Mr. Kōla Rohan's "Great Poets," Mr. Mori Ogai's 選木 *Umorigi*, and Mr. Ozaki Kōyō's *Futari Ayōbo*. The object of reprinting these works is to give specimens of the style of the best modern writers of fiction. Mr. Takayama has made a special study of Japanese fiction and his long essay on this subject is by far the best thing that has been published in recent times. We can only find space for a short epitome of this interesting article. The essayist in his introductory remarks observes that there is no similarity whatever between the development of fiction in Europe and Japan. In Europe this class of literature commenced with tales about the gods, which developed into epic poems; these being followed by Romances, called in Japanese 傳説 *Denki*. But in Japan there was no such process

of development. In the early days of Japanese literature there was no fiction worth mentioning. The only compositions of any merit in the 14th and 15th centuries were the Operatic Songs (*utai*), composed by Buddhists. But these have no real connection with the modern novel. Fiction, strictly so called, began in the Tokugawa era, and consisted of three distinct classes (1) 浮世草紙 *Ukiyo-Sōshi*, (2) 讀本 *Yomi-hon* and (3) 滑稽本 *Kokkei-hon*. The first class, of which Saikaku was the chief representative, consisted of an adaptation of the ancient *monogatari** to the understanding of the lower orders. Writers of the second class drew material from the history of the Ashikaga era and extracted a flavouring from the popular *jōruri* of the age; Santō Kyōden and Kyokutei Bakin being their chief representatives. The most noted of the writers of the third class of fiction, the great wis of the age, were Shikitei Samba and Jippensha Ikku. Judged by comparison with European romance writers Saikaku and Bakin are pre-eminent among Japanese *littérateurs*, reminding one very much of the works of the Sir Walter Scott and Jane Austen. In reviewing the fiction of the Meiji era, Mr. Takayama's first period is from 1868-1885. The chief thing to be noticed, proceeds the essayist, about the novels of this period is the extent to which they are permeated with western thought. The Chinese and Hindu ideas previously introduced into this country found no affinity in our native thought and only acted as an obstacle to progress (*Nihon no shimpō wo samatagarari*). Among the various notions which from time to time Japan has borrowed from other countries nothing has taken such hold of the national mind as English thought and English institutions. During the first decade of the Meiji era the interest of thinking men was centred on politics, and the first successful novels were distinctly political in type and purpose and drew their material from Scott, Lytton and Disraeli. Such were Mr. Shiba's 佳人の奇遇, *Kajin no kigō*, Mr. Suehiro's 雪中梅 *Setchūhai*, and 花間鶯, *Kwakan-ō*; Mr. Fujita's 文明東漸史, *Bummei-tōsen-shi* and Mr. Yano's *Keikokubidan*. But the writer who brought to his task a thorough knowledge of Eastern and Western thought, who was permeated with poetical ideas, and who thoroughly understood the need of the age, was Mr. Tsubouchi Shōjō, whose *Shōsetsu Shinsui* (小説神髓) and *Shōsei Kishitsu* marked an era in the history of literature. Mr. Tsubouchi's wide influence was all exercised in the direction of making the novel a picture of actual life and discouraging the publication of moral-purpose works like those of Bakin and other writers.

Subsequent to the appearance of the above named works a new class of fiction took possession of the public mind. The period of the pre-eminence, with certain modifications, of the realistic novel may be said to be from 1885 to 1895. The most noted writers of this school are Kōjō, Rohan and Bimjō. The last is noted for his attempt to introduce a style in which the colloquial and written language is blended. But it cannot be said that Bimjō succeeded in effecting this laudable purpose. Under the impression that Bimjō's novels were too vulgar to suit the public taste, Kōjō and Rohan took Saikaku's writings as their model and steered the literary ship far away into the seas of polished speech. But this movement had one serious drawback. With admiration of Saikaku's style there revived a love of the minute descriptions of profligate life the portraiture of which was Saikaku's forte.

The realistic novels that were published during the period under review were by no means

of one type. In addition to the class of books referred to above were Namiroku's *otokodate* (chivalry) stories and Riukō's Detective tales. In the latter Japanese fiction reached its lowest point of deterioration. The demand of the best readers of modern times is for historical novels or novels of an ideal type. It cannot be said that the effect of the opposition of the realistic writers to the moral-purpose novel have been satisfactory. The life which these writers have portrayed is of a very limited area. The plots of their novels are all of one type. That busy region, peopled by men and women whose minds are full of newly imported ideas and who are trying to act on them, each in his or her own way, has not been invaded by these novelists. None of the great events of modern times furnish them with subjects. Even our war with China, on which so much depended and whose consequences will be felt for generations to come, has failed to kindle literary and patriotic fire in the minds of our poets and novelists. Most of the tales that have poured forth from the press during the past ten years have left untouched the greatest of themes connected with our human life and have dwelt to a tedious length on its trifling details. The indifference to the burning questions of the day shown by our novelists justifies to a certain extent the theory, propounded in some quarters, that literature is conducive to national ruin (文學亡國論). We wait anxiously to see what the future has in store for us. What species of fiction will gain the ascendancy with us, the romance or the novel? If the latter, we trust that it may be raised here to the position it occupies in the West. Mr. Takayama does not profess to have done more than present leading features of the fiction of the Meiji era. This accounts for the omission of a number of well-known writers. We understand that Mr. Takayama is now in permanent employ as a member of the editorial staff of the *Taiyō*. Hence we may look for farther contributions of an equally valuable character to the essay which we have epitomised.

In the preface to the *Shina Bungaku-shi* (History of Chinese Literature) noticed in our last summary, Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō contends that whatever be the attitude assumed by the nation as a whole to Chinese ideographs, it is quite certain that to Japanese literary men the Chinese language will always occupy the position that Greek, Latin, Hebrew, and Sanscrit do in Europe. A thorough knowledge of Japanese literature must always involve a close study of its original sources. The application of Western methods of study and criticism to Chinese literature is not, in Dr. Inouye's opinion, a task that can be successfully performed either by Western students or by the Celestials themselves. The former find the difficulty of understanding the ideographs enormous. The latter lack the critical faculties and the power of generalising so essential to work of this kind. The Japanese student is specially qualified to deal with Chinese literature in a way that it has never been dealt with before. The *Shina Bungaku-shi* is the first attempt that has been made in the direction indicated. Dr. Inouye has been constantly consulted as to its compilation and in his preface expresses the opinion that the work will supply a long felt want in this country.

According to the *Waseda-bungaku*, the various printing houses of Tōkyō are suffering from insufficiency of compositors and from a low supply of suitable paper. The Kobe paper does not reach Tōkyō in sufficient quantity to supply the large demand of the numerous publishing establishments of the metropolis, and hence paper of an inferior type, such as that manufactured by the Senju Seishi-kaisha, has been in request for some time past. The wages of compositors have been raised over twenty per cent., but still the supply is deficient.

The *Waseda-bungaku* says that biography is in great request at the present time, but that many of the lives that have been written in recent years are by no means accurate, the writers thinking more of style than of the faithfulness of their records.

The same organ calls attention to the paucity of works on Rhetoric in Japan. The writings of Messrs. Kikuchi and Owada on the subject are very elementary. Mr. Takata Hampō's *Bijigaku* makes use of illustrations drawn from Chinese and Japanese sources, but there is still room for more thorough work on the subject, and it is reported that Mr. Shimamura Hōgetsu has for several years had in hand a treatise on this neglected but useful study.

As a result of the examination of some 20 or 30 provincial newspapers, the *Waseda-bungaku* observes that the practice of filling up a large portion of a paper with novels or novelettes is universal. The subjects of these novels relate to bygone days, life in the Tokugawa era and vendetta stories figuring largely. The style of these compositions is neither the colloquial nor the written, but a somewhat inelegant combination of both.

Another sign of the times noticed by the organ quoted above is the increasing demand for Chinese books, a fact on which the *Kokumin Shimbun* and other journals dwell. The price of standard Chinese works is in some cases four times and others seven times what it was a year or two ago. Three reasons for this change are given (1) An increase in the number of specialists engaged in the study of Chinese. (2) A wide-spread reaction from the excessive attention paid to Western learning. (3) An increase in the number of persons who have decided to devote themselves to literature, and a wide-spread conviction among these that a thorough study of Chinese is essential to the formation of a classical style. We learn from the above source that the library known as the Teikoku Zushokan, now situated at Ueno, is to be located in a new building in course of erection. The dimensions of this structure are given as 150 ft. by 210 ft. It is to be built in fire proof compartments, so that in case of a fire breaking out, only the books in one room would be destroyed. There will be accommodation for 565,000 volumes. The total number of books now in the library or stored elsewhere is 400,000, and it is proposed to increase the number by 15,000 every year.

A writer in the *Waseda Bungaku* complains of the varied senses in which the term 意匠 *ishō*, the Japanese equivalent of design, is used, and says that when it is announced by the Bijutsu-Tenran-kai that exhibits will be classified according to their superiority of design (*ishō*) and execution (*gijutsu*) some people are in doubt as to the sense in which the term *ishō* is used. There is, we venture to think, no ground for such an objection. There are hundreds of words in the Japanese language that are used in a variety of senses, but that does not prevent their being perfectly intelligible in any given context. Like the English word design, *ishō* is used sometimes in other senses, but in the instance quoted it can only mean the idea that is embodied in shape in each exhibit, by which the amount of originality possessed by the artist is expressed.

The *Kōko-bungaku* has made its farewell bow to the literary world and, after an existence extending over a few months only, after uttering its usual string of anathemas on things in general, and, with charming modesty, comparing itself to a gem that is degraded by associating with tiles and ordinary stones, makes its exit from life. But it threatens to reappear under a new name. Never were prayers more needed for the souls of the dead, than that these defunct writers may rest in their graves and trouble the world no more!

The *Kyōiku jiron* publishes a sort of lecture delivered by Mr. Izawa Shūji on Education in Formosa, from which we cull the following details. Up to the end of last year there were 14 Native Language Schools. This year two more institutions of the kind have been started, and additional branches of already existing schools have been established. There are 3 Normal Schools and a number of Girls' Schools. The educational establishments hitherto existing are

* This word is used in a variety of senses. As Tsubouchi indicates in his definition of the term, it is applied to writings in which no attempt is made to separate fact from fiction, in which traditions concerning persons and events are retailed without any attempt at criticism. Perhaps it would be true to say of the numerous tales which bear the title *monogatari* that they are a species of romance, Mr. Takayama to the contrary.

† The latter is printed in full in the number of the *Taiyō* which we are reviewing.

of three classes. (1) There is the 書房 Shōbō or Elementary School, which is chiefly attended by poor children, over a thousand of these schools are to be found on the island. (2) There is the 義學 Gīgaku, an elementary school for the rich. (3) And there is the 書院 Shōin, the highest school of all, 3 or 4 of which exist in every Prefecture. The latter are supported by dues collected on land belonging to the schools and the school fees. They are what we should call endowed schools. The aim of Mr. Izawa and his fellow-workers is to improve the condition of existing schools by confining instruction to important subjects and to endeavour to supplant the Chinese influences which have hitherto hindered progress in these institutions. In Formosa children are expected to attend school at the age of 8, spending six years in elementary and four years in what are called in Japan Middle Class Schools. The hours of study are 28 per week in elementary schools and 33 in middle schools. Special measures are to be taken to meet the educational wants of the barbarians who live entirely apart from the ordinary inhabitants.

We learn from the *Kyōiku jiron* that Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō and Dr. Tomi-i Masa-aki have been sent to Paris by the Mombushō to attend the Oriental Congress to be held there in September next.

A German-Japanese Dictionary compiled by Messrs. Taniguchi Hidetaro and Watanabe Jun, the first edition of which was published last year, has now passed through a second edition. The subscription price, the time for which has passed, was 1 yen 35 sen, the Okura-Shoten, Tōri, Ichome, Nihonbashi being the publishers.

Mr. Shimada Yutaka's *Wayaku jijū* has now reached its fifteenth edition. It sells at 1 yen 85 sen at the Okura-Shoten.

Mr. Tokutomi Kenjiro has published in Japanese a life of Tolstoi, which is said to be very eloquently written and to be founded on a special study of the career of the great reformer.

A work called *Sekai kakugen-shū* (a Collection of the World's Proverbial Sayings) has appeared, says the *Taiyō*, but the task of collecting and publishing the proverbs of Japan and the compilation of a good Dictionary of *Fukugo* (compound words) still remain unaccomplished.

Mr. Takahashi Gorō has started a magazine called the *Ei Doku Shibun Kensa* (研鑽) "Studies in English and German Literature," which is to appear monthly, the object being to explain the difficult passages met with in the writings of English and German authors. The first number, which appeared on the 1st inst., discusses Byron, Pope, Tennyson, Emerson, Goethe, Schiller, Lessing and other poets and also a part of Carlyle's prose writings. The price of each copy is 50 sen.

Mr. Takahashi Gorō has also published a work entitled *Yebun taishū chūshaku*, "A Collection of Extracts from Great English Authors, with explanations." It sells at the Yūhikaku, Kanda, Tokyo, at 30 sen per copy.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* is noted for its statistics. A recent number furnishes us with a table which shows the number of students that have graduated at the Imperial University in the course of twenty years, arranged according to subjects. The period embraced extends from 1877 to 1896. Law and Political Science stand first, with a total of 821 students, 577 Law, and 244 Political Science. Next comes 工業 *Kōgyō*, Industries, with a total of 645, Engineering being at the head of the lists included under industries, with 210 students; Mining standing next, with 117, followed by Mechanics, with 94. Then come Applied Chemistry, with 80, and Electricity with 63; next stands Medicine, with 563 students, 46 of whom are pharmacologists. Agriculture has been followed by 456 students. Science shows a total of 196, being divided up as follows: Physics, 64; Chemistry, 56; Zoology, 31; Zoology, 17; Botany, 12; Mathematics, 12; Astronomy, 4. Literature, 146;

divided as follows, Philosophy, 48; General History, 30; Japanese History, 23; Japanese Literature, 20; Chinese Literature, 8; English Literature, 7; Philology, 7; German Literature, 4. The total number of graduates is 2,777. In commenting on the above figures the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* approves of the prominence that Law and Medicine have assumed, and thinks that the times demand lawyers and doctors in larger numbers than engineers and farmers. But at the same time the statistics show grave deficiencies. The manufacture of gunpowder has been studied by one man only, the manufacture of guns by two, and there are only 31 naval architects and 63 electricians.

The next table presented by the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* includes the students at Government Schools, giving the number of graduates in each subject up to the end of 1894.

1.—Education.....	6,497
2.—Military Science	1,971
3.—Telegraphy and Postal Communication	444
4.—Navigation	364
5.—Industry	348
6.—Commerce	338
7.—Agriculture	231
8.—Fine Arts	203
9.—Naval Science	122

Lastly we have statistics referring to public (公立) private (私立) special or industrial Schools. The third table published by the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* is as follows:—

Subjects.	A.D. 1879.	1890	1891.	1892.	1893.
Law	5,476	5,521	6,622	6,259	4,166
Philosophy	346	288	277	287	290
Agriculture	313	427	445	601	470
Commerce	1,220	1,338	1,473	1,500	1,628
Industry	474	593	569	610	539
Medicine	1,930	1,562	1,701	1,758	1,947
Veterinary Science	104	74	70	90	121
Mathematics	1,202	1,257	922	897	907
Fine Art	130	94	131	99	113
Miscellaneous.....	394	575	1,053	566	522

It cannot be said, observes the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, that these statistics show a due appreciation of the two great sources of revenue on which the nation has to rely in the near future: commerce and industry. It behoves the Government to pay special attention to this subject and to mould its educational policy so as to supply the demand of the times.

The *Shakai Zasshi* writes on the difficulty of determining what are national characteristics. Last year Mr. Kishimoto Nobuta delivered a lecture entitled *Nihonjin no go takushitsu* "Five National Characteristics of Japan," which we observe is being reproduced in Romanji in the *Yachi gusa* (八千草). Mr. Kishimoto's characteristics were (1) A love of cleanliness. (2) Activity, brightness and æsthetic taste. (3) A love of the practical (器用 *Kiyō ni shite*) and high development of the assimilative faculty. (4) Quietness of manner and great respect for the laws of polite society. (5) Incorruptible, because caring little for money, with a deep regard for what is just and right. The *Shakai Zasshi* thinks that it is somewhat premature to generalise in the way Mr. Kishimoto has done, but is in favour of a study of provincial mental peculiarities as a preparation for an understanding of the far more complicated subject, national characteristics. This topic has been treated in a partial manner by various organs, some of which are quoted by the *Shakai Zasshi*. In the *Meiji hyōron* Mr. Sakata Shinken discusses the peculiarities of the Tosa men in the following terms. "The Tosa men excel with neither the pen nor the sword, but with the tongue. In the matter of speech they are not to be beaten, but they possess the usual faults of glib talkers, what is lightly projected is as lightly relinquished. Few of their enterprises are brought to a conclusion. Their levity of spirit results, among other things, in the prevalence of divorce in Tosa to an extent not found elsewhere, unless it be Kumamoto. They think of reputation rather than of profit. Anything made to appear plausible is likely to succeed in Tosa. To de-

ceive them names only are required." In the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* some little time ago an article entitled "Northerners and Southerners" discussed the prevailing dispositions of the two classes and traced them to the effect of the climate, &c. In the *Nihonjin* Mr. Kuga Minoru instituted a comparison between the inhabitants of Oshū and Kyūshū and Mr. Miyake Seisuei discussed the unassuming and sympathetic character of Kaga men, together with some of its causes. Owing to ages of oppression the spirit of the inhabitants of Kaga grew so servile as to supply a term to the Japanese language which is used even now, namely *Kashū-Konjō*. Such studies as these appear to the *Shakai Zasshi* to be worthy of encouragement and likely to lead to results not to be attained by generalisations of a vague type.

"OF TRIFLING MOMENT."

Of trifling moment, do you say, Mr. Editor? Well, have your way. Yet, I would have you recollect that poor humanity delights most in affairs that appear of trifling moment. Life, in fact, is principally made up of trifles: though Young, in one of his least remembered Satires, and viewing the matter from another standpoint, solemnly warns us:—

Think naught a trifle
..... Moments make a year
And trifles life.

Master Young notwithstanding, we do consider ourselves and our chief pursuits, in all verity, nothing but trifles—trifles light as air. What wonder then that we delight in trifles; dwell fondly on trifles; talk of trifles; entertain trifles; fret over trifles; are more than satisfied with trifles; slave hard for trifles—only to despair of those trifles when the object is at last attained! Trifling things of little moment, but mainly concerning ourselves, can generally provide a pastime for most of us when other and more weighty matters bore and weary. And so, methinks, I will go my way—as so it please you—a mere Chatterer, dealing of things "of trifling moment."

In sober truth, however, there has been little stirring this past week in our small Sleepy Hollow. Yet I would not have you believe that our minds have been absolutely bereft of subjects on which to chatter. Far from it. For instance, White's bowling trick on Saturday last caused some slight talk for an hour or so. It was a surprise—more than a trifling surprise—even unto himself. That is the best of cricket, as in other good forms of sport, it is full of surprises, and you never know your luck.

And this reminds me that during the stay of H.M.S. *Narcissus* at Kobe, about Jubilee week, the Ladies of the southern port met the representatives of Her Majesty's senior service upon the tented field. I wonder if the Captain of the Y.C.C. could induce the Ladies of Yokohama to emulate the achievements of Kobe's fair dames and dainty damsels? I am sure a Ladies' Match would prove a most attractive sight and would even draw a larger crowd to the Cricket-field than gathers at a baseball match.

Another agreeable triviality for which all would be thankful these dull days, would be a living Chess-match. Some years ago a very pleasant afternoon's amusement was provided on the lower lawn of the Bluff Gardens by a living Chess match, the memory of which lingers still in the thoughts of many who were present. Why cannot the project be revived? It only wants some one to take the initiative, and the thing would work as smoothly as did the last.

Trifling among the papers that came in by the last mail I came across the following gem of a story which is said to be going the rounds of the Press. It concerns Chang Yin-hwan, who went to London for the Jubilee festivities. Chang was the Chinese Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington during the Harrison Administration, and he gave many elaborate dinners. At his first large reception his American friends coached him as to the etiquette of the occasion.

As his guests passed out he was told that they would say they had spent an enjoyable evening, and he must reply: "I am very glad." Chang Yin-hwan played his part as host very well until a tipsy official came along and said, "Well, I must go now." "I am very glad," said the Minister, in a way as if he meant it.

Notwithstanding the cold, wet weather that attends so persistently upon our present poor apology for a summer, the little village of bathing houses that have sprung up of late years along Honmoku Beach are occupied nearly every evening. I have, however, noticed but few of the fairer sex indulging in natatory diversions: they leave the sport to their harder brothers and cousins, preferring to look on at the fun from the cosy ease and shelter of verandah chairs.

I hear dismal reports from Nikko and Karuizawa of the samples of weather that are being doled out this summer at these hill-retreats. Rain, fog, rain, is the burden of the cry from both places. But the missionaries, notwithstanding, are flocking in larger numbers than ever to the latter place. Nikko and Chusenji are quite given over to Legation officials and School-men nowadays.

The sub-editor of a Hongkong contemporary observes that "knotty points" are always cropping up at cricket. This remark is *apropos* of an incident that occurred in the match between Gloucester and Surrey. In playing forward at Hayward, Murch, the Gloucester professional, was beaten, and Marshall, handling the ball very smartly on the leg side, appealed for stumping, and threw the ball up without waiting for Barlow's decision. Barlow's reply was "Not out," but Murch, who is rather deaf, did not hear this, and left his ground. Marshall immediately pulled a stump up, appealed for the run-out, and got the decision. The same thing occurred in a match with the Australians, but Murdoch, with that sportsmanlike spirit which characterises our Australian cousins, allowed the batsman to resume his innings.

I notice the papers at Home—capital H, please Mr. Printer—are all "going one better" with anecdotes about the Queen. Here is one retailed by the *Daily Telegraph*:—"Pray, my lord," asked the then Maiden Queen of the Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, "where am I to wear the Garter?" The Duke said he fancied he had seen a print of Queen Anne wearing the Garter on the left arm. This and other authorities were duly consulted, and, accordingly, Her Majesty has ever worn the Garter on the left arm upon all occasions of State. Good Queen Anne to be so conveniently far-sighted.

Monday evening's concert deserved much better support than was accorded it. The gem of the evening was the trio by Miss Fiske, Mr. Morse, and Mr. Twinning—Braga's "La Serenata"—the violin, voice, and piano being in perfect accord. If little Miss Fiske's teaching and musical training proceeds on sensible lines she should develop into a beautiful violin-player, a naturally good ear being allied to remarkable musical sensibility.

I understand that \$2,500 have been promised towards the building fund of the new cricket-pavilion in Yokohama. The other \$1,000 ought not to take long in raising. Why cannot it be raised by a few autumnal smoking concerts? There is plenty of idle talent laying around in our big port ready for the organizer.

The case heard in the U.S. Consular Court at Kobe this week, in which a *jinrikisha* driver unsuccessfully charged an Ensign in the U.S. Navy with assault and battery, illustrates most fully the curious and aggravating tendency that many of these men have to badger a person who has paid more than the legal fare. The story told in the Kobe Court reminds me of a scene I once witnessed on the verandah of the old Oriental Hotel—now long-since burnt down. An old resident had been over to the Homeland on a year's vacation and returned by an American mail steamer. At the hatoba he was met by the usual group of wel-

coming friends, and after the usual preliminaries got into a *jinrikishi*. He gave in English the address of the Oriental Hotel, thereby undoubtedly giving the coolie the impression that he was fresh to Japan. Landing at the entrance to the hotel the fare pulled out some small change and gave the coolie ten *sen*. "More five *sen*" was the immediate cry. Then to the astonishment of the coolie, my friend, in courteous Japanese, asked the man to return him the ten-*sen*-piece. Which was done, and the proper fare, five *sen*, was then placed in the outstretched palm. The situation was too much for the astonished fellow—"there wasn't a word," as the story runs—and he left the hotel steps the most crest-fallen *jinrikishi* man I have ever seen.

Life is full of subtle ironies. Chatting the other day with a friend intimate with many officers in the P. & O. service, I learnt that the chief engineer of the unfortunate *Aden* was taking home to a widowed sister-in-law the personal effects and belongings of his brother, also an engineer, who had been drowned in Bangkok some time last year. Could Fate have been more ironical? I think not.

The CHATTERER.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The new U.S. Consul at Hiogo and Osaka, will be Mr. Samuel S. Lyon, of New Jersey.

Prof. Miki Kasawa, of the graduating Class of 1890, has received the degree of M.A. at Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind.

Judge Yamamoto, of the Kobe Local Court, before whom the case of assault brought by Ensign Everhard against the *jinrikishi* coolie Takamoto Genzo, was heard, acquitted the defendant on the ground of insufficiency of evidence.

The *Forodsu Choho* learns that the torpedo picked up on the 15th inst. by a fisherman off Honmoku, has been returned to the British Naval authorities, to whom it was found to belong, and that the fisherman who found it, Mase Kokichi, has received from them a reward of 50 *yen*.

The *Nippon* announces that all arrangements are now complete for minting the 20-*yen* gold coins at the Osaka Mint. Owing to the withdrawal of the silver one-*yen* pieces, five million *yen* worth of 50-*sen* pieces have to be minted this year. Working hours at the Mint now extend from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and all Sundays stoppages and holidays are abolished for the present.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* reports that Mr. Doi, Chief of the Correspondence Section; Messrs. Iwata and Takiguchi, engineers; Oku, Commissioner, and Imai, Director of the Post and Telegraph Office in Taipei; and Kada Kin-saburo, Inspector in the service of Messrs. Okura & Co., have been arrested and their houses searched on charges of suspected fraud.

While the British steamer *Saint Ronald*, Capt. W. H. Clements, was lying at anchor outside the breakwater early on Sunday morning, a small Japanese steamer, outward bound, collided with her, loosening four of the *Saint Ronald's* plates and doing damage to the extent of about \$5,000. As the *Saint Ronald* was at anchor at the time of the accident it leaves the Japanese steamer to blame, and we believe satisfactory arrangements have been made by her owners to repair the damage.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Nagasaki Hotel, Ltd., has been held to decide upon adding a third storey to the building. At an ordinary meeting held the same day, the Directors' report and accounts, after a little discussion, were adopted. The Company proposes to carry a stock of wine of the value of \$20,000, which would be imported at once in view of the rise about to take place in import duties.

We learn that it was owing to Marquis Ito's advice that Prince Arisugawa changed his return

route, and decided to come home by the C.P.R. line. He is expected on the *Empress of India*, that leaves Vancouver on August and. Marquis Ito, according to a private letter received in Tokyo, was exceedingly pleased with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, who did everything in their power to add to his comfort and convenience.

Mr. Consul-General Hawes gave a brilliant reception and ball in Honolulu to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. The Hawaiian journals devote columns to descriptions of the decorations and the festivities, which appear to have been on a grand scale. Mr. Hawes, during his residence in Japan, often showed that he fully understood the science of hospitality.

The deficiency therefore amounts to 14,025,100 *yen*. If it is found to be impossible to put the new tariff into operation from next year, there will be a further deficiency of seven million *yen*, making a total deficit 21,025,104 *yen*. The enforcement of the Tariff, together with the increased taxation on *salt* would augment the revenue by eleven million *yen*, and the deficit then remaining would easily be supplied by some alterations in the ordinary taxes, even without resorting to revision of the land tax, an invariable source of strife between Government and people.

The thirty-seven cabin passengers rescued from the wreck of the steamer *Sultan* by the P. & O. steamer *Valetta*, have presented a letter of thanks to Capt. Gadd, expressing their admiration for his able management of the work of rescue. The *Sultan* was lost in the Arabian Sea on the 10th June, and the crew of the *Valetta* managed to save 123 persons—a marvellous feat considering the heavy sea that prevailed and the helpless condition of the pilgrim passengers on the *Sultan*.

Mrs. Lightfoot has won the Ladies Singles in the Kobe L. T. Spring Handicaps, defeating Miss E. Smithers in the final by three sets to love. The Ladies and Gentlemen's doubles were won by Mrs. Lightfoot and H. Grimble, who beat Mrs. Matt Smith and F. E. Wilkinson by three sets to love. The Gentlemen's Doubles fell to E. Buxton Forman and F. E. Wilkinson, who met in the final H. C. Brushfield and H. Grimble—three sets to one. Buxton Forman (owe 40) also won the Singles, beating H. Grimble (scratch) by three sets to one.

On Tuesday, June 29th, fire broke out at Folsom-street Wharf, San Francisco, and spread to the ship *Commodore* and the little schooner *Katie Mc*. The latter was completely destroyed, while the former was badly damaged. The wharf, was soaked with tar and burnt quickly, involving a loss of \$28,000, while other damage to ships and stores brings the bill up to \$62,000. The Japanese training-ship *Hiyei* sent a fire-party to the scene which rendered efficient aid in subduing the flames.

Carrying this excess into the extraordinary expenditures a considerable deficiency for the 31st year is still apparent, as may be seen from the following:—

	YEN.
Extraordinary Revenue	80,945,331
Excess of Ordinary Revenue.....	18,163,940
Total	99,134,375
Extraordinary Expenditure	69,134,375
Extraordinary Departmental Expenditures	17,000,000
Total	113,134,375

The *Hochi Shimbun* says:—The export trade of Japan during the six months from January to June of this year shows an increase of *yen* 21,138,565 as compared with the same term last year. Raw silk shows an increase of 1,048,806 *caties* and 7,952,180 *yen* in value as compared with the first half of last year; brocade silk, an increase of 15,011,510 *tan*, of 4,840,006 *yen* in value; *habutae*, an increase of 125,141 *tan*, of 2,154,130 *yen* in value. Tea shows an increase of 5,307,946

catties, or yen 1,907,995. The import trade during the period shows an increase of yen 18,674,422 as compared with the same term last year. Rice shows an increase of 2,271,656 piculs, valued at yen 7,210,401; raw cotton, an increase of 31,888,746 catties, or yen 5,454,691; sugar an increase of 47,018,539 catties, of yen 2,738,072 in value. The import of machinery is increased by yen 3,630,553; locomotives and cars, an increase of yen 1,427,889.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* declares that the postal business of Japan has entirely outgrown the capacities of the present governmental system. In Tokyo alone, the staff is undermanned to the extent of 300 assistants. Of course one of the chief reasons why the postal service is so unpopular in Japan is the low wages paid to employés; but there is no gainsaying the fact that the Government fail to perceive that the methods and staffs of ten years ago are wholly insufficient to serve the needs of the present day. In other words, the Authorities make no effort to keep the Post Office up to date either in the number of men employed on the staff or in methods of dealing with the ever increasing business of the Department.

The *Yorodsu Choho* now gives particulars of the plot recently organised for the purpose of destroying the commercial supremacy of the Mitan Bishi and its kindred companies. The journal declares that the association is called the "Alliance for the protection of practical industry," and in its ranks are to be found many learned men who have studied very thoroughly the question of national economy. These gentlemen will accordingly call on the Ministers of State and the head officials of the Bank of Japan, and in that way endeavour to promote the ends the Alliance has in view. The resignation of Baron Iwasaki from the Presidency of the Bank of Japan is also to be accomplished. In other words, an intrigue is to be set afoot against Baron Iwasaki.

According to a paper by M. Gauttard, read before the Société d'Ethnographie, "there have been striking changes in the Japanese national type of face since they began to adopt European customs. Many of the children seem to be losing the yellow tinge of the skin and the flat nose of their ancestors. On the other hand, Europeans long settled in Japan have lost their red and white complexion, and come to resemble the Japanese. A similar change has been observed in Europeans resident in Gambogia. Pigmentary spots on the bodies of Chinese and Japanese infants would seem to point to the remote origin of these Far Eastern peoples in some black race of Oceania."

The *Kokumin Shimbun* remarks that despite the lack of apparent activity on the part of foreign silk firms in Yokohama, orders have been steadily given for fresh supplies during the past week. But foreign buyers appear willing to fill only such orders as are absolutely necessary. On the 20th instant, filatures were sold to Messrs. Robison & Co., at the rate of \$810, and to Messrs. Sieber, Brennwald & Co., at \$775, while hanks were taken delivery of by Messrs. Bavier & Co. at \$815. The last two firms appear desirous of continuing purchases, and should sellers come down in their ideas considerable business might be done. As for tea, the market continues prosperous. Prices exhibit a higher tendency, even inferior quality teas having risen by one dollar within the past few days.

On Thursday morning last week two young men embarked in a small boat at Yokohama and rowed round the coast to Kanazawa. After landing and having a stroll, they returned to their boat and passed the night in it. On Friday morning they rowed to Tomioka and landed there in a very exhausted condition, having no provisions in the boat. Some farmers in the village however hospitably gave them food, and thus refreshed they started at 3 p.m. to row back to Yokohama. A violent squall sprang up suddenly shortly after, and the boat was capsized. Fortunately for the occupants of the boat the accident was observed from a steam launch moored at Nagahama, and

the officer at once went to their rescue and taking the exhausted men on board, brought them to Yokohama. The *Boyeiki Shimbun*, from which we take these particulars, gives the names of the young men as Thomas Crapes, 21, a British subject, and John Campbell, 17, American.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has some notes of the progress made on the O-U section of the Government railway, from which we gather that the work is progressing very satisfactorily. The celebrated precipice between Fukushima and Yonezawa has been most successfully negotiated. Fifteen out of the sixteen tunnels along the track have been cut, and the last is expected to be completed by September. The bridges and permanent way are found to answer all requirements, and it is within the range of probability that traffic will be run over the line between Fukushima and Itaya within this year. Through communication with Yonezawa may therefore be expected soon after March, 1898. Surveys are being conducted over the second section of the work, that between Yonezawa and Yamagata. Traffic has already commenced between Ikarigasaki and Aomori, while the work between Ikarigasaki and Odate is proceeding quickly, despite the eight tunnels that have to be constructed within a distance of only sixteen miles.

This is the Poet Laureate's Ode on the Diamond Jubilee:—

The dew was on the summer lawn
The roses bloomed, the woodys were green,
When forth there came, as fresh as dawn,
A Maiden with majestic mien.
They girt a crown about her brow,
They placed a sceptre in her hand,
And loud rang out a Nation's vow,
"God guard the Lady of the Land!"
And now the cuckoo calls once more,
And once again June's roses blow,
And round her Throne her people pour,
Recalling sixty years ago;
And all the goodly days between,
Glory and sorrow, love and pain,
The wifely Mother, widowed Queen,
The loftiest as the longest Reign.
She shared her subjects' bane and bliss,
Welcomed the wise, the base withstood,
And taught by her clear life it is
The greatest greatness to be good.
Yet while for Peace she wrought and prayed,
She bore the trident, wore the helm,
And, Mistress of the Main, she made
An Empire of her Island Realm.
So gathering now, from near, from far,
From Rule whereon ne'er sets the day,
From Southern Cross and Northern Star,
Her People lift their hearts, and pray:
Longer and longer may she reign
And, through a summer night serene
Whence day doth never wholly wane,
God spare and bless our Empress-Queen!

In order to investigate various preliminaries with regard to the enforcement of the revised treaties, commissioners were appointed from among the high officials in each Government Department. The scheme of investigation is said to be very wide, and directly connected with the Departments of Education, Communications, Justice, Agriculture and Commerce, Finance, Foreign, and Home Affairs. The most important questions under discussion refer to the incorporation of the foreign Settlements into the Japanese communes; the ownership of industrial institutions, and the protection of copyrights. The second of these problems had already been investigated by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, but the first and the third require fuller consideration. Should Japan join the International Copyright League, not only will it be impossible for her to translate and publish works under the League's protection, but considerable trouble will also be incurred in keeping control over translators. Moreover, the progress of her civilization may be seriously affected by these circumstances. The incorporation of the foreign settlements into the Japanese communes will no doubt be attended by difficulties, and questions will arise in dealing with property owned by foreigners, and in other matters concerning religion and

public health. Schemes are now being considered to minimise friction as far as possible, though it is unlikely that the Committee can determine all the minor points that may arise. To facilitate matters, part of the work of investigation has been transferred to the respective Departments concerned, the commissioners taking upon themselves the responsibility of formulating a general policy. The summer vacation is already at hand, and no remarkable progress can be expected until autumn or winter.

The vernacular press has been publishing various rules drawn up by different Guilds of artisans throughout the country, having particular reference to the hiring of workmen, the service of apprentices, etc. The Paper Industry Guild of Shizuoka declares that all engagements of workmen or apprentices must be for a certain period of time, such period to be stated in the agreements drawn-up between the parties. Employers of labour are not to induce workmen to leave another master's employ under any consideration whatever. If a workman or apprentice fraudulently leaves service, he is not to be engaged by another employer of labour belonging to the Guild. The Guild of Silk Weavers have resolved that all engagements of artisans must be for a period not less than one year. Two days in each month are given to apprentices for rest, but this provision does not cover Government festivals and holidays. All apprentices and workmen are to be entered in the Guild's books and their movements, fraudulent and otherwise, are to be notified to every member. Similar rules have been drawn up by the Lacquer dealers of Wakayama and the Porcelain Corporation of Matsuura, Wakayama Prefecture. The latter will only take apprentices from the Apprentices School (Toei Gakko) of the Prefecture.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* remarks that the financial difficulties of the Treasury in regard to the forthcoming budget are not so great as was at once time expected. After rigorous cutting down of all unnecessary expenditures, it is found that the ordinary revenue expected next year may reach yen 130,845,334 and the ordinary expenditures will be yen 114,681,294, leaving a surplus of yen 16,163,940. Such, at least, are the figures given in a memorandum drawn up by the Finance Department. It has been semi-officially announced that all export duties will be abolished from the 31st year of *Meiji*, and none are included in this preliminary estimate. The new tariff, the *Mainichi* understands, will be enforced at the same time as the export duties are abolished. That means an increase in Customs duties of about 7,000,000 yen. The estimates given above do not include the 20,000,000 that will be required by the various Departments to efficiently carry out the reforms and developments now under discussion, but this money will be provided under the head of "extraordinary expenditures." We arrive at the following figures for the next Budget:—

	YEN.
Ordinary Revenue	130,845,334
Ordinary Expenditure	114,681,294
Excess of Revenue	16,163,940

Another periodical has appeared in Tokyo. It is called "The *Gaikoku Gogaku Zasshi*," or foreign languages magazine, and its principal object is to assist students to acquire English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Korean. The book is a portly volume, containing 200 pages of reading matter, and the price is 25 sen a copy, or 2.70 yen per annum. The enterprising publishers (the *Hakubun-kwan*, Tokyo) must anticipate a very large sale if they hope to recoup expenses at such a price. Mr. B. Ohashi is the editor. We judge that he has no English assistant, for though the book—we refer to the English portion—is wonderfully free from errors and does much credit to his scholarship, there are a few solecisms that could not have escaped an English eye. On the front page is an excellent portrait of the Queen, and on succeeding pages

are pictures of Dr. Florenz, the Rev. A. Lloyd and Mrs. Lloyd, Mr. N. Omura and Mr. N. Kanda. As for the contents, they are very varied—essays, lessons, conversations, letters, poems, extracts, news items, current events; something for every-body in short. Mr. Lafcadio Hearn contributes a fine rendering of *Fiso no Wasan*, that infinitely pathetic ballad of the dead children; and Mr. Yone Noguchi finds a corner for his "Opium vapours rocking about the dreaming shore of April-earth." We can not but admire and respect the courage and industry that preside at the composition of the numerous works now issuing from the Tokyo press, and we can not but look forward with misgivings to the prospects that await many of them. The *Gaikoku Gogaku Zasshi*, however, ought to find a purchaser in every student of any of the many languages to which its pages are devoted. It is a substantial aid to national enlightenment, and we wish it a large measure of success.

The *Nichi Nichi* says the Government is in possession of a report that the rioters lurking among the Auchen-pun hills in Formosa, are dressed in light green garments. They number about 200, and possess rifles and swords. Some of them are not conversant with the Formosan tongue. While a section of the natives are hiding in the woods and hills, in fear of the rioters, others disclose a reluctance to afford the Japanese any information regarding the whereabouts of the insurgents. Many isolated attacks on small villages are reported as well as encounters of bands of armed insurgents with Japanese soldiers and gendarmes. The result is always the same, defeat and flight of the rebels, with little or no casualty to the Japanese forces.

Yokohama, observes the *Mainichi Shimbun*, is fully maintaining its reputation as the leading port of the Empire. A year or two ago it seemed as though Kobe would wreat the palm for business activity from the older port, but the returns for the past eighteen months disclose the fact that these anticipations are not yet realized. The trade of Yokohama for the first half of this year shows an increase of four times over and above the figures for the corresponding period of last year. The following table of the trade of the port—compiled from Customs returns—should prove interesting:—

Exports.	First half 1897. Yen.	First half 1896. Yen.	Increase.
Copper	1,663,968	321,833	1,452,439
Rice	31,592,804	12,570,319	19,022,485
Waste silk	1,453,177	678,804	774,373
Cottoncrepe	341,127	153,180	187,947
Cotton yarn	669,889	221,409	448,480
Habutsu	6,985,366	2,162,899	4,822,467
Tea	4,344,949	1,659,017	2,685,932
Wheat straw braid	1,149,794	458,758	691,036

Mr. Yokoyama Masao, manager of the Statistical Association, says the *Mainichi*, presented at the ordinary meeting held on the 3rd instant a comparative table showing the increase in population throughout Japan. The following shows the average increase of population arising from the difference between births and deaths for the past ten years, the percentage taken per one hundred inhabitants:—

	Increase.	Population per square ri.
Hokkaido	1.13	48
Japan proper		
Northern Division (Fukushima, Niigata and all place northward)	1.00	1197
Central Division	0.85	2525
Western Division (Wakayama Nara, Kyoto, and all other places westward)	0.43	2642
Shikoku Division	0.53	2414
Kiushu Division	0.56	2183
Average throughout the empire	0.71	1617

From the *Mainichi Shimbun* we learn that a special general meeting of the Nippon Railway Company is to be held on the 7th proximo to discuss matters relating to the subsidy and the increase of capital. The reasons for the increase of capital are as follow:—An increased capital of twenty-six millions of yen is to be raised to cover the expenses incurred in constructing subordinate lines for a length of 140 miles in the most important parts of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th sections of the railway, as well as the Shinagawa and Tsuchiura railways;

and for purchasing and extending the Ryomo Railway. The cost of these undertakings is estimated at 9,862,872 yen. The augmentation of trains required by the progress of railway enterprise, as well as other extensions, demands an outlay of 15,854,900 yen, while reserve funds are required of no less than 282,228 yen. The above outlays together amount to twenty-six million yen. This capital of twenty-six million yen will be divided into 520,000 shares to be distributed among existing shareholders at the rate of 1/2 share for every two shares held by them on the 3rd October, and the remaining shares are to be offered to the public.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes a report of the Finance Department compiled up to the end of June showing the number of companies and banks in Japan, as well their capitals, which is as follow:—

Companies.	Numbers.	Capitals. Yen.
Commercial	939	130,351,815
Industrial	932	159,102,268
Agricultural	88	2,176,815
Total	1,959	291,630,917
Banks.		
Nippon	1	30,000,000
Specie	1	12,000,000
Industrial	1	10,000,000
National	98	28,520,000
Savings	191	16,570,000
Joint Stock	974	177,240,920
Ordinary Partnership	27	5,453,900
Limited Liability	95	8,340,674
Private	96	4,490,020
Total	1,457	285,774,514

The *Kobe Herald* devotes two columns and a half to the case brought in the U. S. Consular Court there by a *jinrikisha* man against Ensign L. H. Everhart, of the U.S.S. *Yorktown*. The alleged assault and battery took place on the 14th inst., when accused hired the man's vehicle for conveyance to the Tokiwa, Suwayama. It appears that the man was paid off and then requested more money, and when this was refused, pulled accused by the coat-sleeve. Accused warned the man that if he did not desist he would strike him. Then the coolie tried to pull Mr. Everhart round, whereupon he struck the man over the head. Complainant at once seized the cane and then accused pulled out a revolver and pointed it at the man. A mob collected as soon as the coolie cried out for help and accused had a run for it until the Rev. W. P. Turner's house was reached; there he obtained shelter. The complainant in his statement said that accused had cut him with a knife, but this he retracted during cross-examination. The Consular Judge having carefully considered the evidence was of opinion that the complainant was the aggressor from beginning to end and that the accused merely used just such force as was absolutely necessary to protect himself from danger. In view of what he had said he honourably acquitted the accused.

I learn (states the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*) that the Foreign Office has made up its mind that the present system of British representation in Shanghai, by which the Chief Judge of the Supreme Consular Court is also Consul-General, is a failure, and must not be continued, after Sir Nicholas Hannen's retirement from the joint offices. The Shanghai community has constantly protested against it as ill judged and not conducive to British commercial interests, and some of the important Chambers of Commerce at home have joined in the protest. It was introduced in the first instance by Sir Philip Currie when he was Under Secretary, and the scheme of uniting the two offices, heretofore held separately, was designed to save money, an object which, in fact, was not secured. Sir Nicholas Hannen, it is understood, will shortly retire on a pension, and then the old system of a judge for the judicial duties—which include every treaty port in China, and are both appellate and original—and a wholly independent Consul General for the consular and diplomatic duties, will be revived. I may mention that Mr.

Mowat, the chief judge at Yokohama—where, oddly enough, the old system was left undisturbed, although the Legation at Tokyo is only twenty miles off, and the inconveniences of the new one would not have been felt to the same extent—is about to retire on a pension. Some makeshift arrangement will be made there for the short remainder of the time during which consular jurisdiction prevails in Japan.

THE FORMOSAN RAILWAY.

The following Ordinance, No. 8, has been issued from the Governor-General's Office in Formosa, and has reference to the exemption from taxes of goods imported for the use of railways built by the Formosan Railway Company:—

Art. I.—The materials mentioned below, which are required for the railways built by the Formosan Railway Company, shall be exempt from import duties:—

1. Locomotives, passenger cars, and appliances thereon.
2. Rails and fittings.
3. Iron for bridges.
4. Iron for use on the railway.

The goods mentioned in the foregoing clauses are limited to materials imported direct by the Formosan Railway Company or its agencies.

Art. II.—If any of these exempted materials are sold, transferred, or exchanged for other articles, a certificate must be obtained by the Formosan Railway Company from the Governor-General's Office, and the duties must be paid at the Custom House through which they were imported.

Note:—This provision does not apply to materials which have become unfit for use after being employed by the Company, and which are sold for that reason, transferred, or exchanged for other articles, with the sanction of the Governor-General of Formosa.

Art. III.—The amount of goods to be exempted from duties must previously be determined by the Company, and receive the approval of the Governor-General.

Art. IV.—The Company must provide a ledger in which the goods landed free of duty are to be entered. The method of entry shall be determined by the Governor.

Art. V.—In case import duties are not paid, in contravention of Article II., or in case goods are sold, transferred, or exchanged for other articles without the sanction of the Governor-General having been obtained, twice the amount of duties will be levied in the form of a fine.

Art. VI.—This Ordinance shall remain in operation for five years from July of the 30th year of Meiji.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CHRISTIANIZATION OF JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—Apart from its humorous side, so well exploited by Mr. E. Snodgrass in his letter to the *Japan Times*, the newly opened controversy concerning the Christianization of Japan calls for little comment save that it illustrates the extraordinary sensitiveness of the missionary nerve here in the East. One wonders whether a like indignation would be evoked by a suggestion of the impossibility of the subjection of the Empire to the sway of Mohammedanism. So far as Christian propaganda is concerned it is certainly a matter of surprise that an expression of opinion on the outcome of what is confessedly an age-long experiment of doubtful success, especially when that opinion is shared by a large majority of intelligent people in Christendom, should be characterized in your valued editorial columns as "pitiable bigotry or an insulting libel." I would fain believe, however, that you have been betrayed into a departure from your accustomed fairness by basing your strictures upon a quoted half-statement rather than upon the chapter from which the quotation had been made. Had I in that chapter or anywhere else said that "Japan is beyond the reach of any religious influence coming from without" I agree with you that it would have evidenced "pitiable bigotry" on my part. But inasmuch as the chapter in question is mainly an exhibit of the unusual openness and susceptibility of the Japanese to religious influences from without, I am sure I can depend upon your well known fairness to correct the impression given by your editorial. If there is any question worthy of discussion it is not as to the openness of the Japanese mind. There can be no two opinions about that. It is

the question whether, in the light of past experience or in the outlook upon the trend of religious thought in Christendom itself to-day, it is among the possibilities that Christianity as an institution or as the body of doctrine set forth in its creeds, will supersede the present instituted and underlying religious faith of this Empire. In the light of history it is a fair question. As an institution, after nineteen centuries of devoted propagandism, Christianity is, to-day, nowhere in force among *civilized* nations outside the limits of the Aryan race. It is wholly fair therefore to ask whether it is going to be possible for it in the case of the Japanese, a civilized people, to surmount this hitherto impassable barrier of race.

Again, as a body of doctrine fairly described as a scheme of salvation based upon the tradition of the Fall of Adam, Christianity is to-day becoming hopelessly discredited in the West. The Hebrew tradition of the origin and early history of man, the intellectual foundation of the entire scheme, has ceased to be a factor in intelligent religious discussion. It is superseded by an entirely different conception of man's origin and nature. It is therefore a fair question to ask whether it will be possible for the Japanese, with the intelligence which is credited to them, to accept a scheme of salvation the logical basis of which is hopelessly shattered, and which the intelligence of Christendom, inside as well as outside of its Church, is already rejecting.

I am, yours truly,

ARTHUR MAY KNAPP.

Tokyo, July 13th, 1897.

LAW THAT WILL EVENTUALLY AFFECT FOREIGNERS.

BUSINESS TAX LAW.

(Published by Imperial Decree of March 27th, 1896, and enforced from the 1st January, 1897.)

Art. I.—The business tax shall be levied on persons carrying on the following businesses:—

The selling of goods.	Contracting for the supply of labour.
Banking.	Printing.
Insurance.	Photography.
Money-lending.	The letting on hire of goods.
The letting on hire of goods.	Inns.
Manufacturing.	Restaurants.
Transport.	Agencies (including
Warehousing.	* <i>Shin-sen-giō</i> and
Canal transport.	* <i>Dai-ben-giō</i>).
Landing-stages.	Middle-men.
Docks.	Brokers.
Places for mooring vessels.	
Jetties for landing goods.	
Contracting for building or other work of construction.	

Art. II.—By the business of selling goods, which is subject to the trade tax, is meant the establishment of a fixed shop, or other place of business, and the sale therein of goods by wholesale or retail. The following businesses are also regarded as those of selling goods, although they do not come under the preceding clause.

1. The selling of goods by persons who, without having a fixed place of manufacture, and without hiring work-people, have caused goods to be manufactured by supplying the raw material and paying the cost of workmanship.
2. The sale of goods, principally by retail, by persons who, without having a fixed place of manufacture make them in their shops.
3. The procuring of food and rearing in places other than farms of domesticated animals and poultry and the selling of these or of the eggs and milk, etc., produced.
4. The breeding and sale of fish and shell fish.
5. The sale of living things and plants and of other things which are not generally termed goods.

The business tax will not be levied in cases where the annual value of things sold is less than *yen* 1,000.

The sale, by persons carrying on the business mentioned in Article IV, of goods manufactured on the premises of a place of manufacture, and the establishment by them of a special place of business, and the sale therein by wholesale of the said manufactured goods, are not regarded as the business of selling goods.

Art. III.—By the business of money-lending and

* There is little if any difference between these, so far as the nature of the business is concerned; but the agency understood by the word *Shin-sen* is often conducted by a Company, while that expressed by the word *Dai-ben* is limited to an individual, or to two or more acting in partnership.

the business of letting goods on hire, which are subject to the tax, is meant the establishment of a fixed shop, or other place of business, and the lending of money and letting on hire of goods therein. The letting on hire of things which are not generally termed goods is included.

Art. IV.—By the business of manufacturing which is subject to the trade tax is meant the establishment of a fixed place of manufacture, and the employment of workmen and labourers, and the manufacture therein, in whole or part, of goods.

The supply of gas and electricity, the repair of instruments and machinery, the hulling and grinding of grain, dyeing and laundry work are regarded as the business of manufacturing mentioned in the preceding clause.

The trade tax will not be levied in cases where the capital employed is less than *yen* 500, or where not more than two work-people or labourers are continually employed.

Art. V.—The transport, upon payment of freight or fees, of passengers or cargo, or the management thereof, is regarded as transport, and is subject to the trade tax. But the tax will not be levied in cases where the number of employes does not exceed two.

Art. VI.—The establishment of warehouses and the storage therein of goods upon payment of warehouse dues, or for remuneration given under any other name, are regarded as the business of warehousing and are subject to the trade tax.

Art. VII.—The trade tax will not be levied in cases of printing and photography where the number of regular work-people or employes is not more than two, or in cases of contracting for building or other work of construction, and of contracting for the supply of labour, where the annual value of contract work is less than *yen* 1,000.

Art. VIII.—The letting on hire upon payment of rent, or for remuneration given under any other name, of guest-rooms, or meeting-halls is regarded as the business of letting rooms on hire, and is subject to the trade tax. But the tax will not be levied in cases where the hire of a building is less than *yen* 50.

Art. IX.—The business of inns, which is subject to the trade tax, is that in which, whether food and drink are supplied or not, guests are lodged for one night or for a longer period, and three, or more than three, employes are kept.

Art. X.—Restaurants subject to the business tax are those in which more than three employes are kept, in which guest rooms are established and food and drink are sold.

Art. XI.—The following businesses are not subject to the business tax:—

1. The sale of stamps issued by the Government.
2. The sale of minerals extracted from mines by the seller or obtained by him indirectly.
3. The manufacture, repair or sale of weights and measures.

Art. XII.—The basis and rates of assessment of the business tax are as follows:—

Name of Business.	Basis of Assessment.	Rate of Assessment.
Sale of goods	Value of goods sold.....	Wholesale. $\frac{5}{10,000}$
	Amount of rent of building.....	Retail $\frac{15}{10,000}$
	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
Banking.....	Amount of capital.....	$\frac{5}{1000}$
Insurance.....	Amount of rent of building.....	$\frac{40}{1000}$
Money-lending.....	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
The letting on hire of goods.....	Amount of capital.....	$\frac{2}{1000}$
Warehousing.....	Amount of rent of building.....	$\frac{40}{1000}$
	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
	Amount of capital.....	$\frac{2}{1000}$
Manufacturing.....	Amount of rent of building.....	$\frac{40}{1000}$
Printing.....	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
Photography.....	Work-people and labourers engaged in the business.....	30 sen per head.
Transport.....	Amount of capital.....	$\frac{2}{1000}$
Canal transport.....	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
Landing Stages.....	Value of work contracted for.....	$\frac{2}{1000}$
Docks.....	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
Places for mooring vessels.....	Amount of rent of building.....	$\frac{40}{1000}$
Jetties for landing goods.....	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
Contracting for building or other work of construction.....	Amount of rent of building.....	$\frac{40}{1000}$
Contracting for the supply of labour.....	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
The letting on hire of rooms.....	Amount of rent of building.....	$\frac{40}{1000}$
Restaurants.....	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
Inns.....	Amount of remuneration received.....	One per cent.
Agencies.....	Persons engaged in the business.....	One yen per head.
* <i>Shin-sen-giō</i>		
* <i>Dai-ben-giō</i>		
Middlemen.....		
Brokers.....		

Art. XIII.—Persons who are liable to taxation under this law shall draw up a statement giving the name of their business and the basis of assessment and submit it to the Government not later than the 31st January in each year. Persons establishing a business shall make the report prescribed by this Article when the business is opened. When a business is closed the fact must be reported to the Government.

Art. XIV.—If several businesses are carried on by the same person, the trade tax will be levied separately in accordance with the basis of assessment fixed by Article XII. If the persons constituting the basis of assessment are employed in more than one capacity, the tax will be calculated according to one only of the bases of assessment; if the rates of assessment are different, the highest will be taken.

Art. XV.—In the case of businesses of selling goods, of contracting for building or other work of construction, of contracting for the supply of labour, of letting on hire of rooms, of inns, of restaurants, of agencies, of middlemen and of brokers, the tax will be levied on each shop or place of business.

Should there be several such shops or places of business, where the capital is divided the tax will be levied separately, and where it is not divided the tax will be levied in one joint assessment.

Art. XVI.—The bases of assessment to be reported to the Authorities shall be calculated in accordance with the following classification. In the case of newly opened businesses these shall be determined by estimates:—

1. The value of goods sold, the value of work contracted for, and the amount of remuneration received, shall be fixed at the total amounts of the previous year. But in the case of business newly opened during the previous year, these shall be determined by estimates.
2. The amount of capital and the amount of rent of a building shall be fixed on the averages of the previous year.
3. The number of persons engaged in a business shall be fixed by the greatest number employed at any time during the previous year.

The method of calculating capital shall be fixed by Imperial decree. Art. XVII.—If it is considered that the amount of capital stated by a person engaged in business is incorrect, the Government may examine into the amount of his business receipts, and after deducting from this amount a suitable sum for business expenditure, fix the capital at twenty times as much as what remains.

Art. XVIII.—The amount of rent of a building is regarded as corresponding to the rent of a shop or the rent of land and houses for business purposes. But premises which are occupied for the purpose of residence, or which are not directly used for business purposes, are, so long as they are situated in the same compound and serve the personal requirements of the occupant, included in the calculation as business premises. In cases where houses are rented, everything paid in connection with the lease by the hirer to the letter, under whatsoever name, is included in the calculation of the amount of rent of a building. In cases where houses are not rented, the amount of rent of a building is fixed on the basis of the rents of houses in the vicinity. If there are no rented houses which can be taken as a basis of comparison in the vicinity, the current value of the land and of the house will be calculated separately, and the amount of rent of the building in question will be fixed by adding together 5 per cent. of the former and 10 per cent. of the latter. The same rule will apply to rent-free houses.

If it is considered that the amount of rent of a building stated by a person engaged in business is incorrect, the Government may fix the amount of rent according to the method explained in the preceding clause. Art. XIX.—All persons engaged in business under whatsoever designation are counted as persons engaged in business. But a person's family is not included. Art. XX.—The trade tax is divided into two instalments which are payable in May and November of each year. When a business is closed, tax not yet paid will be regarded as tax which has not been paid.

Art. XXI.—Persons establishing a new business shall pay the business tax from the commencement of the following year. Persons opening the following businesses shall not be called upon to pay the trade tax until three years, counted from the commencement of the following year, have expired. This rule may be extended to cases where persons have established businesses prior to the operation of this tax-law, and three years counted from the commencement

of the year following such establishment have not yet expired:—

Boating, insurance, warehousing, manufacturing, printing, transport, landing stages, docks, and places for mooring vessels.

Art. XXII.—A person who within the period of 6 months establishes a business which is the same as that carried on in the same place by his predecessor, shall pay the trade tax from the commencement of the month in which the business was established.

Art. XXIII.—If a business is continued, or if there are facts which lead to the inference that a business is being continued, the trade tax will be collected at the regular season from the person carrying on the business.

Art. XXIV.—When a business is closed, the tax will be collected up to the month of closure. If the business is continued by others, the provisions of the preceding Article shall be followed.

Art. XXV.—If in cases coming under Articles XXII. and XXIII., the predecessor was enjoying the benefit of the period mentioned in Article XXI., this benefit shall be extended to his successor.

Art. XXVI.—If the Government consider that the statements of a person engaged in business are incorrect, and determine by calculation the amount of his capital or the amount of rent of his building, they shall notify the fact to the person in question.

Art. XXVII.—If the calculation mentioned in the preceding Article is objected to, the objection may be stated within 20 days after the receipt of the notice, and a fresh examination be applied for. Under these circumstances no delay for the payment of the tax will be granted by the Government.

Art. XXVIII.—If objection is raised to the calculation of the amount of rent of a building as provided for in the 3rd clause of Article XVIII., the amount shall be fixed by means of appraisers. If the appraisements differ, an average will be taken.

There shall be four appraisers, two of whom shall be appointed by the Government and two by the Governor of the city or the chief official of the town or village in which the land and buildings are situated. The expenses of the appraisement shall be borne by the tax-payer.

The duties of the Governor and chief officials mentioned in the preceding clause shall be performed in cities where Special City Organization exists by the Head of Urban districts (*Kuchō*), in places where the City Town and Village Organization (*Shi-chō son-sei*) is not in force by the mayors (*Kochō*), and in Okinawa prefecture by the chief local officials (*Yakusho-chō*).

Art. XXIX.—In the following cases persons engaged in business may submit a statement of facts to the Government:—

- i. If the amount of capital, the value of goods sold, the value of work contracted for, the amount of remuneration received, or the amount of rent of a building which serves as the basis of assessment is reduced by more than one half.
- ii. If the number of persons engaged in the business which serves as the basis of assessment is reduced to less than half the number reported.

Art. XXX.—If, as a consequence of the representation mentioned in the preceding Articles, it is considered by the Government necessary, on reference being made to the actual condition of the person engaged in business, to reduce the business tax, the levying of the tax may be delayed until January of the following year.

Art. XXXI.—The Government may meet the representation mentioned in Article XXVI. by instituting, in January of the following year, an examination into the basis of assessment, and, if the representation is found to come under any of the following cases, may reduce the tax:—

- i. If the value of goods sold, the value of work contracted for, or the amount of remuneration received which serves as the basis of assessment, is less than half of the total amounts of previous years, or if the amount of capital or the amount of rent of a building which serves as the basis of assessment is less than half the average amounts of previous years.
- ii. If the number of persons engaged in the business which serves as the basis of assessment is less, at the time when the greatest number is employed, than half the number reported.

In cases where the basis of assessment is thus reduced below the lowest limit fixed for taxation, the tax will nevertheless be levied proportionately.

Art. XXXII.—The persons engaged in the business mentioned in Art. I. shall keep books in to show the purchase, sale, receipt, letting on hire and transport of goods, the number of persons engaged in the business, and the money received and expended in connection with their

business, and shall enter in these books all facts relating to their business.

Art. XXXIII.—Tax collectors may inspect the books and commodities which are connected with a business, and may also put questions to the person engaged in the business.

Art. XXXIV.—Persons who fail to make the report mentioned in Art. XIII., or make a false report, or willfully omit to make the entries in their books which are prescribed by Art. XXXII., or make false entries, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one *yen* and not more than one *yen* and ninety-five *sen*. Those who evade payment of the tax shall be punished by a penalty of thrice the amount of the tax evaded, or by a fine.

Art. XXXV.—In the case of persons committing infringements of this tax-law, the provisions of the Criminal Code relating to the condonations of offences, the reduction of penalties, the increase of penalties for offences which are repeated, and the concurrence of several offences, will not be applied.

Art. XXXVI.—A supplementary tax not exceeding in amount $\frac{1}{10}$ of the trade tax payable under this law, may be levied in Prefectures upon persons engaged in business who are liable under this law to taxation. But prefectural and local taxes cannot be levied in addition to this supplementary tax.

SUPPLEMENTARY CLAUSES.

Art. XXXVII.—This tax-law shall come into force on the 1st January, 1897.

Art. XXXVIII.—Prefectural and local taxes belonging to the financial year 1896 are not subject to the provisions of Article XXXVI.

Business upon which the prefectural and local taxes belonging to the financial year 1896 have been levied, will, so far as the year 1897 is concerned, be subject only to $\frac{1}{10}$ of the annual trade tax.

Art. XXXIX.—The season for payment of the trade tax which is fixed by Article XX. in May, will, for this year only, be altered to July.

THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

The sixteenth ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders of the Grand Hotel, Ltd., was held on Monday afternoon, the 19th instant, at the Hotel. There were present Mr. J. F. Lowder, in the chair, Messrs. B. C. Howard, R. Howie, C. K. M. Martin, E. V. Thorn, Dr. Hall and J. Tornoe, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—I have much pleasure in presenting the report and accounts of the last half-year, which, as usual, I presume will be taken as read. Before attending the meeting I looked into the past accounts of the Company and was gratified to find that in the eight years of its existence it has paid in dividends to the shareholders \$287,500, or 125 per cent. of its nominal capital, which represents an average of over 14 per cent. per annum. A larger sum still has been written off for depreciation in the same period, whilst the value of the assets has been increased by \$40,000 or \$50,000, without taking into consideration the appreciation in value of the ground, which still appears in the accounts at \$60,000. The shareholders therefore have good security for their investments, and the history of the Company shows that its earning powers are steadily increasing. I shall be glad to propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. HOWIE remarked that the Chairman had referred to the value of the ground as an asset. In 1890 it was valued at the same amount, but the value of ground in the Settlement had since largely appreciated. He would suggest a re-valuation and that the figures arrived at be inserted in future accounts.

The CHAIRMAN said he believed the accepted rule in stating the accounts was to state the liabilities exactly, if possible, and in the case of a doubtful item, to carry it to suspense account. With assets it was the rule to give the prime cost, less a generous writing off for depreciation, the result being that the account is stated more or less against the company. If there was an appreciation he saw no reason why it should not appear in the accounts. It would be easy to have the ground re-valued, and although it would not be possible from the accountant's point of view to insert it in the next account, he would undertake that it should be inserted in a note to the account, so that although the ground will appear in the accounts at \$60,000, they would be able to see its appraised value.

Mr. HOWIE said that would meet the case and having seconded the Chairman's motion the report and accounts were passed as follows:—

REPORT.

The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1897, accompany this Report. The net profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1896, and after providing for general expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, bonus to Manager, interest, and writing off bad and doubtful debts, amounts to \$38,313.15

Which it is proposed to apply as follows:—
In payment of a dividend of 11 per cent. for the half year 37,100.00
Balance to be carried to new account 10,813.15
\$38,313.15

A sum of \$25,540.25 having been written off for the half-year ended the 31st December, 1896, it is not considered necessary to write off anything for the half-year under review.

In carrying forward a larger cash balance than usual, the Directors have in view the fact that debentures to the value of \$5,000 are to be redeemed on the 15th October next.

Dr. Hall and Mr. Martin retire from the Board by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. Keil retires from the office of Auditor, and the Directors have much pleasure in recommending his re-election for the current year.

According to Article 86 of the Articles of Association, the amount of the Directors' fees for the current year will have to be decided at this meeting.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 30th day of July, when the warrants will be issued.

J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.
JAMES WALTER, }

Yokohama, 7th July, 1897.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1897.

ASSETS.	
Chartered Bank of I. A. and China	\$ 37,444.07
Cash in hand	398.55
Fire Insurance Policies	1,507.25
Ground	60,000.00
Buildings	334,766.42
Furniture	54,335.34
Electric Light Plant	28,819.37
Steam Launch	7,066.83
Wines in stock	5,788.06
Provisions in Stock	3,800.43
Bills receivable	9,347.49
	\$337,124.50

LIABILITIES.	
Stock, 2,500 Shares at \$100	\$250,000.00
Debentures	25,000.00
Bills payable	13,605.75
	\$288,605.75
Balance, Profit	38,313.15
	\$327,124.50

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1897.

Dr.	
To General Expenses	\$ 25,056.58
Fire Insurance	1,507.25
Directors' and Auditor's Fees	495.94
B-d Debts written off	1,529.00
Bonus to Manager	18.15
Balance, Gross Profit	300.00
Balance available for Division	\$38,313.15
Dividend 11 per cent.	\$27,100.00
Carried forward new a/c	10,813.15
	\$38,313.15
	\$67,124.50

Cr.	
By Balance, brought forward from Dec. 31st, 1896	\$ 800.38
Working Account	64,818.67
Rent Account	2,155.00
Share Transfer Fees	25.00
Share Warrant Fees	50
Sales of old Material	28.45
	\$ 67,124.50
By Balance	\$ 10,813.15

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, June 30th, 1897.

J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.
JAMES WALTER, }

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company and certify them to be correct.

O. KEIL, Auditor.

Yokohama, July 7th, 1897.

The CHAIRMAN stated the next business was to elect two Directors, and he proposed that the two retiring Directors, Dr. Hall and Mr. C. K. M. Martin be re-elected.

Mr. HOWIE seconded the motion and it was carried *nam con*.

The CHAIRMAN said it was also necessary for the meeting to fix the remuneration of the Directors for the current year.

Mr. HOWIE proposed that the Directors' remuneration be the same as last year, namely \$400, and while proposing this said the thanks of the shareholders were due to the Directors and the management for their very successful conduct of the business of the Hotel during the past half-year.

The CHAIRMAN said that as there were no dissentients, he would take Mr. Howie's motion as carried, and at the same time, on behalf of the Directors, thank him for his kind remarks.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. MARTIN, Mr. Keil was re-elected auditor, and this concluded the business before the meeting.

LANGFELDT & CO., LIMITED.

REPORT.

Report of the Directors, and Statement of Accounts, to be submitted at the thirteenth semi-annual ordinary general meeting of shareholders, to be held at No. 61 Main Street, Yokohama, on Friday, the 23rd day of July, 1897.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and Profit and Loss Account for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1897, accompany this Report.

The Net Profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1896, and after providing for General Expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, Depreciation and Losses, amounts to..... \$10,400.70

which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

In payment of a Dividend of \$25 per share for the half year..... \$37,500.00

Balance to be carried to new account..... \$ 2,900.70

\$40,400.70

According to Article 85 of the Articles of Association the Amount of the Directors' Fees for the year ending June 30th, will have to be settled at this meeting.

J. F. LOWDRER } Directors.
O. KEIL }

Yokohama, July 19th, 1897.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on June 30th, 1897.

ASSETS.	
Stock of Merchandise, Ship Chandlery and Coal	\$215,321.31
Plant, Fixtures and Furniture	2,000.00
Cash in hand.....	461.67
Fire Insurance Policies	140.48
Sundry Debtors	\$3,846.97
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	51,007.85
	\$214,078.88

LIABILITIES	
Capital, 1,500 Shares at \$100	\$150,000.00
Sundry local Creditors	10,177.58
Bills Payable to Bank	23.50
	\$173,671.58
Balance, Profit	40,400.70
	\$214,078.88

Profit and Loss Account, June 30th, 1897.

Dr.	
To General Expenses	\$ 20,370.64
Rent	2,818.15
Fire Insurance	785.07
Depreciation of Plant, Fixtures and Furniture	293.34
Directors' Fees	600.00
Auditor's Fees	150.00
Balance, available for division to be dealt with as follows:—	\$40,400.70
Dividend at the rate of \$25 per share for the half year \$37,500.00	
Retained forward to new account	2,900.70
	\$40,400.70
	\$64,778.75

Cr.	
Jan. 1—By Balance forward from 31st Dec., 1896.....	\$ 1,099.86
June 30—Gross Profit on trade	\$5,844.81
Share transfer fees	90.00
Interest	25.08
	\$ 54,718.75
1897.	
July 1—By Balance.....	\$ 2,900.70
	\$ 54,718.75

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, June 30th, 1897.

J. F. LOWDRER } Directors.
O. KEIL }
J. FAICK, Secretary.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the company, and certify them to be correct.

Yokohama, July 16th, 1897.

Cecil Guinness, Auditor.

YOKOHAMA CHARITY ORGANIZATION.

The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Yokohama Charity Organization was held at Keil's Buildings on the 22nd instant. There were present Messrs. A. O. Gay (Chairman) C. K. M. Martin, B. C. Howard, W. F. Mitchell, Rev. E. C. Irvine (Hon. Sec.), and Jas. Martin (Hon. Treasurer).

The CHAIRMAN read the report and financial statement and also a supplementary account, which showed the financial position of the Society up to date. These were as follows:—

The Committee beg to lay before the Subscribers the following report and statement of finance.

The largest item in the expenditure is the amount incurred for the relief of destitute seamen, which is the prime object of the Society's existence. These men were housed and fed at Mr. John Kernan's till the end of 1896, when Mr. Kernan intimated that he was about to discontinue his boarding-house and was, therefore, obliged to terminate his agreement with the Society. Fortunately the Salvation Army had just then established a branch in Yokohama, and an agreement was effected with them to receive men from the Charity Organization on the same terms as Mr. Kernan's. The agents of the Salvation Army have done their work very thoroughly, and have taken much pains to improve the moral and physical condition of the men. Their new premises and management meet an absolute want. During the period covered by this report, tickets for 1,081 days' board and lodging were issued by the Honorary Secretary without any

distinction of race or creed. The recipients were principally British, American, Canadian, Swedish, Danish, and Norwegians, the remainder belonging to various countries, namely, Austria, Belgium, Horno, Brazil, Chili, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Hawaii, Holland, India, Italy, Manila, Mauritius, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Russia, and Tahiti.

The great majority of these were seamen, firemen, stokers, and seal-hunters, the rest being of the following occupations: auctioneers, bar-tender, bicycle-maker, book-keeper, boat-swin circulator, clerk, cook, constable, engineer, electrician, gas-fitter, hosier, house-painter, huckster, iron-founder, iron-moulder, jockey, machinist, medical student, mechanic, piano-tuner, plantation-hand, soldier, railway engineer, reporter, runner, ships' boy, shop-keeper, teacher, steward, supercargo, tailor, tally-clerk, whaler.

The greatest care has been exercised in granting relief-tickets, hundreds of applications being refused which upon examination were found to be unwarranted.

The scope of the Society's operations has been extended in a few instances to the part-payment of passages from this country, but neither its scale of subscriptions, nor its constitution permit of this to any large extent. Indeed, it would be unwise that any Society should exist in Yokohama, with large powers of transshipment, as it would soon be perverted into a carrying company for the nomadic mendicants of the world.

Sunshine and strong-drink, rice and vice are more easily procurable here than in the sterner lands of the Occident, and if outdoor relief were extended to the gang of idlers who infest the purlieus of China-town, as some busy-bodies advise, they would stagnate there in ever-increasing numbers. The aim of our organization is to relieve distress, and encourage men to work, not to pauperize them with doles.

The Committee in presenting this report and statement now beg to tender their resignation, and to thank the community for their response as shown in the Subscription List for 1897, here appended.

JAS. DODDS, Chairman

H. BAEHR.

B. C. HOWARD

JAS. MARTIN, Hon. Treas.

THOS. ROSE.

E. CHAMPEYNS IRWINE, Hon. Sec.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FROM JULY 1ST, 1895, TO MARCH 31ST, 1897.

RECEIPTS.	
To Balance from last account	\$ 61.94
July 1st, 1895.....	
March 31st, 1897.....	\$ 1,305.86
Local Subscriptions	
U.S.S. Baltimore Minstrel	\$151.50
H.M.S. Edgar Greyhound Minstrel	165.72
H.M.S. Humber Dramatic Corps	22.75
Ricket Farewell Conversation Surplus	15.56
Interest National Bank of China, Limited	23.97
	\$1,443.45
By Assistance and Supplies to Destitutes	\$ 310.86
Assistance to Destitute Seamen	747.40
Assistance Passengers from Japan	209.50
Medicines and Hospital Expenses	81.90
Printing, Advertising and Stationery	88.20
	\$1,367.65
Balance to New Account	\$ 75.85
	\$1,443.45

To Balance	April 1st, 1897.....	\$ 175.85
	E. & O. E.	

Yokohama, 11th May, 1897.

(Signed) JAS. MARTIN, Acting Hon. Treas.
Examined and found correct.

(Signed) O. KEIL, Auditor.

MEMO OF CASH SINCE LAST ACCOUNT

Expenditure—	
Board and Lodging account.....	\$ 148.43
Medicine account.....	4.15
Passage Money—Johannesburg account	
\$10.13, other passages 22.50	123.63
Collector's commission on \$60	19.36
	\$ 295.57

Receipts—	
Balance from last account	\$ 175.85
Subscriptions to date 23rd July, 1897	1,034.00
Interest to 30th July, 1897.....	91
	\$1,210.70

Balance on hand	\$914.89
Cash.....	
In Bank	\$885.34
Cash in hand	29.55
	\$914.89

On the motion of Mr. HOWARD, seconded by Mr. ALITCHKILL, the report and audited accounts were passed as presented.

With regard to the election of a Committee, the CHAIRMAN proposed that the members of the retiring Committee be re-elected, but as Mr. Dodd was away for a time and Mr. Baehr had resigned, it would be well to elect two other gentlemen to the Committee.

On the motion of Mr. IRWINE, seconded by Mr. C. K. M. MARTIN, Messrs. Mitchell and J. C. Hartland were added to the Committee.

After some desultory conversation, Mr. Irwine read the following letter, which he had received that day from Mr. Troup, H.B.M.'s Consul:—

British Consulate, Yokohama,

July 22, 1897.

My dear Mr. Irwine,
I have read the report of the Charity Organization

Society's Committee, which has been kindly placed in my hands, and as I regret that I am prevented from being personally present at the meeting of the subscribers which is to take place this afternoon, I venture to ask you to lay the following statement from me before the meeting. I feel that some explanation from me is called for on the points to which I am about to refer.

In their report the Committee say "the largest item in the expenditure is the amount incurred for the relief of destitute seamen, which is the prime object of the Society's existence." And further down, "among the principal recipients of relief are enumerated British and Canadian, Indian, etc."

In passing, let me state that at this Consulate, Canadian, British and Indian seamen are treated as classes of British seamen, and that firemen, stokers, seal hunters, ships' cooks, stewards, etc., are comprehended in the term "seamen," for purposes of relief.

In the financial statement I observe that the considerable sum of \$747 has been expended for assistance (in this place I presume) to destitute seamen.

Now I ought to state that ample provision is made by the Imperial Government and by the Canadian British, Indian, and Colonial Governments, through the agency of the British Board of Trade and Her Majesty's Consulates abroad, for the relief of all destitute seamen (whether of British birth or otherwise) who have left British ships in the regular way of discharge on account of sickness, shipwreck, imprisonment for any offence, the sale of the ship to a foreign flag, mutual agreement between the master and seaman, or termination of the agreement abroad. If therefore distressed seamen out of British ships, who are not entitled to relief from this Consulate, are found in this place, I am unable to account for their being found distressed here, unless on the supposition that they have either deserted from their ships, at this port, or have done so elsewhere and found their way here, or that they have been illegally discharged here or elsewhere. In by far the majority of cases my experience leads me to believe that such seamen are deserters from their ships and a grave question arises as to how far it is expedient to help, in the name of charity, such men to subsist at this port.—unless in cases of real sickness.

I remain, my dear Mr. Irwine,

Yours very truly,

JAMES TROUP.

P.S.—Will you allow me to take this opportunity of adding, what is already known to yourself personally, that the above provision for relief is limited to the relief of *seamen* and that the instructions of the British Government with regard to the relief of distressed British subjects who are *not seamen*, require the Consular officer in the first instance to make every effort for relieving them by recourse to local charitable agencies, or other available sources."

J. T.

After reading the letter Mr. IRWINE explained that though the sum of \$737 expended in aid of distressed seamen might seem large, it extended over two years. Some of the destitute men assisted had deserted, some had been left behind, or had served on other than British ships, and it was easy to understand how \$360 a year could be expended in these cases. H.B.M. Consul appeared to deem it inexpedient to help them. When it had been possible he had sent the men to their Consul, and to others he had refused assistance after making enquiries. In the other cases all that remained was to help the men for a day or two to save the community from having the men begging at their doors. At the same time they were obliged to Mr. Troup for his information as to the powers of the Consulate in cases of distressed British subjects.

After Mr. IRWINE had read a letter from Mr. Baehr, resigning his post on the Committee, which was received with regret and hopes that Mr. Baehr would join them again in the future, the meeting terminated.

RAMBLES IN FORMOSA.

NARRING TAKAU.

The Kholai plain is a very fertile stretch of alluvial soil extending over about 20 square miles, and is as yet very little developed. All tropical plants could advantageously be grown there, and if only quiet is restored and the savages are pacified, there is no reason why an extraordinary prosperity should not blossom here. The anchorage, though, presents some hindrance to a flourishing trade, being very rough and unstable even in the best of times. We had rather a hard time of it, getting from the steamer ashore. Mighty waves overflowed the small boat, driving it to and fro at their mercy, and landing proved exceedingly difficult. But when we were at the top of the last huge wave, rolling coastward, dozens of savages came to our rescue and safely towed the little craft to the shore. At first, at the sight of that howling band of naked

men, that sprung suddenly upon us unawares, one would have fancied he beheld the fierce attack of wild vikings, bent upon bloodshed and booty. Indeed the aspect of these children of nature, guileless of any garment whatsoever, was anything but reassuring. It certainly was fine sport for them—boat-towing—not a business, for, as we were told afterwards they did not require any pay for such work, but were just content with the fun of the thing. And then, of course, after finishing their cargo job, they would find their way to the steamer, have their fill of astounding miracles and all sorts of queer devices and mechanical deviltries to feast their eyes upon, pick up a cigar here and a bowl of rice there, and feel amply rewarded for a day's hard toil. It was the most grotesque and fantastic sight I ever witnessed, when those nude tribesmen, drifting to the state-room of the *Katsuyama*, saw, evidently for the first time in their lives, a looking-glass, and beheld, with grinning delight, their own copper-coloured bodies reflected in the huge mirror on the wall.

The customs of the Lam-si-huan, as the dwellers of the Kholai plain are called by the Chinese, are very accurately described by Dr. Mackay in what may perhaps be considered the best chapter in "From Far Formosa." The learned and versatile doctor seems, however, to lay a little too much stress upon the severe regularity of the tribe's constitution and the power of the chiefs. As far as I could ascertain, the prerogatives of the chosen chieftains are very limited; they do not even wear any insignia of rank to distinguish them from the rest. Dr. Mackay further asserts, that "their dialect is peculiar and quite distinct from the Pepohuan and the mountain savages," but, while endorsing the latter part of the observation, I must affirm that, on the contrary, I was much struck by the thorough-going similarity between the idioms of the Kapsalumi and Kholai plains. I may mention here that in the mountains east of the Lam-si-huan, a young Japanese anthropologist, Mr. Torii, of the Imperial University, who spent nearly half a year among the tribes of the central interior, claims to have discovered a race of dark pygmies, occupying several villages. It would be exactly the region where the late naturalist Swinhoe, from the accounts of Chinese peddlars, located the Formosan pygmies, whose existence has, however, always been exposed to grave doubts. The samples of language which Mr. Torii showed me, while in Tokyo, are most assuredly of a Malayan description, but it is a well known fact that the Negrillos of the Philippines also lost their original speech, adopting Malayan dialects. The problem deserves, in any case, further investigation.

The Japanese forces, which are at present led by Lieut. Col. Yukichi, are engaged in the north of the Kholai plains making roads, to get a safer basis for their operations against the mountaineers. Captain Hiroyama, who at the time of our arrival had just returned from the savage-infested districts, reported continual fighting, especially with the Taluku, who dwell in the villages of Kyuwansha, Ekarinsha, and Tokiresha. The captain also mentioned that there were two deserted Chinese camps in the north, at Sokusha and Sansanki, adding that Chinese soldiers first came there from Sao bay some eighty years ago. Following the soldier, numbers of Sao Pepohuans drifted to those parts and founded the villages of Karewan, hard by the Taluku territory, and Tabaron, west of Kholai plain. The Pepohuan had incessant bloody feuds with their warlike mountain neighbours. As to the Chinese camp at the mouth of Kholai river, I learned that the soldiers stationed there, the only Chinese force that still remained in Formosa after the Japanese occupation, left in August last. They were taken to Amoy by a Japanese man-of-war, as none of the destitute men, cast adrift by their own government, could afford to pay a junk passage to China. Many of them, in order to buy food, had previously sold their muskets to the savages, who were being furnished also with excellent repeating rifles of Austrian manufacture by the firm of Mandl & Co. A few of the soldiers had preferred to remain in Formosa, betaking themselves to peddling and husbandry.

Following closely the coast southwards, towards the picturesque Black Rocks, we sighted another deserted Chinese camp at Shindyn, a few miles from the shore, north of Lattan, and plenty of native villages picturesquely surrounded by gigantic bamboos and banyan trees. A little south of Lattan I observed two perfectly shaped craters, showing all around deep erosion made by lava streams. The craters are rather low, scarcely reaching 200 or 300 feet, and of small size, thus resembling the low volcano of Chi-han at the north of Takau, the latest eruption of which took place, according to the Chinese Annals of Formosa, in 1722. The village of Lattan affords a splendid

and thoroughly safe anchorage in the time of the South-West monsoon, being protected from all parts except the north-east, and it might be a recommendable site for a harbour, were it not for the extreme depth of the sea immediately by the shore. As it was, we saw only a solitary junk riding on the smooth waves. The people of that region, a branch of the Sao-mo-huan, were said to be rather unruly and not over friendly to the Japanese. A Major of mounted police, however, whom I met, had been able to ride on horseback in five days from Chocke-dong to Pilam, without any trouble. It was perhaps in the neighbourhood of Lattan—the locality is in our maps only vaguely indicated as being in the centre of the east-coast—that Count Benyowsky, that adventurous Pole, made his second landing during his cruise in Formosan waters, about 120 years ago. Benyowsky had been made prisoner in Poland by the Russians and dragged away through dismal Siberia to Kamtschatka. Here the daughter of the Governor, falling in love with the handsome chevalier, freed him, and he escaped with his friends on a Russian sloop. Having navigated the Japan sea and visited Lin-kin, the Count reached Formosa, where, after some skirmishes with the natives, he availed himself of the good services of a Spanish refugee who lived amongst the savages, and by his aid made a treaty, by which he was recognised as a kind of king of eastern Formosa. He promised to drive the Chinese from the island. Benyowsky stayed quite a while on the fair island. His comrades, indeed, having eaten of that lotus that makes mortals forget their homes and family, urged him to settle down in the new-found paradise for good. But the wandering knight resolved to offer Formosa to King Louis XIV. of France and to return to the delightful isle as French Governor. When the Spaniard, who had married a chief's daughter, was asked to go back to Europe too, he answered, that he was quite content to remain where he was: he had had enough and to spare of Europe. Benyowsky's career thereafter was as varied and romantic as it had been previously. Louis sent him to Madagascar, the western-most point of Malayan expansion. The restless Count went even to America, but he never forgot the delight of his early youth, fair Formosa. There are many similar romances clinging to this wonderful island and many still unsolved mysteries. Strange things happened within the memory of the present generation. There is a whisper of an Englishman, who strayed into the depths of the Formosan Alps and was bound in happy wedlock with a chieftain's beautiful daughter—and there are beautiful women among the savages—and I heard from an old resident the tale of how two strangers, some decade or so ago, made their appearance in Tam-sui, and how these Europeans, without having communication with any of their race, deliberately set their faces toward the cloud-bearing mountains of the interior, and hid themselves away from their old friends and former associations, leading an unknown life among the savages of the virgin forests, where no white man's foot had trodden before. Once in a while, it is said, the strangers were seen by some stray wanderer, but nobody has ever solved the mystery of their life.

There are few places in Formosa more curious at present than Pilam. Decaying traces of the once powerful rule of the Chinese here show side by side with the newly erected and spacious buildings of the Japanese. The beginning of Chinese influence upon the customs and habits of the natives was checked by the sudden advent of Japanese civilisation. I saw taciturn soldiers, merry, garrulous shopkeepers from Nippon; tattooed, grim-looking Lin-kin Islanders; Chinese grocers and tiny-footed ladies; stout Pepohuans and a strutting procession of Ami braves, mingled with a deputation of Tsubhuan warriors and straggling descendants of the Pinan tribe. A deputation had arrived to submit a quarrel of succession to the Japanese authorities, and the deputies, in their gaudy costumes of green and red colours, with beautiful black eyes, firm-set lips, lovely crowns of grass and flowers, which exquisitely contrasted with their bluish-black hair and their chocolate-skin, presented a very striking and a very picturesque sight; an embassy indeed, that might well have deserved to be immortalised in an arch of Trajan or Septimius Severus. I secured specimens of all the different dialects and found undoubted Polynesian traces in them. Some writers say that the Ami were descendants of the Japanese vikings who came to Formosa in the beginning of the 17th century; perhaps so, but they must meanwhile have dropped their mother-tongue.

The military commander of Pilam is Major Kawamura, who had been three years in Berlin. He tendered us a hearty welcome, showed us all over the place and told of his interesting adventures on the southern slopes of the Formosan

giant, towering Mount Morrison. I had a delightful social evening with the genial major and his jolly officers. From what I learned from other quarters, the major seems to be universally liked, and as the welfare of the subjects largely depends upon the spirit of the masters, I should be disposed to consider the placid atmosphere of Pilam and the rare good understanding prevailing there between the Japanese and other races, as the immediate consequence of the major's amiable and conciliatory character.

KOBE FIRE INSURANCE CASE.

JUDGMENT.

We reprint from the *Kobe Chronicle* a summary of the judgment delivered by Mr. John Carey Hall, British Consular Judge, in the case brought against Messrs. Lucas & Co., agents for the Union Insurance Co., by Mr. J. A. Sylva. His Honour said:—This is a claim for fire insurance. The facts of the case are simple. On the 8th of May last, the plaintiff effects an insurance upon goods in his godown for \$3,000, making, together with the previous insurance on his furniture in the same establishment, a risk of \$4,000. The next incident occurs two days afterwards, when, according to the testimony of the plaintiff and his witnesses, the last lot of straw braid in the first contract with the dealer Inouye, and also 160 coils of special straw braid from Inouye, were delivered at the plaintiff's godown. On the 17th of May, a fire occurs, which was almost extinguished at its commencement. Thereupon, the plaintiff claimed from the defendants the sum of \$3,400 odd for a total loss of his furniture and goods in the godown. It was one of the conditions of the fire insurance policy, as stated in Article 16, that "any dispute relating to the claim if there be no suspicion of fraud shall be submitted to arbitration." There appeared a certain amount of reluctance on the part of the defendants' witnesses to state explicitly what was abundantly evident from the whole course of the procedure from the beginning—that they did suspect fraud, and very reasonably suspected fraud. In face of the fact that no less than ten cases of bamboos and nine cases of straw braid were found practically intact, or only slightly injured, that the office furniture was found to be untouched by fire or water—when such an amount of salvage was before the eyes of anyone who entered the godown, to claim as the plaintiff did on the 18th May that these goods were totally destroyed by the fire was simply an audacious falsehood—no less strong a term could apply to it. Defendants therefore were fully justified in resisting the claim for total loss as a claim for a total loss was in itself preposterous, and gave justifiable grounds of suspicion of even more deliberate fraud; and when the case comes to be looked into by the jury—and herein myself and the assessors are perfectly agreed—there was ample evidence of fraud. Defendants in their pleadings assert that the first so-called list (supplied to them by the plaintiff) was imperfect, which it undoubtedly is, containing simply four items: and the second list on which he is suing they assert to be false and fraudulent. His Honour then proceeded to review the evidence at length, and then said:—I will notice now the always suspicious circumstance, the absence of dates in the plaintiff's purchase book. In the first three pages of that book, which appear to extend over several months, dates are properly made, but on the page relating to this claim and even on the preceding page not a single date is entered. There is a similar absence of dates in the plaintiff's so-called godown-book. In regard to the plaintiff's conduct in claiming for a total loss when in fact the damage was slight, in charging excessive values on some articles, as for instance \$400 for the small lot of samples upstairs; in regard to the false entries, six being fraudulent; in regard to the book kept by the godown-man not having been produced; in regard to the fact that when plaintiff called an expert to examine the straw braid he was able to give the dates, but was not able to give them to the defendants or to this Court in the course of his evidence—these discrepancies in the quantity of goods, in prices, in dates, and the absence of dates, and the variations between the evidence and the purchase book, all combine to show that the claim is corrupt and fraudulent, and there must therefore be judgment for the defendants with costs. I consider that the defendants have done a public service in driving this claim into the light of a court of law. I see in the correspondence now in Court that at one time they contemplated paying a reasonable amount as on a partial loss. I think they have been well advised in not taking this course, and that they rendered a signal service to public opinion and commercial morality in allowing this

case to come into Court. In these findings the assessors agree.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE TRANSVAAL RAID INQUIRY.

London, July 14.

The Committee of Inquiry into the Transvaal Raid has completed its report, in which the Hon. Cecil Rhodes is strongly censured, as having organised the raid and deceived Lord Rosmead, and also as having concealed his designs from the co-directors of the Chartered Company.

The Cape Cabinet refrains from suggesting any course of proceedings against him.

Mr. Alfred Beit, who is also held responsible, entirely absolves the Colonial Office from the charge of having had any cognizance of the raid being projected.

BRITISH NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

The British Naval Manœuvres have ended in a fiasco, apparently owing to a misconception of the Admiralty's instructions.

THE U. S. TARIFF.

Washington, July 12.

The Senate Committee of Ways and Means struck out the clause which the House of Representatives had inserted in the Tariff Bill, in connection with the duty on sugar, with a view to annulling the Reciprocity Convention with Hawaii. The Senate in its full sitting has rejected the Committee's recommendation and revived the clause as sent up from the House.

London, July 19.

In the United States Congress, the conference of the Upper and Lower Houses on the tariff has resulted in an agreement on all the important points which were in dispute. Raw cotton is restored to the free list.

Washington, July 20.

The Deputies of the two Houses of Congress submitted the result of their deliberations on the 19th inst., as follows:

JAPANESE SILK GOODS.

Dyed, 3 dollars per pound; printed, 3 dollars and 25 cents per pound.

FANCY MATTING.

Mats valued at less than 10 cents per square yards, 3 cents per square yard; those valued at more than 10 cents, 7 cents, with additional 25 per cent. *ad valorem*.

TEA.

Included in the free list.

RUGS.

Reported as amended by the Committee of Ways and Means of the Senate.

(The amendment by the said Committee is to impose a duty of 5 cents per square yard and 35 per cent. *ad valorem* upon goods valued below 15 cents per square yard, and of 10 cents and 35 per cent. *ad valorem* on goods valued above 15 cents per square yard.)

SUGAR.

A compromise between the opinions of the Lower and Upper Houses has been adopted. (By compromise may be meant the imposition of duty upon imported sugar in general, but excepting the sugar coming from Hawaii from this rule.)

THE RECIPROCITY CONVENTION.

The paragraphs relating to the Reciprocity Convention between America and Hawaii have been retained, as in the Bill passed by the House of Representatives.

(Hence Hawaiian sugar is to be placed on the free list in consequence of the Reciprocity Convention.)

The foregoing report was carried

through the House of Representatives on the evening of the 19th inst. It will, in the same way, be carried through the Senate within a few days.

THE SILK MARKET IN ITALY.

[Received July 14.]

The output of cocoons this year is about equal to that of last year. The quality, however, is inferior. The average quotation is 2 lire 40 centimes per kilogramme; the Japanese and mixed varieties 2 lire to 2 lire 20 centimes, and the Italian yellow variety 2 lire 30 centimes to 2 lire 70 centimes. Raw silk is cheaper than last year, the ruling quotation being 33 to 36 lire per kilogramme, according to quality.

FOREIGN LOAN TO CHINA.

Peking, July 14.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank will probably undertake the floating of 4.5 per cent. foreign loan bonds at the rate of 85.5 per cent.

KOREAN INTELLIGENCE.

Söul, July 16.

The trial at the Supreme Court of those arrested on the charge of conspiracy has been concluded and judgment has been declared to-day. Hong Hyön-chhöl (Kokentetsu) and Song Chong-yong (So Chinyo) have been sentenced to be hanged, two others to exile, one to penal servitude, and another acquitted.

Having offended the King by opposing the engagement of Russian military instructors, Foreign Minister Li recently tendered his resignation, which was at first rejected, but on the 23rd inst. Cho Pyong-chik was appointed Foreign Minister. The new holder of the portfolio is said to have already attempted resignation but without success.

Commanders for the Local Military Forces, already arranged to be distributed all over the peninsula, are expected to be appointed shortly.

On the 22nd inst. a ball was given at the British Consulate to celebrate the long reign of the Queen. Foreign Minister Li delivered a speech interpreted by a Korean. Some 100 persons were present, including the foreign representatives, consuls, military officers, advisers, missionaries, and journalists.

The Ninsen Shogyodan, or Itinerary Merchants' Guild, will hold a conference convoking the chiefs of various branches to discuss the expansion of the business on July 5th.

Drought prevails all over the Kingdom, and farmers are anxious for a rainfall, as it is most needed at this season when the rice-planting is to be done. The current price of rice is said to have been raised accordingly.

Mr. Minoru Yasuda, Vice-director of the Kanjo Hospital, in Söul, has developed the work of the hospital with the object of helping to lead Korea towards civilization by treating native patients kindly and ably, he himself occupying the position of director. He held a social meeting on the 24th inst. inviting our Minister, Consul, and others numbering over 100.

The aggregate amount of customs duties collected at the three ports of Ninsen, Fusan, and Gensan for the five months ending May 31st this year is estimated at 371,425 yen.

THE CAREW CASE.

London, July 15.

In the case of Mrs. Carew, of Yokohama, convicted of murder, the Privy Council have refused the application for leave to appeal.

REPORTED FIGHTING IN CRETE.

SIXTEEN BRITISH SOLDIERS KILLED.

In a conflict between British troops and Bashli-Bazouks at Candia, sixteen of the British were killed, in consequence of which three hundred more British Marines have been landed, and the Allied Admirals have sent five war-ships to repress any further violence on the part of the Mahomedans.

A FALSE ALARM.

London, July 16.

The report of fighting between British troops and Bashli Bazouks at Candia, which was published in *The Times*, has now turned out to be unfounded.

THE BEHRING SEA SEALING QUESTION.

The Hon. John Sherman, United States Secretary of State, in a dispatch to the American Ambassador in London, under date May 10th, comments with the greatest bitterness on Great Britain's refusal to join a conference of the Powers concerned, with the object of preserving the seals in Behring Sea. He virtually accuses Great Britain of bad faith, and concludes by casting upon her the responsibility for causing embarrassment in the relations between the two countries.

Later.

Several American papers criticise Mr. Sherman's dispatch (on the Behring Sea sealing question), which they characterise as needlessly irritating in its tone towards Great Britain, amounting, they assert, to a display of bad manners.

CRICKET.

The "Players" in the return match beat the "Gentlemen" at Lord's Cricket Ground by 78 runs.

THE U.S. SENATE AND ANNEXATION TREATY.

Washington, July 16.

The Committee of Foreign Affairs of the Senate reported favourably on the Annexation Treaty on the 14th inst. But it is expected that no action will be taken by the Senate during the present session.

BRITISH NAVAL EXTENSIONS.

The Bill for Naval Works has been read a second time in the House of Commons. The estimates for Dover Harbour Works are increased to £3,500,000. The estimates for extending Hongkong Dockyard are also increased. It is further proposed to advance half the cost of new docks at Colombo.

TURKEY AND THE POWERS.

London, July 18.

Tewfik Pasha (Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs) has informed the Ambassadors that he will be able to resume negotiations on Saturday.

Marshal Djavad Pasha, formerly Grand Vizier, has been appointed military commander of Crete.

Later.

Tewfik Pasha (Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs), at the last moment, has accepted the proposals made by the Ambassadors of the Powers.

SANDOWN PARK RACES.

The Eclipse Stakes (Sandown Park), run yesterday, resulted as follows:—

Prince of Wales' Persimmon 1
Lord Rosebery's Velasquez 2
Mr. T. Phillips' Bay Ronald 3

HENLEY REGATTA—DIAMOND SCULLS.

The American oarsman Ten Eyck has won the Diamond Sculls at Henley Regatta.

THE EARL OF DERBY.

The Earl of Derby, G.C.B., P.C., late Governor-General of Canada, has been made a Knight of the Order of the Garter.

THE SINKING OF THE "TAIHOKU MARU."

FURTHER DETAILS.

Paris, July 18.

On learning that the *Taihoku Maru* had been sunk after colliding with a British steamer off the Portuguese coast, near Lisbon, Mr. Kurino (Japanese Minister in Paris) at once requested the Portuguese Government, through its Minister of Foreign Affairs, to extend speedy assistance to the survivors. The Government accordingly dispatched a war-vessel promptly to the place where they had landed, and gave them every assistance. They were afterwards sent back to England. There was no loss of life whatever on the *Taihoku*.

INDIAN LOAN.

Tenders are invited for a 3½ per cent. rupee loan to the amount of three crores (thirty millions), which will be closed on the 16th August.

ARCTIC BALLOON EXPEDITION.

M. Andrée has started from Dane's Island in a balloon, with the object of reaching the North Pole. A favourable southerly wind prevailed at the time of departure.

RUSSIA & KOREA.

London, July 20.

In the House of Commons, during the debate on the Budget, a discussion arose on the vote for the Foreign Office, in the course of which the Right Hon. G. N. Curzon, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, stated that the interests of Great Britain with reference to Korea mainly consisted in securing that the Kingdom be not joined to Russia, and that Korean harbours be not made a base for operations which would be calculated to disturb the balance of power in the East.

THE ANGLO-ABYSSINIAN TREATY.

In the course of the same debate, Mr. Curzon stated that a treaty had been concluded between Great Britain and Abyssinia, but that it would be imprudent at present to make any statement as to the nature of the agreement.

FRENCH DISASTER IN AFRICA.

A French cavalry detachment sent out from Timbuctoo in pursuit of a band of robbers had been attacked, and suffered the loss of two European officers, two non-commissioned officers, and 29 Spahis.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

U.S. ENSIGN CHARGED WITH ASSAULT.

Kobe, July 19, 8.20 p.m.

A *Yirikisha* coolie charged Ensign Everhart, of the U.S.S. *Yorktown*—in the U.S. Consular Court at Kobe—with assault and battery, but the Court, after hearing the evidence, honourably acquitted the defendant. The allegation that the accused used a knife upon the coolie was unproved, but he admitted that he pointed a revolver at the man and used his stick, but this was in self-defence.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PRESS.)

RUSSIAN TROOPS FOR SOUL.

Soul, July 21.

In accordance with the commercial treaty between Russian and Japan the Russian Authorities are reported to have dispatched over 30 officers and 800 soldiers to be stationed at Soul and other open ports in Korea.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.

The Tokio Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem 328:—
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 328.

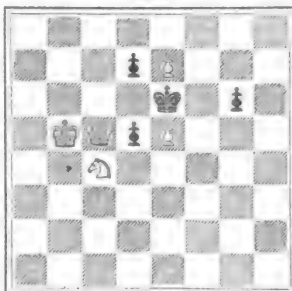
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to B 5	1—K to Q 5, or R to Kt 7
2—Kt to K 2, mate	1—K to Kt 7, or Q to Q 5
2—Kt to R 4, mate	1—Q to R 2, or Q takes P,
2—B to R 5, mate	[or Q to K 4]
2—Q takes Q, mate	1—B from Kt sq, or Q to [Kt, or B 3]

Correct Solutions of Problem No. 328, received from W.H.S.

PROBLEM No. 330.

By J. M. K. LUTON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNAMENT.

We have decided to start this Tournament on Monday, August 9th. Four names have already been sent in and we hope two more players will come forward ere the entries close on Saturday, July 31. The rules are shortly as follow:—Each competitor to play one game with the various players all round; games to proceed simultaneously. The moves must be sent in to the Chess Editor direct each day, for publication in the daily issue of this journal. Forty-eight hours is the time-limit: this rule will be strictly enforced. The Rules of the B.C.A. are to be adhered to, and any disputes that may arise will be adjudicated by the Chess Editor, his ruling to be final. Any further information will be readily afforded by the Chess Editor on personal application by any member taking part.

A silver cup, we may mention, has been offered by the Chess Editor, as a trophy in this Tournament.

NAGASAKI V. KORE.

We learn from the South that, after the recent defeat of the Kobe Chess Club in the correspondence games with Mr. Jordan, two champions have come to do battle with the victorious Dane. Messrs. Hazeland and Marshall have sent a challenge to Nagasaki for two simultaneous games: dictating the openings as Ruy Lopez and French Defence! In the former they to have the attack, and in the latter the defence. Mr. Jordan, in the true spirit of a chivalric chess player, has accepted the *défi*: and the games are proceeding. We admire his pluck. Marshall we know, but who is Hazeland? Probably he will act as Secretary to the Kobe game and forward on the moves which Marshall decides to make. At any rate we are in for a worthy contest between the Lion of Scotland and the Viking. One, the ex champion of his native land, and the other the friend and pupil of the Danish master Röm, Løvensen and Jespersen. Now we should see some Chess worthy of records.

OVER THE CHESS BOARD.

Tschigorin and Schiffers are arranging to give a performance in St. Petersburg similar to that which took place in Prague recently:—a game of chess, with living pieces numbering 300, with twenty horses, will be played.

Our very good friend "Black Bishop" of Hongkong, remarks:—In the second of his two volumes about Siberia and the Exile System, Mr. George Kennan alludes to the Soyots as isolated, almost unknown, and leading a nomadic life in the rugged mountainous regions of the Upper Vene-sei. They had been described to him as the

wildest, the fiercest, and the most savage of the native tribes of Northern Mongolia. But he found in the Miusink Museum a set of their strange-looking chessmen "in which the Bishops were double humped Bactrian camels, and the Pawns were dogs and wolves;" and when he had ascertained that—among other things—"they knew how to checkmate in three moves with a two-humped Bactrian camel," he felt that he had met along-lost tribe of Asiatic cousins. He became quite impervious to any attempt to impress him with their wildness and ferocity. "Any tribe that could play backgammon, the Mongolian Jew's harp, and open a game of chess with the Khan's double-humped Bactrian camel's dog gambit was high enough in the scale of civilization to teach social accomplishments even to the Siberians. It is true that the Soyots last year lay in wait for and captured the distinguished Finnish archaeologist Professor Aspelin, and held him for some time a prisoner, but they may have done this merely as a means for getting him to teach them some new Jew's harp music, instruct them in Finnish backgammon, or show them the latest method of cornering a king with two camels and a dog." At all events Mr. Kennan is right in holding that chess is incompatible with savagery!

"Black Bishop" complains that the Jubilee Celebrations have interfered with the Hongkong players. The Chess Club's Problem Competition had to be abandoned, as no solutions have been tendered for any of the problems set on the notice board. Play is languishing also in the All-against-all Tournament, and no Challenger has come forward to contest the Championship Cup with Mr. Pollock.

The Singapore Club, which was formed a month or two back, has arranged its first handicap Tournament. Seventeen players have entered, Mr. P. A. Reutens being placed in a position by himself, and the others divided into five classes.

Blackburne was once beaten in one move. He was playing with an irritable old gentleman who was most particular in enforcing all the rules of the game, and when in a bad humour quite incapable of seeing the point of a joke. It was his move first, and he played P to K 3. "Ah," said the champion, grimly, "now I resign." "All right," said his touchy opponent, "and that is one game to me." And nothing that Blackburne knew would alter that determination, so it was duly scored. It is the shortest game on record!

You can get as much fun from a study of the chess laws as from the pages of a comic paper—e.g., a game proceeds as follows:—1—P to K4. P to K4; 2—B to QB4. B to QB4; 3—Q takes KBP mate! Black says: "Move not possible. Illegal, sir." Umphie is referred to, but White demands a reference to authorities and not an umpire's judgment. He finds the law says:—"The Q can move in the manner of a R and B combined." White, by this law, is justified in mating at move 3 (the Q first moves to KB3 as a B and then takes P as a R, the mover not taking his hand off the piece while moving it). Again the law says:—"A player must never touch any of the men except when it is his turn to play." Hence, Black may not set up his own men without saying, "J'adoube" sixteen times. Another, the laws enact that "while a player holds the piece he has touched he may play it to any other than the square he took it from." Any other square! Mark that chess-players! thirty-one squares at the very least, if not sixty-three to choose from. There are scores of other comicities—or absurdities if you will—existing in the faulty collocation of our existing laws.

CRITIQUES ON PROBLEMS.

Mr. J. J. Gynn sends us a most interesting letter in this connection, from which we take the liberty of quoting as follows:—"Solvers are invited to award marks to problems in accordance with the following scale:—Difficulty, 2½; originality, 2½; beauty, 2½; economy, 1½; correctness, 1=10. The solver should ask himself—(1) Was the key move well concealed? Were there several plausible methods of attack? Was the second move concealed? If all affirmative, then 2½. (2) Is the idea absolutely original? Is it a distinctly new rendering? Are two old ideas well combined? If so, 2½. (3) Did the key-move surprise? Are other solutions artfully avoided? Did the solution give pleasure? Then, 2½. (4) Have the pieces been put to the best use? Has the defence been ingenious? Then, 1½. (5) Are there no dual or other fault which could be avoided? Then 1." The necessity of some such system is evident, two solvers sending in such different awards as 5 and 10 or 6 and 10 for the same problems.—*Sydney Morning Herald* (Solvers of problems should cut this out for future guidance.)

THE U. S. CHAMPIONSHIP.

Towards the end of this year, it is probable that Max Judd, the U. S. Consul General at Vienna, will contest the United States Championship with Pillsbury. Mr. Judd has been known for many years at a strong amateur. He recently played a magnificent game with Herr Steinitz at Vienna. We give the game, with notes from the *American Chess Magazine*:-

GAME No. 735.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Max Judd.		Black—W. Steinitz.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	18 Kt Q3	B K3
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	19 Bx B	Px B
3 B K15	P Q3 (a)	20 B K15	Q QB2
4 P Q4	B Q2 (b)	21 Q R Q sq	Q KB2 (g)
5 Kt B3	K Kt K2	22 P KB3	Kt R3
6 B QB4 (c)	Px P	23 R Q2	Q QB2
7 Kt K1	Kt Kt	24 Kt B4	Q KB2
8 Qx Kt	Kt B3	25 KR Q sq	Kt Kt sq (h)
9 O K3	B K3	26 Rx P (i)	Bx R
10 Kt Q5	Kt K4	27 Rx B	Kt B3
11 B K3	P QB3 (d)	28 Kt Kt	R K Kt sq
12 Kt B4	B Q2 (e)	29 Kt B7 ch	Qx Kt
13 Q Kt3 (f)	P Q R4	30 Q K5 ch	Q K2 (j)
14 P QR3	Q Kt3	31 R K6	Qx R
15 Castles	P R5	32 Qx Q ch	R B sq
16 B R2	P KR4	33 Bx Kt (k)	Px B
17 P R4	Kt Kt5	34 Qx BP ch	

NOTES.

(a) Mr. Steinitz' singular aversion against the recognized defence of the Ruy Lopez has caused him no end of worry and trouble. In the Vienna tournament he defended with 3—K Kt to K2, and thereby nearly ruined his chances for first prize. He discarded it after losing to Blackburne and drawing with Dr. Fleissig. In the Vienna tournament of 1882 he somewhat improved upon this defence by combining 3—P to Q R3 with K Kt to K2, and he cast his lot with it until 1888, when he experimented with the move above. In his "Modern Chess Instructor" he proclaimed this as the best defence, but his experiences with Lasker and at Hastings compelled him to look for something better, which he, however, has failed to find. In the present game he reverts to his pet defence, with the upshot that he gets a wholly lost game, although his opponent is certainly not in his class.

(b) Mr. Steinitz' original thesis of the defence included 4..... P takes P, followed by 5—Q takes P, B to Q2, forming a variation of the Philidor's defence, which in his opinion, is not unfavourable for the second player. Later on he adopted the above line of play on account of the reply, 5—Kt takes P. We, however, are of the opinion that his first plan is the better one if Black continues with 5..... B to Q2; 6—Kt to Q B3. Kt takes Kt; 7—Q takes Kt, B takes B; 8—Kt takes B, Kt to K2, followed by Kt to B3, as Blackburne did at Hastings against Lasker.

(c) First played by Makovitz against Blackburne at Dresden, 1892, and adopted by Lasker in the first part of their match in this city. Later on he played 6—B to K3. Tarrasch and Tschigorin first play 6—B to K Kt5, forcing Black to still further weaken his position by 6..... P to B3, and then retreat 7—B to K3.

(d) With a slight transposition of moves the same position is arrived at as in the fifth game of the championship match. Steinitz, at this juncture, played 11 B—K2, Castles; 12 Castles KR. B takes Kt; 14 B takes B, whereupon White not only retained two Bs vs. B and Kt, but also forced Black to weaken his QP by 14..... P—QB3.

(e) This retrocession does not look well, but is, in fact, his only good move.

(f) An excellent response, which effectually prevents Black's intended B—K2, for all time, as it proves.

(g) B—K2 instead, though tempting, would not answer, White replying with 22 Kt—KB4, followed by 23 Kt takes KP if 22..... B takes B.

(h) Evidently Black did not take into consideration the master stroke which White has in store, but his position is precarious. If 25..... K—Q2, the likely continuation would be: 26 Kt takes RP, Q takes Kt; 27 R takes P ch, R takes R; 28 Q takes B ch, and mates next move.

(i) This fine sacrifice, in conjunction with his pretty twenty-ninth move, should have insured a speedy win.

(j) If instead 30..... K—B sq, White wins by 31 R takes Kt ch, B takes R; 32 B—R6 ch, K—B2 (if Q—Kt2, then 33 Q takes P ch, if R—Kt2, then 33 Q takes Q); 33 Q takes Q ch.

(k) Instead of thus releasing the Rook, White should have continued 33 B—K3, R—R4, 34 B—B5 ch, R takes B, 35 Q—Q6 ch, winning easily. The play in the text leaves him with Queen against two rooks and he should have won, but he eventually committed a blunder and lost.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 25th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 26th.
From Hongkong.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 24th.
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 24th.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 3rd.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 25th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 29th.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Aug. 4th.

- 1 *Gaile* left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 8th.
 2 *Empress of China* left Vancouver on July 13th.
 3 *Feru* left Nagasaki on July 21st.
 4 *Ferna* left Kobe on July 24th.
 5 *City of Peking* left San Francisco on July 25th.
 6 *Salvador* left Kobe on July 24th.
 7 *Empress of Japan* left Hongkong on July 21st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 25th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 26th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 27th.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 30th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, August 1st.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, August 3rd.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, August 6th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 7th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

- Glenshiel*, British steamer, 2,240, R. D. Jones, 18th July.—San Francisco, 30th June, Ballast.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Arracan, British ship, 2,222, Donald, 18th July.—New York, 26th December, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Saint Ronald, British steamer, 1,784, W. H. Clements, 18th July, London via ports, and Kobe 16th July, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Hermes, Norwegian steamer, 1,060, J. C. Jensen, 20th July.—Hilo, Sugar.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Wm. Philie, 20th July.—Hongkong, and Kobe 19th July, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Guilvernio Esquivel, 21st July.—Manila, Sugar.—Browne & Co.
Glenericht, British ship, 2,216, Davies, 21st July.—Port Gamble, 15th May, Lumber.—American Trading Co.
Comite (3), French gunboat, 475 tons, Captain Simon, 21st July.—Kobe, 20th July.
Keong Wai, British steamer, 1,115, Unsworth, 22nd July.—Hongkong, 17th July, Sugar.—Butterfield and Swire.
Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Hayashi, 23rd.—Taiwan via Nagahama, Sugar.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.
Tantalus, British steamer, 2,199, Hannah, 23rd July.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 22nd July, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, T. A. Whistler, 23rd July.—Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Wash., 5th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carllill & Co.

DEPARTURES.

- Belgie*, British steamer, 1,827, J. H. Rinder, 17th July.—San Francisco and Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, Truebridge, 17th July.—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carllill & Co.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 18th July.—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails & General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 18th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,813, Goodwin, 19th July.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 20th July.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 20th July.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,055, P. Going, 20th July.—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Cassius, German steamer, 1,820, Unruh, 20th July.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, N. P. Pollock, 22nd July.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. S. Co.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,622, R. Birmann, 22nd July.—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Guilvernio Esquivel, 24th July.—Kobe, Sugar.—Browne & Co.
Monkbarns, British ship, 1,771, Thos. Atkinson, 24th July.—Astoria, Or., Ballast.—China and Japan Trading Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash. and Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. A. B. Townsend, Dr. S. Murana, Mr. Henry Arden, Mrs. T. A. Whistler, Miss Touani Hayashi in cabin; one Japanese in steerage. For Kobe:—Mr. James Mackey, and Miss Sutton in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. George MacDonald in cabin; 29 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Seitz, Mr. H. Schwere, Mr. C. Thiel, Mrs. R. M. Gordon, Mr. T. Flutz, Lieutenant and Mrs. A. Schwane, Dr. Schmarke, Mr. Y. Hartig, Mr. P. Wichmann, Captain Brum, Mr. John Moore, Mrs. K. Moore and child, Mr. S. Milton, Mr. C. Berthy, Mrs. C. A. Pors, Mr. Z. Amanajee, Mr. J. Amanajee, Mr. P. S. Hubbard, Miss Supple, and Dr. C. Aoki in cabin; 45 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco and Honolulu:—Mr. Adelsdorfer, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Allen, Mr. Paul Antoine, Mr. H. Brewer, Mr. Wong Chong, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Day, Mr. Edwin Day, Miss Day, Dr. Fyer, Dr. and Mrs. P. Grosser, Mr. W. Kohrntz, Mr. F. Lehmann, Mr. T. D. Leonard, Mr. E. E. Maviogordate, Rev. and Mrs. McVey, Mr. G. B. Reeves, Mr. W. S. Sands, Mr. Jas. W. Scott, Mrs. L. F. Selfridge, Mr. J. M. Shotwell, Mr. J. W. Snyder, and Captain Erik Stenholm in cabin.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, for Tacoma, and Victoria, B.C.:—Mrs. Faulder and child, Miss Maynard, Miss Scott, Messrs. Algar, Arlington, Dixon, Hatch, Hixson, A. MacCarville, P. MacCarville, Matherbe, Northey, G. C. Lees, Skinner, and Webster in cabin; 159 Chinese and 56 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong via ports:—Dr. Florenz, Mrs. J. S. Happer, Mr. C. Byrne, Mrs. L. Young, Mr. H. Windt, Mr. S. P. Biernie, Mr. F. H. Bugbild, Mr. Wm. J. Schloth, Mr. J. F. Reipert, Rev. I. H. Gorrell, Mr. Wm. Dunning, U.S.N., Mr. P. Omtal, and Mr. James McCudden in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. L. M. Sngolowitch, M. Kichichi, K. Kishi, S. Hagiwara, H. L. Carnegie, O. de Glanville, R. Isaacs, F. H. Pellet, A. J. Carter, Sam. Spurgeon Storer, R.N., Lt. C. Ryall, Lt. C. B. Tew, Lt. P. H. Cruickshank, R.A., Messrs. G. R. Stevens, Tang Tsu Lun and servant, W. H. Peech, W. Brauer, Hanauer and native servant, and Mrs. C. Ah Yaw in cabin; 4 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	DETROIT.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai.....	1,174	1,501	1,473	—	4,148
Hioho.....	853	802	845	270	4,766
Yokohama.....	3,716	1,180	1,031	—	6,227
Hongkong.....	2,567	1,228	1,102	—	4,927
Amoy.....	751	3,105	—	—	529
Total.....	9,061	10,466	4,451	270	14,587

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	DETROIT.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai.....	—	79	—	—	79
Hongkong.....	—	260	—	—	260
Yokohama.....	—	295	—	—	295
Total.....	—	634	—	—	634

Per British str. *Olympia*, for Tacoma, Wash. and Victoria, B.C.:—

	CHICAGO.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hioho.....	353	933	1,040	3,326
Yokohama.....	1,539	3,111	1,600	6,250
Hongkong.....	—	—	—	—
Poochow.....	6,564	404	—	6,968
Total.....	8,456	4,448	3,640	16,734

	NEW YORK.	SAN FRANCISCO.	TOTAL.
Hongkong.....	219	—	219
Total.....	219	—	219

RATES.
 Tea..... 1½ cents Gold per lb. gross.
 Silk..... 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
 Measurement..... \$1½ Gold per lb.
 Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 157 bales; Waste silk, 46 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The spirit that took place a fortnight or so ago in yarns and piece goods has worked itself out, and nothing is doing. The Manchester market has risen all round for shirtings and fancies, and local buyers fail to respond. They have all they need for the present, and having bought before the rise, can afford to wait, and in the meanwhile realise a good profit on the low quotations at which they bought.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 39 inches	2.80 to 3.35
1. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 39 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds. 39 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 2 1/2 yds. 39 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 37 inches	0.18 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 32 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 2 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2, 2 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 1/2, 2 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 1/2, 2 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	0.30 to 0.32
Common	0.25 to 0.27
Mousseline de Laine—Craps, 2 1/2 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 5 1/2 yds 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 5 1/2 yds 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 5 1/2 yds 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds.	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$30.00 to 41.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 36 to 42, Singles	45.00 to 48.00
Nos. 48, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 56, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	116.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$24.00 to 24.50
Indian Broach	21.00
Chinese	21.50

METALS.

Business is dull, as is usual at this time of the year, and only a few hundred tons have been contracted for. Prices are firmer, in sympathy with the increased cost of laying down, and offers forthcoming only in a few cases meet with the views of sellers.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.50
Galvanized iron sheets	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.10 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

KEROSENE.

Only a moderate business has been done, and prices are steady.

	PER GALLON.
American	\$2.00 to 2.06
Russian	2.00 to 2.06
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

The market continues dull; small sales having been effected in both Brown and White refined, at current rates. Stocks of the latter still continue to increase from Hongkong.

	PER POUND.
Brown Lakao	\$3.50 to 3.70
Brown Manila	4.25 to 5.00
Brown Daitong	2.80 to 2.90
Brown Canton	3.10 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White It-Bond	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There is some disposition for business at last and a few orders are coming in from abroad, both for Filatures and Re-reels. Outgoing steamers should have some cargo, although the trade is not yet in full swing by any means. There should be a full quotation list by next week.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER POUND.
Filatures—Kata 9/11, 10/12 den.	—
Filatures—Kata 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—

	PER POUND.
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakadas—No. 1	—
Kakadas—No. 11	—
Kakadas—No. 2	—
Kakadas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

Nothing fresh in this market. No sufficient supplies of new crop at present.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER POUND.
Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshi, Good	—
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

During the week there has been a brisk business done. Prices are firm and in lower grades have slightly advanced. In Yokohama sales were, on the 17th, 49,700; 18th, 88,600; 19th, 125,800; 20th, 72,400; 21st, 90,800 cattie. In Kobe, the sales amounted to 81,000 cattie on the 15th, 217,400 cattie on the 16th, and from 75,000 to 77,000 cattie each on the 19th and 20th. The *Belgic*, sailing on the 17th for San Francisco, took 6,227 packages from Yokohama and 4,760 from Kobe, and the *Olympia*, same date, for Tacoma, 6,460 packages from this port and 3,226 from Kobe.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER POUND.
Choicest	\$30 to 31.50
Choice	27 to 28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24

	PER POUND.
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	16 to 16.50

EXCHANGE.

A rise of 1/4 all round has taken place, corresponding with London rates.

	PER POUND.
Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11 1/2 to 1/12 1/2
— Bills on demand	1/11 1/2 to 1/12 1/2
— 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2 to 1/12 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.49 to 50
— Private 4 months' sight	2.53 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	2 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	75
— Private 10 days' sight	76
On India—Bank sight	156
— Private 30 days' sight	163
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2 to 49 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	49 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.02 1/2 to 1003
— Private 4 months' sight	2.06
Bar Silver (London)	27 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[MESSRS. BISSET & URR'S LIST.]

Yokohama, July 23rd.

	PER SHARE.
Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50 ... 28 1/2 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100 ... 400 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100 ... 100 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	\$100 ... 100 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100 ... 140 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Frns.)	\$125 ... 450 S.
North and Rae, Ltd.	\$100 ... 185 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd.	\$10 ... 8 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd.	\$100 ... 805 ex div. Sa.
Hogo Gas Co., Ltd.	\$100 ... 180 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb.	\$100 ... 110 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100 ... 210 B.
Yokohama United Club Deb.	\$100 ... 200 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100 ... 101 B.



GREY WHISKERS

EYEBROWS, &c.

GEO. COURTICE'S

CONCENTRATED

EXTRACT OF NUT GALLS

Has been thoroughly tested and approved in all parts of the world for over a quarter of a Century.

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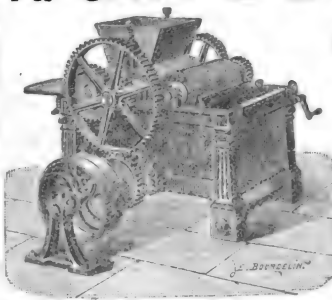
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June, 1896.

37

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 5.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 31ST, 1897.

月三年五十二陰明 Vol. XXVIII.
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 31ST, 1897.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE British fleet has left Otaru for ports in the Gulf of Tartary.

It is reported that 800 Russian soldiers have been despatched to Korea.

THE new Tariff Bill has passed the U.S. Senate and been signed by the President.

It is now reported that the Emperor will return to Tokyo on or about the 7th August.

ONE hundred and seventy-nine Japanese labourers returned from Hawaii by the *Gaelic*.

MR. IRWIN, Hawaiian Minister to Japan, arrived at Yokohama by the *Gaelic* on the 25th instant.

HEAVY rains and floods occurred in Formosa from the end of last month to the 15th instant.

THE Japanese Government has decided to submit the immigration question with Hawaii to arbitration.

THE limit of letters per word for foreign telegrams received by Japanese telegraph offices has been raised from ten to fifteen.

LIEUT. H. B. HRYGATE, of H.M.S. *Algerine* shot himself fatally with a revolver at Shanghai on the 19th July. The verdict of the Coroner's

jury was to the effect that the evidence did not show whether the act was intentional or accidental.

AN Agricultural and Industrial Bank is to be opened in the Hokkaido under the auspices of the Colonization Department.

THE Japanese battle-ships *Fuji* and *Yashima* will leave England for home early in August, calling at very few ports *en route*.

AN order for Japanese-made bicycles has been received from Chefoo, China, through a Chinese merchant, by the Morita Bicycle Factory, Tokyo.

THE work of constructing a telephone line between Tokyo and Kobe is to be started in October next and will be finished during the current year.

TURKEY has given in to the demands of the Powers regarding the Greco-Turkish frontier and the discussion of the preliminaries of peace has commenced.

SENHOR E. Galbardo, new Portuguese Minister to Japan and China, will present his credentials to the Emperor of China during the Autumn, in the meantime he has returned to Macao.

THE second dock of the Yokosuka Shipbuilding Yard is to be greatly enlarged so as to accommodate the battle-ship *Fuji*, and it is hoped that the work will be completed within two months.

MR. AKIYAMA, Councillor in the Foreign Office, who has been in Hawaii assisting Mr. Shimamura, Japanese Minister, in the emigration affair, arrived at Yokohama by the *Gaelic* on the 25th inst.

ACCORDING to statistics compiled by the Sanitary Board in the Home Department, the number of dysentery cases in Japan from the 1st of January up to the 30th of June totalled 1,016, of which 185 proved fatal.

WITH a view to the construction of an extensive Dock at Kobe, the Mitsubishi Company have purchased a site covering 1,500 *tsubo* at Wadasaki and are negotiating for the purchase of several adjoining lots.

A large junk was run into and sunk by the steamer *Sokai Maru*, off Shinagawa on the 26th instant. The owner of the junk, and crew were saved. An action for damages has been laid against the owner of the steamer.

SINCE the hot weather set in, a week or so ago, the water supply of Yokohama from the reservoir at Noge has been found insufficient to meet demands and the supply has been cut off at all the hydrants from 8 p.m. till 5 a.m. daily.

DREDGING is to be commenced shortly in Nagasaki harbour, which has been seriously silting up of late. The central Government will grant a subsidy towards the cost of the work and the local Government will have to defray the balance of the expense.

THE 27th instant being the 25th anniversary of birth of the Emperor of China, Count Okuma, Foreign Minister, and other high officials, as well as various Foreign Representatives, proceeded to the Chinese Legation to offer their congratulations.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha, whose steamers between Yokohama and America have hitherto run irregularly, has now decided to open a regular line with four steamers, namely the *Kago shima Maru*, *Matsuyama Maru*, *Ryofun Maru*, and *Yamaguchi Maru*.

THE Korean Government, which has had no Representative at the Chinese Court since the

War, has decided, according to the *China Gazette*, to send a Minister to Peking at an early date, and negotiations are now going on for a site for the Legation.

THE buildings of the proposed Foreign Language School, which are to be opened in September next at the Higher Commercial School, have already been completed and all the instructors in the various sections are expected to arrive in Japan at an early date.

THE railway line between Kashiwazaki and Hachizaki on the Hokuyetsu Railway will be opened for traffic on the 1st of August. The line between Kashiwazaki and Kitade (five miles) and that between Nuttari and Sanjo (24 miles) have also been finished and will be opened for traffic at an early date.

SOME unexplained disease is said to attack Japanese fishermen engaged in their avocations in the waters around Fusan, Korea, and for a time has driven all the fishermen from the neighbourhood. Some charitable persons, however, have engaged to employ some medical men to accompany the fishermen in their boats, and it is expected a fleet of fishing vessels will leave the Inland Sea for Korean waters shortly, accompanied by the doctors, to fight the new disease.

THE steamer *Kusana Maru*, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, while on her way from Osaka to Hosojima, stranded, on the 23rd inst., near the Komane islands, but the vessel escaped without sustaining serious damage. The passengers and cargo are reported to be safe. On the same day the steamer *Kogane Maru*, of the Koryutsu Steamship Company, collided with the steamer *Taban Maru* while the former vessel was about to enter the port of Kobe, and both vessels received some damage.

THE Import market is utterly stagnant, and in some lines of goods matters are likely to remain so for a month or more. The *doyo*, or dog-days, are upon us, and the *dolce far niente* loving Japanese merchants and dealers will take things very easily till the hot weather is past. In piece goods, woollens, and yarns there is practically nothing doing, dealers having provided themselves with all they will want until business awakens after the rice harvest. In metals, there has been some enquiry after pig iron, but no considerable business done. Arrivals of Brown sugar continue both from Manila and Formosa, but sales have only been effected for immediate wants, prices having advanced ten cents per picul. In White refined a small steady business has been transacted at former rates. There have been considerable deliveries of kerosene, in settlement of former orders for the most part; the market is firm and prices unchanged. The Export market has been brisker than the Import. A movement has at last been made in Raw silk, holders having made concessions in rates to start buyers, with the result that some business has been done. The demand for re-reels has been greater than the supply. The stock of all kinds in the market is only some 4,000 piculs, not quite half the amount at the same time last season. Nothing has yet been done in Waste silk, the stock of which is estimated at 3,200 piculs. Purchases of Tea continue on a large scale, at firm rates, some 573,000 catties having been bought in Yokohama and 390,000 catties in Kobe. A very large quantity of tea is now afloat on the Pacific, the *Peru* for San Francisco, *Yamaguchi Maru* for Seattle, and *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver having left during the week with an aggregate of 13,272 chests and 112,000 catties for America. Exchange, after several fluctuations, closes $\frac{1}{4}$ lower than last week.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Once more the *Jiji Shimpō* returns to its pet and patriotic theme, a coalition cabinet. The project is urged in general terms. No statesmen are named, but since the public understands very clearly that the lines of cleavage in the political sphere have hitherto been, on the one side, Choshu and Sashu, on the other, Kishu, there is no obscurity about the *Jiji's* meaning. The basis of our contemporary's argument is Japan's altered position. Formerly, she used to be regarded with eyes of patronizing tolerance, and a certain amount of amusement. Now the nations of the West begin to look at her with jealousy and some apprehension. Development is a necessity to her. Having put her hand to the plough, she can not turn her face backwards. Yet every symptom of her development threatens to produce new opposition. The brotherhood of man (*shikai keitei*) is a favourite expression on the lips of Occidentals, but their conduct towards each other is regulated chiefly by racial and religious prejudices. The colour of a man's skin, the character of his creed—these are the things that determine his title to equal and courteous treatment at the hands of the nations constituting Christendom. Japan's expansion means an access of foreign opposition. Her progress begins to be watched no longer in a spirit of amiability or indifference. Her position may be compared to that of a railway projector who, when he comes build his road, finds himself in the presence of unanticipated obstacles that upset all his calculations. What is he to do? Is he to choose another route or should he apply himself resolutely to remove the obstacles from his path? Such is the question that Japan has now to answer. She has reached a critical stage in her national career, demanding for its safe passage the best talent that she has at her disposal. It is not a time for domestic squabbles. Whatever statesmanship, whatever administrative experience the country possesses should now be at its service.

There is evidently a good deal of uneasiness in Japan about financial affairs. The nation is beginning to discover the smallness of its capital in comparison with the magnitude of its various undertakings. People observe the large increase that the State expenditures have undergone in connexion with *post-bellum* measures, the preponderance of imports over exports, the extraordinarily high rate of interest ruling in the market, and the growth of paper currency—212 millions against 154 millions in 1893—contemporaneously with the paucity of capital available for industrial and commercial enterprises. Under these circumstances some publicists are beginning to complain that they find themselves hampered by uncertainty as to the Treasury's financial programme. The *Mainichi Shimbun* is among the critics. It thinks that business men are unable to shape their course until they know clearly whether the Government intends to pursue or reduce its programme of public undertakings. Upon the Cabinet's decision in that respect a great deal evidently depends, for if large sums are to be disbursed by the Treasury on account of these undertakings, the money market will be correspondingly affected. Hence the *Mainichi* thinks that all possible despatch should be observed by the Government in determining and declaring its policy.

The *Nippon* has an article on the subject of railway expansion. It thinks that the country is suffering from a railway epidemic. Not that the development of that essential means of communication is too rapid, but that many of the projected lines do not appear to have been chosen on genuinely economical grounds. They find supporters and subscribers not so much on account of the solid advantages they offer, as because of the skill with which they are introduced to public notice. In 1895 the total length of State and private lines open to traffic was 2,337 miles. Since then, charters have been

granted for the construction of 1,323 miles, with a capital of 66,154,000 yen; temporary charters for 1,429 miles, with a capital of 70,242,000 yen, and applications have been made for the building of 7,554 miles with a capital of 374,359,000 yen. All this enterprise is primarily an outcome of the spirit of the time, but its proximate incentives were the publication of the Private Railway Regulations in 1887, and the enactment of a law in 1892 fixing the programme of State Railways. The Regulations indicated the steps to be taken by projectors of lines, and the Law showed not only the districts within which private enterprise would be free from public competition, but also the scheme of State Roads which might be taken as a basis by companies in general. It is plain that the main purpose kept in view by private projectors should be the ultimate establishment of connexion between their roads and those of the State, so that each might derive a maximum of benefit from the other, and the country a maximum of convenience from both. Some of the private lines have been planned on that principle, but a very great number ignore it altogether, and are laid down to run through isolated districts in such a manner as to leave very little hope of independent success and none of co-operative usefulness. That want of prevision on the part of projectors bears witness to the fact that they obey the impulses of a mania rather than the dictates of calm business enterprise, and it is precisely in controlling and checking such impudence that the Railway Council may find its most valuable function. The *Nippon* doubts whether the point is fully appreciated, and suggests that the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, who is the final court of appeal in such matters, should instruct the President of the Council to regard the various schemes not merely from the point of view of their separate prospects, but also as parts of a national system.

One would suppose from many of the criticisms published by Japanese newspapers, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, that the statesmen charged with the management of the country's foreign affairs were not common mortals, but possessed some supernatural ability. Even when a Committee of the French Senate raises some difficulties about a treaty which has been duly negotiated by the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japanese journalists cry out that the Foreign Office in Tokyo is to blame. Of course, much of that extravagance is due to the fact that foreign affairs are dragged into the arena of party politics. But there is another explanation. It has hitherto been the inviolable custom of Japanese cabinets to conceal everything relating to the country's foreign relations, excepting the successes achieved. Complications and failures were carefully hidden from public gaze, and fortunate *coups* alone exposed to it. A false estimate of diplomatic ability was thus suggested, and people congratulated themselves that the empire's foreign relations were controlled by Bismarcks and Beaconsfields. The policy of the present Cabinet, on the contrary, is to be as above-board as possible; to make secrecy the exception rather than the rule. It does not seek to escape censure by officially gagging the mouth of criticism, nor yet does it endorse the wisdom of keeping the nation in ignorance of the nature of the problems that have to be solved abroad. Simultaneously with this adoption of a candid course, the country's foreign affairs have received a great development owing to its altered status, and the net result is that the hitherto sealed book having been laid open contemporaneously with the addition of many interesting chapters, undiscerning folks imagine that the volume is radically changed, and that the spaces previously blank or filled with pleasant records, are not occupied by catalogues of complications and failures. Party politicians, whose patriotism is of the lips only, rejoice at the change, and busily manufacture capital out of it for the purposes of their selfish enterprises. But the Cabinet goes on its way unconcerned. It has taken the nation into its confidence and has the satisfaction of knowing that

its doings are now judged by the nation's intelligence and that the people at large understand their country's position. That is the home policy of the present Foreign Minister of Japan.

A long article appears in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* on the subject of aids to navigation, with special reference to the Niigata-Vladivostok and Hakodate-Korsakovsk services. At least, both services are nominally discussed, but our contemporary's remarks are in reality confined to the Niigata-Vladivostok line. The service is included in the category of national, as distinguished from purely commercial, enterprises. In other words, it is a service which the country lies under an obligation to maintain, irrespective of profit or loss. Parliamentary sanction has been obtained for paying a subsidy of 140 yen per mile to steamers plying on the route, but for a time no one was willing to make the venture. Finally, Mr. Oya Shichihei purchased a steamer—the *Aikoku Maru*—and put her on the line, the result being that her first trip, made last October, involved a loss of six thousand yen, and her second, made in April, showed a loss of five thousand. Of course Oya does not propose to continue squandering money on a steam-ship romance of that nature, and the *Yomiuri's* article is intended to draw public attention to his case. The trade between Niigata and Vladivostok is of a most limited character. Pears and melons are the outward commodities; broken glass, bones, and scrap iron, the inward. There is a large demand for bricks and cement at Vladivostok, but as Japan's production of those articles does not even suffice for her own wants, she has none to export. Still, the *Yomiuri* thinks that Niigata has a future. It is evidently the quickest port for correspondence between Japan and north-eastern Asia, and it will probably become, by and by, the Japanese terminus for steamers plying to America. Moreover, when the Siberian Railway is opened to Vladivostok, Niigata must immediately become a place of prime importance. There are several lines of steamers now plying to Vladivostok from foreign ports. Among them is a highly subsidized Russian company, and our contemporary thinks that the Vladivostok-Niigata route will be inevitably occupied by it, should Mr. Oya withdraw the *Aikoku Maru*. It is not explained why a Russian company should turn its attention to an enterprise involving such losses as Mr. Oya has suffered. The gist of the matter is that a more liberal subsidy must be granted by the Diet, unless Japanese ships are to be driven from another route of national importance.

Formosan affairs furnish the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* with a weapon for attacking the Government, especially Viscount Takashima and Baron Nogi. Setting out with the assertion that the administration of Japan is a topic of anxiety to the Emperor, of lamentation to the people, and of ridicule by foreigners, our contemporary proceeds to comment in strong terms on the conduct of the Cabinet which, at one moment, desired to promote Mr. Mizuno, Chief of the Civil Administration Bureau in Formosa, to the post of Vice-Minister of Colonization, and the next summarily removed him from office. The *Nichi Nichi* seems to think Mr. Mizuno largely to blame for the abuses that have disfigured the management of Formosan affairs, and to agree that his retirement is proper. But it maintains that the Government attitude towards him has been most reprehensible. Turning then, to Baron Nogi, it declares that, though he has occupied the position of Governor-General for nearly a year, he appears to have effected no improvement whatever in the administration of the island, and that, instead of trying to transfer his responsibilities to the shoulders of Mr. Mizuno, he ought to resign at once. In this context a very repellant picture is drawn of the evils existing in Formosa, and it is asked how Baron Nogi can possibly be acquitted of failure to correct them. The same argument applies with no less force to Viscount Takashima, to whom the duty of supervision rests. He, too,

is unworthy to remain in a position where he has permitted such abuses to continue unchecked. The *Nichi Nichi* also thinks that Viscount Takashima's recent attempt to change the leading civil official in the island without consulting the Governor-General was a worthy preface to his being obliged, so soon as he came in contact with the Governor-General, to dismiss the person whom he had proposed to promote. The article is very long, but what we have set down represents the pith and kernel.

The *Osaka Asahi* reverts to its old contention that a sum of 50 million yen should be included in the *post bellum* expenditures for the purpose of developing Formosa's resources. It compares the Government's action to that of a man expecting to obtain water without digging a well, and contrasts it with the methods of Peter the Great, who, at a time when his empire's treasury was exhausted and the need of money keenly felt, set himself to dig canals, build docks and lay the foundations of a splendid city. It has been said of Peter that he *lost in war and won in peace*. It may be said of Japan, so far as Formosa is concerned, that she has won in war and lost in peace. The present revenue of the island is 8 million yen. In three or four years that sum will probably be 10 millions. But the ordinary expenditures are 12 millions, without making any provision for the construction of harbours, roads, and other agents of production. Unless Japan intends to face the perpetual necessity of putting her hand in her pocket to support Formosa, she must invest a certain amount of capital to make Formosa self-supporting. At present she is only tinkering at the problem, for all the world like a surgeon trying to heal a big wound with tiny fragments of sticking-plaster. Even in the matter of railways a practical commencement has not yet been made, and with the exception of one or two roads, no addition has been effected to means of communication. It is the falsest economy conceivable, in the opinion of the *Asahi*.

HONMOKU AND THE MILITARY.

The only seaside suburb of Yokohama, the village of Honmoku, has again been converted into bathing quarters for the Japanese military. On the 23rd instant, over five hundred men of the 1st Infantry Regiment of the Imperial Guards, under the command of Colonel Nakano, took up their quarters in the village, and are to be replaced, after a fortnight's stay, by others. Tide, time of day, and sun appear to be of very little importance to Japanese troops so far as bathing is concerned. On Saturday and Sunday the men were sent out "to learn swimming" at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., when a broiling sun was pouring down on their unprotected heads, and owing to the tide being low, they had to wade out a quarter of a mile to get into water deep enough to reach their knees. One of the men, on Saturday, we hear, started a disturbance in the village by taking possession of a bath house, and on payment of the trifling fee of 8 *rin*, refused to allow any one else to use the bath while he was there. He knocked down the old man who was in charge of the place and a policeman who was sent for, but a crowd of the villagers eventually overpowered the warrior and conducted him to his quarters, handing him over to his superior officers to be dealt with.

It seems unaccountable that with the scores of other seaside villages in the vicinity of Tokyo, unfrequented by foreigners, the little Yokohama bathing place, with its long row of bathing-houses rented by foreigners largely for the use of their children, wives, and grown-up daughters, should, year after year, be selected by the military authorities for the natatory evolutions of the Tokyo garrison. We have no hesitation in saying that the matter has never been properly brought to the notice of the military authorities. In all western countries the greatest care is taken to consult public convenience in such matters, to say nothing of decency, and the singular want of consideration shown in Japan redounds little to her credit.

HOKKAIDO.

The *Fiji Shimpō* publishes the following accounts with regard to Hokkaido:—According to official investigations the number of convicts in Hokkaido and their offences are as follow:—

Offence.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Escapes from prison	2	—	2
Violation of police supervision	184	5	289
Counterfeiting coins	3	—	5
Gambling	1,217	32	1,349
Murder	54	3	57
Wounding	2	1	3
Desertion	2	1	3
Theft	1,230	97	1,327
Pickpockets	4	—	4
Theft of farm and forest products	123	1	124
Armed robbery	15	—	15
Robbery with murder	4	—	4
Fraudulent obtaining of money	543	24	567
Incendiarism	4	5	9
Other offences	900	88	988
Totals	4,940	367	5,307

Police offences	9,869	3,680	13,549
Offenders against taxation laws	775	199	974

Grand Total 15,584 4,246 19,830
The influence of Christianity in Hokkaido is extremely small, according to the *Fiji*. The people in general regard this form of religion with detestation rather than with mere indifference. The energy and enthusiasm of missionaries and pastors, displayed in the form of preaching and affording protection to the poor, seem to have produced no tangible effect toward the propagation of their doctrine. There are many nominal Christians, but they are wanting in the deeds that proclaim their faith. Hakodate and Nemuro alone present a comparatively prosperous state from the missionary's point of view. The following table gives details:—

Sects.	Chinese.	Pres. etc.	Foreign.	Native.	Believers.
Methodist	6	12	5	7	715
Congregational	5	7	1	—	183
Japan Episcopal	12	22	8	14	475
Greek	7	8	1	—	925
Japan Christ	5	8	9	8	320
Roman Catholic	4	10	5	3	397
Baptist	3	2	2	2	81
Independent Christian	1	1	—	1	267
Total	43	70	19	51	3,363

As for schools under sectarian supervision, they are in most cases maintained by voluntary contributions from natives and foreigners. The institutions under the control of the Episcopal Church belong to the Mission Board of England, while those under the Roman Catholics are chiefly supported by funds from the French Mission. The Greek Church receives the assistance of Bishop Nicolai in Tokyo; the Methodists are supplied with funds left in the will of a certain American lady, and others furnished by the Female Mission Board. The schools maintained by these various sects are of about equal grade, and their management is, in most cases, anything but unsatisfactory. They are looked upon by their societies as a source of public benefit, and it must be acknowledged that their teachers show a remarkable degree of assiduity in their work. The school which the Episcopal Church maintains is absolutely devoted to the instruction of girls in the higher course provided for Elementary Schools; while the Methodists have adopted the schedule of the Intermediate Schools, with slight alterations. There are at present ten schools, with thirty-one teachers including foreigners, and the number of students aggregate 401, of whom 76 have graduated.

The exodus of labourers from Yamaguchi Prefecture to foreign countries has increased year by year. According to statistics made up to the 29th year of Meiji the number of single men who emigrated were 5,726 and of married men and women 1,794; the amount of money brought or sent home by them during the period amounted to yen 1,265,118.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

It is obvious, says the *Mainichi*, that the Bank of Japan, at this critical period of the financial year, will scarcely be able to satisfy the demands of the public unless it resorts to one of three schemes, viz:—The issue of loans beyond its legal limits; the paying in of increase deposits by the Government; or the raising of the rate of interest. A few days ago the Finance Department granted the Bank permission to issue notes beyond its warranted power, while the *Official Gazette* of the 20th instant announced that such permission was granted according to the third clause of Article II. of the Convertible Note Regulations. It may be worth while, for the purposes of this note, to reproduce the Article referred to. It runs:—"If the Bank of Japan, according to the condition of the market, deems it necessary to increase the amount of currency in circulation, steps may be taken, with the sanction of the Minister of Finance, to issue convertible notes beyond the amount specified (in the two foregoing clauses) under the security of Government loan bonds, debentures of the Finance Department, and other substantial bonds or commercial notes, provided that the Bank pays a tax on the amount of issue at the rate of not less than five per cent. per annum, under the direction of the Minister of Finance."

If the Bank of Japan does not raise the rate of interest, it seems necessary that recourse should be had to increasing the deposits of bullion by the Government. Unless it adopts such a step the Bank cannot escape the necessity of issuing notes beyond its legal powers. Is it owing to the lack of bullion deposited by the Government, that the Bank had to adopt a scheme of over-issue in defiance of its former policy. We (*Japan Mail*) think that the Bank has resolved to avoid as far as possible assistance from the Government in matters concerning the circulation of currency. In regard to the money market generally it may be noted that although there are unmistakable signs of a vast amount of capital being absorbed into the Treasury in the form of taxes, and various companies are also calling in payments on shares, the principal banks in Tokyo are feeling no serious pressure on their funds.

THE KOBE LOCAL COURT AND MR. EVERHARD.

The Kobe Local Court dismissed the charge of assault and battery brought by Mr. Everhard against a *jinrikisha* coolie. The assault and battery consisted in seizing Mr. Everhard's arm and trying to turn him round. The ground of the Court's verdict was insufficient evidence. We do not see how any other judgment could possibly have been rendered. Mr. Everhard was the only witness for the prosecution. He declared that the *jinrikisha* drawer had seized his arm. The drawer denied that he had done anything of the kind, and the man that pushed the *jinrikisha* emphatically corroborated the denial. Both men had made precisely the same statements in the American Consular Court. Perhaps they both lied. We think they did. But the Court had no right to act upon such a theory. Mr. Everhard might have saved himself the trouble of prosecuting the coolie unless he had some testimony to offer other than his own.

Now that the incident is closed we have to say that if we refrain from severe criticism of the manner in which the case was conducted in the United States Consular Court, it is simply because we believe in the justice of the decision and are anxious to avoid comments that have ceased to have special utility. We have written *ad nauseam* against the radical imperfection of a system which obliges a man to be at one moment an advocate and at another a Judge. The American Vice-Consul, sitting as Judge in this case behaved as an advocate from first to last. The ends of justice were not defeated, but every impartial observer must condemn the way in which they were attained.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

Vernacular newspapers say that, at a Cabinet meeting held on the 23rd instant, it was decided to accept Hawaii's proposal for arbitration.* The view taken was that practically no other course presented itself. The alternative of employing force to assert Japan's rights could not be adopted against such a weak State without injury to Japan's reputation. As for the arbitrator, it will probably be the King of Sweden, that monarch being in a position to take a perfectly impartial view of the affair.

On the 24th instant, judgment was delivered by the Tokyo Local Court in the case of the three journals—the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Tokyo Shimbun*, and the *Chuo Shimbun*—and the Tokyo News Agency, the editors, publishers and printers of which were arraigned by the Public Prosecutor on the dual charge of insulting officials in the discharge of their duties, and circulating matter calculated to disturb public good order. We need scarcely remind our readers that the incriminated matter was the "marching song" of which we recently gave a translation. The Court found the accused guilty on the first count—insulting officials—but acquitted them on the second. The sentence was one month's major confinement, and a fine of 5 *yen*. The publisher of the Tokyo News Agency alone escaped, the Court holding that there was no evidence to prove that the editor had consulted him about the song before causing it to be printed and distributed. All the condemned men appealed from the sentence.

It is suggested by the *Fiji Shimpō* that if the Cabinet can not persuade itself to abolish the Colonization Department, the Minister, Viscount Takashima, ought to undertake the duties of Governor-General of Formosa, Baron Nogi being removed to some other post. The Viscount, says our contemporary, need not remain in Formosa for 365 days in the year: he might return to Tokyo while the Diet is in session or the Budget in process of compilation. That is a delicate way of saying that a Minister of Colonization is altogether a superfluity.

Under the pretty caption of "Count Okuma's Great Treachery," the *Yorozu Choho* devotes a considerable part of its columns to prove that Count Okuma is revolving and practising various schemes to effect a union with Marquis Ito. We do not suppose that even the *Yorozu Choho* imagines itself to be serving its country by such writing. It is simply making mischief, a *metier* to which it has of late devoted itself with much assiduity.

It seems an idle task to reproduce the many reports published by vernacular journals about increased taxation for the purposes of next year's Budget. The latest, however, is that the price of rice in assessing the Land Tax will be altered from 3 *yen* per *koku*—at which price it was estimated when the present tax assessed—to 7 *yen*. The assessment for purposes of taxation is effected by compounding four factors, the superficies of the land, the gross yield, the price per *koku*, and the net profit. The proposed change would give an increased income of about 15 million *yen*.

The *Fiji* alleges that it has been decided to re-arm the Japanese troops with a

repeating rifle entirely different from, and far superior to, the "Murata" now in use. The new weapon also has been designed in Japan, but our contemporary says nothing about the inventor. It is declared to be superior to even the Spanish rifle, which the *Fiji* calls the best in Europe.

We have not for a long time heard of any theatre in Japan being closed by the police on the ground that its representations were *contra bonos mores*. That fate however, has now overtaken no less an institution than the celebrated Kobuki-za in Tokyo. A curious feature of the incident is that the incriminated piece was put upon the stage on the 10th instant, and that its evil tendencies were not discovered by the police until 22nd. We expect that the press will have a good deal to say about this.

The latest weapon of attack employed by the Opposition journals against the Cabinet is that, for lack of engineering experts, the progress of the post-bellum public works is hopelessly retarded, and the money raised for carrying them on lies idle in the Treasury's vaults. The *Chuo Shimbun* ventures into arithmetic. It alleges that 20 million *yen* remain unexpended from last year's appropriations, and that, out of 63 millions collected this year, only six hundred thousand *yen* have been expended as yet. Where, we wonder, did these sixty-three millions come from. The *Chuo* seems to be under the impression that the second installment of the Public Undertakings Loan has been floated. If so, the operation must have been performed in some other planet. When the *Chuo* asks us to believe that 83 million *yen* are lying unused in the vaults of the Bank of Japan because experts are not forthcoming to carry on the post-bellum works, it shows great faith in our credulity.

The military authorities are said to have concluded the survey of the Sanin and Sanyo districts, and to be now engaged on the Kiushu, Iki, and Tsushima sections. Kiushu, it is alleged, will be finished this year, and Iki and Tsushima next year.

The *Sekai-no-Nippon* has a note about the much talked-of *Wa-Ei Ginko* (Anglo-Japanese Bank), which is regarded as a channel for the inflow of foreign capital into Japan. The capital of the Bank is put at 30 million *yen*, of which 20 millions are to be taken by foreigners. On the English side the chief promoter is said to be the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and among the Japanese specially mentioned in connexion with the project are Messrs. Abe, Yokoyama, Amenomiya and Ono. The idea, according to our Tokyo contemporary, is that Government protection should be obtained in the form of a guarantee to make good any deficit between the net earnings and ten per cent. on the paid up capital, the limit of the Treasury's liability on that account to be five per cent. Count Matsukata is said to have been approached, but of course he declared his inability to give a special undertaking. The Japanese promoters are consequently making arrangements to bring the matter before the Diet next session. It will be understood, of course, that we take no responsibility for these statements.

It is stated in the columns of the *Fiji Shimpō* that reports begin to be frequently received about suspicious-looking foreigners loitering in the neighbourhood

of the new Japanese coast defences, apparently for the purpose of making surveys. At present there exists no manner of dealing with such persons except to arrest them and hand them over to the Consuls of their nationality, and it is doubtful whether the latter have competence to punish them. At all events, prevention is the great object in such matters, and until the Japanese military authorities draw up some definite regulations and take steps to enforce them, a most inconvenient practice must remain unchecked. We (*Japan Mail*) are not at all surprised that there should be considerable anxiety on such a subject, but it seems to us that the Japanese have the remedy in their own hands. They need only post notices at certain points to indicate lines within which any person trespassing will be prosecuted. Foreigners would have to observe such notices, and every foreigner would be happy to do so, unless he were one of the gentry whose room is preferred to their company from the point of view of the military authorities.

The indefatigable M. Blowitz did not lose the opportunity of Marquis Ito's visit to Paris. He sends the following to *The Times*—

Paris, June 16th.

I had the honour of being received this afternoon by Marquis Ito, who has been twice Prime Minister of Japan, and who on the second occasion held that post for five years, being in power during the eventful period of the Sino-Japanese war. He is a man of average height, with broad shoulders, and gives the general impression of energy and decision. His eye is keen and penetrating, and very expressive. The mouth easily falls into an agreeable smile. The complexion is bronzed; the hair and beard are dark and thick. The Marquis received me with the somewhat timid and distrustful reserve which is peculiar to his race, and which with the diplomats of his country is traditional. Gradually, however, during a long and desultory conversation, he became more communicative, and was even lively when a topic came up which interested him. I pass over my questions and give simply what he said—which is the main thing, for men who have held high office have always something interesting to say.

"After the war," he said, "I carried through Parliament the measures which seemed to me urgent. I wound up, as far as possible, the affairs of my Cabinet, and then offered my resignation to the Emperor. The Ministers of Finance and War and several others followed my example, and in spite of the Emperor's gracious objections we adhered to our decision. The Minister of Marine retained his office in the new Cabinet. It did not seem to him nor to us that his task was accomplished. But, as for me, five years of office appeared to me quite enough, and I thought that a new situation required new men. Victory, like defeat, has its shadows and disappointments, and the former often called for as much resignation as the latter. The unexpected intervention of the three Powers changed the results of our long efforts. Port Arthur is a cooped-up port and a bad choice for an arsenal. China had not sufficiently perceived its inadequacy. I do not think that Russia, in making it the terminus of her Trans-Siberian Railway, can make much out of it; but by remaining in our hands it would have been a tangible sign of our victories. The attitude of the three Powers did not allow us to insist upon it. Korea remains in an uncertain state. Japan and China retain equal influence in it, but when there is a third Great Power between two rival Powers the force of circumstances always gives it the ascendancy. The Russian railway to Port Arthur, however, is, or rather will be for a time, the sole tangible sign of a transformation produced by the war in the Chinese Empire. I am aware that many railways are laid down in China on paper, but I do not see many in real existence. I do not think China will alter on account of the war, or will draw a lesson from it. I believe that her opinion of herself is, and will remain, unchanged. But she is signing treaties which, thus far, are wishes rather than realities.

"We, who are a rising race, have begun to have not merely a Parliament, which would not be enough, but a Parliamentary spirit. The Ministers, it is true, are responsible only to the

Emperor; but if a Cabinet had a majority against it in both Houses the Mikado would not screen it, so that a Cabinet is always dependent on Parliament. Still, I twice dissolved Parliament—once on a financial question, and the second time for its opposition to the revision of treaties. Such opposition was contrary to our national dignity, to the spirit of toleration, and to our true economic interests. We have now signed treaties with nearly all the Powers—to wit, England, France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Sweden. They await merely the ratification of Parliament, which cannot, I think, be long delayed. They comprise the abolition of the Capitulations and commercial conventions. With Austria and Belgium alone, which have no great trade with us, we have not yet agreed, and to them we shall not accord a conventional tariff, for we cannot incur the reproach of making special concessions to them from Powers having a large trade with us. I think they will be satisfied, however, with the most-favoured-nation treatment, which we are ready to give. We have no preference, I venture to say, for any nation, yet we cannot forget the inviolable neutrality maintained by England; and the Emperor, by sending his nephew, who is an Admiral, to represent him at the Jubilee, proves the veneration enjoyed among us by the illustrious Sovereign of Great Britain. Being out of office and at leisure I have been glad to accompany him.

"We have now to devote ourselves to our internal development and our moral and intellectual culture. We feel that the moral greatness of a country doubles its material force, and that even prosperity is bound up with the march of intelligence. Our Emperor himself sets us the example. He has large and profitable domains and a civil list of £600,000. He applies a large portion of it to charity and education and to diffusing comfort and a love of industry. Our financial position, moreover, is excellent. We have no foreign debt. We have an internal debt of £48,000,000, which was much increased during the war; but we are about to resort to foreign credit, not to issue a loan, but to dispose of internal paper on foreign Exchanges. China has now paid us 116,000,000 taels, and owes us 84,000,000 taels, to be spread over five years. But this has not increased our national wealth, for war always costs more than it brings in, the latter being only momentary, whereas the costs are permanent. When war breaks out we are forced to buy immediately without bargaining. When the war is over war prices remain, for after once rising they do not drop. Thus the cost of living has doubled with us since the war began. Speculation, too, has made great strides. In the exuberance of victory every one thought himself rich. Factories were built, mines were opened up, companies and enterprises of all sorts were brought out or undertaken, and not all of them, as you can readily imagine, have succeeded. A little time will still be required for matters to settle down again.

"People here seem to fancy that we are to have difficulties because of Hawaii. I do not think so. As you know, the only difficulty for us is that, contrary to treaties, our countrymen have not been allowed to land. At the outset it was the Hawaiian Islands which solicited the immigration of the Japanese, and we had some difficulty in getting our people to go there, for they were chiefly put to work on the sugar plantations. But they gradually learned the way thither until there are to-day 25,000 Japanese in the islands; and as those who decide whether they are to be admitted or not are Americans who call themselves, or really have become, Hawaiians, they naturally refuse to admit them. They fear their becoming too numerous and eventually becoming the masters. Moreover, you know that the Hawaiian Islands are not the only quarter of the globe where such anxieties exist; but we shall certainly not create international difficulties because of these islands. Events have taught us to reflect. We not seek quarrels; we wish only to defend our rights and our honour. We did not desire the war with China, but we accepted it without fear or vexation. We knew that we should surprise Europe, imperfectly informed as to our strength. But we seek no other surprises; we seek only truth and justice."

[This is not all Marquis Ito; there is an admixture of M. Blowitz. The Marquis never spoke of Russia as having actually arranged to run a railway to Port Arthur, for he does not believe in anything of the kind. He has no more faith in the so-called "Cassini Convention" and other sensational documents of like import than has any other Japanese statesman of note. He spoke of these things in the hypothe-

tical mood and M. Blowitz put them into the indicative. As to his declaration about the Cabinet's being practically dependent on the Diet though nominally responsible to the Emperor alone, it is a remarkable admission, but true enough. It goes without saying that the Marquis did not make the mistake of doubling the Emperor's annual allowance, which is the equivalent of three hundred thousand pounds, not six hundred thousand.

Tokyo newspapers allege that seventeen foreigners, of whom twelve are Americans and five Germans, have become adherents of the *Shinto* cult. The names of five of the converts are given, these being the heads of the families which make up the total. We can not attempt to reconstruct the names from their transliterated forms. The most impressive part of the matter is that these searchers after truth are said to have been chiefly influenced by the fact that the chief *Shinto* official of the *Izumo Taisha*—the *Izumo Taisha Kyokas* is the name of the religious body which the seventeen have entered—traces his descent back to the Age of the Gods. Of course that is a conclusive proof of the divine character of the creed.

On the 3rd of July, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the Government's deposits in the Bank of Japan totalled 165,500,000 yen, but between that date and the 10th, there was a diminution of 6,430,000 yen, then by the 17th, a further diminution of 9,580,000 yen, and by the 24th, a further one of 4,240,000 yen, making in all 20,250,000 yen, so that the sum now remaining is 145,250,000 yen.

The little Imperial Princesses Tsune and Chika set out for Nikko on the 25th inst., where they are to spend the hot weather. The Princesses Fumi and Yasu started on the following day for Miyanoshta.

It is now stated that the "Opening of the River" will take place at Ryogoku on the 7th prox.

TAXATION OF FOREIGNERS.

It has long been a question under discussion in Kumamoto prefecture, says the *Osaka Asahi*, whether or not foreigners residing outside the settlement for more than three months, in the capacity of school teachers or missionaries, keeping distinct households of their own just in the same way as the Japanese, should be subjected to taxation according to the 2nd clause of Article LIX of the City and Prefectural Regulations, which provides that "any person keeping a distinct house or family in a city or prefecture for more than three months shall be liable to a prefectural tax, which will be collected from the time the party first established a distinct household." No tax has been levied until recently. Steps, however, were taken to exact local taxes for the first half of the 30th fiscal year from foreign residents in the city of Kumamoto. Considerable trouble ensued, the foreigners strongly protesting against taxation. The Town Office of Kumamoto was compelled to ascertain the propriety of its proceedings by making enquiries of the *Kencho*, whence the matter was referred to the Home Department for instructions. The necessary instructions having been obtained, the *Kencho* has lately issued a notice to the Towns and Districts urging the strict enforcement of the 2nd clause of Article LIX, mentioned above, and requiring a report from the responsible functionaries in the event of failure on the part of foreigners to pay the tax.

CONTROVERSIAL HONESTY.

The *Japan Times* writes:—

The *Japan Mail* observes as follows:—"It is probably true, as the *Japan Times* says, that the great majority of the villages throughout the country have shrines dedicated to their tutelary deities, and that 'the first thing a villager does after morning ablution is to clap hands and worship *Shinto* deities.' That may be true, but of what value is it as an argument against the possibility of Japan's Christianization?" Our contemporary knows perfectly well that we referred, among other things, to the fact of the villagers' worshipping *Shinto* deities in the morning, as an illustration of the truth that the people in general have not been conquered by Buddhism, but remain essentially *Shintoists*. To argue as though we had adduced this fact in direct support of our argument against the probability of the Christianization of Japan, is an obvious perversion reflecting little credit upon our contemporary's controversial honesty.

It is serious matter to charge an opponent with controversial dishonesty, nor does there seem to be the slightest ground for any such accusation in the present instance. The fundamental question in this discussion was the possibility or impossibility of Japan's Christianization. The *Japan Times* denied the possibility, and one of its arguments, as we understood, and do still understand, was that the Japanese are so wedded to their indigenous faith that even Buddhism, though propagated under special auspices, had to adjust itself to that faith. In direct proof of Buddhism's partial failure, and therefore in indirect proof of Christianity's impossible success, our contemporary adduced the fact that the first thing a villager does in the morning is to clap hands and worship *Shinto* deities. We find in such a state of affairs nothing that suggests the impossibility of Japan's Christianization. If the *Japan Times* did not intend to suggest that the failure of Buddhism, as evidenced by the continued prevalence of *Shinto* worship, constitutes an argument against the probability of Christianity's success, what does it now intend to suggest by saying that "the lesson drawn from the history of Buddhism in this country" is among the things that "lead to the belief that the Christianization of Japan is well nigh impossible?" Our contemporary has either misapprehended us or failed to follow the logical sequence of its own arguments. Our comment was made in perfect good faith, and that it should have exposed us to a charge of controversial dishonesty is very surprising.

OSAKA FESTIVALS.

A correspondent in Osaka sends us some particulars of the Tennenmangu Festival held in Osaka on the 25th July. He says that the rivers and canals were crowded that day with boats containing hundreds of people who had gathered to witness the sight. Every boat was illuminated, while many hundreds of people on the banks carried torches, the whole effect being very fine. The god Tennenmangu is supposed, on this particular night of the year, to make a visit to Matsushima, some two miles south of his shrine at Temma, and a torchlight procession is accordingly organised in his honour. Every now and again the god prefers to make the trip by water and return by land, and this year being an occasion on which he indulged this whim, his festival-jant was more than usually elaborate. The priests in charge of the arrangements had to go through a ritual lasting into the small hours of the morning, and consequently the god's return journey was not quite so numerous attended as the outward march. But this year the crowds both out and home were enormous.

Another festival, that of the god Sumiyoshi, will take place on the 20th and 30th, when a huge procession is expected to leave Osaka for his shrine, some ten miles south of the city. One peculiarity of Sumiyoshi's festival is the opening of an all-night fish market at the terminus of the procession.

JAPAN AND CHRISTIANITY.

THE thinking-section of the foreign public is always interested in learning the opinions entertained by educated Japanese on the great problems with which this nation has to deal in its new progressive rôle. None of those problems is more important than the religious problem, and we have therefore devoted some space to the consideration of arguments adduced by the *Japan Times* in support of its contention that the Christianization of Japan is extremely improbable. At the outset, a peculiar phrase diverted the controversy, if such it can be called, from the lines that are now seen to have been contemplated by our contemporary and the author quoted by it. The phrase was that "Japan would remain politically and religiously the unconquered country." It will be agreed, we think, that such a phrase suggests ideas not usually associated with the Catholicism of truth. It suggests that some credit, or glory, would accrue to Japan from the mere fact of repelling the invasion of any alien creed irrespective of its intrinsic merits or demerits as a system of religious doctrine. Mr. KNAPP, emphatically, and the *Japan Times* constructively, have both disavowed all intention of advancing such a proposition, and their disclaimer had impaired the relevancy of our rejoinder that Buddhism, essentially an alien creed, having conquered Japan in the past, there appeared to be no reason why another alien creed should not perform the same feat in the present. But an independent interest is imparted to our allegation by the *Japan Times'* unexpected denial that Buddhism has conquered Japan. We find the denial very surprising. It does not appear possible to contend seriously that Buddhism is not the faith of Japan. The country is dotted with temples throughout its length and breadth; the people flock thither by millions to worship; the name that rises to their lips at every crisis of their existence is the name of BUDDHA; scarcely a household is without its altar of the Budh. Surely such things justify us in saying that the people of Japan follow the faith of TATHAGÂTA. Would there be any hesitation about calling the Japanese a Christian nation if Christianity held among them the position that Buddhism now holds? We think not. Perhaps the *Japan Times* takes a more rigid view of the question. We gather that it does, for it affirms that "a religion must succeed in establishing a dominant and exclusive sway over the hearts of the people in general before it can be said to have made the conquest of the nation." Not exclusive: not by any means exclusive. We call the English nation a "Protestant nation," yet it includes a large element of Roman Catholics, of dissenters, of free thinkers, of positivists, of agnostics,

and what not. If the *Japan Times* is willing to concede that no special obstacles exist to the adoption of Christianity by Japan in the sense and to the degree that Buddhism has been adopted, we are perfectly content to abandon the discussion.

Incidentally a historical question has been introduced. We said that Japan had been conquered by Buddhism twelve centuries ago. It must have been quite evident that our assertion was to some extent figurative. Twelve centuries ago, that is to say year 697 A.D., Buddhism had been known to the Japanese for little over a hundred years. We can not be suspected of having intended to assert that it had already established dominant sway over the minds of the people *en masse*. What we meant to say was that its victory had become practically assured. It had been accepted by the Imperial Court; it had been accepted by the great officials; it had been accepted by the educated class. Were Christianity in the same position to-day, we should have no hesitation in affirming that the conquest of Japan by Christianity was virtually an accomplished fact.

In this context some pages of very curious historical lore have been unfolded. The *Japan Times* explained that Buddhism owed its progress in this country twelve centuries ago, not to its religious qualities but to the fact that it was used as a political weapon to weaken the tie between the aboriginal tribes and their hereditary chieftains, and thus pave the way for the unification of the nation. It further alleged that, even when propagated by Imperial and official authority with that intent, Buddhism failed to obtain vogue until it had been modified so as to include the indigenous creed of the people. Naturally the questions at once presented themselves—who were the aboriginal tribes; who were their hereditary chieftains, and what was their indigenous creed? The *Japan Times* now answers. "Strictly speaking," it tells us, "these semi-independent local tribes were not aborigines, for there is reason to believe that they were made up of people who had migrated there at different periods before the so-called conquest of the country by Emperor JIMMU and his followers. * * * They had been in the country for centuries when they were nominally subjugated by the later arrivals." As for the hereditary chieftains, they "had for the most part been originally appointed from the Court and belonged to the conquering race, but centuries of residence among the people, the bulk of whom were the conquered aborigines, endeared them to the latter so much that the bonds of union between them were justly regarded by Prince KATSURAGI and KAMATARI as a serious danger to the contemplated scheme of national unification." Finally, as to the indigenous creed of the people, the same authority tells us that it was

Shinto, and offers the following explanation of the remarkable fact that the conquered tribes had the same creed as the conquered:—"Long previous to the arrival of Buddhism, the *Shinto* creed of the conquering race had to undergo a transformation before it was generally accepted by the conquered subjects. They agreed in worshipping ancestors, but disagreed in that their ancestors were not the same. It was only in the reign of the Emperor SUJIN, a little before the Christian era, that frightened by a state of disquiet throughout the country, the Court hastened to propitiate the conquered subjects by formally adopting the hitherto neglected deities of the latter among the objects of State worship." To be perfectly frank, we must here lower our controversial pen to the *Japan Times*. We know nothing of JIMMU, except that a chieftain of that name was the first traditional ruler of the Toba Tartars; we know nothing of SUJIN, except as a personage with no historical existence until seven centuries after his alleged reign; we know nothing about tribes that inhabited Japan prior to the Japanese proper, except what kitchen middens and pit dwellings tell us; we know nothing about the religious belief of those tribes, we know nothing of any modification that the creed underwent prior to the Christian era. We must be content to take our place among the "Japanese scholars" concerning whom the *Japan Times* says that "the political history of the period under consideration is not very clearly understood even by them."

But there is one fact which does not belong to the realm of tradition and conjecture. According to our contemporary the creed of the Japanese to-day is essentially polytheistic, and has been polytheistic from time immemorial. The peoples that migrated to Japan—if there were any such peoples—before the advent of JIMMU—if there was any such monarch—worshipped their ancestors, and would have nothing to do with any creed that refused to admit the objects of their worship to the same rank with its own deities. The pre-JIMMU and post-JIMMU peoples held Buddhism at arm's length until it, too, agreed to inscribe their dual multitude of divinities, upon its own supernatural roll. And now, "the first thing a villager does after morning ablution is to clap hands and worship *Shinto* deities." Yet this is the nation which monotheistic Christianity has no chance of converting. We hope better things for Japan.

THE CHRISTIANIZATION OF JAPAN.

IN his celebrated anti-Christian Edict, published on January 27th, 1614, IYÉYASU said:—"Japan is called the land of BUDDHA, and not without reason. It is written:—'This is the country where the divine brightness re-appears; this is the national land of the Sun.' The Lotus of the Law says:—'The power by which

Buddhas save the world resides in their perfect omniscience, whereby they make happy all living beings, wherefore they make manifest immeasurable divine power.' This is a golden saying, a miraculous passage. GOD and BUDDHA differ in name, but their meaning is one, just as if two halves of a tally be placed together. The priests and laymen of antiquity, by the divine aid, sailed over the ocean and visited the far-off land of China in search of the law of BUDDHA and the doctrines of the principles of benevolence; unweariedly they bore hither the esoteric and exoteric books. Since that time the doctrine has been handed down from teacher to teacher in unbroken succession, and the glory of the Buddhist Law has been far greater than in other lands. This exemplifies the truth that 'the Law of BUDDHA gradually travels eastwards.'"

We quote this with reference to the contradiction elicited by our statement that Buddhism has conquered Japan. The word "conquered" is, perhaps, unpleasant to the ear. The great TOKUGAWA statesman himself might object to it, despite the edict translated above. But it is not a term of our choosing. The text upon which we originally based our remarks was taken from the columns of our Tokyo contemporary, the *Japan Times*, which said that in religion as well as in politics Japan would remain the "unconquered" island empire. The phrase conveyed an unfortunate impression. It suggested that to reject a foreign system of religious doctrine or ethical philosophy merely because it is foreign, should be counted a credit to Japan. We, on the contrary, would count such prejudice discreditable, and it was to protest against it that we first entered the lists. The *Japan Times* has more than once noted, with some appearance of surprise or semblance of reproach, that we have confined ourselves to that special phase of the problem. The answer is simply that we did not undertake to discuss any other. Our contemporary has also shown much persistency in probing the chronological issue; has been solicitous to prove that we were above all mistaken in fixing twelve centuries ago as the date of the alleged conquest. It must have been readily understood by our readers that we referred simply to the era when Buddhism first gained a firm footing in the country. For the purpose of our argument it did not signify a pin whether the event happened twelve centuries or one century ago. Our essential point was that Buddhism had conquered Japan. If anybody, discussing a cognate subject, were to allege that England was conquered by Christianity twelve centuries ago, we should not think of disputing the fact whether on patriotic or on historical grounds, though it might be truly urged by a controversialist like the *Japan Times* that EDWIN'S conversion

by PAULINUS had taken place only seventy years prior to that date. These petty questions are quite insignificant. We say that Buddhism occupies a very large space in the moral vista of the Japanese nation, and if we err in so saying, we are content to err in the company of IYEFASU.

But there is another point to be noted. The interest of this discussion centres wholly on the estimate that it enables us to form of the views entertained by an erudite and well-informed Japanese about the moral condition of his own countrymen. The mass of the nation, we learn from the *Japan Times*, is so strongly rooted in its *Shinto* belief that it declined to receive Buddhism except as a graft upon the ancient stem, and that no similar compromise with Christianity being possible, the creed of JESUS has little, if any, chance of success. Various attempts have been made to number the Shinto deities; the objects of the people's worship. We are not aware that any arithmetician has ever succeeded. By some the total is put at three thousand. By others a far larger aggregate is named. As for us, we know only that there are gods of the heaven and gods of the kitchen, but concerning the legions of divinities occupying the space between those extremes, we can not speak. AUGUSTE COMTE, classifying the stages of religious belief in ascending scale, puts fetichism at the bottom, then polytheism, and then monotheism. HERBERT SPENCER does not endorse COMTE, but neither HERBERT SPENCER nor any other great thinker has even suggested that a belief in one Supreme Being is not an incomparably loftier and more advanced form of faith than a belief in several thousands of deities each working in a circumscribed sphere. If the bulk of the Japanese nation be in the condition described by the *Japan Times*, the contention that the Christianization of the country is hopeless is inconsistent with the whole history of moral progress.

JAPAN AND ENGLAND.

IT was not to be expected that the movements of a statesman occupying such a prominent position as Marquis ITO does would fail to suggest various inferences. Indeed, from the very day of the unexpected announcement that the Marquis intended to visit Europe in company with Prince ARISUGAWA, journalists on this side of the water began to formulate conjectures as to the political significance of the trip. On the other hand, it could be assumed with tolerable certainty that the Marquis would not fail to utilize for his country's benefit any diplomatic opportunities presenting themselves during his stay in Europe. Thus, from every point of view, there is not much reason to be surprised that the fact of an interview's having taken place between the British Prime Minister and Marquis ITO should be regard-

ed with interest and curiosity by the Japanese. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* discusses the incident in an article which, so far as concerns the art of not committing a writer to anything conclusive, is a model. Our contemporary sets out by declaring itself deficient in any means of ascertaining the truth about the results of the interview; then goes on to say that no rumour could be less improbable than that of an alliance between Japan and England; then gives a list of proofs that the two countries are linked together closely; then collects several fragmentary incidents and pieces them into an argument pointing to the reasonableness of inferring that an alliance has been formed; then belauds England's policy of isolation; then declares that Japan wisely follows the same policy: and then, asking itself boldly whether there is an alliance or whether there is not, answers frankly "no and yet yes." The article deserves admiration in its way, and so do many other light and unsubstantial trivialities. It will mislead a good many persons, doubtless; especially those that want to be misled. When a journal enjoying close access to good sources of information, says—under cover of "report," indeed, but still clearly enough—that a mission of grave national importance led to a reconciliation between Count OKUMA and Marquis ITO before the latter's departure for England, folks, in the outer sphere of knowledge will at once conclude that a state secret has been divulged. We venture to assert, however, that there was no mission of national importance; that as to a reconciliation, none took place because none was needed; and that, as to an alliance no attempt has been made to effect it. England never forms alliances unless the occasion to use them practically is imminent. There is no such occasion at present. Korea's fate is the only question of immediate moment, and the British Government has made an emphatic and unmistakable declaration of policy with regard to Korea. There can be no ambiguity about the significance of Mr. CURZON'S statement in the House of Commons—no such ambiguity as unfortunately attended Lord JOHN RUSSELL'S despatches about the "three-Duchies problem," or Lord PALMERSTON'S announcement about Poland. Korea has weathered a dangerous crisis "by the skin of her teeth," but whether she owes the preservation of her independence to her own manœuvring or to the timidity of others, is a question that we prefer not to discuss at the moment. At any rate the crisis is past, and England now steps forward to say that she objects to such crises. Japan objects to them also, and ought to be greatly relieved by finding herself in such close company with England. But an alliance—that need be scarcely considered. We have often remarked that England

and Japan are gradually being drawn together in the Far East by the steady march of events over which neither of them independently, nor both together, can exercise complete control. An alliance, we venture to think, is an unnecessary as it would be mischievous. If each has a clear and trustful understanding of the other's policy, nothing more is needed. To such an understanding interviews between statesmen like Marquis ITO and the Marquis of SALISBURY must greatly conduce. That is probably the sum and substance of what the public can be honestly asked to believe with reference to the Japanese ex-Premier's visit to London.

DISEASED JOURNALS.

WE observe that the old mare's nest about the "enforcement" of the Revised Treaties has again been discovered by one of our local contemporaries. A delightful somnolence distinguishes the habits of certain journalists in this Settlement. They seem to fall asleep periodically, and after awaking they light upon the fragments of some fact which was disposed of in its entirety during their slumber, but which naturally strikes their newly opened eyes as a startling and refreshing, or distressing, novelty. One of the consequences of this Rip-van-Winkle tendency is that they occasionally extract from China-port newspapers paragraphs copied by the latter from the *Japan Mail* without acknowledgement, and reproduce them as novelties in Yokohama, where they originally saw the light of day weeks before. The irony of the fates that punish indolence could not be crueller, for in addition to laying flaccid chesnuts before their readers, these third-hand editors are thus betrayed into the inadvertent misery of borrowing from the *Japan Mail*. We have often pitied them too much to expose them, for nothing human looks picturesque when it writhes. This ancient mare's nest, however, partakes of the nature of a nuisance and must be scavenged away for good and all. It relates, as we have said, to the "enforcement" of the Revised Treaties. A few months ago, one of the evening newspapers happened upon this term "enforcement," and shrieked at it through half a column. "Enforcement"! What a horrid notion! Could anything more clearly illustrate the anti-foreign undercurrent of Japanese motive? Here, actually two years before the time for submission to Japanese jurisdiction, here were the Japanese preparing to "enforce" submission. Well they knew the bitterness of the pill, and ruthlessly they were preparing to force it down our throats. And then the naked, the indecent, insolence of the thing! Openly appointing a committee of prominent men to prepare instruments of torture for the ordeal of "enforcement"! It was our pleasant

duty to provide an anodyne on that occasion for our suffering contemporary. We pointed out that "enforcement" was pure phantasy. Prejudice sometimes assumes the dimensions of *delirium tremens*, and drives its victims to mistake for tangible horrors the creations of their own diseased imaginations. That has been a familiar spectacle in Yokohama for the past five-and-thirty years, and the marvel is that such a long spell of monster catching has not yet been followed by the complete dissolution, but only by the partial paralysis, of the poor minds doomed to it. The "enforcement" bogie may not have been entirely of the D. T. order. Perhaps a blundering translator was responsible for it. But in the original Japanese there was no such word. *Fisshi* means "operation." It might be applied to putting into practice a new system of good-service rewards or out-door relief for superannuated editors. The Committee was a committee for making preparations in view of the approaching operation of the Revised Treaties. Its functions had no more connexion with enforcement than with alchemy. All those things we explained fully at the time, and our perturbed contemporary had a lucid interval. Its fluttering heart beat calmly once more. But it chanced just then that the other evening paper was involved in one of its periodical slumbers, and when it partially woke up, which it did a few days ago, its familiar demon began to torture it with a visitation of monsters, among which "enforcement" showed its nasty shape here and there. Not one "enforcement" but many "enforcements"; not one committee but many committees. It is among the horrible faculties of these uninvited insects that they multiply themselves *ad infinitum*. "We read from time to time," moaned the second victim of the phantasy, "that official commissions have been appointed to investigate preliminaries with regard to the enforcement of the new treaties. When a phrase of this kind is continually made use of, it would seem that the authorities regard it as a foregone conclusion that foreigners will offer some sort of resistance to the carrying out of the provisions of the new compacts.* * * The ignorance of the police as to the proper exercise of their duties is likely to prove a fertile source of complaint, more especially should their erroneous ideas be attempted to be enforced directly by themselves or with the help of their comrades." This seems to be a worse attack than the one that we prescribed for some months ago. The recurrent character of the "enforcement" spectre and the "commission" phantom is a bad symptom, and the dreadful jumble of apprehensions about the police is a sad evidence of mental derangement. The stages of the seizure are painfully apparent. The apparition presents itself at first "from time to time,"

then it becomes "continual," and then the unhappy patient sees a mob of policemen engaged in some nefarious operation, some agonizingly intricate business of attempting to enforce their ideas directly by themselves, or, still more labyrinthine scheme, with the help of their comrades. The comrades of the police! Their wraiths. Shadowy figures with transparent batons and opaque spectacles engaged in the devilishly ingenious trick of helping real policemen to enforce their erroneous ideas directly by the themselves. And the whole tumultuous fabric built upon imaginary "enforcement." It becomes a melancholy duty to call the attention of the Committee to this incident, lest among the preparations made by them for the new order of things they should fail to provide a hospital for incurables.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

If it were announced in England that Mr. Herbert Spencer, Mr. Leslie Stephen and Mr. Frederic Harrison had all decided to champion the cause of Roman Catholicism, the astonishment of the whole reading world would be great, and every religious periodical of Europe and America would earnestly discuss from its own point of view the extraordinary phenomenon. Something of this kind has occurred in Japan. There is no denying that Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō and Dr. Mōtōrō Yūjirō occupy the very first rank among Japanese scholars. They have received the very best education in Japan and Europe, and have both proved themselves to be philosophers of a most advanced type, and yet they have both come forward in a most pronounced manner and signified their intention to support and defend, to the very utmost of their power, *Japan's ancient creed* as explained by the two great leaders of new Shintō thought, Messrs. Kimura Takatarō and Takenouchi Nanzō. That is the one absorbing topic of the magazines this month. Its prominence and importance warrant our giving a full summary of the utterances of the various religious organs.

It will be seen that some writers discuss the character of the whole movement represented by the starting of the periodical known as the *Nihon Shugi*, while others concentrate their attention on the support afforded to the movement by advanced modern thinkers. The *Teikoku Bungaku*, though, as its name implies, not a religious journal, pays a good deal of attention to religious topics and invariably has something decided to say on the questions of the day. In the number before us there are two articles on the new Shintō movement, the first by the editor, the second by Mr. Omachi Keigetsu, which we now proceed to epitomise. This agitation, argues the *Teikoku Bungaku*, is to be regarded as ethical rather than religious. It is an attempt to find a taking basis for morals. One of the chief results of the introduction of western ideas has been the thorough undermining of our native system of morals. So great have been the ravages of destructive criticism through a series of years that thoughtful men have grown alarmed and, in the hopes of averting the greatest of all calamities, denationalisation, now preach the importance of Japan's retaining her national religion and her code of morals, with slight modifications to suit the times. The doctrine of nationalism may be regarded as the protest of individualism against cosmopolitanism, or as an attempt to insist on the superiority of man to everything that exists in the world. The question is, can the State ever become a satisfactory foundation whereon to build a system of morals? Who is to decide what is State teaching? And how can the obligation to bow to the decrees of the State oracle be

reconciled with that clause in the Constitution which declares that Japanese subjects are free to choose their own religion. What puzzles us is, how in the minds of the scholars who have lent their names to this cause, the national principle and pure philosophy (純正哲學 *Junsei-tetsugaku*), the latter of which is independent of place and time, are reconciled with each other. The broad basis of one set of principles is surely incompatible with the narrow basis of the other.

Mr. Omachi Keigetsu singles out Mr. Kimura Takatarō for special attack. His sins are enumerated under six heads, which, stated briefly, amount to charges of unscrupulousness in the manner in which old legends and pretended revelations are twisted and shaped so as to be made to appear suitable for modern use, and of readiness to appeal to men's self-interest instead of to their higher nature. "One note from a stork is more worth hearing than the chirpings of a hundred sparrows." For this note Japan waits, while it treats with indifference such common utterances as those of Mr. Kimura and his fellow-thinkers.

The *Bukkyō*, under the title of *Shintō Fukkō* (Revival of Shintō), discusses the new movement very thoroughly. It regards Messrs. Kimura and Takenouchi as its chief originators. Mr. Takenouchi, the *Bukkyō* reminds us, for some time figured as a Christian evangelist, but his connection with Shintō was originally of such an intimate character that it was not surprising that he should have returned to his old belief. The part played by earnest Shintoists in this affair calls for no special comment, but the attitude of Dr. Inouye and Dr. Motora has caused, says the *Bukkyō*, universal astonishment. The known opinions of the chief promoters on philosophical and general subjects are at variance with each other. Mr. Kimura has always shown his dislike of metaphysics and his aversion to Buddhist doctrines of whatever kind. Dr. Inouye, on the other hand, is one of the greatest metaphysicians and an ardent student of Buddhist lore. It is hard to see how men with such diverse tastes and proclivities can work harmoniously. Nationalism is of course the topic on which they are agreed. There is no movement in modern times that has affected the whole of the religious world in Japan so deeply as this. Buddhists and Christians have felt it quite as much as Shintoists. In Buddhist ranks the action of Onchi Seiran and others in founding the 上宮教會 *Jōgū Kyōkai* corresponds to the *Shintō* action which we are now discussing. The idea of the founders of this Association is that the 17 Laws made by the Prince Shōtoku (also called Jōgū Taishi) should be utilised for the purpose of reforming Japanese morality at the present time. So here we have two nationalistic schemes projected at the same time, with the same object in view, and yet so constituted that it is impossible for them to work in harmony with each other. The feeling which has found expression in this action may be briefly stated as follows:—Mixed residence is near at hand and means that Christian cosmopolitanism will be pushed to the utmost extent, with the result that the national feeling of loyalty to the Emperor will be weakened on every hand, which may at any time lead to disastrous results. Now with nationalism pure and simple we have the greatest sympathy but we see no use in trying to prop up the nationalistic cause in any such ridiculous manner as is attempted by the New Shintō School. By associating nationalism with effete rites and ceremonies the would-be leaders of the new patriotic movement are degrading a cause that ought to be held sacred. If the term nationalism is to be considered a synonym of bigotry, blindness and superstition, the less we figure as nationalists the better for our reputation in the world.

The *Tōyō-tetsugaku* complains of the unscholarly and unphilosophical manner in which the new teachers have stated their position and object. The narrowness and prejudice that characterise the views expressed remind one more than anything else of the attitude assumed by the *Yōi* party at the commencement

of the *Meiji* era. These new satellites have assumed a serious responsibility. There is no saying to what outrages against foreigners their narrow interpretation of the term nationalism may lead. Just as our intercourse with foreigners is becoming closer the consequences of raising this new national flag may be anything but agreeable. The only consolation we have is that for every thousand blind persons there are a thousand who can see:—(Proverb. *Mekura sen-nin, meaki sen-nin*).

The *Meiji Hyōron* regrets the whole movement. It thinks that the Japanese people need no stimulus of the kind offered by Dr. Inouye and his associates. They are in no danger of de-nationalism. Patriotism is a sentiment far too deeply implanted in their nature to allow of its being uprooted by foreign influences. They borrow, but they assimilate what they borrow without affecting their own identity. The whole controversy on this subject is foolish and tedious.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* observes that for men like Kimura to be interpreting ancient Shintō so as to make it a vehicle for modern thought resembles the Unitarian movement in Europe and America. The *Nihon Shugi* party may fan the flame of national vanity, but certainly will not tend to raise Japan's reputation in the world at large. Designed as a check on the influence of Confucianism, Buddhism and Christianity, it will only tend to make these creeds more highly valued.

The *Rikugō Zasshi* takes a similar view. The movement cannot be regarded as patriotic by any means, as the inflation of the vanity of the ignorant can lead to no good result. The danger which the projectors of the scheme fear is purely imaginary and the noise they are making may be compared to the senseless barking of dogs when unknown persons are approaching their abode.*

In the *Shinri* Mr. Minami, in a very temperate and sensible article, points out that Christians generally entirely agree with the new Shintoists as to the desirability of cultivating a national spirit, but they dissent altogether from the measures proposed by the new sect with a view to attaining that end. In this scientific age, doctrines based on mythology can have little influence. What ancient writers on Shintō have to say about the gods can have no authority with thinkers of the present day. The attitude that Mr. Kimura and his confidères have assumed towards Christianity is uncalled for. Christianity is not opposed to patriotism. Nor does it, as is affirmed, exalt the life to come at the expense of the life that now is. The originators of the new movement would have done better if they had enlisted the sympathy of the members of other sects in the cause which they are so anxious to promote by adopting more conciliatory methods.

The *Shūkyō* adopts a similar line of reasoning. It laughs at the idea that Japanese who adopt Christianity lose their patriotism. The Japanese can be left to choose what form of faith they please; their feelings on all national questions will be unaffected thereby. To attempt to put a stop to the spread of Christianity or any other form of faith is a proof of weakness. What do the new Shintoists mean by their *Nihon Shugi*? Do they intend to imply that foreigners should be despised? That we should figure in the world as vociferous proclaimers of our own importance to the rest of the nations? In Dr. Motora's explanation of the principle of nationalism the obligation to act in a friendly manner to members of other nationalities in time of peace is acknowledged. But how far the party to which he belongs approve of this interpretation of the principle is another question. In Mr. Kiyono's enunciation of the principles of the sect these words occur:—"We are not of the number who are ignorant enough and prejudiced enough to think that Japan is perfect. We are conscious of Japan's defects and are advocates of the progress that shall gradually lessen the number of these defects. The difference between new Shintō and old Shintō is this; the

latter seeks to hide its weaknesses, the former to reveal and to find a remedy for them." This spirit cannot but meet with approval in all quarters, but it would seem that the exposition of the object of the association given by its leading members differs according to the bent of each man's mind. Even the ten articles of belief,† what may be called an enumeration of principles under ten heads, are by no means consistent with each other. It is not to be wondered at that few people seem to know precisely what is the ground taken by the new reformers. The magazine which professes to define the position of the sect has indulged in so much mud-throwing that it has been nicknamed the *Akkō Zasshi*.

The *Fuku-in Shimpō* observes that the projectors of the movement represented by the *Nihon Shugi* differ little from the authors of the movement represented by the *Nihon Shukyō*. Both parties aim at making the State the basis of ethical teaching, they are nevertheless at logger-heads with each other.

The *Kirisutokō Shimbun* thinks the platform of the new sect far too narrow for effecting any great reform. This organ sees nothing lasting or effective in the movement.

The *Taiyō* writes in a cautious tone. The early professions of the sect lack discrimination and are altogether too one-sided, but whether the views of its leaders will gain in breadth as time goes on and embody the results of religious thought and inquiry carried on in other sects remains to be seen.

The following items are from the *Fuku-in Shimpō*. According to statistics published in the *Yorozu Chōhō*, certain classes of crime have greatly decreased since the war, but other classes have increased. House burglary, petty thefts, and the making of counterfeit coins are among the former, and crimes involving a violation of the laws of society, including various kinds of indecent behaviour, are among the latter. Though it is true, as stated in these columns previously, that representative government in the Otani sect has been sanctioned by the Chief Abbot, yet since out of the 60 candidates who are to be chosen to represent the sect 30 are to be selected by Otani himself, freedom of action will be hardly possible under the new form of Government.

Mr. Ozaki Hiromichi, the late President of the Dōshisha, expresses himself in somewhat despondent tones on the subject of the independence of Japanese Christians. He says that throughout India the churches are largely dependent on foreign aid, and that all hope of independence has died out, and in some directions this seems to be what Japan is coming to. Evangelists are vigorous where foreign money is plentiful, but where it is scarce they make a very poor show. The only help that we ought to receive from foreigners is temporary help towards independence.

Mr. Uemura Masahisa, in reviewing Dr. Hozumi's new book, the *Aikokushin*, says that though Dr. Hozumi makes a great many statements which have no historical foundation, the tone of his work is decidedly religious. Dr. Hozumi dwells on the benefits to be derived from religious belief, and maintains that no country can prosper without adopting some form of religion. The learned Doctor's ideas on Japanese ethnology are not up to date. The notion that the whole nation sprang from the same ancestors is no longer entertained by leading ethnologists.

Mr. Yebina Danjō contends that monogamy is older than polygamy in Japan and that the latter was introduced with Confucianism. According to Mr. Yebina, Confucianism is responsible for many other mistaken views of life.

The *Kirisutokō Shimbun* reports that the

† Given in the last summary.

‡ We have our doubts as to the accuracy of this statement, though we are at the moment without recent statistics on the subject.

* The allusion is to mixed residence.

Fukuin-Dōmei-kai, which has been in existence since 1879, has been reorganised. It now employs ten evangelists, who preach at over 400 places. The total expenditure of the association annually amounts to 600 yen. It purposes devoting attention to education and to reformatory work in addition to its ordinary functions.

The same organ is informed that the revision of the criminal code, embodied in a draft which will be presented to the Diet next session, is in the direction of replacing the individualism that characterises French Law by the nationalism and state predominance of the German.

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The *Koye* (Roman Catholic) continues its even course of writing up the praises of St. Peter and of writing down all forms of belief outside the Roman Catholic Church. It is to be regretted that the body to which this organ belongs do not take steps to start a magazine on a higher level.

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Under the heading of *Tema-tori Dendōsha* (Hiring Evangelists) the *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church) asserts that certain mercenary Christians who hitherto have acted as evangelists, because for the money received the work (consisting for the most part of talking) is less arduous than that by means of which men of equal capacity make a living, have been tempted by the recent rise in the pay of policemen to join the ranks of the guardians of public peace. We turn away with utter disgust from such miserable specimens of Christianity, writes the *Seikyō Shimpō*.

To the *Shinri*, the organ of the German Church, the Rev. R. Minami contributes an article entitled *Yesu no Kyūshu-teki jikaku shin* (The Messianic Consciousness of Jesus), in which the writer gives a summary of the progress of thought in the matter of the interpretation of the Scriptures. After observing that Mr. Maruyama Mitsukazu is the only other writer that has given much attention to the subject, Mr. Minami says that the notion that Christ knew that he was the Saviour of the world is entirely without proof. (*Ware wa sono ronkyō nashi to shinsu.*)

In the July number of the *Shukyō* (Unitarian) appears a lecture in English by Mr. George D. Herron, the well-known American preacher of Socialism, entitled "The Religion of Jesus, A Social Ideal." A translation will be published in the next number of the Magazine. Mr. Herron maintains that the religion of Christ has been entirely transformed by ecclesiastics. To quote his own words: "The age that finally changed the revelation of Jesus from a social ideal to an official religion, from a mode of life to a theological system, was one of moral and religious anarchy, insanely wicked and licentious. . . . The Nicene Council which laid the foundations for all subsequent theology, was so without sense of right and human honour as to appal even the ethical decency of Constantine, who scarcely pretended to be other than an atheist as to morals and a sceptic as to faith, though fabled the first Christian emperor. It is a far downward journey from Jesus to Athanasius, (the Italics are those of Mr. Herron) further than from Athanasius to either Hildebrand or Calvin." Mr. Herron proceeds to argue that stripped of all forms of supernaturalism, simply as a high class social ideal, Christianity may yet prove the saviour of the world. "The religionist whose chief concern is his own soul is heathen, and not Christian. . . . In their search for justice, John Stuart Mill and Frederic Harrison find an unrecognized fellowship with God unconceived by the most tireless and entreating self-seeking Bernard of Clairvaux and Francis of Assisi. . . . Organised love is the social destiny of man. . . . The Christ we need is not in the tomb of metaphysics, where theology has stood guard these many ages, obedient to ambition in the

† The proverb *Susume taka wo umasu*, "Sparrows don't produce falcons" is applied to the conduct of these Christians. Nothing noble can be expected to proceed from a source so insignificant.

Church, agreeable to craft in the State. . . . Jesus is no more the author of existing Christianity than Moses was the author of the Judaism out of which Christianity was born."

The *Senshin gakuen*, the Unitarian School where Messrs. MacCauley, Droppers, Onishi, Kishimoto and others teach, held its Fourth Graduation ceremony some weeks ago. There were about 100 persons present and an interesting address on his own special subject was delivered by Mr. Taguchi Ukichi. The Unitarians announce that a Summer School will be opened at some picturesque spot in Akashi, Harima, on August 25th and remain open till September 15th.

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The *Rikugō Zasshi* calls attention to the publication of a book containing the most unflattering exposure of the weaknesses of modern Japan that has been published for many a long day. The title of the work is *Shō Nihon Ka? Dai Nihon Ka?* (Little Japan? or Great Japan?) The work covers 220 pages and its author is Mr. Suzuki Tengan. The *Rikugō* is of opinion that the treatise is a faithful picture of the Japanese of the present day and agrees with Mr. Suzuki in thinking that it is no time for Japan to be boasting of her attainments. Much of the noisy reiteration of Japan's supposed greatness, says Mr. Suzuki, is most childish and only excites the ridicule of foreigners. Such castigation is apt to make the reader feel sore, says the *Rikugō*, but it is called for.

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We are very much surprised to find that even Mr. Takayama Rinjiō has expressed sympathy with the new Shintō movement. Nationalism at the present moment seems to lead scholarship and even common sense captive. It is impossible to escape from the conviction that many very highly educated Japanese minds are altogether lacking in balance and are engaged in experimenting with this creed and that, this philosophy and the other, without perceiving how entirely contradictory are many of the theories which they profess to have adopted. Mr. Takayama, in an article on the new movement published in the *Taiyō*, confesses that the new school of would-be reformers have no right to the title of Shintoists, but that is a minor point, says the writer. The chief thing to be borne in mind is that they represent a national feeling and hence ought to be supported. Anything that will free Japanese from the foreign yoke in religious thought is to be welcomed. Mr. Takayama fears that Japan will have all its nationalism stamped out of it by foreign influences.

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The following items of information bearing on the Dōshisha are taken from the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*. Since Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo has filled the Presidential Chair the fortunes of the institution have mended and the prospects of ultimate success are brighter than they were. Several teachers of note have been engaged. Among them Dr. Yoshida, Professor of Chemistry at the Kyōto University, a graduate of Harvard, Mr. Y. Iwasaki, and a foreigner whose name we cannot identify, a Mr. Kett or Ketty. The 29th Annual Report of the Dōshisha has just been issued. From it the following statistics are culled by the organ we are quoting. The property of the Association is valued at 192,202 yen, which yields an annual interest of 7,541. The area of the land belonging to the Dōshisha is 48,500 *tsubo* and the size of the buildings 5,135 *tsubo*. The expenditure last year was 21,739 yen. The numbers given bearing on the attendance of the school are somewhat puzzling. We are told that between 1875 and 1896 3,125 male students entered the school, that 547 of these graduated and 2,257 left the school without graduating. What became of the rest we are not told. Of female students 741 entered the school, 185 graduated and 491 left the school without graduating.

* * *
The *Fukuin Shimpō* publishes a report of the Ninth Annual General Meeting of the

Nihon Kirisuto Kyōkai held in Tōkyō from July 6th—10th. A resolution having for its object the observation of the day of the promulgation of the Imperial Rescript on Education as a sacred day, was negatived, and the subject declared not to be one for discussion in such an assembly. The subject of independence received a good deal of attention, but a motion to dissolve such churches as were unable to support themselves was thrown out, as being too extreme. The necessity of laying more stress on the social aspects of Christianity instead of preaching individualism in the way that is common, was declared by the leading members of the conference to be very important. Sunday schools are to be reorganised and are to make it their aim to supply the deficiencies of the system of education followed by government schools. The subject of marriage and the general relation of the sexes, demands, in the opinion of the Conference, special attention at the present time. Economy and method in the use of Church money ought to be studied. The Church should always teach that work of every kind is sacred.

* * *
The Buddhists are beginning to prepare their minds for the altered state of affairs incidental to mixed residence. They predict a very strong crusade on the part of Christians and express the conviction that Buddhism will have to put forth its utmost strength if it is to maintain its ground. The *Bukkyō* has a number of articles bearing more or less on this subject. In one of these the writer says that notwithstanding the fact the majority of professing Christians do not actually believe in the Christianity of the Churches, the idea that Civilisation and Christianity are inseparable still prevails in many minds, and that Christian evangelists are wont to make capital out of this notion. Then there is no denying, continues this writer, that Christians are ahead of us in the way that they provide employment for the lower classes in the form of various industries. Their methods of ingratiating themselves by supplying the temporal wants of the needy are well worth our imitation. If we neglect to employ the various hand-maidens of religion on which Christians depend so much we shall be regarded as an inferior sect.

* * *
The *Kyōyū* (教友) *Zasshi*, the *Narita Shinrin*, and the *Meikyō* all have articles on mixed residence and the necessary preparations therefor. One of these articles goes as far as to maintain that to teach the English language in order to prepare for mixed residence is the way to ruin the country. Various expedients to meet the impending evil (viewed from the Buddhist stand-point) are suggested, one of these being the registration of every believer and close vigilance over existing Buddhist professors; and another the occupation of vacancies in elementary schools by Buddhist priests. Commenting on the various proposals, the *Bukkyō* pronounces most of them to be utterly impracticable. Its chief object in drawing attention to them is to show how great is the flutter in Buddhist dovescotes at the approach of the dreaded falcon—the foreign Christian evangelist! We observe that there is still an agitation in some quarters in favour of the resuscitation of the Kyōbushō. As our readers will premise, the chief movers in this affair are Buddhists and Shintoists who fear the results of competition with Christianity on equal terms. They do not seem to realise that the assumption now-a-days of any such power as was wielded by the old 教部省 Kyōbushō, would involve a breach of that article of the Constitution which insures liberty of belief to Japanese subjects. Apart from the above proposals comes one which commends itself to a large number of religious people. It is suggested that there is need of some kind of police superintendence of religious affairs. The following instances of abuses calling for suppression are given. (1) The propagation of doctrines that are injurious to morals, such as those of the Tenrikyō, known as 天理教 *Inshi*. (2) The interruption of services and lecture meetings by persons of alien

belief. (3) The want of respect to the Emperor shown by Christians. (4) The neglect of cemeteries on every hand, specially those attached to Buddhist temples. (5) The existence of religious altercations that disturb the public peace and do much harm. (6) The appropriation of ecclesiastical property by Buddhist priests for their own purposes.

The Shintō organ, the *Yui-itsu*, in discussing the examination to which the Shintō priests are subjected before ordination, says that far too little attention has been paid to the fact that religion is not learning, but an exemplary life, not the knowledge of words, but the practice of virtue. Of this fact the history of the Jikkō-kyō (實行教) "Practical Religion," the sect represented by the *Yui-itsu*, has furnished many brilliant examples, among them is the life of its founder, Hasegawa Kakugyō, by whose instrumentality the heart of Tokugawa Iyeyasu was permeated with religious feeling. Learning is all the rage now-a-days, and hence the men drafted into the priesthood in many cases lack the quality which alone can render them influential in the world as teachers of religion.

The *Kyōrin*, the organ of the Jingukyō, has an article on the same subject. There are distinct signs of fresh activity among Shintoists of all classes.

The semi-religious and semi-educational organ representing ultra-conservative thought, the *Kun-min dō*, publishes a lecture delivered by Mr. Hosokawa Junjirō entitled "The origin of the high rank of women in western countries" in which the lecturer highly approves of the position occupied by woman in the West and suggests a change in this matter in Japan. Among the articles published in the number before us is one by Mr. Takashima Kayemon on the book, of which he never wearies and whose teaching he considers to be the foundation of all high class moral thought, the *易* *Yi*.

THE SHANGHAI FATALITY.

Shanghai papers to hand this morning give some particulars of the inquest held at that port into the circumstances attending the death of Harry Beaumont Heygate, Navigating Lieutenant on H.M.S. *Algerine*. Lieut. Heygate retired to his cabin about 9.30 p.m. on the 19th instant, after instructing the quarter-master to call him about a quarter of an hour before the evolutions in the morning, but he added, "I don't suppose there will be any." Three minutes afterwards a pistol shot was heard, and upon James Symons, a gunner, entering the cabin he found the deceased lying on his back in his bunk with something burning on his breast. He died soon after from hemorrhage of the lungs, the bullet having entered between the fourth and fifth ribs on the right side, passed through the lower part of the upper lobe of the left lung, cut the pulmonary artery, passed out at the back, smashing the fifth rib and through the shoulder blade on the left side. Evidence was tendered that deceased was in no pecuniary trouble, nor was there any fear of trouble or punishment from a Service point of view. He was a man of shy disposition, but usually cheerful and healthy. The Jury found the following verdict—"That the said Harry Beaumont Heygate came to his death by a shot from a revolver fired by his own hand, but whether accidentally or intentionally inflicted there is insufficient evidence to show, there being no motive revealed for suicide."

Lieut. Heygate was formerly in the *Redpole* on this Station, but was invalided to England owing to an affection of the eyes, returning in the *Algerine* after about a year's leave. He was well liked by his comrades in the Service. Commander Domville is captain of the *Algerine*.

BIG THEFT IN YOKOHAMA.

Messrs. Boyes & Co. of Yokohama are reported to have been made the victims of a somewhat substantial theft by two of their employes, one Kashimazaki Matsuyemon and his son Matsujirō. Both father and son are said to have been living a very gay life for a long time past and to have embezzled sums of money aggregating a very considerable amount. A fortnight or so ago, circumstances led the two employes to believe that their depredations were about to be brought to light, and worry and anxiety caused the older man to fall sick and to lay up at his home at Noge. The son, fearing arrest managed, on the 13th instant, to possess himself of a sum of 4,500 yen belonging to the firm, with which he absconded. He was, however, very quickly tracked and arrested by the police, upon a report being made to them. At the request of the firm, however, the thief has escaped prosecution, and, we are informed, is at present back in the firm's employ. We do not vouch for the accuracy of all the details of this report.

BICYCLING IN ENGLAND.

The *Field* of the 19th ult. reports two cycling records during last month, namely that of the one hour track racing and the 24 hours' road race. The hour's record was the object of a ride undertaken by the professional bicyclist, J. W. Stocks, at the Crystal Palace track on the 10th June. Stocks was the first to make a great lift in this record when he covered over 29 miles in the hour, and since that time the distance compressed within the space of sixty minutes has gradually increased, until at the tag end of last season, J. Linton rode 31 miles 582 yards in the time, McGregor and Nelson being just ahead of this with a tandem record of 31 miles 610 yards. With fine weather, a fast track, the best of pacemaking, and personally in the pink of condition, Stocks was able to do himself ample justice, and to put up a set of figures that will probably remain unsurpassed for some time to come. From six miles to the finish he made faster times than have ever been accomplished, and at the expiration of the hour he had ridden 32 miles 448 yards. The following table shows the rate of progress made during the race:—

Miles.	Time.	Miles.	Time.	Miles.	Time.
1	5.53	10	25.15	20	42.41
2	5.38	11	25.54	21	43.37
3	5.06	12	26.45	22	44.37
4	4.53	13	27.41	23	45.39
5	4.21	14	28.38	24	46.42
6	3.59	15	29.36	25	47.46
7	3.28	16	30.35	26	48.50
8	2.58	17	31.34	27	49.55
9	2.28	18	32.33	28	50.59
10	1.58	19	33.32	29	51.59
11	1.28	20	34.31	30	52.59
12	1.00	21	35.30	31	53.59
13	0.59	22	36.29	32	54.59
14	0.38	23	37.28	33	55.59
15	0.18	24	38.27	34	56.59
16	0.00	25	39.26	35	57.59
17	0.00	26	40.25	36	58.59
18	0.00	27	41.24	37	59.59
19	0.00	28	42.23	38	60.59
20	0.00	29	43.22	39	61.59
21	0.00	30	44.21	40	62.59

Although road racing has gone out of vogue road records still excite the cupidity of certain bicyclists, says the *Field*, but their acquisition has been rendered very difficult by reason of the great pace maintained in the rides which put the records where they now stand. M. A. Holbein's performances in long distance riding excited much interest, and he has made and held a succession of records for such rides. His last attempt was in July, 1895, when he rode 397 miles in the day. He has always been credited with a feeling of dissatisfaction that he did not then succeed in reaching the 400 miles, and on the 15th June he made another attempt to gratify his ambition in this respect. Leaving Peterborough at 7 p.m., and riding in the Wisbech and Spalding district, he covered the first 165 miles in 8hr. 45min., and put up a score of 219 miles for the first half of the time, this being two miles more than he had previously accomplished and he eventually succeeded in riding 402 miles in the twenty-four hours. Through the first part of his journey he had the services of a motor-car as pace-maker until this instrument broke down. The result of this ride is that the distance has been increased by five miles, the previous record being the 397 miles made by Holbein in 1895.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

How many of us, when passing St. Paul's Cathedral, have given much thought to the historical antiquity of its site; and a large majority might be found who have never paid even a moment's attention to the pagan figures that ornament the roof. "Edes Pollucis," in a letter to the *Globe*, gives some of these things in a concise form, which is worth quoting. He says:—The edifice was originally founded by the ancient Phœnician settlers in Britain, and built on the highest spot of ground in honour of their god, Elon-don, from whence the City to this day retains its name of London, or vulgar Lounen. It was a bishop's see three centuries before the country acquired the name of Christianity. The Bishops of London and York, being present in the Council of Arles in France, held under Constantine in 314—283 years before the Monk Augustine introduced Christianity into England, 597. In the tympanum of the western pediment is an alto-relief, or hieroglyphic, clearly showing that the edifice was originally dedicated to the honour of the sun. On the centre of the western pediment appears a very ancient figure wearing a judge's robe, and holding in his hand the sword of justice. If we stand with our face westward on the north side and look up immediately in the point of the pediment over the entrance of the edifice we shall see a statue evidently, of Hercules, with his well-known characteristic club, and the skin of the Cleonœon lion. Then on the pediment over the southern entrance will be seen the self-same Hercules under the Greek name Andrew (signifying the strong man), holding a cross in shape of an X, or double pair of compasses, exhibiting the precise angle which the sun makes at its two crossings of the equator at the time this form of sun worship was first introduced, and which angle is gradually decreasing until day and night become of equal length all the year round. At its western pediment are the emblematical figures of spring, summer, autumn, and winter.

THE TROUBLES IN INDIA.

The news of the seditious troubles in India is confirmed by the latest mails to hand from Calcutta. It appears that pamphlets of the most inflammatory nature have been scattered broadcast over the Empire, the Plague Commissioners coming in for a violent shower of abuse. In a leaflet circulated in Poona and Calcutta during Jubilee Week the following paragraphs appear:—

Slavery is said to be abolished; but here are three hundred millions reduced to the position of starving slaves and exposed to the devastation of famine, plague, and earthquake. But in spite of all this her Majesty is advised to celebrate her Jubilee, and the people are asked to indulge in illuminations and rejoicings. The English nation has violated all its pledges to the people, and it seems that they were given simply to embitter our fall by the disappointment of broken pledges. The Royal proclamation of 1858 has remained a dead letter for 40 years, and recent operations regarding famine and plague have convinced the people that the English government at the zenith of its power is not ashamed to disgrace its administration by heartless apathy for the suffering of the people by invading our zannas and polluting our temples and mosques under cover of plague operation.

We appeal to you, therefore, that you will not set the seal of your approval on these rejoicings over the starving wretchedness of India. By the grace of God you have in your hands the destinies of the backward nations, and on several occasions you have exercised the power for the welfare of backward nations and communities. Can you not do the same for India and help her to come out of her present miserable plight? Never in the history of the world was such a systematic oppression practised. An ancient and a noble nation is being killed by Christian Government, and it will be an indelible stigma on the boast of civilisation of the 19th century and Christianity itself.

Will none lift his finger to check the excesses of the English tyrants, riding roughshod over us for more than a century? Not even a demon

would venture to celebrate his conquests at the time of famine, plague, and earthquake. But we have the misfortune to face the fact this year. May God inspire you to help us and then we shall gladly celebrate the Jubilee. You have constituted yourselves the arbiters of the world, and the powers which you thus possess cannot be better utilized than for the purpose of preventing an ancient and a noble nation from being trampled to death by your arrogant and insolent brethren.

KOREAN TOPICS.

It is curious to read the account of the closing exercises of the Paichai School, held in the new Methodist Church in Söul on the 8th July. Korean lads making orations in English on the independence of their country, debating a resolution as to the necessity of accepting Western civilization, and voting in the affirmative "by an overwhelming majority"—these are spectacles strange to the eyes of folks who can look back two or three decades. If Korea can preserve even a shred of autonomy until the rising generation gets a grip of the reins, she may yet give an account of herself among the nations.

A Decauville railway has been laid down in Söul to carry away sand dug from the main drains which are about to be constructed. By and by the good old habit of using the whole streets for sewers will have passed into ancient history.

The students of the Russian School inform the *Independent* by letter that they have "unanimously agreed to have a student expelled" whose disorderly acts were noticed by that journal. They did get him expelled, too, by appealing to the Department of Education. The power of the press is phenomenal in the Korean capital.

Messrs. Townsend & Co., Agents for the Standard Oil Company of New York, have built extensive store-houses on Moontail Island at Chemulpo. The structures were originally reported by Japanese sensationalists to be Russian fortifications, as our readers doubtless remember.

The German commercial Commission to the Far East were in Söul on the 13th of July. The members are thus spoken of by the *Independent*:—"Mr. Krause-Hichmaun is an expert engineer; Mr. Hartig looks after the wool industry; Mr. Schanz, cotton; Mr. Reinhart, leather; Mr. Keussen, silk weaving; Messrs. Jores and Crous on raw silk. Dr. Schümacher is the Secretary of the Commission. Five of the commissioners are on their way from China to Japan and the other four members are also going to Japan after a short visit in Korea. They were presented to His Majesty last Tuesday afternoon (13th July) by Mr. Krien, the German Representative, and a cordial greeting was exchanged between His Majesty and the visitors. They left for Chemulpo yesterday morning" (14th July).

The German Asiatic squadron—the *Kaiser*, *Princess Wilhelm*, *Arcona* and *Cormoran*—visited Chemulpo in the middle of the month.

With the object of excluding from Söul the various political intriguers whose cozenage of official appointments is said to have been at the root of most of the disturbances in recent years, the police have issued regulations requiring every inn-keeper and boarding-house-keeper to report the name, place of residence, occupation, sex and age of every guest within 24 hours of his arrival. The proprietors are further forbidden to let idlers loaf in their inns, and are warned that unless they produce and hand over any one charged with an offence, they will themselves become liable to the offender's penalty.

Chemulpo was visited by a severe storm on the 12th instant. Six Korean junks were wrecked and three lives lost.

CHINESE TOPICS.

The Belgian-Syndicate loan is said to be faring ill in Peking. It would seem that the fact of other Powers being behind Belgium is scaring the Chinese. The little kingdom had been favoured for the sake of its supposed independence in finance.

It is rumoured that Captain Lang's objections to re-enter the Chinese service have been overcome, and that instructions have been sent to Sir Chi Chen Lo Fêng-lo to engage him at once. The report sounds apocryphal.

An American syndicate is in treaty for a large tract of land at Peitaho, the new summer resort in the north of China.

Shanghai had four terrible days, from the 13th to the 16th July. The thermometer registered 100° F in the shade every day. On the 17th a thunder-storm broke up the spell of suffocation.

The Foochow correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes:—

The export of tea to Europe to the end of June was 4,849,926 lbs. against 5,976,756 lbs. to the same date last year. The tone of the market has continued quiet. The assured short supplies have had no effect beyond keeping sellers firm. Tea prices are very much the same as last year at this time for common and medium Congous; fine Panyangs are about 20 per cent under. Arrivals of Congou to date are 272,000 half-chests against 400,000 half-chests last year. Settlements are 143,977 half-chests, against 235,744 half-chests, and stocks 128,000 half-chests against 234,744 half-chests. Exchange is 1/11½ for 4 m/sight credits and freight to London 40s per ton.

Something like a deadlock in the river traffic is reported from Ichang. The authorities, whose business and duty it is to have rice carried quickly to the starving folks in Chungking, impose such low rates upon the boats and trackers they employ that the men prefer to absent themselves, and that, of course, reacts upon the junks loaded and chartered by foreign firms. They can not get crews and are lying hopeless. It would be a fine coup if some Japanese company ran steamers right through to Chungking. Apparently foreign enterprise is not equal to the undertaking.

LITERARY NOTES.

Mr. Houston Steward Chamberlain, brother of Mr. B. H. Chamberlain, has produced a work upon Richard Wagner that seems to be a remarkable success alike from a literary and a biographical point of view. Mr. Chamberlain must be a wonderful linguist. He has published several works in German, and he is a constant contributor to the *Revue des deux Mondes*. Curiously enough, he has preferred to have his last work translated into English by Mr. G. Ainslie Hight, confining himself to the task of revision. We observe that Professor Goltner is very enthusiastic in his praises of the new book—so, indeed, all the reviewers seem to be. He says:—

A splendid work, a work to which we may all turn for instruction, has appeared just at the right moment. Mr. Chamberlain's book stands high above the rest of the voluminous literature upon Wagner: its value lies not only in what it tells us about Wagner himself but in its being a model of what all biographies of great men should be. Unfortunately it is the only one of its kind; I know of no other, unless it be Carlyle's writings on Goethe. Mr. Chamberlain approaches his task from a very high standpoint; he judges in the way that genius ought to be judged; his receptivity is akin to the creations of art, and he possesses the faculty of communicating his impression in words with admirable perspicuity. His knowledge is both wide and deep, and extends to all the related branches of study, especially philosophy and literature; he turns it to admirable account in his discourse. In him the German's loftiness of thought is united with the penetrating and well-balanced judgment of the Englishman, while his literary style is both forcible and convincing. . . . The numerous portraits, illustrations, facsimiles, etc., are excellent, and possess high historic value. The whole book, based as it is upon thorough and scientific research, appeals to us like a work of art. . . . Students generally delight

in dwelling upon the "influences" by which they conceive the thoughts and creations of genius to have been determined; they love to trace relations, and regard genius as the resultant of the totality of different forces. Mr. Chamberlain's method is quite different; he grasps the problem of the hero and his time at its root. External influences are only active in causing the many contradictions and inconsistencies which are so evident to the superficial observer; but the hero himself stands alone in his grandeur; his aims are firm and immovable, and proceed directly from within himself. For a moment he may think it possible to come to terms with the intellectual current around him; he may descend from his lonely heights to join with the great in their onward struggle, and to the majority it will always appear as if circumstances had cast their spell over him. Mr. Chamberlain however shows us what is far more important—that under all circumstances Wagner remained himself.

Mr. Paul Creswick is making his, as yet, most important bid for fame in a romance entitled "The Temple of Folly" which Mr. T. Fisher Unwin is publishing in his Colonial Library. The title is an allusion to Medenham Abbey, the scene of the famous orgies of George Bubb Doddington, the favourite of George the Second. Mr. Creswick has, in fact, essayed a historical romance in which he has brought Doddington in, in the picturesque double rôle of perfect gentleman and infamous rake. Doddington, it will be remembered, founded an impious order of Franciscans who worshipped the devil. The names of eleven of the twelve members of this order are handed down to us. The twelfth is unknown. Mr. Creswick has made his hero the twelfth and thus fiction steps in where history fears to tread.

Mr. J. Maynard Saunders, who, in 1887, was a member of the *Japan Herald's* staff, and subsequently editor of the *Hyogo News*, has just been appointed News editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. We believe that Mr. Saunders had not been with the *Pall Mall Gazette* for more than a year when he was fortunate enough to secure this marked promotion. All his *confrères* and friends in Japan will learn the news with much pleasure.

Miss Amelia E. Barr has gained a deservedly high reputation as a writer of romance, marked by vigour of incident, freshness of local colour and tenderness of sentiment. Her remarkable story "Jan Vedder's Wife" has gone into one of those very cheap editions which speak more than anything else for the popularity of a book. She is now returning to the scene of her early triumph in a powerful story of Shetland fishing life which Mr. T. Fisher Unwin will issue in his Colonial library, under the title of "Prisoners of Conscience." There is a strong religious interest in the story, which is, however, owing to the simplicity of the characters, untrammelled by the arguments of theology. It may be added that some suitable pictures accompany the text.

Mr. Arthur Morrison made a great sensation when he related to Londoners, in some strong pieces of realism cast in fiction form, some of the things that go on in the Bethnal Green district. It has been reserved for Mr. W. Somerset Maugham to study the slums of Lambeth, and the very surprising result is to be published by Mr. T. Fisher Unwin under the title of "Liza of Lambeth." There, as it were under the very nose of the Archbishop, the great ruling passions of life disport themselves with a frankness that were almost amazing, were it not so true. Yet the grim story is essentially a romance, and, even, in the opinion of the author, an idyll.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The finding of the Court of Enquiry on the stranding of the *Tokio Maru* was given at the Marine Bureau, Tokyo, on the 27th instant, when Captain Barstow was found to blame and his certificate suspended for five months.

According to the *Fiji Shimpō*, a scheme for the reform of the Formosan administration was decided upon at the Cabinet Council held on the 23rd instant. The principal points in the scheme consist of the abolition of the Civil

Administrative Bureau and the appointment of a Vice-Governor-General of *chokunin* rank. Count M. Tsukata will at once submit the decision of the Cabinet to the Emperor for his sanction.

It may not be generally known that Bishop Corfe, of Korea, was in the Aahantee Expedition of 1874, and in consequence is entitled to wear the war-medal then granted.

Sir James Reid, private physician to Her Majesty, has been created a baronet. The new baronet is a brother of Mr. J. P. Reid, of Yokohama.

The last tie but one in the Lawn Tennis Handicap of the Y.C. & A.C. was played on Tuesday afternoon, by Messrs. P. S. Bent and K. Wilson, the former winning by three sets to love. Mr. Bent has now to play Mr. Pinckney in the final.

A Hongkong contemporary understands that M. Doumer, the Governor-General of Indo-China, has issued a confidential order to the Departments throughout the Provinces under his control to the effect that all future Japanese "missions" of inquiry are to be received coldly and are to be discouraged.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the number of immigrants to Hokkaido during last year reached 50,003, of whom 30,000 engaged exclusively in agricultural pursuits. According to investigations of the Hokkaido Office, the land leased to immigrants for reclamation during last year amounted to 160,480,000 *tsubo*, each settler receiving an average of 5,347 *tsubo*.

Public opinion, remarks the *Fiji*, recommends the abolition of the Colonization Department and the radical reform of the Formosan Administration. Individually the Ministers of State also approve of the adoption of such a decisive course, but the truth is that no one has dared to suggest it openly in the Cabinet. The real condition of the present Ministry can easily be judged, adds the *Fiji*, from this procrastination.

The First Bank held its regular general meeting of shareholders on the 25th inst. The net profit during the first half-year amounted to *yen* 400,655. Out of this, *yen* 100,000 were set apart as a reserve, *yen* 20,000 as a special reserve for building new premises, *yen* 29,600 voted as remuneration to officials, *yen* 202,500 appropriated for payment of a dividend at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum, and *yen* 51,555 carried to new account.

A marine belonging to the U.S. flagship *Olympia*, who had overstayed his leave, was arrested by the Japanese police on the 27th inst., on a warrant issued by the U.S. Consul-General. The man was being escorted back to his ship by three constables and an interpreter, at about 7 a.m., when, on reaching the hatoba, he was rescued from the hands of the police by a party of his shipmates, who were embarking in the *Olympia's* steam launch to return to their ship after leave ashore—very much to the mortification of the police and the satisfaction of the marine.

The beer brewing industry in Japan has made steady progress, says the *Shogyo Shimpō*. Ten years ago the import of beer from Germany and other countries did not fall short of 400,000 *yen* annually in value. Foreign beer, however, has been gradually displaced by the home-made liquor, and the amount of its importation does not now exceed 50,000 *yen* in value. On the other hand, exports of Japanese beer now realize nearly 100,000 *yen* per annum, and when imported beer is subjected to the 25 per cent. duty after the enforcement of the new Tariff Law, the import will doubtless be still farther reduced.

A charity hospital, to be called the Eiraku Byoin, is shortly to be established at Eirakucho, Kojimachi, Tokyo, under the auspices of the Home Department. The object of the institution, the *Nippon* says, is to treat poor patients gratis, and also to afford practical instruction to medical students desirous of obtaining licences

as medical practitioners. It is intended to so organise the hospital that it may serve as a model for similar institutions in other cities and prefectures. The hospitals in Japan, both public and private, in their organization and management, leave much to be desired. The remedy it is hoped, will be supplied by the Eiraku Byoin.

According to the *Tokyo Shimbun* the Railway Bureau is shortly to be divided into two distinct Bureaux: of Railways proper, and Civil Engineering, the former consisting of two Sections, Superintendence and Miscellaneous Affairs, and the latter of four sections, Engineering, Construction, Transport, and Accountancy. The investigations of the Section of Superintendence in regard to private railways have hitherto been limited to ascertaining the feasibility of lines for which licences were to be granted. But in view of the numerous accidents and other abuses arising from the growth of railway enterprises, steps are now to be taken to inspect the railways already laid, and to order, if necessary, the reconstruction of lines so as to enforce a certain standard of efficiency.

A serious inundation occurred in Feng Shan, Formosa, on the 30th ultimo. Owing to a continued heavy rainfall the Tamsui and other rivers overflowed and flooded the surrounding country, making communications completely impracticable. In Tankong, in particular, the streets were all inundated, the water rising two or three feet above the floors of the houses. Communication was for a time effected by means of rafts, while many of the inhabitants tried to save themselves by running along the roofs. A sugar manufactory was demolished, and two Chinese junks were washed away. On the 4th of this month the two rivers Tamsui and Tankong again overflowed and presented the appearance of a great sea.

The *Yorodzu Choho* says that the Department of Communications contemplates greatly extending its telegraphic lines from next year, in order that communication with every part of the Empire may be effected within thirty minutes. The scheme demands an outlay of over twenty millions of *yen*. The annual expenditure of the Department has already been increased by fifteen million *yen*, and in view of the scheme now under contemplation all possible reductions have been made in the ordinary estimates for next year. Yet it was found that no more than four million *yen* could be curtailed. Nevertheless the project has been decided upon, and the expenditure is to be defrayed out of the receipts of the Department in the form of a continuing outlay.

Another case of assault preferred by Japanese against foreigners has engaged the attention of a Consular Court in Kobe. In this instance the accused—there were three—were Britishers and they were charged before Mr. F. W. Playfair that on June 10th at Nakayamadori, Nichome, Kobe, they did unlawfully assault and beat Hamanishi Kumakichi and Hamanishi Ryotaro; and further that F. A. da Silva did on the same day and place unlawfully and wantonly fire off a gun or pistol within fifty feet of the centre of a certain public street called Nakayamadori, to the personal danger or interruption of the persons travelling thereon. After hearing the evidence for the prosecution and the defence, His Honour found the statements so contradictory that he dismissed the charge and refused the claim for medical expenses based upon it.

A severe sea-fight, in which over 200 fishermen took part, is reported to have occurred at Dan-no-ura, Choshu, in the west of the Inland Sea. On the 23rd inst. about 6 p.m., while some fishermen of Tano-ura, Moji, were casting their nets from 16 boats on the waters between Tano-ura and Dan-no-ura, the fishermen on the opposite shore of Dan-no-ura, in 40 or 50 boats appeared on the scene and challenged the 16 to fight. A sanguinary struggle at once commenced between the two parties. The fishermen of Tano-ura, who saw the struggle from the dis-

tance, soon manned their boats, over 60 in number, and went to the assistance of the 16 boats. Severe fighting then ensued for some time, the vessels engaged being over 140 in all, the fishermen numbering over 200. Upon the matter being reported to the nearest Police stations a strong force of police embarked for the scene of action, and through their exertions the fighting was at last put down. It is reported that about 10 fishermen were seriously wounded in the struggle, and many others more or less hurt.

Cremations in the capital have considerably increased of late. According to official investigations the number of deaths, interments, and cremations during the past nine years were as follows:—

Year.	Deaths.	Interments.	Cremations.	Increase per 100 deaths.
21st	32,346	21,324	2,022	34.07
22nd	35,743	23,076	3,367	34.50
23rd	37,052	21,687	15,326	41.30
24th	36,994	23,325	13,666	36.90
25th	40,022	23,527	16,495	41.20
26th	37,068	24,537	13,531	36.00
27th	34,764	22,592	12,172	35.72
28th	40,691	23,817	16,874	31.50
29th	40,327	24,072	19,254	40.30

The remarkable increase of deaths in the 25th year is simply the result of the incorporation of three Rural Districts within the jurisdiction of Tokyo *Fu*. The sudden increase of cremations in the 23rd year is accounted for by the prevalence of cholera, and the figures after the 23rd year show but a natural increase.

The extraordinary rise in the price of commodities, building materials, and in wages, the *Asahi* notes, has seriously affected the progress of various public works undertaken by the Government. The Department of Colonization, in particular, suffers from this enormously increased cost in the construction of the railways, telegraph and telephone lines, the estimates for many of which were made out, and the sums voted, in 1893, when prices were at their lowest. Thus the estimates for the Hokuriku railway show a deficiency of two million *yen*, and those of the O-U line a very much larger sum, said, indeed, to amount to nearly a hundred million. The Department, so as not to interrupt the progress of work on these lines, has decided to appropriate the annual grant for expenditure in advance, until a supplementary vote can be obtained from the Diet to cover the deficiency in the original estimates.

The Sōul correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpō* recently sent a telegram to the effect that Russia had despatched over thirty military officers and eight hundred men to Korea, and intended to station them at the various open ports in accordance with the Japan-Russian treaty stipulations. No official information has yet been received by the Government in respect to this matter, but it may be worth while to note that Article IV. of the Sōul Memorandum empowers Russia to send troops to Korea. The number of men as well as the names of places at which they are to be stationed are as follows:—Sōul, 2 companies, or not more than 400 men; Fusan, 1 company, or not more than 200 men; Wonsan, 1 company or not more than 200 men. The despatch of such troops to the capital and the ports named, was however, only provided for in the event of disturbance in Korea, which necessitated the presence of troops to guard the Legation and Consulates. At the present time tranquillity prevails throughout the country, and the *Fiji's* telegram requires confirmation.

A Consular Report from Sōul says:—Trade in Sōul during May improved considerably as compared with the previous month. Commodities for the interior were sold to an enormous amount, this being the month immediately preceding the "sowing season." Miscellaneous articles have found the best sale, and the market was entirely cleared of umbrellas and cigarettes. Good business was also done in porcelain and mosquito netting. Chinese merchants are continually entering the capital, but seldom proceed to the interior, being content to stay in Sōul or Inchon. Hawkers or vendors, however,

penetrate into every part of the country, in companies of twos, threes, or fours, with goods supplied by wholesale dealers residing in Chhungchu and Kongchu. According to the investigations of the Sôul Chamber of Commerce imports and exports during April and May were as follow:—

	April. Yen.	May. Yen.	Increase. Yen.
Imports.			
Japanese manufactures...	29,509	29,600	91
Foreign do ...	9,309	15,556	6,247
Korean do ...	2,193	4,572	2,379
Total	41,012	49,726	8,714
Exports from Korea	41,629	59,006	17,377

The period for the settlement of accounts by commercial companies is generally fixed, remarks the *Osaka Asahi*, for June and December of each year, whereas the distribution of profits among shareholders is not made till January and July. A considerable amount of capital is therefore required for the time immediately preceding or following the periods above mentioned. The dividends of various companies in Osaka for the first half of last year were as follows:—

	Yen.
Banks	6,343,292
Transport	4,523,948
Exchanges	493,914
Manufactories	256,989
Electric light and gas works	191,159
Insurance	180,249
Various commercial occupations..	120,693
Paper mills	118,759
Breweries	109,571
Chemical manufactories	91,566
Cement	44,162
Mining	43,432
Warehousing	38,350
Silk factories	16,842
Agricultural industry	12,258
Porcelain	8,396
Total	13,698,051

Similar statistics for the first half of this year not having yet been completed, it is impossible to furnish exact details. But there is scarcely any doubt that the amount has increased this year in proportion with the development of trade.

In a previous issue we stated that Shirane-san was in a state of eruption, on the 8th instant. We now gather from the *Fiji Shimpô* the following particulars:—The mountain began to rumble at about 7 p.m. on the 7th instant; but the men engaged in the sulphur-mining works, supposing that the noise had come from the Yoneko mine in consequence of an explosion, scarcely gave any consideration to the matter. At midnight, however, a dreadful roaring was heard, and serious shocks of earthquake were felt. Meanwhile sand and stone mingled with ashes were emitted from the mountain about two hundred yards north-east of the spot where an eruption took place in August of the 15th year of *Meiji* (1882). Among matters so ejected were rocks over three or four feet in diameter while the melted lava is said to have run down as far as the hot springs at Kusatsu. At 5 a.m. on the 8th instant, a loud noise again reverberated through the mountain, but the emission of large stones had entirely ceased. After a few moments, however, at a distance of about two hundred yards to the south-west of the place where the present eruption took place, quantities of melted lava were seen issuing, in consequence of which rails for about sixty yards, together with some bridges, were destroyed. The lava did not cease flowing for about three hours. Fortunately there was no injury to man or beast. When the crater was examined on the 15th instant, a week after the eruption, it was still found to be in a state of ebullition, and looked as though quantities of mud were boiling in a pan of over four hundred yards diameter.

It will come as a surprise to most people to learn that there are yet on the active strength of the British Army, if one may apply that adjective in this regard, two veterans who enlisted, one in 1837 and the other in 1838. One fills the erstwhile gruesome office of Queen's Executioner at the Tower. Fortunately for this old hero, who

fought at Gujerat, in the Indian frontier war, all through the Central Indian campaigns, and the Indian Mutiny, the office of yeoman gaoler entails no lethal functions, and his headman's axe rests idly by his side. His brother veteran fills a nominally more grateful office, and still moves about, hale and brisk, sporting the ribbon of the recruiting sergeant in the Queen's good town of Woolwich. Of the first war of the reign, the Ghuzni war of 1838-39, only one man survives to bear its medals. He fought in that campaign, and also at Maharajapore in 1843. At Aliwal three years later he was wounded severely, and proudly wears the medal with the Sobranje clasp.

The Gambling-Bribery scandal at Hongkong has spread from the Police Department into the Office of the Registrar-General. In consequence of certain information obtained by the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Mr. C. Osmund, First Clerk in the Registrar-General's Department, has been interdicted from office. Mr. Osmund has been for about thirty years in the Government service, says the *China Mail*, and was regarded with high respect amongst the officials. The Chinese clerk in the Registrar-General's department, who was supposed to have absconded several days ago, after a day's absence from office returned and reported himself to the Registrar-General. After an interview, however, it was deemed advisable not to allow him to resume work in the meantime. The two Chinese detectives arrested under banishment warrants have been transported to Canton, and the head district watchman has been released on parole. Meanwhile, Inspector Witchell has been committed for trial on the charge prepared against him in the Magistrate's Court, bail being increased to \$1,000. On June 20th, Inspector Hore, of the Sanitary Department, was suspended from duty.

The Singapore *Free Press* gives some further details regarding the piracy of the *Pegu*. It says:—"The *Pegu* was pirated by eleven Achinese and an Achinese woman, who came on board the vessel at Edie. Capt. Ross and the European engineer were attacked while at dinner, the Captain being killed on the spot, and the Engineer suffering several flesh wounds, not, however, of a dangerous nature. Besides Capt. Ross there were killed by the pirates three of the native crew, three Chinese passengers, and the Kling gunner. The wounded number fifteen, of whom eight were severely wounded. Of the latter number one has since died. The pirates plundered the vessel of about \$15,000 in money, and then made off to the shore in the ship's boats. The *serang* took the steamer to Teluk Semawi, where she now lies in charge of a detachment of troops. It is believed that the woman who came aboard at Edie had the weapons of her male companions hidden on her person. The men were examined for concealed weapons, but not the woman. Capt. Ross was a comparatively young man, being 34 years of age, and a native of Carnoustie, Forfarshire. He had a varied experience, serving his apprenticeship on the barque *Ranger* from Dundee. He then became second officer of a ship sailing out of Cardiff, and going down below to get a coil of rope, struck a match and ignited some explosive gas, which blew up the ship. The Captain and another, who were crossing the deck, were blown to pieces, and Ross was severely burned. He subsequently became chief officer of the *Elgin*, which was lost on the Bombay Shoal. He took charge of one of the boats and was picked up by a French man-of-war and taken to Hongkong. Capt. Ross saw that there was money in the Achene pepper trade and embarked upon it some years ago. He was a keen man of business and would buy the pepper himself, also forwarding it to London. Although he has been twice attacked by Achinese who have attempted to raid his boat, he was absolutely fearless. Told by a friend that the third time might be fatal, he simply ignored the warning, with a fatal result this time. The late Captain Ross leaves two children at Carnoustie, his wife having died about two years ago.

SOME ODDS AND ENDS.

The hot weather came in so suddenly at the close of last week, that something like demoralization appeared among the already too slim ranks of local cricketers. Only a dozen, including four *momban*, could be scraped together last Saturday afternoon, and these naturally were disinclined for much active exercise. Mr. Pattman, who made an over-the-fence hit, is an old Warwickshire County player.

Yokohama is, perhaps, a little too well served with mails from abroad. For instance, last Thursday week the Indian, Straits, Hongkong and China mails came tumbling in; next day a Tacoma boat arrived and deposited several mail-bags from the United States; Saturday saw the French mail delivered; Sunday, the American mail; while Monday morning brought the C.P.R. steamer with hundred-weights of ordinary correspondence and tons of Jubilee newspapers. And yet folks say that no news ever comes to Yokohama? Why, we positively suffer from a superfluity of it at times—though a drought of several days' duration sets in at intervals to balance matters.

Mr. Wilckens, of Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co., is leaving by the outgoing *Empress of Japan* for a holiday spell in the Fatherland. On his return, in the spring of next year, he joins the noble army of brokers, entering a very prominent firm of that persuasion in this port. So says gossip, at any rate. It is to be hoped that Mr. Wilckens will have a good time at Home, and much luck when he gets back. "The modest one-eighth tells" a very pleasant tale, the initiated say, within a very few years.

Despite the hot weather, Yokohama ladies are sticking bravely to their bicycles, though a good many of the men-folk have laid theirs aside for a while. It may be of interest to them to hear that a new and aggravated form of cyclomania has recently declared itself in England, where it is confined to the fairer sex. The patient rides all day when it is fine, and when it is wet she stays at home and runs her cyclometer!

The Lawn Tennis Handicap of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club is drawing to a close, those left in for the final being Messrs. Pinckney and Bent—the favourites from the start. The first round, played off in June, was greatly marred by rainy weather, but the games in the other rounds have been much better favoured. One of the most keenly contested ties was that in which Messrs. Bent and Murray were engaged last Wednesday week. The score was:—2-6, 6-3, 3-6, 8-7, 6-3. After this the game between Messrs. Wilson and Bent in the semi-final, played on Tuesday, was very tame: Bent winning in this fashion, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0.

One of the broad-sheets that emanate from Shanghai declares that Richard Cœur-de-Lion was the real father of the English navy. It is generally thought that the Service went back to the time of the Heptarchy. But no matter. Richard framed and decreed its first articles of war—a point of prime importance. Any one who should kill another on board ship, he said, should be tied to the dead body and thrown into the sea. "Any one convicted of theft should have his head shaved and boiling pitch poured upon it, and feathers should be strewn upon it, and he should be set ashore at the first chance. If servants, mariners, or others, were found gambling, the servants were to be flogged naked through the army for three days, and the mariners were to be dipped every morning from the ship into the sea "after the manner of seamen" for three days, unless they could redeem themselves by paying a fine." What a fine time Richard's Provost-Marshal must have had!

"The stout, true heart of England beats high when its real heroes appear among the people." The phrase has lingered in the back corridors of more than one memory since the day when it was first heard, many years ago, ringing out on the autumn air at Castle Hedingham, dur-

ing one of Joseph Arch's tours in the Eastern Counties. Arch was then the agricultural hero *par excellence*, and the burly Radical who gave utterance to the sentiment was one of his staunchest admirers. The fact is recalled by a brief statement recently published that Lord Roberts, on Jubilee Day, divided popular honours with the Queen. There is no gainsaying the fact that Lord Roberts, as a military hero, occupies the foremost place in English popular estimation. The blunt, unassuming, but thorough soldier has won his way into the hearts of his countrymen through sheer force of character alone. No place-hunter has Roberts been, no truckler to political parties, no wary observer of the fickle currents of popular clamour. He knew his duty and without ado went forth and did it. Englishmen love such a man and hug his memory close. As Kipling wrote some time ago,

What 'e does not know o' war
General Bobs,
You can ask the shop next door—
Can't they Bobs?
Oh, 'e's little, but 'e's wise;
'E's a terror for 'is size—
An' 'e does not advertiss
Do you, Bobs?

No, Lord Roberts of Kandahar has never gone in for self-advertisement. But his reward has come along all the same.

Apropos of military subjects, it would have been pleasant to have been at Chelsea Hospital on July 5th, when the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales inspected the veterans there. It was an assured fact before the month of June ran out that there would be in the ranks that day men who had fought in every general action under the British flag since 1837. A sketch of the lives of those old warriors would almost be an epitome of British history during the most glorious reign in the annals of England. Ghuzni, Maharajapore, Aliwal, Sooranjee, the Crimean battles, the Mutiny, the two China wars, the Maori wars, the various South African campaigns, the rebellion in Canada, Afghanistan, Ashantee, and the Indian frontier campaigns were represented.

Among the old warriors was an ancient Cornishman who went all the way from Penzance to attend his last parade. In addition to the Victoria Cross, the brave old fighting man bore also the medal for conspicuous gallantry, the Crimean medal with three bars, the Turkish medal, and the Cross of the Legion of Honour for life-boat rescue. The veteran has no pension except the £10 a year which accompanies the bronze cross, and, up to a short time ago, was obliged to win his bread from the seas round the stormy Cornish coast.

The *Globe* remarks that the Delhi veterans must be a tough lot. The siege took place 40 years ago; yet with reference to the Delhi Dinner, which has just been held in London, it is noticed that out of the 178 survivors two are Field-Marshal, ten V.C.'s, and the rest account for two hundred and fifty decorations of one kind or another. 'Not a bad record, even for the survivors of so prolonged and terrible an ordeal as the siege of Delhi.

The address to the Queen, presented by Her Majesty's Judges on Jubilee Day, reminds one of the story that circulated soon after the Jubilee of 1887. A similar address was then drafted, and one judge suggested that it should contain the words:—"Conscious as we are of our imperfections"; but the late Lord Bowen, at the time a Lord Justice of Appeal, was of opinion that the phrase could be improved, and that a more accurate wording would be, "Conscious as we are of one another's imperfections."

"The Roman Empire collapsed because its great possessions were held, like India, by force." So says one of "our contemporaries." But 'tis a very inexact reading of history. The Roman Empire collapsed because the original Roman race became extinct, having been absorbed into the peoples that it conquered. Not so is it with the conglomerate mass that

technically goes by the name of the British race. Where the Britisher takes root he expands like a goodly tree set in the soil that it best loves. Weaker races go down before the virile people who carry their customs, prejudices, laws, and ideals wherever their wandering feet may take them. The Roman did otherwise and was absorbed, and in the course of time his Empire faded away by the operation of natural law.

A coloured philosopher is reported to have said, "Life, my breddren, am mos'ly made up of prayin' for rain, and then wishin' it would cl'ar off." There is much truth in the dusky philosopher's remark. A week or ten days ago every one in Yokohama was groaning and complaining—and justly so—at the long spell of cold, rainy, and tempestuous weather. Now that we have a bright sun-lit sky, with a temperature rendered endurable by pleasant southerly breezes, the inveterate grumblers are complaining of the heat and dust. If these good folks had found their lines thrown in the model Settlement of Shanghai a week or two ago, they might have had cause to growl. Whew! to think of it—100 degrees in the shade for a week on end; and the nights much more difficult to endure than the days—heavy, sultry and still. Truly we have much to be thankful for in our Treaty Port.

TRIFLES.

LAWs THAT WILL EVENTUALLY AFFECT FOREIGNERS.

RULES FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE TRADES TAX LAW.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 269.

Art. I.—Any person who, being engaged in any of the occupations specified in Art. I of the Trades Tax Law, is liable to a tax according to the provisions of Art. II. *et seq.* of that Law, must present the report specified in Art. XIII. to the Local Governor of the district where he keeps his store or place of business. In the case contemplated in the last provision of the second clause of Article XV. of the said Trade Tax Law, the report must be forwarded to the Local Governor of the district where the principal store or other place of business exists.

Any person falling under the following categories must present a report giving notice of the opening of his business to the Local Governor within ten days from the date of the said opening, in conformity with the last clause of Article XIII. of the same Law.

1. Any person opening a business specified in Article I. of the Trades Tax Law.
2. Any person opening a new store or other place of business; provided that he does not fall within the category of the last clause of Article XV. of the said Law.
3. Any person increasing the branches of his business.

Art. II.—In case the same person is engaged in different branches of business whether in the same place or in different places, the basis of taxation specified in Article XII. of the said Law shall be calculated separately for each different branch store, or other place of business. But, if the basis be common to two or more of the businesses in question, then the business liable to the highest rate shall be taken for purposes of calculation; and if the rates are the same, then the tax shall be assessed on the principal business.

Art. III.—If any person is engaged in the same kind of business in several stores or other places of business, the basis of taxation shall be determined for each of the stores or places of business in accordance with Art. XII. of the Trades Tax Law.

Art. IV.—In cases where the trade tax is levied jointly on several stores or places of business, in conformity with the last provision of the second clause of Article XV. of the Trades Tax Law, the basis of taxation specified in Article XII. of the said Law shall be used in common for all such stores or places of business.

Art. V.—The amount of capital which is to be taken as the basis of taxation in case of a joint-stock company shall consist of the amount of shares paid up at the end of each month of the previous year, the amount of reserves of all denominations, and the value of property in the nature of reserves. The rates shall be calculated on the monthly average.

Art. VI.—The amount of capital to be taken as the basis of taxation in the case of Corporations

with joint funds shall consist of the funds in the possession of the corporation and registered at the end of each month of the previous year, reserves of all denominations, and other property of the nature of reserves, and the rates of tax shall be calculated on the monthly average of these funds.

Art. VII.—The amount of capital to be taken as the basis of taxation in the case of a private Company or Joint Partnership (*Gōmei Kaisha*) shall consist of the funds contributed by the entire number of members at the end of each month of the previous year, reserves of all denominations, and other property in the nature of reserves, and the rates shall be determined on the monthly average thereof.

If, in the above case, the contributions of members of the company include contributions in the form of labour, the value of such labour shall be determined according to the provisions under which the company was organised. If these provisions do not accurately define the value of such labour, then it shall be determined according to the rates of profit or loss to each member.

Art. VIII.—The amount of capital to be taken as the basis of taxation in the case of a private individual shall be determined on the monthly average of fixed and working capital possessed at the end of each month of the previous year.

In the case of the fixed capital mentioned in the foregoing article, the value of land, buildings, erections of all kinds, vessels, implements and machines, which are directly used for purposes of business, shall be calculated at the market price.

Art. IX.—In estimating the amounts to be taken as the basis of taxation the calculation shall be on the actual condition at the time the report of the estimate is made, past as well as probable future conditions being also taken into consideration.

Art. X.—The working expenses to be free from taxation, in conformity with Article XVII. of the Trades Tax Law, shall be such expenses only as are deemed absolutely indispensable for the business.

Art. XI.—If, in the case of the second clause of Article XVIII. of the Trades Tax Law, the rent for land or house be paid otherwise than in money, the value of the article in which payment is made shall be determined according to the market price thereof.

In case the trader owns buildings situated on rented land, the rentable cost of such land shall be determined according to the second clause of Article XVIII. and that of the buildings thereon according to the third clause of the same Article of the Trades Tax Law.

If the trader owns a portion of the buildings in a tenanted house, the rentable value of such buildings shall be determined according to the third clause of Article XVIII. of the Trades Tax Law. This provision also applies to persons owning the whole inner structure of the buildings.

Art. XII.—Under the head of "dealers" shall be included the headman of any business and all other persons who are directly engaged in trade, whether residing in the stores or other places of business or whether their attendance at the place of business is regular or special. This provision, however, is not applicable to those who are registered as constituting one family with the headman of the business.

Art. XIII.—Any person who succeeds to a business, whether by inheritance, cession, or other measure, must report the fact to the local Governor within ten days from the date of succession.

Art. XIV.—If any trader changes his name or residence or removes his store or other place of business, he must report the fact to the local Governor within ten days from the date of such change or removal. If the removal is to a place within another jurisdiction, a report must be presented to the local authorities of both places.

Art. XV.—If, in the case of the last provision of the second clause of Article XV. of the Trades Tax Law, the number of stores or other places of business is increased, the fact must be reported to the local Governor within ten days from the date of increase.

Art. XVI.—If the local Governor deems that the report of the trader is suitable and proper, he shall levy the Trades Tax at the rate specified by Article XII. of the Trades Tax Law.

In case of the absence of a report from the trader, the local Governor shall determine the basis of taxation according to the method specified in Article XVI. of the Trades Tax Law.

Art. XVII.—If the local Governor deems the report of the trader incorrect or unjustifiable, and determines himself the amount of capital employed, or the rentable value of buildings owned by the

latter, he must give notice of the fact to the trader, and furnish him with a copy of his estimate.

Art. XVIII.—If the trader has any objection to the estimate referred to, and desires to submit it for re-investigation, he shall prepare a statement of his reasons in detail and present the same to the local Governor within the period specified in Article XXVII. of the Trade Tax Law.

Art. XIX.—When the local Governor has received a request for a re-investigation as to the amount of capital, he shall examine the original accounts and the statement of reasons presented by the trader, and after making corrections, if necessary, give notice of his decision to the person who had raised the objection.

Art. XX.—When the local Governor has received a claim for re-investigation as to the rentable cost of buildings, he shall give notice of the fact to the Headman of the city, town, or village, where the land or buildings are situated, and cause the latter to select appraisers for the same, at the same time appointing other appraisers on behalf of the Government.

Art. XXI.—Appraisers shall be chosen from among men above twenty years of age, and shall not be selected from among the relations of those who have raised objection, or persons whose personal interests may be involved in the matter.

If the land or buildings are situated in several cities, towns or villages, and the value thereof is to be calculated conjointly, appraisers shall be chosen for each city, town, or village.

Art. XXII.—When the appointment of appraisers is settled, the local Governor shall fix the place and date to hold their meeting for determining the value.

When the appraisers have completed the appraisalment, they shall immediately prepare a statement specifying the amount appraised and the reasons therefor, and present the same to the local Governor.

The local Governor shall determine the rentable value of buildings according to the statement referred to in the foregoing Article, and give notice of his decision in writing to the person who raised the objection.

Art. XXIII.—If, as in the case specified at the end of the second clause of Article XV. of the Trades Tax Law, the trader is in possession of several stores or other places of business situated within different jurisdictions, the investigation of the amount of capital or rentable value of buildings shall be conducted by the local Governor of the district in which the principal store or place of business is situated. All matters, however, connected with the appraisalment of the rentable value of buildings, shall be entrusted to the local Governor of the district where such land or buildings are situated.

Art. XXIV.—The expenses to be borne by the person who raises an objection to the assessment in conformity with a note to the second clause of Article XXVIII. of the Trades Tax Law, shall include the fees for appraisers and the expenses for their meeting.

Art. XXV.—The fees for appraisers mentioned in the foregoing article shall be one yen and fifty sen each for each appraisalment, and the expenses for their meeting shall be limited to payment for a place of assembly and miscellaneous payments connected therewith.

Art. XXVI.—In case representations are made by the trader as specified in Article XXIX. of the Trades Tax Law, the local Governor shall, in accordance with the methods for determining the standard of taxation, investigate the actual condition of the business of the year concerned, and revise the rates of taxation when it is known that the case falls within the category of clause (1) or (2) of Article XXXI. of the said Law.

Art. XXVII.—If the trader resides elsewhere than at his store or place of business, or absents himself from such place of business by going on a journey, he must appoint a person to act for him in the payment of the tax and report the fact to the local Governor.

Art. XXVIII.—When the Revenue Inspectors have to examine the account books or stock of a trader, they must show to the trader their warrant for inspection from the local Governor.

APPENDIX.

Art. XXIX.—Any person to whom the note to the second clause of Article XXI. of the Trades Tax Law is applicable, must present to the local Governor a report showing the date of his commencement of business before the 31st of January of the 30th year of *Meiji*, together with a detailed account of matters necessary for making a report as specified in Article XIII. of the said Law.

THE INCOME TAX REGULATIONS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby give Our sanction to the present Ordinance relating to the Income Tax Regulations, and order it to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Privy Seal.]

Dated the 19th day of the 3rd month of the 20th year of *Meiji*.

(Countersigned)

Count ITO HIROBUMI,
Minister President of State.

Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of State for Finance.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. V.—INCOME TAX REGULATIONS.

Art. I.—Every one having an income of more than yen 300 per annum, derived either from investments from trade, or from any other source whatever, shall pay an annual income tax thereon in accordance with the present Regulations.

Moreover, incomes enjoyed by members of the same family, occupying the same house, shall be summed up with that of the head of the family, so as to make one single income.

Art. II.—Incomes shall be calculated according to the following rules:—

1. Upon the amount of interest derived from public securities or bills issued either by the Government or with its special permission; upon the amount of interest on money lent or on money deposited in trust for no explicit business purpose; upon that of dividends upon shares; upon that of salary, allowances, pensions, grants, or rewards, received either from the Government or from private sources: all these amounts shall be taken as net income.
2. With regard to revenue from property or from trade, not mentioned in Section 1, the amount to be taken as income shall be that representing the sum of money actually received, or the value of whatever articles have been acquired by way of revenue, less, according to circumstances, on the one hand, the sums paid out in the form of national taxes, local taxes, urban and rural rates, or contributions to the Agricultural Distress Relief Fund; or, on the other hand, the value of original materials used in the manufacture of such articles, the original cost of articles dealt in, the value of seeds and of manures, the rent and the cost of repair of premises and of articles hired for the transaction of business, the wages of employes, interest on outstanding debts, and miscellaneous expenses.
3. The income mentioned in Section 2 shall be calculated upon the average amount received for the past three years. Should three years not yet have elapsed since the first receipt of income, the average shall be taken upon monthly incomes, and when an average is not thus obtainable, some other standard of calculation shall be used.

Art. III.—In the following cases no income tax shall be levied:—

1. Upon the pay of persons acting in a military or naval capacity during a campaign.
2. Upon all travelling expenses, and grants to orphans and widows, whether allowed by the Government or by private individuals.
3. Upon extraordinary incomes other than from business undertakings.

Art. IV.—The classes and the rates of the income tax shall be as follows:—

Class.	Rates.
Class I.—Incomes of and above yen 30,000...	3 per cent.
Class II.—Incomes of and above yen 20,000...	2½ per cent.
Class III.—Incomes of and above yen 10,000...	2 per cent.
Class IV.—Incomes of and above yen 1,000...	1½ per cent.
Class V.—Incomes of and above yen 300 ...	1 per cent.

Fractions of a yen shall not be taken account of.

Art. V.—The income tax shall be paid in two instalments, one half in September and the other half in March.

Art. VI.—Every one having an income liable to taxation according to the present Regulations, shall, through the Headman of the locality to which he belongs, send to the Headman of the Rural or Urban Division thereof, by the 30th of April of each year, a return setting forth the estimated amount and the nature of his income for the current year.

Art. VII.—Under each Rural and Urban District Office, there shall be elected an Income Tax Commission, to consist of not more than seven members. A meeting of the Commission shall be held once every year to make inquiries respecting the income tax.

Beside the fixed number of the members of the Commission, there shall also be elected not more than five substitutes, who shall fill any vacancy occurring in the Commission.

No one that has been elected a member of a Commission, or a substitute thereto shall be permitted to refuse to serve without proper reason.

Art. VIII.—An Income Tax Commission shall be elected in each Rural or Urban Division.

Art. IX.—Qualifications for membership of an Income Tax Commission, and for electors of the same, shall be twenty-five years of age, male sex, actual residents in the locality, and payment of income tax. Non-conformance with the provisions of Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of Art. XIII. of the City and Prefectural Assembly Regulations, shall exclude persons from being elected; while non-conformance with Sections 1, 2, and 3 of the same Article, shall exclude persons from electing.

Art. X.—The Headman of each Rural and Urban Division shall fix the number of electors (not more than five) in each village or town, and those inhabitants of a village or town who possess the qualifications specified in Art. IX. shall be called upon to elect the number of electors from among themselves. According to convenience a number of electors (not more than five) may be fixed for several towns or villages in common.

The electors of towns and villages shall elect members of the Income Tax Commission and substitutes for the same, within the limits specified in Art. IX.

Art. XI.—The term of membership of the Commission shall be four full years. Half the number shall be replaced by a new election every second year. At the time of the first new election thereof, members shall retire by drawing lots.

Art. XII.—Allowances and travelling expenses of members of the Commission, and all expenses connected with the proceedings of same, shall be defrayed out of the Treasury.

Art. XIII.—The Headman of each Rural or Urban Division shall prepare a preliminary book of the accounts of income taxable, on the basis of the returns mentioned in Art. VI., and shall lay the book, together with the returns, before the Income Tax Commission.

Art. XIV.—When any one, whom the Headman of Rural or Urban Division deems liable to the income tax, does not send in his return within the date specified in Art. VI., the Headman shall make an estimate of the probable account of income received and submit it to the Commission.

Art. XV.—Meetings of the Income Tax Commissions shall be convened by Chiefs of Rural or Urban Divisions, and the president of the meeting shall be elected by the members of the Commission from among themselves.

Art. XVI.—No meeting of an Income Tax Commission can be held, unless there be present a quorum of more than one-half of the members thereof. Questions shall be decided by the voices of the majority of the members present, and in case of a tie, the president shall have a casting vote. No member of a Commission shall be allowed to take part in a debate when matters concerning his own income are under consideration.

Art. XVII.—The Headman of a Rural or Urban Division shall, in accordance with the decisions of the Income Tax Commission, fix the class and amount of income tax for which each tax-payer shall be liable, and shall notify the same to all tax-payers concerned.

Art. XVIII.—When the Headman of a Rural or Urban Division sees any objection to the decisions of the Income Tax Commission, he may make a full report to the Governor of the City or of the Prefecture, and apply to him for instructions.

Art. XIX.—When a tax-payer thinks that the classification and assessment of his income tax have been improper, he may, within twenty days from the receipt of the official intimation of his liability, bring the matter to the notice of the Governor of the City or of the Prefecture, together with a precise statement of his income, with confirmatory documents. But even in this case, the income tax must be paid on the amount assessed.

Art. XX.—In the cases mentioned in Art. XVIII. and Art. XIX., the Governor of a City or of a Prefecture shall cause the Standing Committee of the City or of the Prefectural Assembly, to make inquiries into the matter, and measures shall be taken according to the decisions of the said Committee. When the tax has been paid before these measures have been taken, any insufficiency of payment shall be re-imposed, and any excess thereof shall be refunded.

Art. XXI.—Income Tax Commissions or the above named Standing Committees may inter-rogate tax-payers, whenever they may think it necessary, in connection with the present Regulations.

Art. XXII.—No Income Tax Commissioner, and no one connected with the collection of the income tax, shall disclose any facts relating to the property or income of any tax payer.

Art. XXIII.—When a decrease of more than

five-tenths has taken place in the amount of an income before the due date of the payment of the tax thereon, the tax payer may report the fact to the Headman of the Rural or Urban Division. The latter shall enquire into the matter, and reduce the amount of income tax in accordance with the facts. Should the new account of income fall below *yen* 300, the tax shall be remitted; but any amount already paid thereon shall not be returned.

Art. XXIV.—Any one evading the payment of his income tax by false returning of his income, shall be liable to a fine equal to three times the amount evaded. But upon voluntary confession, he shall be taxed to the amount evaded, without further punishment.

Art. XXV.—Any person infringing Art. XXII. shall be liable to a fine of not less than *yen* 3 and of not more than *yen* 30.

Art. XXVI.—Failure to send in the return mentioned in Art. VI. shall render the delinquent liable to a fine of not less than *yen* 1 and of not more than *yen* 1.95.

Art. XXVII.—The provisions of the Penal Code relating to the increase and diminution of penalties, to the aggravation of penalties on account of repetition, and to the concurrence of several infractions committed by the same person, shall not be applied to infractions of the present Regulations.

Art. XXVIII.—The Minister of State for Finance shall make rules in detail respecting the carrying out of the present Regulations.

Art. XXIX.—The present Regulations shall come into force on and after the 1st day of 7th month of the 20th year of Meiji.

But in Hokkaido, in the Prefecture of Okinawa, in the Ogasawara Islands, and in the Seven Islands of Izu, under the City Government of Tokyo, the present Regulations shall not be carried out, except in so far as they relate to salary, allowances, pensions, and grants received from the Government.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULE.

The returns mentioned in Art. VI. of the present Regulations must be sent in, for the present year, before the 31st day of the 7th month.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

JAPAN CONFERENCE.

The fourteenth session closed on Saturday the 17th June, when the appointments were read by Bishop Joyce. The following are the appointments of foreign missionaries:—

- Sapporo District—C. Bishop, P.E.
Hakodate District—G. P. Draper, P.E.
Hiroaki—R. P. Alexander.
Sendai District—H. W. Swartz, P.E.
Tokyo Publishing House—J. W. Wadman.
Tokyo Theological School—J. Spar.
Tokyo English School—J. O. Spencer and H. B. Schwartz.
Tokyo Mita Church—H. B. Johnson.
Yokohama District—J. G. Cleveland, P.E.
Yokohama Gospel Society and Pastor of Grace Chestnut Church, Kanagawa—W. S. Woodson.
Nagoya District—D. S. Spencer, P.E.
Nagoya 2 of Church—R. A. Morgan.
Nagasaki District—J. C. Davison, P.E.
Nagasaki English School—E. R. Falkerson.
Theological—M. S. Vail.
Revs. I. H. Correll, G. F. Shepherd, J. Weir and B. Chappel in U.S.A.
Appointments of the W. F. M. S.—
Hakodate—Miss A. Dickerson, Principal; Misses F. E. Singer, Miss M. S. Hampton, Evangelistic Work.
Tokyo—Miss M. A. Spencer and Miss C. H. Spencer.
Aoyama—Miss R. J. Watson, Principal; Miss M. H. Russel, F. Wilson, Daniels and Blackstock.
Shingu—Miss B. J. Allen, Evangelistic Work.
Yokohama—Miss B. J. Griffiths, Principal; Miss M. E. Simons, Supt. Day Schools; Mrs. C. W. Van Patten, Evangelistic Work.
Fukuoka—Miss L. Seeds, Principal; Miss L. B. Smith, Miss J. M. Gheer, Evangelistic Work.
Nagasaki—Miss E. Russel, Principal; Misses L. M. Kidwell, I. E. Lee, A. V. Bing, M. Young and M. Melton.
Sendai—Misses Imhof and Phelps.

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for June, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1896.	1897.
Exports	7,510,889.390	11,088,903.650
Imports	14,710,060.510	16,492,999.310
Total exports and imports	22,220,949.900	27,581,902.960
Excess of imports	—	5,404,095.660
Exports	167,619.428	395,611.401
Imports	—	20,075.183
Miscellaneous	—	583,306.012

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
China	1,075,501.800	2,850,999.970	4,816,501.770
Hongkong	1,163,311.200	75,483.130	1,238,794.330
British India	425,110.310	2,309,215.090	2,734,325.400
Korea	38,017.260	89,165.690	1,274,882.950
Annam & Other French	—	—	—
India	1,311.950	990,113.310	930,631.300
Russian Asia	206,043.750	90,810.300	387,753.950
Philippine Islands	39,017.700	343,509.700	382,527.400
Siam	109.000	81,466.000	81,575.000
Great Britain	536,008.270	4,090,58.000	5,130,597.120
France	1,146,021.370	380,150.210	1,526,171.580
Germany	89,888.060	87,140.220	940,731.300
Belgium	1,550.000	317,031.350	318,581.350
Switzerland	16,731.680	150,977.660	167,709.340
Italy	5,395.330	9,631.480	60,937.810
Austria	17,713.350	7,047.990	20,661.340
Russia	9,040.800	1,045.940	14,646.740
Sweden and Norway	—	10,337.510	10,337.510
Holland	6,165.700	972.620	7,137.320
Turkey	5,885.500	8.800	5,894.300
Spain	678.000	3,300.660	3,978.660
Portugal	—	3,718.310	3,718.310
Denmark	280.000	61.600	341.600
United States of America	3,095,556.320	1,755,582.140	4,851,138.460
Canada and other British America	187,558.690	20,842.380	197,801.070
Peru	3,315.500	—	3,315.500
Australia	237,841.060	200,012.080	437,853.140
Hawaii	98,771.250	183.940	98,955.190
Other Countries	36,951.730	67,215.390	104,167.120
Total	10,757,544.770	16,492,999.310	27,250,544.080

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	4,816,147.380	6,210,897.040	11,027,044.420
Kobe	4,632,781.070	8,141,741.630	12,774,522.700
Osaka	1,000,000.000	376,618.070	1,376,618.070
Nagasaki	412,017.600	2,443,613.690	2,855,631.290
Hakodate	137,110.580	1,850.190	138,960.770
Niigata	2,110.350	1,068.000	3,178.350
Shimonoseki	159,413.400	221,000.320	380,413.720
Moji	375,805.600	—	375,805.600
Hikata	—	1,237.720	1,237.720
Karatsu	17,750.000	12.400	17,762.400
Kuchinotsu	257,083.300	5,714.740	262,798.040
Idzumi	8,771.710	20,493.630	29,265.340
Shishimi	2,418.670	1,850.190	4,268.860
Sauna	1,839.300	1,887.660	3,726.960
Hanada	39,000.000	1,004.300	40,004.300
Sakai	583.080	1,481.180	2,064.260
Fushiki	7,371.180	4,814.880	12,186.060
Muroran	33,443.980	—	33,443.980
Otsu	30,934.000	—	30,934.000

Specie and Bullion { Exports..... 1,442,666.640
Imports..... 1,859,309.020

Total 20,101,975.660

Excess of imports 17,216,642.380

By Japanese Merchants { Exports..... 3,521,363.240
Imports..... 6,188,327.370

Imported by Government 156,685.950

VALUE OF COMMODITIES REPORTED AND IMPORTED EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
January	12,657,712.220	13,315,022.280	25,972,734.500
February	13,568,703.310	13,518,888.400	27,087,591.710
March	14,481,409.770	17,090,093.800	31,571,503.570
April	11,555,418.350	18,103,519.910	29,658,938.260
May	14,535,441.800	20,314,466.120	34,849,907.920
June	11,288,093.590	16,190,099.310	27,478,192.900
Total	75,071,484.890	99,042,124.410	174,113,609.300

SOME NOTES FROM CORNELL.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Ithaca, the little city in the very heart of the commonwealth of New York, is one of those typical American inland towns that would give a foreigner a far better idea of standard American life than even the great cities along the Atlantic sea coast, or those which have sprung up like giant mushrooms on the great lakes or rivers in the central part of the national domain, or on the Pacific coast. Laid out at the opening of this century by Simeon Dewitt, the first Surveyor-general of the United States, when all New York west of the Mohawk Valley was an unsurveyed wilderness of forest, lake and stream, it received a classic name from this first graduate of Rutgers College. He is not indeed responsible for sprinkling all the classical names which are so bountifully spread over this portion of the empire commonwealth. Looking at a map of Central and Western New York, one might suppose that canyons had been loaded with pages from Lempriere's Dictionary and fired in all directions. The Surveyor-general, after many wanderings and moving accidents by

flood and field, felt like the hero of Greek mythology. He therefore named the township Ulysses and the site of the future city Ithaca, laying it out at the southern end of the fairest and largest of that system of "finger" lakes in central New York which makes its scenery an endless chain.

How to connect this "little pocket among the mountains" with the ocean and Europe, the coast cities, the great Lakes in Canada, the vast coal and iron fields of Pennsylvania, was the problem. At first the solution was by turnpike and wagon road, which brought the lumber and coal to the foot of the lake. Then with long narrow "Durham boats" or batteaux, along the whole length of the gunwale of which men could walk and with a pole at their shoulder push the boat down the shallow streams and over the rifts, while in deep water and with a good wind sails could be raised upon a single mast, fair time was made. In this laborious way, the raw material of the region was carried down Cayuga lake to Wood Creek and the Mohawk river to Schenectady, whence it was transported overland on wagons to the head of navigation at Albany, and thence got to New York, the eastern and southern States and to Europe.

Of course, when the Erie canal and afterwards the railroads came in, these methods of transportation and commerce were paralyzed and killed at once. The people turned their attention to the new methods and lines of business. When Morse invented the electric telegraph, Ezra Cornell, the transporter and merchant, saw at once a force destined to eclipse both the canal and the railway in ultimate importance. How to lay the wires of the conductor was the first question. His plan, put in practice, was to drive a plow through the ground, of country, village and city alike, lay the insulated wires therein and bury again carefully. It was more difficult than it seemed. The wires and the plow got twisted together, stumps and stones made trouble and difficulties were so many that Ezra Cornell saw that the wires must be strung overhead and the earth used as a return circuit. Thereupon, as the Irish girl said, "he invented telegraph poles." From the mechanical phase he passed to the organization of the force and the personnel, being the father of the telegraph business in America.

By and by Cornell, having wealth and fame, conceived the idea of a university that should be typically American, in which work with the hands should be joined with work of the brain, handicraft with redcraft; and where, in any known department of human knowledge any person applying, whether male or female, and without regard to sect or colour, could find help and instruction. Side by side in the New York Legislature in Albany, sat Ezra Cornell, the practical man, and Andrew Dixon White, a scholar, who became president of the new university, which was opened in 1869, and of which Andrew D. White was made president.

Now the American idea is to have church and state entirely separate, and religion wholly voluntary, by which it is believed that religion is purer and stronger. Cornell University neither attacks nor propagates any creed. Yet to carry out this idea in the University, to invite Jews, Roman Catholics, Protestants of every stripe and even Pagans from Asia, to come and study together as inquirers after knowledge, though it is the fundamental idea in the national constitution, was almost as a matter of course misunderstood. The cry was raised about the Godless university. For several years Cornell was supposed to be the resort of atheists, infidels, and the ungodly and profane generally. Nevertheless, the idea has been steadily wrought out.

To-day there is no school of learning more thoroughly American in spirit and ideals, and more truly Christian. Its three presidents have been in succession Episcopalian, Congregational, and Baptist in their personal religion. There has always been preaching on Sunday by the leading clergymen of the country, Catholic and Unitarian, Episcopal, Baptist, and Jewish, and the chapel is almost invariably filled; while it is frequently necessary to go into the large Armory Hall, which holds thousands instead of hundreds. The first graduate is an honoured Lutheran clergyman. There have been for years, besides a flourishing Christian Association, Bible Classes, Prayer Meetings, and special religious occasions. In the household of two thousand students and professors it is within the bounds of absolute fact to state that at least once on Sundays a majority are found at church. It is doubtful whether a better religious spirit, or purer Christianity prevails in any university in the United States.

Furthermore, there is a democratic spirit at Cornell which is noteworthy. While the system of Greek fraternities is probably more fully carried

out at Cornell than anywhere else, each having its chapter house, yet everything under the direct control of the University is free to all. There is perfect democracy. The honours, the awards, the scholarships, the Christian Association privileges, the gymnasium, the military department, the various lines and avenues of honour and privilege are open without question as to whether a man takes the course in civil, mechanical, or electric engineering, in philosophy or the classics, in law, or in the various technical courses. The only limits are those of scholarship and length of time spent in study, but there are no limits put upon sex, colour, or creed, nor do these in any way disqualify a man. Hence, amid so much diversity, there is a wonderful unity of enthusiasm for the University and pride in the democratic spirit of the institution. Success so wonderful attained in a single generation is noteworthy.

All this is pertinent when we come to speak of the great event of this week, the University boat races at Poughkeepsie on the Hudson river. Heretofore Harvard and Yale have tried to keep these races as something exclusive, to be enjoyed only by the men of the two oldest universities of the country, that were founded a quarter of a millennium ago by the Congregationalists of New England. The Cornell men have made upon the water such a reputation, that their demands to be admitted to the University races could not be ignored, and so they were rather grudgingly given a position with Harvard and Yale. Yet, although beaten before by the Ithaca men, it seems pretty certain that both the Yale and the Harvard students thought that this year the Cornellians must surely be beaten. The Harvard men had imported from England a "coach" of undoubted abilities and established reputation, Mr. R. C. Lehmann, who has for months been training his rowers to the standard English stroke. The Yale men kept to their faithful trainer Robert Cook, himself a graduate of Yale of 1876, whose stroke was a modification of that of the English. Both the Yale and the Harvard crew were each of them heavier than the Cornell crew.

Courtney, the coach of the Cornell boys, is an oarsman from his youth up. By his personal prowess at the oar from 1868 to 1877, as an amateur, he won eighty-eight races. After 1877 he won one hundred and forty-four races and lost only seven, accumulating a household of prize cups and banners. Under his training, with an admirably fitted boat house on Lake Cayuga and a well equipped steam launch, Cornell crews, whether "Freshmen" or "Varsity," have had a record only occasionally notched by loss, and shining with a marvellous series of victories. Throughout all, Courtney has held to the stroke which he "invented"—short and quick. This year the races rowed on the Hudson river gave to Cornell the supreme prize of victory, for their University eight won over Harvard and Yale by four boat lengths, or 20.34 in four miles. The Freshmen were indeed beaten by Yale Freshmen, but though the Varsity crews from New Haven and Cambridge were heavier men than those from Ithaca, the light and lithe Cornell boys beat the tall and heavy Yale men, while the Harvard rowers were badly broken up. Their coach claims that they did not adhere to his stroke. Mr. Courtney's triumph is complete, but much credit also is due to the eight rowers. In a word, the victory at Poughkeepsie was the victory of the typical American University following typical American methods.

Mr. Andrew Dixon White, after having served on the Venezuela Boundary Commission and issued his report—two octavo volumes of which are now out from the Government Printing Office—having erected a handsome memorial gateway to the Cornell University grounds, having delivered two very scholarly and able lectures before the University here and at New Haven and Cambridge, on "Evolution versus Revolution in Politics," and "The Problem of High Crime in the United States," has left for his post as Ambassador of the United States to Germany. At Berlin he will have his hands full and his abilities will have a fine field for their exercise. Germany's tariff is even more prohibitive than that which our Congress is soon likely to pass, while Emperor Wilhelm shows many signs of being the kind of a ruler that King George III. of England was—rather young, and with a propensity to over-govern.

The universal postal congress of Washington, which began its sessions on the 5th of May in the old hall of the now disused Corcoran Art Gallery, closed its sessions on June 15th, and the delegates from sixty-two different nations have gone home. The room was handsomely decorated with the flags and insignia of the different nations, and the appearance of the Chinese, Korean, Japanese and

other delegates gave a visibly cosmopolitan air to the assembly. This postal congress is to convene again in Rome in 1902. If each of the sixty nations should have a meeting in turn our country will not have the postal congress in Washington until the year A.D. 2202; by which time, it may be, there will either be only ten or twelve great nations or several hundred small ones represented. The countries formally entering the postal union are Korea, China, and the Orange Free States. A uniform colour for postage stamps has been adopted, but the dream of creating a universal postage stamp was not actualized, because of the difficulties arising from the diversity of units of money in the various countries. For by-play, the congress had an excursion to Mount Vernon, and to the navy yards, where they saw the big steel ships-of-war, while at many garden parties there was much enjoyment. In a special train they made an excursion of thirty-seven hundred miles in circuit, to the Mississippi, Chicago, Niagara Falls, Boston, Albany, West Point, and to Washington again.

My old friend and fellow Monday-Club man in Boston, Rev. Francis A. Clark, whom I knew when he had just founded the Christian Endeavour movement, and when it had but a dozen societies, has returned to San Francisco after his second trip around the world to greet the thousands of young people who will represent millions. They will hold a convention in San Francisco from July 7th to the 12th, at which I imagine the Japanese Christians will be also represented. This movement, while undoubtedly in the interest of pure and undiluted religion, is something very dangerous to ecclesiasticism, for it has a tendency to wraken the fences erected by the various sects, denominations and church corporations. If it can only graduate its pupils into the higher ranges of service and actual usefulness in the churches, it will have a long and glorious history. In any event its development will be watched with interest.

W.E.G.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

[FROM OUR SYDNEY CORRESPONDENT.]

The question of Asiatic labour on board ocean steamers has again been raised by a case lately heard in one of the Sydney police-courts, in which George Bunney Ramsay, master of the steamship *Tsinan*, was charged in company with William Woodley, chief mate of the same vessel, with having unlawfully assaulted Ah Foo and Ah Ping, employees of the ship, whilst on the high seas. The captain was further charged with assaulting Ah Ku, Yee Yung, Yeh Yit, Ping Chong, She Hoo, and Sam Ching on the same date, 24th April. According to the evidence of the captain and mate the prosecutors declared to obey orders, and they then punished them. The others stated individually that they had not refused to obey orders. They were all handcuffed to a rail. The mate and the captain then flogged Ah Foo and Ah Ping with a stick, and the captain alone dealt similarly with the other complainants. So severely was Ah Foo dealt with, according to them, that he was rendered insensible, and water was thrown over him to restore consciousness. The captain and mate said they called the doctor to see him, and he said the man was only shamming. Ah Foo was then locked in a room for some time. On the advice of the doctor, who said—in the words of the captain—that the man was stiff after his caning, Ah Foo was not compelled to return to duty for two days. The other men stated that they were left handcuffed to the rail for about four hours after the captain had beaten them. They showed the Court the marks which remained on their legs, and which they said were caused by the beating. For the defence the captain and mate did not deny having committed the assaults. They said that such measures were necessary to enforce discipline, and they did not consider they had been too severe. "These men," said the captain, "are like school children; I punished them with a walking-stick in order to make them return to duty." He believed that he was nipping an incipient mutiny in the bud. The magistrate said he could see no reason for the captain to have imagined an incipient mutiny. There was no doubt the assault on Ah Foo was serious, and the captain and mate would each pay fines of £10, with court costs, professional costs, and interpreter's fee. Additional fines were inflicted in connection with the other cases, totalling, with the cost, nearly £70.

The leading Sydney paper, commenting on the circumstances of the case; remarks that "assuming the statements of the captain and mate to be correct, there is no reason to suppose that in what they did they were actuated by any other de-

sire than that of securing that obedience to orders without which the working of a ship is impossible. We may go somewhat further, and say there is no reason to suppose that the treatment the men received was any other than that which they would have received and perhaps have submitted to without a murmur had it been awarded to them by a Chinese captain on board a Chinese ship. But they knew or found some one to show them the difference when the occurrence took place on board an English ship. And this essential point the captain seems to have overlooked. It may be—we can offer no opinion on the point—that Chinese crews may sometimes require and perhaps almost expect some administration of discipline in the familiar form of the bamboo. But English captains may not resort to this method on English ships. That is to say, they may not to-day, though they did it freely enough in respect to English crews, and without blame from anybody, a century ago. The present-day English methods may be wanting in the vigour looked for by Chinese sailors. On the other hand, the Chinese methods are unsuitable for adoption by Englishmen. How is the difficulty to be overcome? Perhaps, could we wait for development to do its work we should find in due course of time that Chinese crews had become as amenable to milder forms of persuasion as English sailors are to-day. In the meantime the decision of the magistrate's court shows that if English captains cannot rule Chinese crews without resorting to acts which violate English law they must not attempt to work with Chinese crews at all."

Several of the leading Chinese in Sydney resent the idea of picked Chinese crews acting without some degree of provocation as those of the *Tsinan* are said to have done. They insist that the Chinese seaman when properly treated, is exceedingly tractable and trustworthy. The steamship companies are said to have under consideration the desirability of increasing the European element in crews consisting principally of Chinese. It has been suggested that Japanese labour might be more generally employed on vessels trading to Japanese and Chinese ports, but nothing has come of it, and it is probable that things will remain as they are, at any rate for a considerable time to come.

The arrangements for increasing the Japanese navy continue to excite uneasiness in Australia, where the colonists are beginning to discover that the question of restricting alien immigration is surrounded with graver dangers than were at first imagined. The *Queenslander* states that evidence taken by the Queensland Mining Commission at Thursday Island shows that the influx of Japanese, so long regarded as of small consequence, has assumed formidable dimensions, and is regarded by the residents with very serious apprehension. The Hon. John Douglass said that the Japanese influx was so serious that, if the rate of increase of last year were maintained, the whole place must eventually fall into the Japanese hands. He estimated the Japanese population in the town, on the ocean, and at seaside stations at 900, and said that a boat almost due was bringing another 200. More serious than the numbers of Japanese was their enterprise. Ship and boat repairing was absolutely in their hands. They were also property-holders, and their business men were becoming extensive land-owners. Other witnesses confirmed these statements. They even added that the Japanese were so intensely patriotic as not only to send the profits of their business to Japan, but to keep their work for their own countrymen. "The Japanese has no room for European labourers, mechanics, or merchants. He ousts them all, and imports, per *Omi Maru* and other Japanese vessels, direct from his native country." The *North Queensland Register*, which published this information in full, is sure that in three years, if the Japanese are not in some way excluded from the pearl shelling industry, it will be theirs entirely, and Thursday Island will become an appanage of the Mikado. Another Northern Queensland paper sees in the Australia of the future only a Japanese dependency. The *Queenslander* says that no one "can fail to see that the position at Thursday Island raises the big and broad question of Australian nationality. Is it to be a white Australia? Are we to aim at that, and take such means as may be open to us (always supposing them to be righteous means) to secure that? Or are we to allow free play to the influences which may bring to our shores men of all colours and races, and may in the end reverse the numerical majority and swamp the supremacy of the whites? There is no need to import anger or racial hatred into this discussion, and no need to denounce the races we seek to exclude. Enough that we claim the right to exclude them. We claim the right in taking possession of this new country to say, within fair limits, who its people are to

be, and by what races the government is to be conducted. And we imagine that Japan for herself claims precisely the same right."

The *Maitland* (New South Wales) *Mercury*, alluding to the report of the Queensland Mining Commission, says:—"Even if the Japanese do not invade us in numbers so great as to change the character of the population, they may easily come in such numbers as to constitute a political and a social difficulty. And therefore, the sooner the possibility of such a difficulty occurring is recognised, the better for Australia. Apprehension of it, we trust, will help what is understood to be the disposition of Queensland to come into the Federation Convention, and we also hope will induce the statesmen and the people of Australia to refrain from nifty about delay. All Australia is greater than any province of Australia; and if the interests of all Australia are in jeopardy, local considerations must be put aside as much as possible, and should not hinder a step essential for the safety of the nation. Prevention is always to be preferred to cure, and what especially Australia needs in one direction is an effective hindrance to the incursion of coloured races. We look forward to the day when over Australian waters shall resound the bellow of cannon fired in defence of our shores. Such a day must come—it is written in the destiny of the Australian nation. But the immediate danger of the continent, the more alarming menace, is not the approach of a war flutilla. If we do not take care, there will descend on our coasts, and gain a footing whence it will not be easy to dislodge them, denizens of those Eastern countries, who exist in millions, who find their native land too strait for them, and who may gradually, silently, insidiously glide into possession of ours. In this matter Australians are not called upon to take into account the general brotherhood of mankind. They have no welcome to offer to coloured races as citizens of Australia. The Australia of the future must be mainly British and white; the instincts of nationality, the demands of patriotism, must be obeyed rather than the promptings of a sentimental philanthropy. The question is one which on all sides is practical. Establishment of a mixed nationality would be good neither for Anglo-Saxon nor for Japanese or Chinese—it would be a union not of the better qualities of each people, but of the worse, and the result a lamentable degradation of the population of Australia. And British pride and the nobility of soul inherited from ancestors who have subdued a large expanse of this planet could not endure a Japanese or Chinese domination of Australia. We are an Imperial race."

The *Evening Times* (Newcastle, New South Wales) fully recognises the difficulty of the situation. It says—"If we exclude the Japanese, for instance, we cannot well compel Japan to admit us. Probably the Australian will say at once that he has no desire to go to Japan except as a tourist; but, seeing that the admission into Australia of Japanese and Chinese as "tourists" would speedily be abused, we must not complain if China, Japan, or Asiatic States, which are not under the English flag, were to deny access of any kind to Australians so long as Australia denies access to their people. . . . Australia, as a whole, will probably not feel much concern at being deprived of entry into Japan. The Attorney-General of New South Wales and other distinguished Australians have made it a rather favourite holiday resort for those who can afford to go there. But Mr. Want can easily find places as suitable for holiday making as Japan, and, indeed, is probably *blasé* with that country already. At the same time, as it is pretty certain that the threat conveyed by the Japanese Foreign Office, through the *Nippon*, is by no means an idle one, there will be considerable difficulty for the British Government in the fact that Japan may possibly be placed in a position in which, with international rights unquestionably on her side, she will put all visitors who claim to be British subjects through a kind of immigratory sieve which will permit those who are not Australians to pass through, but will strictly retain those who are. The circumstance that the Asiatics who are anxious to expel Australians outnumber the Australians who desire to perform a similar operation on Asia by at least a hundred thousand to one, only counts in so far as Australia is concerned with regard to the relations between the dominions of the Union Jack and those of the chrysanthemum. Otherwise it is not potent. The trade with Japan is of immense importance to the United Kingdom. That importance, however, immense though it may be, is scarcely worth considering as compared with the trade with Australia. Nevertheless, in the question under discussion, it must have considerable influence; and, in the discussions on the whole subject which are certain to take place be-

tween the Australian Premiers and the British Secretary of State, it will be found very potent."

"THE ADEN."

The steamer *Simla*, which arrived at Colombo on the 1st July, passed Socotra on the 25th June, and there saw the *Aden* lying a hopeless wreck on the rocks. The *Simla* was told at Aden that the steamer was missing, and was asked to look out for her, and just before she left Aden, the I.M. steamer *Mayo* was also despatched to learn about the wreck. The *Simla* and the *Mayo* kept in sight of each other till the 25th, and thus they found the wreck together. The P. & O. vessel was up well on the reef on the south-east side of Socotra, and there was no possible chance of hauling her off. The weather was very rough, and the waves were breaking even over her mastsheads. The funnel had gone, but otherwise she looked uninjured, and she had driven straight on without any list. There was no sign of life on board, and no signals were flying. The *Mayo* put in closer than the *Simla* did, but the weather was too bad to render assistance if wanted then, and, apparently none being required, the *Simla* came on to Ceylon, where the news was an agreeable surprise that the *Mayo* eventually saved so many lives from the wreck, as there appeared to be not a soul on board. The assumption is that those found were too worn out to signal.

The Russian steamer *Saratov* which arrived at Colombo in the 1st July from Europe, brought further particulars of the *Aden*, says the *Times of Ceylon*. It appears that the Russian Consul at Aden asked the Captain of the Russian steamer *Saratov* to keep a sharp look out near the Coast of Socotra for the steamer *Aden*. At Cape Rasul Khyle, she sighted the *Aden* on a reef in lat. 12, N. long. 54 31 E. and the direction of the steamer was W.S.W. at a distance of three quarters of a mile. The waves were rolling over her heavily and there was no sign of any person on board. Her funnel and fore top mast were broken off. The steamer *Mayo* was sighted leaving the wreck, and since she signalled "Passengers saved," the Russian steamer proceeded on her way.

The *Madras Times* says that the *Aden* sailed from Colombo on the usual course making for Ras Meme, off Socotra. It is usual for steamers to pass this point, at a distance of four or five miles, and trusting, no doubt, to the South-east current, the captain reckoned that he would be about twice that distance from the two shoals off Ras Meme. The cyclone in which the vessel was caught was blowing north-east, and blew the vessel on to the shoals.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE "ADEN" DISASTER. NO TRACE OF THE LIFE-BOAT.

London, July 21.

The P. & O. steamer *Rohilla* has returned to port after making a thorough search for the *Aden's* boat along the Arabian coast and the island of Socotra. No trace of the boat or occupant's can be found.

TURKEY AND THE POWERS.

REJECTION OF THE CONCERT'S PROPOSALS.

In consequence of the non-acceptance of the frontier-line proposed by the Ambassadors of the Powers, the Peace Conference at Constantinople has been suspended, and the decision now rests in the hands of the respective Governments.

THE FRONTIER QUESTION SETTLED.

London, July 22.

An *Irade* has been issued by the Porte, sanctioning the settlement of the Thessalian frontier line in accordance with the proposals of the Ambassadors of the Powers.

M. Nelidoff, Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, has been appointed Ambassador to Italy, and M. Zinovieff has been appointed his successor in Turkey.

London, July 23.

The Peace Conference at Constantinople has now formally agreed to the de-

limitation of the Thessalian frontier as originally proposed by the Ambassadors of the Powers and finally accepted by Turkey, and the discussion of preliminaries towards a treaty of peace has now commenced. The German Embassy prepares the indemnity proposals.

London, July 24.

It is understood that the Sultan will receive a frontier concession of minor importance, whereby the mountain passes will be rendered more secure in future.

CRETANS STILL TROUBLESOME.

London, July 26.

The Preamble and Article I. of the treaty of peace between Greece and Turkey have been drafted.

The Cretan insurgents fired on the Highlanders while route-marching in the vicinity of Candia.

GOLD IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

London, July 22.

Great excitement has been caused in British Columbia by the discovery of very rich gold veins in the Klondyke district.

OBITUARY.

The Right Hon. Anthony John Muddella, M.P., is dead.

THE BELUCHISTAN PUNITIVE EXPEDITION.

London, July 23.

The British punitive expedition to the Tochi Valley has occupied Iserani Maizur without opposition.

BELGIAN TEA DUTY.

London, July 24.

A Bill has been introduced in the Belgian Chamber of Deputies to abolish the import duty on tea.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

A friendly reception by the Tsar of Russia has resulted in the settlement of the difficulty that existed between France and the King of Siam. The latter will visit Paris in September next.

["Friendly reception" is perhaps a mistake for "friendly mediation."]

THE SOUDAN.

No military force is being prepared in England for service with the Egyptian troops in the Soudan.

SILK CROPS IN FRANCE AND ITALY.

Tokyo, July 26.

This year's silk crop in France is estimated at 15 to 20 per cent. less than the previous year's yield, and that of Italy at about 10 per cent. less. The market is quiet, and quotations are firm.

THE NEW AMERICAN TARIFF.

London, July 21.

The United States House of Representatives has adopted a compromise with regard to the tariff, by a majority of 185 to 118.

[Probably this means the compromise embodied in the report of the Conference of both Houses, mentioned in a previous telegram.]

London, July 22.

President McKinley withholds his Message on the Currency question until the Senate has adopted the report of the Tariff Conference of the two Houses.

Washington, July 24.

The Tariff Bill has passed the Senate without further amendment and received the President's signature to-day. It will be enforced at once.

Washington, July 20.

(Tokyo, July 25.)

Silk Handkerchiefs.—An extra 10 per

cent. *ad valorem*, besides the rate fixed for silk goods in general, is to be imposed.

Porcelains.—*Ad valorem* duty of 25 to 60 per cent., according to quality.

Rice.—For cleaned rice, 2 cents per pound; for uncleaned rice, 1½ cents per pound.

Rugs, fans, straw-braid, camphor, and paper goods.—Assessed by the Deputies of the two Houses in the form as amended by the Committee of Ways and Means of the Upper House.

The amendment by the Committee is as follows:—

Rugs.—For goods valued below 15 cents per square yards, 5 cents per square yard and 35 per cent. *ad valorem*; those valued above 15 cents, 10 cents and 35 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Fans.—50 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Straw-braid.—15 per cent. *ad valorem* for plain goods, 30 per cent. *ad valorem* for goods dyed or painted.

Camphor.—Raw camphor free of duty, refined camphor, 6 cents per pound.

London, June 26.
The United States Senate has adopted the compromise (previously adopted by the House of Representatives) with regard to the tariff, and President McKinley has given it his signature.

The President has sent a Message to Congress asking for authority to appoint a Commission of nine members to examine the question of currency reform. The House of Representatives approved of the proposal, but the Senate did not, and Congress has now adjourned *sine die*.

THE "QUEEN'S PRIZE" AT BISLEY.

At the annual rifle-shooting tournament at Bisley, the "Queen's Prize" was won by Private Ward, of the 1st Devonshire Rifle Volunteers.

COUNTY CRICKET.

Essex has beaten Yorkshire by one run.
ADMIRAL SEYMOUR.

Admiral Sir Michael Culme Seymour, K.C.B., has been appointed to the command at Portsmouth.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION OF THE U.S. CONGRESS.

Washington, July 26.
The two Houses of Congress adjourned on the 24th inst., and the President will leave the capital within a few days. Till December therefore nothing can be done towards a ratification of the Annexation Treaty.

THE HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

London, July 27.
The New York *Herald* is of opinion that Japan's rejoinder to the Note of Mr. Sherman (Secretary of State) in reply to Japan's original protest against the annexation of Hawaii, indicates an intention to continue waging a diplomatic war, and that Japan may possibly go even further than that, in her desire to prevent annexation, as it is impossible for Japan to acquiesce in the probable consequences that may arise out of the extinction of Hawaiian Sovereignty.

It is believed in New York that what is here shadowed forth means only a rupture of diplomatic relations between the two countries, and not war.

PRUSSIAN MINISTERIAL DEFEAT.

The Lower House of the Prussian Diet has for the second time rejected, by a

majority of four, the Government's stringent Bill for amending the Law of Associations, which empowers the police to dissolve public meetings.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA RETURNING.

New York, July 25.
H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Takehito and suite left for Vancouver to-day at noon.

THE TAI-WON-KUN.

Söul, July 26.
Yesterday the Prince-Parent visited the Police Board and afterwards the Palace, where he was received in audience by the King. The aged Prince complained to the King of constant espionage to which his servants and dependants were recently subjected, and of the arrest of some of them.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

THE BRITISH FLEET.

Hakodate, July 24, 6.10 a.m.
H.M.S. *Peacock* arrived here yesterday.
Hakodate, July 27.
H.M.S. *Alacrity* has arrived here.
Otaru, July 28.
H.M.S. *Centurion*, *Grafton*, *Immortalité*, *Narcissus*, *Redpole*, and *Hart* arrived here yesterday.

MEN-OF-WAR AT HAKODATE.

Hakodate, July 28.
The Austrian man-of-war *Panther* has arrived here from Vladivostok. H.M.S. *Peacock* has also arrived here.

Hakodate, July 29.
The German warships *Kaiser*, *Princess Wilhelm*, *Irene*, and *Arcona* from Chemulpo, and the Japanese cruiser *Yoshino* from Aomori, arrived here to-day.

(FROM SINGAPORE PAPERS.)

ACCIDENT TO THE KAISER.

Paris, July 12.
The German Emperor, while cruising off the coast of Norway in his yacht, had one of his eyes injured by a piece of falling rigging.

DISASTROUS RAILWAY COLLISION.

Paris, July 12.
A collision between two passenger trains has occurred at Gjentofte, near Copenhagen. Eight carriages were broken up and forty persons killed and sixty more injured.

(FROM THE SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.)

ATTACK ON A GOVERNMENT STATION IN NORTH BORNEO.

Labuan, July 12.
The British North Borneo Government Station at Gaya was attacked by sixty rebels under Mat Salleh on Sunday morning. The town and Government Treasury were burnt and looted. One police corporal and two prisoners were killed. Mr. S. Nienbrunner, the Treasurer, has been taken prisoner.

Mr. Godfrey Hewett and Mr. Joseph Wheatley have left Labuan this morning in the steamer *Ranee* with eight Dyak police. They should reach Gaya at noon to-day.

[On the 23rd September last three North Borneo officials, Messrs. Flint, Dunlop and Little, with their police force, attacked the fort erected by Mat Salleh, the notorious brigand, outlaw and murderer, and compelled him and his followers to take to flight into the interior, leaving several dead unburied. The captured stockade was burnt.]

(FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

SUICIDE OF A BRITISH NAVAL OFFICER.

Shanghai, July 20.
Navigating Lieutenant Heygate, of H.M.S. *Algerine*, committed suicide by shooting himself on board last night. The inquest will be held to-morrow.

DEATH OF AN EX-MINISTER TO ENGLAND.

Kung, formerly Chinese Minister to England, died last night.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.) THE KOREAN MINISTRY.

Söul, July 28.
Chin Shokun (Chhin Sang-bun), Minister of Finance and of War has tendered his resignation.

THE EMPEROR'S RETURN TO THE CAPITAL.

Kyoto, July 27.
It is rumoured here that Their Majesties will return to Tokyo about the 7th or 8th of August. Viscount Hirohata, an Imperial Chamberlain, left here for Shizuoka this morning to make arrangements for the accommodation of their Majesties *en route* to Tokyo.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu had audience with the Emperor to-day.
Count Matsukata, Premier, was at the Palace to-day from 2 p.m. till 6.40 p.m.

July 28.
H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, Count Matsukata, Count Hijikata, and Viscount Nomura will take a pleasure trip to Arashiyama to-morrow.

MR. MIZUNO.

Bakan, July 28.
Mr. Mizuno, ex-President of the Formosa Administrative Office, Mr. Isogai, Governor of Taichu Prefecture, and Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, M.P., arrived here from Formosa *en route* to Tokyo.

KOBE TEA SALES.

Kobe, July 29.
Yesterday 137 900 cattie of new tea changed hands. Prices ranged from yen 29.50 to yen 15.50.

GENERAL KAWAKAMI TO VISIT VLADIVOSTOCK.

Kobe, July 29.
Lieut.-General Kawakami, Vice-President of the General Staff Office, is due here to-morrow after an audience with the Emperor at Kyoto. He leaves here for Vladivostok by the steamer *Tairen Maru* on the 31st inst. Major Aoki and Captains Hisamatsu and Furumi, who are to accompany him, have already arrived here.

COLONEL FUKUSHIMA ON HIS TRAVELS.

Kobe, July 29.
Colonel Fukushima Yasumasa left here for Tientsin to-day by the steamer *Genkai Maru*, his destination being Peking.

CHOLERA.

Nawa, July 29.
A fatal case of cholera has occurred here.
Chiba, July 29.
Several cases of cholera are reported in the vicinity.

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS IN SOUL.

Söul, July 29.
On the 28th inst. three Russian officers arrived here and the following day about 10 Russian soldiers entered the city.

STORM AT NAWA.

Nawa, July 29.
Since yesterday a severe storm has been raging here.

COLLAPSE OF A DOCK COMPANY.

Wakayama, July 29.
The Kishu Dock Company, started in August last year, has been dissolved on account of deficiency of capital.

THE PORTUGUESE MINISTER.

Kobe, July 29.
The Portuguese Minister, Senhor Galbardo, and family, left here for Macao by the *Empress of China*.

HEAT IN AICHI KEN.

Tsushima, Aichi Ken, July 29.
To-day the heat is intense and the thermometer registers 94 degrees Fahr.

EARTHQUAKES.

Mito, July 29.
Earthquakes were felt here twice this morning.

THE KOREAN MINISTRY.

Söul, July 29.
The resignation of Chhin Sang-lum (Chin Shokun), Minister of Finance and of War, is due to the fact that some Russian soldiers have entered Söul suddenly.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.

The Tokio Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem 329:—

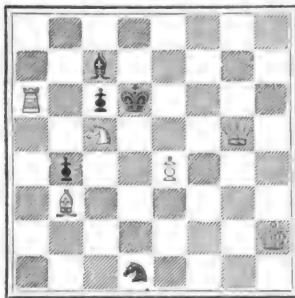
WHITE. BLACK.
1—B to K 3 1—P takes B (forced)
2—K to B 3 1—P takes R (forced)
3—P to K 4, mate

Correct Solutions received from W.H.S. and D.D.

PROBLEM NO. 331.

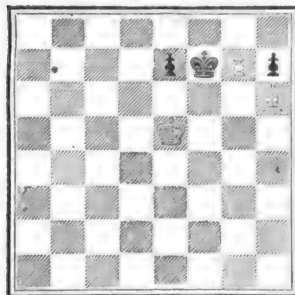
By M. LISSNER.

(First Prize Birmingham Post Problem Tourney.)



White mates in three moves.

END GAME STUDY.

By M. TROITZKY, in *La Strategie*.

With playing first wins.

SOLUTION.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1 PK Kt8= KxQ 3 K B7 P K4
Q ch 4 B K7, mate
2 K R6 K R sq

OVER THE CHESS-BOARD.

Lady chess-players, beware of hypnotism! There is a Svengali in the chess world who exercises an evil influence on a certain lady partner, as the following incident will show:—She was playing a game with her opponent, when the latter wrote something on a piece of paper, which he handed to a friend. The lady then made her move, but this exposed her to a mate in two moves. It was rather an obvious trap, and she could not at all account for the reason why she had fallen into it. She had made the move without thinking and on the "impulse" of the moment. After the finish of the game her curiosity was aroused, and she asked the other lady what the contents of the paper were which she had received from her opponent. She was shown the paper by her friend, and it contained the following words:—"I will compel Miss F. to play Kt to K 4, which will expose her to a mate in two moves." Being taken to task by the lady to explain this mystic message, this Svengali of the Chess-board coolly asserted that at any critical point of the game he could influence most people to make any particular move which looked enticing and plausible on the surface by exercising his will power in that direction.

When your position leads you to think you have a win in hand never mind the so-called "artistic

finish." "In all true and safe chess the object is to reduce the other side to impotence as quickly as possible." If you can mate sooner with nine queens than with eight, do it. There is no limit to the amount of consideration to be shown to your opponent. Those are false notions of fairness and honour that would keep you from putting your crippled antagonist to rest. The quicker you mate him the more mercy you show. The cat playing with the mouse business being fun for the cat only, is rather one-sided.

Chess was the baccarat, the poker, of the middle ages. In vain a king forbade it in 1393. The women were almost as bad as the men. "Never play chess, save for love" said the Knight de la Jour to his daughters. And he proceeded to tell them melancholy tales of land, of money, and women's honour spent over the too enticing board.

It was probably some wandering crusader who brought over an Eastern chessboard and men to teach the royal game to Western barbarians.

One friend having unsuccessfully tried to bring two members of a certain chess club to the same way of thinking, said:—"Surely you must remember those two Johnnies who a year or so ago were playing together, and having cleared off every piece were chasing each other's kings round and round the board, and neither having effected a capture by eleven o'clock, took down the position for an adjournment to another day in order to continue the chase."

A British M.P., writing to the *Pall Mall Gazette* recently, says that the recreations of members while in actual attendance at the House are few. Hence when the first chess board was introduced years ago there was some excitement, and subscriptions were made, so that very soon eight more boards and men made their appearance. To-day, in the smoking room, the game is constantly practised, and while many celebrities may be observed enjoying a cigar or telling a good story, presumably without a disposition for the game, the chess devotees are busy at their favourite pastime. When it is remembered that no other game is allowed within the sacred precincts, and that the proceedings often become insufferably dull, it may easily be imagined what an excellent resource the chess-playing members have. But has not the Parliamentary contest a deeper significance? The British M.P. concludes by suggesting that possibly "one man among the players may prevent war because he has a chess-player friend in England or in the United States."

Mr. Steiniz recently received 1,600 francs for exhibiting Chess in Paris, the largest amount ever paid for such a performance.

The Lasker-Tschigorin match has not materialized. Mr. Lasker, declaring that he needs a long rest, will not play any match for at least a year.

Tit Bits recently printed the following answer to the question, in which match was the largest set of chessmen used?—Apart from living chessmen, the largest set of chessmen ever made were those used in some matches recently played at the Crystal Palace between Mr. J. H. Blackburne, the English chess champion, and Mr. R. F. Fenton. The board was 12ft. square, and the chessmen, 14in. in height, were made of light wood and hollow. Solid pieces of that size would have been too heavy to move about, for the players had to be seated on elevated chairs, and the pieces moved by a contrivance called a catcher, which very much resembled a huge toasting-fork. It required considerable care and dexterity to handle this "catcher" without accident. The object of the show was, that the board and chessmen should be big enough to enable a large number of spectators to witness games between experts as they do at a theatrical performance, the board taking the place of the stage.

The first number of *The American Chess Magazine* has been received. It is got up in a very handsome manner, and magnificently illustrated. It is full of interesting matter, and we hope that it has come to stay.

DUTCH OPENING.

White—Mr. Teed. Black—Mr. Deelmar.
WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1 P Q4 P KB4 5 P K3 P KR4
2 B K5 P KR3 6 B Q3 R R3
3 B R4 P KKI4 7 QxP ch RxQ
4 B K3 P B5 8 B K6 mate

"Learn, reader, from this bit of Chess,
The penalty of carelessness.

'Tis also an apt illustration
Of greed leading to ruination."

—*American Chess Magazine*.

A LASKERISM.

When Lasker was a student he sat one evening in a Berlin café, when a stranger came in hungry for a game of Chess. Lasker announced that he could play a little, and so at it they went:—

White—Stranger. Black—Lasker.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Q Kt to B 3 2—Q Kt to B 3
3—P to Q 3 3—Kt to B 3

Lasker asks himself: "Can I give him a Rook or is he simply fond of a close game?"

4—P to Q Kt 3 4—P to Q 4
"Oh! at least a Rook," pursued Lasker to himself. "I must try some funny business."

5—B to Kt 5 5—P takes P
6—Kt takes P 6—Kt takes Kt
7—B takes Q 7—B to Kt 5 ch
8—K to K 2 8—Kt to B 6 ch
9—K home 9—Kt to Q 5
10—Q to Q 2 10—B to Q 5

Of course, White will try to save his Bishop.

11—B to Kt 5 11—Kt to K 5
12—Q takes B 12—Kt takes P mate

If P takes Kt, then also Kt takes P, mate.
The stranger complained that he was out of practice and couldn't play any more than day.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 3rd.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 15th.
From Hongkong.....	per O. & O. Co.	Wednesday, Aug. 4th.
From Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Wednesday, Aug. 11th.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Aug. 4th.
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 7th.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Wednesday, Aug. 11th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 16th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 19th.

1 City of Peking left San Francisco on July 17th.
2 Doric left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 17th.
3 The English mail is on board the steamer *Coptic*, which left Nagasaki at midnight on July 30th.
4 Victoria left Victoria, B.C., on July 30th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, August 1st.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, August 5th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, August 6th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 7th.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 8th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 10th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 14th.
For Portland.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Friday, Aug. 10th.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 10th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 24th July,—Hongkong via ports, 16th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Benalder, British steamer, 1,958, R. Thomson, 24th July,—London via ports, and Kobe 23rd July, General.—Comes & Co.
Fava, British steamer, 2,733, J. Chellew, R.N.R., 25th July,—London via ports, 23rd May, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Diomed, British steamer, 2,436, Barlett, 25th July,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 24th July, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 25th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O.S.S. Co.
Salazie, French steamer, 4,016, Paul, 25th July,—Marseilles via ports, 16th June, and Kobe 24th July, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Friele, 25th July,—Hongkong via ports, 15th July, and Kobe 23rd July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, Wright, 25th July,—Vancouver, 3rd July, General.—C. P. R. Co.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 26th June,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Descartes, French cruiser, Captain Bernan, 25th July,—Kobe 23rd July.
Lennox, British steamer, 1,869, Williamson, 25th July,—New York via ports, and Kobe 24th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, A. E. Moses, 26th July,—Hongkong and Kobe 25th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hupell, British steamer, 1,827, T. Quail, 26th July,—Vancouver, General.—C. P. R. Co.

Irene, German steamer, 2,145, Schneider, 27th July.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 21st July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Prosper, American schooner, 513, Johnsen, 28th July.—Port Blakely, 26th May, Lumber.—R. Isaacs & Bros.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Henry Pybus, 29th July.—Hongkong via ports, 21st Mails & General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 30th July.—Shanghai via ports, 24th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Young, 30th July.—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Kobe 29th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, T. A. Whistler, 24th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carllill & Co.
Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, De Maubeuge, 25th July.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Hermes, Norwegian steamer, 865, J. C. Jensen, 24th July.—Mojito, Ballast.—Capt.
Saint Ronald, British steamer, 1,784, W. H. Clements, 25th July.—Mojito, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Frey, Norwegian steamer, 1,948, Bantzen, 25th July.—Kobe, General.—Frazar & Co.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 26th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Koeng Wai, British steamer, 1,115, Unsworth, 27th July.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, Wright, 27th July.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell Carllill & Co.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 27th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. Fricke, 27th July.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 27th July.—Shanghai via ports, Mails & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, A. E. Moses, 27th June.—Seattle, Wash., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tantalus, British steamer, 2,199, Hannah, 27th July.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Hupah, British steamer, 1,827, T. Quail, 28th July.—Hongkong via ports, General.—C. P. R. Co.
Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Wm. Pitliffe, 29th July.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, T. D. Jones, 29th July.—Mojito and Singapore, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Diomed, British steamer, 2,436, Thos. Bartlett, 29th July.—London via ports, General.—Jardine and Swire.
Tanishin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, F. J. Brown, 20th July.—Shanghai, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Henry Pybus, 30th July.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, C. Hillcoat, 30th July.—Santos (Brazil) via Bakan and Kobe, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Surg. J. C. Durston, R.N., Mr. L. L. Bailey and servant, Capt. Siopani, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Messrs. T. Southall, Phillips, H. J. Webb, H. Roharit, and one Chinese in cabin.
 Per British steamer *Jawa*, from London via ports:—Messrs. L. Plummer, H. S. Verity, Hy. Bull, Hy. Neville, and E. W. Noel in cabin.
 Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. R. W. Irwin, Mr. Geo. Hayes, Miss Lucille Wall, Mr. W. H. Furness, Mr. Chas. W. Richards, Mr. M. Akiyama, Capt. C. V. Girdley, U.S.N., Mr. S. Friede, Mrs. R. W. Butthwick, Mr. A. de Flesch, Dr. Riedel, Mr. and Mrs. Igarashi, For Shanghai:—Mr. Chas. Gubany, Mr. Fung Wing Hong, Mr. G. Gepprich, Mr. Fung Yin Sun. For Hongkong:—Mrs. L. Switzer.
 Per French steamer *Salazie*, from Marseilles via ports:—Messrs. Bohone Nicolas, P. Weidig, Brukeoff, Syromiatukoff, J. R. Alias, Chu Chui

Chong, Mrs. Massien, Mr. Laurence, Mr. Heathcote, Mrs. Francis, Messrs. Somminianikoff, Salmon, Gautier, Trousseau, Smar, C. Andrie, F. Wyen, Mrs. G. Touche and infant, Miss Bonneau, Messrs. Bonneau, Gustave Gilbert, Le D. Blanc, F. Hoyer, F. Bonnet, A. Levy, Hivon-nat, Dragon, Blum, Fred Taylor, Gause, Ebinar, and Mrs. Massien in cabin.
 Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Capt. C. B. Little, Mr. W. J. Kenney, Capt. Stockton, U.S.N., Dr. Min Sandeman, Mr. I. Knoff, Mr. Kolod, Mr. F. Ball, Mr. H. Winat, Sung, Capt. Edye, Mr. I. M. Littlehale, Miss MacLagan, Mrs. Sandeman, Mrs. Kuten, Mr. P. Amhold, Mr. W. H. Peach, and Mrs. M. Berry. For San Francisco:—Mr. T. S. Ska, Mr. G. F. Thomas, Dr. Wigora, and Mr. K. Plusendale.
 Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver:—Mr. E. F. Allford, Mr. A. E. Beaux, Mr. J. H. Bliss, Miss A. Baldwin, Dr. A. B. Ball, Mrs. A. B. Ball, Mrs. A. C. Clarke, Mr. J. H. Copman, The Misses Copman, Master Copman, Dr. J. H. Coit, Mr. R. G. Davidson, Mr. W. S. Davidson, Mrs. Geo. Flood, child and amah, Madam Hoshi, child and maid Mr. and Mrs. Ho Yin Shing, Mr. W. D. Hills, Lieut. J. T. Kerr, Mrs. J. T. Kerr, Mr. John MacLaren, Mr. C. Morse, Mr. H. Mutsu, Mr. Meredith Howland, Mr. W. H. Nicholson, Mrs. W. H. Nicholson, Miss Mary Oakley, Mr. S. F. Phillips, Miss L. R. Powell, Mr. M. K. Rand, Mrs. M. K. Rand, and Miss M. Williams in cabin; 3 in second class; 76 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Mansell, Miss Melvin, Mr. and Mrs. Whistler, Mr. E. W. Sharples, Count Bernsdorff, Mrs. C. Grant, infant and nurse, Mr. J. G. Schutte, Mr. and Mrs. W. Cope, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Lord, Mr. R. B. H. Moore, R.N., Mr. C. S. Taylor, Mr. Strang, Mr. M. Ginsburg, Mr. Tabara, Mr. R. G. Forster, Mrs. A. W. Curtis and 2 children, Mr. F. C. Darbig, Mr. G. W. Brockhurst, Mr. and Mrs. Komor and child, Mr. F. G. Sale, Mr. Foin, Mr. and Mrs. Marsh and child, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Kidson, and Mr. W. H. Kidson, Jr. in cabin; Mr. K. Yashima in 2nd class; Mr. Cheng Chung in steerage. For Vancouver:—Mr. L. Chapron, Mr. B. G. Greig, Mr. J. Harp, Mr. A. G. Carruthers, Mr. F. A. Morgan, Dr. Nover, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Silsby and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Seaman, Miss Gaskin, Miss Cogdal, Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Corneli and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Th. de Berigny in cabin; 5 in 2nd class; 223 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Baton H. Iwasaki, Master Iwasaki, Mr. C. Hoshino, Mr. K. Machida, Mr. R. Tomiyasu, Mr. T. Yamada, Mr. T. Tsuno, Mr. Aoki, Mr. N. Akuzawa, Mr. W. Velling, Mr. J. Feichney, and Mr. Miyashima in cabin; Dr. H. Ishikawa, Mr. Y. Ise, and Mr. Chin Tien Tsu in second class; 32 Japanese and 2 Chinese steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai and Kobe:—Mrs. E. S. Patton, Miss J. Kimball, Messrs. R. Abenheime, Foin, Ting Tin Chu, Fioravanti, M. Heeter, Wong Kung San, C. Smith, Bourguigny, P. C. Binch, S. Abdoulally, J. R. Walder, Hung Chum and servant, Pattoy, Comoisson, S. Bockmery and servant, P. E. Radlev, J. D. Guinn, F. Horn, Mrs. d'Antun, Mr. Dumoulin, Mr. J. Poyat, Mr. K. Takeshi, and Mr. N. J. Boston in cabin.
 Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Rawson Walker, Mr. F. G. Fison, Miss Hollowell, Capt. Dyson, Mrs. Arthur, Rev. A. Oltmans, Rev. H. V. S. Peeke, Miss E. J. Verbeek, Mr. and Mrs. Cheng Chung Ying and 4 children, Mr. M. A. A. Souza, Rev. E. R. Fullerton, Mr. B. A. Somekh, Miss L. M. Kidwell, Bishop Williams, Mr. J. McD. Gardiner, Misses M. M. Palmer, Alice Haworth, M. E. Kelly, Rev. J. W. Doughty, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kuhn, Mr. A. With, Mr. and Mrs. Robt Spur, Mr. W. H. Grant, Mr. F. Ball, Mrs. S. Komor and infant, Mr. H. W. Sale, and Mr. T. B. Pocklington in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss F. Fuller, Dr. W. H. Furness, Commander C. H. Stockton, U.S.N., Mr. S. F. Phillips, Mr. W. S. Emens, and Mr. Geo. Hayes in cabin.
 Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. K. Amano and infant, Mr. L. B. de Vesmeul, Mr. D. G. Campbell Johnston, Captain A. W. Newbold, and Mr. W. A. Wilson in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. M. Kumagai, Mr. G. Neubert, Prof. H. Nakano, Mr. M. Takata, Mr. S. Mine, Mr. Shoda's 3 sons, Mrs. Ikeda, Capt. W. K. Samailoff, Mr. C. Eymard, Jr., and Rev. L. B.

Cholmondeley in cabin; son and daughter of Rear Admiral Shibayama, Mr. S. Chuzo, Mr. K. Komori, Mr. and Mrs. T. Yoshida and child, Mr. T. Shimada, Mr. H. Hasegawa, Mr. H. Noguchi, Sub-Lieut. H. Kanada, Mrs. N. Krell, and Miss C. Krell in 2nd class; 97 Japanese, 1 European and 4 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver:—Mr. A. L. Attwood, Mr. and Mrs. Th. de Berigny, Mr. L. Benjamin, Mrs. H. M. Bevis and child, Mr. A. G. H. Carruthers, Mr. L. Chapron, Miss M. E. Cogdal, Mr. F. S. Cooper, Rev. J. H. Correll, Misses Correll, Masters Correll, Mrs. J. H. Correll, Rev. and Mrs. C. K. Cumming, Master S. C. Cumming, Surgeon Captain and Mrs. Edye, Mr. H. Evans, Mr. A. Fraser, Rev. and Mrs. S. P. Fulton, Miss Darby Fulton, Master Kenneth Fulton, Miss Gaskin, Mons. A. Gerard, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Grenaves, Miss L. A. Green, Mr. John Harp, Mr. Hy. Hewitt, Jr., Mr. F. Hobson, Mr. T. Kawai, Mr. A. H. M. Kilby, Mr. H. P. Marten, Lieut. W. N. McKelvey, U.S.N., Mrs. J. R. McKelvey, Mr. W. F. Melhuish, Mr. Horace Moccatta, Mr. F. A. Morgan, Mr. I. Nishikawa, Mr. H. V. Peach, Mr. J. T. Reipert, Mr. W. Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Seaman, Count Uolotkr, Mr. H. Bell, Mr. Theville, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Silsby and three children, Mr. Jose Vidal, Miss Lizzie Wimbish, Rev. and Mrs. F. B. Webb, Mr. A. Wilckens, Mr. and Mrs. Emilie Ziegler de Schaffhausen in cabin; 11 in 2nd class; 223 in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe 190 bales; Waste Silk for Europe 30 bales.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	ST. PAUL	ST. LOUIS	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	1,225	805	1,010	—	—	3,100
Hio-go	75	431	819	255	276	1,494
Yokohama	2,130	—	—	—	—	2,439
Hongkong	1,807	1,204	—	—	—	3,011
Amoy	1,097	4,649	1,751	—	—	576
Poochow	—	537	950	—	—	1,494
Total	6,543	7,684	4,540	255	276	1,770

	SAN FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	ST. PAUL	ST. LOUIS	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	76	—	—	—	76
Hongkong	—	359	—	—	—	359
Yokohama	—	382	—	—	—	382
Total	—	817	—	—	—	817

Per Japanese steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*, for Seattle, Wash.:—

TEA.

From Kobe:—Canada 7,453; Chicago & West 3,887; New York & East 2,117; Coastwise 141.
 From Yokohama:—Canada 5,302; Chicago and West 1,362; New York & East 3,226; Coastwise 115; Total 23,603.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver:—

	CANADA AND WEST	NEW YORK AND EAST	PACIFIC COAST	OTHER CITIES	TOTAL
Hongkong	—	—	—	10	10
Macao	—	—	25	—	25
Amoy	40	1,003	1,845	—	2,888
Poochow	2,910	—	—	—	2,910
Shanghai	779	832	305	25	2,030
Colombo	739	—	—	40	779
Kobe	2,023	1,049	—	—	3,072
Yokohama	3,160	597	641	103	4,111
Total	9,651	3,390	2,881	193	16,125

	NEW YORK	OTHER CITIES	TOTAL
Hongkong and Canton	342	—	342
Shanghai	88	—	88
Yokohama	344	—	344
Total	774	—	774

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Nothing has been doing in piece goods and very little in yarns during the past week. The hot weather has set in, and as Japanese merchants and dealers put personal comfort before business, as a rule, all purchases have ceased for a time and there is little likelihood of anything of consequence being done for six weeks or so to come, by which time, after the rice harvest is over, a demand will spring up among the farmers in the interior and stocks in the hands of dealers will be reduced. Quotations remain nominally the same.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—81 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches \$2 50 to 2 80
 Grey Shirtings—91 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 45 inches 2 80 to 3 35

F. Cloth—7th, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	1.95 to 2.00
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 41 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4th, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3th, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4th, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5th, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

Woolens	PER YARD
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	0.30 to 0.32
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.17
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 41 yards, 32 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 to 59 inches	0.15 to 0.30
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 59 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 to 59 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5th	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.	PER POUND
Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$19.00 to 41.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38 to 42, Singles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 52, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 2.00, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2.00, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2.00, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2.00, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2.80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2.100, Gassed	116.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.	PER POUND
American Middling	\$14.00 to 24.50
Indian Broach	21.00 —
Chinese	21.50 —

MARKETS.
The market continues firm and the rise in home prices has put a stop to business for the present. There are a few enquiries but no purchases of consequence.

Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward.	PER POUND
Iron Plates, assorted	4.15 to 4.60
Sheet Iron	4.40 to 4.50
Galvanized iron sheets	6.20 to 6.50
Wire Nails, assorted	10.00 to 10.50
Fin Plates, per box	6.00 to 6.50
Pig Iron, 10th	2.10 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1/2 to 1 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

RUBBER.
Only a hand-to-mouth business has been done, at former rates. Total sales from June 25th are estimated at 55,000 cases American and 50,000 Russian oil.

American	\$2.60 to 2.66
Russian	2.00 to 2.06
Langkat	—

SUGAR.
Arrivals of Brown continue, but business is dull, with prices advanced about 10 cents. per picul all round. White refined has been in moderate demand at old rates.

Brown Takao	PER POUND
Brown Manila	\$16.00 to 3.70
Brown Daitong	43.5 to 5.00
Brown Canton	2.80 to 2.90
White Java and Penang	3.30 to 4.20
White Hained	6.60 to 6.70
	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

During the past week there has been a steady small demand for Raw Silk both from America and Europe, that for reeling being rather in excess of supply, though in other sorts supplies have been coming in more freely. Holders have been inclined to meet buyers by making some concessions when business on a fair scale offered, and sales in such instances have been effected. Quotations generally therefore show a decline from the rates of the early part of the month, but the business transacted has been very moderate. Total shipments from 1st inst. to the 29th are 1,851 piculs, stocks amount to about 4,000 piculs.

Quotations.	
Filatures—Extra 9th, 10th den.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14 1/2 den.	Nom. 860
Filatures—No. 1, 10th deniers	\$350 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14 1/2 den.	810 to 850
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14 1/2 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 11/18 deniers	800 —
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14 1/2 den.	775 —
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14 1/2 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 11/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14 1/2 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14 1/2 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 14	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 2	730 —
Kakedas—No. 21	700 —

WASTE SILK.

Nothing has been done in Waste Silk, of which the stock is estimated at 2,840 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinsu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinsu, Good	—
Noshi—Shinsu, Medium	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshi, Good	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	—

TEA.

There has been a steady demand during the week, at hardening rates, though the quality continues poor. Purchases for the period under review amount to about 573,000 catties in Yokohama and 390,000 catties in Kobe, mostly in grades below choice. The *Peru* on the 27th took 2,439 chests from Yokohama and 3,350 chests from Kobe, for San Francisco; the *Yamaguchi Maru*, on the 29th, 99,000 lbs. from Yokohama and 13,000 lbs. from Kobe, for Seattle; and the *Empress of Japan*, on the 30th for Vancouver, 4,411 packages from Yokohama, and 3,072 from Kobe.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$27 to 28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	14 to 16.50

EXCHANGE.

A fall of 3/8 has occurred since the 23rd.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11 1/2 to 1 1/2
— Bill on demand	1/11 1/2 to 1 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2 0
— Private 4 months' sight	2 0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2 0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2 49 1/2 to 50
— Private 4 months' sight	2 54
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2 1/2 d
— Private 10 days' sight	3 1/2 d
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	77 1/2
On India—Bank sight	156
— Private 30 days' sight	163
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2 to 1 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	49 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	1 02 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	1 06 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	26 1/2

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.
SHIMBASHI—4.40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.

[MESSRS. BISSET & URR'S LIST]

Yokohama, July 30th.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50	800 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100	400 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	800 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	100 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	140 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdra.)	\$125	450 S.
North and Rae, Ltd.	\$100	180 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd.	\$10	8 Sa.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd.	\$100	807.50 S.
Hingo Gas Co., Ltd.	\$100	180 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb.	\$100	110 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	110 B.
Yokohama United Club Deb.	\$100	100 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	104 S.

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for the Complexion.

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delightful bloom to the complexion.

"AOLINE" SACHETS. Delightful for Handker-

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YOKOHAMA.

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37.

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1y.

969

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SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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SAUCE.

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June, 1896.

3y

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 6.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUG. 7TH, 1897.

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可配寄信通日三十

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1897.

DEATHS.

On the 4th instant, at 8.40 a.m., at his residence, Minami-machi, Takanawa, Tokyo, Count GOTO SHUJIRO, aged sixty. The funeral cortege will start from the residence of the deceased at 2 p.m., on Sunday, the 8th inst., and the ceremony of interment will take place the same afternoon at the Aoyama Cemetery.

All friends are requested to be so good as to accept this intimation.

At the Yokohama General Hospital, August 4th, 1897, HAROLD C. REYNOLDS, aged 24 years.

At Edinburgh, on 5th June last, after a short illness, HARRIET BLAKE, wife of the Honourable The Master of Napier.

At his residence, No. 13, Bluff, at 6.20 a.m., August 5th, H. M. ROBERTS (Carroll & Co., Yokohama and Kobe), of secondary meningitis.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FLOODS continue in the north-western provinces.

DISASTROUS floods have devastated Prussian Silesia.

YOKKAICHI has been opened as a special export port.

THE King of Siam has had a long conference with Lord Salisbury in London.

MR. HOSHI, Japanese Minister to the United States, has received instructions from his Government to enter into negotiations with Chili

for the arrangement of a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the two countries.

THE Emperor has issued a Rescript regarding the administration of Formosa.

GREAT BRITAIN has denounced the commercial treaties with Germany and Belgium.

THE plague in Formosa has nearly died out. There were 609 cases from Jan. 1st to June 30th.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA and suite left Vancouver on the 2nd inst. by the *Empress of India*.

VISCOUNT AOKI, Japanese Minister to Germany, left Berlin on the 24th of July for home.

A COTTON mill was burnt down at Takamatsu on the 1st inst., the loss being estimated at \$5,000.

A TEA BOX factory in Kobe was burnt down on the 5th instant. Five persons were injured during the fire.

A PUBLIC Works Bureau is to be established in Tokyo to undertake the repair, etc., of the roads and bridges.

NEW regulations for the administration of Formosa have been submitted to the Emperor by Count Matsukata.

FREQUENT fighting is reported between the troops of the allied Powers and the Turkish force in Crete.

ENGLAND has agreed to take part in a Behring Sea Sealing Conference to be held at Washington in the autumn.

A COMPLICATION has occurred in the Settlement of the indemnity question in the Greco-Turkish peace conference.

A FIRE occurred in the native town of Yokohama at 4.30 on Friday morning, by which twenty small houses were destroyed.

SMALL-POX cases throughout the country from the 1st of January to the 30th June last totalled 39,031 and the deaths 11,782.

OVER a thousand Chinese who landed at various ports in Formosa without permission, have been arrested and sent back to China.

A BIG leather factory in Hongo, Tokyo, was destroyed by fire on the 31st ult. together with a large stock of skins. The loss is estimated at 220,000 yen.

A LONG continued, strong, but steady earthquake was experienced in Yokohama and over a very large area of Japan, at 9.15 a.m. on the 5th instant.

CASES of cholera during the month of July throughout the country amounted only to 149 and deaths to 25. Dysentery is very prevalent this summer.

THE officials and workmen employed at the Utsunomiya station of the Nippon Railway, have threatened to strike work unless their pay is increased.

It is stated that the Formosa Railway Company cannot carry out the work of constructing the proposed line, although a Government subsidy was to be granted.

THE reported proposed amalgamation of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha (Oriental Steamship Company) with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, which was reported some time ago, is denied.

THE examination of witnesses in the Court of Inquiry held at the Marine Bureau, Tokyo,

in the case of the stranding of the *Tenshin Maru*, Capt. F. J. Brown, was commenced on the 3rd instant, the proceedings being conducted in camera.

MARQUIS SAISONJI, now in Paris, who was at one time in a critical condition of health, has quite recovered and will probably undertake a tour through Europe together with Marquis Ito.

ON the 22nd ultimo, the steamer *Wakanoura Maru* collided with a vessel which was flying no flag or signal near Kisen, Iwate Prefecture, and received some damage to her deck works.

THE Consular Convention between Belgium and Japan was published on the 30th of July. The regulations will come into force at the same time as the treaty of navigation and commerce between the two countries.

COUNT GOTO, who had been in failing health for some months, died on the 4th instant. Before his death, the Emperor conferred upon him the First Class of the Second Grade of official rank and the Grand Cordon of the Order of Merit.

AN employé of Messrs. Fraser, Farley and Varum named Uryu Tomekichi (30 years), living at Nichome, Hinode-machi, Yokohama, made off on the 30th ult. with over yen 4,000 which he had received on behalf of the firm from Japanese clients. It is believed that the man has escaped to America.

ON the night of the 3rd inst. the premises of Messrs. Murai Bros. and Co., tobacco merchants of Nihonbashi, Tokyo, were broken into and completely wrecked by a gang of *soshi*, the police being apparently unable to offer protection or prevent the wanton destruction of property.

TWO foreign residents of Yokohama were buried on the 5th inst. in the General Cemetery—Mr. H. C. Reynolds, a recent arrival on the staff of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.; and Mr. H. M. Roberts, of the firm of Carroll & Co., an American resident of Yokohama for many years, who died from meningitis.

ON Friday morning, the 6th inst., an American Marine named Martin, employed as Orderly at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Yokohama, shot himself in the head with a revolver, and is not expected to recover from the wound. It appears that the unfortunate man was driven to make this attempt on his life by dread of a court martial by which he was to be tried shortly.

THIS has been a dull, dragging week for importers in Yokohama, and the market for shirtings and yarns closes very stagnant. A little business has been done, however, in fancy cottons and woollens, at unchanged prices. In metals, the market has relaxed somewhat since last week, owing to prices having fallen in home markets, but little business has resulted here.

Quotations are therefore nominal. Kerosene, as usual at this season of the year, is very freeless. Brown sugars continue to arrive freely from Manila and China, but prices have risen from 5 to 40 cents—a big jump—the latter being asked for Daitong. White refined moves steadily at late rates. Turning to exports, we find that in raw silk, filatures have been somewhat neglected in spite of apparent willingness of holders to grant some concessions. Shipments to Europe amounted during the period to 645 bales, while the *Coptic* carried 646 bales to America. Very little has yet been done in waste fibre and stocks are accumulating. Demand has continued brisk for tea and prices have steadily advanced, being now from \$5 to \$7 higher than at this time last season. Shipments to New York and Pacific ports have been on a free scale. Exchange closes weak with prospects of a further fall.

SPRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The spirit of conservatism, says the *Yomi Shimbun*, has raised its head once more and spread its influence among all classes. To preserve what is Japanese is the cry, but what there is really worthy of preservation one can not easily perceive. So far as the externals of civilization are concerned, the advantage is all on the side of the West. Any comparison is like comparing a tallow-candle and an electric light; an ox-cart and a railway-carriage. Nor is the case different when we consider the immaterial side. From the Occident we have to learn government, law, science, and the art of education. There is an unfortunate ambiguity about the intrinsic merits of religions, systems of fine arts, morals and customs. The bases of their superiority or inferiority perplex learned men, though they offer no difficulty to schoolists. It is in those fields that the conservative carries on his campaign. He relies on the vague and intangible nature of the subjects of discussion. It is not to be denied, of course, that in lands so far removed from each other as Japan and Europe, inhabited, too, by totally different races, the results of progress must show corresponding differences. That everything Japanese is not bad, nor everything European good, may be frankly admitted. But that among things Japanese there is anything of sufficient special and distinct merit to warrant its preservation—that is the proposition that we find difficulty in admitting. In the matter of religion, Buddhism is not without merits of its own. But Christianity has undergone centuries of refinement under the influences of philosophy and science, until it now stands on an incomparably higher plane than Buddhism. If the two have to be compared, Buddhism takes the place of an untended flower blossoming in a moor, where it has remained unchanged since the time of its planting, whereas Christianity is a mighty tree that has been cultivated and nurtured until it spreads its great limbs abroad. Then, again, it is claimed that in the matter of self-sacrificing loyalty the Japanese is superior to the European, nor can we dispute the fact that a Japanese is more ready than an Occidental to lay down his life for the sake of his sovereign. But in the West, the national flag takes the place of the monarch. The flag is everything to the European. For it he will lay down his life as readily as any Japanese will for ruler or lord. There is no difference in results whether a man worship the visible image or the principle. Turning to the much vaunted filial piety of the East, we are compelled to admit that the celebrated "twenty-four examples" do not deserve the praise bestowed on them. They indicate a total absence of reasoning discrimination. The parent recognizes one fact only, that the child belongs to it; the child takes no account of the propriety or impropriety of the parent's doings. Morality is sacrificed to sentiment. One field in which the conservatives deem themselves specially strong is that of art. They claim undoubted superiority for Japanese art. The claim is inadmissible. Japanese art having progressed along lines more or less different from those followed by Europeans, has developed some specialties, but when we come to examine the practical side of art, its industrial applications, its motives and its nomenclature, we are bound to admit the superiority of the West. Even without making any close scrutiny, it is easy to appreciate the error of supposing that nations which have so far surpassed Japan in all the other branches of civilization, can be inferior to her in the one department of art. National customs in matters of dress, etiquette, conventionalities of society, and so forth, do not offer themselves so readily for discussion. They are in some respects matters of taste and must remain so. The conclusion is that men who advocate conservatism on account of some one or two fancied excellencies, at a time when the nation is deriving all the elements of its moral and material progress from the Occident, and when even costume and

customs are becoming assimilated to those of the West, such men totally misinterpret the spirit of the time. They would keep Japan like a dwarfed shrub planted in a pot for the delectation of a few virtuosi, while the big tree of Western civilization is spreading its roots and branches everywhere. Smash the pot, transplant the shrub into the open field and make a tree of it!

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* writes about the meeting to be held next October in Brussels with reference to an international colonization union. The King of the Belgians has invited Japan to send delegates, and the Tokyo journal thinks that the occasion should be seized with avidity. It entertains very pronounced views about the capacity of the Japanese for purposes of colonization, and claims that their exceptional value as labourers has been fully demonstrated by experience. Not only ought delegates to be sent, but they should also be instructed to take the lead in presenting projects of law for the better regulation of colonists' affairs; e.g. the insurance of colonists' lives; arrangements for their care in case of sickness or accident; due provision of medical men; procuring burial grounds, and other matters which, under existing circumstances, constitute great obstacles to the successful prosecution of emigration.

Folks talk about reducing the armament-expansion programme or extending the time for its completion, says the *Tokyo Shimbun*, but they ought rather to talk of increasing it and shortening the time. Japan has been virtually without choice in this matter. Her national existence is at stake. It is easy to perceive the state of extreme tension that exists in the Occident. If peace is preserved, it is simply because the results of war within the limits of Europe present themselves under such an appalling aspect. But, on the other hand, the weight of the various national armaments has become almost intolerable, and a conviction, if not a desire, is gradually growing up that the sword should be drawn. Under such circumstances men's eyes have turned to the East. In the Orient they see a comparatively safe arena for combat. When that day of battle comes, who will protect Japan? Her own right arm is the only protector she can rely on. If she cares for her own security, she will press forward with her programme. No one held any other opinion at the time of the retrocession of Liaotung, but a short two years of peace have produced a spirit of perfectoriness, and the financial strain that ought to have been clearly apprehended when the programme was mapped out, is beginning to prove deterrent in some quarters. It is astonishing that people should be so blind to the interests of the empire and to the perils of the time.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* reverts to the class of homilies for which, in common with some other journals, it used to be noted, namely, an attack upon the so-called "Mori Statesmen" for clinging to office although the times have passed them by. For thirty years they have held the reins of government, and one would suppose from their present behaviour that they expected the tenure to be perennial and their own lives to be limitless. Up to the opening of the Diet they did good service, but from that day they became virtually useless, with one or two exceptions. Their great chance to step down from the official stage with *éclat* and honour was the conclusion of the war with China, but they missed that opportunity, and now they are feebly hanging on with the fate of decrepit bankrupts gradually approaching. They have no ambition to satisfy, no worlds to conquer, and are merely blocking the path of advancement for men of robust intelligence and vigorous expectations. This general tirade is somewhat particularized at the close of the article, when our contemporary warns the present Cabinet that if it pursues the temporizing, hand-to-mouth policy hitherto adopted by it, it will crumble to pieces as ignominiously as its predecessor did.

The *Sekai-no-Nippon* indulges in a good

deal of sarcasm and some severe censure of the "official organ" for attempting to deceive the public as to the formation of an alliance between Japan and England. Indirectly our contemporary's shafts are pointed at Count Okuma, who is vaguely charged with trying to blow his own trumpet by leading folks to imagine that he has achieved a great coup, without considering the effect that such an announcement must produce upon Russia. This article appeared in the columns of the *Sekai-no-Nippon* on the 30th ult. Had its publication been a little delayed, the ground would have been cut from under the writer's feet by the *Yomiuri Shimbun's* explicit withdrawal of the construction put by it on Mr. Curzon's statement in the House of Commons. But the *Sekai-no-Nippon's* promptness enabled it to strike a telling blow before its adversary had lowered his arms. There is an exhaustive exposition, in the Opposition journal's columns of reasons that forbid an alliance between England and Japan at present. The writer shows insight and judgment, but his arguments have no interest for English readers with one exception, namely, his assertion that such an alliance would be one-sided as yet. Coming down to practical details, which sound statesmanship does not fail to consider, the meaning of an alliance is that England would use her fleet against Russia in the East and that Japan must be prepared to put a hundred and fifty thousand soldiers into India, and to maintain them at that strength, for the purpose of warding off a Russian attack. But Japan is not yet in a position to make such an effort, and until she is "England would not be such a donkey" (*sic*) as to form an alliance with her.

An article remarkably illustrating the moral regeneration that is said to be taking place in Japanese commercial circles, appears in the *Osaka Asahi Shimbun*. It is a powerful appeal for trade integrity. The one great want of the Meiji era, according to our contemporary, is moral merchants. The esteem in which the man of commerce is held has undergone immense change. Instead of being delegated to the lowest class, as were the *Suchōnin* of pre-Restoration days, he is petted, respected, and received into the best society. It is not considered indeed, that the acquisition of wealth should be men's sole aim, but it is recognised that wealth is the foundation of a country's greatness, and those engaged in the pursuit of wealth are correspondingly esteemed. They have not, however, risen morally to the level of their new station. Among them, doubtless, are many men of upright character and honest methods, but the majority appear to obey the maxims of the old trader, that immediate gain is everything and permanent profit a secondary consideration. Yet the fact is that the adoption and maintenance of a proper standard of morality is of far more material importance to the development of commerce than are Government aids, or reductions of duties, or even the abolition of the trades tax. Without honesty there can be no mutual trust, and without mutual trust, trade is hopelessly hampered. The *Asahi* alludes here to an essay that appeared last year in the *Nineteenth Century* from the pen of Mr. R. Young, editor of the *Kobe Chronicle*, on the subject of Japanese commercial morality, but attributes it to the editor of the *Kobe Herald*, a confusion of titles very often observable among Japanese critics where the Settlement journals are concerned. When it first read the essay, the *Asahi* was indignant. It concluded that this was another instance of a rude foreigner unjustly criticizing the Japanese with whom he was engaged in trade. But the *Asahi* has changed its mind. It now acknowledges the justice of the criticism, and strongly urges the importance of profiting by it. Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, the well known merchant, recently delivered a speech on the same subject, and the *Osaka* journal vehemently endorses the words of the veteran banker. *Per contra*, it adduces the case of a company said to have been formed in Osaka—at what era we can not gather—which required that every one joining it should swear three promises; the first, not to divulge the secrets

of the concern, and the second, not to be hampered by conscience in the pursuit of gain. Such an association is scarcely credible, but it illustrates the depth to which commercial immorality can sink. The whole article constitutes a powerful appeal to the economical sagacity and better principles of the mercantile classes. It is of great length, but the arguments being necessarily of a common-place character, need not be re-produced here.

The *Chuo Shimbun* has a long article on the subject of individual aggrandisement and national disaster, but the line of reasoning defies our comprehension. The purpose of the writer is plain enough: he seeks to attack, on the one hand, great firms like the Mitsubishi and the Mitsui, which are family corporations, and, on the other, the present Ministers of State, who are supposed to be allied with those firms. But the difficulty of demonstrating that the interests of the State are impaired because the members of a family combine for business purposes, has evidently proved insuperable to our contemporary, nor has it been able to hide its embarrassment. It contends that unions of nations for a common end are the basis of politics in the Occident to-day, and in support of the contention it adduces the combination of three Powers in the case of the Liaotung Peninsula, and of six in the case of the Cretan imbroglio. It further insists that isolation is Japan's chief drawback, and that, had she not been standing alone, the issue of her victory over China and the issue of the Hawaiian complication would have been different—on which latter peg, as our readers will readily conjecture, some bitter criticisms of Count Okuma are hung; but the connexion between these facts and the commercial phenomena presented by the Iwasaki and Mitsui families, eludes our comprehension. We judge that the writer is tilting at plutocracy, but he points his lance so vaguely round the horizon that its ultimate direction cannot be ascertained.

RISKS OF GOLD MONOMETALLISM.

The adoption of the gold system in Japan is to be accomplished on October 1st this year. For the enforcement of the system the present Cabinet is disposed to employ every means in its power. The *Sekai-no-Nippon*, in the most cordial terms, wishes the Government every success in the enterprise, but adds that its solicitude is simply for the sake of the country, and it can not express any approval of the risky schemes of the Matsukata Cabinet. The future of gold monometallism, however, says our contemporary, seems to involve numerous causes for apprehension. Silver on the 29th July had fallen to 26½ pence, an extraordinary depreciation seldom experienced, as must be well known to the Minister of Finance. By some it is regarded as the lowest price which the white metal is likely to reach in the natural course of events. Nevertheless, the constant sale of silver bullion by the United States has tended, and still tends, to increase its depreciation in view of the inauguration of the gold standard by Japan. The ratio between gold and silver was originally fixed at a higher rate than the market now presents, silver being then quoted at 28 pence. This quotation was at the time considered to be the lowest price for silver likely to occur. As there is now a difference of two pence in its relative value with gold, a considerable profit may be made by bringing silver to Japan and exchanging it for gold coin for export to London. Accordingly, it is obvious that the influx of silver which is likely to take place after October this year will immediately be attended by the drainage of gold from Japan to foreign markets. The Minister of Finance and some other officials are entirely opposed to these views on the ground that the Japanese trade dollar is circulated as legal tender in Singapore, Shanghai, and Hongkong and will scarcely fail to increase its credit after the enforcement of the revised system on account of its being exchangeable for gold. Admitting, they say, that this silver might be presented for exchange, the total

amount of Japanese silver coin in the three ports mentioned will not exceed forty million yen, the rest being in the hands of Chinese who have already defaced it with their stamps and consequently rendered it unfit for legal currency. That idea must be condemned as too shallow to be relied upon. According to a communication from Singapore received by an influential banker in Tokyo, it seems that Japanese silver there is being monopolized by a speculative merchant, and that its price is consequently rising over the British dollar. It is scarcely necessary to say that this scheme was evidently devised as a means of realizing considerable profit by the exchange of silver for gold in Japan in October next. Singapore is reported to have been entirely cleared of the Japanese dollar, and similar news has also been received from Hongkong. The correspondent of the *Sekai-no-Nippon* places the aggregate amount of Japanese silver in Singapore at forty or fifty million yen, of which thirty millions may be expected to flow back to Japan in October next. The authorities' estimates of Japanese silver in the Straits Settlements, Hongkong and China did not exceed altogether forty millions of yen, but now Singapore alone is found to contain a greater amount. How can they, in face of this, maintain the gold system?

We reproduce the above as an example of what some Japanese critics are saying on this interesting subject. But the truth is that the *Sekai-no-Nippon's* apprehensions have no tangible basis at present. Silver has not fallen to such a point that a speculator could hope to make any profit by buying up yen pieces in Singapore and Hongkong and carrying them to Japan to exchange against gold. The expenses of purchasing thirty or forty million yen, carrying them to Japan, exchanging them and shipping away the gold, together with the loss of four or five months' interest on the money, would more than swamp the small margin of difference between the present market price of silver and the price at which it is assessed in the Japanese currency system. Depreciation must become much more marked before there is any room for such an operation. It is further to be remarked that only silver in the form of yen coins can be manipulated in the manner alluded to by our contemporary. There can be no sales of silver bullion against gold in Japan, except for purposes of art or manufacture, with which the Treasury has nothing to do. Possibly the *Sekai-no-Nippon* does not contemplate anything of that kind, but its language is vague. The question of the silver yen was fully discussed in these columns at the time of the Gold Bill's submission to the Diet, but as yet the contingency then commented on has not become a visible danger.

COTTON WEAVING.

Ashikaga is well known as an important weaving district, possessing, as it does, more than seven hundred establishments for weaving that employ 17,000 looms and 38,000 weavers of both sexes. The annual output is estimated at not less than seven and a half million yen in value.

It may be worth while to note, observes the *Shogyo*, how the weavers in this district are trained in their apprenticeship and paid after acquiring proficiency. The larger number of weavers come from Ibaraki, Chiba, Niigata, Toyama, and Fukui. Taking the age of twenty as the standard for women weavers, it may be stated that girls of sixteen are apprenticed for four years, and those of thirteen or fourteen for five years. One of the chief objects of these apprentices is to acquire a reward at the expiration of the term, in addition to attaining proficiency in the art. At the time of making the contract, half the amount of remuneration is paid to the apprentice, and it is said that and the proficiency in weaving attained by the girls, are sure inducements for satisfactory marriage. Many of the women of Ashikaga are also employed in the work exclusively for board and a little pin-money. Ten hours

a day is the usual work-time for adepts, while female apprentices are required to work from twelve to fifteen hours. Wages for apprentices are as follow:—

	Annual rewards.		Daily wages.	
	Yen.	Sen.	Yen.	Sen.
1st class	25	.....	25	.....
2nd class	35	.....	30	.....
3rd class	20	.....	20	.....
Below 20	24	.....	18	.....
Below 17	20	.....	17	.....
7 years	25	.....	15	.....
5 years	40	.....	16	.....
3 years	20	.....	8	.....
.....	35	.....	9	.....
.....	13	.....	7	.....
.....	20	.....	8	.....

The best class of weavers receive a monthly salary of from 10 to 13 yen. On piece work, payment differs according to the material woven, but the stuffs for export are generally paid for at the rate of twelve or thirteen sen per four yards, while those for domestic use are paid for at the rate of sixteen or seventeen sen per tan. The average length of stuff produced in a day is ten yards in the case of first class weavers, eight yards in the second class, and even yards in the third class.

THE "SHOGYO SHIMPO" ON THE BANK OF JAPAN.

On the 24th July, says the *Shogyo Shimpō*, the Bank of Japan issued convertible notes to the amount of 455,306 yen beyond the legal limit, and mentioned in its report of the 27th that the average daily excess of issue had been 75,884 yen during the preceding six days. In order to ascertain the cause of this excessive issue of paper, the *Shogyo Shimpō* refers to the Bank's weekly statement of transactions, which shows a serious decrease in the amount of loans and notes discounted. The figures for the 17th and 24th of July were as follow:—

	July 24.—Yen.	July 17.—Yen.
Discounted Notes	33,428,270	33,940,586
Loans issued	148,911,799	149,213,685
Total	182,340,069	183,154,271

From the above it will be perceived that the loans issued during the past week decreased by almost 800,900 yen, as compared with the previous week.

Under these circumstances, the over-issue of notes by the bank cannot be ascribed to any necessity arising from an increase of transactions. As regards the deposits from the Government, the account stands thus:—July 24th, 145,255,325 yen; July 17th, 149,494,479 yen; difference, 4,239,154 yen. These figures show that the Government drew out of the Bank over 4,200,000 yen during the previous week. If the Government drew specie to that amount the reserve of the Bank must have correspondingly decreased. The following table shows the amount of securities in specie and convertible notes during the past two weeks:—

	July 24.—Yen.	July 17.—Yen.
Specie Reserve	111,680,292	115,816,242
Reserve Securities	78,878,126	76,622,086
Convertible Notes issued	190,658,418	192,538,328
Specie	4,135,950	—
Securities	—	2,256,040
Notes	1,879,910	—

Thus the reserve securities have been increasing during the past two weeks, but the specie reserve having decreased by 3,130,000 yen the withdrawal by Government of 4,200,000 yen from the deposits, seems to have had the effect of diminishing the Bank's specie reserve by nearly the same amount. The Bank was thus compelled to make an issue of convertible notes beyond the legal limit. If the above remarks are not mistaken, it may confidently be asserted that the overissue of notes was undertaken by the Bank for reasons connected with its own convenience, and is in no way to be looked upon as the result of any pressing demand for funds for commercial enterprises.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

We find it stated in vernacular journals, on the authority of statistics compiled by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, that the average rice crop of Japan at present is 39,687,656 *koku*. The figure is based on returns for the past seven years, excluding one abnormally bad year and one abnormally good. The crop last year (1896) having been 36,199,770 *koku*, was, consequently, 3,487,886 *koku* below the average. The worst year in recent times was 1889, its yield having been only 33 million *koku*, in round numbers, and next lowest in the scale comes last year. The very high price at which rice is now quoted in the market may probably be attributed, in the main, to this question of production. As for the causes of the unproductiveness last year, the storms and floods of June, July and August, and the generally unfavourable character of the climate were chiefly responsible. This year, also, the weather during the early part of the summer promised very ill, but it mended from the beginning of the *doyô* epoch, and reports from the various districts, with one or two exceptions, indicate that a good crop may be expected.

Attention is drawn by the *Kobe Chronicle* to a case recently tried in the Kobe Local Court. According to our contemporary's account, a man arrested on a simple charge of assault, was kept under detention for twelve days before his public trial took place: was then remanded for three days; was then acquitted on the ground of insufficient evidence; and had finally to remain five days longer under arrest pending the Public Procurator's decision whether an appeal should be lodged. It will be evident, of course, that no grounds exist for criticizing this procedure unless bail was arbitrarily refused; for though the case seems to have been protracted to an extent out of proportion with the nature of the offence, we are not in a position to allege that such was the case unless fuller details are furnished. The *Kobe Chronicle* says that substantial bail was refused, but does not appear to be very confident about that part of the affair. However, there is no denying the fact that many instances of this kind of defect in Japanese criminal procedure have been brought to light, and that, though some of them may be more or less explicable, their number and frequency indicate a distinctly defective state of the law. We believe that the framers of the Code of Criminal Procedure, including M. Boissonade himself, have admitted that its provisions require amending, and it is understood that the revisions which have been made by a committee of experts, and which will be submitted to the Diet next session, are of such a nature as to obviate the recurrence of abuses of the kind now under consideration. Complaint has frequently been advanced by foreign local journalists that the *habeas corpus* law is not found among Japanese enactments; but on behalf of the framers of the Codes it has been replied that though the term "*habeas corpus*" does not occur in their legislation, the principle is duly embodied, and that the dangers against which the British statute is intended to guard, are fully obviated by cognate provisions of Japanese law. Practical experience, however, appears to indicate that the Japanese Codes leave something to be desired in this respect, and the amendments in

the revised code will be scrutinized with interest.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that the media of exchange circulating in Japan at the beginning of the month of July were as follow:—

	Yen
Exchangeable Notes	194,644,520
Government Notes	8,431,337
Bank Notes	7,687,072
Gold Coins	5,264,308
Silver one yen Coins	34,540,889
Silver Subsidiary Coins	24,807,357
Nickel Coins	6,626,303
Copper Coins	9,354,692

Total 291,356,478

This total exceeds the figure recorded at the beginning of June by over 5 million *yen*, and is the largest for any month in the year, January excepted. January, however, always shows a big figure owing to the New Year's settlements.

Whether application shall be made to Belgium or to Italy to lend its good offices as arbitrator in the Hawaiian complication, is now the question of the moment, say the Tokyo newspapers. We trust that there is still a hope of settling the matter without recourse to arbitration. It is, after all, such a paltry business. Hawaii can not possibly hold to the manifestly untenable contention that by making a contract with a steamship company for a return passage in case of failure to find employment, an immigrant ceases to be a free labourer. The notion is almost laughable in its extravagance. That point conceded, nothing remains but the question of compensation, a paltry payment of something like a quarter of a million of dollars. Were there any principle involved, the case would be different, but the Hawaiian Cabinet, being composed of clear-headed men, must be thoroughly sensible that the position taken by them is impossible, and that to insist on carrying it to arbitration would be to incur ridicule as well as additional expense.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* alleges that a sum of 50 million *yen* is to be raised next year for constructing railways, telegraphs, telephones, and so forth, but that, instead of attempting to sell the bonds in Japan, they will be placed at once on the London market. We presume that our contemporary refers to next year's installment of the Public Undertakings Loan. It would be much more to the point were we informed how the current year's installment of 63 millions is to be dealt with. It has not yet been issued, and its proceeds are required to establish equilibrium between the incomings and outgoings of the State. Nothing could be more perplexing than these hap-hazard notes about finance thrown at the heads of the public by vernacular newspapers. Their writers appear ready to dish up any item of floating gossip that comes to their ears without the smallest thought whether it consists or conflicts with the budgetary scheme already approved by the Diet.

It is stated that as the demand for Japanese *saké* in Vladivostok is largely on the increase, and as considerable quantities are also consumed by Japanese resident in Korea, a project is on foot to establish breweries in Shanghai and Gen-san, so as to avoid the heavy taxes now levied on *saké* brewing in Japan. Chinese rice and Korean rice are both cheaper than Japanese, and the questions of water

and climate, generally supposed to present serious difficulties, need not, it is now alleged, be much considered.

According to the *Hochi Shimbun*—whose information on such a subject is to be accepted with caution—the Russian Government has given orders for the despatch of nine thousand troops from Odessa to Vladivostok, and as only four thousand time-expired men are to return from the latter place, there will be a net increase of five thousand. The same authority alleges that half a million roubles have been appropriated for improving the forts at Vladivostok, and that other 1½ millions will be spent in changing the armament. Our contemporary conjectures that these steps are taken by way of response to Japan's programme of military and naval expansion, and asks what may be expected on Russia's part when her neighbour's programme becomes an accomplished fact and when the Siberian Railway is completed, if at this early stage she makes such an effort.

The *Kobe Chronicle* has now placed us in the position of having denied that bribery exists in Japan, and expresses surprise that we could possibly have made such an allegation with plain evidence before our eyes in the form of judicial prosecutions of officials for corrupt practices. We desire to remind our contemporary that the attitude it assigns to us is of its own imagining. We have not denied that bribery exists in Japan. We have neither denied nor affirmed. Astonished by the wholesale declaration of the *Kobe Chronicle* that virtually every official or commercial transaction is tainted by the vice, we asked whether proofs could be furnished in support of such a sweeping charge, and added that while we had often heard a similar, though never, indeed, so drastic, an accusation made, there had invariably been unwillingness or inability on the part of the accuser to adduce actual instances. We do not wish to be credited with statements that we have not advanced. With regard to judicial prosecutions for bribery, the construction that the *Kobe Chronicle* puts upon them can scarcely be called conclusive. They undoubtedly show that bribery exists, just as prosecutions for robbery show that thieves exist. But they show, at the same time, that bribery is not countenanced, and that, when discovered, it elicits severe condemnation. Such incidents are not to be reconciled with the theory that bribery is almost universal. If it were, there would be little disposition to take judicial action against recipients of bribes. We recognise the great difficulty of arriving at a definite conclusion on such a subject, and when we remember the uncompromising character of the *Kobe Chronicle's* assault upon Japanese integrity, we ought not, perhaps to be surprised that it has adopted an exaggerated view of our own contention also. But we decline to be made responsible for any such view. We simply invited the *Kobe Chronicle* to adduce proofs in support of its remarkable accusation. It would have been a strange method of controversy to deny the truth of the accusation before an opportunity of producing proofs had been afforded. We note now, however, that our contemporary has nothing to justify its charge except the public prosecutions that have taken place within the past few years, and the assertion of Count Itagaki that

certain members of the House of Representatives have shown themselves venal. That testimony leaves us exactly where we were originally. It shows that bribery and corruption exist—a fact which we have never doubted—but it certainly does not show that “scarcely a single transaction takes place, from the sale of merchandise to appointment to official position, without squeezes expected and paid.” The *Kobe Chronicle* seems to have unwarrantably overstated the facts, and we would now beg to remind it when it declared bribery to be “rampant among all classes in Japan,” it preferred the charge avowedly on its own experience. “We regret to say that, so far as our experience goes, bribery is rampant among all classes in Japan,” were its exact words. But when invited to publish some of its “experiences,” it replies by adducing cases of criminal prosecutions instituted by the Government; cases already known to everybody.

One word more. Our contemporary actually draws a sinister inference from the fact that we omitted the name of Count Oki from our enumeration of statesmen on whose account we repudiated the accusation of selling official appointments! The omission is twisted into an implied doubt of Count Oki's integrity. That argument is too shallow to need refutation.

The journalistic somnolence to which we recently alluded has been again illustrated. One of our evening contemporaries has awakened, and discovered a paragraph in our columns to the effect that the provisions of the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure for securing the speedy trial of accused persons and their speedy release on acquittal by a court of first instance, require amendment. The paragraph is re-produced by the discover with great show of satisfaction. But it happens that we have said the same thing time and again during the past four years, and that we laid special emphasis on the apparent defect in connexion with the detention of a Christian in an Osaka jail in 1893.

On-kon-tsin is said to be the name of the island in the Pescadores in the neighbourhood of which the *Unebi-han* is reported to have been discovered. The vernacular press states that permission has been given to Mr. Yamashina Reizo, a professional diver, to undertake the work of raising her, from which we infer that her actual position has been discovered, though nothing is stated about the depth of water in which she lies, nor is any information given as to the nature of the coast. She was a cruiser of 3,615 tons displacement; her length, 98.6 metres; her beam, 13.1 metres; her draught, 8.5 metres; her horse power, 5,500; her speed 17.5 knots; her armament, 4 Krupp 24.35 cent. guns; 7 Krupp 15.35 cent. guns; two 6-pr. quick-firing; ten 35 mill. machine-guns and four Gatlings. The *Yomiuri* says that she had on board a quantity of articles ordered by the Imperial Household, which were of great value.

That dreadful scourge dysentery is only a little less destructive than cholera when the ravages of each for the same time are compared, and is, on the whole, far more destructive than cholera seeing that the latter's visitations are few and far between, whereas scarcely a year passes that dysentery does not claim a large tale of

victims. The returns from the 21st to the 25th of last month, an interval of 5 days, were:—

Place.	Number of Patients.	Number of Deaths.
Tokyo	136	23
Saitama	95	17
Chiba	76	17
Ibaraki	81	17
Gumma	51	6
Tochigi	43	6
Aichi	131	13
Gifu	22	2

Reports have been industriously circulated during the past few days to the effect that Russia is on the point of sending a force of troops numbering 800 rank and file and 30 officers to Korea, under pretext of guarding her consulates in that country, and that 3 officers and 10 men, forming the first installment of the force, have already arrived in Seoul. In order to ascertain the truth of the story, a representative of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* waited upon Count Okuma, and His Excellency is said to have made the following reply:—“It is untrue that Russia has sent a large force of troops to Korea. Possibly a few officers and men from Vladivostok may have taken advantage of the summer recess to pay a visit to the peninsula, but to talk of that as an entry of Russian troops and to make a fuss about it is simply hysteria. Russia is not such a lawless country. The occasions on which troops may be sent to Korea are defined in the Russo-Japanese convention. For example, Russia and Japan are jointly responsible for the preservation of tranquillity in the peninsula, and it is not for Russia to send so much as a single soldier thither without Japan's consent. But a mere visit for purposes of sight-seeing does not call for any remonstrance. Of course, if under the pretext of sight-seeing a larger number of troops were sent, and if they passed through Korean territory as an organized body, the effect might be to excite the people of the country, and in that event we should not remain silent. It would then be our duty to ascertain why Russian troops had entered Korea and why Korea had permitted them to do so, and these points being determined, it might be necessary for us to open negotiations with the Russian Government. The question would then enter the domain of foreign politics, but we are well assured that nothing of that kind need be anticipated on the present occasion. A Russian military force has not entered Korea. Why, indeed, should it, seeing that there is no disturbance or trouble of any kind in the peninsula? No one need be nervous, I assure you.”

The Japan Railway Company is stirring itself, if we may credit what vernacular newspapers say about it. It purposes increasing its rolling stock to 500 engines, 1,536 passenger cars and 5,172 goods vans. What additions to the present complement are involved in the change, our contemporaries do not say, however. Further, the company finds it necessary to double its lines through a length of 140 miles, and the consummation of these plans, together with the purchase of the Ryomo Railway, will require a total outlay of 26 million yen. It is stated that the capital of the Company will be increased by that amount, and that it will be called up in 12 installments, spread over six years from September next. The proposal is to be submitted to an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders at an early date.

The large-mouthed rumours assiduously circulated of late with reference to the Budget for 1898-9, are beginning to assume more moderate dimensions. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, which recently spoke of the Cabinet's being confronted by the necessity of raising an additional revenue of thirty million yen at least, now says that, at the last conference held in the Finance Department, it was decided that ten millions would suffice, and that, further, the Ministry have almost resolved to obtain that amount by interdicting the brewing of *saké* for domestic use and raising the rate of the *saké* tax to ten yen a *koku*. Such steps would easily produce the required sum, but it will be regrettable, we think, if the Government fails to correct the glaring anomaly presented by the taxation of urban lands as now assessed, and relies wholly on the brewing tax.

The instructions addressed to the Governor-General of Formosa, in connexion with the administrative reforms contemplated by the Cabinet, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, are these:—

- (1) The utmost pains must be taken by the Administration of Formosa to distinguish between undertakings of a pressing, and those of a less urgent, character, and precedence must be given to the former.
- (2) The chief administrative need in Formosa at present is to adopt measures for the complete security of life and property, so that the people of the new dominion may feel confident in the protection extended to them by the Imperial Government.
- (3) With regard to the education of the people, the most essential means of bringing about a thorough mutual understanding between rulers and ruled is to promote the study of language, the Formosans studying Japanese, and the Japanese, Formosan.
- (4) Improvement of means of communication by building telegraphs, railways and roads is of prime importance, but with regard to that point it seems advisable to pursue the method hitherto adopted, namely, to have the work undertaken as much as possible by the localities.
- (5) In matters of taxation, everything onerous should be avoided, the old rates being preserved as far as possible. All fiscal arrangements must be above-board and strictly honest.
- (6) A lenient policy should be adopted towards the native tribes, so as to establish good order among them without recourse to military force.

The *Fiji Shimpō* gives a somewhat detailed account of military operations undertaken from Taipei and Tamsui against a body of 600 insurgents at a place called Jipin-chin. There is nothing interesting in the record, however. It may be summed up by saying that a detachment sent out to make a reconnaissance, fell in with the insurgents and had three men wounded, inflicting, in return, losses the extent of which has not been ascertained, and, that, when a larger force reached the place by steamer, the rebels had escaped. It would seem that the Japanese find great difficulty in getting the Formosans to act as scouts.

The public has been hearing a great deal lately about what the Japanese, with the peculiar facility for brief but pithy expressions that an ideographic language enjoys, call *Rohai niukan*, or the entry of Russian soldiers into Korea. It was by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that the story was first despatched upon its peripatetic, and a very fine “send off” it received at our contemporary's hands. So convinced, indeed, was the *Yomiuri* about the solidity of its information's kernel, that it boldly announced its own monopoly of the facts, denying even to the Minister of Foreign Affairs a share in the knowledge. After climbing to such a pedestal of preten-

sion, it is naturally difficult for the Tokyo journal to get down gracefully, and, so far as we can judge, it means to devote some time to the process. Our readers remember, doubtless, that the original tale spoke of 800 men and thirty officers who were to arrive in the peninsula immediately, and who had been already preceded by an advance guard of 3 officers and 10 privates. Well, the *Yomiuri* has now bid good-bye to 817 of the invaders, and coming down to the 13 pioneers only, covers up its arithmetical descent by a column of hypotheses as to the probable motive of the thirteen's movements. Perhaps, in consideration of the bewildering character of such gymnastics, we need not weary our readers by setting forth the details of the *Yomiuri's* conjectures, but as they are given on the nominal authority of a diplomat who, having spent a long time in Korea, returned recently to Japan, their outlines merit a little space. In the first place, then, these thirteen persons are the irreducible residuum of the big *mission militaire* for the advent of which Mr. Waeber nearly succeeded in concluding arrangements some months ago. The bargain, though interrupted, could not be completely cancelled. A compromise, to which Mr. Waeber alone was a party, was effected at thirteen, and their apparition in Söul, under pretext of seeing the sights, so perturbed the Minister of War that he abandoned his portfolio. In the second place, the thirteen are the first installment of a detachment of seventy or eighty troops of the line, who will relieve the marines now on guard at the Russian Legation. The Russian Authorities find it troublesome to be perpetually changing the marines, and purpose replacing them by regular troops. In the third place, the thirteen are really a surveying party, though nominally only tourists. The *Yomiuri* having scrambled down to those three hypotheses from the position of absolute knowledge that it professed a few days ago, the next step of its descent is not difficult to conjecture.

Another list is published of railways for which provisional charters have been granted:—

The Harima Railway; from	Miles.	Capital, Yen.
Akashi to Tanigawa	37	1,300,000
The Hawaki Railway; from		
Kofu to Tsuruoka	47	1,800,000
The Kaiman Railway; from		
Tokushima to Takamatsu	26m. 70c.	1,900,000
The Tosan Electric Railway; from		
Karabitsu to Nita ..	8	200,000
The Kichu Railway; from		
Nattai to Tsuruoka	96	4,000,000
The Chinozu Railway; from		
Wakatsui to Nakatsu	69	4,000,000
The Sakai Railway; from		
Yokohama to Zushi	22 m. 40c.	1,800,000

The *Fiji Shimpō* has a somewhat detailed note about instructions said to have been issued by the Government in Washington to the United States Minister in Honolulu and the naval officer commanding at that station. The instructions plainly indicate distrust of Japan's intentions, and a resolve to vigorously oppose any attempt on her part against the integrity of the little republic. We find it difficult to believe that any precautions of the kind have been deemed necessary by the Government of the United States, but if the tale be true, the less said about it journalistically the better. It is laughable to think that Japan should be suspected of such a wild scheme.

However, if, as rumour says, the conclusion of the Annexation Treaty was nothing more than a device to secure the passing of the Tariff Bill, if, in short, the United States Government played fast and loose with its foreign policy in the interests of domestic legislation, qualms of conscience may have subsequently dictated a strange course. At all events, it is not a matter for Japan and the United States to quarrel about, and the less attention paid to the tall talk of journalists on the Pacific slope, the better for both sides.

THE HAWAIIAN AFFAIR.

It is understood that the Japanese Government has now definitely announced its willingness to submit the Hawaiian complication to arbitration. For a time there appears to have been an idea that Hawaii might appreciate the hopelessness of her case, and perceive the wisdom of coming to an arrangement without further delay or expense. But that prospect does not seem to exist any longer. Rumour says that the Cabinet in Honolulu has exhibited remarkable inconsistency in its contentions, advancing one plea at one time and another at another. Originally the *bona fides* of the immigrant's possession of fifty dollars was called in question, but when it became apparent that such an argument could not hold water for a moment, being not only intrinsically valueless, but also palpably inconsistent with previous procedure, recourse was had to the still more inconsequential pretext that by making a precautionary agreement with a steamship company to provide for him a return passage, an immigrant ceased to be a "free labourer." Then that very fatuous pretence was in turn abandoned, having proved quite unequal to support the strain of discussion, and the Honolulu Cabinet attempted to revert to the plea which it had first put forward and then definitely abandoned, namely, the *bona fides* of the monetary test. There may be trouble in finding a firm foot-hold among such shiftiness, but of course Japan will hold Hawaii to her own deliberately chosen contention. We understand, however, that for the purpose of compiling an exhaustive statement of facts and claims, investigations of some minuteness will still have to be conducted in Hawaii, so that, all things considered, the date of submitting the documents to an arbitrator may be distant. It ought to be in the interests of the Government at Washington to have the complication swept off the stage before the curtain rises for the annexation scheme, and, indeed, there has been talk of pressure brought to bear from Washington on Honolulu in that sense. But Mr. Sherman's infirmity is not a helpful feature of the situation. He has certainly shown such a singular faculty for contradicting himself that it may be doubted whether any clear outline of the issues has impressed itself on his brain. American journals assert that when he denied to the Japanese Representative the imminence of any such contingency as an annexation treaty, he was fresh from a Cabinet meeting at which annexation had been definitely decided upon. It is alleged, we may add, that Belgium's good offices will be solicited in the capacity of arbitrator.

DEATH OF COUNT GOTO.

Count Goto expired on the morning of the 4th instant, at ten minutes past eight, in his Takanawa residence. The Count has been sick for some months, fatty degeneration of the heart being the chief source of trouble, though other serious complications were also present. All hope of recovery was long ago abandoned, but the distinguished patient's condition did not become critical until the morning of the 2nd instant, when a marked access of debility was observable. Telegraphic information was immediately conveyed to the Emperor in Kyoto, and His Majesty graciously conferred upon the dying statesman the First Class of the Second Grade of official rank and the Grand Cordon of the Order of Merit.

Count Goto may be justly described as one of the landmarks of new Japan. In the drama of the Restoration he played a part so important that his services received exceptional recognition in the form of a substantial life income. To foreigners he is best known, perhaps, as one of the two *samurai* who rendered brave and prompt assistance to Sir Harry Parkes and his escort on the occasion of the attack by *ronin* in Kyoto, twenty-nine years ago. Count Goto's assistant in that memorable act was Mr. Nakai Kozo, who died in 1894 in Kyoto, of which city he was then Governor. The Queen sent to each gentleman a gold-mounted and jewelled sword in acknowledgement of their gallant and timely service. Count Goto held many high offices during the past twenty-five years. He possessed great administrative ability, and showed uncompromising fearlessness in the assertion of his opinions, and by the staunchness of his friendship, and the geniality of his temperament, commanded much popularity. But it may be doubted whether he enjoyed as large a share of public confidence as his moral gifts would have ensured had they been supplemented by a little more tenacity of purpose, and a little less impatience of time's processes. Probably if a Japanese student of contemporary history were asked to choose among the *Meiji* statesmen the one to whom the epithet of "political agitator" is most applicable, he would name Count Goto, for though the *Daidō Danketsu*, Count Goto's very ephemeral creation, was subsequent in point of date to the *Fyū-to* and the *Kaishin-to*, it had not as logical a *raison d'être* as either, and the precipitancy that marked its formation as well as the abruptness of its dissolution and the brevity of its existence, imparted to it the character of a petulant demonstration rather than a grave public protest. Yet certainly Count Goto was not an agitator, in the ordinary sense of the term. He had nothing of the agitator's unscrupulousness in the use of agents, and the intimidating efficacy of an organized commotion does not seem to have entered his calculations. Perhaps the truest explanation of certain phases of his career is that he suffered from a tendency to manufacture opportunities before the materials were ready and to be content with results considerably short of his ideals. None the less he laid his country under great obligations, and his name will be handed down to posterity as one of the prominent makers of *Meiji* history. He had only entered his sixtieth year at the time of his death. We understand that the funeral is to be on Sunday next.

SOSHI AND "VIRGIN" CIGARETTES.

The *Soshi* of Tokyo, whose apparent banishment from the arena of politics must render their *metier* rather barren, had quite a congenial time on the night of the 3rd instant, when they raided the premises of Messrs. Murai Brothers, the vendors of the now celebrated "Virgin" brand of cigarettes. The Murai Brothers have adopted an American device—some say, indeed, that they are agents for an American firm—they advertise that every purchaser of a 4-sen box of their cigarettes shall receive a *keibutsu*. Among these promised premia are—or rather were, for the *Soshi* have wiped them out—a bicycle, a gold watch, 10 silver watches, 40 clocks of sorts, 30 rolls of cloth, and innumerable novels. After the system had been in operation for some weeks, the Chief of Police began to think that it partook of the nature of a lottery, which, as our readers probably know, is illegal in Japan. He stopped the sales, and summoned Messrs. Murai before the Tokyo Local Court. But the judges decided in favour of the defendants. Apparently the test of legality in Japan is that every ticket-holder shall receive a prize, and on that ground—a most slender ground, we think—the "Virgin" scheme seems to have escaped condemnation. Of course the trial and the comments of the press proved a magnificent advertisement, and the Murai Shokai did a roaring trade. But the most vigorous consumers of the "Virgins" never seemed to get any nearer to the gold watch, the bicycle, or any of the other plums. A one-sen novel seemed to be the boss *keibutsu*. Finally the public began to think that the whole thing was a swindle, and the *Soshi*, those rough redressers of all wrongs, saw their opportunity. On Tuesday night at 8 o'clock, about 30 of them having armed themselves with hammers, proceeded to Murai's store, and set themselves to smash everything they could lay hands on. They declared their intentions so vociferously when they reached the vicinity of the store, that two employes who happened to be within, made their escape incontinently and carried notice to the nearest police station. The solitary constable on duty in the neighbourhood adopted the same line of policy, and in the meanwhile the smashing operations went on merrily. A crowd of citizens quickly assembled, of course, but they were all *yajimma*, or sympathisers, and they loudly cheered the *Soshi's* performance against the alleged "swindling company." The decoy bicycle, having been reduced to the rank of old metal, was dropped over Nippon-bashi, and the watches, clocks, rolls of cloth and piles of novels were trampled underfoot. It is alleged that some forty minutes elapsed before the police could muster in sufficient force to restore order, and several of them were roughly handled by the *Soshi* and their sympathisers. We can not expect the police to be ready for all emergencies, especially such an extraordinary one as this, but forty minutes seems a rather long interval of inability. As for the "Virgins" their day is past, we imagine, and the public will not go into mourning over their demise. The Murai system was unquestionably a lottery, and its demoralizing effects were not confined to educating a spirit of gambling: they extended also to the injury of men's breaths by tempting them to smoke a vast quantity of cheap and

nasty cigarettes. Tobacco has quite a history in Japan, beginning with the times when members of the celebrated societies, the Brambles and the Leather Breeches, used to smash each other with colossal pipes in Kyoto, and ending with the smashing operations of the Nippon-bashi *Soshi*.

THE LIBERALS AND THE CABINET.

The representatives of the Liberal Party now in Tokyo repaired to the official residence of Counts Matsukata and Okuma on the 1st instant, and handed to Their Excellencies two letters, of which the following are translations:—

To His Excellency, Count OKUMA;

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

EXCELLENCY.—The question that arose with Hawaii in connexion with emigration to that country was not one of great importance, and we were persuaded that the portfolio of Foreign Affairs being in the hands of a statesman so able and clear-sighted as Your Excellency, a settlement would be effected with the greatest ease. But unexpected evils have grown out of the affair, and the country most unfortunately finds itself confronted by a serious complication. It is scarcely necessary, perhaps, to say that, according to our information, Your Excellency adopted a strong policy from the outset in dealing with the problem, and employed menacing language in your communications with Hawaii. His Imperial Majesty's ship the *Naniwa* was sent to that country, a procedure which, we think, must be interpreted as a display of power towards a weak country. The adoption of an attitude of intimidation towards a feeble State entirely devoid of military armaments could only impair the prestige and credit of this country, and we are pained to think that it may be the means of hereafter creating bad feeling between the United States and Japan. Your Excellency's policy of intimidation furnished to the Hawaiian Government a pretext for urging the advisability of annexation. That Government despatched to America Messrs. Smith, Thurston and others, keen advocates of annexation, and instructed them to explain to the Government of the United States that a solitary island like Hawaii, situated in the wide Pacific, could not hope to maintain its independence in the face of Japan's policy of menace. Doubtless those representations exercised some influence, seeing that Mr. McKinley, the American President, is in favour of annexation and that the Republican Party have a majority in Congress. We regard it as a result greatly to be regretted. On the other hand, considering the necessity of unflinching vigilance in the field of foreign politics, we could not doubt that a Minister so resourceful as Your Excellency would provide some plan for averting any national injury. With much surprise, therefore, do we learn that the Hawaiian Government has rejected Japan's demands in connexion with the emigration question, and has proposed arbitration by a third Power, to which proposal your Excellency has assented. Your Excellency, recognising the failure of your line of policy, has been compelled to reverse it, and to remain in office under such circumstances would be to disregard your responsibility. The American Senate having risen, the annexation question has not yet been carried to a final solution, but in view of the failure that has attended Your Excellency's foreign policy, we deem it unavoidable that you should accept the responsibility and resign your office. For the sake of maintaining the country's interests we regard your resignation as a necessity.

(Signed.)

Representatives of
the Liberal Party.

MATSUDA MASAHAISA.
SUZUKI JUBI.
SHIGOKA KUNGORO.
ISHIZUKA JUBI.
TANIGAWA SHOCHIU.
TAKAHASHI YASUJI.

To His Excellency, Count MATSUKATA.

EXCELLENCY.—As will be seen from the accompanying document, we have urged His Excellency Count Okuma to resign his office of Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, in consideration of the disgrace that has been brought upon the country by the failure of his foreign policy in the matter of the Hawaiian complication. The responsibility is not confined to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. We are persuaded that it must be shared by the Minister President of State. With much regret, therefore, we have no recourse in the interests of the nation but to advise Your Excellency also, for the same reasons, to resign your office.

(Signed.)

(As above.)

This incident endorses the familiar assertion that the standards of criticism to which we foreigners are accustomed, must in general be greatly modified before upplying them to things Japanese. Conceive what a laugh would be raised in England if Sir William Harcourt, Mr. John Morley and other representatives of the Liberal Party now in Opposition, were to proceed to Downing Street, and hand to the Marquis of Salisbury a document pronouncing his foreign policy a failure, and calling upon him to resign. It will, perhaps, be urged that there is a difference in the situations, since parliamentary Cabinets being the recognised system in England, no party represented by a minority in the House of Commons and therefore unable to speak with any semblance of authority, would be so silly as to invite the Premier and the Foreign Secretary to resign. They might advance the proposition in the House, and submit it to the test of a vote, but to bring it forward during the recess would be a little too inconsequential. In Japan, on the other hand, the Ministry claim independence of the Diet, and it is therefore within the competence of any political coterie, however feeble the force it can muster within the Diet, to tender any and every advice to a Minister. That point we say, may be made. But we have to remember that the Liberals insist, and have always insisted, on the Cabinet's responsibility to the Diet, yet now, although themselves hopelessly outnumbered in the Diet, they virtually assume the position that a Cabinet which has the support of the majority should nevertheless bow to the *fiat* of the minority. Having faith in the Liberals and in their future, we could wish that they were and little more richly endowed with the faculty of waiting for opportunities to ripen.

As for the indictment of Count Okuma, it is obviously extravagant. When we consider that its framers possess no knowledge whatever about the nature of the negotiations that have taken place between Japan and Hawaii, and that they are totally ignorant about the language used by Count Okuma in his despatches, their accusation that he has adopted a policy of menace and intimidation is plainly based on pure conjecture. The solitary fact that seems to support their assumption is the despatch of the *Naniwa*. But the *Naniwa* was sent to preserve order among the Japanese immigrants, not to threaten Hawaii, and her chief business while at Honolulu seems to have been the dining and winning of the citizens. So far as we have been able to learn, the negotiations with Hawaii have been conducted from the first in the most amicable and conciliatory manner, and considering that Messrs. Thurston and Smith had

proceeded Washington to lobby in the cause of annexation long before the immigration complication appeared upon the horizon, the Liberals' chain of reasoning is decidedly weak-linked.

TRADE WITH FORMOSA.

The trade of Japan with Formosa was included in the category of trade with China up to the end of the war, and it was impossible to obtain a separate report. Since the island was annexed to Japan in 1895 its trade, the *Asahi* notes, has shown remarkable progress. The exports from Japan to Formosa in 1895 amounted to 2,973 yen only, and imports from the island to 426,050 yen. In 1896, however, exports increased to 13,756 yen and imports to 1,301,299 yen, making a total of 1,315,056 yen. Compared with the previous year, there was an increase of 10,780 yen in exports and of 875,200 yen in imports. Exports for the first half of this year reached 22,675 yen, and the imports are calculated to be not less than 1,248,000 yen, the whole trade amounting to 1,271,500 yen in value. The following table shows the amount of imports from 1895 to the first half of this year inclusive:—

Year.	Exports. yen.	Imports. yen.	Total yen.
1895.....	2,973	428,050	429,023
1896.....	13,756	1,301,299	1,315,056
1897 (first half).....	22,675	1,248,907	1,271,582

The growth of the trade with Formosa, as shown by the above figures is, it is said, chiefly due to the increased facilities afforded for communication and to the steady increase of immigration from Japan. The principal commodities imported from Formosa, since 1895, and their values, were as follow:—

	1895. yen.	1896. yen.	1897, first half. yen.
Brown sugar.....	426,050	1,266,925	1,147,814
White sugar.....	—	33,214	92,963
Turmeric (Kyo.)	—	1,160	8,017

NEW JAPANESE WARSHIPS.

There is quite a respectable fleet of war vessels built and building in England and other countries at the present time for the Japanese Navy, as a part of the two programmes for the expansion of the warlike marine agreed to by the Diet. These two schemes have now become merged into one virtually, for it is difficult to say to which any particular vessel pertains. Two first-class battleships—the *Fuji*, built by the Thames Iron works, and the *Yashima*, by Armstrongs—are on the point of completion, and may be classed as ready. Amongst the orders given are one for a first-class battleship of 15,000 tons, to be constructed by the Thames Ironworks. She is to be called the *Shikishima*, will have a speed of 18 knots, and be finished in May, 1899. Another first-class battleship is to be constructed by Thomsons on the Clyde, and will substantially be a sister to our own *Jupiter*. She will be ready towards the close of 1899. A second-class cruiser, 4,350 tons, twenty knots speed, named the *Takasago*, is now being finished by Armstrongs. Two second-class cruisers, each of 4,700 tons, twenty knots speed, are being constructed in the United States, the *Kasagi*, by Cramps, of Philadelphia, and the *Chitose*, by the Union Ironworks, San Francisco. These two are to be ready at the end of next year. Besides these an order for two second-class cruisers is just about to be placed, one in France and one in Germany, the contracts for which are not yet actually signed. This list is completed by eight torpedo-boat destroyers of 250 tons each and thirty knots speed. Four of these have been contracted for by Messrs. Yarrow, of Poplar, and four by Messrs. Thornycroft, of Chiswick. Part of them will be ready in 1898 and others early in 1899. —*London and China Express*.

THE BUSINESS TAX.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* states that, according to official investigations, the amount of business tax to be collected this year in Tokyo is as follows:—

Classification	Amount. Yen.	Payers.
Selling Goods or Merchandise.....	404,767	27,397
Banking.....	196,645	42
Insurance.....	12,814	10
Money-lending.....	24,399	1,385
Manufacturing.....	2,930	393
Transport.....	2,211	16
Warehousing.....	141,219	612
Canal transport.....	2,211	16
Building Contractors.....	16,852	826
Labour Contractors.....	1,295	163
Printing.....	4,369	242
Photography.....	820	53
Lodging-houses.....	7,033	478
Inn keeping.....	8,660	498
Restaurants.....	20,217	720
Public Agencies.....	2,937	933
Private Agencies.....	1,319	19
Middlemen.....	11,027	478
Brokerage.....	7,395	212

Total 930,650 ... 38,219

It will be perceived that the sellers of goods will pay the largest amount of tax. Next comes banking and then transport, manufacturing, money-lending, restaurants, and building contractors. As regards the selling of goods the following table shows the comparative amount of taxes for the various urban divisions of Tokyo and the average borne by each dealer:—

Urban Division.	Amount. Yen.	Tax Yen.	Average. Yen.
Kyobashi, Shiba, Azabu.....	69,023	6,379	11.82
Kojimachi, Ushigome, Yotsuya, Akasaka ...	30,415	2,704	11.25
Koishikawa, Hongo, Kanda.....	60,683	5,309	11.43
Nihonbashi, Fukagawa, Asakusa, Shitaya, Honjo.....	184,539	7,071	26.10
Total.....	404,767	27,397	14.78

The highest average is set down for Nihonbashi and Fukagawa *Ku*, where large transactions are concluded year in year out. Manufacturing enterprises may be tabulated as follows:—

Urban Division.	Amount. Yen.	Payers. Yen.	Average. Yen.
Kyobashi, Shiba, Azabu.....	15,838	924	17.14
Kojimachi, Ushigome, Yotsuya, Akasaka ...	1,827	162	11.28
Koishikawa, Hongo, Kanda.....	7,019	648	10.83
Nihonbashi, Fukagawa, Asakusa, Suitaya, Honjo.....	21,671	802	27.02
Total.....	17,377	1,206	14.41

KEROSENE.

According to the *Fiji Shimpo* the import of kerosene oil from America, Russia, and Sumatra, and its reshipment from Kobe to other places for the first half of this year amounted to 1,222,947 cases and 1,199,441 cases of American and Russian respectively, making a total of 2,422,390 cases. The figures for each month are as follow:—

	From.	Arrivals. Cases.	Reshipment to other places. Cases.
January ...	America.....	95,140	178,364
	Russia.....	—	49,408
	Sumatra.....	—	12,370
February...	America.....	84,564	110,637
	Russia.....	30,034	40,687
	Sumatra.....	—	2,555
March.....	America.....	201,195	136,499
	Russia.....	59,478	68,218
	Sumatra.....	—	2,496
April.....	America.....	156,900	150,061
	Russia.....	147,430	39,243
	Sumatra.....	—	15,323
May.....	America.....	259,544	167,696
	Russia.....	—	37,374
	Sumatra.....	35,443	14,904
June.....	America.....	61,522	139,862
	Russia.....	54,599	22,002
	Sumatra.....	37,100	11,742
Totals ...	America.....	858,865	883,119
	Russia.....	291,541	256,932
	Sumatra.....	72,543	59,390

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR SOCIETY.

The following statistics relating to the Christian Endeavour Society, should prove interesting:—

In 1881 there was one Society and fifty seven members. In 1897 there are 50,780 Societies and a total membership of 3,000,000. Of the States having more than 1,000 local Societies, Pennsylvania leads, with 3,443; New York has 3,049; Ohio, 2,383; Illinois, 2,013; Ontario, 1,783; Iowa, 1,336, and Michigan, 1,071. These figures do not include the Junior, Intermediate, Senior and Mothers' Societies. Pennsylvania leads the Junior Societies with 1,397; New York has 1,218; Illinois, 993; Ohio, 970; California, 551; Indiana, 549; Iowa, 518, and Massachusetts, 517. The banner given to the State that has made the largest gains goes this year to Ohio. The second junior banner goes from Mexico to Spain. There are 366 intermediate societies, California leading with 51, Illinois having 44; Ohio, 32, and Pennsylvania, 27. The Mothers' Societies number 70, Illinois leading with 30, Pennsylvania having 20 and Kansas 11. Twenty-seven senior societies have been organized, California, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania each having three and Connecticut two.

England has 3,925 Societies; Australia, 2,124; Scotland, 433; Wales, 311; India, 250; Ireland, 169; Madagascar, 93; France, 68; Mexico, 100; Japan, 66; West Indies, 63; Turkey, 41; China, 53; Africa, 52; Germany, 32—in all 7,919 societies in other countries. In addition Canada has 3,390. The badge banner for the greatest proportionate increase in the number of societies, now held by Scotland, will go to the Endeavourers on the Emerald Isle.

In the United States the Presbyterians have 5,531 young people's and 2,934 junior societies; the Congregationalists come next, with 4,156 young people's and 1,322 junior Baptists, 2,640 young people's and 1,080 junior; Cumberland Presbyterian, 867 young people's and 361 junior; Methodists Protestant, 971 young people's and 251 juniors; Lutherans, 869 young people's and 324 juniors, nearly 40 denominations being represented.

A missionary roll of honour contains the names of 10,468 societies that have given nearly \$500,000 to missions through their own denominational missionary boards.

During the last eleven months 25,264 of the juniors have joined the church, and from the young people's societies, 187,125—in all, 213,389.

HONGKONG'S GAMBLING SCANDAL.

On July 21st, by order of Hon. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of the Hongkong Police, 2 Chinese Sergeants and 14 Chinese Constables, of the Detective Department of the Police Force, were arrested under banishment warrants for deportation.

By this sweeping stroke, says the *China Mail*, the Captain Superintendent practically clears out the whole of the Detective Department, which will thereby have to be entirely remodelled. The arrested are mostly men who have seen a large number of years' service and in many instances were entitled to pension. The section of the Gambling Ordinance No. 7 of 1811, under which the warrants are issued, reads:—If at any time it appears to the Governor in Council that any person not being a natural born British subject is a professional gambler or is engaged in the promotion of gambling contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance, he may issue an order banishing such person from the Colony for such period and generally in such manner as to the Governor in Council may seem expedient, and upon the issuing of such order a like consequence shall ensue in all respects as though such order had been issued under the powers conferred by the Banishment Ordinance No. 8 of 1882 and No. 4 of 1885.

At roll call on the morning of July 21st, it was discovered that five of the constables in the detective staff had absconded.

THE LATE COUNT GOTO.

The funeral of Count Goto takes place on Sunday. The coffin will leave the residence, at 18 Minami-machi, Takanawa, at 2 p.m. on Sunday and the ceremony will take place the same afternoon at Aoyama Cemetery.

THE C. D. ACTS AND FEMALE
OPINION.

THE Contagious Diseases Law is not a subject that we have any fancy for discussing in these columns, but it is almost impossible to leave entirely unnoticed a letter addressed to us by a lady correspondent, and an essay in the *Union Signal* of Chicago which she sends us with her endorsement. Reference is, at the same time, made by our correspondent to an article recently reproduced in these columns, advocating the re-inforcement of the C. D. Acts in India and speaking of their feminine opponents as "the shrieking sisterhood." The epithet was not ours, neither was the article, and we are not concerned, therefore, to defend either. Indeed, we count the term "shrieking sisterhood" to be at once rude and unjust, for it implies that in this matter the opinion of women is hysterical, an evident libel. Besides, the most prominent ladies of Great Britain recently signed a memorial advocating the very measure which our correspondent strongly denounces, so that if the views of some women are opposed to that kind of legislation, the views of others—and among the latter are now included the leaders of English society—are equally strongly in favour of it. All that, however, is of small moment compared with the singular misconceptions under which our correspondent and the editor of the *Union Signal* seem to labour, and since their erroneous beliefs are most injurious to England's fair fame, we shall devote a few lines to their refutation.

Our correspondent says:—"Our Father never ordained that one half of the human race should be ruined and made miserable, brought to the very gates of hell, simply for the selfishness and gratification of the other half." What that means we confess to some difficulty in understanding. There is no question of "one half of the human race." There is question of a very small fraction of the human race. Even in London the percentage, taking the female population alone, is only 2½—for every abandoned woman there are 39 respectable. Nor are "the selfishness and gratification" of men the sole factors in the situation. The women are voluntary agents. Why talk as if the fault lay entirely with men; as if their incontinence were alone to blame? Would not the remedy suggested by our correspondent, the leading of pure lives by men, be just as efficacious if women adopted it as their rule of conduct? Concerning the other point advanced by our correspondent, namely, that the British Government should allow the soldiery in India to have their families with them, the answer is simply that they do allow it. But the percentage of married men in every army, especially in an army raised by voluntary enlistment, is naturally small, and even were it doubled or trebled, the evil with

which the Contagious Diseases Acts are intended to deal, would not be appreciably mitigated.

We turn now to the article in the *Union Signal*, which our correspondent has been so good as to send us. The *Union Signal* is edited by a lady of distinction, Miss FRANCES E. WILLARD. Its Corresponding Editor is Lady HENRY SOMERSET. It has a Board of eleven lady Directors, and it is published in Chicago for "The World's and National Woman's Christian Temperance Union." Having premised that much, we reproduce the article:—

The theory upon which the state relation of vice is based is, "Man has lost control of himself, therefore, he must be given enlarged opportunities for controlling women." The depraved Anglo-Indian military element is again clamoring for recognition by the English Parliament. It assumes that the British soldier in India has gone far beyond the point of self-control, and asserts that disease is decimating the army, and therefore the defenceless native women—not sufficiently afflicted by plague and famine and the tyranny of native men—must now be made the scapegoat of all the infamy of a debauched soldiery which has been deliberately trained to vicious indulgence by corrupt superiors.

The India women will submit; they will weep and groan and writhe in mental agony, and because of the physical torture to which they will surely be subjected if the military authorities have their own way—but they will submit; they have been trained to silent, servile endurance from generations immemorial. The question is, will Christian women look on at the spectacle of a powerful nation thus trampling under foot the weak and helpless girls of a conquered people, and never feel a quiver of horror and resentment? We throw not; wicked men are laying up for themselves such an hour of retribution as they little dream of; the day of vengeance is near at hand; and God and His women will fight a warfare such as the world has never yet seen.

In 1893 it was hoped by the friends of righteousness that Lord Roberts, retiring Commander-in-chief of the British forces in India, had been relegated to a comparatively quiet life, because of his proved official responsibility in the continuance of governmental regulation of vice in that country, in defiance of the orders of the House of Commons, which had forbidden it. It was shown before the departmental committee, appointed to look into the whole question, on the testimony of his quarter-master-general, that he had, a few years before, ordered under-officials to secure "a larger number of young and attractive women" for the British soldiers. His profession of having tried to carry out the instructions of the House of Commons by abolishing the state regulation of vice in India, was proved to be false, on evidence produced by Dr. Kate Bushnell and Mrs. Elizabeth Wheeler Andrew, and Lord Roberts was constrained to offer a public apology to these two witnesses for having, in the first instance, denied their statements. Later, the report of the departmental committee was followed by special legislation in India, forbidding the whole iniquitous system.

Lord Roberts now comes forward with fresh plans for reaching out and laying his heavy hand on the poor, hapless native women, whom he has so cruelly oppressed in the past. He and a band of his aristocratic confederates have organized an association for the promotion of the C. D. Acts, and are coming before both houses of Parliament, pleading with crocodile tears for a little more mercy to the wolf, and a little more—yes, a great deal more—cruelty to the lamb. The British army is quite beyond all control, as far as licentiousness is concerned, and now, like the Russian mother of ancient legend, the one thing for Mother England to do is to throw out her Indian children to the wolves, and thus hope to keep ahead of the wolfish appetite of her own military element a little longer.

Thoughtful women are saying: "Small wonder that political England should smile serenely while the Mohammedan fiend brains the Armenian husband, and captures his wife and daughters for the harem! Small wonder that when Cretan Christians rise, in horror and despair, against similar atrocities, and brave little Greece rushes to the rescue, that the military power of England is massed to protect the wolf while it devours the lamb. British soldiers are being trained through-

out the world to believe that women are their lawful prey by the infamous C. D. Acts, which, since the days of Napoleon I, who first invented the abomination, have held sway over nearly the whole of the European Continent, and to-day disgrace England by their existence throughout a large portion of her colonies and dependencies."

"When a lunatic secures a weapon and runs amuck through a crowd, how great is the consternation! yet that is a trivial circumstance compared with the thought of whole regiments deliberately trained to believe in vice as a necessity, armed to the teeth by the government, and then given absolute power over women. This is what has happened in Armenia; this is what is swiftly becoming the menacing feature of military power the world over—armed force given the right by government to make its forays on defenceless women. This is what Lord Roberts and his high-placed abettors would have for India. God pity! God spare! Let every Christian woman cry, "In mercy, O God, rid us of our tormentors!"

We daresay that every one of our readers will rub his eyes after perusing this wonderful essay, and will examine it again, doubting the correctness of the first impression produced by it. For ourselves, while we here refrain—and we desire that our disclaimer be clearly understood—while we here refrain from either advocating or condemning the C. D. Acts, we frankly declare that the mere perusal of the *Union Signal's* article tends to influence us strongly against the opponents of the Acts. It would scarcely be possible to be more unfair, more misleading, and more intemperate, and nothing so effectually tends to put an advocate out of court as a conspicuous lack of justice, veracity, and moderation. The wretched slander against Lord ROBERTS need not be noticed. Such a man needs no defence against such libels. But the whole object of the essayist, the whole tendency of the essay, is to prove that the British Government contemplates an act of abominable and barbarous tyranny, and that the Anglo-Indian military authorities advocate the compulsory submission of Indian women to a life of vice aggravated by conditions that doubly shock modesty. "The defenceless native women must now be made the scapegoat of a debauched soldiery deliberately trained to vicious indulgence by corrupt superiors;" "the Indian women will weep and groan and writhe in mental agony, but they will submit; they have been trained to silent, servile endurance from generations immemorial;" "a powerful nation tramples under foot the weak and helpless girls of a conquered people;" "mother England throws out her Indian children to the wolves;" "whole regiments deliberately trained to believe in vice as a necessity, armed to the teeth by the Government, and then given absolute power over women." We have no right, and certainly no desire, to assume that any journalist deliberately undertakes the role of deceiving the public. The only alternative hypothesis is that the editor of the *Union Signal* has never read the C. D. Acts and has no knowledge of their provisions. To condemn them under such circumstances is a procedure of doubtful honesty, but we pass that by. Stated briefly, those much discussed

Acts provide simply that any woman who, of her own free choice, adopts a career of shame, must submit to sanitary arrangements which shall guarantee her against becoming an agent for transmitting to others, and being herself a helpless sufferer from, one of the most terrible diseases that exist among mankind. There is no compulsion of any kind: no making "scapegoats of defenceless girls;" no "trampling of weak and defenceless women under foot;" no giving of "absolute power to armed soldiers over females." Greater silliness and falser statements could not be penned. The woman is an absolutely free agent. Only, if she makes a certain selection, she must, so long as she abides by it, observe rules which, while they involve not a particle of physical pain or inconvenience, save her from being a destroyer of health as well as a corrupter of morals. It would really be amusing, were it not revolting, to see all this perverted sympathy lavished on the woman who makes of vice a profession. In one sense she is, indeed, an object of infinite pity. No one, we think, can fail to endorse LECKY'S immortal verdict:—"She remains, while creeds and civilizations rise and fall, the eternal priestess of humanity, blasted for the sins of the people." But it was reserved for the lady editor of a Christian Journal to call her "a lamb," and to describe the men by pandering to whose passions she earns a livelihood as "wolves." As a mere problem of abstract ethics, we do not think there can be much doubt about the direction of the moral indicator in this matter, but the cause in which the sympathies of the *Union Signal* are evidently enlisted will be injured rather than promoted by advocacy so unjust as to provoke indignation and so extravagant as to excite laughter.

LOCAL TAXATION OF FOREIGNERS.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

That foreigners residing in any part of Japan should be called upon by the local authorities to pay municipal taxes is reasonable. Hitherto these taxes have amounted to so little per annum that no one, as far as we are aware, has objected to them. But a case has come to our notice in which the Prefectural officials have assumed the right of taxing certain foreigners in the precise manner that the Japanese are taxed, that is by assessing the tax according to the salary received, the rate being approximately one per cent. per annum. These foreigners are connected with a government school, and hence the local authorities have no doubt as to the amount of their salaries. The taxes thus levied are described as *Kensei-kosuwari* (Prefectural tax on Business), *Dotsuika* (Supplementary Prefectural Tax), and *Shi-sei-kosuwari* (Municipal Business Tax). The ideographs 戸数 *Kosu* would seem at first sight to indicate that the tax is levied on the house. But that is not the case. The *Kaoku-sei*, or house tax, is quite a separate affair. The tax is levied on the occupant or occupants of each house in the town. It is a species of local income tax, to which, in addition to national taxes, the Japanese resident is liable. The foreigners concerned have refused to pay these taxes on the ground that the method of assessment is irregular. They have ascertained that no attempt has been made to tax other foreign residents of the town in the same way. The municipal taxes that the latter have been paying

have not amounted to more than one *yen* a year, though in some cases they are in receipt of higher salaries than the Japanese Government employé residing in the same town. It has been suggested as an explanation of the above case, that the Japanese may assume the right to tax all Government employé in the same manner. As far as we are aware, there is no evidence of the existence of any such claim. Government employés have not been called upon generally to pay any tax of the kind referred to. The case we have quoted is certainly peculiar and calls for explanation. One imagines that no local action of this kind would be taken without previous reference to headquarters or without special instructions from Tokyo. The point is of considerable interest at the present moment, for foreigners may well ask whether in addition to the national taxes for which they will become liable under the revised treaties, they will also be required to pay Prefectural and municipal taxes assessed on the basis of income. We do not imagine for a moment that the central Government approves of distinctions being made between foreigners that are in Japan's service and foreigners that are not. In every other particular foreigners are treated alike, and men in the employ of the Japanese Government are not thereby exempted from paying registration fees and the like to their own Consuls. Owing to the rate of exchange the salaries received by foreign school teachers throughout the country, in terms of gold in many cases, are lower than those paid by charitable institutions to Christian missionaries. If, in addition to paying his share of the national taxes, the Government school-teacher is to have his salary further reduced by percentage payments to Prefectural and Municipal authorities, men of ability and spirit will turn their backs on a profession which gives no adequate remuneration for the work expended on it.

It would be interesting to know whether in other Prefectures any attempt has been made of the nature of the one cited above. In the instance we have quoted, should the action of the local authorities be sustained by the Central Government, the foreigners concerned will be obliged to pay. But in that case they would do well to report the matter to their Consul and ask for an explanation. We are not aware of the passing of any new regulation under which the local action complained of could be justified.

Our correspondent's information with reference to this matter, does not altogether correspond with our own. In the first place, he does not appear to have gathered the precise significance of the term *Kosu*. We speak here with all reserve, recognising that the system applied in Tokyo may differ from that applied in the locality of which our correspondent writes, but we are disposed to think that there is no difference. Speaking broadly, and following the nomenclature of the Central Government's Statistics, there are four general divisions of local taxes, namely, the Land Rate (*Chiso-wari*), the Business Tax (*Yeigo-sei*), the Miscellaneous Tax (*Zasshu-sei*), and the House Tax (*Kosu-wari*). The Land Rate simply means local land tax, and requires no explanation. All the other taxes are levied on the basis of the house. Houses are divided into a number of classes, and each class has an index number. By multiplying together the area of a house in *tsubo* and the index number of the class to which it belongs, a product is obtained representing so many taxation units. Then the rate of impost per unit being fixed for each tax, whether House Tax, Business Tax, or any of the taxes falling under the heading of miscellaneous—as municipal tax, income tax, &c.—it is only necessary to multiply the number of units by the rate per unit, and the amount of the tax in question is found. That method of determining a man's income for taxation

purposes by considering the house in which he lives, is borrowed from Germany. Probably when an income is already known—as in the cases referred to by our correspondent—the tax is levied on it direct, without reference to the house. But we give this explanation because our correspondent seems to think that there is no connexion, as a general rule, between the house and the income for taxation purposes.

In the next place, our correspondent writes as if the question were quite new, and as though it had arisen only in the district of which he has experience. That is not the case. The question has been on the tapis for many years—fifteen, if we remember rightly. It arose originally in connexion with some American citizens, and after discussion in Japan, it was finally submitted to the Secretary of State in Washington, who decided that the Japanese Local Authorities were entitled to collect the tax. The decision evoked adverse criticism at the time, the critics, among whom we ourselves were numbered, taking the obviously just ground that an administration can not be said to be vested with a power which it is not competent to exercise. The Japanese Local Authorities in any city or prefecture may order foreigners residing within their jurisdiction to pay local taxes, but can they enforce the order? We think not. Certainly it is not within their competence to distrain a foreigner's goods, or even to enter his house, without the coöperation of his Consul, and we should be surprised to learn that a British or American Consul is authorized to furnish a remedy against British subjects or United States citizens refusing to pay local taxes in Japan.

Leaving aside the legal aspect of the question, however, many people will be disposed to ask whether the Japanese are well advised in taking such a line at the present juncture. There is no difficulty, of course, in appreciating their position. Local taxes are levied for purposes which every resident of the locality is interested in promoting, and from that point of view, the nationality of the resident is a wholly irrelevant point. If he enjoys the benefits secured by the expenditure of the proceeds of taxation, he ought to contribute his quota; and if he does not contribute, the tax-payers are entitled to complain that the commune is deprived by him of funds which would otherwise accrue from the residence that he occupies. But with at least equal justice the foreign employé may object that to take a per-centage of his salary by way of local tax is to deprive him, unexpectedly and arbitrarily, of a portion of the emoluments to which he is entitled by agreement. One per-cent. on a salary of 250 *yen* monthly, is 30 *yen* per annum. No foreign employé would neglect to take account of such an expenditure, had he any reason to contemplate it, at the time of making his agreement. It

is not fair, and assuredly it is not liberal, to reduce his stipend by that amount when thirty-five years of immunity from anything of the kind have deprived him of all ground to anticipate it. The matter must be a mere bagatelle to the communes, but it is not by any means a bagatelle to the foreign *employé*, who certainly ought to be the last person victimized in such a manner. In less than two years the revised treaties will go into operation, and foreigners will then be under an obligation to themselves to count the cost of living as Japanese subjects. Why raise a vexatious and profitless question in the meanwhile?

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Mr. Mahlmann, Harbour Master at Kobe, has published a book entitled "The Revised Rules of the Road for Preventing Collisions at Sea." The method pursued by him is to set forth, first, the Rules themselves in their latest and most approved form, and then a number of questions and answers, intended to illustrate the meaning of each article and the cases in which its provisions are applicable. The system appears to be well conceived for the purpose of familiarizing the mariner not only with the text of the laws, but also with the manner of observing them in practice. When we consider how magnificently spacious are even the most frequented ocean routes compared with the dimensions of the traffic they have to accommodate, it seems strange that such a thing as a collision should ever take place. Yet, how often does it happen that even two pedestrians approaching each other on a broad highway, begin to tack and dodge, port and starboard, and finally escape impact only by a supreme effort at the last moment. Ships seem to get involved in similar difficulties, and considering that a code of 31 articles is deemed necessary to save them from smashing each other, it certainly is not less necessary that men of long experience and the gift of making things clear, should afford every possible assistance to bewildered mariners who, in moments of peril, must display complete familiarity with this elaborate code or expect terrible consequences. Captain Mahlmann's work will be received, we imagine, with great gratitude by his brother sea-men, and will probably be the means of averting many catastrophes.

One of the wholesomest and most readable books of travel we have encountered for many years is "A Padre in Partibus," by the Rev. G. M. Reith. The author has an eminently light and graceful pen, and he records his impressions with frankness and freshness altogether captivating. The scene of his travels is Netherlands-India, a region about which we have much to learn, though its most valuable portion was under British rule in the early years of the present century. Mr. Reith has made his way through Netherlands-India from N. E. Sumatra to Celebes—pronounced *Celêbes*—, a line of travel which, as he tells us, "forms an arc of nearly two thousand miles in length; and the fact that so long a line can be drawn in the Dutch Indies, and that, too, without touching Borneo, Timor, New Guinea, or the hundred islands of the Molucca Archipelago, shows the enormous extent of territory nominally under the dominion of Holland." He uses the word "nominally" because his observations lead him to conclude that in large tracts of the spacious realm there is little more than the shadow of Dutch power. Indeed, Java excepted, in no island visited by him is the European authority paramount. "Every one knows the state of affairs in Achin," he writes, "but there are other districts of Sumatra where the European official is unknown, and where I doubt if the natives know the colour of the Dutch flag. In Bali, beyond the Dutch settlements in Boedeling and Singaradja, the whole island is given up to na-

tive rule. Lombok is still unsettled in the interior, notwithstanding the recent military operations, Dutch influence does not seem to extend further than a few miles inland from the west coast. All Celebes, except the Dutch settlements in the northern arm (Menado, Gorontalo, etc.), and the little territory of Macassar in the south, is ruled by native chiefs, most of whom are not "advised." Elsewhere he calls the islands of the Archipelago Dutch "preemptions rather than possessions," but appends the opinion that the everlasting nature of the military operations is not due so much to the difficulty of terminating them successfully as to the local profit of keeping them up. It must be noted, however, that Mr. Reith never dogmatizes. He is careful to qualify his expressions of opinion with an explanation that they are simply his own, to be taken for what they are worth. That modesty, in truth, is one of the charms of his book. It has all the attractions of a strongly subjective individuality without a trace of egotism. The author is constantly in his reader's company yet never obtrudes his own personality. Some folks have an innate antipathy for books of travel; others tolerate them only when they describe places of special interest, but we believe that any one taking up Mr. Reith's work will not easily lay it down, however indifferent he may be to the condition of that huge region known as Netherlands-India. It should be added that Mr. Reith's sketches appeared originally in the *Singapore Free Press*.

A book that weaves a few historical facts into the web of its fiction has always a much more vivid interest than a pure romance, especially when the facts are taken from pages of our country's annals difficult of access without very special research. Most of us have heard in a vague sort of way about the Abbey of Theleme, Sir Francis Dashwood, and the "infamous order of Franciscans" who flourished in the ungodly days of George II. and were legislated out of existence in George the Third's time; but the story probably interested us little. We regarded it merely as one of the many strange outcomes of an epoch when vice and depravity held their heads higher than they do now-a-days; an epoch when the King of England found it in his heart to solace his dying Queen by promising to content himself with mistresses after her decease. More intimate has been our historical acquaintance with George Bubb Dodington, who made his *début* on the political stage as one of Prince Frederick's supporters in that extraordinary quarrel when Parliament was invited to decide between the sovereign and the heir to the throne. The Abbey of Theleme, Dodington and the mysteries of the Franciscan brotherhood form the historical backbone of Mr. Paul Creswick's "Temple of Folly." The names of eleven out of the twelve Franciscans have been handed down, but the name of the twelfth is not historically known. Mr. Creswick has made this unknown twelfth the hero of a very pretty romance, written in the quaint phraseology that our forefathers spoke a century and a half ago. The tale is keenly interesting from cover to cover, but it has one great fault—want of consequence. George Bubb Dodington make the acquaintance of the hero in a most unaccountable manner—Dodington, then a Minister of the Crown being engaged in the lucrative pastime of wrecking—and thereafter forces him into the fold of the Franciscans and displays an unceasing practical interest in him without the smallest apparent reason. There is nothing, so far as the reader can perceive, in the fortunes, family or personality of Anthony Fairfax to render him either useful or necessary to men like Dodington and Dashwood, yet, without explanation or query, they treat him from the outset as though not to secure his friendship and bind him to their party would be an irreparable loss to them. The same kind of mystery attaches to the heroine, Margaret Fitzgerald. How she got to the place where the story first finds her, and how she fared before she got there, one never discovers. These defects apart, the book is a capital companion for an idle hour or two.

It does not enlighten us much about Medmenham, the Franciscans, or the Court of George the Second, but it is good reading, and two characters at any rate stand out vividly in its pages, the hard-swearing, staunch-souled Master Culpepper, and the sweet, motherly Mistress Kate Courtenay.

"Liza of Lambeth" is one of those books that perplex the reader by suggesting queries about the motive of their author. Zola's works have the same effect and for the same reason. The great French realist would probably be indignant were he charged with writing merely for gain or fame, but it he was ever honestly inspired by a higher purpose, we have not been able to detect it. Nor can we think differently of "Liza of Lambeth." Even the painter, wide as are the limits of choice allowed to him, is not suffered to select an indelicate subject. Why should greater licence be permitted to a literary artist? However, we are bound to admit that this page from the annals of London life is a wonderfully vivid picture. Whether it is true, we do not pretend to say. Such phases of existence happily fall within the ken of very few observers. "Liza" is a flower growing in the gutter; a "lotus in the mud," as the Japanese aphorism has it; and there is much of the gutter and the mud about all her sayings and doings. Yet her story fills one with infinite pity. Is it typical? Do London factory girls develop a spirit of loyalty and self-sacrifice for the sake of men such as they have to do with and among surroundings that ought to educate only callous selfishness? "Liza" dances a *cancan* in the open streets and winds it up with a Catherine wheel, yet she will not be "treated" by a fine honest lover because she can not bear to inspire hopes that are not to be realized; she has no scruple about surrendering herself to another woman's husband, yet she refuses an offer of marriage though her wooer is willing to save her from shame; she is a patient dutiful child to a mother who never displays a spark of affection until she succeeds in engaging her daughter in a drunken carouse. These partial outlines will tell our readers as much as we are at liberty to say about the book. It will certainly add to Mr. William Somerset Maugham's literary reputation, and will find a multitude of readers, but that any one will be the better for reading it, or that it deserves a place on any easily accessible bookshelf, we strongly doubt. As long as "worldly shapes" move on this planet, life will have horrors like those described in "Liza of Lambeth," but why should they not be left hidden in the slums to which they belong? What good purpose is served by dragging them from their obscurity, and holding them up for public inspection, and, we think, for public demoralization.

"Prisoners of Conscience," by Amelia S. Barr is a pathetic story. Happily it is our privilege to think that the days are past when the lives of good men and women could be darkened by the gloom of such awful, blasphemous untruths as the early fathers of the Church promulgated; the days when the God of Love was represented as one of the most fiendishly cruel and unjust monsters that the imagination of fanatics could picture. But when the Queen, whose Diamond Jubilee we have just celebrated, came to the throne sixty years ago, many orthodox Christians were still held in the fetters of that appalling creed. Of such most unhappy persons we read in "Prisoners of Conscience." The scene is laid in the Shetland Islands, which the authoress evidently knows well and which she describes with power, and the characters are descendants of the Norwegians who bequeathed the *sagas* to all generations. We do not know whether there be people like those that Miss Barr writes of, or whether the acts and words of her heroes and heroines have derived rich colours in passing through the prism of a romantic woman's imagination; but certainly it is pleasant and profitable to spend two or three hours in the company of such folk, and to associate with them so intimately as she enables us to do. David Borson and Nanna Sinclair remain with us after we have closed the book,

and will long remain among the names—how few they are after all—that works of fiction succeed in investing with more than a momentary interest. They are difficult to conceive in the flesh, and even more unimaginable is Matilda Sabiston, but the authoress brings them before us in clear outlines and makes us share their sorrows only too closely. This book appears to us to be one of the best among the recent additions to Unwin's Colonial Library

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

San Francisco papers are filled with glowing accounts of the rich finds of gold recently made at Dawson City and Clondyke, Alaska. Of course "a rush" is now in progress.

The Mosquito Yacht Club had a race on Saturday last for the Balfour flag as first prize, and a second prize given by the Club. Four boats competed, *Sodesuka* taking first prize and *Kodeska* second.

An examination of Captain F. J. Brown, in connection with the recent stranding of the N.Y.K. steamer *Tenshin Maru*, was held on Tuesday at the Marine Bureau, Tokyo, with closed doors, reporters for the foreign press, contrary to former custom, not being admitted.

At a banquet given at the Peterhof Palace to the King of Siam, the speeches of both the Czar and the King were delivered in English, and were most cordial. The King said that the Siamese regarded the Czar as their faithful and powerful friend.

Sirdar Kitchener, in command of the Egyptian forces, went to the front in the first week of July. The news of important desertions from the Khalifa's followers at Abuhamed and Berber is confirmed, and little opposition is expected to the impending Egyptian advance on Berber.

At a second conference between the colonial Premiers and Mr. J. Chamberlain, Secretary for the Colonies, says an Australian paper, the treaty between Japan and Great Britain was discussed. All the colonies, except Queensland, declined to accept the treaty.

A London telegram of the 1st July to the Australian papers states that despite their fortnight's misery the survivors of the P. & O. steamer *Aden* celebrated the Queen's Jubilee on board the wreck by gathering together and singing the National Anthem.

The first week of July seems to have been very hot in all the cities of the eastern and middle States of America. The newspapers contain columns upon columns of matter dealing with the subject, the number of sudden deaths due to heat being above the normal.

According to a telegram appearing in the Australian papers, the Prince of Wales at the conclusion of the Jubilee Naval Review signalled that he was satisfied with the display, and concluded with the following message:—"I order the main brace to be spliced," meaning thereby that extra grog should be served out.

The Batavia correspondent of the *Singapore Free Press* wrote on the 9th July:—Mr. C. J. Boon, who is accused of appropriating to his own use the sum of 81,000 francs belonging to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, whilst acting as their Agent in Padang, has been arrested there and brought to Batavia, and he is now undergoing a preliminary examination. The Government have taken up the case, and are prosecuting.

From Manila exchanges to hand by the steamer *Zafiro*, the *China Mail* learns that numerous engagements are constantly taking place in the Central Luzon District between the rebels and the Spanish troops, notably in the Provinces of Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, and Bataan. In these many encounters, the Spanish report a few losses, which is all the more surprising considering the desperate valour

with which the loyal troops had to defend themselves against superior numbers.

By a recent edict, in answer to a suggestion of the Tsung-li Yamén, the Chinese Minister to Berlin is to be accredited to The Hague also, while the Minister at St. Petersburg will be commanded to look after Chinese affairs in Vienna. Formerly the Minister to Germany was accredited to all four countries.

The *Jiji* reports that the Sanyo Railway Company has devised a scheme, which will be put into operation from the 11th instant, for the sale of tickets at the various stations on its line, admitting persons who are not travelling by the trains, through the barriers on to the platform, for the purpose of seeing friends off, etc. The cost of such tickets is to be 1 sen each.

Some careless coolies on Tuesday morning upset, in the compound of the American Trading Company, Yokohama, a box containing a dozen bottles of sulphuric acid. The acid exploded, causing a lot of smoke to pour out of the yard, and a cry of "fire" was raised. When the Brigade arrived they found no damage had been done beyond the loss of the acid.

Mr. Arthur S. Hardy, of New Hampshire, who has been named by President McKinley Minister to Persia, was a Professor in Dartmouth College. His father, Mr. Alpheus Hardy, is the Boston merchant who befriended Mr. Niishima, founder of the Doshisha; and Professor Hardy has written a life of Joseph Hardy Niishima. Professor Hardy is also a novelist of considerable repute.

The raising of a municipal loan in Tokyo has hitherto been rendered inadvisable owing to the unfavourable condition of the money market, and the various undertakings of the City have been carried on by appropriations from funds raised in 1896. Nevertheless the progress of the work having brought about an exhaustion of funds, steps will, it is said, be taken to raise a loan to the amount of three million yen in October.

A Madrid telegram of the 15th July to the *Comercio* states that for the twenty-five million dollars of the Philippine loan of forty millions that are to be issued in Spain, applications had been sent in amounting to sixty-five millions, and details of the applications from some of the provinces not having yet been received it was expected the total would exceed seventy millions. A later telegram, of the 16th, states that the subscriptions amounted to \$105,000,000.

Two burials of foreign residents took place on Thursday in the Yokohama General Cemetery. In the morning at 8 o'clock, the funeral took place of Mr. H. C. Reynolds, a young man who recently joined the staff of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., and who died in the General Hospital on the 4th inst from some head complaint. At 5.30 p.m. the remains were interred of Mr. H. M. Roberts, of the firm of Carroll & Co., an American citizen, long resident in Japan, who died on Thursday morning of meningitis.

The *Saturday Review* says:—

At any other time the earthquake which visited India on Saturday (June 12th) last would have attracted a much greater share of public attention than it has in fact done. There can be no doubt that it was one of the most serious seismic disturbances registered for a considerable period. At Professors Milne's seismological observatory in the Isle of Wight the record was of such a character as to negative the supposition that Calcutta was the actual centre of the disturbance. Had this been the case Calcutta would simply have been wiped off the face of the earth. Professor Milne's view is, we believe, that the centre of disturbance was suboceanic; but whatever light seismologists may be able to throw on the occurrence, there can be no question of the serious character of the results throughout a wide area of India. That distressful country, after having experienced famine and the plague, has now been subjected to a third infliction, the consequences of which we shall probably not adequately realize for some time to come.

Reports which are now coming in regularly from the Tochi Valley show that no gathering of the tribesmen has as yet taken place to resist the advance of the British force. The destruction of villages of the Chiefs responsible for the recent outrage is therefore likely to be the prin-

cipal chastisement possible. Full political power will be vested in Major-General G. Corrie-Bird during the operations in the Tochi Valley. That the Government intends doing the thing thoroughly is shown by the report that a survey is being made for a cart-road up the Tochi Valley as far as Datta Khel. This road is much needed, not merely for military purposes, but to encourage the caravan trade with Ghazni. Afghan traders will quickly recognise its advantages.

The great sums that a Chinese or Japanese virtuoso gladly pays for an ideographic script by some celebrity of old times find their parallel in the prices realized in England for manuscripts of renowned authors, statesmen, or captains. At a recent sale in London, Sir Walter Scott's autograph m.s.s. of "The Lady of the Lake" brought £1,290; and that of "Old Mortality," £600; the manuscript of Burns's "Private Journal" sold for £365, and Lord Nelson's autograph manuscript memoir was bid up to £1,000.

Mr. John MacAndrew, Chairman of the Indo-China S. N. Co., Ltd., in the course of his speech at the sixteenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders, said—I think the only other thing I have to allude to is the Company's claim for the steamer *Kow Shing*. We have still been unable to obtain a settlement of it. It ought to have been admitted and paid long ago, and the families of the sufferers by that disaster are also being kept out of what is justly due to them. We have done everything in our power to hurry the pace of the Foreign Office and of the Chinese authorities, and all I can say at present on the subject is that the case is still under negotiation with the Chinese, and that we hope for a satisfactory solution of it.

According to the *Hochi Shimbun*, the number of depositors in the Postal Savings Banks throughout the empire was 1,279,210 in the 29th year of Meiji (1896), their deposits amounting to 28,479,684 yen. These figures show an increase of 56,111 in depositors, but a decrease of 485,700 yen in deposits, as compared with the 28th year of Meiji. The latter fact is ascribed to the necessity that arose for withdrawing deposits for investment in practical enterprises in view of the growth of commerce and industry. On the other hand, the spirit of economy among the agricultural classes and those of no fixed occupation, accounts for the number of depositors having considerably increased.

The *Chuo Shimbun* says:—The Hawaiian Minister, Mr. Irwin, now in Tokyo, advocated the annexation of Hawaii by the United States during his recent visit to America. He appears to think that the annexation treaty will not be presented to Congress next winter, but that it is likely to be passed in the summer of next year. The pro-annexation party in America is disposed to make Hawaii, not a state, but a territory under the direct control of the Government at Washington. A governor will be appointed for its administration, but the present laws of Hawaii will be enforced without alteration for three years after annexation. The planters show a strong inclination to employ Japanese labourers, and it is probable that during the three-year period referred to above, a number of emigrants from Japan will be needed.

We note from a letter addressed to the Editor of the *Kobe Herald* by Mr. H. I. Chope, that the latter's little daughter, while stopping at the Beach House Hotel, Tarumi, one of Kobe's seaside resorts, was attacked on the hotel lawn by two dogs of doubtful breed, owned by a German resident of a neighbouring house. According to Mr. Chope's account, though the child was not bitten her clothes were badly torn by the dogs, and had it not been for the interference of onlookers, she would certainly have been mauled, as the owner of the creatures was looking on in absolute indifference. In answer to his protest, Mr. Chope did not even receive an apology or expression of regret from the owner of the curs. The dog nuisance is getting serious and dangerous, not only in Kobe but

also in Yokohama, and it would give great satisfaction to foreign residents were the Authorities to follow the advice tendered by the *Fiji Shimpō* the other day, and impose a substantial tax on dogs. It is wanted at all events to reduce the number of ill-bred and ill-tended curs that now infest the streets by day and make sleep impossible through their howling at night.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says:—Coming events are casting their shadows before them at Tangku, where the China Merchants S.N. Co. have raised a large tract of land immediately below the C. E. and Mining Co.'s property, preparatory, we are informed, to erecting wharves and godowns. The steamer companies will be forced to follow the example of the Mining Co., and make themselves independent of the river if the present state of things continues much longer. The Railway Administration, however, will have to bestir itself if it desires to make provision for the altered conditions which the movement we refer to betokens.

In regard to the telegram that we printed yesterday, telling of the death of Mr. Happer at Newchwang, from hydrophobia, we gather from China papers that the deceased was bitten by a dog on the 18th of December last, and accompanied by his wife, proceeded at once to the Pasteur Institute at Saigon and underwent the usual course of treatment there. Mr. Happer, who was a son of the late Dr. Happer of Canton, and a brother of Mrs. G. B. Glover, entered the Customs service in July, 1879, and became Commissioner in April, 1889. He was decorated with the Civil Rank of the 3rd class on the 2nd of July, 1893.

Mr. Lionel A. Tollemache relates the following story in the correspondence columns of the *Spectator*:—

The recent death of Professor Sylvester recalls a curious conversation in which I took part during my undergraduate days at Oxford. The conversation occurred at the table of the late Professor of Chemistry, Sir Benjamin Brodie. We were told by our host that in some primitive and, as a modern Lamb might say, *unstreamlined* part of the country (probably in Wales) Sylvester had been travelling on the box of a stage coach. As the coach halted at one of the inns, two odd-looking old ladies were seen talking to each other. Presently one of them, who was accosted by her friend as "Mrs. Gamp," walked away. The friend wanted to see the start; and, as the coach went off, Sylvester, not being shy, shouted to her from the box, "Goodbye, Mrs. Harris." The coachman stared:—"I thought, sir, that you were a stranger in these parts. How on earth did you know that that lady's name is Mrs. Harris?" The story went on to say that the old lady really was a Mrs. Harris.

The statement "Sylvester, not being shy," is startling. Certainly when he held the chair of mathematics at Woolwich Academy he was remarkable for shyness.

Commenting upon the prevalence of rabies among dogs, the *Fiji* insists that a tax ought to be levied upon these animals. The nature of the epidemic precludes any certainty as to the effect upon persons who may unfortunately be bitten by infected animals. Sometimes the disease develops after the lapse of many months and proves fatal. The best precaution, the *Fiji* thinks, would be the enforcement of a tax upon dogs. In foreign countries they are kept under strict control by the law, which proves admirably effectual in preventing the increase of wild or uncared-for dogs. The absence of such safeguards in Japan allows brutes of all descriptions to wander about the streets with impunity, and people are constantly exposed to peril from infected dogs. Taxation would to a great extent remedy these abuses, as responsibility in regard to the adoption of precautionary measures could then be enforced.

It has frequently been reported, says the *Yorodzu*, that Russia is taking pains to make herself acquainted with places of military importance in Japan. A despatch from Hiroshima dated the 27th ult. runs as follows:—On the 25th, a Russian, attired in Japanese dress, was seen in Kure, reconnoitring the neighbourhood of the Naval Station and Gunpowder Depot. The fact was immediately telephoned to the Police Station by one of the gendarmes in the port, whereupon steps were taken to track

and watch the man. Another communication, from Port Sakai in Tottori Prefecture, under date of the 28th ult., was to the following effect:—A number of Russian detectives who were supposed to be lurking in Yokohama for the purpose of completing their military investigations in this country, have one after another left the port for destinations unknown. It is said that a portion of them have proceeded to Sakai through Maizuru in Tango, with a view to ascertaining the actual condition of the naval ports.

Name that has been thy nation's shield
On many an alien shore and sea;
Name that in many a fateful field
Has taught the stubborn foe to flee;
Promise and proof of virtues three,
Valour unvanquishing, vigour, verve,—
We hail thy white-winged Sovereignty.
• Victoria!—whom God preserve!
Monarchs there are to whom men yield
Obedience in a bondman's key;
Monarchs whose sceptred right doth wield
Only the rod of Tyranny:
We, in free homage, being free,—
We joy that nought can shake or curve
thy reitude of Royalty.
Victoria!—whom God preserve!
Therefore from all our towers be pealed
The note of gladness; therefore be,
As from a thousand springs unsealed,
Outpoured the tide of mirth and glee:
For surely not to-day shall we
From sixty years' allegiance swerve,
Or shame thy twice-told Jubilee!
Victoria!—whom God preserve!

ENVOY

Queen! to whom true men bend the knee.
Our island heart and brain and nerve
Are loyal—loyal unto thee.
Victoria!—whom God preserve!

AUSTIN DOBSON.

On the 31st ultimo, Baron Yasuba gave an entertainment at the Kamesei Restaurant to General Nogi, Governor-General of Formosa, and other Formosan officials now in Tokyo, for the purpose of expressing his views with regard to the Formosan railway. One of the guests, Rear-Admiral Yamamoto, during the course of dinner, rose and spoke as follows:—"No prospect of success presents itself for the Formosan railway. I have therefore only to request the Chairman of the Railway Committee, Baron Yasuba, to take resolute steps in the matter. Have we not failed to raise the capital of fifteen million yen? Have we not obtained only ten million yen divided into two hundred thousand shares? Materials have risen in value, wages are nearly double what they were; these things have made it impossible even to enter upon the preliminaries of the work. No company has yet appeared to take up this enterprise. The scheme under the present circumstances is not only disadvantageous to the Formosan administration, but decidedly injurious to it." The rest of the guests were struck with surprise by the remarks of the speaker, but the Baron, rising from his seat replied:—"I beg to pay my respects to the speaker, and will but say that I shall bear his remarks in mind. Nevertheless, the question being of great moment, I ask to be allowed time to consider the question before giving a decisive reply."

The *North China Daily News* learns that the state of the surviving passengers and European crew of the *Aden* when rescued by the *Mayo*, was pitiful. The ladies when rescued had nothing but their night dresses and the men their pyjamas, and after seventeen days' exposure there was very little of anything remaining. The ladies, when they reached *Aden*, had each a sort of combination garment made out of the *Mayo's* blankets, leaving arms and legs bare. The men borrowed clothing of all sorts from the ship's officers. They were all more or less injured and greatly exhausted, and it was considered advisable that they should remain on the *Mayo*, whose captain and officers were most urgent that they should not go, and made them most comfortable until the *India* arrived. The Agent of the P. & O. Company had made arrangements for them to be taken to the Company's bungalow, and did everything possible for them, the doctor and stewardess of the *Ganges*, which was in *Aden* at the time, attending on them during their

stay; but the ladies were very weak, and could not bear much moving, and they felt a natural disinclination to leave their kind-hearted rescuers until the steamer arrived that was to take them home. Through the kindness of the *Aden* community ample clothing was at once sent off for the two ladies and the children, and some for the men, but the latter had to complete their wardrobe by purchasing such ready-made garments as the local stores could provide.

The vagaries of the powers or individuals appointed to look after the making and repairing of roads in Yokohama pass all understanding. As any one will admit, after very cursory inspection, there are plenty of roads and streets that badly want mending. One thoroughfare in particular leading up from Motomachi to the Bluff, and to the Motomachi School has for years been a disgrace to the most important port of Japan. This thoroughfare, known as Shio-Kumi-zaka, resembles the bed of a mountain torrent rather than a street, and constitutes a grand object lesson of how not to do it, to the two or three hundred scholars of the school, who have to pick their way along it daily. But the ridiculous part of the farce is that while some thoroughfares, like the one referred to, appear to be utterly neglected, others appear to monopolise all the fostering care and solicitude of the authorities. As an instance, the portion of Musashicho at the rear of No. 70 and 71, where there is comparatively little traffic. This, up till a few days ago, was one of the very best roads in the Settlement, but is now being picked up and destroyed, to be remade, for some undiscoverable reason. The only explanation, obtained from an intelligent Japanese, is to the effect that whether the road wanted repair or not, a certain amount had to be spent upon it every year and the road must be renewed at stated intervals, whether it be in good or bad condition. Surely such an utterly ridiculous system cannot really exist!

The *Singapore Free Press* gives details of the terrible death of Capt. H. C. Syers, Commissioner of Police of the Federated Malay States, which took place on the 14th July at Ulu Kran, Pahang. The unfortunate man was one of a small shooting party which included a Mr. R. Scott Meikle of Wardieburn, Kuala Lumpur. The party had very good sport up till the time of the fatality, which occurred in the dense jungle. A bull sladang was sighted and both gentlemen fired at it, yet none of the four shots took effect, but for the moment the animal took to flight. After running for a distance of about 300 yards it seems the bull turned aside and waited in the jungle for his pursuers, and as they came up he charged again unexpectedly. Mr. Meikle heard the beast advancing at a terrific pace and stepped quickly aside. Capt. Syers fired his first barrel at about 20 yards, and the second when the animal was about two yards from him. Neither shot turned him, and with his enormous head the sladang, a great thick-bodied brute, caught Capt. Syers full in the back and tossed him high into the air, the unfortunate man, still clutching his rifle, turning no less than three complete somersaults before his head struck the branch of a tree at a height of about 35 feet. Such was the violence of the blow that Capt. Syers came straight down and fell on his back. Till now the horns of the beast had not touched him, but as Capt. Syers came down the bull was waiting for him, having turned round like lightning on his feet as a pivot. Hardly had he touched the ground when the bull had driven his horn right into Capt. Syers' right side below the ribs, again tossing him into the air to a height of about 18 or 20 feet. Mr. Meikle, who was close at hand, fired two shots simultaneously just behind the shoulder of the sladang from a distance of about three yards, and the animal cleared off for a distance of about a chain and fell, lying bellowing and kicking where he dropped. Capt. Syers survived his injuries for 14 hours, dying in great agony.

SOME ODDS AND ENDS.

So Mr. Edward Morphy, the clever, versatile Irish journalist—brimful of Hibernicisms as an egg is full of meat—who possesses in an eminent degree the happy knack of winning warm friends wherever his wandering feet may take him, has moved up to Kobe from Nagasaki and intends editing a weekly paper there that will deal with things in general and local topics in particular in a breezy, humorous vein. We wish the light-hearted Celt the best of luck.

Another move among the tiny band of foreign journalists in Japan, is the approaching departure of Mr. Thos. Cowan from Tokyo to take up the editorship of the *Hongkong Telegraph*. Mr. Cowan, we imagine, will find wider scope for his undoubted abilities on the colonial journal than was given him by the management of the *Japan Times*. In days not so long gone by, when Mr. Fraser Smith was alive and had Mr. Cowan for first lieutenant, the *Hongkong Telegraph*, despite its occasional lapses from the path of "gentle manners, kindly thoughts," and its oft recurrent breaches of good taste, was a veritable power in South China. And it should speedily be so again.

In this far Eastern treaty port one is ever making friends only to bid them farewell. Like the old Roman legionaries our motto is "*Ave atque vale!*" The latest P.P.C. comes from Mr. Laurence S. Lewis, of the P. & O. Company, who has only been with us in Yokohama for a short time. In the service of Britain's premier Steamship Company—her unofficial Navy, as a Colonial journalist puts it—Mr. Lewis has spent much time in Australia, India, Ceylon, China and Japan, and has hosts of friends everywhere. To him much of the artistic success of the P. & O. illumination on Jubilee Day was due.

A correspondent sends us an amusing account of a scene that took place at a recent annual meeting of a certain body of missionaries in Japan. A dignified D.D., was acting as Secretary. Having arisen and made some remarks, he essayed to resume his seat, when, by some mishap the venerable man slid plumb on to the floor. It was a very sudden and altogether unexpected descent, both for himself and for the whole audience. A profound silence reigned for a moment, when, sedately rising, the good man gathered his scattered papers together and demurely remarked, "I rise to a point of order."

The *Fiji* proposes that a tax should be imposed upon dogs, and a very sensible proposal it is. But why should not Japan go a step farther than Western nations in this matter, and also impose a tax on Tabby and Tom, who render most efficient aid to the dogs this hot season in making night hideous. That very soon there would be a grateful diminution in the number of these serenaders, if their owners had to pay a tax of say \$3 a year for them, is certain, and surely no sensible person would object to the payment of a small fee for any pet that they valued.

Queer ideas prevail in America regarding England and English methods. Here is a paragraph that the *New York Tribune* recently printed in all good faith:—In England a new use for the mail has been found. A London workman who could not spare the time to take his three-year-old son to his home, at a considerable distance from his shop, conceived the brilliant idea of sending the child as a postal package. A card was pinned upon his clothes bearing these words:—"Live Animal." The father paid nippence postage and the child reached his mother in safety.

The Emperor of Japan has just presented to Professor Todd, of Amherst College, an "Imperial Saké Cup," in recognition of the Professor's attainments and of his interest in the educational progress of Japan. The cup is bowl-shaped and simple in design. It is of ordinary red lacquer, and has no ornamentation except a gilt impression of the imperial crest, which

is stamped in the bowl. The cup was sent to Professor Todd by the Japanese Minister at Washington, to whom it had been directed by the Imperial Household Department.

Little Miss Gillett, we learn from private sources, came out of the *Aden* disaster the best of all, escaping with only a few bruises. What an awful experience it must have been for one of such tender years. Let us hope that the future has in store nothing but what is bright and glad for her.

We are all grumbling in Japan at the excessive rise in the price of everything and the artful way in which servants' guilds—coaster and fruit guilds, and the hundred and ten other guilds that control the domestic food supply here—force up the price of first one thing and then another, but our woes are nothing as compared with those of a Solomon Islands trader. With him things have come to a dreary pass, or, as he plaintively remarked to his factor—"This here shebang's played out. Years ago I got twenty sandalwood trees for one dog, now one dog only swaps for ten trees!" This is a true yarn, for we heard it from the lips of one of the parties the other evening after dinner, and he is a truthful man.

Lord Salisbury's cynical reply to Earl Mayo regarding the delay in the Delagoa Bay award is characteristic of the man. A literary, bookish man to his finger tips the noble Marquis delights in a stinging sarcasm set in concise phrase. Many are the bad half hours he has given his opponents, and at times his own party, by a chance satirical allusion, charged to the full with biting energy, dropped in the course of a debate.

The dream of the "Federation of the British Empire" is gradually emerging from the land of cloudy ideas into the realm of practical politics. The Diamond Jubilee, thanks to the broad statesmanship of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, has been turned to good account, and already the fruit of the Colonial Premiers conferences are seen in the denouncing by Great Britain of the Commercial Treaties with continental Powers that were hampering commerce with her colonies. Mr. Kipling truly must have been moved by the Spirit of Prophecy when he wrote, some years ago, that famous colonial "Song of the English," which concludes:—

Look, I have made ye place and opened wide the doors,
That ye may talk together, your Barons and Councillors—
Wards of the Outer March, Lords of the Lower Seas,
Ay, talk to your gray mother that bore you on her knees!—
That ye may talk together, brother to brother's face—
Thus for the good of your peoples—thus for the Pride of the Race.

Also, we will make promise, so long as the Blood endures,
I shall know that your good is mine; ye shall feel that my strength is yours:
In the day of Armageddon, at the last great fight of all,
That Our House stand together and the pillars do not fall.

Draw now the three-fold knot firm on the nine-fold bands,
And the law that ye make shall be law after the rule of your lands.

This for the Waxen Heath, and that for the Wattle-bloom,
This for the Maple-leaf, and that for the Southern Broom.

The law that ye make shall be law and I shall not press my will,
Because ye are sons of The Blood and call me Mother still.

Now ye must speak to your kinsmen and they must speak to you,
After the use of the English in straight-flung words and few.

Stand to your work and be strong, halting not in your ways,
Baulking the end half-won for an instant dole of praise.

Stand to your work and be wise—certain of sword and pen,
Who are neither childer, nor Gods, but men in a world of men.

TRIFLER.

THURSDAY'S EARTHQUAKE.

The earthquake of Thursday morning was of very long duration, but fortunately, owing to its gentleness, no damage was done. Starting at 9h. 11m. 56secs. a.m., the motion continued for 7 minutes and 59 seconds, the vibrations moving from E. to W. Four minor shocks were felt at 9.23, 10, and 11.31 o'clock the same morning.

[SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakone, 9 a.m., Aug. 5.

A strong earthquake was felt here this morning at about 9.20 o'clock. It lasted for several minutes, but was quite regular (horizontal) in its movement. The Japanese say that they seldom have such a long or strong earthquake here; and they rushed out of their houses very quickly.

The following telegrams are published this morning:—

Shizuoka, August 5.

A slight earthquake was felt here at 9.20 a.m.

Sendai, August 5.

A strong earthquake occurred here this morning at 9 o'clock.

Mito, August 5.

A strong gale swept over the locality last night, and this morning a sharp earthquake was felt here.

Mayebashi, August 5.

An earthquake occurred here this morning at half-past 9 o'clock.

Uyeda, Shinshu, Aug. 5.

An earthquake was felt here this morning at half-past 9 o'clock.

The earthquake is also reported from:—

Gifu, 7.57 a.m., slight.
Nagasaki, 8.06 a.m., slight.
Kumagaya, 9.07 a.m., strong.
Ishinomaki, 9.10 a.m., strong.
Mito, 9.10 a.m., strong.
Aomori, 9.11 a.m., strong.
Yamagata, 9.11 a.m., strong.
Mayebashi, 9.11 a.m., strong.
Niigata, 9.12 a.m., strong.
Kofu, 9.12 a.m., strong.
Fukushima, 9.10 a.m., feeble.
Nagano, 9.11 a.m., feeble.
Gifu, 9.11 a.m., feeble.
Utsunomiya, 9.12 a.m., feeble.
Tokyo, 9.12 a.m., feeble.
Yokosuka, 9.12 a.m., feeble.
Nagoya, 9.13 a.m., feeble.
Akita, 9.20 a.m., feeble.
Choshi, 9.12 a.m., slight.
Numazu, 9.12 a.m., slight.
Nemuro, 9.12 a.m., slight.
Kushiro, 9.13 a.m., slight.
Hachiki, 9.15 a.m., slight.

"A LITTLE FARTHER ON."

A little farther on the skies are brighter,
And softer breezes blow o'er scented fields;
The distant clouds are fleecier and whiter,
And sweeter music o'er the senses steals,
A little farther on.

A little farther on life is immortal,
Nor pain, nor sorrow ever can molest;
The joys we've missed shall meet us at the portal.
The hands we've loved shall lead us into rest,
A little farther on.

—Guardian.

The *Mainichi* publishes the following returns relating to China's foreign trade during the past six years:—

Year.	Imports. Yael.	Exports. Yael.
1896	202,950,000	131,081,000
1895	171,696,700	142,293,203
1894	161,102,900	128,104,500
1893	151,362,800	116,632,300
1892	135,101,200	102,583,500
1891	34,003,900	100,947,800

The sudden increase in last year's imports is chiefly due to the extension of railways as well as the rapid progress made in Government undertakings.

THE ILLFATED "ADEN."

The tale of suffering endured by the *Aden* survivors in very terrible reading. During the last few days the rations were seven ginger-nuts per head per day! Mrs. Smyth's *amah* has returned to Shanghai and told her experiences. In one part of her story she says:—Mrs. Smyth wanted to take me into the third boat along with her, and I was preparing to lower myself when I was stopped by a lascar who declared that the boat was too full already, and that I could go into the sea if I wished but not into the boat. This prevented me from joining my mistress, and I had to stop on board, but I feel most grateful to Mrs. Pearce and Mrs. Gillett, who treated me most kindly and shared alike with me whatever they had to eat or drink themselves. I honestly believe that I would have starved to death during that terrible time if it had not been for this kindness of Mrs. Pearce and Mrs. Gillett. When daylight broke, we all stopped on the deck of the steamer, it being impossible to go into the cabin. All the first day we ate nothing; no one thought of it. The waves kept dashing over the ship like some tremendous wall, and when they swept over the decks they always managed to wash off some of us. We clung to whatever could give us a purchase to hold on, many being strapped to the mast or rails. The eternal sweeping over of the waves gradually told on us and so exhausted those holding on to the deck railings, that, one by one, sometimes in twos and threes, we saw people swept away into the dark, terrible seas beyond. It was terrible. In this way Mrs. Pearce's Shanghai *amah* was washed into the seas beyond, and their youngest child. Of 270, odd, persons—I think that was the total number all told on board—only about forty were finally rescued by the *Mayo*.

By dusk I was so exhausted that I asked to be allowed to go down into the cabin, but I was dissuaded from doing so and was told that the cabins were full of water and therefore dangerous. Just then another wave broke over us, and it was thought that anything was better than staying on deck to withstand these terrible waves, so when another wave dashed over us there was a general move into the covered passage below decks to get under shelter.

Our food for the first ten days consisted of about thirty "nuts" from tin boxes apiece, and we each drank per day about two bottles of distilled or aerated water. In the afternoon we ate some biscuits and marmalade and sweet ginger, and drank cocoa or chocolate. We had four meals a day. After the first days, when rescue seemed as far off as ever, it was necessary to cut down the rations to one half, the number of meals, four, being still observed. This continued another three or four days, our food for the last two days prior to our rescue by the *Mayo* being two slices of ham and a spoonful of arrowroot each per meal. I wish here to again state my gratitude to Mrs. Pearce and Mrs. Gillett for giving me just what they themselves and all the rest had to eat. All shared equally, when we had plenty on hand and when we had to subsist on short rations.

When at last the *Mayo* was sighted and we were sure of being rescued at last, we were allowed to eat more liberally of what provisions were left. The short rations made us all very thin and weak, while we were all attacked with boils, caused by the sea water. There was not a dry spot on the ship. I saw nothing of what the lascar crew on board were doing, they being in some other part of the ship by themselves. All of us were so weak and afflicted by boils that we could hardly walk, even amongst the gentlemen, although they recovered sooner than the others when we got to Aden. When Mrs. Pearce left Aden for England she was still unable to walk and had to be carried on board the steamer.

In a Kobe contemporary we find that Messrs. M. Samuel & Co. wrote to *The Times* enclosing a verbatim report telegraphed from Perim on the 20th June by the master of the steamer *Volute*:—"The *Volute* reports having seen steamer abandoned in a dangerous position east

coast Socotra, name unknown, fate of those on board not known, no assistance could be rendered on account of bad weather." Messrs. Samuel & Co. added:—"Seeing that our captains have the strictest instructions to render assistance in case of need to any steamers, and that several of them have fortunately been able to do so, we are quite certain that no blame whatever could attach to the captain of the *Volute*, since it is clear that only the terrible weather prevailing prevented his sending a boat to investigate the position of the *Aden*."

Friends of the survivors of the *Aden* will read with special interest the following tribute to British patriotism and courage, taken from the *New York Tribune*, of July 11th:—

Not yet "the age of chivalry is gone." Not yet, nor ever will be while human nature to itself holds true. The splendors of knight errantry are past. The valiant deeds that glorified the age of force are done; happy if not forgotten or discredited. Men wonder if the defence of Londonderry, the charge of Balaklava, the eighty-seven days at Lucknow, were really as heroic as song and story tell them. They ask if Gordon of Khartoum were not more mad than brave. They smile with cynical incredulity when told how the dying crew of the *Trenton* cheered the *Calliope* as she fought her way out of Apia's harbour to safety in the open sea. They doubt the tale of Wilson's troopers in Matabeleland singing "God Save the Queen," when the last cartridges were spent and the assegai points were at their throats, while the black hordes about them paused a-breath in utter awe. Yet each revolving year, defying the dreary drivel of materialism and rebuking the pale plane of Mugwump mediocrity, brings to the fore some new, resplendent scene that shows how slight and puerile are storm and wreck and woe and death before the conquering greatness of the human soul.

For here, not yet three weeks ago, in these commonplace closing days of this commonplace nineteenth century, comes record of a deed that sets the blood a-bounding and the nerves a-thrill as much as ever rush of Lancelot down the shining lists at Camelot. A British ship was stormstruck in the Indian Ocean. For six days she was at the mercy of the hurricane. Then she was hurled upon a reef. Lifeboats were launched, only to go down in the black hell of waters with all on board. Day after day, night after night, the storm raged, unabating. The hapless survivors clung to the straining, breaking wreck, starving, perishing beneath the fury of the elements. One after another was swept off, to drown or to fall a prey to the waiting sharks; and that fate seemed inevitable for them all. Thus thirteen days of horror passed, counted off slowly, with such agony as no words can tell. And then came the day of the Queen's Jubilee, remembered faithfully amid the terrors of the storm and threatening death. For these were English men and women on the wreck. At home, in peace and happiness, brothers and sisters were applauding the pageant of the ages, and making the golden summer air all tremulous with joyous cries and singing of "God Save the Queen!" But was not that death-reef of Socotra likewise British soil? Or were they less British in their hearts than the myriads thronged around St. Paul's? So amid the howlings of the insatiable storm, looking Death squarely in the face with that proud contempt of him which only immortality can feel, they all joined hands, turned hearts and voices England-ward, and with what might be for all and was for some their dying breath, they sang "God Save the Queen!"

There was the climax of the Jubilee, supreme and unapproachable. The many-voiced choir and thundering organ at St. Paul's, the roar of cannon and the louder roar of millions of loyal voices, all may die in silence in the coming stretch of years. But those twosome weak and quavering voices, crying in the watery wilderness of storm-swept Indian seas, will live in deathless echoes while there is an ear to hear or a heart to feel. For there was no impulse of

surrounding multitudes, no inspiration of imposing pageants and the community of joy; there was no military discipline, as on the famous *Birkenhead*, none of the fierce enthusiasm of war, as at Balaklava or on the banks of the Ssangani. They were isolated from all the world and crushed with famine, woe, and threatening death. But they had in their hearts the unquenchable love of country and in their souls the spirit that can "tire torture and time." Such passions live when all else perishes, and such deeds as theirs add to the lengthening chain of time-hung gems which girds humanity about with beauty and proves our human nature is indeed divine. The cheers in Apia's harbour, the anthem rising from Socotra's fatal reef, are paeans of victory of hope over fear, manhood over matter, life over death. Whatever other voices say the age of chivalry is gone, they thunder back their refutation of the libel on humanity. Whatever other noises rise and fall in fitful tumult through the wearied world, their "echoes roll from soul to soul, and grow forever and forever."

TERRIBLE EXPERIENCES OF THE SURVIVORS.

The Superintendent of the P. & O. Company in Hongkong has forwarded to the Colonial papers the following particulars of the loss of the Company's steamer *Aden*, as narrated by the survivors to the Company's agent at Aden:—Messrs T. A. White and Peter Kelt, third and fourth engineers, were on watch in the engine-room when the *Aden* struck the reef at 2 5 a.m. on 9th June. The shock was not a particularly heavy one, but rather as if the ship had been lifted on to the rocks. The ship never moved, but remained where she struck perfectly upright. Within three minutes after striking the water rose to the level of the engine-room, putting fires and lights out. The water appeared to come in from the after end of the ship through the tunnel, and the third and fourth engineers endeavoured to close the tunnel door but were forced back by the water and were then, with the men on watch, ordered on deck. A steam pipe in the stoke hole is supposed to have burst, as there was much steam about, but the water prevented any attempt being made to verify this, nor were two attempts by the engineers to ease the safety valves more successful from the same cause, the water in the engine-room being then at sea level.

On reaching the deck, life-belts were served out to everyone, and attempts were made to clear away the lee lifeboats—the sea at the weather side being too rough. At this time it was so dark that it was impossible to see a yard ahead. The lifeboats having been cleared away and made ready to receive passengers, at dawn attempts, more or less successful, were made to find clothing for the passengers who were in their night dresses. The weather got worse, and a sea suddenly carried away the after life boat on the lee side, with three men in it,—whether natives or Europeans it is not known.

Day broke shortly afterwards, and preparations were made for passing the women and children into the only life-boat left (when the others disappeared no one can say), and the stewardess, 3rd officer, and several quartermasters were in it to pass in the passengers when a sea struck it, carrying the after fall away and leaving the boat hanging to the davit by the forward one. The 4th officer cleared the fall, and the boat floated and righted. All who were in her were thrown into the water, but were picked up, including the stewardess, who was saved by the 4th officer jumping in after her. The boat's gear was recovered, but not the provisions, (whether fresh provisions were put in or not, none of the survivors can tell, but the impression is that none were). The ladies and children then got in, and with them the 3rd and 4th officers, chief and second engineers, surgeon, head steward, 2 stewards, 3 or 4 quartermasters, carpenter and winchman. The boat shoved off and soon drifted away out of sight, and was not seen to reach the land, which was by the time quite clear. Captain Hill was all the time on deck, and gave his orders quietly and collectedly. There was no panic, and, as far as Messrs White and Kelt were able to judge, everyone was fairly cool and self-possessed.

The life-boat washed away from the davits was seen floating near the ship, and the second officer with the gunner, quartermaster, and several lascars were sent off by the Captain in the cutter to try and recover it, but failed, and were never seen again by those on board. The chief officer, with a line and a life buoy round him attempted

to reach it. Whether he did or not is unknown, as the boat drifted away and the chief officer did not return. The Europeans on board were now reduced to the Commander, 3rd and 4th Engineers, and the writer, with those passengers who had not gone in the boat either because the wives would not go without their husbands or because the ship was preferred to the boat. All took shelter on the lee side of the hurricane deck until 11 a.m., when seas commenced to break over from both sides (on the lee side, it was a very heavy backwash, I am told), and about an hour later Capt. Hill was knocked down; his thigh was broken and he washed about on deck, and shortly afterwards was carried overboard and drowned.

No assistance could be afforded him, as the others were in a perilous state themselves, passengers and crew being gradually washed away. About 3 p.m. it was found impossible to remain on deck, so the European survivors went below, where the only place of refuge for them was the bar, the natives meanwhile seeking shelter in the donkey boiler. Before dark, the ship was full of water, the chart room, music saloon, Captain's cabin, bridge, funnel and all woodwork on hurricane deck had gone. Mr. White, during the day, had his left shoulder dislocated, and the writer (Cave) was badly wounded in the leg by a broken iron pipe. Nearly all the passengers, ladies included, were injured in various ways. By next day (everyone is rather uncertain about the exact time anything occurred during the first week, owing to suffering and prostration) it was discovered that the Europeans had the midship section of the ships to themselves, whilst the natives, all that were left, had managed to get aft under the poop, or forward under the fore-castle. Seas were breaking over furiously nearly all the time, and communication was only kept up between the various sections at irregular intervals and at the risk of life.

The passengers found six dozen bottles of soda water in the bar, and this was the only thing in the shape of water they had the whole time, the water tanks being inaccessible. It was served out in wine glasses. Mr. Kelt was nearly killed and drowned trying to get aft for water for the children. The coal trimmer and serang improvised a distilling apparatus, and the lascars were getting fresh water from it at the rate of two gallons a day.

The writer Cave also behaved well, and was also nearly killed and drowned trying to get food for the passengers, who speak most highly of the devotion and attention of these three survivors of the European crew.

The seventeen days on the wreck were passed in attempts to get food from one end or the other, and were more or less successful according to the weather. The natives behaved well, and tried to help as well as they could. Steamers were sighted at various times, but although the reversed ensign was flying and the lascars waved flags from the deck, they were apparently unnoticed, but the survivors never gave up hope.

Mr. White procured some candles, and each night exhibited a light in one of the port holes, and it is due to this that the R.I.M. *Mayo*, lying under the lee of Ras Momi, on the evening of 25th June, with the wreck in sight awaiting for daylight to approach, knew the ship was not abandoned.

At 6 a.m., the *Mayo* proceeded, and anchored about half a mile from the wreck, and sent the cutter in with a volunteer crew under the command of 1st Lieut. H. Dobbin and Sub-Lieut. A. Goldsmith. In two trips and by 9 o'clock, all the survivors of the *Aden* were safe on board the *Mayo*, and none too soon, as Lieut. Dobbin reported that on his second trip, whilst Sub-Lieut. Goldsmith was endeavouring to get aloft and bring away the ensign, the ship's side burst open and the boat was nearly swamped with the water pouring out, and the *Aden* showed such unmistakable signs of her approaching end that Lieut. Goldsmith was recalled and the boat returned to the *Mayo*.

The weather was very bad, and a third trip could not have been made. The *Aden's* back was broken, the deck in the fore well gone and the side burst when the *Mayo* left, so possibly there is little or nothing left of her now.

IMPROVEMENTS OF YOKOHAMA PORT.

In reply to a communication of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce (Japanese), the following letter on the improvements of Yokohama harbour and other matters has been sent

by W. B. Walter, Chairman of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce:—

Yokohama, 28th July, 1897.

HARA ZENZABURO, Esquire, Chairman, Yokohama Chamber of Commerce.

DEAR SIR,—The Committee of this Chamber have duly received your Pamphlet regarding Investigations into the condition of the port of Yokohama, which will be of much value as a means of improving the trade to the mutual benefit of Japanese and foreign residents.

The Committee are of opinion that this Chamber agrees with yours that it will be very desirable to ascertain by what means the facilities of trade at Yokohama can be improved, and suggest the following points for consideration:—

(1) The harbour requires continuous dredging, and the approaches thereto—the creeks—should be deepened and carefully attended to, especially where they enter the harbour, it being mostly there that silt accumulates.

(2) An efficient harbour master should fix the positions in which ships arriving should anchor, and no vessel should be berthed except under his directions.

(3) An additional landing pier for coasting steamers is desirable, extending from the Nippon Hatoba, Benten. This would improve the despatch of coasting steamers and would leave more space available for anchorage generally.

(4) The Customs compound should, if possible, be extended in front of the Ironworks and also absorb the ground now occupied by the Ironworks up to the boundary of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha land; and farther Bonded Warehouses might be erected in place of the Ironworks.

(5) A service of passenger launches to and from vessels in the harbour, started from a stated point and at stated intervals would greatly relieve the pressure at the Eastern Hatoba.

(6) The proposed change of the Railway Station would act very injuriously upon the trade of the port. The present station might be enlarged and connected with the Custom House by means of a tramway for the conveyance of goods.

(7) The town of Yokohama is growing so rapidly in population that in a few years' time there will probably be some 300,000 people living here. The water supply is already very deficient and it is desirable to lay a second main from the intake to Yokohama, and to supply Kitagata, Aizawa, etc.

(8) Kanagawa Ken is not well supplied with broad roads. It would appear desirable to have a good road of ample width from the Japanese town through the Ota valley to join the Tokaido at or near Totsuka and thus facilitate the carriage of goods from the country. The existing carriage road from Yokohama to Tomioka might be continued to Kanazawa and Kamakura.

Should your Committee deem it desirable to have a personal discussion of these or other matters concerning the welfare of Yokohama, it will afford pleasure to the Committee of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce to meet any member you may appoint for the purpose at No. 61, Settlement.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

W. B. WALTER, Chairman.

REGULATIONS FOR THE COMMERCIAL SAMPLES MUSEUM.

NOTIFICATION NO. 26 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

Art. I.—The following samples of merchandise may be exhibited in this institution:—

1.—DOMESTIC PRODUCTS.

1. Staples of Export.
2. Commodities for which there is a prospect of export.
3. Articles capable of competing with those imported.
4. Articles which are likely to serve as materials for manufacture.

2.—FOREIGN PRODUCTS.

1. Articles which are likely to serve as models for Japanese manufacture.
2. Articles which are actually in competition with Japanese exports.
3. Articles for which there is a prospect of competition with those of home production.
4. Articles for which there is a prospect of manufacture in Japan.
5. Principal articles of import into Japan.
6. Articles for future import.
7. Articles available as materials for manufacture.

Art. II.—The Museum shall, besides the commodities mentioned in Article I, be provided

with specimens and patents, registered designs, and trade marks, from the Patent Bureau.

Art. III.—The Museum shall, as far as possible, endeavour to obtain such exhibits or contributions from natives and foreigners as are included in the category of Art. I., and exhibit the same in the Sections devoted to foreign and domestic productions.

N.B.—Rules for the transmission of exhibits will be drawn up.

Art. IV.—Articles of an explosive or combustible nature may be exhibited in packages only.

Art. V.—Articles for exhibition shall be divided into the following six Sections:—Domestic Products, Foreign Products, New Articles; Articles for Sample; Articles for Comparison (*santō-hin*), Patents.

Art. VI.—Catalogues of the articles exhibited in the Museum shall be printed from time to time and presented on application to dealers and others concerned.

Art. VII.—Visitors to the Museum are allowed to request the officials for an explanation of articles exhibited.

Art. VIII.—The Museum shall be put in communication with foreign and domestic museums, commercial and industrial schools, halls provided for the exhibition of national products or of commercial samples, and shall interchange printed matter, or lend, borrow, or transfer articles on exhibition.

Art. IX.—Any person desirous of purchasing exhibits may seek an introduction to the exhibitor.

Note.—The Museum, however, shall in no case be held responsible for complications arising from any transaction.

Art. X.—The Museum shall, as far as possible, take measures for investigating and reporting the market value of exhibits, fees for transport, customs duties, wholesale prices, purchasable quantities, and other particulars, at the request of dealers concerned, provided that the legitimate expenses incurred in obtaining such information are paid, if occasion requires.

Art. XI.—The Museum shall also take measures for ascertaining whether articles newly manufactured are fit for commerce or not, and of making arrangements for a trial sale of the same. In such cases, however, the fees for transport and other expenses, if necessary, must be borne by the applicant.

Art. XII.—The Museum shall publish a report containing foreign and home correspondence and reports and various other commercial items.

Art. XIII.—The report of the Museum may be purchased at the place of publication. In some cases, however, it will be distributed gratis.

Art. XIV.—The Museum shall be provided, for the inspection of the public, with a library wherein will be found reports and statistics relating to commerce and manufactures, maps and charts, books of reference, detailed accounts of patents, and designs, and trade marks, official reports, newspapers, magazines, &c.

Art. XV.—Of the articles exhibited in the Museum some may be prohibited from being copied, at the request of the exhibitor.

Articles on exhibition in the Museum shall be open to inspection free of charge.

Art. XVII.—Visitors are required to strictly observe the regulations and notices of the Museum.

Art. XVIII.—The Museum shall be open to inspection during the following hours daily, except on holidays mentioned in Article XIX:—

Note.—The hours of inspection may be changed or suspended should occasion require it.

From Jan. 8 to the end of Feb. } 10 a.m.—3 p.m.

Nov. 1 to Dec. 24 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Mar. 1 to Oct. 31 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Art. XIX.—The Museum shall be closed on Sundays and all National Holidays, and from 1st to 7th of Jan., and from 25th to 31st of Dec.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A STRANGE INTERVIEW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I wandered through pathless woods far into the mountains, and sat down to rest on a mossy rock by a wild little stream. The birds sang in the trees overhead, the fishes leaped and darted in the water underneath, and my plain-weary eyes were almost intoxicated by nature's naked loveliness. Long I sat, listlessly musing the hot day away, until finally my eyes were attracted by columns of smoke lazily rising from a little dell not far away. "Who can live in this out-of-the-way spot?" I asked myself, "Is that the camp of a summer pleasure-seeker, or the home of some simple peasant?"

Impelled by curiosity, I slowly made my way over the rough stones and through the under-

brush, in the direction of the smoke. When I drew near I saw a little hut, surrounded by a small vegetable garden, and I knew that this lonely spot was *home* to some soul. As I approached closer I saw an old *inkyo-sama* quietly sleeping on the rough mats. He had the long face and oblique eyes of the old *samurai*. The snows of many winters had passed over his head and left something of their whiteness behind. I looked around the hut, but no one else was to be seen. The old man lived alone.

I called out to wake him, and asked the way back to Karuizawa as an excuse for the interruption. The old man sat up, stared blankly at me for awhile, rubbed his sleepy eyes, and then stared again. I repeated my question, and he finally seemed to comprehend the situation. Here was one of those red-haired foreigners that congregate in Karuizawa during the summer, about whom he had occasionally heard strange stories from the simple mountain folk. And this first white man he had ever seen was addressing him in his own tongue. This was an opportunity not to be lost, so he politely asked me into his house and immediately began a series of questions, as follows:—

"Where did you come from?"

"From the Western World, across the big sea," I replied.

"Is your country as large as Dai Nippon?"

"Oh, yes," I said "it is fifty times as large."

A look of utter incredulity spread over his face, but he continued—

"Does your large country bear fruits and grains in abundance, as Japan does?"

"Yes, it is very fertile."

"Then why did you leave it and come to this land?" he asked.

I explained to him that I had come to teach the Japanese people about the true God, and our proper relation to him.

"But we have our own religions, handed down from our ancestors; surely you would not have us give up these?"

I told him in reply that these religions were false, that there is only one true religion, and that it was my work to persuade his people to give up their religions and accept mine.

"You may persuade others, but as for me I will never leave the faith of my fathers," he answered with fine spirit.

Then he asked me if it was true that there were one hundred white people like myself in Karuizawa, and I told him that was about the number.

"Have they all come to my country to teach the new religion, like yourself?" he asked.

"Most of them have."

"How are they supported?"

"They are sent out by religious societies, who pay them a regular salary."

"Why do they all come together in a little village like Karuizawa?"

When told that it was for rest and recreation, he asked,

"Are they sick?"

"No, but they are tired, after their hard year's work."

"How long will they stay here?"

"About two months."

"I suppose they will spend that time studying Japanese, and preparing themselves in other ways for their work."

"No," I replied, "on the contrary, the time is spent in play."

"And are the people who send you out here and pay your salaries willing that you should spend so much time in play?"

I had to acknowledge that some of our supporters did not see the use of this rest, but explained that this was simply because they could not appreciate the situation. Then my old questioner began on another line.

"If so many of you whose sole business it is to make converts to your religion come every year to Karuizawa I suppose you have converted all the people of that town?"

I was in a tight place, but attempted to get out by saying that we preached to the town's people twice per week, although none of them had yet come to think as we do on religious subjects.

"Then is not your mission a failure?" he asked.

"Oh no, we have already gathered a church of about one hundred thousand people in Japan."

"How long have you been at it?"

"About thirty years."

"What has been the increase in population of the country during that time?"

I replied that I did not know exactly, but it would amount to several millions.

Then he asked, with a wicked smile,

"At that rate, how long will it take to make all Japan Christian?"

I do not know how long this old man of the

mountains would have gone on questioning me, but I suddenly remembered that night was drawing near, and I had a long journey through the woods. So I told him I had no time to talk further, and hastily took my departure.

This old man set me thinking, and I haven't stopped yet.

Your obedient servant,

BEN BARTON.

July 29th, 1897.

THE MORAL VALUE OF THE "JAPAN TIMES."

SIR,—Suffer me to point out an example of moral break-down in the *Japan Times'* apparent boast of Japanese readiness to listen to reason and logic when it comes to discussions on Christianity.

On June the 30th the *Japan Times* took up the Rev. Arthur May Knapp's book and in a wholesale way endorsed his religious animadversions. On July 7th was published my reply to the editor, with his own editorial response.

On July 12th I wrote another reply to the editor which he chose to pigeon-hole till the 27th, after I had addressed him a card on the matter. But in the meantime, on the 14th, 15th, and 16th he wrote lengthy editorials on the same subject in answer to the *Japan Mail*, accusing, on one occasion, the editor of dishonesty (!) in the discussion.

Again, upon the publication of my second reply on July 27th, I immediately (the 27th)—wrote a brief concluding response which I give below. This the *Japan Times* editor likewise pigeon-holed till I again wrote him a card requesting it to be returned if he was not going to publish it. He returned it Aug. 1, with regrets that "pressure of matter" prevented its publication. To those who have seen the recent "pressure of matter" in the *Japan Times* the editor's failure to toe the mark in honorable, courteous investigation of truth will be accounted for on vastly different grounds.

Respectfully,

E. SNODGRASS.

14 Tsukiji, Tokyo, Aug. 2, 1897.

"THE SO-CALLED CHRISTIANIZATION OF JAPAN" CONCLUDED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN TIMES."

SIR,—Since you have, in accordance with your own judgment, but not in accordance with the customary principles of investigations of truth, decided to allow no further discussion in your paper on the main points growing out of our correspondence, I hope to be allowed a few words in closing what I have to say.

In your editorial response to-day you make a vital error in printing my words as saying, "But this changes her politics and polity; and besides, the assimilation is never like the original." My words were, "the assimilation is very like the original." This materially changes the point in discussion.

Those who have followed the discussion will be quite of the impression that from a positive affirmation that Japan will never be Christianized, you have descended to the declaration that there is probability in the matter, and that there are difficulties in the way, but not insurmountable. This is as much as I would say myself; and your answers to these difficulties are not altogether different from what I would answer myself.

But if you fall back on Shintoism as the unconquered faith of the Japanese, it needs first to be discussed whether or not Shintoism is really a religion at all. It is excessive reverence of dead ancestors; but that we should destroy the sacred memory of our departed loved ones the Gospel does not enjoin. But, pray, what part or parcel of the Japanese mind has been conquered by Buddhism that such a vast majority of the people are believers in *Shaka Sama*? Something must have yielded to Buddhism.

Your explanation of the conquest of Christianity in the Roman Empire, of the forces now making the dry bones of Buddhism and Shinto to shake, of the foreign element so radically changing the political foundations of the Empire, will hardly satisfy minds accustomed to reason and logic.

In conclusion, however, since you do not think the *Japan Times* a suitable medium of such questions as have grown out of our correspondence, I wish to say I can provide a suitable medium for the continuance of the discussion (and I think it would be profitable) if you are at all disposed to represent that side.

Very truly,

E. SNODGRASS.

14, Tsukiji, Tokyo, July 27th, 1897.

THE C. D. ACTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I take the liberty of sending you a copy of the *Union Signal* with a marked article relative to the re-introduction of the C. D. Acts in India. I do this because of the article which appeared in your columns some time ago in favour of re-establishing those Acts. In that article the "shrieking sisterhood" were referred to as having more zeal than wisdom. May I say that the "shrieking sisterhood," as referred to, are earnest Christian women who have studied the subject far deeper than those whose main forte is to fling epithets. They believe that all mankind are the children of one Father, whose desire for his children is that they shall live righteously, soberly, justly, and happily. He never made sin a necessity for any human being, nor do they believe He has ever ordained that one half of the human race should be ruined and made miserable, brought to the very gates of hell, simply for the selfishness and gratification of the other half. They believe that it is possible and right for all men to lead pure lives just as much as it is right and ought to be possible for all women to lead pure lives,—that what is right and possible ought to be, for the good of all.

I fail to see how any honourable man who is willing to admit that the good of the human race ought to lead to happiness, cleanness, and righteousness can call earnest, motherly tender-hearted women who are working toward this goal, the "shrieking sisterhood." I call it more honour to be counted in the ranks of the latter than the former. The use of the word "shrieking" quite destroys the force of the argument in that article, the vivid sorrows of Armenia and helpless women in all ages who are hopelessly in the clutches of brutish men, stronger than themselves, vainly "shriekingly" try to escape. Privately I believe, not looking at the moral side of the question at all, that it would be a gain to the English Government, costing less in dollars and cents, if they allowed the English soldiers in India to have their families with them, and in practice would be far safer and wiser and happier than the present unnatural isolation of men. If war and soldiers must be in this age of the world, let the concomitants be as unobjectionable and civilized as possible. Earnestly asking that you will kindly read the literature on this subject which I send,

I remain, Yours respectfully, A LADY.

July 25th, 1897.

RAMBLES IN FORMOSA.

[SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

ABOUT TAKAU.

The tides on the Formosan coasts are like a boarder with irregular habits: sometimes they put in their appearance in due time and sometimes they don't. It would, anyhow, hardly seem worth their while coming at all, because all they effect is only a difference in the sea level of from 5 to 8 feet. The flood rushes on from the limitless Pacific, but before reaching the east coast of Formosa, it is met and partly driven away by the Kuroshio, and at the western coast of the island the power of the monsoons makes itself much more felt than that of the flood, which gives way to the strength of the sons of Æolus. The same observation may be made at the opposite China coast, where the tide does not rise higher than about 7 feet, whilst in western Korea, where there are no hindrances to the onward march of the flood, it rises to 25 and 28 feet. The want of strong tides is a serious drawback to the development of navigation along the whole of Formosa, but particularly so on the east coast. South of Pilau there is quite a number of broad rivers, which would be navigable to a certain extent and would give good shelter to junks and small steamers, were it not for the insufficient height of the flood prevailing in these parts.

We had procured horses and rode from Pilau southward through what seemed to be the delta of a mighty stream, but was only a series of exceptionally widened beds of creeks and mountain torrents, frequently reaching to a breadth of several hundred yards and strewn with scattered pieces of rocks, huge boulders carried down from the mountain, and showing scarcely any vegetation. It was a huge wilderness, a veritable African desert, no soul alive for tens of miles, with the majesty and suggestive dreaminess of solitude lingering over the landscape. Mayor Kawamura had sent three mounted policemen with us, as the country did not seem quite safe as yet. He had also seriously dissuaded us from crossing the island directly from Pilau, since only the other day some Japanese officers, who had passed there, had had to bear the ill-will of the popu-

lation. Thus I was obliged, much against my will, to travel first south and then cross to the west coast through the Bodan territory, in the southern part of which Saigo's small force operated in 1874. We stopped at night at a native village, Tabar', hidden in a lonely grove of pride-of-India-trees and a planting of betel-nut palms, that are as graceful and admirable as the betel chewing is hideous and abominable. The village, consisting of some 80 houses of diminutive size, is clustered on the fertile slope of a steep promontory. Though dwelling only a few hundred yards from the much-sounding sea, which here seemed deserted and was not enlivened by a single sail, the natives, struggling enough, do not take to the ocean for fishing as they do not eat fish. The chief of the village, which is held by a dozen Japanese policemen, at first strongly objected to my being received into his house, because, he said, I looked entirely unlike a Japanese and it was only with these that they would have any dealings, but at last, at the police's recommendation, he relented. The greedy old rascal would not even then allow me to sleep in the bachelors' house, the best ventilated of all, but took me to his own grimy hut, where his two wives bade me greet him. After having obtained presents, he waxed jolly and proved a very intelligent savage. Out of his numerous offspring he pointed out with evident pride one of his sons, who had been to Shanghai and seen there plenty of Aman-huan—that's the native for westerners—like me. Then he made us admire the tattooing on the hand-knuckles of his suite, decorations of the skin that were of a depressing monotony and by no means artistically done. When I looked for similar adornment on the hand of some young fellow, the chief remarked with contempt, "he's only a *kuli*," thus giving me to understand that tattooing is a sign of distinction. As to the aforesaid bachelors' house, it was explained that it is set aside for the young bloods, not yet married, and nobody else is allowed to take even a temporary abode there. A similar custom is related in the Bible.

Entering the mountainous territory by a steep gorge, the following day, we had all the exercise we wanted. We were, in fact, climbing the whole day, and after having passed the night on straw in a most miserable hut, which actually consisted only of roof, we were confronted with the necessity of ascent once more. Always imagining that the summit of the pass is reached, and always finding out that a still higher peak baffled one's desire, one felt at last like Tantalus and hoped for speedy death. But the reward of our sufferings was great. Towards noon of the second day there burst upon our delighted eyes the magnificent sight of Kueilei (Punch and Judy mountain), that formidable peak to the east of Bam Kim Sin, whose steep precipices and solitary grandeur remind one of the Dolomite giant, surrounded by mighty vassals and intersected by fearful ravines. It was a grandiose picture not easily to be forgotten, and perhaps the more so because all the lower mountains and a large part of the West were hidden from view by hazy vapours arising from the valley, thus making the huge peaks appear as if loosened from the mother-earth and lifted up into aerial heights, a fairy world of its own. I fancy that even in clear weather it would be difficult to descry the ocean on either side.

The soil we trod was almost exclusively made up of grayish schists and slates, but occasionally I saw pieces of red porphyry, lending a fresher colour to the ground. The presence of igneous rocks, such as porphyry, is a standing witness to the volcanic activity of by-gone ages, to which I referred in a former letter, mentioning the Chishan volcano north of Takow and the two (hitherto perhaps unobserved) craters near Lattan. Further traces of the earth-fire's creations have been pointed out in the extreme south by Kleinwachter, author of an excellent essay on south-western Formosa in the journal of the R.A.S. (1882). On the mountains between Sangchiao and the Pacific, he says, bright flames have often been seen jutting out of the hard-baked earth, a phenomenon which Kleinwachter explains by the ignition of either sulphuretted hydrogen or—which would be a very valuable discovery from a commercial view—of the vapours of a petroleum spring, which would point to underlying strata of coal and bituminous shale. It is a well known fact, that similar phenomena and similar deposits occur in several parts of Northern Formosa. Roughly speaking, the highest central mass of the South Formosa chain is of primary age, consisting of crystalline schists, broken through by volcanic rocks; in the Silurian and Devonian periods an abrasion of the mountains followed, sandy sediments were washed out and clayey deposits of slates and shales were accumulated at the base of the central Alps; at the end of the Devonian period the land appears to

have risen again, undergoing a second submersion, thus causing accumulation of new sediments; the primary vegetation, chiefly composed of a low kind of palms, was covered by these sedimentary soils, compressed, altered, mineralized, and at last changed to seams of coal.

Leaving the summit of the pass, which is perhaps 6,000 feet high, and walking on the spur of a mountain on the western slope of the chain, just between two precipices, we saw the first native villages of the west coast at a considerable depth below our feet. The people in the northern valley, called the Lilisha, seemed to belong to another world, so different were they and their abodes from the people of the south, who were divided from them by a distance of only two or three miles. On the north side the houses were roomy, solidly built, quadrangular and formed a series of regular, broad streets, the whole of the respective settlements being fenced in by a low wall. Everything is made here of the ubiquitous slate; the mountains themselves are built up of it. The walls and roof of the houses and granaries—for these are always distinct—are composed of that serviceable material; slate plates are the shutters placed in front of the openings constituting primitive suggestions of doors and windows; blocks of slate serve as seats; on slate again it is that the natives wash the millet. The all-prevailing use of slate recalls a Rhenish mining village. On the southern side of the mountain pass mentioned above there were, strictly speaking, no villages at all, civilization falling beneath even that first station of settled life. Wherever a savage had a fancy to dwell, there he transplanted his penates and his family, constructing an indifferent hut, not larger than a good sized dog's kennel, and made up purely and simply of a thatched roof with plenty of holes for ventilation and refreshing rain. The superior wealth of the northern natives was also illustrated by the quite extended cultivation of the fields as well as by better and far more thorough-going and larger clothes. Likewise, the inhabitants of the midnight-side, with whom the Japanese have not yet succeeded in establishing peaceful relations, seemed better nourished and stronger built than those living towards noon, who are smaller and less warlike and who have been easily subdued. The language, though, appears to be essentially the same on either side and little different, for that matter, from that of the Piliu region. I noticed a striking similarity in some of the words with Japanese terms, but shall give here only a few. *Tamako* means egg in the Bodan dialects, *kako* wife; *bana* flower; *sigan* fish, may be compared both to *sakana*, and to analogous forms such as *ikan*, *igana*, *sga* in other Malayan idioms. Of the mental qualities of the Bodan the most striking is certainly their sturdy sense of independence, contrasting very much with the cowed servility of the Chinese peasant in the plains. They are no respecters of persons and do not stir from their seats if you enter their premises. On the other hand, they are far from hospitable, which the Taiwanese are to a marked extent, and they are as greedy as a high-way robber. Or ants they know next to none. In spite of these drawbacks their temper is rather a social, frolicsome one, and their intelligence of no mean kind. The women seem to enjoy a certain liberty and their work on the fields is shared by the men. The physique of both sexes is well developed and their features are not without charm. I found traces of a rough phallic worship in the shape of uncouth but unmistakable wooden amulets, which the warriors use as appendix to their weapons. The latter chiefly consist of an immense, finely wrought bamboo spear, such as neither Hector nor Achilles need have been ashamed of. I saw a specimen that measured fully four yards.

Emerging from the mountains, we bent our course to the south-west, arriving at the seashore at Pang Piao, which is garrisoned by a company of infantry and a large number of mounted police. I had some conversation with the Japanese officers and gathered that the district is still occasionally infested by robbers. They had brought in a prisoner, charged with robbery, only the day before. Not long ago, I was told, three Japanese gendarmes were attacked by 40 brigands but managed to beat them back. Pang hao can boast of a beautiful beach, covered with soft dark sand, and would be superior as a bathing resort to Ostend and Blankenberghe, save for that inopportune customer, the impossible shark. A youthful specimen of the voracious gentry was captured in our presence. The formation of the coast as well as of "small Linkin," the island of Lambay, which is continually seen on the horizon, is chiefly limestone, whilst the spacious town of Tangkong, which we reached a day after, lies on a curious kind of indurated mudflat, the material of which has been carried down from the slates of

the mountains by the Tang-kong river. The flats are wide and far resplendent with shining salt-crysts, being reminders of the sea-water, but nothing is done to exploit the salt deposits. One of the most attractive problems of the coast-structure is the formation of new land by alluvial soil, continually going on, and leading to a vast system of lagoons, such as is to be met with, though on a much larger scale, on the coast of Northern Germany and the Netherlands, or in Northern Siberia. At the time of the Dutch, little more than two centuries ago, the coast-line of western Formosa lay, as is evidenced by ancient maps, nearly everywhere from three to five miles further to the east than at present. Anping was an island and the war-junks of the Manchu sailed to the very walls of Taiwan-foo. South of Fêng-shan (the phoenix mountain) near Tang-kong there exists a large shallow bay. The roads through the marshy land were laid on artificial dykes. Now-a-days the space intervening between the mainland and the unconnected shoals and flat islands has been covered up and the extension of fertile, arable soil is still proceeding at a rate which is only surpassed by the progress of alluvial accumulation at the mouth of the Schat-el-Arab in the Persian gulf.

The population of Tongkang and neighbourhood is mostly of Fukiense origin. A few $\frac{1}{2}$ north of Tongkong are many flourishing settlements of sturdy Hakka, while to the east, towards Bam-kim-sing, I found numerous villages of half-Chinese half-Pepohuan. All these different elements live in discord with each other, agreeing only in their common hate of the cunning, intrigue-loving Cantonese. At Bam-kim-sing I was in the house of a Spanish missionary, father Colomer, the oldest foreign resident probably of Formosa. He has been nearly 30 years on the island, and is about 70 years of age, but feels still fresh enough to venture into new fields and to undertake the study of the Japanese language. The padre has written in Spanish a history of the fair island, with valuable remarks upon the usages and dialects of the Pepohuan of the South, which he knows like nobody else. Formerly he used to dress à la Chinoise, but now, yielding to the new era, he has cut his queue and altered his dress.

I can not close this sketch without offering a theory upon the aboriginal races and the early settlement of Formosa. The theory is based chiefly on linguistic evidence, but to some extent also on points of anthropology, which cannot be discussed here at length. Formosa was certainly discovered and settled before the beginning of our era. Who were the first discoverers? We hear of a tradition of the northern tribes to the effect that they came from pre-Mongolian China, and we are reminded of the Miaotse of the Flowery Kingdom. We are further informed, that in the central east of Formosa negrillos are to be met with. It is shown with sufficient evidence that the Longjous of Formosa are identical with the Linkinans, and we are asked to believe that small Lin-kin, i.e. Formosa, has been settled by immigrants from the scattered island chain of the north. It would be a herculean task satisfactorily to combine these contradictory statements. I shall leave the pigny problem alone, as being still in abeyance, and anyhow not largely affecting the main question. From whence the ancient Linkinans came and who they were, we have no means, as yet, of ascertaining; this much, however, seems pretty clear, that a part of that race found its way to Formosa. Now, it is conceivable that a migration of these islanders went from north to south, but to my mind at least the opposite direction of such a movement would appear much more plausible. I understand Formosa to be the large Lin-kin of the Chinese chronicles, the original stronghold of the aforesaid race, while the small Lin-kin is simply the still existing Chinese name of Lambay. Proceeding to the Miaotse hypothesis, I can only say that, for aught we know, the ancient Linkinans may, in a prehistoric age, have had seats in the mainland of Asia, may have, in fact, formed a part of the Man or Miao tribes. The only trouble in all this is the utter lack of linguistic proof, the impossibility of tracing Miaotse roots in any of the Formosan languages. The idioms of the aborigines of Hainan are completely different. As matters now stand, we must be content to admit that certain traces point to the presence in Formosa of a Lin-kin element, which may have come from China or may have mingled with a people originating therefrom, but we must add that this element was either confined to narrow limits or superseded by a powerful conquering race, arriving from the south-east. This race, I believe, to have been of Papuan extraction. The language spoken now-a-days in the Formosan Alps from 25°-23° northern latitude, is at least in its vocabulary essentially Papuan. In the course of time, conquered and

conquerors intermingled and formed at last one race, the present mountaineers of the fair island, but originally in all probability spreading over the whole island. Shortly after the beginning of our era, in any case before the sixth century, the *status quo* was again subverted. The buccaners of the Far East, the Malays, pounced upon the shores of Formosa and began to occupy the western plain and the southern hills. Later on, the east-coast was settled by irregular batches of Polynesian adventurers, to whom were occasionally added cast-aways of the Papuan race. From the sixth century onward, the Chinese commenced to encroach upon the west of Formosa, driving back or absorbing all the other races; but their influence was not greatly felt until after the middle of the 17th century. At that epoch, the whole population of the plain still spoke a Malayan dialect, since mostly abolished. As witnesses of all these changes, three groups of languages survive to the present day: the Papuan group in the middle north; the Malayan group, divided into the Polynesian at the east-coast and the Malayan proper in the extreme south and various points of the southwest; and the Taiwanese.

CONSULAR CONVENTION BETWEEN JAPAN AND BELGIUM.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, being mutually desirous of defining to the fullest extent and clearness the reciprocal rights, privileges and immunities of the respective consular officers, as well as their functions and the obligations to which they are subjected in both countries, have resolved to conclude a Consular Convention and have named as their Plenipotentiaries that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan,
Viscount Anki Sinzo, Junii, Grand Cordon of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of the Belgians;

And His Majesty the King of the Belgians,
Mr. Paul de Favereau, Knight of the Order of Leopold, etc., Member of the House of Representatives, His Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:—

Art. I.—Each of the High Contracting Parties agree to receive from the other, Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice Consuls and Consular Agents in all its ports, cities and places, except in the localities where it may not be convenient to recognize such officers.

This reservation, however, shall not apply to one of the High Contracting Parties without also applying to every other Power.

Art. II.—The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents of each of the two High Contracting Parties shall enjoy reciprocally, in the States of the other, all the privileges, exemptions and immunities that are enjoyed by officers of the same rank and quality of the most favoured nation. The said officers, before being admitted to the exercise of their functions and to the enjoyment of the immunities thereto pertaining, shall present their commissions in the forms established by laws in their respective countries. The territorial Government of each of the two High Contracting Parties shall issue to them, free of charge, the exequatur necessary for the exercise of their functions, and, on the exhibition of this instrument, they shall enjoy the rights, prerogatives and immunities granted by the present Convention.

The Government issuing the exequatur shall have the right to withdraw the same on explaining the reasons for which it has deemed expedient to do so.

Art. III.—Consuls-general, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents, subjects of the State by which they have been appointed, shall be exempt from preliminary arrest, except in the case of offences which the local legislation qualifies as crimes and punishes as such; they shall be exempt from military billetings, from all service in the regular army or navy, in the national or civic guard or in the militia; they shall likewise be exempt from all direct taxes, state, provincial or municipal, imposed upon persons in the nature of capitation tax, unless such taxes become due on account of the possession of real estate, or for interest on capital invested in the country where the said officers exercise their functions. The exemption shall not, however, apply to Consuls-general, Consuls, Vice-Consuls or Consular Agents engaged in any profession, industry or commerce; but said officers shall in such case be subject to the payment of the same taxes that would be paid by any other foreigner under the like circumstances.

Art. IV.—When a Court of Justice of one of the two countries shall desire to receive the judicial declaration or deposition of a Consul-general, Consul, Vice-Consul or Consular Agent, who is a subject of the State which appointed him and who is engaged in no commercial business, it shall request him, in writing, to appear before it; and in case of his inability to do so, but in civil suits only, it shall request him to give his testimony in writing, or shall visit his residence or office to obtain it orally.

It shall be the duty of such officer to comply with this request with as little delay as possible.

Art. V.—Consuls-general, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents may place over the outer door of their offices a shield with the arms of their nation and with this inscription:—Consulate-general, Consulate, or Consular Agency of Japan or of Belgium.

They may also raise the flag of their country on their offices, except in the capital of the country when there is a Legation there. They may in like manner, raise the flag of their country over the boat employed by them in the port for the exercise of their functions.

Art. VI.—The offices of the Consular Offices who are subjects of the country by which they have been appointed and who moreover are not engaged in commercial or industrial business or in any other branch of trade, shall at all times be inviolable. The local authorities, except in the case of criminal proceedings, shall not, under any pretext, invade them. In no case shall they examine or seize the papers therein deposited. In no case shall the Consular offices be used as places of asylum. When a consular officer is engaged in other business, the papers relating to the Consulate shall be kept separate and the said papers shall be at all times inviolable.

Art. VII.—In the event of death, incapacity or absence of Consuls-general, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents, their Chancellors or Secretaries, whose official character will have previously been made known to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in Japan or to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in Belgium, shall be entitled to take charge ad interim of the business of the respective Consulates, and while thus acting they shall enjoy all the rights, prerogatives and immunities granted to the incumbents.

Art. VIII.—Consuls-General and Consuls may, so far as the laws of their country allow, with the approbation of their respective Governments, appoint Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents in the cities, ports and places within their Consular district. These agents may be selected from amongst the subjects of Japan or of Belgium or those of other countries. They shall be furnished with a regular commission and shall enjoy the privileges stipulated for Consular officers in this Convention, subject to the exceptions and reservations specified for the said officers.

Art. IX.—Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents shall have the right to address the administrative and judicial authorities, whether of the State, Province or Commune, throughout the whole extent of their Consular district, in order to complain of any infraction of the treaties and conventions existing between Japan and Belgium, and for the purpose of protecting the rights and interests of their countrymen.

If the complaint should not be satisfactorily redressed, the Consular officers aforesaid, in the absence of a diplomatic agent of their country, may apply directly to the Government of the country where they exercise their functions.

Art. X.—Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents of each of the two High Contracting Parties may take at their offices, at their private residence, at the residence of the parties, or on board ships the depositions of the captains and crews of vessels of their own country, of passengers on board of them and of any other subject of their nation. They may also draw up at their offices, conformably to the laws and regulations of their country, the certificates of birth, acknowledgments of illegitimate children, certificates of marriage and of death, concerning the subjects of their nation; but they shall at once notify the registration thereof to the authorities of the country. They may draw up in the like manner all contracts between the subjects of their country and the subjects or other inhabitants of the country where they reside, and even all contracts between the latter, provided they relate to property situated, or to business to be transacted, in the territory of the nation to which the said consular officer may belong.

Such papers and official documents of every kind, whether in the original, in copies or in translation duly authenticated and legalized by the Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents, and sealed with their official seal, shall be received as legal documents in the Courts of Justice throughout Japan and Belgium.

Art. XI.—The respective Consuls general, Consuls, Vice-consuls and Consular Agents shall have exclusive charge of the internal order of the merchant vessels of their nation and shall alone take cognizance of all differences which may arise, either at sea or in port, between the captains, officers, and crews, for whatever cause it may be, particularly in reference to the adjustment of wages and the execution of contracts. The local authorities shall not interfere except when the disorder that has arisen is of such a nature as to disturb tranquillity and public order on shore, or in the port, or when a person of the country or not belonging to the crew shall be concerned therein.

In all other cases, except when their countrymen are concerned, the aforesaid authorities shall confine themselves to lending aid to the consular officers, if they are requested by them to do so, in causing to be arrested and kept in prison at their disposal, while the ship remains in port, any person whose name is inscribed on the crew-list, whenever the said officers shall think proper.

It is agreed, however, that this stipulation applies to cases only where such arrest and detention shall be deemed necessary by the local authorities.

The expenses of such arrest and detention shall be borne by the consular officers.

Art. XII.—Consuls-general, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents of each of the High Contracting Parties shall receive from the local authorities of the country where they reside, all assistance that can be granted to them by the law for the arrest of deserters of the ships belonging to their respective countries, except when the deserter is a subject of the country where desertion took place. To this end they shall address the competent local authorities of the respective countries, in writing, and shall make them a written request for the deserters, supporting it by the exhibition of the register of the vessel and list of the crew, or by other official documents, to show that the persons claimed belong to the said ship's company.

Upon such request alone thus supported, the delivery to them of the deserters cannot be refused, unless it should be duly proved that they were subjects of the country where their extradition is demanded at the time of their being inscribed on the crew-list or of their arrival in port. The deserters so arrested shall be detained and kept in the prisons of the country, at the request and expense of the consular officers, until there may be an opportunity for sending them away. If, however, such an opportunity should not present itself within the space of three months, counting from the day of the arrest, the deserters shall be set at liberty, nor shall they be again arrested for the same cause.

If the deserter had committed any misdemeanor, and the court having the right to take cognizance of the offence shall claim and exercise it, the delivery of the deserter shall be deferred until the decision of the Court has been pronounced and executed.

Art. XIII.—In the absence of an agreement to the contrary between the owners, freighters and insurers, all damages suffered at sea by the vessels of the two countries, whether they enter port voluntarily, or are forced by stress of weather, shall be settled by the Consuls-general, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents of the respective countries.

If, however, the consular officer has any interest in the ship or its cargo, or if he is an agent thereof, and if any inhabitant of the country or subject or citizen of a third power, shall be interested in the matter, and the parties cannot agree, the competent local authorities shall decide.

Art. XIV.—In case of the death of any subject of Japan in Belgium or of a subject of Belgium in Japan, the competent local authorities shall give immediate information of the event to the nearest Consul general, Consul, Vice-Consul or Consular Agent of the nation to which the deceased belongs; the said consular officers, on their part, shall give the same information to the local authorities when they shall be informed first of the event.

The competent local authority shall complete the aforesaid information by forwarding a copy in due form and free of charge of the certificate of death.

In case of the incapacity or absence of the heirs or in case of absence of testamentary executors, consular officers shall have the right jointly with the competent local authorities, to execute all deeds necessary for the preservation and administration of the succession, particularly to affix and to remove the seals, to make up the inventory, to administer and wind up the succession, in one word to take all necessary measures to safeguard the interests of the heirs, in case disputes should arise, which should be decided by the competent Courts of the country where the succession is open.

Art. XV.—The present Convention shall enter

into force on the same date as the treaty of commerce and navigation concluded the 22nd day of June 1896 between the two High Contracting Parties.

It shall continue in force for the space of twelve years computed from the day of its being put into execution.

In case neither of the High Contracting Parties give notice twelve months before the expiration of the said period, of its intention to determine the effects of this Convention, the same shall remain in force until the expiration of a year counting from the day on which one of the High Contracting Parties shall have denounced it.

Art. XVI.—The present Convention shall be ratified and the ratifications thereof exchanged at Brussels as soon as possible and not later than six months after its signature.

In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries have hereunto set their hands and seals.

Done at Brussels, in duplicate, the 22nd December, 1896.

VISCOUNT AOKI.
(L. S.)

PAUL DE FAVEREAU.
(L. S.)

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

FRESH OUTBREAK IN CHITRAL.

London, July 28.

A night attack has been made by tribesmen on the camp of the British garrison at Malakand, Chitral. Sharp fighting took place, in which one officer was killed and four wounded on the British side.

The rising in Chitral has assumed serious dimensions.

THE RISING IN CHITRAL.

A fresh attack has been made at Malakand. After severe fighting on Tuesday and Wednesday, the attack was repulsed. The loss on the British side was thirteen killed and forty-three wounded.

Desperate fighting continues at Malakand, the attacks on the British force being renewed nightly. A field force is now under orders to proceed to the relief of the Malakand garrison.

BRITISH NAVAL PROGRAMME.

The Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty, speaking in the House of Commons on the Supplementary Naval Estimates, which provide an additional £500,000, said that it was intended to keep pace with the activity of other nations by accelerating the completion of ships now in course of construction, and by also commencing the building of four very fast cruisers, together with a number of torpedo-destroyers.

THE TRANSVAAL RAID INQUIRY.

The Hon. E. Stanhope, M.P., moved in the House of Commons, "that the House regrets the inconclusive nature of the report of the South African Committee and its failure to recommend any specific step against the Hon. Cecil Rhodes, and demands that Mr. Hawkesley (solicitor for Mr. Rhodes and the Chartered Company at the late Inquiry) be summoned to appear before the Bar of the House." The motion was rejected by 304 to 77.

The Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, said it was not intended to prosecute Mr. Rhodes nor to remove him from the Privy Council.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, replying to a question put by Lord Carrington in the House of Lords, said he regretted that there was nothing in the report of the South Africa Committee of Inquiry which would justify the restoring of forfeited commissions to Dr. Jameson's officers.

THE CONSTANTINOPLE CONFERENCE.

THE POWERS DISAGREE.

London, July 29.

Russia opposes the proposal drawn up by the German Ambassador as to the war indemnity to be paid by Greece to Turkey. The German Ambassador has consequently referred the matter home for further instructions.

DIFFICULTIES DISAPPEARING.

London, July 30.

The Ambassadors have redrafted the indemnity clause in a manner satisfactory to Germany [which at first stipulated for terms not acceptable to Russia].

It is expected that the conditions of peace will be finally settled on Saturday.

The Ambassadors in conference at Constantinople have completed the drafting of the treaty of peace.

RENEWED FIGHTING IN CRETE.

Frequent fights are taking place between Turks and the Allied Troops at Canea.

THE ALLIED TROOPS IN CRETE.

Orders have been issued to all the troops of the Allied Powers now in Candia, that in the event of their being further insulted they are to use their arms.

Forty-nine men of the 2nd Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers have left Malta for Crete.

TURKEY AND THE POWERS.

London, Aug. 3.

The Conference of Ambassadors at Constantinople assembled again on Saturday, when Tewfik Pasha submitted amendments to the draft treaty of peace. These amendments are held to be unacceptable, and consequently fresh difficulties threaten to arise.

Lord Salisbury has stated that Turkey agrees to the proposed frontier as laid down by the Powers, but desires to be also allowed the temporary occupation of strategic points in Thessaly until the indemnity is paid. The Powers have not yet settled this point. The outstanding claims of German bond-holders materially complicate the question how much indemnity Greece will be able to pay. Some form of European control of Greek finance is regarded as inevitable, but the negotiations in connection with the settlement of this point are likely to cause considerable delay. The Powers thought that it was of little use to deal with the Cretan question first.

August 4.

The Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs has stated at Athens that King George is prepared to abdicate in the event of the Greek finances being subjected to the control of the European Powers.

The Sultan has instituted a Naval Commission, to sit at the Yildiz Kiosk, under His Majesty's presidency, with the object of reviving Turkey's naval power.

A Turkish squadron has left the Dardanelles for Crete.

DISAFFECTION IN INDIA.

ARREST OF AGITATORS.

The Hon. Bal-Gangadhar Tilak, Member of the Bombay Council, and three of the leading Brahmins at Poona have been arrested on the charge of exciting disaffection among the people.

EASTERN MAIL CONTRACTS.

The House of Commons has approved the mail contracts to be undertaken by the Peninsular and Oriental S. N. Co. and the Orient line of steamers.

THE KING OF SIAM IN ENGLAND.

The King of Siam has arrived in England and proceeded to Buckingham Palace escorted by the Life Guards.

The King of Siam and Lord Salisbury held a long conference yesterday.

ACCIDENTS TO WORKMEN.

The House of Lords has passed the Workmen's Compensation for Accidents Bill.

ENGLAND AND HER COLONIES.

London, July 31.

Great Britain has formally "denounced" the Commercial Treaty with the German Zollverein, which has been in operation since 1865. The treaty will therefore expire in a year from this date.

THE "BRITISH ZOLLVEREIN" SCHEME.

London, August 2.

Great Britain has formally "denounced" the commercial treaty with Belgium, in the same way as that with the German Zollverein (as already reported) and now proposes to conclude new treaties to take the place of both.

The immediate effect of these treaties expiring will be to facilitate a reciprocal arrangement by which the Canadian tariff will accord preferential treatment to British goods.

These steps have created general satisfaction, and have elicited warm congratulations in Canada.

The German Press comments on the news in calm and dispassionate terms.

BEHRING SEA SEALING CONFERENCE.

Great Britain has agreed to take part in a Behring Sea Sealing Conference, which will be held at Washington in the autumn.

FLOODS IN GERMANY.

Prussian Silesia has been devastated by floods which are described as the most disastrous in this century.

CRICKET.

In the English county cricket tournament, Gloucester has beaten Yorkshire by 140 runs.

(OFFICIAL MESSAGE FROM FORMOSA.)

Received in Tokyo, August 3.

Eight hundred Chinese with no fixed occupation, who have clandestinely landed in Formosa, have been sent back to China.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

NAVAL NEWS.

Otaru, July 30.

The British squadron on the China station, left here to-day to visit ports in the Gulf of Tartary.

Hakodate, August 2nd.

The Austrian cruiser *Panther* has left for Yokohama; H.M.S. *Peacock* has arrived here and the *Yoshino Kan* has left for Fushiki.

Hakodate, July 31st.

H.M. torpedo-destroyers *Handy* and *Hart* arrived here yesterday.

(FROM SAIGON PAPERS.)

ACCIDENT TO THE KAISER.

Paris, July 12.

The German Emperor, while cruising off the coast of Norway in his yacht, had one of his eyes injured by a piece of falling rigging.

DISASTROUS RAILWAY COLLISION.

Paris, July 12.

A collision between two passenger trains has occurred at Gjentofte, near Copenhagen. Eight carriages were broken up and forty persons killed and sixty more injured.

ATTACK ON A GOVERNMENT STATION
IN NORTH BORNEO.

Labuan, July 12.
The British North Borneo Government Station at Gaya was attacked by sixty rebels under Mat Salleh on Sunday morning. The town and Government Treasury were burnt and looted. One police corporal and two prisoners were killed.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

DEATH OF MR. A. P. HAPPER.

Newchwang, July 28.
(9.37 a.m.).

Mr. A. P. Happer, Commissioner I.M. Customs, died last night. The cause of his death was hydrophobia.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

THE RAID IN NORTH BORNEO.

Labuan, July 20

Messrs. Hewette and Wheatley have returned to Labuan from their expedition to Inanam where Mat Salleh had fortified himself. The result of their operation is that they have rescued Mr. Neubronner, the Treasurer of Gaya, who had been carried off as a prisoner. Mat Salleh himself has taken to flight and escaped into the jungle.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the CHIEF, ROYAL.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.

The Tokio Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

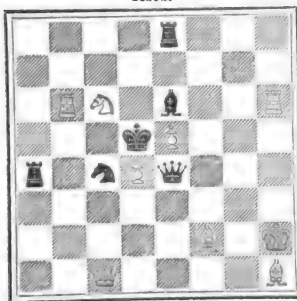
The following is the solution of Problem 330:—

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Kt to Q 6 1—K takes P (K 7)
2—Q to B 8 2—Any move
3—Q to K 8, mate
1—K takes P (K 5)
2—Q to K 3, ch 2—K takes Kt or
3—P to K 8=Kt, mate [moves]
Correct Solution received from W.H.S.

PROBLEM No. 332.

By J. O. S. THURSBY.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in two moves.

OVER THE CHESS-BOARD.

Singapore and Hongkong are now engaged in a cable-tourney, the cable companies having generously placed their lines at the players' disposal, receiving messages free of charge. The Hongkong Chess Club put the arrangements into the hands of Colonel The O'Gorman (President of the Club) and Mr. W. C. Barlow, Hon. Secretary, and these entrusted the conduct of the games to a Consulting Committee of three Members—Colonel The O'Gorman, Mr. P. de Souza, and Mr. T. H. Reid.

The following were the positions in the match on July 28th:—

GAME I.—RUY LOPEZ.

White—Singapore. Black—Hongkong.
1—P to K 4 P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3 Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5 P to Q 3
4—P to Q 4 P takes P
5—Kt takes P B to Q 2

GAME 2.—GIUOCO PIANO.

White—Hongkong. Black—Singapore.
1—P to K 4 P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3 Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4 B to B 4
4—P to Q B 3 Kt to K B 3
5—P to Q Kt 4

Mr. H. E. Pollock, the Chess Champion of Hongkong, is at present in Japan, recruiting his health.

According to the *Manchester Evening News*, the incidental expenses of the late cable team match between the House of Representatives and the House of Commons amounted to no less than \$2,250 (gold) exclusive of the value of the trophy, say \$525. The *New Orleans Times-Democrat* adds:—"Pretty costly sport, all things considered; \$2,775 would make a fine nucleus for an international masters' congress."

The beginning of the great Berlin tournament, in which will be offered for competition a trophy presented by the German Emperor, has been postponed until September.

The woman's chess tourney, inaugurated by a number of English ladies in honour of the Queen's Jubilee and held in London, came to a close on July 6th, and was in all respects a very satisfactory affair. Representatives of nine countries participated in the contest and over \$1,000 was awarded in prizes. The prizes were won as follows:—Miss Ridge took first prize, \$300; Miss Fagan second, \$250; Miss Thorold third, \$200; Mrs. Harriet Worrall, who, like Mrs. Showalter, aspires to the title of chess champion of the United States, was in excellent form and succeeded in securing the fourth prize, \$150, a very praiseworthy feat; Mme. Bonnefion fifth, \$100; and Lady Thomas and Mrs. Berry divided sixth, \$75. The following are the final summaries:—

Players.	Won.	Lost.	Country.
Ridge, Miss.....	17	2	England
Fagan, Miss.....	13½	4½	Italy
Thorold, Miss.....	14	5	England
Worrall, Miss.....	13	6	America
Bonnefion, Mme.....	12½	6½	Belgium
Field, Miss.....	12	7	England
Berry, Mrs.....	11½	7½	Ireland
Thomas, Lady.....	11	8	England
Rux, Miss.....	10½	8½	England
Gonding.....	10½	8½	England
Watson, Miss.....	10½	8½	England
Hooke, Miss.....	10½	8½	England
Sydney, Miss.....	10	9	England
Herzsch, Frau.....	9½	9½	Germany
Eschwege, Miss.....	6	13	England
Müllerharing, Frau.....	5	14	Germany
Forbes-Sharpe, Miss.....	4	15	Scotland
Rinn, Miss.....	3½	15½	Ireland
De Lavigne, Mme.....	3	15	France
Stevenson, Mrs.....	1	18	Canada

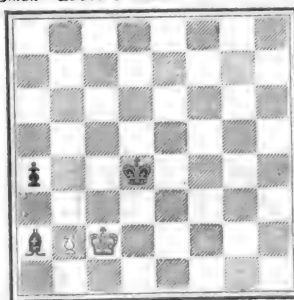
The last three named retired from the tournament after a few rounds had been played.

The *American Chess-Magazine*, in its first number, publishes 22 problems, and announces the inauguration of a continuous problem-solving tournament open to yearly subscribers only. A running score will be kept for each competitor, who will be credited for each correct solution as follows: 4 points for 5-movers; 3 points for 4-movers; 2 points for 3-movers; and 1 point for 2-movers. Every competitor who gets a score of 250 points to his credit will be awarded a handsome prize.

The *Newark Call*, in commenting on Steinitz's proposed literary venture, "The Jewish Element in Chess," says:—"Steinitz is himself a Jew, and there are and have been many Jews who were and are eminent in Chess. Zukertort; Rosenthal, the French champion; Max Weiss, Max Judd, Baron Kolisch, Alapin, Lasker, Lowenthal, Winawer, Ehrenstein, Baron Rothschild, and many others are Jews."

The following position actually occurred in a game between J. Metger and Louis Paulsen at the Chess-Congress in Nuremberg in 1884. The game was declared a draw; but Black has a win.

Black—LOUIS PAULSEN—Three Pieces.



White—HERR J. METGER—Two Pieces.
Black to play and win.

In connection with the recent Ladies Chess Tourney in England and the position won by Mrs. Worrall, the following game should prove interesting.

GAME No. 736.

IRREGULAR OPENING.

White—Mrs. Showalter.	Black—Mrs. Worrall.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4 P QKt3	31 P x P KP x P
2 P Q4 B QKt2	32 Q Kt2 R R2
3 Kt QB3 P K3	33 P KR4 P x P
4 B Q3 P KKt3	34 R x RP R B4
5 Kt KB3 B KKt2	35 B Kt2 R Q4
6 P K5 Kt K2	36 R K4 Q QB4
7 Kt K4 P KR3	37 R KKt6 R (R2) Q2
8 P QB3 B QR3	38 R QB-q Q QKt4
9 Castles B x B	39 R B8ch K R2
10 Q x B P QR3	40 Q x B R K4
11 P QKt3 P Q4	41 Q Kt-q R K8ch
12 Kt K3 Kt Q2	42 Q x R K x R
13 B R3 P QB4	43 Q K6ch K Kt4
14 QR B-q Castles	44 B R3 Q KB4
15 KR K-q Q Kt-q	45 B K xch R x B
16 P B4 KR Q-q	46 Q x Rch Q B3
17 B Kt2 Q Kt2	47 Q x Rch B x Q
18 P x P Q x P	48 R x P B K2
19 KR K4 K x KP	49 R x P Q Q6
20 Kt x Kt B x Kt	50 R QK7 P Q7
21 R KR4 B Kt2	51 R QK7 R K5
22 Kt K4 P KB4	52 K B q P B6
23 Kt QB3 Q Q3	53 K x Kt-q K R5
24 Kt K2 Kt QB3	54 K R2 K Kt5
25 Q KR3 Kt x P	55 R Q4ch K B4
26 Kt x Kt P x Kt	56 K Kt3 K K4
27 R Q-q P K4	57 R Q3 K K5
28 B B-q P Kt5	58 R Q7 B B6
29 P KR3 P Kt4	59 R K7 ch B K4 ch
30 R Kt4 R KBsq	60 Resigns

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Victoria, B.C., per N. P. Co.	Wed'day, Aug. 21st.
From America, per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 25th.
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 27th.
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co.	Wed'day, Aug. 21st.
From Canada, &c., per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 25th.
From Hongkong, per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 19th.
From America, per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 24th.
From Europe, via Hongkong, per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Sept. 1st.

- 1 Victoria left Victoria, B.C., on July 26th.
- 2 Doric left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 27th.
- 3 Ansonia left Kobe on the 6th inst. at 5 p.m.
- 4 Saghalien left Shanghai on the 7th inst.
- 5 Empress of India left Vancouver on the 6th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C., per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 9th.
For Europe, via Shanghai, per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 8th.
For Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 15th.
For Hongkong, per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 10th.
For Portland, per O. R. & N. Co.	Friday, Aug. 20th.
For Canada, &c., per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 20th.
For America, per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, August 23rd.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 3rd.
For America, per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hokoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Kawamura, 31st July.—Kobe, 29th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 31st July.—Mororan, 29th July, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kinshtu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Thomsen, 1st August.—London and Antwerp via ports, and Kobe 31st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. Brady, August.—Osaka via Hakodate, 28th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ingraban, German steamer, 864, Bieber, 1st August.—Hongkong, General.—Grauert & Co.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, T. Okamura, 1st August.—Yokkaichi, 1st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Okinawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,041, Kataoka, 1st August.—Nagasaki, 29th July, Cable supplies.—Navy Dept.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 1st August.—Kobe, 31st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 2nd August.—San Francisco, 17th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker, 2nd Aug.—Hongkong, 28th July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, De la Lande, 2nd Aug.,—Yokkaichi, 1st Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, R.N.R., 2nd Aug.,—Hongkong 24th July, Shanghai 28th July, Nagasaki 31st July, and Kobe 1st August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 120, J. T. Harrison, 2nd August,—Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Descartes, French cruiser, Captain Bernan, 2nd Aug.,—Hakodate.

Morven, British steamer, 2,360, Ellis, 3rd August, —New York via ports, and Kobe 1st August, General.—Frazar & Co.

Panther (to), Austrian cruiser, 1,530 tons, Capt. Carl Koppel, 3rd August,—Hakodate, 1st Aug.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,000 tons, Thompson, 3rd August,—London and Antwerp via ports, and Kobe 2nd Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenloch, British steamer, J. McGregor, 3rd August,—Hongkong, and Kobe 2nd August, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Smit, Dutch steamer, 850, Kasst, 4th August,—Cebu, Sugar.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Pique (8), British cruiser, 3,600 tons, Capt. A. C. Corry, 4th August,—Hongkong.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, De la Lande, 5th August,—Yokkaichi, 4th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F. Allen, 5th Aug.,—Seattle, Wash., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 6th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, 31st July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Yamamoto, 6th August,—Otaru via ports, 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 31st July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 1st August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

John McDonald, American ship, 2,172, T. A. Storer, 1st August,—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, T. Okamura, 28th July,—Yokkaichi, 2nd Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 2nd Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Fortin, 2nd Aug.,—Hakodate.

Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, J. Higo, 2nd August,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 2nd August,—Atsugishi, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 3rd August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 3rd August,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, De la Lande, 3rd Aug.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 3rd August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. Brady, 3rd Aug.,—Kobe and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Java, British steamer, 2,733, J. Chelley, 3rd August,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,958, R. Thomson, 4th August,—New York via Suez Canal and Way Ports, General.—Carnegie & Co.

Edward O'Brien, American ship, 2,157, D. P. Oliver, 4th August,—Cebu, Philippine Islands, Ballast.—Captain.

Moff Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Makihara, 5th Aug.,—Kobe, 3rd Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,869, Williamson, 5th Aug.,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 5th August,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, K. Shiina, 5th August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Young,

5th August,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 771, Hamada, 5th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,376, H. Blecker, 6th August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, S. Kataoka, 6th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shigaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, M. Suda, 6th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer **City of Peking**, from San Francisco:—Dr. P. Koch, Baron Koiff, and Mr. R. Zezeze in cabin; Mr. Chas. E. Mogren, Mr. H. Tanekura, Mr. Vaughn, Mr. W. C. Reed, and to natives in steerage. For Hongkong:—Judge Geo. H. Saunders in cabin; Mrs. Mary Stephenson, and 86 natives in steerage.

Per German steamer **Hohenzollern**, from Hongkong:—Professor Bahlsen Gemablin, Mr. M. Lazarus, Mr. B. Dieckmann, Mr. Konis, and Mrs. Masu in cabin.

Per British steamer **Coptic**, from Hongkong via ports:—Capt. and Mrs. Long, child and servant, Mr. H. E. Pollock, Mr. Chas. Grant, Mr. P. McGregor Grant, Mr. R. Van Strauch, Mr. R. Genz, Rev. J. M. Blain, Mr. A. Brown, Mr. A. Babbington, Mr. G. Watt, Captain Barry Drew, Mr. J. McD. Gardiner, Mr. R. Abenheim, Miss Sarah P. Binie, Mr. J. B. Pocklington, and Mr. A. V. Zane in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. J. W. Brown in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Kobe Maru**, from Shanghai via ports:—Lieut. General T. Katsura, Mr. T. Yamanouchi, Dr. I. Ishiguro, Capt. T. Tokuhisa, Commander T. Kato, Captain Motegi, Captain Ishiguro, Lieut. T. Sakamoto, Sub Lieut. J. Sano, Mr. K. Naibu, Mr. and Mrs. Tanaka, Mr. S. Masaki, Mr. M. Masuda, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Nicholsen, Miss Haygood, Miss Berninger, Capt. Furber, Capt. F. Hildeich, Mr. John Walter, Mr. A. R. Morris, and Mr. J. Sibbs in cabin; Mr. & Mrs. M. Tachibana, Mrs. Kuwayama, and 3 children, Miss L. A. Richardson, Miss Marshall, Mr. Y. Fujii, Mr. Charlton, and Mr. R. Uyemura in 2nd class; 58 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer **Verona**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. K. Mackenzie, Capt. T. Rowin, Mr. P. C. Pallanjer, Mr. H. A. Pattman, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Townsend, Messrs. M. P. Friede, W. J. Scroth, S. Komor, L. L. Bailey, Wm. Clark, and Mrs. Chue in cabin; 4 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Satsuma Maru**, for Shanghai via ports:—General Kuroki and son, General Yamaji, Lieut. S. Tsukada, Mr. Y. Yamanaka, Mr. T. Tsuno, Mr. Y. Ishii, Master J. Nirei, Mr. I. Shigehisa, Mr. M. Sawada, Mr. G. Ohima, Mr. G. Tsuchiya, Mr. Ing Hong Foa, Mr. P. Randinsky, Mr. S. Miyake, and Mr. J. Robinson in cabin; 54 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer **Java**, for London via ports:—Mr. W. Lebedeff, Mr. L. S. Lewis, Lieut. H. M. Hunter, and Mr. W. W. Clifford in cabin.

Per British steamer **Coptic**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. F. W. Amsinck, Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Adams and daughter, Lieut. S. Akiyama, I. J. N., Mr. and Mrs. Zimory Bayenow, Mr. Wm. E. Bawjitch, Mr. W. H. Brown, Mrs. and Miss Church, Miss Mabel Davison, Mr. E. Hall, Mrs. C. D. Harmon, Mrs. & Miss Hollingsworth, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Jewett, four children, European nurse and two amahs, Col. and Mrs. Karnieff, Mr. I. Knaff, Mr. Kobbie, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Koford, Mr. J. M. Littlehale, Captain C. B. Little, Rev. and Mrs. A. R. Morgan and child, Master Morgan, Mr. E. Otajini, I. J. N., Mr. F. J. Price, Captain J. J. Read, Mr. J. Sakata, Miss N. Schiller, Mrs. Wm. B. Seabury, Mr. Gen. Sturges, Mr. F. Sykes, Lieut. T. Takarabe, I. J. N., Miss J. S. Vail, Mr. and Mrs. P. Van Voorhees, Master Van Voorhees, Mr. S. L. Ware, Mrs. M. S. Ware, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Whitney, Mr. W. Whyte, Mrs. G. Whyte, and Mr. A. V. Zane, U.S.N. in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Omi Maru**, for Melbourne via ports:—Lieut. H. Yokota, Misses M. Yokota, T. Yokota, H. Yokota, Mr. K. Aoki, Mr. R. Uchiyama, Mr. J. Tominaga, Master Tominaga, Mr. Aoki Chukichi, Mr. G. Satoh in cabin; 16 Japanese in steerage.

Per German steamer **Hohenzollern**, for Hongkong via ports:—Baron von Koiff, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Dalton, Messrs. J. M. Hamon, A. Nicolle, Y. Jisaburo, Y. Kunihiko, K. Niho, Geo. W. Hewett, T. Hagiwara, and Max Gaertz in cabin; 1 European in steerage; 3 on deck.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer **Verona**, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 309 bales.

Per Japanese steamer **Kobe Maru**, from Shanghai via ports:—Treasure \$42,000.

Per German steamer **Hohenzollern**, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe 348 bales, and Waste Silk for Europe 34 bales.

Per American steamer **Coptic**, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SHANGHAI	YOKOHAMA	FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	LONDON	MONROVIA	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai ..	1,694	565	010	—	—	—	—	—	3,157
Hioho	717	669	2,301	—	—	—	—	—	790 4,307
Yokohama ..	1,183	—	350	350	1,116	170	—	—	2,419
Hongkong ..	319	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	319
Amoy	254	2,616	950	—	—	—	—	—	3,810
Total	4,307	3,850	4,109	350	2,116	970	—	—	15,892

	SHANGHAI	YOKOHAMA	FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	LONDON	MONROVIA	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai ..	—	73	—	—	—	—	—	—	73
Hongkong ..	—	120	—	—	—	—	—	—	120
Yokohama ..	—	3	643	—	—	—	—	—	646
Total	—	3	816	—	—	—	—	—	819

REPORTS.

The German steamer **Hohenzollern**, Captain H. Blecker, reports:—Left Hongkong the 28th July at 0.30 p.m. Passed North Point Formosa on the 29th July at 9 p.m., Yoko Island the 31st July at 8 a.m., Osima Light the 1st August at 7 p.m., Rock Island the 2nd inst. at 8 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 2 p.m. Got S.W. wind through Formosa Channel, from there till Osima south wind, light. Last part of the voyage north winds, fine.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market for shirtings and yarns still remains very stagnant. A little business has been done in fancy cottons and woollens at unchanged prices.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	1.80 to 2.35
F. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 34 yds, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 24 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 12 1/2 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Common	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Hankies—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds, per 12	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$30.00 to 41.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 1/60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	78.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	80.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	116.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$24.00 to 24.50
Indian Broach	21.00 —
Chinese	21.50 —

METALS.

The market has relaxed somewhat since last week, owing to prices having dropped slightly for some descriptions, but very little business has been done. Quotations are mostly nominal.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/2 inch, and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Pig Iron, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	4.10 to 4.20
Hoop Iron (1 1/2 to 1 3/4 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

KIKKOSHIK.

No change has taken place in the market, and very little business is doing.

American	2.00 to 2.06
Russian	2.00 to 2.06
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown continues to arrive, 11,989 piculs from Manila and 9,836 piculs from China having been received. Sales during the week ending the 3rd amount to 54,165 piculs, of which 45,000 piculs were Manila. Prices have risen from 5 to 40 cents per picul, the latter being for Daitong. Formosa kinds have gone up to cents per picul and sales amount to 9,850 piculs. Very little has been done in White refined, at former rates.

Brown Takao	36.5 to 3.75
Brown Manila	43.5 to 5.05
Brown Daitong	2.90 to 3.30
Brown Canton	3.10 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Filatures have been somewhat neglected, in spite of the apparent willingness of holders to grant some concession in prices as last quoted. Shipments include 300 bales per Verona and 345 bales per Hohenzollern, for Europe, and 646 bales for America per Coptic. Stocks on the 6th amounted to 6,592 native boxes, or half bales, and sales during the week to 2,446 boxes.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 860
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	870 to 830
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	830 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	800
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	775
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakadas—Extra	—
Kakadas—No. 1	760 to 770
Kakadas—No. 2	740 to 750
Kakadas—No. 3	730
Kakadas—No. 4	700

WASTE SILK.

Very little business done in Waste Silk as yet. The Hohenzollern took 37 bales for Europe on the 5th. Stocks now amount to 6,242 boxes.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bashu, Best	—
Noshi—Bashu, Good	—
Noshi—Bashu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bashu, Fair	—

TEA.

Demand has continued brisk during the past week and prices have steadily advanced, being now from \$5 to \$7 higher than at the same date last season. Sales in Yokohama have amounted to 315,700 catties and at Kobe some 250,000 catties. Stocks amounted on the 3rd to 2,500 piculs, with holders very firm. Shipments to America have been, per Benalder 348,675 lbs., Coptic, 2,439 packages from Yokohama, and 4,307 packages from Kobe.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$27 to 82
Finest	25 to 28
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	21 to 22
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	14 50 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Silver is still falling and rates close weak.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11 1/2 to 1/2
— Bills on demand	1/11 1/2 to 2/0
— 4 months' sight	2 0/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2 0/8
— 6 months' sight	2 0/8
On Paris—Bank sight	250 to 1
— Private 4 months' sight	254 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	6 5/8 d
— Private 10 days' sight	7 1/2 d
On Shanghai—Bank sight	80

Private 10 days' sight	81
On India—Bank sight	156 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	160
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2 to 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	49 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2 0/3
— Private 4 months' sight	2 0/7
Bull Silver (London)	25 1/2 to 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. BISSOT & URE'S LIST.]

Yokohama, August 6th.

Hongkong wires us the following quotations to-day:—H. & S. Banks 189 per cent. sales; Hongkong Lands \$75 ex dividend of \$2 sales; China Fines \$100 buyers; H. & Co. Docks 238 per cent. sales; H. & K. Wharves \$66 sales; Douglasses \$66.50 buyers; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$33.50 buyers; Punjion Mines \$6 sales; Raub Mines \$23.50 sellers; Hongkong Fines \$360 sellers; National Banks \$22.50 sellers; Indo-Chinas \$50 sales; Straits \$17.50 buyers; Unions \$232.50 buyers; and Traders \$78 sellers.

We have no change to report in local stocks; quotations remain steady as last reported. Offers of Oriental Hotels are wanted.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50	800 Sa.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100	425 Sa.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	320 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	97.50 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	145 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdrs.)	\$121	450 S.
North and Rae, Ltd.	\$100	185 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd.	\$100	8 B.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd.	\$100	207.50 B.
Higo Gas Co., Ltd.	\$100	180 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb.	\$100	110 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	110 B.
Yokohama United Club Deb.	\$100	100 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	101 S.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo, August 6th.

Five per Cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds	94 5/8
Redemption Loan Bonds	97 1/4
War Loan Bonds	97 1/4
New Public Loan Bonds	97 1/4
Old Public Loan Bonds	83 00
Naval Loan Bonds	97 00
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100 00
Japan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	98 3/4
Sanyo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	49 5/8
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	80 00
Kansai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	59 7/8
Kobe Railway Company—paid up yen 50	115 00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 41	58 3/4
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up yen 25	35 1/4
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 50	88 3/4
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 25	120 00
Sangu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	87 00
Kawagoye Railway Company—paid up yen 50	53 1/4
Chikoku Railway Company—paid up yen 50	72 1/4
Hantan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	43 00
Boso Railway Company—paid up yen 50	45 00
Sobu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	108 00
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50	77 50
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up yen 44	51 00
Toyokawa Railway Company—paid up yen 35	39 00
Hokuyetsu Railway Company—paid up yen 33	34 5/8
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47.50	30 00
Seiwa Railway Company—paid up yen 3	1 00
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 12 50	7 00
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 20	16 50
Kizuke Railway Company—paid up yen 50	20 00
Nanai Railway Company—paid up yen 37.50	25 00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	58 5/8

Tokyo Hay Steamship Company—paid up yen 25	30 00
Domestic Transport Company—paid up yen 40	80 00
Japan Transport Company—paid up yen 25	1 50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	825 00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25	81 1/2
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up yen 25	36 50
Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 50	58 1/2
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	70 00
Miya Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	100 00
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 15	16 1/2
Japan Weaving Company—paid up yen 50	15 00
Tokyo Tramway Company—paid up yen 50	190 00
Japan Beer Company—paid up yen 40	70 00
Japan Cement Company—paid up yen 25	28 00
Eone Canal Company—paid up yen 70	73 00
Fuji Paper Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 30	75 1/2
Sapporo Sugar Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 47	6 50
Hokkaido Hemp Mann. Co.—paid up yen 50	50 00
Japan Seaweed Company—paid up yen 25	35 50
Yokohama Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 41	48 00
Shinagawa Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 31	4 00
Tokyo Electric Light Company—paid up yen 15	61 1/2
Tokyo Gas Company—paid up yen 50	90 00
Doshu Kaisha—paid up yen 50	15 00
Tokyo Marine Insurance Co.—paid up yen 100	70 00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	315 00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 10	137 00
Nippon Ginza—paid up yen 150	395 00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	54 50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	57 00

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND KARUIZAWA.

	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
From Yokohama	5.20	9.57	12.45
From Shinagawa	6.40	11.10	2.00
From Akabane	8.27	12.24	3.06
Arrive Takasaki	11.33	3.15	6.25
From Takasaki	12.30	3.30	—
Arrive Karuizawa	3.30	6.30	9.05

YOKOHAMA AND NIKKO.

	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
From Yokohama	7.10	8.47	9.57	12.45
From Shinagawa	8.15	9.45	11.10	2.00
From Akabane	9.27	11.27	1.27	3.27
Arrive Utsunomiya	12.30	2.30	4.40	6.30
Arrive Nikko	2.15	4.25	6.15	7.15

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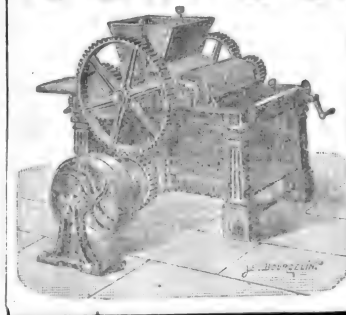
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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 7.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUG. 14TH, 1897.

月三年五十二拾明 Vol. XXVIII.
可販會信通日三十

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PRIS CE QUK DOIS: ADVIENNE QUK POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 1897.

BIRTH.

At Karuizawa, on August 7th, to E. S. and Dr. Nina A. Stevens, a SON, Henry Asbury Stevens.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Court still remains in Kyoto.

COUNT MUTSU is seriously ill at his villa in Tokyo.

SENOR CANOVAS, the Prime Minister of Spain, has been assassinated.

THE funeral of Count Goto, in Tokyo last Sunday, was a very great affair.

MARQUIS ITO is hastening home, and the political quidnuncs are all on the *qui vive*.

MR. GOWKY, the new U.S. Consul-General to Kanagawa, arrived in Yokohama on Tuesday.

H. I. H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA being expected to arrive in a few days by the *Empress of China*,

some officials of the Imperial Household Department will come to Yokohama to welcome His Highness.

BISHOP BICKERSTETH, of Tokyo, has died at Swindon, England, at the early age of 47 years.

A FORMER Vice-Minister of State is to be the new editor of the *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun*.

MR. LAFFIN'S Yacht *Mary* won the two days' sailing race this week, beating her rivals easily.

THE Aquatic Sports of the Y. A. R. C. took place on Wednesday, but attracted few competitors.

FLOODS and destructive storms are reported from various districts in Japan, as well as from Tamsui, Formosa.

WHEN the new reservoir at Noge is completed the water supply of Yokohama will be increased by 20,000 gallons per twenty-four hours.

AN investigation for the amendment of the Patent Regulations is now in progress at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

H. I. H. FIELD MARSHAL PRINCE KOMATSU left Tokyo on the morning of the 10th instant for Sano Province, to escape the heat of the capital.

THE payment of yen 54,000, expenditure incurred by quarantine stations, from the second reserve, was sanctioned by the Government on the 9th inst.

A BOATRACE between men from the U.S.S. *Olympia* and a crew from H.M.S. *Pique* was rowed in Yokohama Bay on Tuesday, and was won by the former.

SOME Russian officers who entered Seoul, on the 28th ultimo, are reported to have been engaged by the Korean Authorities as drill-instructors for the Korean soldiers.

It is proposed to turn the Tokyo Tramway into an Electric Railway; all tramway lines now running through the capital are to be changed to meet the proposed scheme.

THE Foreign Office has received a telegram from Mr. Yamada, Consul in Bombay, to the effect that from 25 to 30 new cases of cholera are now reported daily in Bombay.

H. I. H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL is slightly indisposed. Dr. Baelz and Dr. Hashimoto are in attendance on the Prince, who is staying at the Palace at Hayama.

THE Ryogoku Bridge, we learn, is to be rebuilt in accordance with the latest amendments of the City Regulations. The work will commence early in November.

LIEUT.-GENERAL KAWAKAMI and suite, who started for Vladivostok on a tour of inspection the other day, were accompanied by a military attaché of the Russian Legation who acts as their guide.

THE Imperial Court has given yen 5,000 to the family of the late Count Goto in recognition of his great services at the time of the Restoration, in which the deceased Count played a most important part.

DYSENTERY is very prevalent in Kanagawa Ken. On the 5th inst. the new cases numbered 75, of which 7 proved fatal. From the outbreak of the disease up to date the total cases number 516, and deaths 55.

A DREADFUL accident attended by loss of life occurred during the *Kawabiraki* festival in Tokyo on Tuesday evening. The railings of the Ryogoku Bridge gave way, precipitating

dozens of people into the water. Some corpses have been recovered.

THE *Yomiuri* hears that when Marquis Ito reached New York en route to England to attend the Jubilee celebrations, the only visit paid to him was by Colonel Grant, son of General Grant, former President of the United States.

MR. STAHLGREN, Danish Consul at Tientsin, was arrested on Monday evening on board the British ship *Columbia*, then aground on Saratoga Spit, on a charge of embezzling \$4,000, etc. Mr. Stahlgren has since been released on bail.

ON the 15th ult., an enquiry into the circumstances attending the collision between the British steamer *Glenfarg* and the Japanese junk *Fukuei Maru* in the Inland Sea was held at the Osaka Marine Office. The court found that Pilot Bishoff had not been as careful as he should have been, but let him off with a caution.

THE conscription regulations for Okinawa Ken and the Ogasawara Islands will go into force from January next year. According to the decision of the War Office, conscription affairs in Okinawa Ken are to be placed under the control of the Commander of the Kagoshima Regimental Section, and those of the Ogasawara group under the control of the Commander of Azabu Regimental Section, Tokyo.

IN the thunderstorm that occurred in Tokyo on the evening of the 7th inst. several places were struck by lightning. The first bolt fell upon the roof of a beef-shop at Moto-machi, Honjo, and one of the servants there was rendered insensible, while some *jinrikishamen* who were on Ryogoku Bridge at the time suffered similarly. Another flash of lightning struck Nos. 1 and 12, Takecho, Shitaya, but happily no persons were injured. A huge tree standing in front of the Hikawa Shrine, Koishikawa, was split in two by the lightning.

If anything were wanted to discourage business during the past week, the floods and earthquakes in many parts of the country and the long in-coming but now excessively hot weather generally, would be amply sufficient. At all events the fact remains that scarcely anything is doing in the Import market. Nobody wants cotton piece goods of any kind and though a few transactions have taken place in woollens, and just enough yarns have been bought to keep the weavers employed, the trade generally is lifeless. Of metals little more can be said, though recent concessions in some of the home rates have led to some inquiries in certain lines. Sugar has stood the trial best of any imports; the Japanese must have their cakes and confections even in the hot weather. There has been a fair demand for brown, though little has been done in white refined. In kerosene there has been a small hand-to-mouth business transacted. In the export market, where foreigners are the buyers and Japanese the sellers, business has been brisker. Purchases of silk have become more general, though one or two of the largest purchasing firms still hold aloof. Demand for re-reels has exceeded the supply, and filatures have also been bought in considerable quantities, prices stiffening all the while. In waste silk nothing has yet been done. In tea, sales are gradually decreasing in quantity, though prices are still maintained. The heavy purchases of first crop teas at fancy rates, with a view to landing them in America before the proposed import tax on tea came into force, must have the effect of slackening the buying now, particularly if holders maintain their prices as they are seem inclined to do. Exchange is still very weak.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* discusses the subject of maritime enterprise in a thoughtful and striking article. During the past few years, the Japanese appear to have been captivated solely by the idea of ocean navigation. They have planned lines to Australia, India, America and Europe. Such undertakings are invariably of a precarious character. To conduct them profitably without State aid in the form of bounties or subsidies seems impossible. Even a country like England, which stands easily at the head of all nations in respect of the qualities needed for this purpose, is obliged to make large annual grants for the maintenance of steam-ship services to distant lands. France, Germany and America adopt the same policy. Yet the dividends received by shareholders in such enterprises are comparatively small. The North German Lloyd Company, for example, which enjoys a munificent measure of State aid, could not pay more than 4 per cent. to its shareholders when it last rendered its accounts, and British companies congratulate themselves if they can pay 5 per cent. These facts conclusively demonstrate the great difficulty of making money by ocean-going steamers. Yet the Japanese, without experience of such and without cheap capital or skilled seamen, rush into competition with foreigners in the most reckless manner. They even compete with one another, though it is to be observed that anything of that kind is carefully avoided by the English, the French, the German and the Americans. The Peninsular and Oriental, the North German Lloyds, the Messageries Maritimes, the Occidental and Oriental—none of these companies is called on to compete with steamers flying the flag of its own nationality. The Japanese allow themselves to be carried away by ambition for empty reputation and lose sight of the dictates of solid gain. While showing this eagerness for Ocean-going lines, they neglect maritime enterprise that lies at their doors. The coast-wise carrying trade is in every way a simpler undertaking than ocean-steamer enterprise. It requires less capital and less experience; an inferior class of vessels may be employed; the risks are smaller and the opportunities of money-making larger. Despite these facts the Japanese have not only failed to secure their own coast-wise carrying trade for themselves, but they have made practically no attempt to get a footing in the China Sea. The last reports of the Imperial Maritime Customs (Chinese) show that, during 1895, the number of ships engaged in the carrying trade in the China Sea was 38,132; with a total tonnage of 29,737,078 tons. Among these 19,579 were British, with a tonnage of 21,125,790 tons; the Germans had 2,634, with a tonnage of 2,441,185 tons, the French 3,766, with a tonnage of 341,345 tons; and the Japanese 103, with a tonnage of 121,691 tons. The Chinese appear upon the list, but their place is so insignificant that they might as well be omitted. They have suffered their coastwise and riverine carrying trade to be entirely absorbed by foreign ships, and there is not the smallest apparent prospect of their recovering, or attempting to recover, the lost ground. Now the China Sea is at Japan's doors. She has many advantages for engaging in maritime competition there. She is close to it; she has coal supplies handy, she uses the same script as the Chinese, and she produces much that they need. Why does she not turn her attention vigorously to such a profitable field lying within easy reach, instead of engaging in distant and precarious undertakings? If she can not succeed in competition with foreigners in the China Sea despite her obvious advantages, what reasonable hope can she have of succeeding in competition with them on the high ocean where, in many respects, they are much better equipped than she is?

The question of official salaries is taken up by the *Fiji Shimpō*. We have seen the House of Representatives clamouring, session after

session, for a reduction of these salaries; we have seen the Cabinet resolutely setting its face against any such measure; we have seen the Emperor order a wise compromise in the form of a temporary subscription of ten per cent. of every official's pay for the purpose of naval shipbuilding; and we have seen the same House of Representatives, in its last session, urge His Majesty to remit the charge. Probably the impression left upon the mind of superficial observers is that officials in Japan do receive emolument disproportionate to the resources of the State, and that the Government refuses to listen to remonstrances on the subject. The *Fiji* approaches the question from the incontrovertible basis of arithmetic. At the end of 1895, the total number of officials in Japan was 46,698, and their total annual pay, 1,140,480 *yen*, being an average of 20.35 *yen* per month, or 67 *sen* daily. At the close of 1896, the number was 50,367, and their total annual pay 1,197,616 *yen*; being an average of 19.81 *yen* monthly, or 54 *sen per diem*. Since 1890, however, the prices of the necessities of life and the wages of labour have nearly doubled. A carpenter or a plasterer gets 70 *sen* a day at present; a mason gets a *yen*; a *jinrikisha* coolie earns 70 or 80 *sen*; a common labourer receives 40 *sen*. It appears, therefore that an educated official is not so well paid as a man that plasters walls, lays bricks, or runs between the shafts of a *jinrikisha*. Our readers can easily conjecture the comments elicited from the *Fiji Shimpō* by these figures. We need not reproduce them.

Mr. Shimada Saburo, writing over his own signature in the *Mainichi Shimbun*—of which he is the proprietor—denounces, in strong terms and at somewhat tedious length, the existence of the Colonization Department. Japan has no need of such an office. Either she does not want a Governor General of Formosa or she does not want a Minister of Colonization. The powers, military and administrative, vested in the former official, are so extensive that he is obviously independent of the latter. Mr. Shimada enters into statistics with reference to the colonial possessions of Spain, Portugal, Holland, England and France, and says that, in their cases, the organization of a Department to take charge of such large interests is necessary. But Japan has only one solitary island on the list of her colonies, and when she undertook to provide herself with a special Department of State on account of that one possession, the natural consequence was that European statesmen attributed the proceeding rather to aggressive designs than to unreflecting luxury of officialdom, and Spain, above all, concluded that her colonial property in Japan's neighbourhood was menaced. As for the origin of the Department, Mr. Shimada attributes it to Marquis Ito's imitative propensity in the first place, and to his political convenience in the second. Some say that the Marquis is a man gifted with the constitution making faculty; others allege that he is merely a skilful imitator. According to these latter—of whom Mr. Shimada is evidently one—the Marquis established a Colonial Department, not because he discovered any real need of it in Japan, but because he found it in the administrative mechanism of European States which served him as constitutional models. And there was another reason. He saw his Cabinet threatened with grave perils on account of the retrocession of Liaotung, and understood that unless he could silence his opponents by taking their leader into the Ministry, there was no hope of the latter's continued existence. But he had no portfolio available at the moment. He therefore created one, and gave it to Lieut.-General Viscount Takashima. Mr. Shimada is very bitter about that manufacture of a useless Department for political purposes. He also dwells upon the signal failure that has attended Japan's administrative effort in Formosa, and seems inclined to attribute it, in part, to a perplexing and needless division of responsibility between the Colonization Department in Tokyo

and the Governor-General's Bureau in Taipeh. The whole nation clamours for reforms in Formosa, and the Government should bravely take the opportunity of abolishing the Colonization Department. The country can not afford such wasteful excrescences. Mr. Shimada does not speak as plainly as the *Fiji Shimpō* on the subject of official emoluments. As a leader of the political party which agitated conspicuously in past years for the reduction of that class of expenditure, it would, perhaps, be difficult for him now to take the opposite line, though changed times might justify him in doing so. But his arguments point unmistakably to the conclusion that administrative pay should be raised, for among the reasons adduced by him in support of the abolition of the Colonization Department, one is that the funds at the disposal of the Communications Department and the Educational Department do not suffice to procure staffs competent to discharge the tasks of instruction and communications. The article is much too long to produce in any detail, but from this epitome our readers can obtain a pretty clear idea of its gist.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has two articles the purpose of which is to denounce the secrecy observed by officialdom in the domain of foreign policy. The Japanese people are very ready to criticise their diplomats, but the truth must be confessed that if the critics were to change places with the criticised, the same faults would be made. The Japanese nation has had virtually no experience in foreign politics. Only within the past forty years has it enjoyed international intercourse, and that it should be unskilled in diplomacy is more or less inevitable. Hence it is that, in the first place, the statesmen charged with the direction of the country's foreign affairs, find it difficult to obtain competent men for diplomatic posts; in the second, the people's ideas of foreign affairs are crude and unintelligent; and, in the third, domestic politics are confused with foreign in a manner that seriously cripples the nation's representatives. It is plain that to educate the people ought to be a prime aim of officialdom, and that, with such a purpose in view, the utmost possible candour should be shown by those charged with the care of international relations. The *Hochi* finds that the Russian Government manages to make every unit of the nation an instrument for promoting its ends. Thus, prior to the war with China, when Russia's policy was to hold the Middle Kingdom in check and push Japan to the front, even the fishermen on the coast of Siberia and the convicts in Saghalien showed a markedly friendly demeanour towards Japan. But since the war St. Petersburg's programme has been reversed; China is now the great Northern Power's *protegé*; Japan its *bleu noir*; and the change is faithfully reflected in the demeanour of even the most insignificant Russian in the Far East. It is the same as between France and Russia. The alliance of those two countries is an alliance of their peoples, not of their statesmen only. The people understand what the Government is doing, render intelligent assistance, and do not permit domestic politics to hamper the attainment of international objects. The spectacle is very different in Japan, and the *Hochi* thinks that one principal cause of the difference is the nation's ignorance of the Ministry's policy.

Discussing the projected international conference on the subject of the preservation of Seals and Sea-otters in the northern seas, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* suggests that Count Okuma ought to represent Japan on that occasion. The United States has entrusted the matter to Mr. Foster, formerly Secretary of State, and Great Britain sent Mr. Joseph Chamberlain to the last conference. It is, therefore, apparent that the delegate from Japan should be one of her ablest statesmen. The *Yomiuri* supports this proposition by pointing out that many incidental ends might be served by Count Okuma's presence in Washington. He would be there just before the meeting of Congress and he might exercise much influence in the direction of dispelling all ap-

prehensions about Japan's attitude towards Hawaii, and of establishing the peaceful motives of her policy in the Pacific. He might also take a part in the arrangements now pending about the Panama Canal, a question of no small importance to Japan. He might, further, inaugurate negotiations for treaty relations with the South American republics that are not yet in touch with Japan; and he might, finally visit Canada, and induce it to become a party to the Revised Treaties. The *Yomiuri* recognises the physical inconvenience that Count Okuma would experience in making such a journey, but thinks that His Excellency is not likely to be deterred by any consideration of that kind.

The want of a strong pro-Government political party, commanding an undoubted majority in the Diet, is regarded by the *Kokumin Shim-bun* as a serious impediment to the successful working of the administrative machine. It considers that measures essential at the present juncture, above all, the increase of taxation by raising the rates of the *Saki* Tax and the Land Tax, can not be adopted because the Cabinet thinks it hopeless to obtain the consent of the Diet. Hence the *Kokumin* would have the Ministry begin forthwith to make such arrangements as shall secure the return of a large phalanx of Cabinet supporters at the general elections next year; which end accomplished, the Cabinet should make up its mind to stand or fall according to the mandate of parliament, and to pay no more attention to the "camera statesmen."

The *Nippon* attacks Counts Matsukata and Okuma with great vehemence. It wants to know what they are about; what they contemplated when they accepted office; what they have accomplished since they came into office. Marquis Ito was supposed to be a skilled administrator but an inept financier; Count Matsukata, an expert financier but an unskilled administrator. On these grounds the latter displaced the former. Count Matsukata told the Diet last session that he had not been at the head of financial affairs long enough to make any material departure from the programme of his predecessors, but he promised to present a thoroughly satisfactory Budget next session. His sole achievement towards regulating the finances seems to have been the adoption of gold monometallism, and now that the country is on the eve of the change, no benefits make themselves apparent. As for the Budget, it is understood that next year's expenditures will be greater than this, and the air is filled with rumours about increased taxation. Where, then, is the Diet to find grounds for the satisfaction that Count Matsukata promised to procure for it, and where is the nation to discover a reason for the substitution of a Matsukata-Okuma Cabinet for an Ito? It is said by some that the change was really a transfer of power from the military to the civil party, and that it was necessary in the interests of public tranquillity. To such a contention the answer is that Count Matsukata has adopted the armament-expansion programme of Marquis Ito in its entirety. The *Nippon* preaches at great length from this text, but says nothing that adds any special force to the above. It must be remembered that the *Nippon*, the chauvinist *Nippon*, has always been in favour of reducing the dimensions of the armament-expansion scheme.

Assuming the truth of the rumour that a certain number of Russian officers and soldiers have entered Korea, about which incident there is no longer any room to be doubtful, says the *Yorodsu Choho*, it is plain that Russia has taken a new step forward in the peninsula. If she has sent in ten men now, without opposition, there is nothing to prevent her sending ten more by and by; and ten more, and ten more, in infinite series, until she is in a position to achieve her purpose of reducing Korea to the position of a semi-dependency of her own. If such things are possible under the Russo-Japanese Convention, the avowed object of which was to preserve

Korean independence, then, the *Yorodsu* thinks, it ought to be torn up. That, in fact, is the tenor of our contemporary's writing. It urges the Cabinet not to be bound by the blunders of its predecessors, but to adopt, as a basis of action, the broad principles of national safety and neighbourly obligation.

THE TARIFF.

We observe that the *Japan Gazette*, referring to the new Tariff, makes a statement which seems to be of a very misleading character. It says:—"So far as we understand it, the case stands as follows:—The publication of the tariffs in the *Official Gazette* some time ago, included the six months' notice to those countries whose treaties had been revised, and that notice will expire in September. Two Treaties of importance, the French and the Austro-Hungarian Treaties, have yet to be ratified. It is just possible that for some concessions the French and the Austrians may agree to waive the six months' notice and consent to the new Tariff coming into force directly ratification is accomplished. Business men, therefore, will be wise if they carefully watch the progress of the negotiations in Paris and Vienna." The publication referred to was that of the General Tariff enacted by the Diet last session. It had nothing to do with the Conventional Tariff appended to the new Anglo-Japanese Treaty. We fail to see why there should be any difficulty in understanding this matter. The Conventional Tariff—that is to say, the Tariff fixed by international negotiation—covers only a certain number of articles. The number determined by the British negotiators has been supplemented by the German, and may, perhaps, be still further increased by the French. But there remain, of course, many articles not included in these lists, and for the rates leviable on such articles the General Tariff provides. The General Tariff has another use, also. Its provisions are applicable in their entirety to countries which have no treaties with Japan but nevertheless trade with her. That point, however has no interest for the British merchant. All that concerns him is that whenever the duty leviable on any import is not determined by the Anglo-Japanese Tariff, or other Conventional Tariff, the rate indicated in the General Tariff must be paid. It goes almost without saying that the publication of the General Tariff in the *Official Gazette* has nothing whatever to do with the date of putting the Conventional Tariff into operation. The two things are wholly independent. The Revised Treaties provide that six months' notice must be given before putting the new Tariffs into operation, and, of course, six months' notice will be given. The idea that a question involving large sums of money and affecting a wide range of commercial transactions should be settled in the hole-and-corner fashion suggested by our contemporary, is not to be entertained for a moment. Merchants of all nationalities may rest assured that they will have ample official warning before any change of rates is made in practice.

THE LATE SEÑOR CANOVAS.

The late Señor Antonio Cánovas del Castillo, who has fallen beneath the assassin's bullet, was born in 1830. He made his début in 1851, under the patronage of Señors Rios, Rosas, and Pacheco, as chief editor of the *Patricia*, in which he defended Conservative ideas. In 1854, he was named deputy for Malaga, and since that year never ceased to occupy a seat in the Cortes. In 1856, he was Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, and drew up the historical memorandum on the relations of Spain with the Holy See, which served as a basis for the Concordat. He was then named successively Governor of Cadiz in 1855, Director General of the Administration from 1858 to 1861, and lastly, in that same year, Under Secretary of State for the Interior. In 1864, the Queen called him to the Ministry, together with Mon; O'Donnell chose him in 1865 as Minister of

Finance and the Colonies; and he had the honour of drawing up the law for the abolition of the traffic in slaves. Lastly, a little before the Revolution of 1868, he was the last to defend with energy in the Cortes the Liberal principle when all the parties which had supported his doctrine had deserted the Parliament. His greatest title to fame is that of having been the first—supported by Señors Elduayen, Bugallal, and two others—to hoist the standard of legitimate and constitutional monarchy, in the full Constituent Assembly of 1868, and in face of the triumphant Revolution. His fidelity and capacity definitely obtained for him the supreme direction of the Alfonsist party; and on the proclamation of Alfonso XIII. as King in Dec., 1874, Señor Cánovas del Castillo became President of the Council and chief of the new Cabinet, and continued to hold the Premiership, with the exception of an interval of a few months, down to 1879, when on the return of Marshal Martinez Campos from Cuba, Señor Cánovas del Castillo retired from the Premiership and Marshal Campos became Prime Minister, accepting as his colleagues the principal associates of Señor Cánovas. The skillful resistance of the latter delayed and defeated the Marshal's free-trade and emancipation projects, so that, on the re-assembling of the Cortes (Dec., 1879), he was compelled to resign. Señor Cánovas del Castillo returned to power in the year 1881. However, his Conservative Cabinet was overthrown, and a coalition between Señor Sagasta and Marshal Martinez Campos came into office. At the crisis of Nov., 1885, on the question of the occupation of the Caroline Islands by Germany, he was compelled to resign, and was elected President of the Chamber the same day as the new Sagasta government came into office, and was chief of the moderate Conservative party till July 1890, when he returned to power. In Nov., 1891, his government went out of office, but was again formed by him on the old lines. Señor Cánovas del Castillo was the author of numerous works in moral and political science, and a "History of the House of Austria," which is in great repute. These publications gained him admission into the Academy of Madrid. In 1875 Señor Cánovas del Castillo received the insignia of the Order of the Red Eagle from the Emperor of Germany, the Grand Cross of the Order of the Tower and Sword from the King of Portugal, and the Golden Fleece from the King of Spain.

These particulars we take from *Men and Women of the Time*. In the *Deutsche Review* there have lately been appearing some articles on Spanish statesmen, from which we take the following paragraph:—"The present premier, Don Antonio Cánovas del Castillo, belongs to the small number of men whose great talents explain and justify the high position they occupy. Even his worst enemies—and Cánovas has as many as Castelar—acknowledge his great ability as a statesman who always extends his hand to aid when his native land is in danger; whose loyal heart gives even his political foes well-meant counsel; whose mighty intellect, under all circumstances, maintains its calm poise. Cánovas showed a preference bordering upon passion for literature, and historical and politico-economical studies. But it cannot be said of him, as of many other politicians, that he merely used literature as a stepping stone to his lofty position, for even later, when his time was occupied by affairs of State, he did not cease to occupy himself with literary work, and wrote articles upon subjects which had no connection with politics. He is entitled to a place among the great Spanish prose-writers of the present day; some of his historical articles—for instance, the description of the battle of Rocroy—are models. Cánovas is also an admirable parliamentary speaker, and a charming conversationalist whose language is characterized by grace, intellect, and wit, terseness of expression and depth of thought. Cánovas, who is now more than sixty years old, has retained the full freshness of his rich mental powers. His head is massive, his face, though the features are not regular, is pleasing and expressive, and the gleam of his thick, silver-white hair lends it special brilliancy."

JAPANESE TOPICS.

It appears that Japan is already beginning to feel the disadvantage of her gold monometallism in the field of exports. Gold having appreciated considerably since she chose her ratio, there is now a difference of five-eighths of a penny between the exchange value of the dollar in sterling and the value assigned to it under the Japanese system. That means that the sum in sterling required to buy a hundred *yen* in Japan will buy 102½ Mexican dollars in China. To that extent Chinese silk is cheaper than Japanese, and it is said that foreign exporters are turning their attention to the former in preference. A saving of seventeen or eighteen dollars in the prime cost of a bale of silk, is not to be despised in these days of narrow margins. It means 153,000 *yen* on an export of nine thousand bales, and the silk merchants of Yokohama and Kobe are not too magnificent to take serious account of such a difference as that in their annual ledgers.

It is counted an occasion of exceptional importance in Japan when the Emperor addresses a message to a Cabinet or administrative official. His Majesty's injunctions to the Governor-General of Formosa has, therefore, excited much interest. As usual, the Emperor does not waste words. He simply says:—

Inasmuch as Formosa and its neighbouring islands have been included in Our dominions only recently, it is possible that some of Our subjects in those regions may still entertain some feeling of uneasiness, and it is consequently essential that they should be treated with clemency and kindness, and that every consideration should be extended to their peculiar ideas and customs. We further charge you to preserve rigid discipline among officials and due order in the conduct of public affairs, to the end that the objects of virtuous administration may be furthered.

There is nothing more to be said. A gentle and conciliatory attitude towards the natives; abstention from any acts offensive to their traditional ideas or customs; discipline and integrity among officials; diligence and regularity in the management of public business—if all these things could be achieved, the Formosan administration would become a credit to Japan, instead of being a disgrace. Meanwhile, it is satisfactory to note that the cleansing of the Augean stable proceeds. Other officials have been arrested on a charge of corrupt practices, and we may presume that before Baron Nogi leaves Tokyo, arrangements will have been made for a sweeping substitution of honest and competent officials for the corrupt and incapable men that were most unwisely appointed at the outset. It will always remain difficult to understand how the last Cabinet so greatly under-estimated the task of governing Formosa as to send thither the riff-raff of officialdom. The best men that the country had were needed, and some of the worst seem to have been employed.

It is interesting to observe that Japan's attitude towards Chinese immigration in Formosa bears a very close resemblance to the much criticised attitude of the United States towards the same problem in America. Japan restricts the landing of Chinese to four places, Kelung, Tamsui, Anping and Takow, and does not allow anyone to remain unless he can show that he has a legitimate means of livelihood. When all is said and done, England remains the only Power in the world that

can afford to be unreservedly liberal. Some sections of Greater Britain still remain exclusive, but whenever England herself exercises administrative control, thither any member of any nationality is free to come and go as he pleases. Japan, however, has a special excuse in Formosa. It is from the unemployed Chinese, the waifs and strays of Amoy and Foochow, that the ranks of the insurgents appear to be chiefly recruited, and she is justified in trying to exclude such an element. Telegraphic intelligence received in Tokyo on the 3rd instant, says that the Authorities having detected many instances of clandestine landing at places other than those specified for the purpose, instituted strict inquiries, with the result that 800 Chinamen who had come over from the continent in contravention of the law, were put on board a steamer, and sent across to be "dumped" at Foochow.

The dimensions of the opium problem in Formosa do not appear to be as formidable as was anticipated. According to the latest returns, the total number of licensed smokers is only 6,796, namely, 2 of the 1st class, 118 of the second, and 6,676 of the third. Six thousand seven hundred and ninety-six is a small fraction of three million inhabitants.

The "Virgin"-cigarettes affair is naturally seized upon by the *Japan Gazette* for the purpose of circulating new apprehensions as to the things that may happen after the revised treaties go into operation. The *Gazette* does not appear to be very accurately posted about the facts of the case. It alleges that 200 *soshi* were hired to wreck the store of Murai Brothers, and it leads its readers to suppose that the police hesitated to act vigorously, not, indeed, because they were "physical cowards," but because they "had not the moral support of the public behind them." Undoubtedly the police had not the moral support of the public in this case, for the crowd seems to have sympathised heartily with the wrecking operations, being persuaded, apparently, that the business of the Murai Brothers deserved to be wiped out. But the unfortunate police did not show any hesitation of the nature attributed to them by the *Gazette*. Two of them—the only two within immediate reach—Morita and Demura, went into the fray with the utmost courage, but instead of finding that they were recognised as having "the whole force of the Japanese Crown behind them," they found their heads promptly broken, and the subsequent proceedings didn't interest them. It may be mentioned, also, *en passant*, that there were not 200 *soshi* but 30. We can not ourselves think that the police acted with proper alacrity. They seem to have under-estimated the dimensions of the affair in a most singular manner, and it is to be hoped that they will be called to adequate account. But as to the *Gazette's* reflections upon civilization and the hiring of parties of roughs, we recommend it to read the stories of some of the elections in our own country a few years ago. The *Soshi* are a pestilential crew, but their significance as an index of barbarism should not be over-estimated.

Concerning the fell prospect that this incident discloses in connexion with the dark days ahead, we want to know some-

thing more about it. We want to know just how it is that Consular Jurisdiction guarantees us against these mishaps. If, at the present moment, a Japanese wanted to hire a score or two of *Soshi* for the purpose of raiding a foreign resident's premises, we are inclined to think that the functions of protection and apprehension would devolve upon the Japanese police, and that the rioters would be cited before a Japanese tribunal, precisely as will be the case on July 20th, 1893. There is the Consular constable, to be sure. He could easily dispose of 30 or 40 *Soshi* no doubt. It might be a good device to petition that a Consular Constable should be permanently stationed in Yokohama for the protection of the British community.

A quaint phase of the "Virgin" affair is that Messrs. Murai Brothers are now supposed to have themselves hired the *Soshi*. It appears that on the following day they would have been obliged to make their first distribution of valuable prizes—a gold watch, ten silver watches, forty clocks, and so forth. But not having articles either in sufficient quantity or of sufficient quality, they hit upon the plan of a smash up. Such is the version put about by idle rumour. 'Tis strange, people say, that the Murai Brothers have refrained from submitting to the police any statement of their losses. We find the suspicion a little too subtle. But as to the *Soshi* having been hired by rival tobaccoists—that, too, we do not believe.

The unexpectedly sudden return of Marquis Ito from Europe suggests many conjectures. It was originally supposed that His Excellency would remain abroad till next spring, and a change of programme shortening his absence by at least six months must have some significance. We presume that if private considerations alone were in question, some measure would have been taken to acquaint the public with the fact, for Marquis Ito is, of course, well aware of the importance attached to his movements, and would be anxious, if possible, to prevent any false construction. But even the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* professes ignorance, and people are left to draw their own conclusions.

A local contemporary, describing the funeral of the late Count Goto, says:—"Surrounding the bier were the professional mourners—an indispensable feature of an Oriental funeral—who, attired in their flowing garments and wearing upon their heads huge straw hats of a peculiar shape, presented a sufficiently grotesque appearance." This reminds us of the Briton who, returning hastily from his first visit to France, remarked that the French were a dreadful people: all their peasants wore butcher's garb.

It appears that a young man, more zealous than discreet, lent aid to an American blue-jacket on the 8th instant, as he was attempting to escape from the police. The interferer with the majesty of the law unfortunately made the Boat-house the basis of his unwise proceedings, so that his conduct reflects on the Y.A.R.C. as a body. It was very reprehensible no doubt, but, after all, not very serious. A blue-jacket in trouble with the "bobbies" seems to possess special claims upon the sympathies of onlookers every-

where, and so far as we can gather, nothing was done in this case except to give the hunted man a new start. Rumour says that the police are thinking of prosecuting the obstructors. We hope that they will refrain from doing so. The affair did not exceed the dimensions of a "lark," and public opinion so unequivocally condemns the offender that he has been sufficiently punished. The police can afford to be magnanimous. The future discharge of their duties will certainly be facilitated rather than impeded if they show leniency in this instance.

X The persistency of the rumours circulated in Tokyo about Russians frequenting the neighbourhood of Japan's coast defences, or otherwise seeking to obtain military information by surreptitious means, is becoming quite remarkable. We shall be not exaggerating if we say that, during the past five or six months, scarcely a week has passed without the circulation of some story in that sense by the vernacular press. The whole thing may be pure misconception on the part of the Japanese, but we do not quite see how that can be the case. Of course, if Russian experts choose to incur the risk of serving their country's intelligence department in that way, there is nothing to be said except that the Japanese must adopt vigilant measures to protect themselves. All nations deem it fair to probe each other's military secrets. With regard to the last instance reported, however, we fail to appreciate the motive of the alleged Russians. Three of them, accompanied by two Japanese, are said to have been observed, on the 24th ultimo, surveying Miyatsu harbour from a boat. On learning the fact, some policemen hastened from the prefectural office to the place, but the surveyors had taken their departure. The incident was subsequently repeated in all its details. What could be the object of surveying Miyatsu harbour? Charts of it are to be had for the buying, presumably.

We find in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* an interesting note which we must assume to be correct. It is to the effect that Mr. Hara Kei, formerly Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and subsequently Japanese Representative in Korea, has become editor of the *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun*; and that Mr. Saito Shuichiro, at one time Private Secretary to Count Inouye and afterwards Vice-Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, has assumed the same position with regard to the *Chuo Shogyo Shimpō*. Japanese journalism is to be congratulated on the accession of two such men to its ranks.

The public is reminded by the vernacular newspapers that when the question of a large Russian *mission militaire* was on the *tapis*, some time ago, and when the Japanese Government took action in the matter, assurances were obtained from St. Petersburg that the affair should remain in abeyance until the new Russian Representative, Baron Rosen, could be consulted in Tokyo. Baron Rosen is expected to reach Japan on the 16th instant, and it is obviously most improbable that, on the very eve of his arrival, the above engagement would be violated by the Russian Government. If, then, the thirteen military men said to have just arrived in Sōul, are really intended to act as instruc-

tors for the Korean troops, their employment must have been arranged without the official consent of their own authorities, and is open to reversal according to the result of the negotiations between Baron Rosen and the Tokyo Foreign Office.

Marquis Ito is to return by way of Vancouver, which place he will leave by the Canadian Pacific mail steamer of the 23rd instant, reaching Japan early in September.

The *Official Gazette* publishes the following list of Japan's national debts at present:—

	Yen.
Consolidated Bonds	174,564,250
War Bonds	121,724,000
Five-per-cent. Pension Bonds	29,509,370
Paper Currency Redemption Bonds	22,000,000
Railway Bonds	10,000,000
Naval Bonds	9,288,600
Old Bonds	5,486,362
Public Undertakings Bonds	3,000,000
Total	375,572,582

This list is irreconcilable with the figures published in the current year's Budget.

The Liberal Club have followed the example of the Liberal Party by presenting to Counts Matsukata and Okuma and Viscount Takashima documents urging them to resign. These acts do not conduce to a belief in the country's fitness for party Cabinets. To render that system of government even tolerably workable, it is not enough that the politicians of the nation should be divided into two great camps, each containing competent statesmen, and each strongly represented in the Diet. It is also necessary that political parties should have a due sense of their public responsibilities, and that is precisely what the Liberals seem to lack, if we may judge from the present procedure. We say the Liberals because their case is immediately before us, but in point of fact the *Shimpō-to*, or the factions of which it is composed, have a worse record in this respect. Foreign politics is the weak point in government by party. Englishmen recognise the defect clearly, and take the utmost care to avert its perils. Whether the Conservatives are in office or whether the Liberals, the foreign policy of the country is practically continuous, and never by any chance does the Opposition perpetrate the irreparable blunder of assailing the Cabinet's procedure while a discussion with a foreign State is pending. But that is exactly what the Liberals are now doing. They have compiled and published documents declaring, in effect, that the Cabinet's treatment of the Hawaiian question has been needlessly peremptory, and that the United States have cause to be alarmed by Japan's attitude. That is setting party interests far above the dictates of patriotism, and until Japanese politicians learn that their country must be first in all their acts, the era of party cabinets will have to be postponed.

Those thirteen Russians that have "entered Sōul" little suspect the intensity of the gaze that Japan fixes upon them. One can hardly open a Tokyo Journal without encountering the words *Rohei niukan*, which four syllables suffice to convey the fact that Russian soldiers have entered Korea. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has received a long telegram from Sōul on the subject, the gist of which is that the three officers, one non-commissioned officer and nine privates

are the result of an arrangement made by Mr. Waeber; that the arrangement having borne fruit prematurely, so far as concerns the arrival of this *mission*, Mr. Waeber is now considerably embarrassed; that he has consequently struck out the device of connecting the military men with his previous proposal for the leasing of the island of Hang-cha-yol in Yong-keung Bay, and that he has plotted to have Li Wan-yong removed from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to that of Education, in order to replace him at the former by Keum Keung-yuk, who endorses Russian projects. Mr. Waeber, whatever cards he may really be playing in the Korean capital, certainly gets the credit of holding the master hand. If he is half as strong and resourceful a diplomatist as Japanese reporters represent him to be, we are sceptical about the theory that he has allowed himself to be unexpectedly invaded by 13 untimely *militaire*.

X Among all the journals in Tokyo the *Sekai-no-Nippon* is the one to which we look with most confidence for a statement of the reasons that have induced Marquis Ito to anticipate by six months the originally fixed date for his return to Japan. It is disappointing, therefore, to find that instead of presenting to its readers any views of its own, our contemporary confines itself to reproducing the two views said to be current chiefly in the ranks of the *Shimpō-to*, is to the effect that, during his stay in London and Paris, Marquis Ito saw enough to convince him that Russian affairs are of a nature to inspire much anxiety, and that circumstances do not sanction a leisurely trip on his part round the world. He has, therefore, determined to hasten home, and on his arrival in Tokyo he will lay aside all ancient grudges and form a Cabinet with Count Okuma, Count Inouye also joining the coalition, and Counts Matsukata and Kabayama, as well as Viscount Takashima, leaving the Cabinet. The principal basis of the above hypothesis is that, when the Hawaiian affair came upon the tapis, Marquis Ito despatched a long telegram to Count Okuma, saying that as matters in Europe had assumed an urgent aspect, it would be unwise to plunge too deeply into the complication with Hawaii. That is the first theory.

The second is of a very different nature, and the *Sekai-no-Nippon* does not say anything about the circle in which it is entertained, but, of course, there can be no difficulty in filling up the hiatus. This supposition is that a serious collision is about to occur between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. The Marquis, during his stay in Europe, is believed to have discovered that Count Okuma's foreign policy has offended several of the Occidental Powers and is injuring Japan's interests. Mr. Kato, the Japanese Representative in London, is alleged to have strongly confirmed that view. Hence Marquis Ito's resolve to return at once. The forecast continues that, on reaching Tokyo, His Excellency will ask the Emperor to convene a meeting of statesmen in the Imperial presence, when the peace that has existed for the past half year between the ex-Premier and Count Okuma will be rudely disturbed. If the Count falls in with Marquis Ito's views, he will remain in the

Cabinet, and the only changes will be the retirement of Count Matsukata and one or two others.

It is quite plain that these explanations are purely conjectural. The *Sekai-no-Nippon* does not know more than anybody else, or, if it knows, is determined not to speak. Undoubtedly Marquis Ito's return lends itself to surmise. No attempt has been made to offer any official or semi-official explanation. In some quarters it is alleged that the precarious condition of the Marquis' old and much valued friend, Count Mutsu, has induced the ex-Premier to hasten home. We fear that the two statesmen can not hope to meet in this world. Had that been the object of the Marquis, he should have commenced his homeward journey sooner.

THE LATE RT. REV. BISHOP EDWARD BICKERSTETH, D.D.

The news of Bishop Bickersteth's death must have caused profound sorrow to a host of friends in Japan. It had been known for some time that his condition inspired uneasiness. Five or six years ago, a climatic malady contracted while serving in India, re-asserted itself, and threatened to prove fatal but was happily arrested, and after a trip to England, the Bishop's health seemed quite restored. But the disease, one of those insidious troubles which, by weakening the constitution, prepare the way for their renewed attacks, made its appearance again last year, and compelled a voyage to England. Unfortunately the virus defied even the invigorating influence of the home climate, and the patient seems to have sunk slowly but surely until death ended his sufferings. Bishop Bickersteth was a man of deep erudition, wide sympathies, and profound religious convictions. Ill health never succeeded in impairing the even geniality of his temper or narrowing the range of his interests. His influence for good owed little to his personality, but he presented to all that knew him a fine symmetry of mind and character, strong without exaggeration, steadfast without intolerance, and the simple, unostentatious and unselfish zeal that he brought to the discharge of every duty as a priest and every obligation as a friend, hallowed the sphere in which he moved and elevated and purified those with whom he came in contact. We deeply mourn his loss, and sympathise keenly with the sorrow of his young widow.

Bishop Bickersteth had served in Japan since 1886. The eldest son of the Bishop of Exeter, he was born in 1850, and in 1892 he married Miss Marion Forsyth, daughter of William Forsyth Esq., Q.C. Educated at Cambridge University, he graduated First Class Theological Tripos and became a Fellow of Pembroke College. He served as curate of Holy Trinity, South Hampstead, from 1873 to 1875, then as Lecturer in Theology at Pembroke College from 1875 to 1877, after which he proceeded to Delhi, as Head of the Cambridge Mission, returning to England in 1884 and becoming Rector of Framlingham, where he served until appointed to the Japan See in 1886. He was author of "The Church in Japan"; "Pre-Anglican Communion in Japan"; "A Basis of Christian Union"; Pastoral Letters, &c.

COUNT GOTO'S FUNERAL.

Count Goto's funeral took place on Sunday afternoon. The cortege left the residence in Minami-machi at 2 o'clock, and reached Aoyama cemetery about two hours later. In accordance with the wish of the deceased, the utmost simplicity was observed, and as an intimation had been expressly conveyed to the public that gifts of flowers would be dispensed with, that usually brilliant feature of Japanese obsequies was absent. On the other hand, a great concourse of distinguished personages attended, including the Minister President of State, all the members of the Cabinet now in Tokyo, representatives of the Emperor and of several Imperial Princes, and a number of noblemen, gentleman and prominent politicians. The carriages that followed the bier are said to have totalled about a hundred and fifty, and the procession was prolonged by nearly as numerous a line of *jinrikisha*. Throughout the whole length of the route, a distance of about four miles, dense crowds lined both sides of the road. Indeed, had the funeral been a state function on the most magnificent scale, it could scarcely have attracted more attention. The catafalque, which appeared to be very heavy, was carried by about twenty bearers, and the frequent reliefs that were found necessary involved considerable delay. There were, of course, no soldiers nor any band, the ceremony being of a private character. At the residence as well as at the ceremony, Baron Iwasaki Yano-suke and Mr. Oye Taku assisted the deceased's son to perform the function of chief mourner, but Mr. Goto alone walked behind the bier *en route* for the graveyard. When Count Goto entered the service of the Government to the establishment of which he had contributed so materially, the Aoyama cemetery did not exist. His grave there is now surrounded by the tombs of many of the men that made the *Meiji* era memorable in Japan's history.

FOREIGNERS AND LOCAL TAXATION.

It is a tolerably sure thing that if any question arises between a foreigner and the Japanese Authorities, Central or Local, some vernacular journal will get hold of a perverted version, and make things look ugly for the unhappy foreigner. Mr. W. Denning of Sendai is the victim now, and the *Miyako Shimbun* is the traducer. It alleges, with fine indifference to truth, that foreigners all over the empire have hitherto paid the local taxes without query, but that Mr. Denning has declined to do so: has denied that he is under any obligation of the kind, and has appealed to his Consul and Minister. The *Miyako Shimbun*, not content with that splendidly imaginative version, goes on to say that all the Foreign Ministers have already admitted the liability of their nationals to pay such taxes, and that instructions have been given to distraint Mr. Denning's property if he continues recalcitrant. We have here five falsehoods. Foreigners have not hitherto paid the local taxes everywhere. Mr. Denning has not declined to do so. He has not denied that he is under any such obligation. The Foreign Ministers have not admitted the liability of their nationals in this respect, and orders have not been issued to distraint

Mr. Denning's property if he persists. The facts are that no such attempt has ever been previously made to levy such a tax; that other foreign residents in Sendai are not asked to pay it; that Mr. Denning has neither denied nor admitted his liability, but has merely sought instructions, and that he is perfectly ready to pay if any semblance of an obligation can be shown. We recommend him to pay anyhow. Life is too short to fight for these principles. Their champion, be he ever so fully justified, is sure to be hurt in the conflict, and equally sure to have a black mark set against his name by slanders like those of the *Miyako Shimbun*.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT AT THE KAWABIRAKI.

The Kawabiraki festival at Ryogoku on the Sumida River, after the usual postponements on account of the weather, came off on Tuesday evening under a clear moonlit sky, but was marred by a calamitous accident. An immense crowd of people assembled, as they invariably do, upon the Ryogoku bridge, and about twenty minutes past eight o'clock, the down-stream balustrade yielded to the heavy pressure of the sight-seers, who were eagerly watching a particularly brilliant display of fireworks. Some fifty unfortunate people fell into the river with the balustrade, and a scene of indescribable confusion arose. A steam launch, five boats and six cargo boats were on the spot almost immediately, and the police received eager help in the work of rescuing the drowning men, women and children. The exact number of casualties has not been announced at this moment of writing, but five among the forty odd persons taken from the water had sustained serious injuries, and it is feared that about six lives have been lost, though up to eleven o'clock the corpses of two men and a woman and her child, only had been recovered. This sad accident will be another sin to lay at the door of the Municipal Authorities. The immense concourse of people that Ryogoku bridge has to support every year on the night of the Kawabiraki is perfectly well known, and can be anticipated with certainty. With such a prospect, the condition of the bridge should have been carefully examined beforehand. Of course it is very easy to be wise after the event, but the precaution we now speak of is so obvious that we can scarcely be without justification in condemning the failure to take it.

ERUPTION OF MOUNT SHIRANE.

The *Nippon* states that Mount Shirane, which lies between Azuma-gun in Joshu and the boundary of Shinshu, again erupted on the 31st July. At 5 a.m. that day a crater about ten yards in diameter developed itself on the south of the sulphur mine, while another vent appeared at a distance of forty yards east of the mine, emitting lava, stones, and rocks weighing more than 40 *kwamme* (333 lbs.). The rocks rolled down in a north-westerly direction to a place over 500 *ken* distant, and covered the rails used in the transport of sulphur from the mine. It is said that one end of the line, about 37 *ken* in length, was blown up, and portions now lie on a peak to the north. The districts devastated by the lava are estimated to be no less than five square *ri* in circumference. Fortunately no injury was done to neighbouring forests and crops. One of the miners had his left shoulder dislocated in an attempt to escape. The chief Inspector of the Sagano-hara Police Station proceeded to the spot immediately on receipt of information, in order to make investigation.

The sulphur miners on Shirane-san, have abandoned the mines owing to the severity of the present eruption.

THE "MAINICHI" ON THE GOLD STANDARD.

Demand for gold for exchange is likely to increase after October as fast as silver depreciates. The greater the demand, however, the greater the loss to the Japanese Government. We have therefore to consider the problem, the *Mainichi* urges, with all seriousness, as we share with the Government an equal degree of anxiety. A certain financier of eminent ability, perfectly acquainted with the economic condition of the world, has remarked that if the silver presented for exchange aggregates a hundred million yen, inclusive of forty million yen allowed for Singapore and the amount now in circulation in the interior, the loss to the Government will be no less than thirteen or fourteen million yen. The reason for this is very clear. Suppose the market value of silver to be 25½ pence; then the ratio between gold and silver will be 1 to 36.8, that is to say, a hundred yen of gold will be exchangeable for 270 or 280 yen silver. Accordingly, the conversion of the white for the yellow metal to the amount of one hundred million yen involves a loss of 13 million yen. The enforcement of the new system, however, secures a certain advantage to the Government, with respect to minting subsidiary coins. These coins were originally 900 parts fine, but the new standard having set them at 800 parts fine, the difference will constitute a profit to the Government. If subsidiary coins are struck to an amount of fifty million yen in addition to the sum of thirty millions circulating at present, the Government will be enabled to realize a profit of over six million yen. Should this be the case, the losses actually to be borne by the Government will, it is alleged, hardly exceed six or seven million yen. Nevertheless these allegations can only be regarded as theories held by those perfectly acquainted with the nature of the problem. Were the demand for exchange to reach one hundred million yen, the foundation of gold monometallism would be in danger. The profit or loss to the Government will no longer be a subject of debate, but a crisis of great magnitude will arise. We (*Japan Mail*) give these figures as they stand. We do not pretend to follow them.

THE "VIRGIN" CIGARETTE AFFAIR AND OTHER MATTERS.

The police report of the wrecking of Messrs. Murai Bros.' store on the 3rd instant, imparts to the affair a complexion very different from that suggested by the accounts of the *Sekai-no-Nippon*, which journal has made itself particularly conspicuous in connexion with the incident. It now appears that the disturbance had its origin in popular dissatisfaction with the nature of the prizes distributed by the firm. The distribution had been going on for three days, and had concluded at 7 p.m. on the 3rd instant. An hour later, symptoms of discontent and of a disposition to "demonstrate" made themselves apparent in the vicinity of the store. Twenty or thirty ticket-holders assembled and declared that they had not received anything. The people of the store explained that business hours were over, but promised to attend to the question the following day, and the malcontents, being urged by the policeman on duty, dispersed for the moment. But others soon assembled and began to throw stones. The policeman appears to have done everything in his power. He arrested the first man that attempted to break into the store, but was roughly handled, and had to surrender his prisoner and run for assistance with a damaged head. Another policeman found himself equally powerless. He, too, went to summon aid and then hastened back to the scene. Some seven or eight constables appear to have endeavoured, vigorously and courageously, to restrain the roughs, but the latter were too resolute and too numerous for the small force of available police. A second arrest resulted in the disabling of a second

constable, and, to sum up the case, the mob had worked its will before the guardians of the police could exercise any effective restraint. Of course such things ought not to be possible in the capital of the empire, but unfortunately experience shows that they are possible in the capitals of all empires and republics. It seems that the firm have decided to dismiss their Tokyo manager, Mr. Kato, on the ground that he misconstrued, or contravened, their regulations for the distribution of prizes. That looks as if the discontented folk had some reason on their side, even from the firm's point of view.

Very few people, we imagine, will be prepared to endorse the legal fiction that the Murai Brothers' venture is free from any of the demoralizing effects which the anti-lottery law is intended to prevent. It is true that every buyer of a ticket is supposed to receive a prize, by which device the element of chance is, in some degree, eliminated. But that is a mere fiction. If such a principle were admissible, there would be nothing to prevent the organization of lotteries in which each subscriber of a dollar would receive a five-*sen* photograph and would further have the chance of winning a prize of twenty thousand yen. A difference in the intrinsic value of the articles distributed, and recourse to lots for the purpose of determining which subscribers shall receive the more valuable articles—these are the essential features of a lottery, and these are plainly present in the case of the "Virgin" cigarettes. The Murai Brothers, or the firm they represent, say to the public, "put up 4 *sen*, and we undertake to give you for your money a certainty in the form of a packet of cigarettes and a cheap novel, and with the surplus that remains after we have taken our own profit, we promise to distribute twenty or thirty prizes, more or less valuable, for which our thirty or forty thousand customers shall draw lots." If that is not a lottery, what is a lottery, we wonder. There are newspapers and other publications that undertake to give a Webster's dictionary, a bicycle, or a gold watch to every one subscribing for so and so many copies. Such a method differs radically from that of the Murai Brothers. If the proprietor of a newspaper or a magazine calculates that a hundred subscriptions will give him, in addition to a handsome profit, a surplus sufficient to purchase a dictionary or a bicycle for a subscriber, there is no moral reason against conducting his business on those lines. He merely gives so many copies of his publication plus a book or some other article for so much money. The lottery principle does not come in at all. But the "Virgin" cigarette scheme in a pure lottery.

Concerning this Murai incident, we have already noted that it was trotted out as an example of the things that foreigners may expect when they pass under Japanese jurisdictions. How it could be twisted into anything of the kind we were puzzled to conceive, inasmuch as the only apparent difference between "then" and "now" will be that the solitary Consular constable at present retained may be pensioned off. We don't know that he will, and we don't know why he should, but whether he goes or remains, his protective capacities do not appear to be of prime importance. However, the *Yan* *Gazette* now explains that when it predicted sad happenings under the new system, its thoughts were concentrated on the fact of foreigners' being "congregated in the Settlement." "Under Consular Jurisdiction," says our contemporary, "foreigners are congregated in the Settlement, and *soshi*, who might readily enough wreck a solitary shop in an inland town, would think twice before storming a business house in the Settlement." Curious reasoning, surely. Foreigners will be under no sort of obligation to quit the Settlement after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. If they think themselves safer when living as a community than they would be did they scatter through the country, there will be nothing on earth to interfere with their choice. And, indeed, there is not the remotest probability that the foreign residents will cease to be gregarious in Japan for the next fifty years. They have their places of business;

they have their Japanese clientèle, and they have their common amusements. Those that go to live in the interior, will take the risks and discomforts with the advantages. Those that consider mutual protection a necessity, can remain congregated in Yokohama, Kobe, or any of the present places of resort. As for the risks, considering that foreigners have been living all over Japan for the past twenty years, that they have been engaged in propagating an alien creed against which the bitterest national prejudice existed up to the late sixties, and does still exist in some quarters, and that their residences have remained absolutely free from outrage of any kind, this talk of the *Japan Gazette's* seems not only grossly unjust but contemptibly pusillanimous. Is it impossible for our contemporaries and its fellow thinkers to dismiss their groundless terror of the Japanese people? Is it impossible for them to take any fair account of things as they have actually been? Nothing could be more mischievous than this continued outcry about the awful things awaiting the foreigner when the Revised Treaties go into force. The effect must be to create a sentiment which will contribute materially to justify such sinister and cowardly predictions.

Another of our local contemporaries takes up the case of the Kobe coolies, and makes it the text of a sermon: How much sincerity there is in such writing we find difficulty in estimating, so conflicting are the utterances of the same journal on the same topic at a brief interval. Here is an example taken from the literature on this very subject:—

Japan Herald, Aug. 7th.

So far as police arrangements go, both persons and properties of foreigners are as well protected as those of the natives, though at the same time we should like to see the police, when foreigners are subject to extortion and abuse, show a greater spirit of alacrity to shield them against being fleeced and abused, than is generally the case.

Japan Herald, Aug. 10th.

Drifting as we unfortunately all are under Japanese jurisdiction, it is not pleasant to think that the security of our lives and property is in great measure to be dependent on a Government which does not appear to be able, anxious, or willing either for its own reputation or for the protection of foreigners committed to its charge, to accomplish what is demanded of it, as a power claiming to be equal to those States, where such conduct as the almost uncheckable license of the coolie class, such as is manifested at Kobe, would be regarded as intolerable, and would be put down without any hesitation whatever.

Thus we are assured, on Saturday, that "the persons and properties of foreigners in Japan are as well protected as those of the natives," and, on the following Tuesday, that "it is not pleasant to think that the security of our lives and property is to be dependent on a Government which does not appear to be able, anxious or willing . . . for the protection of foreigners committed to its charge to do what is demanded of it as a Power claiming equality with Occidental States." It would seem that reason is driven out whenever the blind fear of Japanese jurisdiction steps in. That something is needed at Kobe we, too, are strongly persuaded. But we are not persuaded that the fault is all on the side of the Japanese coolies. The latest case recorded furnishes an illustration. Nearly a whole column of the *Hogo News* is devoted to describing what is called "More Coolie Insolence." Most of the details are ludicrously trivial—so paltry that their publication seems to indicate a morbidly excited mood. The whole affair turns on the refusal of two foreigners to exchange the *kagos* in which they were riding for *kagos* which had come from the travellers' destination and were on the return route. Such exchanges are matters of every-day occurrence. Nobody imbued with ordinary feelings of kindness refuses to lighten the labour of hard worked coolies by a concession so trifling in itself yet of such consequence to the coolies. But in this instance the refusal was peremptory. Thereafter the coolies seem to have demanded payment in a rude and rough manner, not justifiable, indeed, but to some extent excusable under the circumstances. The upshot

of the story is that had the travellers complied with a request which no Japanese, nor any considerate foreigner, would have thought of refusing, the journey would have been performed without trouble. The gentleman described at "the latest victim of coolie blackguardism" is stated to have fired a shot with his revolver, "in the air," when he saw that the coolies "had again taken up their pursuit" of him, but he explains that the men were then out of revolver-range. He had told them to follow him to his destination if they wanted payment; he was walking quietly along the road with his wife, and he saw them beginning to follow at a distance of a hundred yards. Then he fired in the air, and seems to have been surprised that the *kago* bearers were seen no more. It is perfectly evident that there are two sides to many of these tales. We are very far from believing that the Japanese are faultless. They have shown great truculence and criminal violence in many cases at Kobe. The cargo-coolies appear to be special lawless. But it is extravagant to base general verdicts on these isolated instances, when to set against them we have long years of diametrically contrary experiences all over Japan.

SILVER AND IMPORTS.

The *Yomiuri* publishes the following statement alleged to have been made by Mr. Soyeda, Director of the Superintendence Bureau of the Finance Department on the subject of silver depreciation:—"The continued extraordinary depreciation of silver has produced a panic in the economic world. Yet it can be hardly imagined that silver will be safe from still farther depreciation. If that be the case, the gold coins that are to be exchanged for silver in October next will be drained out of the country to the West, and the object the revision of the coinage system will be lost. Such are the views entertained by the public at large. As for me, however, I believe that silver will not fall any more. Present quotations for the white metal are indeed unjustifiable, and can only be regarded as the result of temporary fluctuations. Silver has a limit to its depreciation; it can not be produced at a profit below seventeen pence. Should the current price continue for any length of time, silver-mining enterprises will certainly, to some extent, be suspended. The demand for silver would then increase beyond the limits of the supply and tend gradually to restore its value. Even supposing that silver is liable to further depreciation the condition of the economic world after October can in no way be conjectured to be such as to bring about an out-flow of gold from Japan. Silver, though it has fallen abnormally at present, must be admitted to be growing scarce in foreign countries. Japanese silver is being steadily poured into the markets of India and Shanghai, where there is a very considerable demand for it. The claims for exchange, therefore, may be much less than expected even after October. Even if the demand for exchange for gold is as great as the public anticipate, there will be sufficient preparations to meet the contingency. Schemes may be adopted as occasion requires. Apart from these considerations there is one problem of urgent necessity, which ought to be discussed with great care. That is the excess of imports. It is of course an error to entertain any undue solicitude on this question. If the imports consist of machinery to be used in productive enterprises, there can be no fear whatever, even if the excess reaches several millions of *yen*. Excess in the import of luxuries and articles of daily consumption is alone to be dreaded. The trade returns of our country show that the excess in the import of luxuries from January to June this year amounted to twenty million *yen* in value, the total excess then being, it may be conjectured, not less than forty millions of *yen*. From this anomaly the most deplorable result may arise: the decline of national resources. The public appear to be excessively solicitous at present about personal wants and luxuries and remain indifferent to matters that require their grave attention.

A TEA-PEST IN JAPAN.

Uji and Kohata in Yamashiro, remarks the *Osaka Asahi*, are well-known throughout the empire for the excellent tea there produced. Last year's statistics give some details of the crop:—

	Total output. Kwamme.	Manufacturers. Tons.	Firing furnaces.
Uji	56,804	1,025	9,621
Kuse	74,456	1,200	12,075

The above figures can hardly fail to convince the ordinary reader that tea forms one of the most profitable staples in those districts. Since last year, however, the plantations have been infested by multitudes of noxious grubs, and the plague, far from being checked by the united exertions of both Government and people, is extending. These renowned tea plantations are, to all appearance, in imminent danger of entire destruction. The destructive power of the grub is beyond imagination, and its ravages seem to have spread over seventy *cho* (1 *cho* = $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres), while tea plants covering about thirteen *cho* are reported to have withered and died, causing a loss of 53,100 *kwamme* of leaf. This year the pest appeared one month earlier than last season, and in the beginning of August had taken the shape of a caterpillar, which subsequently turned to a moth. Each moth is known to lay 1,250 eggs on an average, which is sufficient to show the rapidity of its increase. Most of the tea plants in Yamashiro are over three hundred years old, the newest being one hundred years. It is said that the plants do not begin to yield leaves of the peculiar excellence for which these are famed before they are as old as a hundred years. If one is destroyed it is impossible to replace it with a plant of similar value.

The Headman of the District, as well as the special committee appointed last year to secure the extirpation of the pest, have resigned their office on account of having failed to attain satisfactory results. The work of destruction is now being carried on by a committee of three appointed from among the members of the central Government, five hundred coolies being engaged in the work day and night.

ARREST OF A DANISH CONSUL.

The Danish Consul at Tientsin, who was travelling in Japan with his wife, was arrested on Monday evening on board the *Columbia*, as she lay on Futen Spit, by the Acting Consul for Denmark, Mr. V. Gielen, who was accompanied by Mr. C. B. Clausen, as Interpreter, and the Constable of H.M. Consulate.

Mr. Stahlgren is charged with the misappropriation of \$4,000, besides diamonds, and other jewellery. He joined the *Columbia* at Hong-kong and his whereabouts were disclosed by his taking passage under his proper name, though when he absconded from Tientsin he took up a disguised cognomen.

Mr. Stahlgren was committed to the United States Consular Jail, by consent, and examined in private at the Jail on Tuesday afternoon by Mr. V. Gielen, Consul for Denmark, with the result that he was released on bail of 4,000 *yen*.

"COLUMBIA" RUNS AGROUND.

The N. P. steamship *Columbia*—the old *Methven Castle*—while coming up the bay on Monday afternoon, about three o'clock, ran ashore between the forts on Futsu Saki (Saratoga Spit). Help was obtained from Yokohama, and after moving the cargo from the fore part of the ship aft, she was got off about 1 a.m. this morning and proceeded to this port.

We learn that an examination of the N. P. steamer *Columbia*, which grounded between Nos. 1 and 2 Forts at Saratoga Spit showed that the vessel had received no further injury than the scratching of a little paint. She had, however, in getting off to slip her cables. These, and her anchors, were recovered later on and the steamer left for Victoria on Wednesday afternoon with her full equipment aboard.

YOKOHAMA BATHING FATALITY.

Under the high cliff that terminates the eastern Bluff, a short distance beyond "The Niche," some enterprising Japanese *restauranters* have erected a series of mat-sheds, where they let out for hire bathing drawers, towels, etc., and sell ices, *o-cha*, and drinks generally to persons who wish to indulge in natatory diversions. During the present hot weather the place has been patronized by hundreds of Japanese, many proceeding thither in sampans from the Creek. The mat-sheds proprietors recently erected at a short distance from the shore a fairly high diving stage, which, at periods of low tide, is usually crowded with youngsters, many of whom have but the faintest idea of diving. Still they try to dive, though their attempts generally amount to nothing more than a tumble or a "flop." On Wednesday afternoon the usual performance was taking place when a sad fatality occurred. A lad, whose father is said to be in the service of a well-known resident, made a jump into the water from the stage, and never rose to the surface. After a while his companions became scared, and as the water was very low began to grope about for him. He was found, a few feet from the stage, quite dead. It is conjectured that the lad either broke his neck or dislocated his spine in springing into the water, and died immediately. The body was taken ashore, and then the "diving" recommenced as if nothing had happened.

REVISED TREATY OPERATION INVESTIGATION COUNCIL.

The above Council, which came into being under the auspices of Prince Konoye and other personages holding the same opinions, had a meeting on the 30th ultimo and drew up a set of rules. The Council, according to the *Mainichi*, proposes to meet on Thursday the 13th instant, at the official residence of the Chairman of the House of Peers, for the purpose of discussing the following questions:—

1.—Whether the provisions of the revised treaties conflicting with the Laws of the State should be deemed invalid or be enforced, unless such provisions are duly promulgated as Laws?

2.—Whether the Customs Tariff specified by the Treaties can have validity without the consent of the Imperial Diet?

3.—Are Chinese subjects to be granted the same privileges of mixed residence as those of other Treaty Powers after the enforcement of the revised treaty? And if the special system of settlements is to be established for them, what should be the nature of such a system? What steps are to be taken in regard to the places of residence of Koreans and other nationals of countries other than treaty Powers?

4.—Is there any necessity for affording different treatment to foreigners owing to differences in their customs and manners, in case they are detained in Japanese prisons for criminal offences after the enforcement of the revised treaties? If such necessity exists, how is it to be dealt with?

THE NEW KOBE JOURNAL.

The only trouble about the *Kackling Kagmag* is that Kobe is not big enough for it. It is very good reading for the sterner sex—hardly fitted for the fair, however—and if the editor can keep his succeeding numbers up to the level of the first, without drawing more deeply than he has done already—which is quite deep enough—on the broader stream of humour, his weekly appearance will be welcomed. But he will very soon find himself trampling on corns. Already there are indications that he has planted his literary bladders in the vicinity of some tender spots. That is why we say that Kobe is too small for him. It is evidently a good-humoured place with a large stock of tolerance, but there are limits. For the rest, the *Kagmag* might leave the Bible alone. Nobody, however dim the old landmarks may have grown to his callous eyes, cares to see the music of the New Testament set to the jingling of a cap and bells.

SAVE ME FROM MY FRIENDS.

COUNT OKUMA'S political career has undoubtedly suffered from the excessive zeal of his friends. When he took the portfolio of Foreign Affairs in 1888, he was confronted by a problem of the greatest difficulty, and his solution of it should have been received with national acclaim. For although he did not actually achieve Treaty Revision, he brought it within easy reach of achievement and in the process he accomplished something which was of even greater importance to Japan: he broke up the confederacy of Powers by which she had been held helpless in a diplomatic vice for five-and-twenty years. Why was it that, instead of receiving the thanks of his countrymen, he had to lay down his office, and retire into comparatively obscurity with a shattered limb? It was mainly because of the extreme imprudence of his admirers. He had the misfortune to reckon several supporters among the prominent journalists of the time, and they so loudly belauded his acts, so invidiously exalted his doings, that the situation became intolerable to his opponents. Something of the same kind has occurred now. Any one reading the newspapers credited as supporters of the present Cabinet, can not escape the impression that Count OKUMA is a stalwart of stalwarts in the field of foreign policy, and that, so long as he presides at the *Gaimusho*, Japan will never be "put upon" by any State, Occidental or Oriental. Even in the case of a paltry question like the immigration trouble with Hawaii, chauvinist journals, professing to be the Count's admirers and interpreters, have written as though things were to be carried with a high hand, and some of them have gone so far as to hint that even America's support of the little republic need not be seriously considered. Not one of them knew, possibly none of them cared to know, what language the Minister was actually using in his negotiations, or what demands he had really made. They devoted themselves uniquely to creating the impression that a resolute and unflinching policy was the *mot d'ordre* at the Foreign Office, and that the right would be asserted though the firmament fell. It is upon the tone of such papers that the Liberals base the indictment set forth in the document of which we yesterday published a translation. They are absolutely ignorant as to the facts of the immigration discussion, but they have derived from the intemperate section of the pro-Cabinet press an impression that Hawaii has been taken by the throat, and upon that impression they have built their accusation. They are, in fact, flogging Count OKUMA over the shoulders of his journalistic admirers. The Minister of Foreign Affairs may well pray to be saved from his friends.

On the other hand, it is conceivable that

the enthusiastic editors, for their part, may be clapping their hands with delight over the trap into which the Liberals have fallen. For certainly never did responsible politicians publicly arraign a statesman on such unsubstantial grounds. Until the correspondence between Honolulu and Tokyo is published, which can not be for some months, no one is in a position to discuss intelligently the language used by either side. But everybody can appreciate the extreme unreasonableness of the Liberals' argument, that by agreeing to arbitration Count OKUMA has climbed down from his high horse and practically confessed the failure of his policy. From the very outset two things were almost certain; the first, that, having deliberately and in professed accordance with her own laws, taken such an emphatic step as to turn back seven or eight hundred immigrants, Hawaii could not be expected to incontinently bow her head and confess herself in the wrong; the second that, failing such an act of self-abasement on her part, arbitration, or the intervention of a third Power in some friendly capacity, would be the only exit from the dilemma. In truth arbitration was foreseen from the beginning by every one at all familiar with international affairs. It was the natural outcome of the situation. We are not by any means certain that the Liberals desire to know the truth of this matter. If they did, there are avenues of information which, being easily accessible, they might have followed, however cursorily, before framing their charge. For example, they might have consulted the Hawaiian Journals in order to ascertain whether people in Honolulu regarded Count OKUMA's policy as one of intimidation or menace. Evidently they have neglected that very obvious course, and we shall briefly remedy the defect by reproducing a few extracts from the *Hawaiian Gazette*:—

Recent advices to the Legation (in Washington) show that the Japanese Government, as well as the public, is in no way agitated over the Hawaiian situation. The Japanese Government has put a stop to all immigration to Hawaii, thus indicating a purpose not to press for the right to have Japanese subjects admitted. It is said, also, that the dispatch of a Japanese warship to Hawaii was in no sense a menace, but was made with a view to restraining any possible demonstration by the Japanese immigrants. The authorities are desirous only of securing indemnity for those Japanese who have suffered by exclusion. In this connection it is said that an offer by the United States to use its good offices in securing a settlement of the trouble doubtless would be accepted by Japan.*

(* Despatch from Washington, dated May 8th, to the *Hawaiian Gazette*.)

The people of this country will stand by the action of the Government, although they have no desire for a wrangle with Japan. They have no objection to a reasonable number of Japanese immigrants coming to the country, but they dislike the idea of their coming at the rate of two or three thousand in as many months; they believe the immigration companies stepped beyond the bounds of the law and should be checked; they hope for an amicable settlement of the present affair and a better understanding between the Governments on the question of future immigration. If this last cannot be accomplished by the diplomatic agents of Hawaii and Japan, we naturally turn to the United States as a court of last resort.—*Hawaiian Gazette*, May 24th.

The presence of the *Naniwa* has had a quieting

effect, if any was needed, upon the Japanese residents, and the officials of Japan and Hawaii are conducting their business in a proper, quiet, dignified and friendly manner. The people are aware that the two Governments are engaged in settling a matter that will have far reaching effects upon the future of the Hawaiian Islands. No one deprecates the seriousness of the situation. It is felt, however, that the question will be decided on its merits and not by bluff or bluster.—*Hawaiian Gazette*, May 25th.

Reports in the vernacular papers received from Japan by the last steamer suggest the probability of the Hawaiian immigration affair being submitted to the international lawyers of Norway and Sweden for settlement. The United States is regarded as an interested party. This way out of the difficulties is original if nothing more. It is to be hoped, however, that the matter will be settled out of court, that the two contending parties can come to a mutually satisfactory understanding without calling upon European nations for assistance.—*Hawaiian Gazette*, June 1st.

[N.B.—This last extract shows that the idea of arbitration was mooted in Japan, and that the fact was known in Hawaii on June 1st.]

Such extracts might be multiplied, but we presume that the above will suffice to satisfy even the Liberals that whatever their idea may be with reference to Count OKUMA'S method of negotiation, it did not present itself to the people of Hawaii in the light of a menacing method or an intimidating method, but that, from the first to the last, there was complete confidence as to Japan's amicable and just intentions. The extracts further show that the arbitration exit from the complication was considered to be in accord with Japan's wishes by Washington politicians as early as May 8th, and that, by June 1st, the Hawaiians had intelligence of the same idea being entertained in Japan; and they show, finally, that the presence of the *Naniwa*, far from being considered in the light of a "demonstration," was understood to be for the purpose of preserving order among the Japanese population, and was held to have been useful in that sense. It amounts to a farce that, in the face of such information—which they could have collected without any difficulty—the Liberal representatives should have charged Count OKUMA with adopting a policy of intimidation and menace; with putting a weapon into the hands of the annexationists by sending the *Naniwa*, and with turning to arbitration as a back-door from an untenable position.

Concerning the assertion that the line pursued by the Foreign Office precipitated annexation, there are two things to be said: first, that annexation is now well understood to have been suddenly resolved on as the only feasible device for avoiding a deadlock in the U.S. Senate over the sugar schedule of the Tariff Bill; secondly, that never once has any Hawaiian Journal hinted that the Japanese complication was in any way responsible for the step taken by President MCKINLEY. It must be admitted, we presume, that if the dispute with Japan had been counted capable of forcing America's hand, it would have been put forward for all it was worth by the Hawaiian newspapers favourable to annexation. But it was never referred to by one of them in that context. When, on June 15th, a telegram announcing the

signature of the Annexation Treaty reached Honolulu, the *Hawaiian Gazette* found only one explanation of the fact. Here it is:

What few straws appear upon the surface seem to indicate that the discussion over reciprocity went to such lengths and possibly proved such a factor in blocking the tariff measure that the launching of the whole Hawaiian affair was considered the most satisfactory method of settling the matter. It is also well known that many Senators favour annexation but are opposed to the continuation of the Reciprocity Treaty.

Thus we see that the leading Journal of Honolulu itself, a Journal which had been watching the progress of the negotiations with Japan from the very beginning, did not entertain the smallest suspicion that Japan's policy could have promoted the cause of annexation. And knowing the facts of the Annexation Treaty as we now know them, we know that the President turned to it simply and solely as a means of securing the passage of the Tariff, which would otherwise have been blocked by the sugar question. The Liberal representatives have, in fact, launched a *brutum fulmen* of the most farcical character, and we do not think that they will be found to have enhanced their reputation for tactical sagacity or power of discernment.

TAXES THAT WILL AFFECT FOREIGNERS.

WE have conducted investigations for the purpose of laying before our readers an intelligible statement of the local taxes to which foreigners will be liable under the Revised Treaties. Unfortunately we find it impossible to formulate any clear account, owing to the variation of the taxes according to localities, and the necessary absence of hard-and-fast laws. The amounts will not be large, under any circumstances. According to the latest returns published—those for 1894-5—the total sums collected under the four principal heads were:—

	Yen.
Land Rate (<i>Chiso wari</i>)	9,023,499
Business Tax (<i>Yeigyo-sei</i>)	2,912,033
Miscellaneous Taxes (<i>Zasshu-sei</i>),	1,869,274
House Tax (<i>Kosu-wari</i>)	3,342,061

Total..... 17,146,867

From these figures it appears that the local taxes average 40 *sen* per head of population, approximately. Among them the most interesting is the House Tax. The manner of collecting appears very complicated, but will be understood from a table with comments which we publish below. By way of preface, however, it must be explained that although the House Tax appears only once in the above list, the "house unit" enters into all the items of the list except the Land Rate. This last is simply another name for "Land Tax." The Central Government levies a Land Tax amounting nominally to 2½ per cent. of the market value of the land, but in reality a very much smaller impost. By law the communes are allowed to make a further levy upon the same land for

local purposes, provided that the amount of the local levy, or "Land Rate," shall never exceed one half of the Treasury's levy, or "Land Tax." At present, the proceeds of the Land Tax being 39 million *yen*, in round figures, and those of the Land Rate, 9 millions, the ratio is less than one-fourth. Other taxes in localities, are, as we have said, based upon a "house unit," which is determined by dividing all the houses into a number of classes, according to their situation and quality, and determining for each class an index number. The area of any house which it is intended to tax having been found in *tsubo* (one *tsubo*=36 square feet), the area thus expressed is multiplied by the index number of the class to which the house belongs, the product being the number of "taxation units," which is increased by one-half in the case of a house built with brick or stone. The House Tax is 1.84 *sen* per unit; the Business Tax, 1.3 *sen* per unit. We are speaking now of Tokyo only. The rates vary in different cities and prefectures. For the purposes of the House Tax, there are nineteen classes and 181 grades, as shown in the following table:—

CLASSIFICATION OF LAND ACCORDING TO ITS POSITION & C. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE HOUSE TAX.

CLASS.	From	GRADE.	INDEX No.
1st	1 to 10	1 to 10	5.50
2nd	11 to 20	11 to 20	5.25
3rd	21 to 30	21 to 30	5.00
4th	31 to 40	31 to 40	4.75
5th	41 to 50	41 to 50	4.50
6th	51 to 60	51 to 60	4.25
7th	61 to 70	61 to 70	4.00
8th	71 to 80	71 to 80	3.75
9th	81 to 90	81 to 90	3.50
10th	91 to 100	91 to 100	3.25
11th	101 to 110	101 to 110	3.00
12th	111 to 120	111 to 120	2.75
13th	121 to 130	121 to 130	2.50
14th	131 to 140	131 to 140	2.25
15th	141 to 150	141 to 150	2.00
16th	151 to 160	151 to 160	1.75
17th	161 to 170	161 to 170	1.50
18th	171 to 180	171 to 180	1.25
19th	below 181	below 181	0.75

Suppose, for example, that a house belongs to any one of the ten grades forming the third class, that it is of wood, and that its area is 50 *tsubo*. Then $50 \times 5 = 250$, represents the number of Taxation Units (5 being the Index Number for Class III.), and $250 \times 1.84 \text{ sen}$, or 4 *yen* 60 *sen*, is the House Tax. If the house were of brick or stone, the number of taxation units would be 375, and the tax, 6 *yen* 90 *sen*.

The following provisions are appended to the House Tax Law for Tokyo:—

In the case of private buildings situated on the banks of rivers, or on public land which has no fixed value, the classification is determined in accordance with the rates ruling in neighbouring districts.

The taxes for the first half of the year are collected from the house-owner on the 1st April, and taxes for the 2nd half of the year are collected on the 1st October.

In the case of buildings that have sustained injury owing to natural calamity, or that have been removed in consequence of alterations of municipal divisions; or in the case of land that has been bought for public use, prior to the 31st May, for the first half of the fiscal year, and prior to the 30th November for the second half of the fiscal year, a special return must be made in order to obtain exemption from taxation.

The following buildings are exempted from taxation:—

1. Buildings used as public schools or places of instruction.

2. Buildings exclusively devoted to the purpose of class rooms in private schools.

With regard to the Business Tax—it will of course be understood that we are speaking always of local taxation—the method of finding the number of Taxation Units is the same, but the classification of houses is more elaborate, the number of classes being 27. The index numbers also are higher. The table stands thus:—

CLASS.	From	GRADE.	INDEX No.
1st	1 to 7	1 to 7	14.0
2nd	8 to 14	8 to 14	13.5
3rd	15 to 21	15 to 21	13.0
4th	22 to 28	22 to 28	12.5
5th	29 to 35	29 to 35	12.0
6th	36 to 42	36 to 42	11.5
7th	43 to 49	43 to 49	11.0
8th	50 to 56	50 to 56	10.5
9th	57 to 63	57 to 63	10.0
10th	64 to 70	64 to 70	9.5
11th	71 to 77	71 to 77	9.0
12th	78 to 84	78 to 84	8.5
13th	85 to 91	85 to 91	8.0
14th	92 to 98	92 to 98	7.5
15th	99 to 105	99 to 105	7.0
16th	106 to 112	106 to 112	6.5
17th	113 to 119	113 to 119	6.0
18th	120 to 126	120 to 126	5.5
19th	127 to 133	127 to 133	5.0
20th	134 to 140	134 to 140	4.5
21st	141 to 147	141 to 147	4.0
22nd	148 to 154	148 to 154	3.5
23rd	155 to 161	155 to 161	3.0
24th	162 to 168	162 to 168	2.5
25th	169 to 175	169 to 175	2.0
26th	176 to 182	176 to 182	1.5
27th	183 and downwards ..	183 and downwards ..	1.0

As an example of the working of this system, take the case of a house measuring 40 *tsubo* and belonging to the 9th class. Then 40×10 (the Index No. for the 9th class)=400=the number of Taxation Units, and $400 \times 1.3 \text{ sen}=5 \text{ yen } 20 \text{ sen}$ =the Business Tax.

Chief among the Miscellaneous Taxes is an Income Tax, so-called, which, however, is really another form of house tax or business tax, since it corresponds with these as to the method of finding the Taxation units, and differs from them only in the monetary rate per unit. It may be briefly described as an income tax in levying which the income is determined in accordance with the nature of the house occupied by the taxpayer.

Since the rates of local taxation are liable to variation from year to year according to the expenditures that have to be incurred, as passed by the Local Assemblies, it seems useless to enter into any explanation of them more detailed than the above.

RAILWAY EXTENSION.

Railway enterprises have considerably increased, remarks the *Mainichi*, since the year before last, and their results have now become manifest. Traffic was opened on eleven lines during the first half of this year for a total length of 180 miles. The following are the details:—

Company.	Lines.	Length.	Date of opening.
Kwansei	Uyeno-Tsugebitu	9.8	Jan. 25
Narita	Sakura-Narita	8.0	Jan. 19
Kioto	Kioto-Saga	6.277	Feb. 15
Sanuki	Marugame-Takamatsu	96.55	Feb. 21
Nippon	Mito-Iairu	58.40	Feb. 25
Boso	Otsuna-Ichinomiya	22.37	Apr. 17
Sobu	Sakura-Narita	23.27	Apr. 31
Sanyo	Hiroshima-Ujina	3.46	May 1
Chuyetsu	Kuroda-Fukuro	20.55	May 4
Hokuyetsu	Kasugaahinden-Hachiesaki	24.9	May 22
Sobu	Narita-Choshi	37.13	June 2

According to the *Keizai Zasshi* the four lines of Narita, Kioto, Chuyetsu, and Hokuyetsu are of new creation, while the rest are extensions of old lines.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

The Tokyo Electric Light Company announces its intention of raising its charges. It serves the public abominably and now has the assurance to exploit them more ruthlessly than ever. People that have the misfortune to rely on the Company for the lighting of their houses, are condemned to the nervous excitement of a perpetual lottery. They never can have a moment's confidence in the continued burning of their lamps, nor ever can be certain, as the "shades of evening" fall, whether they will enjoy the society of the electric spark or be obliged to fall back upon humble composites and malodorous kerosene. To invite friends to dinner is to prepare almost sure complications, for with the perversity of all radically bad servants, the electric lights choose for their paling and waning vagaries precisely the time when their healthy brightness is most desirable. The Company threw itself for a season on popular compassion by pleading that its engines were not sufficiently powerful for the length of the circuit. A most intelligent excuse, truly! A restaurant-keeper might just as ingeniously account for setting raw meat before his guests by saying that really he had not provided any fuel to cook it. If the Company showed any genuine disposition to consider its customers' convenience in matters entirely within its feeble competence, there would be more disposition to condone its accidental shortcomings. But it conceals its conscience effectually. It achieves absolute regularity only in absence of discrimination. At a certain invariable hour each day the machinery is set in motion and the current generated. Wet days and dry days, dark days and bright days, 'tis all the same. Many and many an evening, from a quarter past six to a quarter to seven, the frequenters of the Tokyo Club may be seen twiddling their thumbs under dark electroliers, or loading the obscure atmosphere of the billiard room with tender expressions of feeling, while distracted servants shout through telephones for currents that don't come. Complaint is useless. The Company has its own rules, and it has a monopoly. The public may whistle. Is there no chance of competition? That is what tired folks are now anxiously asking as their backs crack under this last straw of raised prices.

What is the matter in Kobe? There must be some reason for the perpetual rows that are taking place between foreigners and Japanese coolies. Does the fault lie entirely with the coolies? One can understand that this sort of thing might grow. Bad blood once engendered, the ball of retaliation and revenge might be thrown backwards and forwards with increasing frequency. Perhaps one of the recent collisions is to be accounted for in that way. Eleven American sailors had a fracas with coolies—presumably *jinnrikisha*-drawers—the net result being that three of the coolies were cut and two of the sailors. Each party says that the other began the disturbance, and when the case comes up for trial, there will doubtless be a good deal of hard swearing on both sides. It is not difficult to conceive that if the coolies of Kobe have a bad name among foreign sailors—which unfortunately seems to be the case—or if foreign sailors have earned the ill-will of the coolies, a very small matter might precipitate a quarrel. But how did it all begin, and is there no hope of a change for the better? The other day, an American naval officer was summoned by a coolie for assault. According to the defence, the coolie had behaved with insolent truculence. According to the *Hyogo News*, the coolie was well known as a quiet, civil fellow. It appears to us that justice was done in that case, but we are very thoroughly convinced that the methods of the United States Consular Court can not have inspired the Japanese with much confidence in the quality of the justice they were receiving. We mention this because it suggests that a disposition to prejudice the coolie may have been created, and if that be so, or, at any rate, if the disposition be openly indulged, a remedy

will be doubly hard to apply. What is the meaning, for example, of the other story just reported? Two foreigners walk to the scene of a conflagration. An excited coolie comes up, catches hold of them and tells them to go away. They appeal to a policeman, and he absconds at once. Then they take refuge behind a squad of police. The coolie follows, having meanwhile armed himself with a billet of wood. The foreigners invoke the protection of another constable, who enters into conversation with the coolie, and then calmly informs the foreigners that the coolie requires them to go away. They remonstrate, but the constable continues to convey the coolie's order. Then they ask for the coolie's name, but the constable fails to obtain it. Then they ask for the constable's name. "While they are writing it down the coolie 'draws back,'" and "in his absence both succeed in getting quietly and safely away." Is not that a wonderful story? Naturally the coolie figures as a "ruffian assailant" in the columns of the *Kobe Herald*, which journal seems to have come to the conclusion that the Japanese is always in the wrong. Perhaps that conclusion is quite correct, but we find it very difficult to credit. Very few foreign residents will be found to endorse a wholesale accusation of rudeness or truculence against the Japanese coolie. Most of us have known him for many years as a hard-working, cheerful, obliging fellow, and are not prepared to relegate him at a moment's notice to the ranks of the "ruffian." But the condition of things in Kobe is really becoming scandalous. If the coolies are the sole aggressors, if they are really possessed by a demon that drives them to assault the foreigner, they must be under the influence of some evil leader, or leaders. They are not all bad. We venture to say that only a small fraction are bad—supposing that any are. It is to be observed that the *hatoba* coolies are invariably indicated as the most unruly. Why should that be? Are we to infer that contact with foreign sailors has demoralized the coolies? Officialdom is not omnipotent in such matters, but if the *hatoba* coolies are notorious for creating disturbances, might it not be wise to remove them to another stand? That resource is certainly within the power of the local authorities. The foreign residents of Kobe manage their municipal affairs so well that one is surprised by their failure to lay bare the origin of this unsightly epidemic and to stamp it out. By and by there will be mutterings against the Consular body as well as against the Japanese police, for the continuance of such disgraceful incidents deserves the attention of the former nearly as much as it demands the active interference of the latter.

A good many paragraphs appear in the vernacular press with reference to the Hawaiian affair, but as they all relate to the method of arbitration, they possess no special interest. There can not be much doubt as to the course that will be adopted. Both sides will combine to draw out a statement of facts and of issues to be submitted to the arbitrator, who will then have to decide only two things, first the legality or illegality of Hawaii's acts in the given premises, and secondly, the amount of compensation, if any, to be paid to Japan. There appears to be no doubt that the King of the Belgians will be invited to arbitrate, supposing, always, that arbitration is unavoidable. It is not easy to conceive that Hawaii will be so ill-advised as to carry the matter into court. The shiftiness of the pleas she has advanced in defence of her conduct must be perfectly evident to herself, and must teach her how hopeless a case is that does not admit of plain and permanent statement. Perhaps she has become more or less indifferent to the result, believing that if she is cast in the suit, America will have to pay the damages. If that be so, the Cabinet in Washington should convey a strong hint to Honolulu as to the advisability of coming to a settlement without delay.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that a number of Japanese emigrants who were

about to proceed to the United States in the steamer *Coptic* on the 5th instant, under the auspices of the Kosei-inin Kaisha of Wakayama, were stopped by Consul-General McIvor, on the ground that the entry of contract labourers into the States has been forbidden since the abolition of slavery, and that any vessel carrying such labourers is liable to a fine of \$500 per head.

THE "SHOGYO" ON THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The circulation of money at the end of July, remarks the *Shogyo*, was easier than had been anticipated. The issue of convertible notes by the Bank of Japan beyond the legal limit was also of a greater amount than had been expected, the total issue on July 31st reaching 10,325,195 *yen*. The following tables show the actual amount of convertible notes and the reserve at the end of last week, as compared with the figures for the week before last:—

	July 31. Yen.	July 24. Yen.
Specie Reserve	209,785,698	212,180,202
Reserve Securities	88,917,410	78,878,146
Convertible notes issued	298,738,088	290,558,118
Specie (decrease)	2,399,614	
Balance { Securities (inc-rease) ..		10,069,284
Notes (increase) ..		8,169,670

Thus the specie reserve having decreased by 1,899,614 *yen* and securities by 10,069,284 *yen* the result was an increased issue of convertible notes to the amount of 8,169,670 *yen*. Of this the sum issued beyond the legal limit, as compared with the figure for the week before last, was as follows:—

	July 31. Yen.	July 24. Yen.
Notes issued beyond legal limit...	20,331,195	455,326
Balance		9,869,889

From these figures it will be seen that the convertible notes issued beyond the legal limit during the previous week amounted to 9,869,889 *yen*, which, together with the amount recorded two weeks ago, makes a total of 10,325,195 *yen*. As for the specie reserve, it is impossible to ascertain the exact cause of its decrease except from the Bank's Weekly Report of transactions to be published on the 4th inst. Nevertheless it may be conjectured that the withdrawal by the Government of its deposits from the Bank contributed largely to the decrease in specie. But it may also be conjectured that the increase of over ten million *yen* in convertible notes issued on security is the direct result of a demand for funds for commercial enterprises. In the beginning of this month the Bank may expect to see some capital restored to its vaults, but on the whole the necessity for issuing notes beyond legal limit seems to be natural.

THE NEW U.S. CONSUL-GENERAL.

The newly-appointed Consul-General for the United States at this port, Mr. J. T. Gowey, accompanied by his son, Mr. F. M. Gowey, arrived here somewhat unexpectedly by the N.P. steamer *Victoria* on Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock. Mr. John McLean, Vice-Consul General, boarded the steamer on the chance of Mr. Gowey having come by her, and received the new Consul-General, who proceeded at once to the Grand Hotel. Mr. Gowey visited the Consulate-General on Wednesday and on Thursday proceeded to the capital, in company with Mr. Consul-General McIvor, and visited the Foreign Office.

FATAL FIRE AT MITO.

On the afternoon of the 6th inst., shortly before 6 o'clock, fire broke out in the lamp room of the Mito Railway Station and eventually the whole of the station buildings were destroyed. The fire is said to have originated through one of the employes having dropped lighted ashes from his cigar into a tin of lamp oil. The unfortunate man appears to have been cruelly punished for his carelessness, as he is reported to have been burnt to death.

THE INUNDATIONS.

Japan seems to be fated not to pass a year without some loss from inundations or tidal waves. The following records of the recent catastrophes are published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*:-

From the Governor of Miyagi Prefecture.
2.56 p.m.; 6th inst.

A tidal wave has swept in at Okatsumura and inundated 125 houses. Twenty persons are slightly injured.

From the Governor of Niigata Prefecture.
6 p.m.; 6th inst.

Owing to heavy rain since the 4th inst., the Arakawa has risen over 20 feet at Naoyetsu; 1,500 houses have been inundated and 30 people killed or injured. Six hundred people were drawn out of the flood. Twenty boats have been swept away, and serious damage has been done to the railway at Shinyetsu and Hokuetsu. The service of trains is suspended. At Takata 2,000 houses have been inundated, more than 50 being washed away or wrecked. Along the Karigata-gawa five houses have been swept away, five wrecked and more than 400 inundated. Along the Shinano-gawa more than 200 houses have been inundated. Several embankments have also been broken.

Oita, August 6.

Districts along the river Omono are all flooded, and one quarter of Omagari is under water to a depth of 15 feet, the water not beginning to show any signs of subsiding until about 7 p.m. The town of Akita was flooded about 2 p.m. and at 9 o'clock yesterday morning the water had risen to 12 feet. The houses in the southern part of the town are all flooded, though the water began falling at half-past 9 o'clock. The cable lying along the river Omono has escaped damage. In Sakata district, bridges have all been swept away and there are signs of further damage. The embankments of the Omono river were washed away at 3 p.m. yesterday and all the immediate neighbourhood is flooded.

Yamagata, August 6.
Owing to successive rainfall many rivers have overflowed their banks. Districts around Mogami have sustained much damage.

Naoyedzu, August 6.

Last night at eight o'clock the river Arakawa overflowed its banks and the neighbourhood of the Post and Telegraph Office, the Police Station and the Railway Station was flooded to a height of seven or eight feet. One-third of the town is under water. The train due here at 9 a.m. has not yet arrived (10 p.m.) Numerous persons and animals have been drowned or injured.

Naoyedzu, August 6.

In the flood caused by the overflow of the river Arakawa, nine officials of the Hokuyetsu Railway Company were carried into the sea, together with their houses. Happily they were all saved by the *Taiwan Maru*. Two bridges and 15 boats were also washed away.

Sendai, August 6.

The river Kitakami and many other rivers overflowed their banks, breaking all their embankments. Four houses were swept away, while those flooded were numerous. The tidal waves reached the roofs of houses and 15 houses on the beach at Okachi were swept away and 120 houses flooded. Twenty persons are reported to have been injured.

It is reported that over 100 miners in the Hosoku Colliery have been drowned owing to the inflow of water.

Akita, August 6.

In this town over 500 houses were flooded above the floor and over 300 houses below the floor.

Taipei, August 11.

On the 8th and 9th inst., a storm swept over Formosa. At Twaitia, Kelung, Tamsui and other places, great damage was done, all the rivers overflowing their banks.

Kobu, August 12.

Last night a severe thunder-storm occurred here. This morning the weather cleared up. The rice crop has excellent prospects.

Miyatsu, August 12.

Fine hot weather prevails here, the thermometer registering 95 degrees Fah. In the afternoon a thunderstorm occurred.

Tokushima, August 11.

During night's thunderstorm a house was struck by lightning and destroyed.

Marugame, August 12.

Last night a severe thunderstorm occurred here. This morning the sky cleared up and a cool breeze set in. The rice crop is excellent.

Marugame, Aug. 12.

Two houses were struck by lightning and burned down last night.

CHINESE TOPICS.

The rumour that China is negotiating a loan of sixteen millions sterling, is again circulated. It is now stated that the Hongkong and Shanghai and the Deutsche Banks have the matter in hand; that the price of issue will be something under 85; that the interest will be low, and that the security is to be what remains of the customs revenue supplemented by the salt *gabells*.

The death is reported from Peking of Li Hung-shao, Grand Secretary and President of the Board of Civil Appointments. Li was a man of distinguished erudition, and for many years held the post of President of the Board of Rites, but was raised last year to the high office occupied by him at the time of his death.

The rice crop in Szechuan and Western Hupoh has been saved by a spell of sunshine, and hopes of arresting the famine are entertained. But the long-continued rain ended in a cloud-burst which produced a fall of 4 inches in as many hours, and wrought great damage.

Things do not appear to be running very smoothly in the new imperial Chinese post-office. Mails are reported missing and long delays occur in transmission. It is claimed that the organizers of the system acted with precipitation. Before acquiring practical assurance of the success of their arrangements, they shut up the old post-offices, thus depriving themselves of aids in time of need and antagonizing all the former officials.

A vivid idea of the difficulty of communications in the upper waters of the Yangtze is conveyed in a letter from the *N. C. Herald's* Chungking correspondent. It appears that junks bound for Chungking had, in some cases, to lie at Ichang from April to the end of July before trackers could be obtained for continuing the up-stream voyage; and, in others, had to stop half way, their trackers having been impressed into Government service. To resume the journey in July involved battling with the summer floods, so that many of the junks are now waiting helpless until the autumn. Bankruptcy is the fate of not a few junk-masters who undertake the precarious trip. The funds with which he has supplied himself fail after two or three months of delay, and his crew, threatened with starvation, leave the junk to its fate among the celebrated gorges of the river. Steamers are badly wanted.

The Foochow correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*, writing about this year's tea trade, says:-

The falling off in tea export from China has been insisted upon *ad nauseam* and the figures are very dreary. But the short crop seems at any rate to keep up the prices a bit, and the better quality of the machine-made tea and its increased suitability to the home palate back this up. No fortunes will be made this year, but the general sale shows a moderate balance in favour of the exporter, who at any rate is not paying for the privilege of exporting tea, by increasing the receipts of the Chinese exchequer and enlarging the figures for the Customs Returns. No doubt the still further fall of exchange helps things along a bit, every bit of the difference goes into the pockets of the tea-men, and though people fancy they are doing business in a silver country, to all intents and purposes they are working on a gold basis. Consul Jamieson pointed it out to the home people not so very long ago. In fact in these days of telegraphs, swift and sure carriage, bank, and halcyon days of peace and good credit, no one is allowed to pick up a chance profit through the difference in exchange.

To return once more to tea, this time to the dust therefrom, it is said that much friction exists be-

tween the Russian firms who have a monopoly of the brick tea trade and the native dealers. Rumour says that the ubiquitous comprador "gleans" to the extent of about five per cent between the seller and the foreign *Taipans*. This squeeze, for it is rather too heavy to be called a commission, has been a growth of years. First, there was a bribe to the compradores to weigh accurately, then not to take too large samples, then to cut a moderate amount for bags. Then all this came over again, and so on, as only Chinese know how to carry on the little game. So the tea-men are now clamouring for all sort of rules whereby they may know "where they are." One enterprising Russian has gone in for the local patter. It is not to be expected that he will make much of it at first, but business margins are becoming too narrow to allow the "gleanings of compradores," and men who cannot talk the lingo will be ousted and that before long.

The Hankow correspondent of the same Journal, reporting on the same subject, writes that the export this season, during the first 80 days, was nineteen million lbs., against twenty-two millions and a half for the corresponding period last year. Russia is the great buyer. Exchange last year was 3/14; this year, it is 2/10: thus the exporter gets a premium of 11 per cent. this season, a fact that has bitter significance for export merchants in the new Japan.

The particulars of Mr. Happer's death are thus related by a Newchwang correspondent of the leading Shanghai journal:-

It appears that on the 17th of December last Mr. Happer had two middle fingers very slightly bitten by his black bitch Nellie. At the time he thought nothing of it, but Dr. Daly not feeling sure persuaded him to proceed at once to Saigon. Accompanied by his wife Mr. Happer left on the 20th of December for Port Arthur, the weather being terribly cold and a nasty dust-storm prevailing. After travelling hard for twenty-three days he arrived at Saigon, where he was at once treated. Mr. and Mrs. Happer returned to Newchwang just before the opening of the port—from Shanghai to Chiofou, then to Port Arthur, and then overland to Newchwang. Mr. Happer seemed well pleased with the treatment, the doctors having assured him that if he were all right on his arrival at Shanghai, about the twenty-first day after the treatment, he could rest assured. On Friday, the 23rd inst., he felt unwell, and the next day it was stated that he was suffering from fish poisoning. He attended slightly to his office duties on the Saturday, but on the Sunday the sad news was that he was suffering from the effects of the dog bite, and it is said that he sent for his chief assistant, Mr. T. D. Moonhead, informing him that he knew he would die, and spoke very kindly to all. On Monday he was slightly better, struggling to take food, but yesterday (Tuesday) he was slightly delirious, although he could smoke and enjoy the company of Mr. J. Armour, the Harbour Master. All that was possible was done, and to make sure the Doctor telegraphed to the Institute at Saigon, describing the treatment, and receiving a reply that what was being done was right. However, Mr. Happer passed away at eight o'clock last night. Great sympathy is felt for Mrs. Happer, who has been most courageous all through.

THE SHOOTING CASE AT THE U.S. NAVAL HOSPITAL.

W. H. Martin, the Marine formerly on duty as Orderly at the United States Naval Hospital, who shot himself in the head with a revolver on the 6th instant, after lingering in a paralysed condition for four days, expired early on Tuesday morning. The same day a Naval inquest was held upon the body, resulting in a verdict that the deceased died from a self-inflicted bullet wound in the head.

The funeral of W. S. Martin, the American Marine who died at the U.S. Naval Hospital on Tuesday morning from a self-inflicted bullet wound in the head, took place at the General Cemetery on Wednesday morning. The officers of the flagship *Olympia*, and a firing party, besides a number of marines and blue-jackets from the same vessel, took part in the obsequies, the funeral service being conducted by the Rev. W. T. Austen.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Hera Singh, a gunner in the Asiatic Artillery at Hongkong, has been sentenced to three years imprisonment with hard labour, having been found guilty of committing wilful and corrupt perjury.

The steamer *Glenogle*, which left Shanghai on the 3rd instant for Nagasaki, unfortunately stranded on the bar at Woosung. It is expected that she would soon be floated and be able to proceed to her destination.

The employés of the Nagasaki Post Office have presented to Mr. Watanabe, the late Post-master, a gold watch, suitably inscribed, as a mark of their esteem for the many services rendered to them during his tenure of office.

Dr. H. N. Allen, the newly appointed United States Minister to Korea, has received a dispatch from the State Department informing him that the Senate has confirmed his nomination, and he was ordered by the Department to take the oath of office.

While dancing in the Criterion Theatre at Sydney, Miss Elsie Adair (Mrs. Walter Vanderlip), fainted, and the doctor who was called in states that the condition of her heart is such as to preclude her dancing in the future. Much sympathy is expressed with her in Sydney.

In the fire which occurred in the native town, Yokohama, on Friday morning, an old man of 70, who was lying ill in bed, met a cruel death, being burnt in his house, none of his neighbours, apparently, in the confusion, thinking of assisting him to a place of safety.

By Imperial Notification No. 258, the Conscription Law is extended to Okinawa Ken, the regulations coming into force from January 1st of the 31st year of Meiji (1898). Various exemptions are granted to the islanders, to meet the circumstances of living in this remote portion of the Empire.

Fire broke out on Thursday morning, about 1 o'clock, in a row of Japanese houses on the eastern side of the Recreation Ground at Kobe. The Brigades succeeded in mastering the fire after 42 houses had been destroyed. A policeman and fireman were wounded while working at the fire.

Some of the P. and O. wrecks have been the *Bokhara*, lost in the China seas; the *Tasmania*, in April, 1887, on Monachi Rock, Corsica, 23 lives lost; the *Indus*, on the 8th November, 1884, on the coast of Ceylon; *Carnatic* on the 13th Sept., 1869, off Shadwan, Gulf of Suez, 25 lives lost; *Erin*, in June, 1857, on the coast of Ceylon.

A London telegram that appears in the San Francisco *Call* says that Mr. C. P. Huntington, President of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, through Colonel J. W. Macfarlane, has had the registry of the steamship *China* of the Pacific Mail line transferred from the British to the Hawaiian flag. The *China*, is now coming over from San Francisco.

Yokohama is a wonderful place for "bunders." A slight disturbance at the monthly *maizuri* in Motomachi on Sunday night has been transformed into a mob-riot resulting in murder. As a matter of fact, two sailors, slightly the worse for liquor, were knocked about by a stall-keeper whose goods they had damaged.

Owing to the present scarcity of labourers, says the Nagasaki paper, Mr. Higashijima, owner of the Choja Tanko, has engaged the services of a large number of Koreans for his mines. The N.Y.K. steamer *Higo Maru*, which arrived on the 5th inst., brought 20 men, and 80 more are expected to arrive by the next steamer from Korea.

The funeral of Robert Owen, late able seaman on H.M.S. *Pique*, who died at the Royal Naval Hospital on Sunday last from the effects of injuries received in a fall through the awning

to the deck of the vessel, took place at the General Cemetery, on Tuesday morning and was attended by the Captain and most of the officers of the *Pique*, and a large party of blue-jackets.

The *N. N. L.* learns that the Russian S.N. Co.'s steamer *Vladimir*, Captain Erickson, commander, has gone ashore on a rock near Possiet, about 70 miles from Vladivostock, and will in all probability become a total wreck. Her passengers and crew, however, have been saved, and were brought on here by the Volunteer Fleet's steamer *Saratow*, which arrived at Nagasaki on August 7th.

The first prize and 2 record points in the sailing race for the 12-raters of the Y. Y. Club on Saturday last was won by *Susume Waratah* taking second prize and one record point. The Mosquito Club's race was won by *Mona*, with *Nandaska* second. The corrected times were very close, showing that the handicappers had struck a very nice balance in judging the sailing qualities of the boats.

Gold and silver imported into Japan from January to June, remarks the *Mainichi*, amounted to sixty-five million yen. This having been received mostly by the Government, the portion of the indemnity now held in London must be very insignificant. The latest investigations made by the Finance Department place the actual amount of indemnity in London at five million pounds. This sum is to be appropriated by the Government for outlays on war vessels and various other things.

A three mile race took place on Tuesday afternoon between six-oared boats from the U. S. flagship *Olympia* and H.M.S. *Pique* for stakes said to amount to some 30 yen per oar. The course was from outside the breakwater to a line between the Canadian Pacific and Pacific Mail buoys. The *Olympia* boat took the lead almost from the start, and in spite of a good spurt put on by the *Pique's* crew near the finish, kept her lead and won by forty seconds.

Percy Cavill, of Sydney, won the 1/4-mile amateur swimming championship in the West India Docks on July 3rd, in 16min. 26secs. Nuttall, the English professional champion, has expressed his willingness to swim Percy Cavill for the championship for any stake over distances of 500 and 1,000 yards, the contest to take place in September. Jack Helling, also of Sydney, placed the 100-yards amateur championship of England to his credit, at the same place, by defeating seven others, in 71 seconds.

Kobe is having a lively time with its coolies. During the fire on Thursday one of the fraternity, while in an intoxicated condition, assaulted two foreigners who were merely looking on at the conflagration. On the afternoon of that day one hundred coolies set upon a dozen foreign sailors who happened to be in the vicinity of the Recreation-ground. Sticks and stones were freely used, but the sailors managed to escape without much damage. We do not have these disturbances in Yokohama. Why is it? Are the Yokohama police force more efficient or is the Kobe coolie more truculent than his brother in the north?

A strange story of the sea is related by the *Fiji Shimpo*. A few days ago, a small boat arrived at Okitsu, Kazusa Province, manned by four mariners, who made a report to the Water Police to the following effect. The steamer No. 1 *Tenryu Maru*, trading between Yokohama and the South Seas, to which the waifs who made the report belonged, when among a group of islands on the 30th June, some 900 miles south of Japan, struck a sunken rock and almost immediately foundered. With considerable difficulty all the crew succeeded in effecting a landing on a small island in some of the boats of the steamer, when it was found that the place was uninhabited. After remaining on the desolate shore for a month in vain hope of being rescued by some passing vessel, Mr. Mizutani, the master of the lost steamer, and three

of the crew stocked a boat with provisions and water for about sixty days and started from the island for Japan, leaving behind the remainder of the crew, numbering over ten. From the beginning of July the adventurous little party had been drifting in calms or buffeted by storms without touching land until their arrival at Okitsu a few days ago. It is stated that the *Tenryu Maru* was insured with the Imperial Marine Insurance Co. for 5,000 yen.

A Reuter wire from Antwerp on 1st July, that appears in all the London papers, states:—"This morning the crews of two Japanese trading vessels who had already come into collision with the inhabitants of the port on previous occasions, sacked several public houses, at the same time ill-treating the police, who interfered, and a number of citizens. The disturbances were resumed several times. The police having been reinforced, eight of the Japanese were finally arrested and the two Japanese vessels were removed from the wharves." Japanese sailors, firemen and coolies are making a brilliant reputation for their countrymen at home. News has just reached Yokohama that one of the new Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamers was delayed for four days in the Suez Canal owing to the turbulent action of the firemen.

Some metropolitan journals, remarks the *Sekai-no-Nippon*, have endeavoured to contradict the news that Russian troops have arrived in Korea. Nevertheless reports are continually coming to hand confirming the truth of the incident. The special Seoul correspondent of the *Hochi Shimbun* writes as follows:—"It is here rumoured that a Russian man-of-war from Vladivostock has conveyed to Chemulpo a number of military officers. These officers are now known to belong to the Cossacks; and there were besides about twenty non-commissioned officers on board. They have all proceeded to the capital by the river Han. The entry of Russian troops into Seoul has broken the recent monotony and excited general criticism among the people. There can be no further doubt as to the Russians' arrival in Korea."

The *Hongkong Daily Press* of 27th July says:—"Before the commencement of the case in the Criminal Sessions Court yesterday the Attorney-General applied for Mr. Wei On to be approved, admitted, and enrolled as a solicitor to practice in the Supreme Court of Hongkong. Mr. Wei On was educated at Oxford and was an M.A. of the University. He had been admitted as a solicitor in England. His Lordship, in making the order applied for, said he had the more pleasure in doing so because Mr. Wei On belonged to the same University to which his Lordship had the honour to belong. Mr. Wei On was, he believed, the first Chinese graduate of that University and it was hoped that more Chinese gentlemen would follow his example. His Lordship then wished Mr. Wei On success in his career."

According to a Washington telegram three more U.S. vessels may be sent to Honolulu to take the place of the two now there. Some consideration has been given to the advisability of this, but nothing definite has been decided. The failure of the Senate to ratify the annexation treaty, says the writer, makes it necessary for the United States to preserve unusual precautions during the Congressional recess, and a strong fleet will do more than anything else to warn other nations that the *status quo* of Hawaii must be preserved. The battleship *Oregon* and the gunboat *Bennington* will probably be two of the vessels assigned to the islands, and the fast cruiser *Olympia*, now on the Asiatic station, has been suggested as the third. The *Olympia* would be used as a flagship by Admiral Miller. Neither the *Oregon* nor the *Bennington* are fitted for use as a flagship.

We were in error the other day in stating that Mr. James Troup is acting Danish Consul in this port, and as such caused the arrest of Mr. Stahlgren. Mr. Gielen is Acting Consul during Mr. Jewette's absence. We may here observe

that the affair to which the correction applies takes its place, and by no means an obscure place, among the many curiosities of Consular Jurisdiction in Japan. By what conceivable right did a Danish Consul issue a warrant for the arrest of a Danish subject on board a British vessel within Japanese territorial waters, but not within the limits of any treaty port? By what conceivable right did a British Consul endorse the warrant? And under what conceivable pretext was a British Consular constable lent for the purpose of executing the warrant? The incident is so strange that we can scarcely credit the correctness of the facts as hitherto published.

The good ship *John McDonald* is having a slow passage to Kobe. She left Yokohama in the last week of July and on the 11th of August the "*Matsuyama Maru*" reported at Kobe speaking the American sailing ship *John McDonald* on the 9th inst. at 9.30 a.m., 20 miles N.E. of Oshima. The *John McDonald* wished to be reported." So we should imagine.

According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun* the following laws are to be submitted to the 11th Session of the Diet for discussion:—The remaining portion of the Civil Code; the Commercial Code; Laws for the enforcement of Civil and Commercial Laws; and the Registration Law. It has been decided that the Criminal Code and the revised Codes of Civil and Criminal Procedure will not be submitted to the Diet.

The *Seikai-no-Nippon* reports the following casualties resulting from the recent floods in Niigata Prefecture:—In Naka-Kambara-gun a landslip occurred and a house containing seven persons was buried under it; in Mishima-gun eleven men were also crushed to death by a landslip, while another landslip caused two deaths and severe injury to several men; in Sado-gun several landslips occurred and 18 houses were crushed and 22 damaged, three persons being killed and two wounded. All the rivers in the locality overflowed their banks and three men were drowned in the river Shimazaki.

The Government railway between Kamikawa and Sorachifuto in Hokkaido, which was originally intended to be completed by March next year, has suffered considerably, and is still suffering, from want of labourers as well as the rise in price of commodities. The work extends over a distance of thirty-five miles, but progress is very slow. For a period of seven or eight months, between last Autumn and the Spring of this year, the work was greatly hindered by an unusual fall of snow and rain. The line between Sorachifuto and Takikawa and Fukagawa—a distance of fifteen miles—is expected to be finished by October next. After that time, locomotives may be used for the transport of materials necessary for other sections of the work, and facilities so afforded will, it is alleged by the *Yomiuri*, enable the Government to complete the line by the specified time.

The funeral of the late Ainogo Mura, aged thirty-three, a second-class petty officer belonging to the Japanese battleship *Yashima*, took place at Chatham Cemetery, England, on 1st July according to the burial rites of his country. In the absence of a Japanese priest, says a home paper, the burial service was read in the chapel by the commanding officer. A collection of artificial flowers and natural fruits was grouped on the floor at the head of the coffin before the ceremony commenced. At the conclusion, all the mourners placed twigs of evergreen before the coffin, and bowed to the corpse. The procession then moved slowly towards the grave. Three volleys were fired over the grave, the ship's bugles sounding the "last post" after each volley. Each officer sprinkled earth upon the coffin, and a memorial tablet of wood, inscribed with Japanese characters, was deposited with it. The concluding ceremony consisted of decorating the grave. A bough of weeping willow, intertwined with streaming ribbons, was placed at the head, and at the foot bowls of rice and decanters containing saké. Wooden

vases of artificial flowers of various colours were arranged on either side, and in the centre three beautiful crosses were deposited. The deceased committed suicide by cutting his throat with a knife whilst the *Yashima* was on her passage from the Tyne to the Medway. He left a letter, stating:—"Minority against majority. I don't see any hope of my sincerity being accepted by others, so I give up my life. June 25, 1897." No explanation as to what the deceased meant could be given.

It is reported that the mansion-house of Culloden is about to be dismantled and its contents—Jacobite relics, old curios, and works of art—brought to the hammer. Perhaps the most interesting article of furniture in the historic edifice, which has been for many generations in the Forbes family and is situated near the battlefield on which was sealed the fate of the Stuart dynasty, is the bed on which Prince Charlie slept on the eve of the fight. Tradition in the North assigns more than one locality as the place in which the Young Pretender passed the night before the battle; but it is certain that, while he slept in Thunderton House, Elgin—the residence of a loyal old lady adherent to his cause, who gave orders that the sheets on which her Prince lay should be preserved and used as her shroud—some few nights preceding the disaster of Drumossie Moor, it was in Culloden House he rested the night previous to the fateful day.

It was reported in these columns on Friday last that the N. Y. K. steamer *Iosa Maru*, which was engaged to convey 1,500 or so Japanese emigrants to Brazil, had been taken off that berth and put on the European line. We now learn from the *Mainichi Shimbun* that the reason for stopping the departure of the emigrants for Brazil, is that instructions have been wired from that country to suspend the despatch of labourers, as an economic crisis has arisen there. The Oriental Emigration Company had completed all arrangements for the despatch of 1,500 emigrants on the 15th instant, and the loss incurred by the Company, by the unfinished transaction, will according to our vernacular contemporary quoted above, be about 100,000 yen, though how such an enormous loss can arise in the matter, we fail to see. It is further reported that the Foreign Office and the Brazilian Government are at present engaged in telegraphic correspondence about the matter.

The following table shows the increase and decrease of convertible notes issued beyond legal limits since the 24th ult. up to the 5th inst.:

JULY.		
	Excess. Yen.	Actual issue. Yen.
24th	455,306.....	—
26th	866,335.....	411,530
27th	1,794,064.....	927,228
28th	4,115,088.....	2,321,024
29th	5,583,539.....	1,468,451
30th	7,116,603.....	1,533,064
31st	10,325,195.....	3,208,592
AUGUST.		
	Excess. Yen.	Receipts. Yen.
2nd	8,738,256.....	1,586,939
3rd	7,738,256.....	922,725
4th	7,332,016.....	483,515
5th	7,037,032.....	294,984

The over-issue of convertible notes seems to have been due to the decrease of the specie reserve, caused by the withdrawal of deposits by Government. The increase or decrease of notes, therefore, may be an index in ascertaining the real condition of the economic world. The table above shows the receipts of notes during the first few days at the beginning of this month to have amounted to over three million yen, but as a considerable amount of capital is needed in August the Bank of Japan must expect to undergo some vicissitudes.

It was with feelings of sincere regret that the *Kobe Herald* announced on Tuesday evening the death of Mr. John A. Thomson, whose name will recall to many in Yokohama, Tokyo and Kobe, the days when the National Bible Society of Scotland maintained an Agent at

this port. Mr. Thomson came out in 1879, to assist Mr. Robert Lilley, whom he eventually succeeded, and left in 1884. Since then he has been engaged in various places, mostly in the United States, Scotland, and India. After residing about three years in India, where he was connected with the British and Foreign Bible Society, he resigned and threw himself with characteristic ardour into purely secular pursuits, ultimately finding his way once more to Japan, as representative for the Far East and India of the Yost Type-writer Co. Mr. Thomson died on board the French mail steamer *Saghalien*, about half an hour before entering Kobe harbour. The sad event gave a great shock to his brother, Rev. R. A. Thomson, who had come down from Arima to meet him and welcome him back. It was known that he was not well, advice to that effect having been received some time ago by his wife who, with her three little children, resides in Yokohama, but none of his friends thought there was any ground for anxiety. Much sympathy is felt for the unfortunate wife and brother in their affliction.

It had been anticipated, says the *Mainichi*, that the total issue of convertible notes would reach two hundred million yen, judging from the increase in the issue of paper beyond the legal limit. On enquiring at the Bank of Japan, it was found that the excess of notes on the 7th instant amounted to eleven million yen and on the 9th to twelve millions, the result being that convertible notes had been issued to the amount of twenty millions. At the present time considerable tightness must be felt in the money market; but no ground for complaint seems to exist except that interest is a little higher than it ought to be. In short, the circulation of capital is regular and uninterrupted. Yet it appears that both banks and borrowers are equally inspired with a latent anxiety for the future. The spirit of apprehension has manifested itself in the form of hesitancy to engage in all kinds of transactions. That evidently arises from public inability to discern the result of gold monometallism on the future of trade, the consequences it may produce upon the economic world, and other problems affecting the financial schemes of the Government, which are in fact shrouded in mystery. The banks are taking unusual precautions, and hesitate to issue loans in spite of the funds lying idle in their vaults, and endeavour in this manner to consolidate their reserves. Such a precaution may be necessary or advisable for the Banks as well as for the economic world, but the policy is destined to curtail their profits to an enormous extent.

SOME ODDS AND ENDS.

"What's in a name?" has been a question possessing freshness since the days when Capulet warred with Montague in the narrow streets of mediæval Italian towns. It is as pertinent to-day as it was then; and will always be so, we imagine, so long as the world rolls on. Still we think that the editor of Kobe's new weekly might have chosen something more euphonious than the title he announced last Saturday. Certainly he sought "apt alliteration's artful aid," but the result is far from satisfactory. The name doesn't sound nice at all, and its suggestions to an East Anglian ear are unpleasant, despite Noah Webster.

Captain Wilmot of the British Navy has published a brochure entitled "The British Navy, Past and Present," in which he quotes from a weekly journal an anecdote relating to an incident that only a few residents, we imagine, can now call to mind. The story runs:—"During the revolution in Japan between the Tycoon and the Mikado, Hakodate was about to be bombarded by the Mikado's ships. Boats from H.M.S. *Pearl* were sent to bring off the English and foreign residents. One of the boats was specially told off to bring on board the English consular archives. The midshipman in command of the boat being so long away from the ship, the signal for his recall was hoist-

ed, and on his return to report himself he said, almost with tears in his eyes, 'that he had hunted and asked everywhere for Mr. and Mrs. Archives, and he couldn't get any information about them.' This midshipman is now in command of one of our first-class battle-ships.

The talk of the week has been greatly centred on the dramatic arrest effected on Monday evening far down the Bay. The affair was theatrical in most of its attendant aspects; the waiting steam-launch with its group of expectant officials, then the grounding of the *Columbia* on Saratoga Spit, and next the arrest while the big steamer lay helpless on the mud. Many years have passed since a somewhat similar scene was enacted near Saratoga Spit, but that affair ended in an appalling tragedy. Then as now the ship was flying the Red Ensign, and the principals belonged to another race than that which finds protection beneath the ruddy folds of the Ensign of England.

"Welcome the coming, speed the parting guest." To the infinite regret of everybody in our small community the time has arrived to bid farewell to Mr. Consul-General McIvor in his official capacity. A man of keen intellect, thoroughly grounded in the Law, an official who ever had the business interests and general welfare of his nationals at heart, and above all a gentleman *sans peur et sans reproche*, Mr. McIvor will leave Yokohama accompanied by the good wishes of all who have ever come in contact with him, for a happy continuance of a career already so bright with promise. We use no idle, hyperbolic phrase when expressing the opinion that in Mr. McIvor the United States Government had the best Consul-General ever accredited to Yokohama.

"Printers' errors" are the despair of all newspaper people, but more particularly of the little band of English journalists who are "marking time and writing history" in the Treaty ports of the Far East. To them falls an additional burden of care and worry, for to the outsider the jumble a native compositor can make of the plainest copy is inconceivable. Fortunately the Far Eastern comp. does not take upon himself the task of punctuating the copy given him to set up. In that respect he is most unlike his English brother. Still faulty "stopping" often brings expressions of wrath to the lips of many a "writer for the Press" in the Far East. When the accident happens to some other journalist than yourself, it is really very funny to observe the curious effect a misplaced comma has upon the sense of a paragraph or advertisement: it's not fun for the other fellow though. A London periodical recently offered a prize for the best collection of such unintentionally amusing advertisements. Here is part of one list:—

"Annual sale now going on. Don't go else-where to be cheated—come in here."

"Wanted, a room for two gentlemen about thirty feet long and 320 feet broad."

"A lady wants to sell her piano, as she is going abroad in a strong iron frame."

"Lost, a collie dog by a man on Saturday answering to Jim with a brass collar around his neck and muzzled."

"Wanted, by a respectable girl, her passage to New York, willing to take care of children and a good tailor."

"M. Brown, furrier, begs to announce that he will make up gowns, capes, etc., for ladies out of their own skins."

"A boy wanted who can open oysters with a reference."

"Bulldog for sale, will eat anything, very fond of children."

"Wanted, an organist and a boy to blow the same."

If this can be done at Home, what can out-lander papers not produce?

Eastern Treaty ports boast of the cosmopolitan nature of their communities. Harrow School can now share the boast with equal pride. On Speech Day this year, the evidence of its polygot character was very much to the fore. The Captain of the School was a Mr. Mavrogordato; Mr. Lembcke was prize-winner

for scripture and history; Mr. Wertheimer for Latin prose; and Prince Ibrahim Pasha for geography and modern history. Not a bad selection of names for an English public school!

The hot weather is having its usual effect upon the community. All those that can are away to the hills or the seashore other than Yokohama Bay. Miyashita is full of visitors from Shanghai and China ports, while Ikao has mostly attracted Yokohama folks this year. One fact stands out broadly in this annual migration—in none of the holiday resorts, whether they be in the hills or by the sea, can one find any member of the group of foreign journalists who are eking out a living in Yokohama or Kobe. Everyone else takes a holiday by natural right. It is a privilege never assailed, for custom has solidified it into adamant; but the journalist's work is never done and holidays come not his way. Yet, on the whole, the slaves of the pen, at least in Yokohama, are not looking so very bad on this strict regimen of incessant work. They draw big drafts on the Bank of the Future, let us hope their trust may not be misplaced.

An amusing incident in connection with the late Brecon Fisteddod is noted in the *Musical Times*. A prize for choral singing was offered by the licensed victuallers of that town. Up came a temperance choral society from Newport and won it. This was a case of spoiling the Egyptians with a vengeance!

The last few moonlight nights have been taken advantage of by many of our local riders for bicycle spins in the country. What a variety of wheels one sees on these occasions! Every one seems to patronize a different maker. It reminds us of the story circulated by a Washington paper. Diogenes was on foot, with a bicycle lantern. "Why do you carry that lantern?" inquired the King. "I am looking for the best wheel on the market," quoth Diogenes, "and up to the present each man I have met has recommended a different one."

News from Nikko is to the effect that Mr. Morse's concerts there have been a great success.

The aquatic sports of the Y. A. R. C. on Wednesday did not appear to rouse as much interest among members, to say nothing of visitors, as similar competitions did a few years ago. It seems to us that at least one of the reasons for this lack of enthusiasm might be traced to some remissness on the part of the officers of the Club. No notice of the fixture was, so far as we have seen, authoritatively published in the papers, and several members of the Club who arrived on the bathing barge during the evening for their usual dip, seemed to be entirely in ignorance that sports were on, and others who would have been present declare annoyance at not having been reminded of the event.

The changes that have taken place among the personnel of competitors in these sports during the last few years were very noticeable on Wednesday. Not one of the champions of five years ago took part in the competitions, though some appeared on the Committee, while several of the competitors in the boys' races of that period are now winners of the principal events. In most cases the champions of old were very distinctly a better lot than those of the present day. On referring to the records of the Club's Sports of August 1892, we find that J. Eytan, Jr. won the 100 yards open swimming race in 55½ seconds, while H. Goddard's time on Wednesday was 1 min. 43 sec. The long dive was won in '92 by W. W. Campbell, who was under water 45 secs., and covered 150 feet. The quarter mile swimming race fell to K. F. Crawford, one of the fastest swimmers of his day, with P. S. Bent second, but the time is not reported, while Carst, in the race for boys under 15, covered 75 yards in 40 secs. The boys' races then were spirited affairs, but on Wednesday no lad could be found to start. There is evidently a lack of interest or inducement somewhere. Or is it the state of the harbour?

THE TRIFLER.

COUNT OKUMA AT THE SEMMON GAKKO.

At the fifteenth graduation exercises of the Semmon Gakko, Count Okuma's School, at Waseda, Tokyo, the Minister for Foreign Affairs delivered an address to the students. His Excellency remarked that he was extremely pleased at being able to speak to the pupils, and more especially on such an occasion as their fifteenth anniversary. They had already had the pleasure of hearing a speech from Prince Konoye, and an address by the Head Master, Dr. Hatoyama, so out of consideration for their feelings in such hot weather, he (the speaker) would limit his own remarks as much as possible. The young men, whom I wish more particularly to address, said Count Okuma, are the graduates of to-day, who, after many years of hard work and conscientious diligence, have taken their degree of Bachelor, and now leave the seclusion of the school to mingle with the denizens of the busy work-a-day world outside. Their first appearance in the ranks of those that have to live a practical life will be found, later on, to have resembled the experience of others; their first struggles will be, in most cases, like the first struggles of many men whose heads are now whitening with the snows of age. Human life is a series of intricacies, and at first it is difficult to discover the best path to pursue to enable us to successfully thread its mazes. The graduates that now sit before me, must expect to be confronted by many enemies: they will encounter many ambushes, but I counsel you all ever to keep a bold heart within you. Prince Konoye has justly remarked that the present condition of society, to the casual observer, discloses a lack of social energy and a widespread moral disorganization. These are two formidable enemies that the rising youth of Japan must combat. They have to vanquish those evils if they wish to escape humiliation and defeat in their race of life. If it happens that fortune does not smile upon them at the commencement, they must not lose heart, or suffer the loss of material good-things to damp their ardour. They must still press on, for invaluable experience is to be gathered from failure; experience that will enable them in the end to achieve success.—(Applause.) Now, what can furnish the most satisfactory compass to enable you to steer your course over this intricate sea of life? I can put it into one word. It is, learning. The graduates to whom I am speaking have completed their college course; they have received their certificates, but they have yet to learn the most elementary lessons in the practical school of life that lies outside the schoolroom. The lessons that they have learned at school must now be put to practical use: the knowledge that the past few years have brought them must be put to practical test. As the skilful mariner consults his compass and reads his barometer, so must these graduates consult their minds trained by education and read the book-knowledge their masters have given them into the practical duties of the day. One thing they must never forget: learning never finishes—it goes on as long as life lasts. Never must they relinquish their studies, rather must they ever keep up with them if they wish to make of life a great success.—(Applause.) A man who abandons learning, who wilfully puts aside the fruits of education, is a man who slowly loses influence with his fellows and gradually sink to the low level where lurk ignorance and defeat. This remark I hope will be of use to you in after time.—(Applause.) Count Okuma then turned for a few minutes to a retrospect of the fifteen years' of school-life that the Waseda Semmon Gakko had seen. He said:—Mr. Ichishima has already made a general report upon the school, but I suppose there is still something I can tell you about it. Moreover, as this festivity is attended by such personages as the Minister of Education, Prince Konoye, the Principal of the University, educationists, *literati*, and religionists, who all enjoy a degree of influence in the community at large, and whose meeting in this fashion cannot

be expected to occur frequently, and as the students themselves may be unacquainted with many circumstances that prevailed fifteen years ago, I will try to tell you the ideals that I held when I drew up the organization of this school. I will briefly relate what influence has been exercised by the school upon society; what changes have been wrought in the school standards; what I hope regarding the future. To talk of my ideals, however, before the illustrious philosophers and lawyers who are present to-day, costs me some effort. Yet I firmly believe that it is wrong for any one to shrink from uttering what he feels even in his inmost heart. I am therefore always ready to speak without reserve even before men of great erudition.—(Applause.) Reflection will show that foreign learning came into vogue soon after the arrival of Commodore Perry. Perhaps foreign learning may not have been so extensively propagated then as to warrant the use of the word "vogue," yet it is certain that men then interested in that learning were ardently engaged in acquiring a knowledge of the conditions of the West. I am really one of their number. Forty years have elapsed since that period, and by the time of the Restoration various schools had sprung up, principally devoted to the acquisition of foreign learning. After the Restoration, the Western systems—both military and civil—then in the highest stage of development, were introduced into this country. Everywhere the necessity of foreign learning was recognised, and no study was deemed efficient except that of the West. Thus the education of England, America, France, Germany, and other Occidental countries was adopted, and, as a natural consequence, produced scholars of different types. Such being the case, the thought occurred to me that the learning so pursued by the Japanese must be entirely destitute of foundation. In Japan, I said to myself, learning has no solid basis whatever. Education, however, is of paramount importance. It forms the character as well as lays the foundations of a nation, and yet it is wanting in a firm basis in my land. Indeed, it was a source of apprehension to me that the education of the Japanese had to be conducted by a variety of foreign systems. That would not do. The independence of the country might become endangered. At all events learning must be made independent. A moment's consideration showed me that in Russia, a country which had recently sprung up in Europe, an illustrious sovereign of no common ability, known as Peter the Great, had introduced from the West all the sciences and arts with a view to the adoption of European civilization. Russia therefore, like Japan, had a variety of systems of learning, but yet succeeded in establishing an independent system of education in less than two years. Five or six universities, imperfect as they were, sprang up in Russia. I suppose, there are now seven in all. But of the number of universities in Russia the learned personages who are present may be better informed than I. At any rate, there are a great many, the students aggregating over ten thousand. All the higher branches of science are taught in the Russian language, while the text books are all printed in Russian. I may suppose that those text books were originally written in German, English, and other foreign languages, but they were taught to Russians in Russian. In short, Russians were educated in a Russian University by the use of the Russian tongue. Was that the case with Japan? No. It was therefore necessary for Japan to organise a school where the higher branches of science might be efficiently taught in her own tongue. At that time, however, Japanese was regarded as an imperfect language, and various arguments were advanced as to the desirability of improving it. Drastic views were even expressed urging the advisability of substituting English for the Japanese language. Various associations were formed under the names of *Kana no Kwai*, and *Romaji Kwai*, and a great many others. Japanese literature may indeed be imperfect; Japanese characters may really be inconvenient, as they are but alterations of Chinese ideographs. The public were doubtful whether

they could comprehend or express the noble and intricate sciences of the West with a language so imperfect and so irregular as Japanese. The question of an improvement of the language was therefore discussed everywhere with a certain degree of ardour. As for me, however, I was rather inclined to assert that if the Japanese language were really unfit for expounding high philosophy or physics, or any other science, the country itself would be in danger. But there could be no ground for such reasoning as that, and the assertion might be proved by saying that when such wonderfully high philosophy as the *Daiji* or *Tendai* found its way from India into Japan thirteen centuries ago it was perfectly understood by all, nay, better than by the Chinese, despite the immaturity or imperfection of the language, which I suppose was then freer from the admixture of Chinese characters. Subsequently, eminent founders of religious sects as Dengyo and Kūkai, and founders of systems of law, though not in the present sense of the word—appeared in society. They were worthy of that appellation on account of having converted the Indian Buddhism into the Japanese religion. They were really illustrious. Nor were the people less intelligent in comprehending the noble philosophy of Buddha—which was already in a state of perfect refinement over one thousand years ago—by the aid of the words and ideographs condemned as imperfect by latter-day Japanese. From these facts I was led to the conclusion that there was no learning at present, however high it might be, that could not be interpreted by the aid of words and characters purely Japanese. If learned men would devote their energies to this point, all the text books available for the teaching of Japanese youth could be written and lectured upon in their own tongue. In the course of progress they might be enabled to compile books of their own, or supply the deficiency, if any, by translations. With this in view I boldly spoke up for the independence of learning. At that time, six or seven gentlemen of the University, alluded to by Messrs. Ichishima and Ono Ajika a few moments ago, had not yet graduated. Just before their graduation, they were introduced to me by Mr. Ono, when I spoke to them regarding my opinions. They all approved of them, and thus was undertaken the imparting of high education by the aid of the mother tongue. One may be inclined to ask, "Why, then, is English taught in this school?" To that I make reply, "Because it is necessary to have more or less knowledge of that language, at present as well as in future." As there is a necessity for Europeans to study Greek and Latin, so with us the study of foreign languages is indispensable in so far as the object of learning is concerned. Such necessity arises even when the independence of learning is perfectly established. I added physics to the curriculum of our School with the idea that physics, or natural philosophy, was the groundwork upon which every system of learning stands. In this private school physics, however, has failed to attract the attention of students. That branch of science involves considerable expense. Nor are instructors willing to come forward. I have suffered complete failure on that point. It is an immense regret to me. Not only in that but in engineering, too, have I been unfortunate. The scheme of conducting learning by the aid of the Japanese language alone consisted, at first, in the establishment of a curriculum for politics and law, and physics. No efforts could yet be made towards adopting engineering or any other branch of science. Nevertheless the school was opened on those lines. It acquired considerable influence during the past fifteen years, as the Manager has noted. But in what condition the school was during that period, you may find it worth while to know. The difficulties encountered were extraordinary. Not only a lack of funds, but various enemies, misunderstandings and treachery, as commented upon by Prince Konoye, conspired for a time to crush the school. The difficulties, however, were eventually overcome by the fidelity of school friends and by the uncommon perseverance of teachers such as Messrs. Amano, Ichishima, and Yamada.

A glorious trio! Yet the public misunderstanding in this respect is serious enough to call for an explanation for the benefit of the school. So far as my connection with the school is concerned, it is no small regret to me that my life is affected by these misconceptions. The reason why I established the school was, as I have told you, to secure the independence of education. What other reason could there be? In regard to my life, suffer me now to say a few words. When Perry arrived in Japan I was only fifteen years old, and I must confess that I spent the most important period of my life in carrying on a movement, so to speak, resembling that which is now undertaken by the *soshii*. I, indeed, devoted some time to reading, but sacrificed, though not entirely wasted, most of the valuable period of youth in various public undertakings. From the point of view of present scholarship, I can hardly escape censure for having wasted the period needful for study. No man is perfect. But the imperfections of one are compensated by the gifts of another. For instance, I drink the water of this cup, and the water disappears from it. Yet it is a great error to think that the liquid has really disappeared. The air takes its place. I thought I might get others to study so as to supply the deficiency in my learning. My idea with respect to the independence of education having unexpectedly been approved by such an able and enthusiastic person as Mr. Ono Ajika and many other gentlemen, this school was eventually called into existence. The public, however, seems to have fallen into the misconception that since I have political connections I have a political purpose in connexion with education. There can be no doubt that some persons have been betrayed into such gross misapprehensions. But I am at a loss to understand how others could have been induced, as Prince Konoye intimated before, to make their own misapprehension a means of impairing the honour of the school and descending to deeds of treachery. I was much troubled, but I had no selfish motive in regard to the school. Just consider a moment. I was not even acquainted with any of the faces of the gentlemen actually connected with the school. Had I intended to enter into anything like an intrigue, I should have talked with those gentlemen, or delivered lectures. Nor did I interfere in school matters, as these, I thought, might prove an embarrassment to me. It is true that my vigour and energy were placed under requisition to a considerable extent in the organization of the school, and yet this is the first time that I have visited this lecture hall. I am very simple in my opinions. The reason for my not coming to the hall is that I wanted to keep myself clear from public misapprehension. People seemed to say, "That school belongs to Okuma; he is a shrewd fellow, full of machinations." Such remarks were a source of serious perplexity to me and eventually brought great misfortune upon the school. Some of the graduates of the University who, as Government officials, were required to discharge their functions chiefly in the office to which they belonged, rendered incidental service as lecturers or instructors in this school. Those persons, having a close connection with the Government, withdrew their assistance. They used to say:—"To lecture in the Semmon Gakko may be a matter of serious consequence. We must therefore give up our work under the circumstances, though not without reluctance. Our ardour is not at all relaxed, but things of late present an unfavourable aspect." I was embarrassed for a time by a deficiency of teachers, but the school has been maintained up to the present through the exertions of men distinguished for extreme enthusiasm, ever since its establishment. It seems that the misapprehension to which I have alluded is on the point of dying out. Nevertheless I am a Minister of State at present, though unpopular, and often represented as a man of machinations. I cannot tell whether I am wrong or they that speak thus against me. Prince Konoye's remarks appear to fit me. At any rate, I am willing to leave the whole thing to the impartial judgment of the gentlemen now before me. I may happen to resign my position as a government official, and in that case the trouble

about my personal intentions may revive. I beg, however, to declare before the gentlemen present that I have no such intention as the public accuse me of entertaining. This confession is a matter of great importance to me. I never tell a lie; never in the presence of such respectable gentlemen as you.—(Loud laughter.) From the circumstances I have related, it may now be seen that the school is not to be regarded as the possession of a private individual, but that it virtually belongs to the State, or to society at large. It may be asked why, in that case, the Educational Department did not take the whole enterprise upon itself? Well, here is the Minister of Education. He can not be expected to do everything for the State. The State sometimes falls into a state of lethargy, or has a tendency to concentrate its energies in one direction. There is, therefore, a necessity for a private institution not controlled by authority, but managed in an independent spirit. It is not infrequent that a great statesman, a great legislator, or a great theologian emerges from a private school. An institution purely private is therefore absolutely indispensable. This school cannot be said to belong to me alone, although I have rendered assistance to it to a certain extent up to this present time. The school in some respects may be compared to a sort of temple, and I may call myself its chief priest. In regard to the Semmon Gakko I have been no doubt a zealous priest, yet a priest of an impoverished temple. The University, has the Treasury for its benefactor, and may be quite comfortable about its estimates and about the Diet, as the President who is now here, is well aware.—(Applause.) A poor temple, like this school, ought to secure as far as possible a large number of patrons. It has hitherto been represented as Okuma's temple, but that is not the case. The school, in fact, is not a productive institution; it requires a large amount of money to be spent on it. To increase the number of patrons and the amount of their contributions is therefore the proper course to pursue. I pray you all to bear that in mind. I suppose I have been too unworlily in my hopes, but my desire was simply to see education raised to a state of independence. If anything that might be counted as merit accrues from this notion, we have but to rejoice heartily, in the interests of the country. If, in the course of its progress, this institution, should ever grow and take a similar form to the University—though it might fail to attain full qualifications for such a status,—and if it be possible in future to extend the curriculum to other branches of learning, I shall be profoundly gratified, for then it may secure credit with the public and considerable honour for the students as well as friends of the school. I hope that our efforts will be attended with success. If you, who are about to enter the field of action in society, and those who are to follow you, exert their energies in the way in which I have described, the patrons of the school will certainly increase and its prosperity will be considerably promoted.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

The accounts of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration are now at the British Consulate and open to the inspection of subscribers on application to Mr. Chalmers any time during this month.

After paying all outstanding accounts, a balance remains of \$461.79, which the Committee have decided, in recognition of the valuable services which they received from the undermentioned, to dispose of as follows:

Three challenge cups are to be offered, one to the Reliance Wheelmen, one to the Nippon Bicycle Club, and one to the Yokohama Sailing Club; the sum of \$100 is to be presented to the Y. C. & A. C. pavilion fund, and \$100 to the men's recreation fund on board H. M. S. *Grafton*. Any small balance will be handed to the Ladies' Benevolent Society.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE FOREIGNER IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

As "a looker on in Venice" for a year, I have been considerably interested, and often amused, at the various phases of the ever-recurring subject of foreigners' treatment by Japanese. The amusing part is wholly confined to where others, not myself, are the target. I have resisted the temptation to rush into print, which seizes every foreigner in Japan sooner or later, as a sort of relief, although knowing it will do no good. The reward of the Japanese is coming back to them rapidly. The tourist, and the money he spends in Japan, is a very pleasant thing for Japan itself, and it is something worth cultivating, for the money thus brought into the country is nearly all pure gain. Comparing the travel to Japan this year with that of previous ones, a marked falling off is noticeable. My New York daily papers I find filled with items about the rude treatment of foreigners here by a certain class of Japanese.

During the last few months, I know of at least five instances, where tourists of wealth, who spent money freely, left Japan in disgust after only a short stay, tired of the constant fight they had to maintain against the efforts to impose upon them on all sides.

These people alone mean a loss to Japan of at least \$10,000. There is no question that travel toward Japan has been very largely reduced by the fact that the Japanese authorities are either unable or unwilling to take this matter in hand seriously, and guarantee foreigners the same rights and protection in Japan as Japanese are afforded in foreign countries. Unless something is done, Japan will find that foreigners will be quite willing that Japanese shall have Japan all to themselves, as they seem to wish, and will spend their money where they can have fair treatment.

Yours,

AMERICUS.

THAT OMINOUS DÉBRIS ON LOT 53.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to ask through the columns of your valuable paper whether there is any probability of the ominous debris on the burnt lot No. 53. Settlement, being ever removed. Although dangerous collapses occurred on two previous occasions, nothing is done and the ruins are left to the care of time and providence, presumably.

The cracked walls and charred beams as they are left, barring the footpath of the Main Street, constitute a constant danger to the public thoroughfare, and the sooner they are removed, the better.

In my opinion the owners of the lot, or their representatives, have already trespassed too much upon the patience and indulgence of the public in leaving the debris untouched so long.

Thanking you for the insertion of this modest inquiry, I remain,

A LOOKER-ON.

Yokohama, August 10th, 1897.

RAMBLES IN FORMOSA.

[SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

TAIPEH.

In Takao there are at present very few foreigners. Vosteen, the hearty old German pilot, who stayed nearly 30 years at Takao, has departed for Australia, having sold his spacious house to Mr. Asano. The Anping merchants, who most of them own houses and premises in Takao, do not come over very frequently. Dr. Myers, being now in the employment of the Japanese Government, thinks also of quitting. Thus the foreign element, driven away by a deplorable decrease of commerce, would have died out altogether, were it not for the arrival of a new consul, Señor Enrique Ortiz, representative of the Madrid Government in Formosa. Mr. Ortiz has been before in the Far East, having discharged consular duties for three years in Saigon. Coming by way of Japan and of April, accompanied by a trusty old Chinaman, who had picked up "the lingo" during a long Consuls just now. The French have sent Vicomte de Bondy, and there is rumour of a Russian and a Chinese Consul being appointed in the near future.

Señor Ortiz has to look after five Spanish missionaries, being at present the only subjects of Queen Isabella in the fair island. And he ought to have his hands already full, his duties be-

ginning with a rather serious case of damages, involving considerable loss to the Spanish inland-mission at Taroku (one journey N.E. of Kagi). The case has been pending for two years and has also been taken up by the Spanish Ambassador at Tokyo. During the short lived Formosan republic, Chinese robbers invaded Taroku and destroyed in a vandalic manner the complete Church property of the mission, laying the handsome chapel level with the soil and burning furniture and valuable books. Hence a claim for damages against the Japanese Government. Some months ago, there appeared in certain Japanese papers queer accusations, in fact calumnies, against the padre at Taroku, to the effect that he is now secretly aiding and abetting robbers against the Japanese. The name of the padre, misspelled in those papers in an awful manner, is Giner. I have been myself at Taroku and know by personal knowledge that Father Giner was on the contrary helping the Japanese authorities against outlaws, and I think it is *prima facie* absurd that a man should favour the very people by whom he unjustly lost everything. It is only natural, therefore, that such calumnies should create ill-feeling among the Spaniards and Japanese in Formosa. Japanese reporters should really be a little more chary of inflicting upon credulous readers whatever they happen to pick up in the way of spurious, strange hearsay.

Towards the end of April, Takao also went through the panic of a robbers' invasion. There seems indeed to have been quite an uprising in the neighbourhood of Pitau (Hosan). Japanese officers informed me that as many as 700 brigands made a raid, slaying several Japanese soldiers or coolies (I don't recollect which exactly), and sacking a few villages. Owing to the proverbial exaggeration of the Chinese, the rumour spread wide and afar, that the Chinese force had captured Tangkan (one day's journey to the south from Takao) and four villages, killing the garrisons, and threatened the district capital, Pitau. Wealthy Chinamen tried to spend the night with their treasures on board a ship, and a foreigner even took care to transport himself and a considerable number of Mexican dollars with all speed to Anping. The rumour was no doubt vastly exaggerated, still it must be owned that these affairs are no trifles for well-to-do Chinamen. A few months ago, the richest celestial of Southern Formosa, a resident of Lianglian (2 1/2 from Takao) was superseded in the care of 10,000 dollars by robbers suddenly appearing at night and helping themselves to that desirable asset.

Takao is, in my opinion, by far the most picturesque, the most healthy, and the most agreeable of all Formosan towns. It is just lovely, and were it not for typhoons and a lack of commodious, good streets, it would be a small paradise. There are, of course, people that never are satisfied anywhere, and you may meet fault-finders also in the neighbourhood of Takao. I found, by the by, that in one Formosan dialect Takao means island, and I should judge that term appropriate for the nice little town, because originally Takao was really built on an island, connection with the mainland having been affected by the gradually advancing dam of the lagoon within about a half century or so. I hope that no learned Sinologue will point out to me that the Chinese characters denoting Takao, mean something quite different, for it is a very common fact that Chinamen caricature any name just to suit their own convenience, very much like the Transvaalers, who turned the unfamiliar Englishman Theiger into a "teeniger" (tea-sucker) and Sir Th. Shepstone to something very near a sheep, or the German saga-tellers, who disrespectfully changed the proud Siegfried to a *Sénfrita* (sow-herder).

In a Chinese Hong at Takao I came across a coolie who had been shipwrecked on the southern coast and held prisoner for five years by the savages.

From the Spaniards I learnt that the savages near Bam-kin-chim are known as Kale-huan. It is barely possible that this appellation is connected with the name of another South Formosan tribe, the Gali, in whose language *gali* means black, but I fancy that the word referring to the former tribe rather signifies mountaineers, since in the Malayan realm we frequently hear of the sacred mountain of Kale. There is a high peak, towering up to 10,000 feet, Kale or Kailei, near Bam-kin-chim (due east of Takao), and there is a tradition among the Igorrotes of Northern Luzon, that after the deluge, people who had saved themselves in the hollow of a tree landed at a mountain called Kanlantan. If I remember right, there is also a kind of far eastern Olympus by name of Kalios mentioned in the famous Utopian tale of Euphemerus. The country, where that Euphemic mountain of the spirits lies, is said in the text to be far beyond

India, away down in the South Sea. I wish, by the by, that somebody could find out of which particular country the renowned Greek philosopher thought in dubbing his mysterious land Mangchia, a name which is just pronounced and self-possessed enough to make a closer acquaintance desirable. I could never settle that point to my own satisfaction, but I may offer an hypothesis. It is pretty well ascertained that the ancient authors of the West knew fairly accurately and reproduced the geographical terms of the East as far as Cochinchina. The Kakobae and Kadopae of Ptolemy survive even now in Siam as *Kaku* and *Kadun*. Alexandrine writers may therefore very well have been informed about races dwelling at the very limits of Cochinchina. Now, all the savages of the South during thousands of years, have always been spoken of by the Chinese under the general, comprehensive term of Mant or Mantze, (Miautze), a name, which corresponds to Mangchia as closely as according to the laws of Greek can possibly be expected.

Speaking of geographical nomenclature, which is, of course, as important for the tracing of the migration of savage races as the existence of American, South-African and Australian New-castles, Worcesters, Frankforts and Heidelbergs is for the migration of Englishmen and Germans, I should add, that a great number of Formosan local names can at once be identified with names occurring elsewhere in Australasia. Thus, to mention a few: Talibu of northern Formosa reminds of Dalibubun in northern Luzon, and Taliabu in eastern Celebes; the Dipun (Tipun) of S.E. Formosa may have descended from the Difun in northern Luzon (upper Cagayan river); Kamauri, a village near Tamsui, (in Chinese writing Ka-pau-li) coincides with Kamaray at the Cagayan; Sao in N.E. Formosa with Save near central Djizolo (island near N.W. New Guinea); Tapani near Kagi with Tapanan in Celebes; Panglao in extreme S.W. Formosa (from *pana* river and *liao* sea) with Panglao between Bohol and Mindanao; the frequent town and tribal name of Tarokun with Tarag-tig in K. Luzon; the river Khilai with the river Djelhai in S.W. Borneo.

From Takao I paid a visit to Padre Clemente, the Superior of the Spanish Mission in Formosa, who lives across the lagoon in a stately, half-Mauresque, half-Chinese building. The site is on somewhat marshy ground, but one has a fine view from the windows of the Ape hill at the side and the South-Formosan Alps at the other. Close by is a roomy cathedral, erected some 30 years ago. The mission boasts a library, consisting exclusively of books in Spanish and Latin, the only languages besides Taiwanese which the fathers, as a rule, are acquainted with—whence it actually happens, once in a while, that in the intercourse with North European travellers or consuls, Latin is used as a living tongue in far away Formosa. The library contains many extremely valuable writings in print and manuscript, dealing with Formosa, and I heard that, some time ago, Mr. Murakami, the gifted young historian, who was recently sent by his Government to Manila and Macao to gather material for a complete future history of the fair island, had been at the mission to get a glimpse of the records and books kept there. His offer, though, to buy up the bulk of them, could not be entertained by Father Clemente. There is one thing especially that strikes one on perusing these records, namely, the sad fact that there was never such a thing in the beautiful islands as perfect peace. Why, times were frequent when an invasion by foreign enemies seemed much preferable to the bitter internecine discord that was eating up the very heart of the people. In the late sixties, a padre records the internecine slaughter of 30,000 souls in the neighbourhood of Ban Kim Chim alone; 30,000 men murdered away in times of peace. That is a ghastly commentary, even if somewhat exaggerated, on the wisdom of Chinese Government. The chief element of discord was always, of course, the racial hate between Hakka and Fukienese, on one side, and of both combined against the Pepohuan on the other. Every man's hand was against every man else. And moreover, no year passed by in which serious losses were not inflicted by the savages on both peaceful settlers and turbulent Chinese soldiers. In 1886, writes Padre Aranz, there marched 1,500 soldiers against the wild tribes of Talan near Chungwa, but when two moons had waned, the Chinese had lost 500 men without advancing one inch, and Governor Liu came himself to settle grievances amicably. In 1887, a general and 400 soldiers were slain near Ban-kin-thin, and so on. Then the continual disquiet and excitement caused by the threat or actual outburst of a foreign war. In the early sixties, the Taipings; in 1867, the fear of Prussian occupation; seven years after, Saigo's expedition; in 1877, curiously enough, strong rumour of a war

with Spain; at last the French blockade and the Japanese annexation, embittered by civil war. Not even Cuba or Crete, or Luzon or Madagascar or any other island in this most recent international period of interesting insular war has such an extraordinary record.

It is a noteworthy fact, that most of the Spaniards' converts as well as of the Presbyterian Christians in Formosa belong to the Pepohuan race. The Pepohuan are of an impressive, easy-going and rather generous character, though given somewhat to debauches, whilst as to the Chinese, suffice it to say that during a long time only the roughest adventurers and toughest criminals flocked to Formosa. The success of the Spanish mission is not very considerable. After 36 years of missionary efforts, there are scarcely 1,300 Roman Catholics at present in the whole island. More than half of these are at Bankian-chin and neighbourhood.

THE BASHI ISLANDS

(SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

By the recent treaty, determining an ideal line of demarcation between the colonial possessions of Japan and Spain, the latter Power may be said to have gained a trifle territorially; for it never held sway over the Bashi Islands, which by virtue of that treaty fall within its sphere of influence, nor had ever tried to get a footing there. As there is absolutely no trade or commerce on these islands and consequently neither steamers nor sailing ships call at their typhoon-ridden shores, next to nothing is known about the country and the people. The only published account of the forlorn isles I know of, appeared in an obscure English periodical in 1862. A recent description is to be met with, however, in the excellently written correspondences of the "Correo Sino-Anamita" (1896), printed for private circulation in the central office of the Mendicant Order at Manila. By the courtesy of one of the Dominican fathers I was able to peruse the pertinent correspondence, and I think, it will not be amiss to give here a short extract of it. The notes alluded to were sent by Padre Idigoro from his mission at Ibanan, the chief port of the Batau Islands. It would appear from this worthy hermit's humorous relations, that even in Manila people had scarcely an idea of the real state of things in their outlying colonies, whose coasts are washed by the Kuroshio. Whilst in reality the Batau group (between Luzon and the Bashi archipelago) can boast of a population, that reads and writes and dresses à l'Européenne, a Manila illustrated magazine had represented them as a batch of nude savages. This, we learn, is true, however, of the Bashi natives, whose mountains are visible from Ibanan. There is complete ignorance, abject squalor, in short, the lowest kind of civilisation, if civilisation can dwell at all in the miserable caves that serve as abodes to the natives, being fitter for brutes than for men.

Even in the best of sea-charts I failed to find all the names of the Bashi Islands. According to our Spaniard, who spells them Vasshi, the five larger ones are, going from the South to the North—Liayan, Mabudis, Tanem, Maysanga, Fami. Even the best of these islands seem to all intents and purposes to be nothing short of purgatory. An abominable climate, causing interminable typhoid and pernicious fever; terrible typhoons, whose course is not, as in Formosa, checked by high mountains, prevailing until the very end of the year; an active volcano, spreading fire and destruction, in the southern region; no food except fish, *ube* (a kind of sweet potato), and goat-meat; no clothes; no distractions, no government, and lastly not even boats good enough to get away on. The Bashians are greatly feared by the Batawese, though without apparent reason but for their hideous appearance, and there is no intercourse between them save by accident. Once, when a party of the northern tribesmen, probably cast adrift by stress of weather, tried to land at the southern shore, near Mayats, the garrison of that place, consisting of an old Spanish invalid and a few native assistants, fired a rusty cannon, on which the savages fled in terror and dismay, and were never seen again. Besides, whilst the Batawese language is different from the Thanay of North-western Luzon, the Bashi idiom is again utterly unintelligible to the Batau people. Now, it ought to be understood that the present Batawese are only immigrants from Florio (Luzon); the old stock of the Tibayaner, who were replaced by immigrants spoke still another dialect, which is partly as yet recorded by old men and is said by them to have resembled the tongue of the Bashi savages. A rather complicated ethnologi-

cal problem, but by no means an impossible one. In the earlier part of the century American whalers used to sail to the Bashi Canal, where four and five of the giant cetaceans may be frequently seen together, but of late years they somehow ceased to come there, preferring the Caroline Islands. In connection with these whaling expeditions the Padre relates at some length the story of a treasure worth several millions, which is still awaiting a lucky Monte Christo. In 1830, a mutiny on board a sailing ship caused those precious millions to be sunk to the bottom of the Pacific near the southern shores of the archipelago. The story ending with the miraculous discovery of the guilty crew, that had quietly dispersed, and the condign punishment of its crime, is full of weird charm, but we must refrain here from undue digression. In 1891, a Spanish cruiser calling at Ibanan, its commander, Velasco, was requested to make a survey of Fami, the most important of the Bashi group, and, if feasible, to occupy it, but he answered to the eager residents that the island in question was outside of His Catholic Majesty's dominions. Having reached Thava, where until recently only once a year a steamer brought merchandise and intelligence from the outer world, so that people did not hear of the beginning of the China-Japanese war till it was finished and gone, this feat was considered mighty enough by the intrepid commander, and so he returned without venturing to penetrate with his war-vessel further to the dark, unknown north.

One good thing which all of these islanders have to offer for foreign interchange, is a great amount of lobsters; another one, which, however, they grudge to all mortals but themselves, is *paler*, of which they manufacture a strong, odd-smelling, alcoholic beverage. The day when the natives gather the *paler* they have a great feast and make a night of it, enjoying in fact, as the romantic father puts in, one of the 1001 nights on these occasions. Another quality of the natives is their unceasing devotion to *dolce far niente* and to women. Even the Christian Batawese, their pastor complains, start from the church services without delay to their debauches.

The Bashians were known to the Chinese in a comparatively early time, at least since the 12th century. This interesting fact has been brought to light by a brilliant discovery of Dr. Florenz of the Imperial University of Tokyo. In a cyclopaedia, written before 1200, there are mentioned the cardinal numbers of a people, whose hieroglyphic character has always been read Pashii and interpreted to mean "Persians." Now, the German scholar, becoming aware that those numerals were anything rather than Persian, and divining them to be Malayan, hit upon another interpretation and declared that the mysterious nation were the Bashi. The discovery is of far greater value than would appear at first sight, because it is the only archaic Malayan we have got hold of as yet, and is therefore as important as that famous tooth of a huge antediluvian, that enabled Cuvier to reconstruct the skeleton of the whole uncouth animal.

AQUATIC SPORTS.

The annual swimming races and diving competitions of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place on Wednesday evening, the 11th inst. The weather, though the temperature was rather hot, was not unfavourable to nautical sports, and the water was in fairly good condition, though more exhausting to swimmers than if the surface had been tempered with a cool breeze. Whether owing to the fact that the date and time of the sports had been somewhat indifferently notified, or for some other reason, the attendance of members of the Club and visitors was more limited than usual—perhaps to the advantage of those competing—and it was nearer 5 than 4 o'clock, the time set down for the commencement, before the first event came off. The arrangements were superintended and carried out by Messrs. F. J. Hall, Captain of the Club, W. W. Campbell, Dr. Wheeler and Mr. C. K. M. Martin, as Judges of diving; Messrs. Hall and Campbell as Judges of races, Messrs. Campbell and Hayward (Hon. Sec.) as handicappers, and Mr. Hayward as starter. The various events were as follows:—

RUNNING HEADER OFF TOP OF BARGE.

L. Mottu, 1 (50 points) | H. Y. Irvine 2 (47 points)
W. M. Carst, 3 (41 points).

Only three competed, each having three tries, with a possible of 60 points. Mottu's diving was particularly clean in entrance, with quick recovery.

100 YARDS SWIMMING RACE, OPEN.

H. Goddard 1 | L. Mottu 2
H. S. Goddard 3

Only three started, out of eleven entries. The course was against the tide and Herbert Goddard had a little the worst of it from his position on the outside. In spite of this disadvantage, however, very soon after taking water he went to the front, and won by about eight yards from Mottu in 1 min. 43 secs.

RUNNING HEADER OFF SPRING-BOARD.

H. S. Goddard..... 1 | W. M. Carst..... 2
L. Mottu 3

B. Böhlke, A. Kingdon and H. Lee also competed, each diver having three tries. In these Goddard and Carst tied with 45 points out of a possible 60 each, Mottu being three points behind. In setting the tie, with a single dive, Goddard won. Both his and Carst's headers were very clean and neat, Mottu's recovery was also excellent, but he made more splash on entry.

QUARTER-MILE HANDICAP.

H. Y. Irwine (10 sec.)... 1 | H. Lee (25 sec.)..... 2
H. A. Poole (Scratch)..... 3

A. Kingdon, J. M. Scott and Willie Carst also started, making a field of six. The course was from the Barge to a sampan moored 100 yards off, back and round the Barge and again to the sampan and back to the Barge. The six starters got away well together, all using the side stroke. On the first return to the Barge Irwine led by several yards, swimming well within himself. Kingdon, Carst and Scott here gave up, and only Irwine, Lee and Poole were left in the race. On the second round Irwine gradually increased his lead and won a good ten yards or so ahead of Lee, in 9 min. 7 sec., with Poole close up to Lee.

STANDING HEADER OFF TOP OF BARGE.

H. S. Goddard 1
W. M. Carst 1 | L. Mottu 1

H. Y. Irwine and Lee also competed and some very neat headers were made. Goddard's diving was exceptionally good, and easily took first place with 47 points, Carst and Mottu tying for second place with 43 points each.

STEEPLE-CHASE, OPEN.

H. S. Goddard 1 | H. Y. Irwine 2

This event was contested in three heats. The course was from the top of the Barge, into the water, then through life belts with a rope across them, making a tight squeeze, and over a boom to the sampan, 100 yards out; a dive under and a climb back over the sampan, and back over the boom and through the life-belts again to the Barge; altogether, pretty severe exercise. In the first heat H. Goddard won, with W. M. Carst second and J. J. M. Carst third, E. M. Barnby also competing. The second heat was won by A. Kingdon, with H. Y. Irwine second, Lee and Poole also competing; but not finishing. In the final heat Herbert Goddard won easily, Irwine being second and the other two starters, Carst and Kingdon, a long way behind.

100 YARDS—OPEN TO NON-WINNERS.

H. A. Poole..... 1

Only three started for this race: Poole, W. M. Carst and H. Y. Irwine, and the last two gave up before the finish, having had quite enough swimming for one afternoon. Poole covered the distance in 1 min. 47 secs.

LONG DIVE, OPEN.

H. S. Goddard 1

Only three aspirants out of nine entrants essayed this event, namely H. S. Goddard, E. M. Barnby and R. Böhlke. Barnby made the best course, straight out from the Barge, but showed up his head too soon, Böhlke coming up next. Goddard steered a bad course, but kept under water well and made the longest distance, the duration of his dive being 43 seconds.

The final event on the programme, a Boys' race of 100 yards, did not come off, as there were no boys to start, and the sports came to an end at about 6.15 p.m.

The appointment of Miss Louise Butt on the staff of the Governor of Georgia has been followed by that of Miss Nellie Ely, a society belle, on the staff of the Governor of Tennessee. Both rank as Lieut. Colonels. As the functions of such staffs are purely ornamental and social we see no reason why women should not monopolize them, except in cases where the gubernatorial wife is of an alert and suspicious nature. A few summer girls on the staff of Governor Budd, of California, would be ornamental and quite as useful, no doubt, as the male debutantes already there.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the sixty-fourth report of the Court of Directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Saturday, the 14th August, at noon:—

To the Proprietors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the Bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 30th June last.

The net profits for that period, including \$300,323 95, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amount to \$1,826,674 22.

The directors recommend the transfer of \$500,000 from the profit and loss account to credit of reserve fund, which fund will then stand at \$7,000,000.

After making this transfer and deducting remuneration to directors there remains for appropriation \$1,311,674 22, out of which the directors recommend a dividend of one pound and five shillings sterling per share, which will absorb \$444,444 44.

The difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 1/11½, the rate of the day, amounts to \$566,081 88.

The balance, \$301,147 90, to be carried to new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. D. R. Sassoon, M. D. Ezekiel and A. McConachie having resigned their seats on leaving the Colony, the following gentlemen have been invited to fill the vacancies thus created:—Messrs. David Gubbay, A. J. Raymond and Gerald Stadel. The Directors have likewise invited Mr. G. D. Böning to join the Board.

All these appointments require confirmation at this meeting.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. C. S. Sharp.

ST. C. MICHAELSEN, Chairman.

Hongkong, 29th July, 1897.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 30th JUNE, 1897.

LIABILITIES.	
Paid-up capital	\$ 10,000,000.00
Reserve fund	6,500,000.00
Marine Insurance account	210,000.00
Notes in circulation	9,319,308.93
Current accounts:—	
Gold	\$46,943,033.84
Silver	\$2,650,271 58.10d. = 30,975,477.79
Fixed deposits:—	
Silver	\$30,641,249 58
Gold	\$2,650,271 58.3d. = 6,376,168.87
Bills payable (including drafts on London bankers and short sight drawings on London office against bills receivable and bullion shipments)	\$7,017,418.39
Profit and loss account	\$2,465,523.15
	1,826,674 22
	\$178,297,486.03

ASSETS.	
Cash	\$4,399,397.30
Bullion in hand and in transit	3,148,609.97
Indian and Colonial securities	4,191,730.15
Investments, viz:—	
\$500,000 at 4 per cent. Consols lodged with the Bank of England as a special London reserve	\$1,500,000.00
\$10 650 Consols and other sterling securities	\$1,160,232 63
Bills discounted, loans and credits	7,060,352.63
Dividends receivable	65,269,007.73
Bank premises	79,061,116.63
Dead stock	966,318.26
	100,000.00
	\$178,297,486.03

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 30th JUNE, 1897.

Dr.		
To amounts written off:—		
Remuneration to directors	\$	25,000.00
To dividend account:—		
At 4 1/2 per share on 80,000 shares = \$100,000 at 4 1/2		444,444 44
To dividend adjustment account:—		
Difference in exchange between 4 1/2, the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 1 1/11½, the rate of the day		566,081 88
To transfer to reserve fund		500,000.00
To balance carried forward to next year		301,147 90
		\$ 1,826,674 22

Cr.		
By balance of undivided profits, 31st December, 1896	\$	300,323 95
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 30th June, 1897, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, deducting all expenses and interest paid and due	1,526,350 27	\$1,826,674 22
		\$1,826,674 22
RESERVE FUND.		
To balance		\$7,000,000.00
By balance, 31st December, 1896		\$6,500,000.00
By transfer from profit and loss account		500,000.00
		\$7,000,000.00

GERMAN NOTES.

On the tenth of June the Association of German Engineers formally opened its new "home," a handsome building on the Charlottenstrasse, Berlin. The Association has 11,700 members.

The German Royal and Scientific Medical Commission, appointed to investigate the question whether vaccination against small-pox produces a disposition to tubercular disease, has reported that there is no proof of such disposition upon the part of vaccinated persons.

Professor Fresenius, the well-known German chemist, has died of an apoplectic stroke. He was born in 1818 at Frankfort-on-the-Main. Fresenius became professor of chemistry at the institute at Wiesbaden in 1845, and founded a laboratory which has resulted in great developments, particularly of an industrial and agricultural nature.

Some astonishment was caused by the Emperor's recent Cabinet order in which he dissolved the national defence commission, an important military body created years ago by his grandfather, and of which Field-Marshal von Moltke was head until his death. Moltke was succeeded by Prince Albrecht of Prussia. It is supposed that the Emperor regarded this body as out of date and therefore rather an obstruction to his plans for the new fortifications.

Since the arrival of Admiral Tirpitz in Berlin, he has been appointed successor of Admiral Hollmann, as Minister of the Navy. The Emperor has again taken up the consideration of his plans for strengthening and increasing the German navy, with renewed earnestness. Kaiser Wilhelm intends to have ten big iron-clad, and sixteen cruisers built by 1900, and Admiral Tirpitz, it is said, is heartily in favour of putting the German navy on an equal footing with the navies of France and Russia. Admiral Tirpitz is regarded as one of the boldest and most energetic men in the navy. He is popularly known as "the naval Moltke," and his ideas and aims respecting the further development and reorganization of the navy are said to be in perfect accord with those of Emperor William, who hopes that Tirpitz will succeed where Hollmann failed. Before entering upon his duties in Berlin, Admiral Tirpitz was in command of the German Asiatic Squadron.

The upper house of the Prussian Diet has at last passed the so-called Association bill, which came from the lower house, but has amended it by the insertion of a clause that, "associations in which there are anarchist or social democratic movements, or movements aiming to overthrow the existing organizations of state or society, or in which movements preparatory to a separation of part of the state from the whole come to light, in a manner dangerous to public security, especially to the security of the State, may be dissolved by the police."

The recent Cabinet crisis has placed Dr. von Miquel, Minister of Finance, practically at the head of the Government. He is now senior member of the Cabinet, vice-president of the Prussian ministry, and vice-chancellor of the empire. For the time being, however, the venerable Prince Hohenlohe will remain Imperial Chancellor, as an "ornamental head" of the whole. Some of the German papers already speak of the "era Miquel," and predict unusual developments in the near future.

In the religious world of Germany, or rather in the domain of theology, a lively discussion has been carried on over the most recent work from the pen of Professor Harnack, entitled "Early Christian Chronology," and another production of a German university professor, the almost equally well known Dr. Fritz Hommel, the Assyriologist of Munich. Dr. Hommel's work is entitled "The old Israelitic Traditions Illustrated by Inscriptions." (Die altisraelitische Ueberlieferung in Inschriftlicher Beleuchtung.) By a singular coincidence both works aim substantially at the same result, namely, to enforce the claims of early traditions in determining the historic reliability of biblical records. This is done in a masterly way by Harnack in reference to the New Testament, and in a still more pronounced manner by Hommel with reference to the Old Testament. These two scholars have long been adherents of the newer critical methods, and both now claim for early tradition a historical reliability that runs counter to many of the conclusions of current biblical critics. Especially is this the case in Hommel's work. Formerly a disciple of Wellhausen, as he

himself states in his new work, he has now become an outspoken opponent of that critic.

The Röntgen rays, says the *Belgian Times*, have just been utilised in Vienna to demonstrate the genuineness of a mummy. It is a well-known fact that scores of people in Egypt make a lucrative living out of the manufacture and sale of sham antiques; among the latter, notably, mummies. Hitherto it has been almost impossible to detect the sham mummy; for to open it in order to see whether it contained a bona-fide skeleton or corpse would, in every case have detracted largely from its value as a mummy. Thus it is here that the Röntgen rays come in. The other day the supposed mummy of a Pharaoh's daughter, said to have lain over 2,000 years in the sepulchral vault of a pyramid, found itself on the way to Vienna, tainted, however, with the foul suspicion of being "faked." She was therefore taken to Dr. Emil Bloch. The examination revealed the presence of the slight skeleton of a girl about the age of 16. Several dark spots between the ribs were declared to be amulets, which the ancient Egyptians used to place upon the bosom of the dead.

German women are determined not to be behind-hand in the march of progress, and, with the perseverance that marks all their efforts, are now busily discussing the dress question and possible reforms in it. An Association for Improvement in Women's Attire has just held a convention in Berlin to advance its object, and has aroused a good deal of notice among the more conservative women of the nation, owing probably to the very moderate nature of the reforms discussed. Some people openly deplore the fact that there are no fashions for stout women. The Germans have gone further than this, for at the Exhibition held in connection with the Convention, prizes are offered for designs suitable for plump ladies. Thus a prize of £5 will reward the designer of the most suitable spring costumes for a portly matron of between thirty and fifty years of age, the second prize being about half that sum. Among the requirements of the garments exhibited is one not permitting whalebone or stiffening of any kind to be introduced. Whether German women will take kindly to such garments remains to be seen. Doubtless she who is independent of her dressmaker will do so; but, judging from human nature, and particularly from feminine human nature, German women will not abandon the corset any more than English women have done. Still, if they will but wear them loose, the dress reformer will have achieved much.

We must not forget, says the *Kreuz Zeitung*, that we cannot desire to see any other Power enter upon the English inheritance, or even any great portion of it. England is the land which is most closely akin to us in civilisation, morality, and religion, and that we are to-day in the position of her opponent in many questions is chiefly due to the fact that we are not yet strong enough. The present opposition will continue until a compromise has been effected against which all the instincts of our English cousins are to-day up in arms. The most improbable solution, and the one which, so long as the present practical policy of England is maintained, would suit our interests worst—an Anglo-German alliance—may become the constellation of the future, as an imperious necessity imposed on both nations by the duty of self-preservation.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE GRECO-TURKISH TREATY.

London, August 5.

The Peace Conference at Constantinople has agreed on all the articles of the draft treaty with the exception of the clauses relating to the evacuation of Thessaly by the Turkish troops.

The statement that the King of Greece intends to abdicate is now denied.

London, Aug. 6.

The Admirals of the allied fleets will forcibly oppose any attempt of the Turkish Squadron to enter Cretan waters. According to Turkish papers, the Turkish Squadron is only gone for purposes of naval evolutions in the Archipelago.

London, Aug. 8.

The Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty, speaking in the

House of Commons, stated that the Admirals of the allied fleets had decided not to admit the Turkish gunboats to Cretan waters, Turkey being informed to that effect.

THE KING OF SIAM IN ENGLAND.

The King of Siam has visited the Houses of Parliament, and was present during a debate in the House of Lords, being seated in a gilded chair within the railings about the Throne.

GERMAN EMPEROR'S JOURNEY TO RUSSIA.

The Emperor William, the Empress, Prince Hohenlohe, Imperial Chancellor, and Baron von Bülow have started for Russia.

COST OF INDIAN FAMINE AND PLAGUE.

The Right Hon. Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, in course of a financial statement, said that, roughly speaking, the loss to the Government from famine and plague amounts to eight millions sterling.

PARLIAMENT PROROGUED.

ANGLO-CHINESE CONVENTION.

Parliament has been prorogued. The Queen's Speech alludes to a fresh Anglo-Chinese convention, establishing a more advantageous frontier between Burma and China and opening the West River for foreign commerce.

London, Aug. 9.

Parliament will reassemble on October 23rd.

BISHOP BICKERSTETH DEAD.

The Right Rev. Bishop Bickersteth, of Tokyo, died at Swindon.

ENGLAND'S ATTITUDE ON BIME-TALLISM.

Sir Michael E. Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to the American proposal for a bimetallic conference, says that the importance of the subject requires mature consideration, and that the Indian Government must be consulted.

A BY-ELECTION IN ENGLAND.

Maddison, a Radical, has been elected Member of Parliament for Sheffield.

INDIAN LOAN.

The minimum rate for the Indian Loan of 2 crores has been fixed at ninety-seven rupees eight annas.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR AT ST. PETERSBURG.

The Emperor William has arrived at St. Petersburg. He has been appointed Honorary Admiral of the Russian Navy.

ASSASSINATION OF THE SPANISH PREMIER.

The Spanish Premier, Don Antonio Canovas del Castillo, has been murdered by an anarchist at Santa Gueda (?). Three shots were fired at him, and he expired a hour after. The assassin, who is an Italian, has been arrested.

THE SOUDAN EXPEDITION.

London, Aug. 10.

Colonel Hunter's column left Merawi (on the Nile, below the Fourth Cataract) on the 29th ult., and reached Abu Hamed (about 100 miles higher up the Nile) in eight days. They attacked the place on the morning of the 7th inst. and captured it, after severe house-to-house fighting. Major Sidney and Lieutenant FitzClarence were killed.

THE CHITRAL RISING.

Five thousand Mohmand tribesmen

crossed the border into the Peshawar Valley, where they were repulsed by British troops.

CANOVAS' SUCCESSOR.

General Azcarraga, Minister for War, temporarily succeeds the late Sr. Canovas as Premier.

TURKEY AND THE POWERS.

London, August 10.

Tewfik Pasha, Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, has submitted fresh proposals regarding the evacuation of Thessaly and the payment of the indemnity. The Ambassadors are referring the proposals to their Governments.

INDIA AND ISLAM.

The Turkish journals are publishing violent attacks on the British administration in India.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Samuel Laing.

[Mr. Samuel Laing was an eminent writer on economics, his best-known book being "Modern Science and Modern Thought." He was, at different times, chairman of the Brighton Railway and of the Crystal Palace Company; member of Parliament for Wick, and later for Orkney and Shetland; Financial Secretary to the Treasury; and Finance Minister of India.]

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

THE FRENCH FLAGSHIP.

Hakodate, Aug. 9.

The French flagship *Bayard* and the cruiser *Eclairer* arrived here on Saturday.

FLEET NEWS.

Hakodate, June 11.

H.M.S. *Daphne* has arrived here from Nagasaki.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

CHOLERA AT BOMBAY.

Hongkong, July 30.

Cholera has broken out at Bombay, and deaths are very numerous.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

CONVICTION OF INSPECTOR WITCHELL.

Hongkong, 3rd Aug., 8.30 p.m.

Inspector Job. Witchell, charged with receiving bribes from gambling-houses, has been found guilty, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, without hard labour.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

FIRE AT HIROSHIMA.

Last night fire broke out in the Glass Factory at Kawabara clo and over 10 houses were destroyed.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Osaka, August 11.

A train that left Nampa at 7 p.m. yesterday on the Hankai Railway was derailed near Sumiyoshi and the conductor, engineer and fireman were wounded. All the passengers are reported to have escaped injury.

CHOLERA AND DYSENTERY.

Akita, August 18.

A fatal case of cholera was reported at Senhoku gun yesterday.

Saga, August 11.

Several cases of dysentery have broken out here.

Takamatsu, August 11.

Dysentery is very rife in Kagawa Ken. The total cases amount to 212 of which 57 have proved fatal.

TEA.

Kobe, August 12.

Yesterday 71,600 catties of tea were sold here. Prices ranged from yen 23.50 to yen 15.50.

EARTHQUAKES.

Kobe, August 12.

This morning at 5 o'clock an earthquake occurred here. Thermometer registers 45 degrees Fah.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to The Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.

The Tokio Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

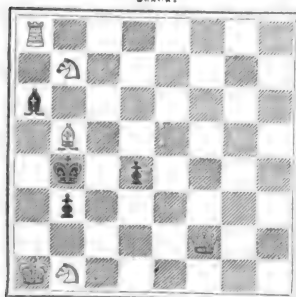
The following is the solution of Problem 331:—

WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to Kt 6 1—B takes R
2—Q to Kt 7 2—K takes Kt
3—Q to K 5, mate if 2—B takes Kt
3—P to K 5, mate if 2—Any other
3—Kt to Kt 7, mate if 1—B to Kt sq
2—B to R 4 2—Anything
3—R takes P (B 6), mate if 1—Kt to B 7 (or moves)
2—P to K 5, ch 2—K takes Kt
3—Q to K 3, or takes Kt, mate if 1—B to Q, q
2—Kt to Kt 7, ch 2—K moves
3—Q takes B, mate

Correct Solution received from W.H.S., and D.D.

PROBLEM No. 333.

By H. MAXWELL PRIDBAUX.



White to play and mate in two moves.

OVER THE CHESS BOARD.

The following hints on problem solution by Dr. Tolosa Carreras, the well known Spanish problemist, are worth perusing:—In the two-move problem the first move is necessarily a threat of mate for following move, which amounts to saying that Black plays only a single move in all the variations. It results from this that the solver possesses a simple means of removing the veil which covers the enigma, and this consists in not concerning himself about White's first move but acting as if Black had the first move. It will then be more easy to see which should be White's first to move thwart the different defence at Black's disposal. In this kind of composition direct moves and checks are not generally used. Moves which have a character of repose or waiting and even of preparation for the combination aimed at are preferred.

Dealing with three-move problems, Dr. Carreras recommends the following analytical system:—

I.—Examine the position of the king to be mated, noting—1, whether it is that of stalemate; 2, in case he has freedom to move, how many squares he has at disposal, and which squares they are; 3, whether he is alone to defend himself from the adversary's attack; 4, whether the other black pieces can assist in repelling the attack; 5, whether he is placed at the corners, side, or centre of the chessboard. When the Black king is placed on a side square of the board it is chiefly with the object of more easily restraining his movements or probably to carry out an idea or a chosen strategic movement.

II.—Analyze the different means which are at the disposal of the defence to ascertain if they are or are not critical; that is, if Black can resist energetically, taking into account the number of moves of the problem. In this way the analyst will be able to deduce the more or less aggressive, passive, or even defensive character of the moves which White must employ.

III.—Try to explain by induction or deduction the relation, the use, and the wherefore of the pieces and pawns which together constitute the arrangement. It is equally of importance to analyze if the place occupied by one or more

pieces or pawns at a distance from the centre of action have for their object to hinder the later movements of the Black king or preventing duals or if they are there merely for the purpose of preventing duals or second solutions.

IV.—Calculate whether there is a proportion or disproportion between the attacking and defending forces, in order to gain an idea of the probabilities of obtaining the announced mate either by passive, indirect, or by active and direct means, or by a combination of both, or by preparatory moves, according to the end in view. We will make the remark that, in problems, it is not the number and the quality of the pieces of the two colours that constitute the proportion or disproportion between the means of attack and defence. It is constituted by the placing, the movements of the White pieces, and the elements of defence left at Black's disposition according to the number of moves in which the mate is to be accomplished. It must not be forgotten that sacrifices may be essentially aggressive.—1, when they threaten mate next move; 2, if they exclude the Black king from some of the squares; 3, when they open an important line of attack to one of the pieces of which the action is distant and which is found out of play; 4, when the sacrifice brings the Black king under the action of White's pieces able to cut off his retreat.

DRAUGHTS AND CHESS.

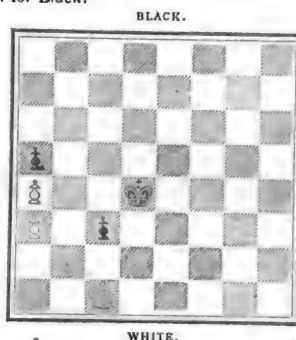
E. A. Benjamin, who has a reputation in the Northwest as an expert not only in Chess but also in Checkers (Drafts), prints the following in the *Minneapolis Journal* in answer to some Checkers expert who claimed that Checkers was as great as Chess:—'Checkers is a good game, but the great preponderance of drawn games, especially between good players, shows an inherent weakness or shallowness in the game. A game of Checkers is shallow, when compared to a game of Chess, from the fact that it can almost always be drawn. This shows that all the lines of play are known and familiar to both players, and not much chance for originality. And a match between experts is frequently decided by one mistake. Some writer in a recent Checkers publication, in speaking of the fact, said that 'if it is true that we have explored all the labyrinths of Checkers, the sooner we all get to playing Chess the better.'

"The opportunity, for the exercise of originality, brilliancy, and genius exists in Chess very much more than in Checkers. Any one who is in a position to make a comparison of the productions of the greatest player, past and present, of these two games, must admit this fact. For instance, look at the best game of the immortal Paul Morphy, and note the beautiful and problematical combinations by which he administered his crushing defeats to all who lifted his glove. Then turn to the Checkers-match between Wyllie and Barker, the two leading exponents of that game, and note the thirty or forty drawn games, and then make up your mind which is the more complex, intricate, and scientific.

"I think Checkers compares to Chess about like the game of marbles does to billiards. In other words, to be plain, I am of the opinion that when you talk about complex, intricate, and scientific games, Chess beats Checkers about as daylight does a good kerosene lamp."

THE OPPOSITION.

The annexed diagram shows the position of a game played in the last Chess Congress at Leipzig between Herr Walbrock (white) and M. Schlechter (black). The play illustrates a useful method of manipulating a pawn ending. The game in question was drawn, but, according to *La Strategie*, Mr. Blackburn has demonstrated a win for Black.



Black, playing first, wins.

The student will note that Black has a passed pawn which would queen if he had the opposition, therefore, this pawn can do no good to Black unless the black pawn at his R 4 can be freed. To do this White must lose a move and thus make it Black's turn to play in the existing position. Can this be done? Yes, as follows:—

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1 K B4 6 K Kt sq. KxP (R3)
2 K Kt sq K Q4 7 K B 2 K Kt5
3 K B sq K Q5 (a) 8 K B-q KxP and
4 K B2 K B5 wins (c)
5 K Bsq(b) K Kt6

NOTES.

(a) Now if anything but 4—K to B 2: K to Q 6 would win at once.

(b) If 5—K to Q sq. K to Q 6 taking up the opposition. Then 6—K to B sq. P to B 7; 7—K moves, K to Q 7. 8—K moves, P to B 8=Q and wins.

(c) By using the Rook's pawn to gain a move when it becomes necessary.

If the white pawn were at Q R 2 instead of at R 3 the position would be an easy draw. An almost identical position is found in Howitz and Kling's Chess Study, No. 16.

THE "JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNAMENT.

The above tournament is now in full swing. Below are the last moves sent to:—

Game	Move	White.	M. v.	Black.
1	3	Kt-B3	2	Kt-KB3
2	3	Kt-QB3	2	Kt-QB3
3	3	B-B4	2	Kt-QB3
4	2	P-KB4	2	PxP
5	3	P-Q3	2	B-B4
6	2	P-QB4	2	P-QK3
7	2	P-Q3	2	K-QB3
8	1	P-K4	1	P-K4
9	2	P-KB4	1	P-K4
10	2	P-Q4	2	PxP

There are five competitors, who sign themselves Pakeha, Olymp, Shepherd, Nemo, and Fardel, and the following 10 games will be played and proceed simultaneously:—

GAME.	WHITE.	BLACK.
No. 1.....	Pakeha	Olymp.
No. 2.....	Shepherd	Pakeha.
No. 3.....	Pakeha	Nemo.
No. 4.....	Fardel	Pakeha.
No. 5.....	Olymp	Shepherd.
No. 6.....	Nemo	Olymp.
No. 7.....	Olymp	Fardel.
No. 8.....	Shepherd	Nemo.
No. 9.....	Fardel	Shepherd.
No. 10.....	Nemo	Fardel.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Arab, British steamer, 2,674. N. D. Wills, 7th August,—Batoum via ports, and Kobe 6th August, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880. W. D. Mudie, 7th August,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails & General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, T. Iki, 1 656, 8th August,—Oman via ports, 5th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nerite, British steamer, 3,155. Daniels, 9th Aug.—Batoum via ports, and Kobe 7th Aug., Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734. E. G. Andrews, 9th August,—London via ports, and Kobe, 7th August, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Swatow, German steamer, 631. Jespersen, 10th August,—Manila, Sugar.—Simor, Evers & Co.
Columbia, British steamer, 1,689. Hill, 10th Aug.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 8th August, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991. J. Pantou, 10th August,—Tacoma, Wash. and Victoria, B.C., 26th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Prometheus, British steamer, 3,349. Day, 11th August,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 10th August, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Moyune, British steamer, 3,019. C. H. Kemp, 11th August,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 10th August, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580. Lidin, 11th August,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 10th August, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Irene, German steamer, 2,145. Schneider, 7th August,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Salazie, French steamer, 4,016. Paul, 8th August,—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Glenloch, British steamer, 2,997, J. McGregor, 8th August,—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, J. F. Allen, 8th Aug.—Hongkong and Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rattler (6), British gunboat, Lieut. Com. G. A. Hardinge, 9th August,—Hakodate.

Ingraham, German steamer, 864, Bieber, 9th Aug., Karatsu, Ballast.—Grauert & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 10th August,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Smit, Dutch steamer, 850, Kasst, 10th August,—Mororan, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

St. John, American ship, 1,820, Fales, 11th Aug.—Manila, Ballast.—Captain.

Columbia, British steamer, 1,680, Hill, 11th Aug.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panten, 11th August,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona* from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Douglas, Mr. and Mrs. Duff, Mr. and Miss Gault, Mr. J. W. Cumming, Mr. A. F. Green, Mr. Sauerbier, Mr. Daniel Rios, Mr. Gro. Spiller, Mr. P. Jourdan, Mr. H. Brickstone, Mr. P. M. Harter, Mr. F. B. Abenheim, Mr. J. M. Maitland, Mr. Lu Chen Yuen, Mrs. Ho Shi, Mrs. U. San, Mrs. Ochiro, and Lieut. H. H. Barroll in cabin; 10 on deck.

Per British steamer *Ceylon*, from London via ports:—Mr. Sanders, and Mr. Abraham in cabin.

Per British steamer *Columbia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. C. V. Marshall, R. E. C. Fitzlock, C. H. Southley, Shi Ping Shi, J. Lang Niven, Angell, Roth, Mr. and Mrs. Stahligen in cabin; 51 Chinese and 11 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. W. H. H. Green, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Marshall and child, Miss L. R. Loomis, Mr. J. T. Gowey, Mr. F. M. Gowey, Mrs. A. E. Burns, Mrs. J. H. Rogers, Jr., Mr. and Master J. Moller, Mrs. E. J. Waterman, Mr. Cocho, Mr. W. H. Ponath, and Mr. J. Ennis in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, for Shanghai and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams, Mrs. M. M. Kulm, Miss R. A. E. Kulm, Mr. M. M. Marshall, Mr. J. F. Duff, Mr. Th. Davenport, Mr. H. R. Hearson, Mr. and Mrs. Kiene, Mr. Sharples, Mrs. P. Hoffmann, Mr. W. F. Bornemann, Mr. Th. Williams, Mrs. Peilmann, Mr. Tong Ping Cheur, Mr. M. Chian, Mr. Kim Cheong, Mr. Felipe S. Mesa, Mr. G. M. Apear, Mr. Utomall, Mr. and Mrs. Chabrier, Miss Clement Bouneau, Messrs. D. W. Andrews, M. Thredem, Hayashi, Hirose, Murakami, Ang. Beaux, Th. Kuri, T. Harnuki, F. Bonnet, and Le Gonidec, Gummelon in cabin; 5 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. P. Wilson, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. E. Morse, Mr. R. Yamazaki, Mr. Y. Matsumoto, Mr. K. Urano, Mr. S. Hori, Mr. K. Nanbu, Mr. N. Akuzawa, Mr. Edward Batavus, Mr. John C. Anderson, Mr. F. H. Bugbird, and Chief-Eng. Kurata's two sons in cabin; Mr. Bredenber, Mr. K. Yan Poo, Mr. Chang Yu Hong, Mr. S. Yasutomi, Mrs. K. Yasutomi, Mr. R. Yasutomi, Mr. S. Takahashi, Mr. S. Ogawa, Mr. K. Ikeda, Mrs. M. Ikeda, Mr. S. Fukamizu, and Mr. Bin Kok Son second class; 62 Japanese, 2 Europeans and 1 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe 334 bales; Waste Silk for Europe 30 bales.

Per British str. *Columbia*, for Tacoma, Wash. and Victoria, B.C.:—

	TEA.	CHOC.	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL
Shanghai	2,093	700	140	2,943	
Hioo	3,102	990	1,833	5,915	
Yokohama	3,168	4,232	616	8,079	
Hongkong	—	—	9	36	45
Koochow	2,422	425	832	1,152	4,831
Total	8,592	7,740	3,969	1,191	21,812

	SILK.	NEW YORK	SAN FRANCISCO.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	41	—	—	41
Hongkong	150	—	—	150
Yokohama	1,527	—	—	1,527
Total	1,718	—	—	1,718

	RATES.
Tea	1 cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk	3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement	\$10 Gold per ton.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market for shirtings and yarns still remains stagnant. Woollens are looking up a trifle and a small business has been done in yarns to supply the weaving mills, but no move of consequence is expected till the hot weather is over. Quotations are nominal.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.50 to 3.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds. 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
1. Cloth—7 yds. 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—2 yds. 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 2 yds. 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Salteons Black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 37 inches	—
Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Common	—
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarf and Green, 3 yds. 51 1/2 inches	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 24 Singles	\$39.00 to 41.50
Nos. 28 32 Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38 42 Singles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 32 Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42 Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 2 60 Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2 80 Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2 100 Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	116.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$24.00 to 24.50
Indian Broach	21.00
Chinese	21.50

METALS.

The market is still affected by the slight drop in home prices in certain lines reported last week, but not much is doing, though there are some enquiries for iron plates and pig.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.30
Galvanized iron sheets	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Fin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.10 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

KEROSENE.

A small daily business has been done at former rates.

American	\$2.00 to 2.06
Russian	2.00 to 2.06
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

A fair business has been done in Brown, quotations remaining firm at last week's rates. White remains steady at former quotations, and few transactions have taken place to any considerable amount.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$36.5 to 3.75
Brown Manila	43.5 to 5.05
Brown Daitong	2.90 to 3.30
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Business during the week has considerably increased and buying became more general, the demand being mostly for America. Prices have advanced from 2 to 4 per cent. for different sorts. Re-reels are in greatest demand and the supply is quite inadequate, thus forcing up prices; 13/16 Filatures have also been moving freely at rising rates. Kakedas are now the best value in the market. The *Salasia* took 334 bales for France on the 8th instant and the *Columbia* 1,527 bales for America on the 11th. Stocks amounted to 6,779 boxes, or half bales, on the 12th.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 880
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	\$350 to 840

Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	810 to 850
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	810 to 830
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	810 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	810
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	780
Kakedas—No. 1	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 14	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 2	730
Kakedas—No. 24	700

WASTE SILK.

No business whatever is doing though stocks have now accumulated to 6,725 boxes, or about 3,300 piculs. Merchants demand the same amount of advance on this as on Raw Silk, and such prices are not warranted.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinsin, Best	—
Noshi—Shinsin, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	—

TEA.

Demand has continued fairly brisk during the week, but is now declining, many American houses having over-bought high-priced first crop kinds under the expectation of a duty being imposed upon the import of tea after July. Prices still continue high. Sales for the week amount to about 75,000 catties at Yokohama and 262,000 catties at Kobe. Shipments comprised 8,079 packages from this port and 5,617 from Kobe, per *Columbia* for Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$27 to 32
Fine	20 to 28
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	21 to 22
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	14.50 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Still very low all round.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	1/11 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2/51
— Private 4 months' sight	2/55 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	7 1/2 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	8 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	8 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	8 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	157
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	49 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	\$0.3 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	\$0.37 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	25 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, August 13th.
Hongkong wires us the following quotations to-day:—H. and S. Banks 188 per cent. sellers; Hongkong Lands \$75 sellers; China Fires \$106 sales; H. & W. Docks 238 per cent. sellers; H. & K. Wharfs \$64 sales; Douglasses \$66.50 sales; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$33.25 sellers; Funjorn Mines \$6.50 sellers; Raub Mines \$23.50 sellers; Hongkong Fires \$360 buyers; National Banks \$22.50 sellers; Indo-Chinas \$50 sellers; Straits \$17.50 buyers; Unions \$232.50 buyers; and Traders \$77.50 buyers.

Brett & Cos. have changed hands at \$8.25, at which rate a few more shares can be had. Langfeldts have fetched \$217.50 and \$220. Brewery Debenjures have been sold at \$110 ex accrued interest. Offers for Iron Works are wanted. Oriental Hotels are enquired for.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50	300 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100	425 B.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100	320 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100	200 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100	145 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdn.), \$125	450 S.

North and Roe, Ltd., \$100	185 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., \$50	8.25 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100	890 Sa.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd., \$100	180 W.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100	110 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100	110 Sa.
Yokohama United Club Deb., \$100	100 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., \$100	104 S.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo August 13th.

Five per Cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds	94 80
Redemption Loan Bonds	97 25
War Loan Bonds	97 35
New Public Loan Bonds	91 00
Old Public Loan Bonds	83 00
Naval Loan Bonds	97 50
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100 00
Japan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	99 80
Sanyo Railway Company—paid up yen 33	48 50
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 30	88 00
Kansai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	58 00
Kobe Railway Company—paid up yen 41	110 00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 41	58 80
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up yen 25	36 00
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 40	87 30
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 25	54 00
Sangu Railway Company—paid up yen 30	86 00
Kawaguchi Railway Company—paid up yen 50	53 50
Chikuho Railway Company—paid up yen 50	72 00
Hantan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	43 00
Boso Railway Company—paid up yen 50	45 00
Sobu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	106 00
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50	77 00
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up yen 44	53 00
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up yen 35	38 00
Hokuryetsu Railway Company—paid up yen 33	34 50
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47 50	30 00
Seiwa Railway Company—paid up yen 3	1 00
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 22 50	7 00
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 30	16 50
Kureki Railway Company—paid up yen 50	30 00
Nanao Railway Company—paid up yen 37 50	25 00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	57 70
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up yen 25	30 00
Domestic Transport Company—paid up yen 40	80 00
Japan Transport Company—paid up yen 15	5 50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 200	812 00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25	85 00
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up yen 25	27 80
Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 50	57 80
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	70 00
Miyagi Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	100 00
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 15	16 00
Japan Weaving Company—paid up yen 50	18 00
Tokyo Tramway Company—paid up yen 50	100 00
Japan Beer Company—paid up yen 40	70 00
Japan Cement Company—paid up yen 25	28 00
Tone Canal Company—paid up yen 70	73 00
Fuji Paper Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 50	75 00
Sagami Sugar Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 47	6 50
Hokkaido Hemp Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 50	50 00
Japan Seaweed Company—paid up yen 25	31 50
Yokohama Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 40	48 00
Shinagawa Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 31	4 00
Tokyo Electric Light Company—paid up yen 15	64 50
Tokyo Gas Company—paid up yen 50	90 00
Shinjin Kaisha—paid up yen 50	15 00
Tokyo Marine Insurance Co.—paid up yen 100	70 00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	370 00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	157 00
Nippon Ginza—paid up yen 150	378 00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	34 50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	52 00

ATKINSON'S NEWEST PERFUME AOLINE

"Most Refreshing."

NICE ALWAYS, BUT
DELICIOUSLY REVIVING IN
HOT OR CROWDED ROOMS.A true natural perfume
made from flowers.
Not a Chemical Preparation.

"AOLINE" PERFUME. "Most Refreshing."

"AOLINE" TOILET SOAP

for the complexion.
"AOLINE" TOILET POWDER imparts a
delicate bloom to the complexion."AOLINE" SACHETS. Delightful for Handker-
chiefs, Gloves, &c."AOLINE" TOILET CREAM. Softening and
beautifying for the complexion.Of all Chemists and Stores,
J. & E. ATKINSON, Ltd., 24, Old Bond Street, London,
INVENTORS OF THE CELEBRATED"WHITE ROSE" PERFUME
"A charming Scent."—H.R.H. The Duchess of York

July 31st, 1897.



GREY OR FADED HAIR

GEO. COURTICE'S CALIMIANTHIST

Has been thoroughly tested and approved in all parts of the world
for over a quarter of a Century.It is NOT A DYE, but simply the colouring principle of the
Persimmon and Walnut in a concentrated form.Acknowledged by the faculty to be perfectly harmless, and will
permanently restore the colour true to nature in Six Days.

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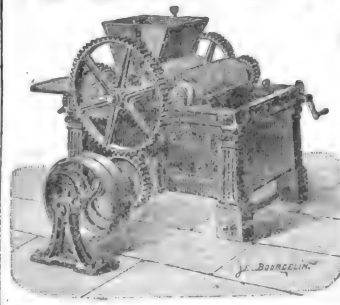
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37

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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YOKOHAMA, AUG. 21ST, 1897.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 21ST, 1897.

DEATHS.

At Kobe on Monday morning, Mr. JOHN G. WALSH after a short illness.

On the 17th inst at the Yokohama General Hospital, FRANCIS RICHARD MAXWELL, aged 47, late H.M. Resident at Sarawak, and Acting Consul for Borneo, youngest son of the late Sir Benson Maxwell, Chief Justice of the Straits Settlements.

At Hamburg, on the 16th July, ALEXANDER ARNEWMANN, formerly of Yokohama.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT MUTSU's condition is beyond hope.

BARON ROZEN, the new Russian Minister, has arrived in Tokyo.

THE Crown Prince is rather seriously indisposed at his villa at Hayama.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA, the Imperial Ambassador to the Diamond Jubilee, and special Ambassa-

dor to Spain, arrived home on Monday morning.

MR. LENZ, an old resident of Kobe, has died suddenly in Germany.

THE Emperor intends to return from Kyoto before the end of this month.

A SERIOUS uprising of native tribes on the Afghan frontier of India is reported this week.

THE Acting British Consul in Borneo, Mr. F. Maxwell, died in Yokohama on Tuesday.

DYSENTERY cases in Kanagawa Prefecture up to the 17th totalled 173, of which 105 proved fatal.

MR. JOHN GREER WALSH, one of the oldest residents in Japan, died of enteritis in Kobe early on Monday.

FOUR persons were killed and seven wounded in a railway accident at Otake Station, Hiroshima, on the 18th instant.

BARON ROZEN, the new Russian Minister to Japan will be received by the Emperor on the 24th or 25th inst. in Tokyo.

MR. STHALGREN, the Danish Consul at Tientsin, whose sensational arrest we recorded last week, has been released owing to lack of evidence.

COUNT ITAGAKI and some of the leading members of the Liberal Party left Tokyo last week on a lecturing tour in Fukushima Prefecture.

THE Count of Turin challenged Prince Henri of Orleans to a duel for slandering the Italian officers in Abyssinia, and wounded him rather severely.

A meteorite is reported to have fallen on the Prefectural Hospital at Kumamoto on the 8th inst. and to have considerably damaged the premises.

A PARTY of fourteen Formosan natives are now in Tokyo, and are being fêted, lionised, and "exhibited" by the authorities of the Colonial Department.

THE Choja Colliery in Ni-hi Matsunura gun, Hizen Province, has engaged 100 Koreans to work in its mines, with the consent of the Japanese Authorities.

ABOUT 150,000 Japanese silver yen have, so far, been sent from the Straits Settlements, Hongkong, and Shanghai, to be exchanged for gold in October next.

ACCORDING to information from New York, the stock of Japan tea there now amounts to about 20,000,000 pounds, much to the embarrassment of merchants.

THE negotiations for the amalgamation of the 32nd, 5th, and 136th Banks at Osaka have so far proceeded between their respective deputies that the business will be completed very shortly.

THE Island of Sado, where gold mines have been worked from ancient times, was visited on the 7th inst. by the most disastrous flood ever known in the Island and much damage was done.

A PETITION has been lodged with the authorities by certain speculators in Yokohama, for leave to fill in and reclaim the foreshore at Honmoku. The scheme is said to be opposed by foreigners in Yokohama.

INTELLIGENCE from Taipei, Formosa, under date of the 13th inst., reports that during the recent floods, the steamer *Maisuru Maru* stranded on the coast near Bishito and received

considerable damage. One Chinese vessel foundered and two others were swept away, while a Japanese sailing vessel also met with a similar fate; 134 houses were demolished and 84 damaged, and over 400 people rendered destitute are now being assisted by the authorities.

A BURGLAR broke into the house of a fire-wood dealer in Yokohama on the night of the 17th inst. and wounded the proprietor of the house, his wife, and a man who came to their assistance. He was afterwards arrested.

THE 22nd instant being the birthday of the King of Korea, there will be a celebration at the Korean Legation in Tokyo, and Count Matsukata, Premier, Count Okuma, Foreign Minister, and others will visit the Legation to offer their congratulations.

On the 18th inst., while a company of the Second Regiment of Infantry was engaged in swimming exercises in the river Arakawa, near Kawaguchi, Kita-Doshima-gun, a sub-lieutenant named Kato and a sergeant named Tsuchiko sank and were drowned.

THE finding of the Court of Enquiry into the stranding of the N. Y. K. steamer *Tenshin Maru* in June last was delivered on Thursday. Captain F. J. Brown was found to blame and his certificate suspended for two months, the second officer also being censured.

It is reported that Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. of Yokohama have received instructions from some millionaires in Germany to act as their agents for the purchase of Japanese War Bonds to the amount of yen 1,000,000. The price quoted is yen 98 per one hundred yen bond.

THE promoters of the Formosa Railway Company, having failed to receive subscriptions to the 15 million yen required as capital, have reduced the amount to 10 million yen and are trying to induce the Imperial Household Department to take up 30,000 shares at 50 yen each.

YOKOHAMA has seen a very welcome revival in trade this week, enquiries for fancy cottons and woollens leading to good business at unchanged rates. There has also been some enquiry for grey shirtings "to arrive," but little has as yet resulted. Nothing worthy of mention took place in Yarns, though some holders of "gassed" offered goods at prices below present Manchester quotations. In metals, arrivals have been large, particularly in pig iron, but holders are firm and quotations have been maintained. Very little was done in kerosene. Arrivals of brown sugars have been on a large scale and stocks now amount to about 49,600 piculs, mostly Manila. Sales have been good for these sorts, but white refined is barely moving. A large business has been done in the principal staple of export, every lot of fine-sized filatures that appear on the market being snapped up for Europe: America is sending in good orders for re-reels, and altogether buyers are having a lively time. Total settlements from July 1st to 19th instant are 6,700 piculs. Waste silk is still without enquiry. A small, steady business has been done in tea, sales amounting to 243,000 piculs in Yokohama and 141,900 catties in Kobe, principally in better grades. Prices are now ruling very high, being from \$6 to \$7 higher than at the same period in 1896. Silver is still dropping, and exchange follows suit. In regard to local exchange on Hongkong, bank sight is quoted at 11 per cent. discount and private 10 days', 12 per cent. discount.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

A point which must have occurred to close observers of the Administration's procedure during the past two years, is that while the programme of naval and military expansion is carried out in its entirety, the schemes for the development of the country's resources, planned simultaneously with that programme, appear to be comparatively neglected. Such, at least, is the impression conveyed by figures published from time to time in connexion with the outlays of the Finance Department. These figures indicate that the sums appropriated by the Diet for purposes of railway and telegraph extension and the encouragement of navigation are only partially spent, and though an explanation is furnished in the fact that experts for directing and superintending the various works are difficult to procure, the public does not seem disposed to accept any such excuses as satisfactory. This subject is taken up by the *Nippon* in two vigorous articles. Our readers have doubtless recognised that the *Nippon* stands more or less in opposition to the large scheme of armaments expansion mapped out by the Ito Cabinet in 1896, and adopted without change by the Matsukata Ministry. Probably they have also been a good deal surprised to find that such a line is taken by a journal eminently chauvinist in its general policy. The *Nippon*, in the articles to which we are referring, explains its position. It disavows any opposition to military and naval expansion as a national requirement, but declares that such expansion is futile unless it is accompanied, *pari passu*, by other developments without which a big army and a powerful navy are practically useless weapons. We need scarcely say that the developments in question are connected with means of communication. Railways in Hokkaido, in Japan proper and in Formosa; telegraphic communication all over the empire, but especially to Formosa; the control, if not the construction of railways and telegraphs in Korea; the development of the mercantile marine, above all, to such an extent that steamship services to Formosa shall cease to be dependent on foreign enterprise—these, to summarize the matter, are the desiderata for which our contemporary clamours. It is exceedingly frank in its interpretation of the national policy. The expansion of the empire's armaments, it says, was undertaken ostensibly for the purpose of maintaining the balance of power in the Orient and preserving peace, but its real object was to develop strength such as would enable the country to reassert itself against Russia's *coup* in the matter of the retrocession of Liao-tung. That is all very well, but what can be achieved by a fleet of 250,000 tons displacement and an army of 560,000 men unless the technical means of utilizing them are provided? Korea is the point of immediate danger in the East, and if trouble occurred to-morrow, Japan's telegraphic communication with Korea could be severed in an instant. She has not even made any marked progress in laying a cable to Formosa, and the railway schemes for the latter appear to have drifted into an *impasse* owing to the timidity or perfunctiveness of a company which, while it bars the way for others, takes no vigorous action itself. A subsidy awaits any persons willing to essay the steam navigation of the Yangtze, but no one comes forward. The industrial enterprises that were to have been commenced in China, remain in *statu quo*. Meanwhile the Siberian railway steadily approaches completion. Such is the general tone of the *Nippon's* complaint. Incidentally it scoffs at the notion that Japan's armaments have any relation to her recent opponent. China, in the *Nippon's* opinion, lies so low in the dust that her resurrection is as hopeless as to strike her lower would be impossible. None the less our contemporary does not appear to regard the partition of the Middle Kingdom as a contingency of immediately practical significance.

It is true that the mercantile marine of Japan

has doubled within the past three years, and that the number of steamers it comprised at the end of last April was 590, with a total tonnage of 375,318 tons. It is also true that the latter total will probably be increased by a hundred thousand tons before another twelve months have elapsed. But the fact remains undeniable that 85 per cent. of Japan's exports are carried in foreign bottoms and only 15 per cent in Japanese. Upon that text the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* preaches a useful sermon, the gist of which is that official encouragement is practically limited to the field of high-sea navigation, and that navigation in home waters is left to take care of itself. The consequence is that petty companies engage in a competition of rates. Nothing is considered but cheapness. The safety of goods and the celerity and regularity of their transmission become secondary objects. Thus not only is the business of cabotage in a thoroughly unsatisfactory condition, but also the profits reaped by persons engaging in the enterprise are so petty and the necessity of managing everything on the cheapest scale is so imperative, that no idea of providing improved steamers or even of replacing old, unseaworthy vessels with new and sound ones, can be entertained. There is no real development, though there appears to be an arithmetical growth. Along the eastern shores of the empire some semblance of an organized carrying trade exists. But the Western shores can scarcely be said to enjoy better facilities than they did ten years ago, and the same is true of marine enterprise in the northern parts of the Sea of Japan. Our contemporary contents itself with drawing attention to this unsatisfactory state of affairs. It does not indicate any distinct remedy except that official scrutiny and State encouragement ought to be carried more carefully and liberally into the field of the coasting trade.

The *Fiji Shimo* publishes one of those large-minded, placid articles for which its columns are remarkable. It reminds the public that the present Cabinet is, in a certain sense, a makeshift. Last year, when, owing to the lamented illness of Count Mutsu and the self-effacement of Viscount Watarabe, it became necessary to entrust the control of the country's foreign and financial affairs to new hands the nation's eyes naturally turned to Count Okuma and Count Matsukata, statesmen whose eminent ability in those two fields was generally recognised. But, at the same time, there was no idea of a complete break-up of the Ito Cabinet. The project was that Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki should remain in office, and a coalition ministry should be formed, including Counts Okuma, Itagaki and Goto. At the last moment, however, unexpected difficulties presented themselves. Count Itagaki resigned, and Marquis Ito felt constrained to follow him into private life. Then the Matsukata Cabinet represented only a portion of the machinery originally designed for the conduct of State affairs. Nevertheless, having attained the outward shape of a perfect machine, it had to work as such, doing the best it could. Its success has not been signal, and at this moment the fact that it is only a fragmentary Cabinet forces itself once more upon public attention, nor can thoughtful observers escape the conviction that the course best adopted to the nation's interests is to revert to the original scheme, and form a coalition Cabinet including Marquis Ito and Counts Okuma, Matsukata and Itagaki. There can be no question that Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki, ever since they went out of office, have preserved towards the present Ministry an attitude of neutrality. They have shown no unfriendliness. The same can not be said, however, of all their following. Their exit from power necessarily involved the retirement of several junior officials into private life, and the conversion of certain political supporters of the Ito Cabinet into opponents of the Matsukata Ministry. By these ex-officials and politicians a more or less rancorous crusade has been conducted against those in power, and of late there have been indications that the

effects of the crusade are beginning to make themselves felt in the relations of the leaders. There is no real cause for anything the kind, and no consumption could be more unfortunate. The country has need of all the best statesmanship it can command, and Marquis Ito's return from Europe should be taken advantage of to form the coalition contemplated last year, and only prevented at the eleventh hour by unforeseen circumstances.

The old cry for something new in administrative ranks is once more raised in the columns of the *Osaka Asahi*. The *Meiji statesmen*, or the "clan statesmen" as our contemporary calls them, are superannuated, and no longer fit for work. There are no reasons assigned for that conclusion. The *Asahi* is content with its own *ipse dixit* on the subject. It remarks, with conclusive assurance, that Count Matsukata has made two failures as Minister President; Marquis Ito, an equal number; Marquis Yamagata and Count Kuroda, one each; Count Okuma has twice proved himself incompetent to manage the empire's foreign affairs. In short, no one has come up to the *Asahi's* standard of success, and it wants new men. One of the old statesmen may remain at the head of the Cabinet, if that arrangement be considered desirable. But let us have all the other Ministers new men.

An article in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, addressed to Count Kabayama, Minister of State for Home Affairs, leaves us in some doubt whether the writer's intention is to chide the Minister or to ridicule His Excellency's critics. Count Kabayama went himself to Tochigi Prefecture to examine the state of affairs in the vicinity of the Ashio Copper mine, and subsequently to other districts that had suffered from inundations. Such a sympathetic method of administration is highly commendable. But it establishes a precedent to which a Minister can not hope to adhere and, on the other hand, it exposes him to expressions of discontent if he fail to adhere to it. Thus the people of Naoyetou are much dissatisfied because the Minister does not display towards them, in the present season of adversity, the same personal solicitude that he recently displayed towards folks in other districts. The *Mainichi* laughs at the Naoyetou malcontents, but nevertheless pens a kind of homily on the unwisdom of a Minister's attempting to take direct cognizance of affairs which ought to be entrusted to subordinates. It is a vapid and valueless article.

From ancient times it has been the custom in China, says the *Sekai-no-Nippon*, to make grants of money—called *yoren gin*—to officials, over and above their regular salaries, the object of such presents being to promote administrative integrity. The device is of no avail now, but that it produced good results at the time of its inauguration, can not be doubted. The salaries of junior officials have become quite inadequate. A few years ago, a man with 25 *yen* a month could support himself, his wife and a child, and could keep a maid-servant. Today, an official receiving that emolument has to dispense with the maid-servant, and experiences the greatest difficulty in making ends meet. Under the circumstances, men stoop to improper methods of supplementing their salaries, and bribery has received a great impetus. The thing is inevitable. To ask an official to be above all illegal methods of eking out an insufficient income is like expecting displays of well-nourished strength from a half starved individual. The Ministers of State are already in receipt of what may be called *yoren gin*: the Emperor makes to them large annual grants out of the Privy Purse in addition to their salaries. Junior officials stand in far greater need of some such aid. The case of the police is especially unfortunate. They can not possibly live on their salaries, and the spirit of the *Yamato bushi* for which they were once so remarkable, is beginning to grow feeble in the presence of painful indigence. The Govern-

ment should face the situation boldly, and shape the next Budget so as meet this crying want.

The rumours of foreign complications with which the atmosphere of Japan is filled at present are ridiculed by the *Miyako Shimbun*. That Russia contemplates striking a strong blow at Japan before the latter's preparations are complete; that Russian spies are busily seeking information about Japan's fortifications; that an Anglo-Japanese alliance is confronted by a Russo-German; that leading Japanese military experts are visiting various parts of the Asiatic continent; that Russia in Korea is trampling upon her convention with Japan—these and cognate stories the *Miyako* bids its countrymen dismiss from their minds. It observes that, even supposing Russian experts to be visiting Japan, Japanese experts have been doing exactly the same thing in various foreign countries; and, moreover, it is a measure falling within the proper duties of intelligence departments the world over. As to an Anglo-Japanese alliance, there can be nothing of the kind, for the only condition capable of producing such an alliance, namely, the imminence of a great common danger, is absent. There may be an *entente*; but an *entente* mean nothing beyond the cementing of friendly relations. Finally, the scare about Russia's doings in Korea is visionary. A dozen Russians have appeared unexpectedly in Seoul, and their apparition throws the Japanese public into a tumult. "Don't be alarmed, countrymen," says the *Miyako*. "You are making yourselves a little ridiculous."

FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN.

According to the investigations of the Finance Department, as published in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the foreign trade for the first seven months of this year throughout the Empire was as follows:—

	Ex.orts. Yen.	Imports. Yen.
January-June	75,071,484	99,041,224
July	9,085,805	16,073,571
Total	84,157,489	115,114,795

The figures for July refer to Kobe and Yokohama alone.

Thus the exports and imports together amount to 199,272,084 yen in value, showing an excess in imports of 30,957,506 yen. Compared with the figures of former years, the steady growth of trade is really surprising, and the country ought to be congratulated on the whole. As to the future of exports and imports, namely the question whether anything like equality is to be restored in these two departments of commerce, the *Mainichi* alleges that the excess of imports can not be expected to be less than the figures recorded for last year, and that it may presumably exceed fifty million yen.

The exports to America for the first half of this year reached an amount never before known, whereas there is apparently likely to be a great decrease in the second half of the year. The excess in the import of bullion, the *Mainichi* adds, has for the past few years been a singular phenomenon, which developed itself in the economic market contrary to the general course of trade. The anomaly was due to the receipt of the Chinese indemnity. The import of bullion has now begun to decrease considerably, as was to be anticipated. The following figures show the details:—

	Exports yen.	Imports yen.
January-June	4,148,534	69,920,677
July	532,497	122,974
Total	4,681,031	70,043,651

The imports for the seven months show an excess of 65,362,620 yen, but in July the exports exceeded the imports by 409,523 yen. At the end of July, the indemnity held in London amounted to £5,180,000 only, but as the expenditure of that sum has been already determined on, the Government cannot expect to receive any further large amount of bullion from London on account of the indemnity.

GOLD AND SILVER IN JAPAN.

Journalists that predict an embarrassing exchange of silver for gold when the new currency system goes into operation in Japan, do not appear to have performed any careful calculation of the opportunities offering for such an operation. Doubtless the foreign banks in the Settlements might find it worth while to convert into gold at the Japanese ratio any stock of silver yen lying in their vaults, assuming that the coins stand in their books at a lower price than the ratio represents. For every yen that they have been able to buy at 24 pence, say, it might be worth their while to get 24 pence half-penny; a profit of a little over 2 per cent. But even into such a simple speculation as that, there enter a great many obvious considerations, and, under any circumstances, the operation would be insignificant, for the foreign banks do not keep a large stock of silver yen. As for Japanese banks or Japanese merchants, they could not realize any profit by collecting silver yen and taking them to the Treasury for exchange. They do not want gold and could make nothing by transactions of exchange, since from the moment that the new system goes into operation, the silver one-yen piece will be worth an unvarying weight of gold in Japan, whatever may be the sterling price of the white metal in Europe. All that must be obvious to the most cursory reflection. But the great apprehension appears to be that Japanese yen pieces now circulating in China, the Straits Settlements, and other parts of the East, may be collected and carried to Japan for conversion into gold, at the Japanese ratio. Nothing of the kind is possible as the market now stands. The difference between the gold price of silver in Europe and its projected gold price in Japan is only a little over 2 per cent. The outlay involved in collecting silver yen, paying freight and insurance on them to Japan, converting them into gold, shipping the gold away and forfeiting interest on the capital required for the operation, would not be covered by 2 per cent. A much larger margin is needed before any transaction of the kind can be undertaken with a reasonable prospect of success.

ONE OF THE RECENT OUTRAGES.

A story was published a few days ago by Kobe newspapers and reproduced in Yokohama, to the effect that an English lady had been brutally treated in a Japanese silk store, and that she was black and blue from the severe handling she received. The proprietor of the store has sent the following letter to the *Kobe Herald*:—

SIR,—Seeing in your issue of the 13th inst. a report of what is supposed to have taken place in my silk store I beg to inform you that you have been entirely misinformed of the whole transaction. No violence was ever offered to any of our customers, and we can only appeal to the foreign ladies both in the settlement and on the hill as to the universal courtesy with which they are uniformly treated.

The actual facts are as follows:—The foreign lady mentioned called at my shop and wished to have two pieces of stuff embroidered; one piece was a little longer than the other. On her receiving the longer piece finished, she paid for the work \$2.50. On calling again for the shorter piece—though a little short, still embroideries run to both extremities—the same charge was made for the embroidery as the amount of work was the same. She objected to this price and said it was only worth 75 sen and tried to go away without paying any more. An assistant in the store took the embroidery from her hand but without using the slightest force only observing that the price could not be altered. Two shop boys were cleaning the glass cases and had been watching the whole transaction and no assistance was added by them, which naturally shows that the case was not serious as you had been informed. The lady then left, and the next I heard about it was the report in your paper. As this is calculated to mislead the public and injure our business I should be obliged by your inserting my version of the story.

Your obedient Servant, J. MAT-UMOTO,
Kobe, August 16th, 1897. per D.F.

THE DEVONSHIRE HOUSE BALL.

The historic and fancy dress ball given by the Duchess of Devonshire on the 2nd July at Devonshire House, and attended by many members of the Royal Family and their distinguished guests, besides the flower of English aristocracy, was one of unparalleled magnificence and splendour, says the *Daily Mail*. The old world character of the rooms, with their Louis XIV. decorations, afforded a suitable background for the varied and costly costumes, many of which were of a heavy description, ill-suited to the heat of the weather, velvet and fur having necessarily to be largely adopted. Both as regards the number of those invited and the picturesqueness of the dresses it was doubtless the most brilliant function of the kind ever held in London. The Princess of Wales and almost every other Royal personage now in town were present, and the costumes and jewels were not only magnificent in themselves, but had been made historically correct in every detail. As the members of each different Court and group danced together in their special quadrille a series of gorgeous pictures of each past age was produced instead of the bewildering jumbled, if brilliant, effect, usually seen at a fancy ball. Many of the guests wore costumes copied from portraits of ancestors, and others formed groups representing characters in the works of Shakespeare, Dante, or of some well-known painter. There were Courts of almost every British Sovereign, from King Arthur to the Georges, but the line was drawn at 1820, thus excluding all that was common-place and modern, and rendering the ball a gathering only of picturesque and old world figures.

The Duchess was dressed as Zenobia, in gold cloth, gorgeously embroidered in gold, brilliants, and coloured stones, and opening over an under-dress of white *crêpe de Chine*, worked finely in brilliants. The train of light green velvet was lined with blue, and sumptuously embroidered in jewels and gold, the colouring being particularly artistic. With this dress were worn splendid jewels, and a large horn crown, encrusted with diamonds and rubies. The Duchess was attended by a suite of children, trumpeters, and fan-bearers, all picturesquely attired in Assyrian costumes—the whole group being specially designed by M. Cornelli. The Duke of Devonshire represented Charles V., of Germany, in a black velvet and satin dress. The young Duke of Manchester, who helped to receive the guests, wore a Georgian courtier's suit of white satin and gold. The Prince of Wales, as the Grand Master of the Knights Hospitallars of Malta, was in black velvet embroidered in jet and steel slashed with grey silk. A white ruff, the blue ribbon of the Garter, and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem relieved the sombre character of the dress. The Princess of Wales, as Margaret of Valois, wore an exquisite gown of white, embroidered in gold and splendid diamonds. She was attended by the Duchess of York, in pale blue satin, embroidered in silver, pearls, and diamonds; the Duchess of Fife, in ivory satin, embroidered in gold; Princess Victoria of Wales, in yellow and gold; Princess Charles of Denmark, in pink and silver; and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, in pale blue brocade, ornamented with pearls and silver. All the Princesses wore a profusion of diamonds. The Duke of York as George Clifford, Earl of Cumberland, had a grey Genoa velvet pourpoint, embroidered in gold and slashed with crimson. In his grey felt hat the Duke wore the white glove given by Queen Elizabeth to the Earl. The Duke of Connaught as a military commander—Elizabethan period—wore an effective dress of grey velvet and satin, with a steel breast plate. The Duchess of Connaught personated Anne of Austria, in a very handsome gown of brocade velvet, the fronts turned back with rose velvet, embroidered in silver. The white satin front was enriched with gold *fleurs de lys*, and there were cuffs and a collar of beautiful lace.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Marquis Ito's return remains the topic of the hour. The conjectures as to its cause are interesting from their mere variety. We are weary of reading them in the vernacular newspapers, and will refrain from wearying our readers by reproducing them here. One rises from their perusal, day after day, with a deepened conviction that for all the brave talk of political parties and the defiant attitude of Diets, the nation still sits at the feet of the *Meiji* statesmen, and watches their movements with breathless anxiety. They are masters of the situation as completely as they were fifteen years ago.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has certainly excelled itself in this matter. The quiet humour of the explanation it offers about the return of the Marquis is not to be surpassed. "What on earth have you all put on your puzzling caps?" says our contemporary. "The simple fact is that, when Marquis Ito was setting out, he told the Marchioness to expect him home in September, but told her, also, not to talk about it. She hasn't talked, and so the public is taken by surprise. That's all there is about it."

On Monday, His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa, reaching Tokyo on his return from attending the Diamond Jubilee, was met at Shimbashi station by Her Britannic Majesty's *Chargé d'Affaires* and the whole staff of the British Legation in full uniform.

A Royal Edict issued by the King of Korea orders that the name of the era shall be changed to *Kwang-mu*, which appellation is written with ideographs signifying "splendour and military power." If His Majesty could be suspected of perpetrating a joke in connexion with the compilation of the national almanack, the new title would be comprehensible.

A great many people seem to be seriously convinced that a reconstruction of the Cabinet is among the probable eventualities of the approaching few weeks. We can not follow their reasoning. If any difficulties beset the administration, it will doubtless be left to settle them with the Diet next session. Nobody is at all likely to step into the breach just at present. The Matsukata Cabinet would have been better advised if they had waited to take office until after the rising of the last Diet. The Minister of Finance would not then have been obliged to tide over the situation by promises which his opponents may use against him with embarrassing effect.

Mr. Sone, lately Representative of Japan in Paris, has laid before Osaka business men a scheme for starting a bank with a capital of 250 million *yen*, 170 millions to be subscribed by foreigners and the remainder by Japanese. The motive of the plan is to bring foreign capital within reach of his country's enterprise. He thinks that foreign capital is as necessary to Japan as food to a hungry man, but he objects to procuring it either by the sale of bonds abroad, or by individual loans from foreign capitalists, or by partnerships between foreigners and Japanese. The intermediary of a bank seems to him the best and safest device. Possibly such a programme might succeed, but we greatly doubt whether foreign capitalists could be induced to join.

They certainly would stipulate for a dominant voice in the control of a bank to which they had subscribed two *yen* for every one put up by the Japanese shareholders, and they would be deterred by the evident difficulty under which all foreigners must labour in obtaining such a knowledge of Japanese persons and things as is essential to the success of banking business. Indeed, were we asked to name the one enterprise above all others least suited for foreign management in Japan, we should unhesitatingly name banking; for the essence of good banking is to know when credit may be given, and that is precisely what foreigners could not know. They would have to be guided by the Japanese directors, and then comes the question, would they risk their money under such circumstances. We do not think so. Besides, Mr. Sone is reported to object to partnership between foreigners and Japanese as a means of obtaining capital; but surely his proposed bank is a partnership pure and simple.

It is stated that autumn manoeuvres are to take place on a large scale next November, the Emperor himself being present. Two Divisions are to be engaged, the Fifth and Sixth, and the plan of campaign will be an invasion of Kiushu by the former Division *via* the Straits of Shimonoseki, the defence being entrusted to the Sixth Division. The plains of Chikuzen and Buzen will be the scene of the principal fighting, and Field-Marshal Marquis Yamagata is expected to take the command-in-chief.

The present capital of the Japan Joint Stock Railway Company is 40 million *yen*, and it proposes to add 26 millions, making a total of 66 millions. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the officials and employees of the Company number 9,007 men.

The returns of dysentery patients throughout the empire from the outbreak of the epidemic up to the 12th instant, are as follow:—

	Patients,	Death,
Tokyo City	1,299	302
Saitama Prefecture.....	1,169	189
Gumma "	923	99
Ibaraki "	478	101
Tochigi "	460	95
Osaka City	73	13

Baron Rosen's return to Tokyo in the capacity of Russian Representative is welcomed by a host of friends of all nationalities. It would scarcely have been possible to win greater popularity than Baron Rosen enjoyed during his period of service in Japan as Secretary of Legation and *Chargé d'Affaires*, several years ago, and though many that enjoyed his friendship then have left the country, his memory is as green as ever, and those that did not know him in the old days have learned by reputation to look forward to the pleasure of meeting him in the new.

We under estimated the fact when we said that the late Mr. J. G. Walsh had been thirty years in Japan. Forty years would be a more correct statement. Mr. Walsh held the position of United States Consul in Nagasaki in 1859. Those were the days of unpaid American Consuls, and Mr. Walsh, while discharging his Consular functions, was also engaged in organizing the firm of Walsh and Company, afterwards the well known Walsh, Hall and Company. During his tenure of office, the United States Government decided to have salaried Consuls in Japan, a change

which meant, of course, that the Consul must not engage in commercial enterprises. But before the news of the change reached Japan and before Mr. Walsh's resignation could be received and acted on, a considerable sum in the form of salary and allowances accrued to his credit. The whole of that money—amounting to some thousands of dollars—he handed over to a charitable purpose, not considering himself entitled to retain it since it had come to him while he was engaged in trade.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports a slight improvement in the condition of Count Mutsu. Great anxiety was felt about him recently, but since the 15th, his fever has abated, the temperature being now 37.3°C, and the patient has also recovered his appetite, more or less. If this amelioration of the symptoms continue for a few days longer, the Count may enjoy another spell of comparative convalescence. On the 11th instant Chamberlains carrying presents came from the Emperor and Empress to inquire.

A timely warning is given to Japanese journalists by the *Miyako Shimbun*. For the past few months scarcely a day has passed without the publication of a paragraph by some vernacular newspaper under the heading the *Kinyu hippaku* (tightness of the money market); *Kinri hikiage* (rise in the rate of interest); *Zaisei konnan* (economical difficulties); *Zaisen kinbo* (deficiency of capital); *Figyo ishaku* (decline of industries); *Sangyo furuwazu* (inactivity of production), or some other equally disquieting caption. The result is that foreign capitalists, who have invested money to the extent of 40 millions in Japanese Bonds, and who watch with the utmost keenness everything that goes on in the country, translate all the paragraphs from the papers and transmit all the rumours to England, have become anxious and have conveyed their anxiety to others. Little by little an impression has gone abroad that things are in a shaky condition, and thus the securities which sold originally for £102 per thousand *yen* face value, and which subsequently rose to £104, have now fallen considerably. Indeed, the *Miyako Shimbun* says that they have fallen to £96, but we have no collateral evidence of such a tumble. However, the question of degree does not affect our contemporary's contention, namely, that vernacular newspapers have very little idea of the responsibility devolving on them or of the immense pecuniary loss that may be caused by their reckless and ignorant writing.

No thoughtful person can fail to endorse the above criticism. The tossing about of financial puffballs by the vernacular newspapers is phenomenal. Every youngster appears to think himself equipped for inditing paragraphs about national debts, monetary systems, the distribution of capital, the conflict of the standards, and other topics from the discussion of which even experts shrink in the Occident. The articles that have appeared about the one-*yen* silver piece in the new gold system would fill a wardrobe, but not one of the writers seems to have sat down and calculated whether any real margin of profit presents itself for the operations that they all describe as a Damoclesian sword hanging over the head of the Government. The simple explanation of it all is party politics. Discredit the Cabinet

in the field of finance, discredit it in the field of foreign affairs, discredit it by any means and all means, whatever injury the country's credit and prestige may suffer by the process. 'Tis the strangest kind of *aisoku-shin* conceivable. Somebody said, lately, that passionate patriotism is a prominent feature of modern Japan. Yes, there is patriotism—patriotism that reveres the Throne; that would fight a foreign foe to the bitter end; that would defend the *arae* and *foei* with desperate tenacity, and that shrinks from contact even with an alien creed. But for patriotism that sets the cause of country higher than the interests of party, or that would relinquish the chance of maiming a political rival lest the blow should fall also upon the father-land—for that kind of patriotism we look in vain.

It is interesting to find a party of American Senators coming to this country, as Messrs. Pettigrew, Cannon and Dubois have now done, to investigate the silver question in connexion with the development of modern Japan. Last year we had Mr. Porter, who visited us, not as an impartial inquirer, but as a man determined to prove that the growth of Japanese industries threatened grave injury to American commerce, and that the mischief must be averted by high tariffs. Mr. Porter succeeded. There was plenty of material for building up a plausible case if the question of time were eliminated. The three Senators who reached Yokohama on the 16th in the *Empress of India*, are believers in silver. If we understand aright, they want to discover how much impetus Japan's manufacturing and producing enterprise owe to money which has constantly grown cheaper in terms of the money for which her produce and manufactures were sold; how much her power as a purchaser of imports has been impaired by the operation of the same factor, and how much benefit or injury she may anticipate from the adoption of gold monometallism. It is a fruitful field of research, and we are disposed to think that the Senators can find materials for a most valuable report.

Mr. Eugene Snodgrass has published a little brochure entitled "Civil Government and Roman Catholicism." The writer's object is to show that the declared principles of Roman Catholicism are against submission to any civil authority; that the Pope claims to be supreme in every sphere, and that, in effect, the spread of Roman Catholicism in any country means the alienation of its converts from allegiance to the Government of that country. If Mr. Snodgrass were speaking of the past, if he were writing of mediæval times, it would scarcely be possible to deny that he has proved his point. But the question of the temporal power of the Holy See appears to us to belong to the realm of buried issues, and we are not sure that any useful end can be served by reviving it. From another point of view, the brochure is a curious example of history repeating itself. The Dutch, in the seventeenth century, by advancing arguments very similar to those of Mr. Snodgrass, arguments, however, which had real force two hundred and eighty years ago, were able to create in Japan a conviction which closed the country, first to the Portuguese and Spaniards, afterwards to the English, and made the religion of Rome an object of profound political dread. We are

wrong, perhaps, in using the word "created": "confirmed" would be a more correct term, for Nobunaga, Hideyoshi, and Ieyasu had already conceived the suspicion which the representations of the Dutch strengthened into a working belief. Here then, at the end of the nineteenth century, we have Mr. Snodgrass doing what the Dutch did at the beginning of the seventeenth. *Absit omen.*

It will be remembered that the Budget for this year makes provision for the raising of considerable sums in the form of domestic loans, and it will have been observed, also, that, though nearly five months of the fiscal year have elapsed, no attempt to float any loan has yet been made. The *Nichi Nichi* puts the sum that ought to be raised at 59,280,000 *yen*, but the figure is really much larger, namely:—

	<i>YEN.</i>
Public Undertakings Loan.....	61,329,500
Railway Loan.....	7,502,467
Total.....	68,831,967

Meanwhile, work on the State Railways and other public undertakings has made such progress that the need of funds is beginning to be pressing, and the surplus revenue lying in the Treasury is practically exhausted. In the present state of the money market, however, there can not be any hope of floating a loan successfully. The *Nichi Nichi* thinks, therefore, that the Government will make use of the sum obtained by the recent sale of Bonds in England to meet the exigencies of the moment, and will await a more favourable opportunity for floating a loan.

It is impossible to know the truth yet about next year's Budget. Innumerable contradictory statements have been published by the vernacular press. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbum* now declares, with apparent assurance, that despite all efforts to curtail expenditures, the revenue in sight will prove to be insufficient by 20 million *yen*, but whether the deficit will be made good by extra taxes or by a loan, has not yet been determined.

THE SENDAI TAXATION AFFAIR.

A strong suspicion must often present itself to the observant foreigner in Japan that the ideas he forms of the people and their doings by perusing the columns of the vernacular press are possibly quite erroneous. Very likely the same suspicion, *mutatis mutandis*, visits the observant Japanese on reading the local foreign press. We hope it does, at any rate. 'Tis a case of six of one and half a dozen of the other; for if the writings of a paper like the *Nippon* suggest racial prejudices on the Japanese side, we need not go far afield to discover foreign journals that convey an impression of a cognate kind on the side of their own nationals. But a special feature is observable in the statements of a paper like the *Nippon*: it is their curious deficiency of appreciative sense. We imagine that any Occidental at all solicitous about the reputation of his countrymen would understand the slur cast upon their moral balance when they are represented as getting into a ferment of general excitement and organizing indignation meetings because a solitary stranger living in their midst is uncertain about the legality of a tax which he has been invited to pay. Yet

the *Nippon* is obviously untroubled by any such contingency. It tells us, in effect, that the people of Sendai are a parcel of feather-brained agitators, so little blessed with moral balance and so greatly cursed with a superfluity of idleness, that they magnify a virtually academic problem of taxation into a theme for public tumult. A foreigner is asked to pay a local tax that no foreigner has ever paid. He asks permission to consult his Consul before paying, and the *Nippon* invites us to imagine that his very natural request has provoked a storm of popular indignation. If the Japanese people were the kind of folk that the *Nippon* makes them out to be, prudent foreigners would lose no time in putting the ocean between themselves and these islands.

At the same time, we have nothing to say against the *Nippon's* patriotism as such. It is wholesome and pleasant to see a good, breezy love of country. What we have a right to object to, and what surprises us a little, is that a paper professing and obeying a sentiment so absorbing should fail to appreciate any exhibition of it by other folks. Can not the *Nippon* see that if two Englishmen are suddenly asked to pay a local tax never before levied, they have to consider something more than the mere effect on their own pockets? What would it say of two Japanese who, under similar circumstances, tamely and unhesitatingly paid the required sum, and thus established a precedent more or less binding on all their countrymen who might happen to be serving in England, for example? We imagine that it would find some pungent epithets for the two invertebrates. There are folks that will sacrifice a great many principles on the altar of a quiet life. There are also folks—happily there are—that will suffer some inconvenience and brave some misrepresentation rather than lightly take a step the consequences of which may inconveniently affect others. If the *Nippon* can conceive, and constructively applaud, the vigour and resolution that it attributes to its own countrymen in Sendai on account of a matter of pure principle, is it unable to conceive and applaud a modicum of the same kind of procedure on the part of a foreigner? But in truth the matter is a bagatelle. The educational authorities in Sendai consider that the levying of such a tax is *ultra vires*; the local authorities take a different view; the question has been referred for decision in Tokyo. That is the whole story. Fancy the good people of Sendai getting into a pother and holding indignation meetings about such a trifle! They ought to proceed against the *Nippon* for libel. And, indeed, so ought the Japanese nation, for the notion that its moral estate produces such very small potatoes is distinctly insulting.

That question about bowing to the Emperor's picture has a perennial habit of cropping up. We have sometimes wondered how the very punctilious objectors to the performance would have behaved had they lived in the middle of last century and been numbered among the Hanoverian magnates. It is related that during George the Second's absence in England, a species of court ceremony was held every Saturday at Herrenhausen—"a fine and touching ceremony" Thackeray calls it. The absent King's portrait was placed in the assembly-room on a large

arm-chair, and all the nobles, advancing one by one, bowed to the picture and spoke in hushed voices as though his august Majesty were present. Was that idolatry? Idolatry at the court of "William the Pious," whose sole solace in his blind and semi-demented dotage was listening to psalm-tunes and whose father had sat under Luther at Wittenberg! An article written in the *Japan Mail* in 1869 said that Europeans of that era had a singular tendency to forget their own history when they discussed Japanese happenings. It doesn't seem as if the tendency had died yet, does it?

DEATH OF MR. JOHN WALSH.

On Monday morning at 6 o'clock, after less than 48 hours' illness, Mr. John G. Walsh of Kobe died from acute enteritis. Only a few days ago Mr. Walsh was in Tokyo, looking bright and hale, and when he set out to return to Kobe, his friends in the capital little thought that a fatal illness was so soon to overtake him. He was one of the oldest residents of Japan, having been in this country for nearly thirty years, if we are not mistaken. A fuller measure of love and respect than he possessed could scarcely have fallen to the share of any one. A man of wide knowledge, wonderful sweetness of disposition, profound benevolence, absolute integrity and the largest magnanimity, he lived a life as blameless as it was beautiful, and his death leaves the whole foreign community sensibly poorer. Nothing that we could write would be a worthy tribute to the memory of one so rarely gifted with every noble and lovable quality; and, for the rest, all words are dwarfed by the greatness of the sorrow that the kindly face of a friend so dear will be no more seen among us.

The *Kobe Herald*, in an appreciative notice of the late Mr. J. G. Walsh, gives details which show that Mr. Walsh's last illness was of less than 48 hours' duration. The gastric trouble declared itself on Saturday, and at 6 a.m. on Monday, the end came. Previous attacks of the same nature in recent years had been attended by some symptoms of heart failure, and it may be presumed that the fatal termination of the last was due to that complication.

We take the following from the *Hyogo News*:—The attendance of Japanese mourners and the numbers of stands of flowers and other Japanese tributes of respect at the funeral of the late Mr. J. G. Walsh on Tuesday afternoon have been unprecedented in our experience in Kobe. The deceased was in closest sympathy with the people among whom he had spent so many years of his life and with whom his business relations were also extensive and intimate. They reciprocated his good-will, and they manifested this in the only way that is left to friends of any one who is taken away. This, perhaps, was what must have struck most of those present even more than the large gathering of the foreign community. The official element was strongly represented, the commercial element was present in full force. There were some who had known Mr. Walsh for 20, 25, and 30 years, there were many who had regarded him as an old friend.

The funeral left the house of the deceased just after six o'clock for the Cemetery. All along the route the train was swelled by new arrivals, and at the Cemetery gates many more were found waiting. Employés of the Paper Mill carried the body to the grave, the deceased's son-in-law following as chief mourner, and Messrs. Gill, Groom, Ryle Holme, Gay, Robison, and Shea acting as pall-bearers.

The Rev. J. L. Atkinson took the service at the grave-side, and delivered a short address upon the truth of the hope implanted in every heart of something better to follow after death and upon the duty of living prepared to die.

The ceremony was quickly over, the innumerable wreaths were piled around, and, as they turned to leave the thought was uttered by many: Another one gone, who next?

PRINCE ARISUGAWA'S RETURN.

H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, the special Ambassador of His Majesty the Emperor at the recent Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria,—who travelled incognito as Count Sawa—arrived at Yokohama on Monday morning by the C. P. steamer *Empress of India*. The *Empress* anchored in the harbour a little before 6 a.m., the two Japanese cruisers *Matsushima Kan* and *Tsumi Kan*, which had been despatched to receive His Imperial Highness, having before that hour left their moorings outside the breakwater and anchored inside. At 7 a.m. Prince Arisugawa and his suite quietly landed in a steam launch at the N. Y. K. wharve and proceeded at once, almost unobserved, to the Yoyotei, the Imperial rest-house near the Lighthouse Department offices, where he was met by his son; Count Okuma, Minister for Foreign Affairs; and a number of officials of the Imperial Household Department and others. The officials from Tokyo had expected the Prince to land at the English wharve and went there to receive him, and upon finding out their mistake proceeded at once to the Yoyotei. His Imperial Highness left for Tokyo by a special train at 8.40.

From an interview with one of the gentlemen in the Prince's suite, the following facts have been gathered by the *Pomfret* regarding his trip:—The Prince left Tokyo on the 2nd May and embarked on the French steamer *Ernest Simons*, arriving in Marseilles on the 11th June and proceeding to Paris the following day, where he lodged at the Hotel Bristol. On the 16th of the same month, his Highness had an interview with President Faure, and was treated with the utmost courtesy by the French Government. On the 19th, he left Paris for England, and arrived in London on the evening of the same day, when he and his suite were conveyed in a Court equipage sent by the Queen, to the Hotel Cecil, which was specially provided for his temporary residence. The Prince is said to have been highly pleased at the English Royal Standard being flown above the entrance to the Hotel. On the following day at 11 a.m., His Highness repaired to the Palace and had an audience with Queen Victoria, to whom he delivered the message as well as the presents from the Emperor and Empress. Among these presents were an embroidered screen and a gold lacquered book-case, for which Her Majesty expressed her most cordial thanks. The 22nd being the most important day of the celebration, His Highness, attired in the uniform of a Rear-Admiral of the Navy, accompanied by his suite, also in full uniform, arrived at Buckingham Palace at 8 a.m. and joining the Jubilee party, proceeded to St. Paul's Cathedral, to be present at the service held there. On this day the Queen, dressed in magnificent black velvet robes, drove through the city in a carriage with the Princess of Wales and one of her own daughters. Her Majesty was followed by more than seventy Princes of various nationalities on horse-back and in military or naval uniforms. Prince Arisugawa was also mounted. On the 26th June, he was invited to the naval review at Spit-head, which may justly be regarded as one of the peerless wonders of the world. The men-of-war numbered 165 in all and the vessel in which the Prince of Wales embarked, together with the royal personages from various countries, went through the midst of the fleet. When the inspection began, salutes were fired from all the ships at the same time, and the reverberation was so violent that it was thought that the heavens themselves would have fallen. The sight was, in fact, indiscribably magnificent. The foreign war vessels that joined in the display

numbered fourteen, the Japanese *Fuji* being one of them. Its presence is said to have contributed much to the reputation, of Japan's naval power. Photographs taken of the *Fuji* have been sold in the streets of London. From the 20th to the 28th June, with the single exception of Sunday the 27th, invitations were daily received by the Prince from all quarters for sumptuous entertainments, and His Highness found himself extremely busy accepting them. The hospitality shown to him was undoubtedly the outcome of the Queen's friendly feelings towards Japan. The Prince was highly gratified. His party left London on the 30th and arrived in Spain on the 4th of July. His Highness was received on the frontier by two officers specially despatched for the purpose. On the 5th, he proceeded to the palace at Madrid, and having had audience with the Queen Regent and the young King, presented the latter with the decoration of the Order of the Crysanthemum from the Emperor of Japan. The gift was received with due compliments, and the Prince as well as his retinue were in turn decorated by the Queen Regent. Every courtesy was shown in the treatment of the Prince. His mission having now been completely discharged, his Highness returned to Paris in a private capacity, under the name of Count Sawa; thence he travelled to London and on to New York and Vancouver from which place he returned direct to Japan. He received invitations in several places, but *en route* declined on every occasion on the plea that he was travelling incognito.

BANKS IN JAPAN.

The *Nippon* states that, according to the investigations of the Finance Department, the number of banks in Japan at the end of July totalled 1,487, their capital amounting to 292,885,514 yen. These figures show an increase of 30 banks and 7,111,000 yen in capital, as compared with the end of June. Following are details:—

	Old.	New.
Nippon	Number ... 1	—
	Capital ... 30,000,000	—
Industrial ...	Number ... 1	—
	Capital ... 10,000,000	—
National	Number ... 98	—
	Capital ... 21,520,000	—
Savings	Number ... 192	6
	Capital ... 16,570,000	200,000
Joint stock...	Number ... 974	40
	Capital ... 177,240,920	9,502,000
Joint partner-ship	Number ... 27	—
	Capital ... 5,453,906	—
Joint capital.	Number ... 95	1
	Capital ... 8,340,674	10,000
Private	Number ... 69	2
	Capital ... 4,649,020	85,000
Totals	Number ... 1,457	49
	Capital ... 285,774,514	9,797,000

BANK OF JAPAN'S RATES.

At a meeting held on the 20th instant by the principal officials of the Bank of Japan, it was decided, says the *Hochi*, to raise the rates of interest on loans, and discounts to other banks, by one *rin*. The schedule of interest is now as follows:—

	Daily interest.
Loans on security of goods.....	2.4
Discount of Drafts of the Bank.....	2.1
Discount of Drafts of other Banks	2.4
Temporary overdrafts	2.6
The rate of interest for transactions with private individuals remains the same as before, namely:—	
Loans on security of goods.....	Sen.
Discount of Commercial Bills	2.7
	2.4

There was formerly a difference of four *rin* in the transactions between private individuals and other banks, but it is now reduced to three *rin*. The Bank of Japan had, from the first, perceived the inexpediency of retaining the great disparity of rates between the two classes of business, but the condition of the economic world did not permit it to make a radical change all at once.

VARIOUS TOPICS.

We presume that the release of the Danish Consulat Tientain is the result of an insufficiency of evidence to support the charge, and that it had no connexion with the protest made by the Governor of Kanagawa. It is curious that questions of this nature should so often crop up, and be so often treated as if no such things as precedents existed. We ought to mention here that, so far as our information goes, the British Consular Constable took no part in the arrest, his visit to the ship being merely intended to certify the technical sufficiency of the warrant. It is to be regretted, however, that a British official should have been involved in such a business, however remotely. The British Consular Jail once had the honour of being virtually besieged by Japanese police for a considerable time because, at the dictates of comity, it had been lent for the accommodation of an accused person of another nationality whose arrest had been illegally effected. Considering the absolutely unique trouble Great Britain takes and the expense she incurs to discharge her Treaty obligations in judicial affairs, it is a pity that she can not avoid being apparently associated with the incorrect procedure of other nationalities.

In the *Official Gazette* the total figures relating to the settled accounts of last year are published.

Twenty-ninth Fiscal Year (1896-7).

Income	186,976,374.927
Expenditure	168,224,147.027

Excess of Income over Ex-	
penditure	18,752,227.900

Of the above surplus, a sum of 10,815,186.237 yen was carried forward to the accounts of 1897-8, so that the surplus actually remaining is 7,937,041.663 yen.

The *Official Gazette* further states that, up to the close of July, the amount of revenue collected this year had been 59,278,669 705 yen, and the amount paid out, 71,545,452.491 yen.

Dysentery continues to be tolerably severe in Tokyo. The returns from the 6th to the 10th instant, a period of five days, are:—

Kanda district ...	6 new patients	4 deaths
Kojimachi	5 "	1 "
Nijimbashi	6 "	1 "
Kyobashi	14 "	3 "
Shiba	28 "	6 "
Akasaka	1 "	2 "
Yotsuya	4 "	2 "
Ushigome	1 "	— "
Shitaya	7 "	— "
Hongo	1 "	3 "
Asakusa	2 "	— "
Fukagawa	1 "	— "
Ebara	7 "	2 "
Toyotama	5 "	2 "
Kitatoshima	5 "	1 "
Minami-katsushika	2 "	2 "
Nishi-tama	22 "	10 "
Minami-tama	195 "	35 "
Kita-tama	72 "	12 "
Total	348 "	86 "

In Saitama Prefecture during the same interval, the new cases totalled 367, and the deaths 56.

The statement that Mr. Hara Kei had become editor-in-chief of the Osaka *Mainichi Shimbun* is contradicted. It appears that Mr. Hara was invited to take the post, but declined. His name is now borne on the list of Ministers available for service abroad, and it is said that a post in that capacity has been offered to him by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, but that, being in somewhat impaired health, he prefers to remain unemployed for the present. At any rate he is not in a position to attach himself to a newspaper.

The *New York Herald* has been doing some spread-eagleism over the Hawaiian affair. It warns Japan that the key which opened her ports will "serve to lock them up, if she insists on fighting;" asks her whether she has "a swelled head;" whether she "bumpiously ima-

gines that because she gave China a good drubbing, she can lick all creation," whether she "means to claim the Hawaiian islands for Mongolian civilization;" and finally observes that "after settling the little difficulty in Honolulu, Tokyo, Yokohama and Kobe will be in our hands." It would be difficult to be at once more vulgar or more gratuitously offensive. We should like to hear the comments of the chorus of Settlement reviewers if any writing even distantly approaching the *New York Herald's* jingoism appeared in a Japanese journal. What a chorus it would be, to be sure! What hands of horror would be raised; what depths of anti-foreign feeling would be gauged, what solemn rebukes would be penned! But as it's one of the leading journals in the capital of a highly civilized Occidental Power, there's nothing to be said. Circumstances alter cases.

Miyagawa Kozan, the celebrated ceramic expert of Ota, better known to foreigners under the name of Makuzu, has not yet emerged from his troubles in connexion with the alleged infringement of Higuchi Haruzane's "grains-of-rice" porcelain. Presumably most of our readers know what is meant by "grains-of-rice" decoration. The design is cut out of the pâte, and the piece is then dipped in the glazing bath, so that the excised portions being filled with glaze only, show transparent when the specimen emerges from the kiln. Some years ago, when Mr. Higuchi of Hirado applied for and obtained a patent for work of that kind, we pointed out that he could not possibly claim to have invented the method. It was perfectly familiar to Chinese potters two hundred and fifty years ago, and innumerable specimens of the greatest beauty were turned out at the factories on the Poyang Lake. All that could be urged on Mr. Higuchi's behalf was that he introduced the method in Japan, and that he called it *Hotarū-de*, or "fire-fly style." He had no more right to a patent than a Japanese would now have were he to copy a Pelton water-wheel and offer it for sale in Tokyo. That was the view taken by Kakuzo also. He produced some fine examples of the beautiful ware, and boldly exhibited them in the salon of the Japan Fine Arts Society. Mr. Higuchi applied for an injunction and seems to have obtained it, for we learn from the vernacular press that the Ota expert has petitioned the Patents Bureau on the subject.

It need scarcely be said that conjectures about the causes of Marquis Ito's unexpectedly quick return to Japan continue to find a place in the columns of the vernacular press. All alike seem to be without any basis of fact and need not be reproduced here. The *Mainichi's* note, however, appears to deserve attention. It alleges that in answer to a communication from the Foreign Office in Tokyo, Mr. Kato, Japanese Representative in London, sent a telegram of the following purport:—"The Marquis hastens his return because he thinks that, in view of the visits of the Emperor of Germany and the President of the French Republic to Moscow, it would not be advantageous that he go to either Germany or Russia." Commenting on this telegram, the *Mainichi* arrives at the conclusion that Marquis Ito has been influenced by a very simple reflection, namely, that a position more or less embarrassing for him might arise if he went to Moscow just at the present juncture and that he has consequently deemed it wiser to return home. We shall not be surprised to find that the *Mainichi's* explanation is correct.

An answer has been received from the President of Hawaii—according to the *Pomfuri Shimbun*—to the complaint recently addressed to him by the *Saké Merchants' Guild*. The Hawaiian Assembly, some time ago, passed a law imposing an increased duty on imported alcoholic beverages, and the members of the Guild were impelled to protest in view of the effect that the measure must exercise upon Japanese *saké* sent to Hawaii for the use of the immigrants there. The gist of President Dole's reply is that he is powerless to take any special step in the matter, the two Houses having pass-

ed the measure over his veto by a two-thirds majority, but that due attention shall be given to the Guild's petition.

If anything were needed to cap the quaintness of the Liberal Party's recent action towards Count Okuma, the deficiency is supplied by the *Tokyo Shimbun*, which, as our readers probably know, is one of that Party's organs. Our article commenting on the Liberals' letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs was translated in the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, and the *Tokyo Shimbun* now replies by saying that, however alarmed the Cabinet may have been, it really shows too much perturbation when it entrusts its defence to a foreign newspaper. Such a retort reduces the whole question to the level of empty persiflage, yet is even less amusing than another plea urged by the same journal, namely, that the object of sending the *Naniwa* to Honolulu can not have been to preserve order among the Japanese immigrants there, since, in that case, a body of police or gendarmes would have been despatched. Is not that delightful? When a paper so charmingly ignorant of international usages undertakes to discuss foreign politics, no wonder that it gets off the rails.

Reading local newspapers' notices of cricket matches, athletic, and aquatic sports and so on, one would imagine that Yokohama abounded in professional cricketers and other experts. In England the amateur is invariably distinguished from the professional by having a "Mr." prefixed to his name, but out here no such distinction is made. The effect of this neglect is not attractive.

We observe that another skeleton peg has been found to hang a red rag for the anti-Japanese-jurisdiction bull. This time it is the Sendai taxation affair. "If the whole population in Sendai is disturbed," says the *Japan Gazette*, "because a Mr. Dening has appealed to his Minister against the levying of an income-tax, we know what might be expected if a foreign tobaccoist found himself in the position of Messrs. Murai Bros." It has been authoritatively denied that there is any excitement in Sendai. Mr. Dening, in a letter published by us last Saturday, declared the *Nippon's* statement about excitement in Sendai to be "a fabrication." But that does not make the slightest difference to the *Japan Gazette*. The point is sensational, be it ever so false, and therefore it must be employed to assist in tricking out the scarecrow of Japanese jurisdiction. Well, there's nothing like perseverance and a good leathern conscience. By the time the *dies iræ* arrives, Yokohama will be resonant with the chattering of teeth, if the *Japan Gazette* can so contrive it. There is just one antidote to the epidemic of "shakes." It is that even the least astute folks must appreciate the little game. Having failed to avert Treaty Revision, though they worked hard enough in all conscience, the last resource of the agitators is to educate such a dread of Japanese jurisdiction that its successful exercise will be imperilled. If they can achieve that, their former opposition will be justified by the system. 'Tis a fine, wholesome ambition.

Nothing could well be farther from the old Spartan principle than the practice of Europe to-day in the matter of weakly children. The Spartans held that only a lusty baby, likely to take a useful share in defending the "altars and hearths," or to bear lusty defenders of them, should be suffered to live. But the modern European saves life at all hazards, whatever may be the value of the result. The infant incubator has now been so far perfected as to play an important part in this doubtful scheme of adding to the inferior element of the world's population. "Each incubator consists of a sort of box, partly of metal and partly of glass, mounted on a metal stand. The child lies upon a fine wire hammock, and under this there is a large copper pipe kept full of hot water by means of a small boiler and oil-lamp or gas jet fixed outside the apparatus. The necessary regulation of temperature is effected by means of a metallic thermostat placed within the incubator, which, by a system of levers, controls the amount of

heat that reaches the boiler. On an alternative plan the thermostat is placed in the hot water of the boiler, and by its contraction or expansion with alterations of temperature increases or diminishes the quantity of gas consumed by the burner. The former arrangement, it is claimed, automatically keeps the temperature constant to about a degree, the latter to about a quarter of a degree. When a child first comes under treatment the temperature is maintained at something like blood heat, but it is gradually reduced till it is about equal to that of the room. Air is supplied through a 4-in. pipe and is introduced at the bottom of the box under the hammock in such a way as to prevent draughts and to insure that it is properly warmed. On its way it is filtered and freed from any germs by being passed through absorbent wool moistened with an antiseptic agent, while it is removed through a 3-in. chimney fitted with a small revolving fan. It is stated that in the Continental cities in which it is employed it has been found possible by means of this apparatus, which is constructed on Altmann's patent system, to preserve the lives of about 75 per cent. of prematurely and weakly-born children."

The bonfires lit in the United Kingdom to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee totalled 2,547; of which 1,981 were in England; 305 in Scotland; 162 in Wales and 93 in Ireland. Even little Wales made nearly twice as good a showing as Ireland. Some of the fires cost as much as £100; some, as little as £4. An average of £10, the outlay aggregated £2,547. That will be cited, one of these days, as an example of "sinful waste."

Japan is now conspicuous by her absence from the list of "Foreign Government Securities" quoted in London. Seventeen States are on the catalogue, Turkey heading the array with six groups of loans and Brazil standing second with three. But Japan, by her recently made payment, has succeeded in getting her name wiped off the slate, and apparently she is reluctant to have it replaced there.

It has been alleged that Mr. Sherman's despatch about the Behring Sea affair did not altogether justify the telegram sent by Reuters. We can not agree. Here is the telegram:—

The Hon. John Sherman, United States, Secretary of State, in a dispatch to the American Ambassador in London, under date May 10th, comments with the greatest bitterness on Great Britain's refusal to join a conference of the Powers concerned, with the object of preserving the seals in Behring Sea. He virtually accuses Great Britain of bad faith, and concludes by casting upon her the responsibility for causing embarrassment in the relations between the two countries.

The accusation of bad faith is certainly there, and a most offensive accusation it is. Mr. Sherman charges the British Government with holding back the report of Professor Thompson, the English expert, so that the writer might be able to make it an effective reply to the report of Professor Jordan, the American expert. "It is not pleasant," the Secretary of State says, "to have to state that the impartial character which it has been the custom to attribute to reports of naturalists of high standing has been greatly impaired by the apparent subjection of the report to the political exigencies of the situation." It would be scarcely possible, we think, to pen a more insulting paragraph, and when we remember that it is based upon pure suspicion, that Mr. Sherman can not have had any proof whatever of such double-dealing on the part of the British Government, and that the despatch is intended to secure the friendly co-operation of the mother country, one is bound to confess that President McKinley and his colleagues are scarcely fitted for conducting diplomatic discussions in accordance with the rules of modern courtesy. The despatch ends thus:—"Upon Great Britain must, therefore, rest, in the public conscience of mankind, the responsibility for the embarrassment in the relations of the two nations which must result from such conduct. The President, therefore, still cherishes the hope that at this late day Great Britain will yield to his ever-continued desire for a conference, and will hail with great

satisfaction any indication on the part of her Majesty's Government of a disposition to agree to such conference." Reuters' telegram seems to us a very fair epitome. If Mr. Sherman when he wrote was not too angry to be judicious, he has certainly made it appear that he was.

The gist of this complication may not be clear to all our readers. It is this:—The Paris Arbitration of 1894, while deciding virtually in favour of Great Britain's position, decided also that the regulations then in existence for the control of the far-seal enterprise, were inadequate. The United States Government consequently proposed a conference for the purpose of determining fuller measures, and it was because of Great Britain's tardiness in acquiescing that Mr. Sherman—or, we should rather say, the McKinley Cabinet, for the President has shouldered the responsibility—became indignant. The conference is now to be held, and we may hope that the complication is at an end.

The unsatisfactory ending of the Eton-Harrow match—a draw, for the fourth time in succession—seems likely to end in this annual contest being made a three-day, instead of a two-day, affair. The fact constitutes another proof of the great development that cricket has undergone during recent years. But, indeed, one has only to look at the scores to see that the cricketers of to-day are mighty men. Brown and Tunicliffe, playing for Yorkshire against Sussex at Sheffield on July 13th, scored 378 for the first wicket, when the partnership came to an end, Tunicliffe being caught at mid-on for 147. Brown remained in some time longer, and was finally out for 311, so that the two men's scores totalled 458. Yorkshire declared the innings closed after five wickets were down for 661, Wainwright having then notched 104, not out. Brown's is the highest individual innings this season, and he is the fifth who has achieved the feat of making over 300 in a first-class match, the others being Dr. Grace, who did it thrice (344, 318 and 301); MacLaren (424), the record score; Mr. W. W. Read (338) and Mr. D. L. Murdoch (321). Brown was 64 hours at the wicket, and scored 50 runs per hour, on the average, giving only one sharp chance at extra-slip when his score stood at 170. He hit 45 fours, 19 threes and 11 twos. Much faster scoring, however, was Mr. Jessop's. 67 in 35 minutes for the Gentlemen against the Players at Lords on July 14th. On that occasion the Gentlemen scored the total of their second innings, 273, in less than 2½ hours. Ranjitsinhji seems to have fallen off. He has, it is said, contracted a habit of playing the ball off his legs, and the bowlers have "sized" him so nicely that he has been out l.b.w. several times lately.

Four hundred and fourteen miles in 24 hours is now the "world's record" in cycling. It has been achieved by George Hunt, the Nottingham long-distance rider. The previous best was Holbein's 404 miles.

It may interest the Japanese to know that the Royal National Life Boat Institution of England has an annual income of £98,000, composed of £38,000 from legacies and £60,000 from public subscriptions and investments. Ninety-eight thousand pounds represent nearly a million yen.

People living in the Far East are vividly reminded of the colourless character of their existence when they look at the "Entertainments" columns of *The Times*. Independently of theatres, operas, and permanent public attractions like the Tower, Westminster, the British Museum, &c., there were 59 exhibitions or performances advertised on the 15th July, some of them being of such a nature as to demand several visits. A prominent public man who understood, if anyone did, the art of making much of life, used to say that if he could be warned when the grave was within ten years of him, he would sacrifice everything to spend the *quod restat* in London, for ten years in London were equivalent to twenty anywhere else. If

one of the Yokohama or Tokyo exiles went to the big metropolis after an absence of a decade, with a resolve to "do" the sights thoroughly, and with only three months for the feat, a vast deal would have to be crowded into the time, and how the exile would long to be restored to the quiet of the little settlement before it was all over.

We heard a great many severe comments in connexion with the inefficiency of the police when the store of Messrs. Murai Bros. was wrecked, and the foreign public were as usual invited to tremble at the prospect of submitting to the jurisdiction of a country in the capital of which such things can happen. It may be observed, however, that in Dublin on Jubilee night a party of rioters worked their wild will for an hour and a half, smashing property and breaking windows to the value of £1,500. The police did not succeed in quelling the disturbance very speedily in that capital, or in apprehending any of the ring-leaders, the only arrests made, as the Recorder said, being those of "a few feather-brained boys."

We take this interesting paragraph from *The Times*:—

A statistical correspondent sends us the following table showing very clearly the comparative wages, in pence and decimals of a penny, earned per hour in engineering and shipbuilding establishments in various countries, calculated from the figures given in *The Times* of July 10th:—

Trade	London.	Havre.	Hamburg.	Holland.	Italy.	Trieste.
Fitters	8.00	5.76	4.84	4.95	4.15	3.96
Men working lathes and planing machines of moderate size	8.25	5.64	4.54	4.05	3.50	4.20
Drillers	6.67	4.56	4.24	3.60	3.05	3.48
Men working small machines, such as milling machines	7.50	5.67	3.88	3.60	3.25	3.36
Sectors	8.67	7.30	6.05	5.58	4.37	4.41
Boilermakers	9.44	6.24	5.45	5.84	4.60	3.57
Joiners	8.80	5.61	4.94	4.05	4.15	3.75
Pattern-makers	8.80	6.24	4.03	4.05	4.15	4.80
SHIPBUILDERS CONSTRUCTING VESSELS OF LIGHT SCANTLING.						
Frame-benders	10.00	5.28	5.45	4.05	4.60	8.96
Platers	10.00	4.57	5.45	4.05	4.60	3.36
Riveters	8.00	3.61	4.74	4.05	3.70	8.94
Drillers	6.67	3.33	3.85	4.05	3.05	2.82
Shipwrights	9.33	6.00	—	4.50	4.60	4.00

Here is an incident that would scarcely be credited without conclusive testimony:—

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE TIMES."

SIR,—I do not know whether the following little episode of life in London streets is deserving notice in your columns. At ten minutes to 3 this afternoon, precisely at the corner of Frith-street and Soho-square, as I went on my way to the shop of Mr. Dulon, the French book-seller, a burly vigorous youth of about 20, in dress somewhat like a drag-driver, ran up against me, and before I realized the situation, closed up, tried to wrest my watch from my pocket, and on my resisting the assault, then and there struck me and finally knocked me down. He then ran away, as I then believed, with my watch. As it was he had only succeeded in forcing the swivel of the chain, and wrenching off the ring. The interesting part of the adventure is that it happened not merely in broad daylight, but in the presence of many persons, who, I am bound to say, congregated rapidly as soon as the struggle was over and expressed great interest in the incident they had witnessed. The individual whose absence from the scene I regretted was a policeman. No such guardian of the peace of the metropolis was visible, either at the time of the adventure or during the 10 minutes or so while I was talking to the assembled sympathizers, of whom more than one implied that similar incidents were not unknown in that neighbourhood. Of course I give this last statement for whatever it may be worth.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM CORNWALLIS CARTWRIGHT.

Athenæum Club, July 13.

"The Bishop of St. Andrews presided over a well-attended meeting, held in the great hall of the Church House on the afternoon of July 12th, on behalf of the English and American dioceses in Japan. Those present included the Bishops of Exeter and Waiapu, and the Bishops of North Tokyo and Kyoto, Kiushiu, and Osaka, Professor Collins, Mr. T. Fowell Buxton, Mr. E. Stock, and Dr. Cust. A letter was read from the Bishop of South Tokyo regretting his inability to be present in consequence of indisposition and wishing success to the meeting. The

chairman said the mission to Japan was full of interest to every one who was really watching or thinking of the great problems that were being solved in the East. They looked to that part of the mission field with the greatest hope at the present time. The English mission had spread in a marvellous manner. The American Church was linked with it and the two together were working side by side with the most satisfactory results. There was, however, a great need for more mission-workers. The Bishop of North Tokyo and Kyoto said there was a population of 17,000,000 in the missionary jurisdiction of Tokyo. For their evangelization the American Church sent one bishop and 15 priests, and in addition to these they had 16 Japanese clergy—than whom a more devoted and loyal set of men was not to be found in any diocese in the world. A very large number were looking to the mission clergy for help, and there was a great need for missionaries and helpers. The Bishop of Kiushiu said that for the 6,000,000 of people in his district he had at present on the list of workers only five who were in priest's orders, and two Japanese deacons. With two or three more priests and one or two others in reserve for times of emergency, he thought that the diocese of South Japan could be worked effectually. The Bishop of Osaka; the Rev. D. J. S. Hunt, and others addressed the meeting, and alluded to the need which existed for more helpers, and the proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to chairman.

THE KEROSENE INDUSTRY IN JAPAN.

The import of kerosene last year, the *Mainichi* says, amounted to 6,331,036 *yen* in value. Oil, however, is produced in various parts of this country, and in some instances the quality is supposed to be hardly inferior to that of American oil; in others it surpasses Russian petroleum. Yet the import increases year by year for no other reason than that the petroleum industry in Japan is carried on with an insignificant amount of capital and by most imperfect processes. There are at present about two hundred companies engaged in this branch of industry, but their organization being meagre, only sixty sets of machinery are now employed by them. The kerosene of Sakata in Yechigo is renowned for its superiority to the American production, while that of Sagara in Enshuu is scarcely inferior to the oil imported from Russia. The application of a proper amount of capital, under the management of competent engineers, would not, it is alleged, fail to produce considerable profits, and success in this enterprise would virtually amount to an extraordinary addition to the resources of the State.

CAPTURING A PICKPOCKET.

The *Seikai-no-Nippon* reports the rather sensational capture of a pickpocket at Shimbashi railway station. On the morning of the 16th instant, at about 9.30 o'clock, a police officer in plain clothes arrived by train from Shinagawa, in charge of a prisoner charged with burglary, whom he was taking to the Central Station. At the time Shimbashi station was crowded with officials and others who had assembled to welcome Prince Arisugawa, then due from Yokohama. While passing through the crowd with his prisoner, the constable saw a pickpocket take a purse from the person of a foreigner. Without a moment's hesitation the officer, dragging his prisoner along with his left hand, seized the pickpocket with his right, while the foreigner, who had discovered his loss, went for the thief with his fists. Quite a disturbance ensued among the crowd, but in a few minutes a force of police arrived at the station as guards for Prince Arisugawa. The purse was recovered and restored to the foreigner, who left for the south by the next train. Whether the thief was detained or not is not stated.

DEATH OF MR. F. R. O. MAXWELL.

Mr. Francis Richard Ord Maxwell, late H.M. Resident at Sarawak and Acting Consul for Borneo, died at the General Hospital on Tuesday after an illness of some two months' duration, the deceased having arrived in Japan in June last, very much broken in health, to see what the air of Japan could do for him. He was accompanied by his wife. Though only forty-seven years of age, Mr. Maxwell's health was so much undermined that his recovery proved hopeless. The funeral took place on Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock at the General Cemetery, the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, the incumbent of Christ Church, Yokohama, officiating. Besides the widow there were present Mr. F. R. G. Forster, representing H.B.M. Consul, Messrs. Whittall, W. B. Walter, T. Thomas, F. S. James, C. D. Moss, Drs. Munro and Mécère, and others. Much sympathy has been expressed for the bereaved widow in her affliction.

DEATH OF MR. LENZ.

It is once again our painful duty to record the death of one very generally known in Kobe and most deeply respected by those who knew him best. A telegram arrived yesterday from Germany announcing the decease of Mr. T. Lenz, in his 54th year. He was a native of Schneplenthal near Gotha, and came to the Far East some thirty years ago. Arriving in Kobe in 1868 he has to all intents and purposes made his home in this port ever since. After a residence in Osaka he joined the firm of Faber and Voigt, and it is as a partner of this house that he is most widely known in business circles. For over a dozen years Mr. Lenz gave faithful service to the community's general welfare as a member of the Municipal Council; his persistence when once his mind was made up enabled him to carry in the end schemes that his intensely practical mind formed and appreciated in advance of most of his fellows. He resigned his seat on leaving for home in the Spring of 1891, and although he returned two years later he could not be induced to renew the position. Mr. Lenz had long suffered from Bright's disease, and it was in the hope of staying its attacks that he finally consented to abandon his interests in this port. He left for home early in May last and appeared to benefit markedly from the voyage. Letters were received from him brighter in tone than any he had written for years. Reunion with his family appeared to work wonders, and those who dreaded lest change of this kind might not be more harmful than beneficial were fast owning themselves wrong. The final collapse, it is believed, must have come suddenly.—*Hogo News*.

SILVER TURNED INTO GOLD.

If Dr. Dupont, who writes in the science column of *La Libre Parole*, is correct in his statements, the dream of the alchemist of old has already been fulfilled, without the aid of the long sought philosopher's stone, and the world is on the verge of a startling revolution in monies and monetary systems which will solve for ever the knotty problem of monometallism or bimetallism. This is no less than the discovery of a successful process for converting silver into gold. According to Dr. Dupont, Dr. Emmens, an eminent chemist of New York, has succeeded in developing this process to the extent of transforming a given weight of silver into one-third of the same weight of the more precious metal, and hopes eventually to be able to make an ounce of gold from an ounce of silver. Dr. Emmens has submitted an ingot of his new metal, which he calls *argentaurum*, to the Assay Office of the United States. This ingot, before being melted, weighed 219.56 grains. Upon melting the assay obtained 65.8 per cent. of pure gold and 26 per cent. of silver. It is added that the Government of the United States now accepts *argentaurum* for coinage, or buys it in common with natural gold.

ARMED BURGLARY IN YOKOHAMA.

On Tuesday morning, about 2 a.m., a burglar broke into the house of Mr. Kashiwabara Kamekichi, a dealer in charcoal and fire-wood, at No. 33, Hinodecho, Yokohama. After getting possession of over 10 *yen* he was about to make his escape when Mr. Kamekichi woke up and attempted to seize him. The burglar instantly drew a dagger and wounded Kamekichi in the neck and back. Meanwhile Kamekichi's wife came to the assistance of her husband and attacked the burglar with a piece of firewood, but was struck and wounded in the shoulder, hands and foot by the desperate man. A fire watchman named Oishi, hearing the disturbance came to the spot with a huge stick and aimed a blow at the burglar, but unfortunately tripped and fell, whereupon the ruffian turned on him and cut him in the face, breast, and other parts of his body. A policeman in the neighbourhood, being called by the neighbours then came upon the scene and with assistance of others succeeded in arresting the burglar. The man is a native of Kofu, Yamanashi-ken, named Nagazuka Nicho aged, 36 years. It is feared that Oishi Taro, the fire-watchman, will succumb to his wounds. Kamekichi and his wife are not dangerously injured.

MURDER ON THE "TENSIN MARU."

A Japanese sailor was fatally stabbed by one of his comrades, on the N. Y. K. steamer *Tenshin Maru* at Shanghai on the 10th inst. A discussion led to a quarrel between the two men, one of whom, drawing his knife, rushed at the other and stabbed him in the abdomen, the breast and the back. The assailant at once made his escape from the ship in a sampan but returned next morning, when he was much surprised to learn that the wounded man was dead. Before he could get away again he was arrested by the Japanese Consular authorities, and will be sent to Japan for trial.

A QUESTION OF THE DAY.

Under this heading, on June 25th, a writer in the *Globe* carolled gently:—

From Laureate and the minstrel of all the minor poets,
Verses with all the fizz and go of ginger-beer and Moët,
In honour of the Jubilee have been profusely tripping;
But what the nation wants to know is: Where the deuce is Kipling?

Well, Mr. Rudyard Kipling was not idle and on the 15th July *The Times* published five stanzas of a "Recessional" which we think will put all the other Jubilee Odes, with their fearfully tin-pot jingles, to shame. The first stanza is as follows:—

God of our fathers, known of old,
Lord of our far-flung battle line,
Beneath whose awful hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine;
Lord God of hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

Describing the cessation of the Jubilee festivities, the poem continues:—

Lo, all our pomp of yesterday,
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre;
Judge of the nations, spare us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

Then, as a warning against idle boasting, the final stanza reads:—

For heathen heart that puts her trust,
In reeking tube and iron band,
All valiant dust that builds on dust,
And guarding calls not Thee to guard;
For frantic boast and foolish word—
Amen.

We await with interest the appearance of the complete Ode.

THE POPULATION OF RUSSIA.

The general results of the Russian census-taking are now known, says the *New York Tribune*. They present no especially startling facts, but some of decided interest. They show Russia to be, as she was of course known to be, by far the most populous country in Europe. Yet she is not so populous as to overbalance all the rest of the continent, nor even a combination of three or four other States. The notion that Russia is so great in population and resources as to menace the remainder of Europe with Cossack rule is seen to be an unsubstantial dream. The population of Russia proper is a trifle over 94,000,000. That is little more than that of Germany and Austria-Hungary, and much less than that of Great Britain, France, and Germany. If we add the 9,400,000 of Poland, the 9,700,000 of Caucasasia, and the 2,500,000 of Finland, the total is still much less than that of Great Britain, France, and Germany, or of the Triple Alliance States. The entire empire, including the 5,700,000 of Siberia and Saghalien, the 3,400,000 of the Steppes, the 4,200,000 of Central Asia, and the few thousands settled in Khiva and Bokhara, foots up a grand total of 129,211,113. That is enormous. But it does not nearly equal the total of the other five great Powers of Europe, or that of any four of them, while if, instead of numbers, quality be considered, the inferiority of Russia is much more marked.

Comparing these figures with those of the not very authentic census of 1851, it is seen that the population of the empire has about doubled within fifty years. The total in 1851 was 65,743,730. Leaving out Central Asia, which has been acquired since 1851, it is to be observed that the population of the Steppes, of Siberia, and of Caucasasia has considerably more than doubled, that of Poland has somewhat less than doubled, and that of European Russia and Finland has much less than doubled. Russia is therefore increasing as an Asiatic more than as a European power. The population is chiefly rural, despite a marked growth of towns and cities in recent years. Thus there is only one city, St. Petersburg, with over 1,000,000 inhabitants; only two others, Moscow and Warsaw, with more than 500,000; only three others with over 250,000, and only thirteen more with over 100,000 each. Those between 100,000 and 50,000 number thirty-five, and between 50,000 and 25,000 sixty-nine. The population is most dense, or least sparse, in Poland, there amounting to more than 30 to the square mile. That is a thin and scattered population compared with other countries. In European Russia proper it is only 8, and in Caucasasia 8.6, to the square mile. Nowhere else in the empire is it as much as 7, and in the empire as a whole it is only 2.5 to the square mile. Women are more numerous than men by nearly 3 per cent. in European Russia and Finland, and men are the more numerous elsewhere. In the empire as a whole the two sexes exactly balance.

THE "TENSIN MARU" INQUIRY.

The finding of the Court of Inquiry held at the Marine Bureau, Tokyo, to enquire into the stranding of the N. Y. K. steamer *Tenshin Maru* in June last, was delivered on Thursday. The Court found Captain Brown to blame in that he misjudged the position of the ship and mistook Amadare Rock for Flat Rock; and that he steered too near the land. Under these circumstances Captain Brown's certificate was suspended for two months. Mr. Neilson, the second officer, was censured and Mr. Rehboldt, third officer, held free from blame.

YOKOHAMA WATER SUPPLY.

The Yokohama Water Works Bureau has announced that the stoppage of the water supply at the hydrants during some eight hours of the night, which was put in force a month or so since, will be withdrawn on and after the 19th inst. This, we believe, is owing to the comple-

tion of the work of enlargement of the main between the source of supply and the reservoir at Noge, by which it is said the supply to the reservoir will be increased by about 20,000 gallons per day.

KOREAN TOPICS.

The number of Japanese residents in Söul, at the end of July, according to the *Independent*, was 953 males and 765 females, a total of 1,718.

In Söul it is a punishable offence to use language without honorifics to a policeman. A youth was guilty of that rudeness the other day, and the policeman promptly ran him in.

The *Independent* says that it has received a number of communications from Shikeung concerning "the cruelty and robbery of the Magistrate." It prints one of them:—

It may be of interest to the public to know that our Magistrate, Mr. Mun Bong, has been nicknamed by the people of the district "Hulchi Pakjung" (which signifies "squeezing butcher") and we believe that he deserves the title. One of his pet schemes is to send out constables to the village with the pretence of investigating the condition of the people, and whenever he hears of any farmer who has some outlay of money or gain he is charged with undutifulness or immorality and given thirty blows a day until the farmer's surplus money or grain is emptied into the pocket of the Magistrate. After paying for the crime (?) of being a thrifty farmer he comes home with broken limbs, broken heart, and broken pocket-book. The Magistrate has invented a new method of torture which has a telling effect on every victim who happens to fall into his hellish hands. First he beats a man with whips until the legs become raw, then he takes a stout rough stick and rubs the raw skin vigorously with it until flesh is torn off. He repeats the process every two or three days in order to keep the part from healing. No one can stand this torture more than twice and is then willing to pay everything he possesses to get out and be released from the infernal punishment. The nickname is so appropriate that we wish it to be known to the public.

Yours truly,

KIM MENGSIK,
YE KEUNGUNG.

The number of Korean students now studying in Japan, writes our Söul contemporary, "is seventy-seven. They have graduated from the Fukuzawa School and are now pursuing special branches at various institutions. Industrial School at Asakusa, nine, including one female student; Agricultural School at Nihara, five; School for construction of ships, five; Commercial School at Kanda, two; Engineering School at Kanda, four; School for Political Economy at Ushigomé, three; Fukuzawa College, one; Law School at Kanda, eight; School for Police Service, two. The following are studying the workings of the various Government institutions:—Telegraph Office, three; Railroad Office, three; Home Department, two; Finance Department, two; Prefectural Office at Shizuoka, two; Educational Department, one; Law Department, two; The Office of the General Staff of Army, one; Military School, eighteen; Tokyo Charity Hospital, one; Government Industrial School at Tsukiji, two. Beside these there are sixteen private students who do not receive any allowance from the Korean Government. The amount the Government allows for these students is about \$13,860 per annum or on the average \$5 monthly for each person."

The new Prime Minister of Korea, Sin Sun-tak, is said to be a statesman of the old school. He was Premier before the war with Japan. The King, in summoning him to resume the post, wrote:—

You have been resting in the country for many years. That makes us crave to see you all the more. We have no other thought but of you and you alone. We now appoint you to the position, though we appreciate the trouble you will have to undergo travelling the long distance, but we need your services at the royal funeral and other sacrificial ceremonies. You must not decline our invitation. We have prepared a seat for you in Our household and you must come up with the Royal Prince Secretary who takes this message to you.

GERMAN NOTES.

A military correspondent writes to a London paper:—Peace manœuvres had their origin in Germany, or, more correctly speaking, Prussia. The zenith of the military successes of Prussia, both in the present and in the past centuries, may be significantly referred to as immediately following a time when peace manœuvres were considered of the highest importance; and we should not lose sight of this fact in England. On the other hand, the decline of peace manœuvres, and the fact that military training became more and more confined to the unproductive niceties of parade drill in the beginning of the present century, paved the way for Prussia's disasters. Frederick II. developed on the manœuvre fields of Potsdam, Spandau, and Berlin the Prussian tactics of Frederick William I., who founded the military strength of Prussia. Representatives from every Army in Europe were to be seen at Prussian manœuvres after the seven years' war.

The much talked of drama by Kaiser Wilhelm will see the light shortly. "S. Michael Germanize" is a piece in three acts. The Kaiser conceived it, thought out the scenes, and wrote the principal passages himself. The text has, however, been overhauled by the German dramatist, Herr Buttner-Pfæner. It is a long epic poem rather than a drama of action, and its theme is the glorification of Germany.

It is generally supposed, and not without good reason, that the red spectre of Socialism is just now an object of terror to the German Government and people. The *Berlin Post*, however, cannot see the alarming phantom. On the contrary, it takes occasion from the reports which have reached it of the feeding of poor persons in England at the cost of the Princess of Wales's fund to draw a flattering contrast between Germany and England. "Such endless misery," it says, "as that to which the dinner to the poor in Jubilee week testified is unknown to us. In no country in the world has so much been done for the elevation of the lower classes, and nowhere has the employer so patiently accepted the burdens of social legislation as here."

The situation in Austria, says an exchange, by no means improves, and there now seems no possibility of putting an end to the feud between the two races, the Germans and Czechs, as their political passions are fully roused. Count Badeni has proved himself incapable during the crisis, and has deeply offended the Germans by his dictatorial acts, while he has not altogether succeeded in winning the confidence of the Czechs. The latter race is now very confident, and its journals talk of a *coup d'état* which will give them the upper hand and enable them to dictate terms to the Germans. But it is absurd to think that a great race which has done so much for the Austro-Hungarian monarchy can be politically crushed by an order of the Minister. The result of any such high-handed measures would inevitably be to make the situation ten times worse, and would bring about a position which would be of the greatest danger to the Empire. Count Badeni is too much of a bureaucrat, and too little of a statesman. He has no adaptability, and looks at things from too narrow a point of view. The situation has puzzled some of the most skilful statesmen in Austria, but Count Badeni's course of action would seem to have brought about a most serious tension between the Germans and the Czechs, and a bitterness of feeling which causes the gravest apprehension among those best qualified to form an opinion. Probably the Emperor will take matters into his own hands and dismiss Count Badeni from office with the intention of putting the conduct of affairs into the hands of someone more diplomatic and tactful in his manner of acting. After all, the Emperor is the wisest and most experienced statesman in Austria, but unless he acts quickly the result may be serious for his composite Empire.

THE TARIFF.

THE question of the Tariff remains still obscure, though why there should be any perplexity we fail to perceive. These are the facts:—When the Anglo-Japanese Treaty was revised, the High Contracting Parties negotiated a new Tariff which was to become enforceable one month after the date of the exchange of ratifications. The latter event took place on August 25th, 1894, and the Tariff consequently became operative from September 25th of that year. But there was a condition attached; namely, that British subjects should enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment in this matter. In other words, British subjects could not be required to pay the rates fixed by the new Tariff so long as the subjects or citizens of any other nationality paid lower rates. It therefore followed that until all the old treaties were revised and until all the Occidental parties to them had agreed to the New Tariff, its provisions could not be enforced against British subjects. It further followed that if other Powers, in the course of their negotiations, obtained tariff concessions more favourable than those secured by the British Treaty, British subjects would become entitled to the same concessions. There was another condition, also. The Tariff appended to the British Treaty comprised 39 staples of import: it covered only a portion of the import trade. With respect to the remaining portion, namely, all the articles not enumerated in the Conventional Tariff, it was agreed that the rates leviable upon them should be fixed by a General Statutory Tariff, which the Japanese Government would have a free hand to enact. This Statutory Tariff and the Conventional Tariff were to become operative simultaneously. Evidently neither could take effect without the other. The General Statutory Tariff was submitted to the Diet last session, approved, passed and duly enacted. But it did not, of course, go into operation. It had to wait until the revision of all the Treaties had been effected. Consequently, its last article provided that notice should be given of the date of its operation. Now, if all the Powers had revised their treaties on exactly the same lines as Great Britain did, it is evident that the new Tariff could have gone into force one month after the exchange of ratifications of the last of the revised treaties. But Germany departed from those lines. She stipulated for an interval of six months between the operation of the Tariff and the exchange of ratifications, and she further stipulated that six months must separate the promulgation from the operation of the General Statutory Tariff. In Germany's case the six months have already expired. But France has naturally made a similar stipulation, and since the Revised French Treaty

has not yet been ratified, an interval of at least six months must elapse before the new Tariff can be enforced. The Austro-Hungarian Treaty, which is understood to contain the same stipulation, has not even been concluded, and from that point of view a source of additional delay is apparent. So soon as the ratifications of the last of the Revised Treaties have been exchanged, the Japanese Government may be expected to issue an Imperial Ordinance providing that the General Statutory Tariff shall go into operation six months after that date. But no such Ordinance can be issued until the exchange of ratifications is an accomplished fact. It is, therefore, abundantly clear that the promulgation of the General Statutory Tariff on the 26th of last March did not amount to a notice for the purposes of the Conventional Tariffs. It was merely a necessary preliminary. The notice will take two forms; it will be furnished, first, by the exchange of ratifications of the last Revised Treaty, and secondly, by the issue of an Ordinance fixing the date of operation of the General Statutory Tariff.

Having given the above explanation, we now reproduce, from the columns of the *Japan Gazette*, a letter addressed by the British Consul to a Yokohama firm:—

"I beg to inform you that I communicated with Her Majesty's *Chargé d'Affaires* on the subject of the date of putting in force of the New Customs Tariff. I have now received a reply from Mr. Lowther, giving me the following information:—

The Treaty between France and Japan contains a stipulation that six months must elapse between its ratification and the operation of the Conventional Tariff attached to it. This Treaty not having yet been ratified, the date of the operation of the New Conventional Tariff will depend on the date of ratification. With regard to the General Tariff, the protocol attached to the German Treaty prescribes an interval of six months between the publication and operation of the General Tariff and any subsequent changes which may be made in it. This Tariff was published by an Imperial Decree, dated March 26th, and the six months interval will therefore terminate on the 26th September next. After this date the Tariff can come into operation, at any time, provided however, the exchange of the ratification of the French, and possibly also of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty, has taken place.

According to the last article of the New Tariff Law, the Japanese Government undertakes to give notice in advance of the date of its operation. I am, Gentleman, your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES TROUP,
H.M. Consul.

It will be seen that the above letter exactly bears out what we have written, except in one place where the wording is elliptical. Mr. TROUP, speaking of the General Statutory Tariff, says:—"After the 26th of September, the Tariff can come into operation at any time, provided, however, the exchange of the ratifications of the French, and possibly, also, of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty has taken place." This sentence seems to have misled the *Japan Gazette*, though the ellipsis is quite plain from the context. Mr. TROUP intended to write:—"The Tariff can come into operation at any time, provided, however, that an interval of six months has elapsed after the exchange of the

ratifications of the French, and possibly, also, of the Austro-Hungarian, Tariff."

Perhaps it may be well to add one word. We have spoken of the General Statutory Tariff as comprising the staples not enumerated in the Conventional Tariff. That limitation was employed for the immediate purposes of explanation. In point of fact, the General Statutory Tariff, as its name implies, covers all the staples of import. But a certain number of them are specially dealt with in the Conventional Tariff, and thus importers enjoying the rates fixed by the Conventional Tariff, have to consider the Statutory Tariff in so far only as non-Conventional articles are concerned. Of course, subjects or citizens of States not having Conventions with Japan, or not entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment, will have to work entirely under the Statutory Tariff.

THE SARATOGA SPIT AFFAIR.

A CORRESPONDENT suggests that some prejudice may be created by our remarks about the British Consul's connexion with the irregular action of the Danish Consul in arresting one of his nationals on board an English steamer in Japanese territorial waters but not within the limits of a treaty port. Such endorsements are, of course, acts of mere comity under ordinary circumstances; but in this case the circumstances were not ordinary, for the only authority by which the arrest could be properly effected while the *Columbia* lay on the Saratoga Spit, was the Japanese authority. It appears, however, that when the endorsement was given, no reason existed for suspecting that the warrant would be put to an illegal use. Had there been no disturbance of the normal course of events, the arrest would have been effected after the steamer's arrival at Yokohama. No questions would then have arisen, and the endorsement would not have attracted any attention. On that hypothesis the British Consul doubtless proceeded, and he can not be held accountable if a step properly taken and to all appearances quite regular, so far as his functions were concerned, subsequently placed him in a false position owing to the injudicious zeal of his Danish colleague. The Consular Constable's procedure, however, admits of no such explanation. That his services should have been employed to prevent any resistance to the execution of the warrant on the part of the master or officers of the *Columbia*, would have been natural and proper, supposing the ship to be within the limits of a treaty port. But he had no business whatever to render any such assistance at Saratoga Spit, and the question is, by whose orders did he go there. A Consular Constable can scarcely be expected to understand nice problems of international law, nor should any such task be imposed on him. On the other hand, he should neither take direc-

tion from a foreign Consul nor be guided by his own lights. Who was responsible for his journey to Saratoga Spit, and his assistance at the execution of a warrant under illegal circumstances? We are not impressed with any sense of the gravity of this affair; still less do we seek to impress our readers. The principles concerned are now so clearly established that to contend for their recognition is quite unnecessary, and an error in practice is a comparatively trivial matter. But considering the strictly correct course pursued some years ago by the British Legation and the British Government with regard to this very problem, and considering also the exceptionally conscientious and thorough manner in which the obligations of England's treaty jurisdiction are discharged in the East, we can not but regret that the record should be marred by incidents like that under consideration. The Consular Constable ought not to have assisted at the Saratoga Spit arrest. There can be no second opinion about that, we think.

With regard to the action of the Kanagawa Prefectural authorities in refusing to undertake the arrest originally, it will appear to most persons that all technical obstacles to the execution of justice are to be deprecated, and that it should be the object of every Government to remove, rather than to recognise, them. That is certainly our own opinion. It seems to us that where the punishment and repression of crime are concerned, nations, the world over, should co-operate unreservedly, and that when the representatives of one Power approach those of another with a request for assistance in the apprehension of criminal fugitives within the latter's territory, there ought not to be any hesitation about complying. That is the case in the abstract. But, of course, other considerations also are involved. Every civilized nation is concerned in asserting its right of asylum, and international jurists have prescribed certain forms of procedure which serve the double end of safeguarding that right and preventing its perversion into a means of evading the ends of justice. Foreign States enjoying the privilege of extraterritorial jurisdiction possess a limited competence in the matter of apprehending such of their own nationals as may have fled to Japan to escape the consequences of crimes committed elsewhere. But it is only a limited competence: it can not be exercised outside the Settlements. Thus, in the interests of justice, there devolves upon those States the plain duty of concluding extradition treaties which shall provide against the contingency of fugitives from justice escaping beyond the bounds of the Settlements into the interior of Japan, where their arrest can not be effected without the coöperation of the Japanese Government. Thirty-five years should have sufficed for the conclusion of such

treaties, and Powers that have suffered matters to drift during that long interval, trusting that happily no occasions calling for the exercise of extraditional functions would arise, can not complain if their own perfunctoriness suddenly places them in an embarrassing situation.

THE JAPANESE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

MR. MIYOSHI TAIZO, late President of the Court of Cassation, has published some criticisms of the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure. Speaking broadly, Mr. MIYOSHI'S condemnation of the Code depends on the fact that it follows French precedents. In France, preliminary examinations are held with closed doors; so they are in Japan. In France, the services of a barrister are not allowed to an accused person until after he has been committed for public trial; in other words, until after his preliminary examination is over; the same restriction is imposed in Japan. Mr. MIYOSHI prefers the English system. He thinks that the governing principle of criminal procedure should be to give the accused an opportunity of clearing himself, whereas the Japanese system, following the French, is to create opportunities for him to incriminate himself. That is a very large question. The French system is certainly repugnant to our English ideas. In England, a policeman's evidence as to statements made by a prisoner is not accepted unless he can swear that he previously warned the prisoner against saying anything to his own prejudice. The rule is so carefully observed that not only does a constable refrain from questioning a prisoner, but if the latter volunteers a statement, the constable recommends him to keep silence. In France, on the contrary, guilt is assumed, and every effort is made to entangle the prisoner in damaging admissions. Under which system the ends of justice are better served, the greatest jurisconsults have disagreed, but there is a strong prejudice among Englishmen against the French system, and we count it a wholesome prejudice. In our opinion Japan would make a progressive step did she revise her Code of Criminal Procedure on English lines. But there is a reservation. If the French method seems harsh in one respect, it is distinctly considerate in another. For it screens a suspected offence from public gaze until testimony sufficient to establish almost a certainty of guilt has been collected. How often does it happen in England that owing to the publicity of preliminary examinations, an innocent person is put to great shame, and, though released, finds a stigma attached to his name ever afterwards? That, at any rate, can never happen in France. Mr. MIYOSHI advances another objection; namely, that barristers are not allow-

ed to confer with their clients unless some prison official is present. That is probably no hardship in practice. It means, we presume, nothing more than that the prisoner is under surveillance when engaged in consultation with his legal adviser. Surveillance need not prevent privacy.

One interesting feature of this question, as we think, is that the preliminary examination of a foreigner by means of an interpreter is likely to be attended by difficulties not experienced in the case of a Japanese, and may possibly lead to unfortunate misunderstandings. It seems probable that justice would be more certainly secured were legal assistance allowed from the outset. We can not expect, of course, that one kind of procedure will be adopted with the foreigner and another with the Japanese; but if there is any disposition to revise the system in the above sense, the point here advanced may help to turn the scale. We understand, indeed, that all the criticisms made by Mr. MIYOSHI had previously been under consideration by the Committee appointed to prepare for the operation of the Revised Treaties. The Committee's *raison d'être* is to remove, as far as possible, every obstacle to the smooth working of the new order of things, and though the fact that French procedure is followed in Japan does not, in itself, constitute a legitimate obstacle, it has to be remembered that the conditions in Japan are different from the conditions in France.

"CONQUERED OR CEDED."

THE LORD CHANCELLOR of England, when hearing the *Carew Appeal* case, used exceptionally plain language with reference to the celebrated Order in Council of 1865. The Order claims for the QUEEN jurisdiction in Japan similar to that enjoyed in "ceded or conquered" territory, and that formula has been from the first a sore blow to Japanese patriotism. The truth of the matter is that the law under which HER MAJESTY exercises the jurisdiction delegated to her by the Emperor of JAPAN, was originally framed without any reference whatever to Japan, but being the only existing law applicable to the circumstances created here by Treaty, its enabling provisions were invoked to meet the new situation. If its applicability to Japan were explicitly limited to the terms "ceded," and if for "territory" the words "extraterritorial jurisdiction" were substituted, there would be nothing to complain of, for undoubtedly the Emperor of JAPAN did "cede" a portion of his jurisdiction to Great Britain by the ELGIN Treaty. There can be no question that, as a point of international courtesy no less than of strict accuracy, the British Parliament should have been invited to pass a statute which would have saved Japan from the indignity of

being technically referred to as "ceded or conquered territory," and the QUEEN from being obliged to exercise her powers under the authority of a fiction. However, no such law was passed. The principle of "ceded or conquered territory" seemed to serve the purpose well enough in a rough and ready kind of way, and many ingenious folks have found occupation, since 1865, in trying to prove that the Order in Council was quite properly worded, and that really Japan had no cause of complaint. We should be sorry to think that Englishmen would find no cause of complaint under similar circumstances. Lord HOBHOUSE brushed away all the silken cobwebs of the apologists. "HER MAJESTY'S powers," he said, referring to British Jurisdiction in Japan, "are as a conqueror, not as a constitutional sovereign. A conqueror can impose such laws as he pleases." A strange saying, surely! A conqueror certainly has the right to impose laws on the conquered, but who are the conquered? The question before the Privy Council was whether the QUEEN is entitled to exercise jurisdiction over her subjects in Japan by means of laws which are of her own making, and are not British laws at all. By treaty she undertook to exercise jurisdiction "according to the laws of Great Britain." The LORD CHANCELLOR avers that, as a conqueror, she can impose such laws as she pleases. Has HER MAJESTY, then, conquered her own subjects in Japan, so as to be entitled to impose on them such laws as she pleases; so as to be entitled, for example, to place them on trial for their lives before a jury of five, instead of twelve, persons? The right that conquest creates to impose laws is exercisable against the conquered people only. That certainly is not to be denied. Where, then, does the right exist in this case? We are not aware that any such right is claimed or exercised by the QUEEN in respect of British subjects in India, which is a conquered country. The LORD CHANCELLOR is a great legal luminary. It seems sacrilegious to suggest that any confusion should exist in the mind of such a jurisconsult. Yet we do venture to think that his Lordship confounded the exercise of jurisdiction with the enacting of laws, two radically different things. There has always been a strong objection on the part of Englishmen, private persons as well as officials, to admit that the jurisdiction enjoyed by HER MAJESTY in Japan has been delegated to her by the Sovereign of this country. They prefer to think that it was obtained by some occult exercise of *force majeure*, a contention involving the hypothesis that the treaty conceding the jurisdiction was wrested from Japan *vi et armis*. Chief Justice HANNEN declined altogether to admit the "delegated" theory in the *Chishima-Ravenna* case, and the LORD CHANCELLOR seems to labour under the same reluctance, though both

these learned Judges would assuredly concur in denying that the treaty was obtained at the point of the sword. At all events, the treaty relates to jurisdiction only, not to law-making. In order to extend it to legislative competence, the fiction of conquered or ceded territory had to be set up, and even then a wholly illogical position was created, for if legislative power be possessed by the QUEEN as a conqueror in Japan, it must be power in respect of the conquered, namely, the Japanese. "It is 30 years too late to argue that now," said the practical LORD HOBHOUSE. Yes, but it is never too late to assert the truth, and for our own part we recall with satisfaction that it is sixteen years since the point was first discussed in these columns, Sir FRANK LOCKWOOD'S statement of the case seems quite incontrovertible. Indeed, no attempt was made to controvert it in the Privy Council. The LORD CHANCELLOR recoiled from the stupendous prospect of a theory involving the notion that "all the courts in Turkey and elsewhere had been for years exercising a jurisdiction they had no power to exercise." To the very last his Lordship could not, or would not, bring himself to distinguish between juridical competence and legislative competence. Thus one other, probably the last, opportunity has been lost to get this much discussed question judged on its merits by the highest tribunal in Great Britain. Happily it has nearly ceased to have any interest except an academical, though who can tell at what moment a British subject may not again be put on trial for his life under a form of procedure contrary to the laws of his country?

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT JAPANESE LITERATURE.

Mr. Disraeli, in his "Lothair," says that "Critics are writers who have failed." Mr. Takayama Rinjiro expresses the same conviction in an article on the duties of critics published in the *Taiyo*. He accuses this class of scribblers in Japan of great levity and lack of discernment and of confining their attention to novels and new-style verses. In order to do good work as a critic, says Mr. Takayama, a writer must be well versed in existing literature, must have an ideal of his own, must be able to analyse, generalise and explain. His methods of dealing with authors must be scientific and thorough. Most of the criticism of the day fails to fulfil these conditions and consists of violent abuse or indiscriminate praise of the books reviewed; and there are not wanting instances of men whose reviews are published in various organs, disguised so as to appear as though they were penned by different writers.*

The same copy of the *Taiyo* from which the above is taken contains the report of a lecture on Education delivered to the Nihon-Kōdōkai (弘道會), by Mr. Nishimura Shigeki, of which we furnish the following epitome:—

(1) It has been decided by the Education Department that boys shall not begin athletic exercises and fencing till they are over 15 years of age. This is too late. They should commence when they are 10. Instruction in fencing is not what it ought to be. Instead of making the lads fence with each other and waste their

breath in shouting it would be better for each lad to begin by fencing with the teacher and to be told how to hold his sword, pose, advance and retreat, &c., from the very first. Defeat or victory is a matter of no moment compared with the acquirement of a good style.

(2) The age at which children are obliged to attend school has been fixed at 6 years, but should be changed to 7, on account of the smallness of Japanese children compared to Europeans.

(3) The course of Ordinary Elementary Schools is fixed to extend over 4 years. In Europe, Spain is the only country which sanctions such a short course. In other countries 6 is the average, but since in Japan there is the difficulty of acquiring the ideographs, and since statistics show that 96 per cent. of the pupils attending school finish their education in the Elementary School, it is advisable that the Elementary course be extended to 8 years.

(4) In perusing Educational Magazines I have observed that of late there are frequent discussions on the educational principles to be adopted. Many writers do not seem to know what they are talking about when on this subject. They speak of one system of education being old and another new, and argue as though in education, as in science, discoveries were being made that rendered old theories untenable. The Mombushō has from time to time professed to adopt new theories. In 1875, when Dr. David Murray was in the employ of the Department, he recommended an American work by Bailey, which was translated and referred to as a guide in educational matters. Subsequently Herbert Spencer's work on Education attracted considerable attention, but the principles advocated in it were deemed too radical for adoption by the Department. Bain's "Education as a Science" was for a while all the rage, followed by Johnot, who gave place to Herbert, who again has been succeeded by Rosenkranz. This adoption of one writer's opinions to the exclusion of those of others only tends to show how shallow are the thoughts that pervade the minds of many Japanese educators. To talk about Spencer and Bain being old and more recent writers new, shows great ignorance. The men who use these expressions have no notion of the meaning of the terms new and old. If asked in what respects the principles advocated by the former writers are old, they could not answer. Then there are controversialists who fight over the fundamental meaning to be attached to the term education. Does it consist of a drawing out or developing of the mental faculties, or does it consist of a pouring into the mind stores of knowledge? Such persons seem to think that the two functions of education referred to are incompatible with each other, thereby showing their ignorance.

(5) Recently it has become the fashion to apply the terms 正 *sei* and 准 *jun* to school teachers, the former being applied to those who have passed an examination and received diplomas as teachers, and the latter to those who have adopted the profession without undergoing anything but a general training. I do not understand the use of the above terms. There is no reason why a teacher who has passed through a normal school should be called a correct or proper teacher, nor why the man who has not followed this course should be described as resembling a proper teacher. There is no sense in the use of such terms.

The first of a series of works on Chinese literature has been published. Its title is 先秦文學 *Senshin-bungaku*. The author is Mr. Fujita Toyohachi. The volume covers 231 pages and is issued by the Tōkadō, Ushigome, Tōkyō. The book treats of the literature of the time prior to the reign of the Emperor Tsin (秦). The distinction between the literature of the northern part of China and the Southern is very clearly drawn, says the *Shigaku Zasshi*, from which we are quoting. According to the *Taiyo*, Mr. Fujita's work is written after the style of Buckle, not aiming at the mere reproduction of dry records, but at tracing the gradual evolution of thought in China. Mr. Fujita, says the

* Such writers are called 掛持記者 *Kakemochi-Kisha*

Waseda Bungaku, is well qualified for the work he has undertaken, having resided in China and published books there on "Agriculture," "Official Business," and other subjects.

The Tōkadō has also issued a work entitled *Shina Shōsetsu-gikyoku-shōshi*, "A Short History of Chinese Fiction and Drama," which is favourably noticed by several of the magazines.

On July 10th appeared the first number of a magazine to be issued fortnightly called *支那神史評釋 Shina-hishi-hyōshaku*, which, as the title implies, purposes to deal with Chinese fiction. One of the chief objects of the new organ is said to be the cultivation of poetical ideas in the minds of readers.

The *Teikoku Bungaku* speaks highly of the first volume of a series of English Readers compiled by Mr. Matsushima Gō and published by the Shunyōdō. It consists of extracts from English and American Authors and English translations of foreign books. The get-up and illustrations are said to be excellent and it is predicted that there will be a great demand for the work as a school-text book.

The first number of a magazine called the *千代田 Chiyoda* has appeared. The name was formerly used of Edo Castle, which was called Chiyoda-no-Shiro. The Chiyoda Kai, of which the magazine is an organ, is a body whose object it is to facilitate the abolition of class distinctions by bringing people of all classes into close contact with each other. The doctrine preached by the members is social equality.

Another Women's magazine has been launched, bearing the title of *Foshi-no tomo*, the "Women's Friend." It is published by the Tōkyō Tōyōsha. It resembles the *Yokan*, *Jogaku-Zasshi* and other organs designed for female readers.

Mr. Murakami Naojiō, whose visit to Formosa for the purpose of investigation we noticed some months ago, has returned to Tōkyō and is publishing the information he collected. One of the most beneficial results of the Dutch occupation of Formosa in the seventeenth century, says Mr. Murakami, was the knowledge of the Roman letters imparted to the uncivilized natives. There were more than 600 of these in 1643 who were able to write and read their own language by this means. From the English Missionaries labouring in Formosa Mr. Murakami obtained some very valuable and curious manuscripts, dating from A. D. 1723—1820. Some of these manuscripts have a Chinese interpretation of the Roman letter text. The Formosan natives used arithmetical signs in a different way to the rest of the world; thirty-eight was written 308 and twelve 102. The manuscripts are all to be published and will furnish valuable material to those engaged in the study of the language of Formosan aborigines. No. 7, Vol. VIII. of the *Shigaku Zasshi*, from which we have extracted the above details gives a list of the German, French, English and Dutch works on the study of Formosan, to which we refer readers interested in this subject.

We read in the *Shigaku Zasshi* that a staff of compilers, with Dr. Suyematsu at their head, are engaged in writing the history of Prince Mōri, which is designed to show the part played by the Chōshū men at the time of the Revolution. It is stated that the work is likely to occupy two years in completion.

A Chinese work of great interest and value, well known to Buddhists in Japan, called *南海寄歸傳*, has been translated into English by Dr. Takakusu Junjiō under the title of "A Record of the Buddhist Religion as practised in India and the Malay Archipelago [A.D. 671-695] by I-tsing," and issued by the Oxford Clarendon Press. I-tsing (義淨) left China at the age of 37 and spent 30 years in travelling through India, when he studied Sanscrit and made a huge collection of learned works on Buddhism, and the Malay Archipelago. The

above work was written in Sumatra [690-692]. An English translation of this work had long been desired by students of Buddhism and Dr. Takakusu's accomplishment of the task, after its relinquishment, owing to sickness, by Mr. Kasabara Kenju, has elicited the admiration of Professor Max Müller and other Orientalists. Dr. Takakusu has prefaced his work with a valuable introduction dealing with the life of I-tsing, with the School of Buddhists to which he belonged and contemporary schools. We are indebted to the *Shigaku-zasshi* for the above particulars.

The *Kokumin-no-tomo*, ever an earnest advocate of reform, has taken up the subject of the awkwardness and defectiveness of the ideographs and the *Kana* now in use. The writer, Mr. Oshima Seiken, thinks that it would not be difficult to invent an entirely new system of signs, but if this is objected to, then he is in favour of resorting to the *Romaji*. The failure of the *Romaji Kai* some years ago Mr. Oshima attributes to the prematureness of the movement. The country did not feel the need of a change then as it feels it now. There are many sounds in foreign languages which cannot be rendered into Japanese *Kana*. Mr. Oshima thinks that the reform must begin with a discontinuance of the practice of using Chinese characters for merely ornamental purposes and of making the spoken and written languages alike. Wherever possible *Yamato Kotoba* should be used, and the habit of writing and saying *認識 Ninshiki suru*, instead of *認認 Mitomuru*, *通曉 Tsūgyō suru* instead of *曉 Satoru* and the like, and the pedantry in employing difficult ideographs where easy ones would equally well express the meaning, such as writing *覆載 fukusai*, instead of *天地 tenchi*, should be given up. Full liberty should be allowed in the use of *kana* where Chinese characters are not necessary to the meaning. In this respect the books written in the Heian and Kamakura eras were much more easily understood by ordinary readers than those produced in the Tokugawa era. The principle that should be observed in this matter is never to employ a Chinese character where the word written in *kana* would be perfectly intelligible by the context. There is no sense in inserting *義* when *fukuro* in *kana* would serve the writer's purpose. The first step in the desired direction must be the tabooing of pedantry. Numerous are the writers who have yet to learn that the highest art is required to express deep thoughts in transparent language; that compared to this the selection and grouping of high sounding ideographs is mere child's play.

The greatest dissatisfaction with the ethical text-books in use throughout the country is felt everywhere, says the *Kokumin-no-tomo*. That the only moral teaching received at school by no less than 3,600,000 pupils should be based on such books is a disgrace to the country. The charges brought by the *Kokumin* against these works are summed up under the following four heads. (1) The authors are for the most part under-officials of the Education Department, who undertook the work of compilation in response to the suggestions of avaricious book-sellers, and who were in no way qualified for such important work. (2) These text-books have undergone constant revision and alteration, but the basis of morals never changes. Ethical principles embodied in a text-book ought never to require modification of any kind. The fact of their requiring alteration from time to time shows these works to be utterly unworthy of the position they occupy. (3) There is none of the sacredness that should attach itself to books of this kind characterising our moral text-books. They do little but raise doubts in the minds of pupils: many of the assertions made in them only suggest the question "why?" Books of this kind should be all-convincing. The basis of morality should be such that doubt is impossible. (4) The language used in these books is altogether lacking in force and polish. The inequality between the sayings quoted from

ancient sages and the language of the compilers is most glaring. The *Kokumin-no-tomo* recommends that the attention of the Emperor be drawn to the subject and that His Majesty be asked to create a special bureau, to which the compilation of these text-books should be entrusted. The compilers should consist of the very best men to be found in the country and when finished the books should remain to all time Japan's Bible on morality.

Prior to his departure for Europe to attend, as Japan's representative, the Paris Oriental Congress to be held next month, Dr. Inouye Tetsujiō was entertained by a number of his friends, the chief of whom was Dr. Kaiō Hiro-yuki. The speech made by Dr. Inouye on that occasion is reported in the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*, from which the following is culled, "Of late years Oriental studies have become all the fashion in the West and there is a danger of Japanese being behind the times in their knowledge of Eastern subjects. At the suggestion of Dr. Kaiō several years ago, I commenced the study of Oriental Philosophy, and when first appointed Delegate to the Oriental Congress, I intended to use the opportunity for stating some of the results of my inquiry. But on second thoughts it seemed to me that, as I was going as Japan's representative, I should leave China out of consideration and confine myself to giving a history of Japanese philosophy. For Japan has been by no means without her philosophers. Kūkai (Kōbō-daishi) was undoubtedly a great philosopher. Ekiken, Jinsai and Sorai and others in introducing Confucianism by no means slavishly adopted the theories and teaching of Chinese writers, but imparted to the system, colour and character derived from their own minds. There is about their teaching that objectiveness (客觀的) and that tendency to rely on experience which characterise the philosophy of islanders like the Greeks and the English as distinguished from the philosophy of continental natives like the Hindoos and the Germans. Should time allow, I purpose showing that Japan has an art of her own as well as a philosophy. Another subject on which I have to speak is the desirability of holding an Oriental Congress meeting in Japan. The Japanese Government highly approves of this proposal and have promised if necessary to convey members of the Congress to this country, in a man-of-war.

According to the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* Mr. Tanimoto Tomi, of the Tōkyō High Class Normal School, the author of a new book on Ethics, noticed by us a few months ago, has in contemplation quite a Spencerian programme. He purposes to furnish educationalists with a small library of useful works on pedagogy, general education, management of schools, &c.

The *Meiji Hyōron* has an article on Mr. Nakamura Kametarō's attempt to revive interest in ancient ceremonies and customs. Mr. Nakamura is one of the greatest living authorities on the ceremonies and forms of polite society in bygone days. He has been lecturing on the subject throughout the country and has been consulted by some of the leading noblemen of the capital, many of whom feel that some effort in the direction of restoring the forms and usages of the pre-Meiji era is needed in this degenerate age, when society is drifting into a most undesirable state of Bohemianism in manners. Mr. Nakamura says that under the Tokugawa Shōguns the various *daimyō*, though differing in minor details, followed in the main what is known as the Ogasawara style, that is the men adopted this style, the women following the Shijō style. As regards other members of the society of those days, while *samurai* conformed to Ogasawara usages, the *kuge* (court nobles) observed the Shijō forms. The expression *niryū roppa*, "Two (main) styles and six branches," applied to Japanese ceremony is then explained by Mr. Nakamura: The two main styles are those of Ogasawara and Shijō. The 6 branches consist of

4 Ogasawara branches, namely, Imagawa, Oda, Matsunaka, and Mito, and 2 Shijō, namely, Ise and Kira. The *Meiji-hyōron* is of opinion that the attempt to revive old ceremonies will prove futile, but admits that there is room for improvement in modern manners and customs.

There is a pretty wide movement on foot in favour of creating Associations of Journalists and Authors, with the object of raising the general tone of literature. The *Meiji-hyōron* gives the views of Prince Konoye on this subject. His Highness condemns in strong terms the scandal-loving spirit of the age, for which some of the smaller papers are largely responsible. The term applied to these papers, *Akutoku Shimbun*, Papers which use Vice as a means of Gain, correctly describes them. They trade in every kind of vice and are literary scavengers who collect all the offensive matter to be found in hidden places. Journalists, the Prince contends, might, by forming an Association, ostracise the rag-tag and bobtail among newspaper scribblers. The *Kokumin-no tomo* and other organs approve of the project and in the *Shin-shōsetsu* Rohan advocates a similar scheme for authors, giving instances of the benefits accruing from such combinations in England, France and America. The *Hansei Zasshi* discusses the same subject in an earnest manner, contending that such an organisation would, if properly managed, make authors more independent of booksellers than they now are. The *Hansei* is of opinion that a fund might be raised to help needy authors to publish works of value. The standard of authorship would be raised by the existence of an Author's Association, says the *Hansei*.

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The issue of what are called Summer Supplements (*Natsu-furoku*) is becoming quite a feature with the chief magazines. Many of these will not appear till the end of this month. We are indebted to the *Waseda Bungaku* for the following information on this topic. The supplement of No. 17 of the *Sekai-no Nihon* contains the following: Mrs. Shikin's *Tarega Isumi*; the *Tenraima* (天來魔), anonymous; and Rohan's *Shin-Ikutagawa*. The *Kokumin-no tomo* announces that it will publish novelettes by Takenoya, Bizan and other writers and Mr. Onishi Shuku's 天才論, *Tensai-ron*. To the pages of the *Shin-shōsetsu* (New Fiction) pretty well all the leading novelists have promised to contribute. The list given includes Kōson (Aeba), Ochi (Fukuchi), Shiken (Morita), Ogai (Mori), Setsurei (Miyake), Shizau (Kawasaki), Seihei (Suematsu), Gensai (Murai), Kōyō (Ozaki), Rohan (Kōda) and Shōyō (Taubouchi). The *Hansei Zasshi* has also enlisted the services of several of the above novelists. The *Shincho Gekkan* will publish Ryūō's 戀の戀 *Koi no Koi*, and a long new-style poem called *Yotsu no Sode*.

The subjoined items of literary news are from the *Waseda Bungaku*. Dr. Shigeno's long looked for History is finished and will be published before many months are past. Mr. Owada Kenju is busy writing a history of Operatic Songs. The head of the Hakubunkan, Mr. Ohashi Shintarō, and various literary men are engaged in forming a Literary Society, to consist of well-known authors. Mr. Shimamura Hōgetsu's work on Rhetoric is now in the press and will be shortly issued by the Semmon-Gakko. The Shun'yōdō is preparing a Glossary which will give the meaning and the origin, &c., of the *noms de plume* of the principal writers of the Meiji era, together with biographical notices, to be published in the *Shinshōsetsu*.

* * *
The *Forodsu Chōhō* quotes some observations made at a recent meeting of the Paris Ethnological Society on the changes that are wrought in colour and even features by the adoption of a new mode of life. It was stated that the Japanese had changed in appearance very much since the introduction of Western Civilisation and that Occidentals who had lived in this country a long time had grown to resemble the people among whom they reside. *Apropos* of

this, the *Taiyō* says that a Japanese girl of good family who was sent to England at the age of 5, was educated there and married an Englishman, no longer bears any marks of her ancestry. She might be mistaken for a Greek, but would not be thought a Japanese.

The *Kyōiku-jiron* earnestly advocates the creation of a University entirely independent of state control, drawing a contrast between the influence of German and Japanese Universities. In the former not even a Bismarck is sufficiently powerfully to alter the trend of opinion. The Japanese Imperial University is an office-loving and state worshipping institution, and hence is not regarded by the nation with the veneration which is felt for great seats of learning in the West. That some years ago some of its professors should appear at a Fancy Dress Ball in the guise of certain of the *Shichifuku jin* (七福神) accords well with the low aspirations of the members of the teaching faculty generally and with their readiness to pander to vulgar tastes.

The *Shinri*, referring to the Magazines devoted to the study of German, says that they are all more or less defective and some of them absolutely useless. Two of these consist of literal translations in *kata-kana* of elementary German grammars, a fruitless undertaking, as any one with a very slight acquaintance with German could understand the original. A more pretentious affair is a Magazine called *Doitsugo-kenkyūroku* (The Study of German), which is so full of mistakes that it would be better called "The Study of Incorrect German." The German part of the *Gwaikoku-gogaku Zasshi* is the best thing of the kind that has appeared but it also has many serious defects. The design evidently is to enable a Japanese to learn German without a teacher, but with this in view it is surprising that so little attention is given to the difficulties of pronunciation. The whole subject of fixing the *kana* to correspond with German sounds needs discussing. Ignoring this, the writer of the *Gogaku Zasshi* German course chooses *kana* in a slipshod manner. The grammatical explanations sound very much like translations from German grammars. This is by no means a suitable or expeditious method of teaching German to Japanese. Mr. Taniguchi says in the first number of the Magazine that German grammar is much more difficult than French and English, but the truth is that Mr. Taniguchi's method of explanation increases the original difficulties of the language enormously. In the conversation, letters, and other material given there are a great many mistakes, many of which sound very funny to German ears.

Some examples are given in the *Shinri*, for which we have no space here.

* * *
Mr. Ono, whose *nom de plume* is Shachiku, has commenced the translation of "Faust," but both the *Kokumin-no tomo* and the *Waseda Bungaku* assert that the work is badly done, full of inaccuracies and plainly revealing that the translator has not understood the original.

* * *
According to information published in the *Taiyō*, supplied by Dr. Tsuboi, the University Bureau engaged in collecting, criticising and arranging historical material, is encountering considerable difficulty in obtaining access to historical documents in the possession of private persons residing in the provinces. In some instances the facts recorded in these documents are derogatory to the families of living persons and hence objection is taken to their publication, and in other instances the owners of documents do not care to be put to the trouble of showing them. So that, though armed with Government authority, in some districts investigators make little progress in their work. The periods best supplied with materials are the Ashikaga, Kamakura, and Tokugawa.

* * *
The well-known novelist Rohan contributes to the *Taiyō* an interesting article on literary

composition and its difficulties, of which the following is the gist. Among the living novelists the writer that pays the most attention to style is Kōyō (Ozaki), whose productions bear the marks of laborious elaboration. The practice of committing to writing an idea that passes through the mind in the form in which it first strikes one and publishing it to the world in that form, so common among writers, is not to be commended. Ideas frequently need very severe handling before they assume a form that satisfies an author with a high ideal. It is after they have been repeatedly subjected to fire and water successively, like the iron in a blacksmith's shop, and received the blows of the literary hammer, that they take their permanent shape. To take an example. Suppose I want to represent the moon, I can do so in a variety of ways. I can sketch her as she appears through the clouds, I can represent her as reflected in water, or I can omit both the moon and the clouds and place on the stage a man shivering with the cold felt on a wintry moonlight night. The difficulty of portraying the feelings produced by certain objects so clearly that at once the objects referred to shall be understood, is very great. It is in this that the subtlety of the author's mind is revealed. The only drawback connected with this kind of writing is the frequent failure of readers to discern the nicety of thought which has cost the author so much labour. It very frequently happens that the parts of a book most praised by the *oi polloi* are not those on which the author has spent the most labour.

* * *
Mr. Fenollosa is reported by the *Nihon-bijutsu-Kyōkai* to have expressed the following opinion on the subject of applied art in Japan. It is an entire mistake to suppose that art flourishes best when it is studied and practised apart from the uses to which it is to be put and the exigencies which it has to meet. It is true to say that to the peculiar needs which characterised the ages in which they lived is to be attributed the skill shown by men like Michael Angelo and Kanaoka and by schools like the Tosa and the Kano. The idea, so largely entertained by the managers of schools of art in Japan, that art is debased by being suited to the special wants of the age, by serving as the hand-maiden of science and material development of every kind, cannot be too strongly condemned. To the prevalence of this notion is to be attributed much of the stagnancy that characterises Japanese art at the present time. Art succeeds best when not left free to develop as she will. Her most brilliant achievements have had for their essential condition a circumscribed area in which to exercise creative genius.

CHINESE TOPICS.

Folks in Tientsin believe that Shēng Taotai has concluded his loan from Belgium. The latter country put up 4½ millions sterling, at 4 per cent., for the purpose of constructing a line from Hankow to Peking, the road to be surveyed and constructed by Belgian experts. But there is no apparent security. The Chinese Government is not concerned. On the contrary, for the purposes of the loan, Shēng ceases to be official controller-in-chief of railways, and retains the control of one road only in the capacity of a private speculator. Thus Belgium has no responsible *vis-à-vis*. It is hinted that she is guaranteed by Russia or France. But who guarantees Russia or France? There can't be rocks all the way down.

* * *
Mr. John Goodnow of Minnesota has been appointed Consul-General in Shanghai. Many regrets are expressed about Mr. Jernigan's supersession. There will be similar regrets when Mr. Goodnow's time comes. The fact is that if the wishes of the various communities in the East were consulted, no such thing as a change of American Consul would ever take place.

* * *
A very sad incident has occurred at Shanghai. Wilfrid Arthur, a child of Mr. John Chambers, aged 3 years and 10 months, was ordered by

Mr. Zedelius to take a santonine powder. The prescription was sent to Messrs. Vockel and Schroeder's to be compounded, and within half an hour from the time of taking the powder, the child died in convulsions that presented all the appearance of strychnine poisoning. There were two powders, and chemical analysis showed that the second consisted of nitrate of strychnine and sugar. The stomach and other organs were too much decomposed for trustworthy analysis. Mr. Chambers' friends in Japan will sympathise keenly with his sorrow.

The methods adopted by the Chinese in building the railway from Shanghai to Woosung are severely criticised. Instead of utilizing the road on which the old line ran, they have laid out a new circuitous route cutting the old route at several points, and involving large superfluous expenditure.

A terrible explosion occurred in the camp to the east of the Kiangnan Arsenal at 1 p.m. on the 9th instant. We take the following description from the *N.-C. Daily News* :—

The place where the explosion occurred is a small camp, about 250 feet square, situated about a quarter of a mile in a direct line to the east of the arsenal and garrisoned by 320 braves, under the command of a major. The magazine which blew up was almost in the centre of the camp. In the magazine, which was only a temporary structure, were stored about 16,000 rifle cartridges, eighty pounds of prism powder made up in flannel cartridges, a quantity of gun cotton, and a number of packages of percussion caps. Close to the magazine was a watch tower, of the ordinary type in use in such camps, the wooden supports of which were quite rotten. The theory is that this tower was not strong enough to withstand the high wind blowing at the time, and fell across the roof of the magazine, crushing it in, and some of the debris striking the percussion caps, caused the explosion. Whatever the cause, the effect was appalling. The buildings appeared as if they had been subjected to a severe bombardment, and the illusion was heightened by the numbers of shot and shell lying scattered about all over the place. There had been a large number of five inch solid shot stacked close to the magazine, and these had been distributed all over the camp, many of them crashing through the roofs and walls of the buildings. One death at least was caused by them. A poor fellow, a brother of one of the officers, who was in the camp on a visit, had been struck full in the chest by one of these projectiles and crushed in a fearful manner. Twelve bodies were laid out in one of the least damaged buildings, to wait until coffins could be prepared for them. They presented a ghastly sight; some with limbs missing, others so badly charred as to be unrecognisable, and some crushed almost out of all human semblance by the falling buildings. It was a sight that one does not care to dwell upon.

More than one narrow escape is reported. One of the officers, fortunately for himself, for some reason or other did not sleep in his own quarters that night. No less than three five-inch shot came through the roof and penetrated the floor, one of them striking the middle of his sleeping place. Had he not shifted his quarters for the night he must inevitably have been killed.

With reference to the attempt made by the Bank of China and Japan, Ltd., to compel its Chinese shareholders to pay the calls due on their shares, the Taotai of Shanghai has expressed his inability to enforce written contracts entered into by his nationals with foreigners. The Chamber of Commerce has protested against such an extraordinary attitude on the part of the Taotai.

The Chinese correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes as follows from Canton :—

A party of government experts have been prospecting in Kuangtung province for mineral deposits and have come across an alleged rich deposit of auriferous quartz among the Yunglin hills in the district of K'aichien, sub-prefecture of Tch'ing. The best specimen of quartz when crushed is said to have yielded pure gold at the rate of 16 oz. per ton, while the quartz found in another portion of the same hill produced, when crushed, over 3 oz. per ton. The provincial authorities of Kuangtung appear to have been quite excited over the discovery of gold in the province and have authorised the formation of a syndicate to develop the mines with a capital of \$500,000—one-

half to be lent by the provincial government. The Yunglin hills stretch into the Kuangsi border district of Ch'angwhsien and it is reported that at this last-named place gold has also been discovered. Already plans and estimates have been presented to the Viceroy and the Governor of Kuangtung, and orders will soon be sent to San Francisco for sixty crushing mills, pumps, etc., were also a number of experienced Chinese miners, now unemployed, will be engaged to return to China and work at the new mines. In the newly-formed mining syndicate are several influential returned emigrants from California, hence the idea of sending to San Francisco for the mining machinery.

The Kwangsi insurrection has thus far been entirely in favour of the insurgents. Some of their number having been arrested and imprisoned in Kuangyang, they stormed the city, broke open the prison, murdered the Magistrate and everybody in his *yamen*, to the number of 30, looted the place, and retired to their hill fortresses with the plunder. They are said to aggregate 15,000, but to be badly armed. There are fears, however, that the Kolao Hui in Hunan and Kiangsi and the Triad Society in Kuangtung may join them.

FINANCIAL NOTES.

According to investigations made at the Kanagawa Prefectural Office, the number of companies in Kanagawa Prefecture at the end of December last year was :—Joint stock companies, 54; joint partnership, 15; joint capital corporations, 25; factories, 147. Of the number of factories mentioned, 47 manufacture silk, and 41 tobacco. Commercial companies and banks in Yokohama total 51, with a capital of 16,827,100 yen; while the rural districts have 44 institutions with an aggregate capital of 1,951,750 yen.

When the authorities raised the *saké* tax to seven yen per *koku*, they estimated the amount of liquor brewed, the *Tokyo Shimbun* says, at about 3,900,000 *koku*. But as a matter of fact, the total quantity was found to exceed 4,660,000 *koku*, an increase of nearly 700,000 *koku*, compared with the original estimate. An excess of 4,900,000 yen in the tax collected was consequently obtained. In regard to the Registration tax, too, it is said that in spite of the complaints and attacks made upon it, the Government has realized 1,500,000 yen more than the original estimate.

The Chinese merchants in Kobe and Yokohama who have been amassing Mexican dollars, intend, the *Sekai-no-Nippon* says, to exchange the same for Japanese silver at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, so that they may be exchanged for gold hereafter. The value of Mexican dollars in Hongkong is reported to have considerably fallen and the banks in Kobe have suspended ordinary exchange, fixing the premium on Japanese silver and discount on Mexican dollars according to weight. In Yokohama the exchange of Mexican dollars has been suspended by all Japanese banks. We (*Japan Mail*) should like to know why the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank should give yen for Mexican, and where, if it desired to be so silly, it could procure yen for the purpose.

According to the *Nichi Nichi*, the arrivals of tea in Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki during the 29th year of Meiji (1896), as compared with the figures for the previous year, were as follows :—

1896.	Catties.	Chests.
Yokohama	21,836,320	240,972
Kobe	11,284,524	144,711
Nagasaki	973,958	8,822
Total	34,093,793	394,575
1895.	Catties.	Chests.
Yokohama	24,242,032	266,484
Kobe	15,261,319	205,524
Nagasaki	711,318	8,322
Total	40,214,669	480,400

Two years have elapsed since the inauguration of the system of convertible notes. On more than one occasion during that interval the legal limit of issue has been exceeded, and a tax has

been imposed on the excess by the Government. The law does not definitely fix the amount of such tax. It merely enacts that the minimum rate shall be five per cent. Nevertheless, since five per cent. was always the impost levied by the Government, the public came to regard it as an invariable rate. But the volume of the over-issue recently swelled to twelve million yen, and the Bank deemed it expedient to check the demand for accommodation by raising its terms, whereupon the Government also decided to increase the tax on over-issue to 6 per cent. Thus for the first time a higher tax than 5 per cent. has been imposed. On the 10th instant, the over-issue did not fall short of twelve million yen, but two millions have since then been withdrawn.

Now that the period for the enforcement of gold monometallism draws near, prices of commodities have naturally shown a downward tendency. Amongst others, cotton yarns are steadily falling. Rice, which is usually regarded as the standard of the country, has also fallen, in consequence of gold's appreciation and silver's depreciation. Some people are inclined to think that so long as inequality exists between demand and supply, and so long as the Government continues to extend its financial organization, there will still remain an extraordinary demand for labour, while the purchasing power of the middle classes will remain unimpaired. The fall in prices must therefore be slow and gradual. Moreover, the recent enhancement of prices deprived manufacturers of profits, and purchases of materials even for productive enterprises have been considerably diminished. It may therefore be confidently asserted that a fall in prices will be the inevitable result of the gold standard's adoption in October next. So remarks the *Nichi Nichi*, but its estimate of the rapid sensibility of prices to exchange fluctuations, represents a theory that no Western economist will be willing to endorse.

Statistics published in the *Nippon* show that the various sorts of sugar imported into Tokyo during the latter half of 1896 and the first half of this year were as follows :—

Classification.	1st half, 1896. Barrels.	2nd half, 1896. Barrels.	1st half, 1897. Barrels.
White sugar (home made)	58,674...	38,853...	46,291
Molasses (white)	7,716...	1,999...	7,354
Molasses (black)	1,825...	1,958...	957
Brown sugar (Oshima)	899...	150...	245
Sugar candy	2,735...	4,364...	3,102
White sugar (foreign)	172,327...	238,442...	231,267
Brown sugar	19,438...	33,533...	39,382
Black sugar (<i>tamaita</i>)	314,197...	417,051...	472,038
Molasses (foreign)	3,298...	4,638...	3,543
Total	581,109...	740,988...	802,178

The price of sugar in 1896 ranged as follows :—

	Maximum. Yen.	Minimum. Yen.	Average. Yen.
White sugar (home made)	9.20...	7.07...	8.00
White sugar (foreign)	9.44...	8.92...	9.16
Brown sugar	4.92...	4.06...	4.52

Quotations for the first half of this year were :—

White sugar	8.88...	8.57...	8.73
White sugar (foreign)	8.96...	8.91...	8.93
Brown sugar	4.19...	4.00...	4.06

In a recent interview with a certain guest, Count Okuma is said by the *Nichi Nichi* to have spoken as follows :—"There are loud complaints among the public about the excess of imports, but it must be remembered that in a poor country only can be found an excess of exports. If the money known as the indemnity were spent to its last cent in the purchase of good things, trade would return to its former condition. There is nothing to cause anxiety in this matter." Turning to the subject of foreign loans the Count said :—"Five per cent. may be a fair rate and quite sufficient for the purpose. To send a few judicious officials to London or Paris and have enormous loans raised there might be an agreeable enterprise. How pleasant it would be to appropriate the loans so raised for the redemption of public bonds bearing five per cent interest. But loan bonds are now regarded as an essential element

of the economic world, however low their interest may be. Those whose bonds are redeemed might be perplexed about investing their money, and would soon endeavour to buy other bonds in spite of the interest on the same being extremely low." The guest is said to have been astonished at the Count's remarks, but why he was astonished we are not told.

Here is another striking financial utterance by the *Shogyo Shimpō*:—Since the suspension of the free coinage of silver, the value of the white metal has steadily fallen, and it may legitimately be expected that the losses by the Government on the enforcement of gold monometallism in October next will be immense. Many of the proprietors of silver mines in the Empire having become unable to carry on their enterprise at a profit, on account of the depreciation of the metal, have suspended operations. The annual production of silver in Japan, however, did not exceed 20,000 *kwamme*, so that the suspension of work at these mines is a matter of no great import so far as the country's mining industry is concerned. Is not that remarkable? Japan's action is charged, first, with giving silver a fictitious value so high as to threaten the Treasury with a deluge of silver *yen* for exchange; and, secondly, with causing such a depreciation of silver that mining for the white metal has ceased to be profitable!

The *Nichi Nichi* says that while Consolidated Bonds are quoted in Japan at present at 97.20 *yen*, the price has fallen in London to £96½ per thousand *yen* face value. The depreciation is ascribed partly to pressure in London, and partly to anxiety about the increasing diplomatic complications between Japan and other Powers. The cause is not exactly known, but shrewd merchants, taking advantage of the depreciation of the Bonds, are contemplating a scheme to bring back the same to Japan from abroad. An attempt has been made by the public, on the one hand, to introduce foreign capital by the sale of public securities, but now, on the other hand, a plan is under contemplation to buy back the Bonds with Japanese capital. Such a change in the spirit of the scheme is surprising; but is none the less admirable in showing that the merchants are so keen and shrewd in making a profit. Does our contemporary see a profit? We do not. The Japanese market is so small that if anyone attempted to unload a million *yen* worth of Bonds, there would be something like a *débacle*.

According to the *Shogyo Shimpō*, up to the 16th inst., the amount of Japanese silver brought to Yokohama from abroad in view of the gold system being enforced in October, was as follows:—From Singapore, 100,000 *yen*; from Bombay, 10,941 *yen*; from Shanghai, 650 *yen*; from New York, 47 *yen*, making a total of 111,638 *yen*. The influx of silver will increase day by day. In the Straits Settlements and other places the Japanese *yen* is exchanged for the Mexican at a premium of five *sen*. There is every reason to believe that the premium in question will slowly but steadily increase.

That is the kind of writing to be found in the majority of Japanese journals with reference to the silver question. We have always been firm believers in bimetalism, and when condemning the adoption of gold monometallism by Japan, we pointed out very clearly the embarrassment and loss that might be caused if gold appreciated to such an extent as to make the collecting and changing of silver *yen* a profitable speculation. But we never thought of suggesting that a difference of less than 2½ per cent. between the market price of the silver *yen* and its price so fixed by the new Japanese system, could possibly constitute a margin sufficient for such operations. The *Shogyo*, it will be observed, predicts, with the utmost assurance, that the influx of silver into Japan will increase day by day. So it may, indeed, if the appreciation of gold becomes very sharp; but there is nothing in the present ratio to warrant any such transaction. If a bank in the East came into possession of a number of *yen* pieces, and at

the same time, had occasion to transmit bullion to Europe, there would be an advantage in sending the *yen* via Japan for exchange against gold at the Treasury in Tokyo. Hence, so long as the market price of silver remains lower than the currency price in Japan, merchants or bankers will find the *yen* a good medium for transmitting gold to Europe or America, and for that reason we shall doubtless see a steady inflow of the coins, unless the ratio between the precious metals changes in favour of silver. But for speculative transactions of exchange, there is no room at present. We do not say that there may not be room, one of these days, but as yet there is not. Concerning the statement that the *yen* is at a premium of 5 cents over the Mexican in the Straits Settlements, if we are to understand that the premium is a consequence of this question of Japanese monometallism, the story is obviously absurd. With the dollar at 1/11½—supposing it were down to that—5 cents is the equivalent of 1.17d., whereas the difference between 1/11½ and 2/3 is only 1d. Yet the *Shogyo* says, "there is every reason to believe that the premium will slowly but steadily increase." Truly in matters of finance some of our Tokyo contemporaries are "away up."

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Japanese battleship *Fashima* was undocked at Chatham on 3rd July, and left in the afternoon for Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The trial of James Fergusson Morrison in H.B.M. Court for Japan, on a charge of larceny, is fixed for 10 o'clock on August 26th.

The Straits Legislative Council has passed a resolution voting a sum not exceeding \$100,000 for the Permanent Jubilee Memorial Fund.

The *Kamakura Maru*, the new N.Y.K. steamer, lost her fore-topmast during a storm in the Indian Ocean on her way out to Japan.

From the home papers we learn that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has upheld Sir Nicholas Hannen's judgment in the case of the *Normandie-Pekin* collision at Shanghai, holding the former vessel alone to blame for the accident.

Admiral of the Fleet Lord John Hay will be retired this month on reaching the age of 70. It is said that Admiral Sir Algernon Lyons, the Queen's principal naval *aide-de-camp*, will be promoted to the vacancy. The stipend of an Admiral of the Fleet is £6 and of an Admiral £5 daily.

In the Clyde Corinthian Yacht Club's race on 5th July, Capt. A. R. Brown's new schooner *Geisha* came in for rather rough handling, as she carried away both masts, in gybing at the Killeregan mark. Her mainsail sheet parted, her boom sweeping everything before it and snapping the masts a few feet from the deck.

The Kawasaki Electric Railway, projected by Messrs Morioka, Asada, Okada, and others, with a capital of *yen* 550,000, received a charter from the Authorities on the 16th inst. According to the scheme, the line is to run from Shinanomachi, Yotsuya to Kawasaki and Omori via Aoyama, Meguro and Ikegami, a distance of 13 miles and 46 chains.

Thus the domestic bard of Kobe's *Kata-phracted Kidneybean* on the coolie question:—

A coolie who worked on a ship,
Said these quiet times give me the pip,
So he knocked down a sailor,
The cook and a tailor,
And gave the policeman the slip.

The *Aden* survivors reached Plymouth on July 14th. All declined to say anything about the wreck, as they had come to an agreement not to be interviewed, since it might interfere with whatever claims they might have against the company. Mr. Gillett, who was still lame from a

wound in the foot, and Mr. Valpy proceeded in the ship to London. Mr. Valpy admitted having sent the telegram from Aden of the wreck to a London newspaper. All are doing well. A correspondent who saw Mrs. Gillett says that she was looking very thin and white, but otherwise was as cheery as ever.

The tea trade abroad seems to be extremely dull, remarks the *Nichi Nichi*. The market is now glutted with tea, and foreign firms in Yokohama are decreasing their purchases. Sales effected on the 16th instant amounted to 15,600 catties. Orders for goods below \$20 per picul appear to have been received from time to time, but the teas now in stock vary in price from \$28 to \$40. Foreign dealers are waiting a fall in prices.

If a London telegram that appears in Canadian papers can be credited, Mr. Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, has written a letter to the colonial premiers suggesting an interchange of forces in the empire. According to his plan, the colonial regiments would come to England, British troops replacing them in the colonies. The troops are to be similarly armed and learn to act together. The War Office has closely examined the scheme, and it is believed everybody approves it.

The return of the Emperor and Empress to Tokyo is again postponed. The Majesties were to have set out on the 19th to reach the capital on the 20th, but the *Official Gazette* announces that the latest programme is as follows:—

Departure from the Palace in Kyoto, 8.50 a.m., 22nd.
Departure from the Shichijo Station, 9.20 a.m., 22nd.
Arrival at Shizuoka, 6.20 p.m., 22nd.
Departure from Shizuoka, 9.40 a.m., 23rd.
Arrival in Tokyo, 4.00 p.m., 23rd.

The Mosquito Yacht Club carried out its Saturday-Sunday cruise as originally arranged, nearly the whole fleet accompanying the Commodore, Mr. W. W. Campbell, to Uruga. Notwithstanding the dirty weather on Saturday night every one enjoyed himself and turned up in Tomioka Bay for tiffin on Sunday as merry as sand-pipers. The 17-raters of the Y. C. C. cruised to Tomioka on Sunday, as well as several other yachts, the combined fleets presenting a pretty sight when all were at anchor. Coming home the wind increased to a gale and every man Jack aboard the various craft got soaked to the skin. Still it was a very glorious holiday.

The Imperial Iron Foundry now in course of construction in Ouga-gun, Chikuzen, was established on the advice of Mr. Yamanouchi. Mr. Hotta, Chief Engineer, holds entirely different views to Mr. Yamanouchi, and by his advice it has been decided that the iron ore used in the Foundry shall be procured from mines in the interior. It is hardly necessary to say that Iwatano in Ou takes foremost rank in the production of iron, other districts yielding a comparatively insignificant amount. A pig iron foundry is to be established in the vicinity of Niigata, whence the materials obtained will, it is alleged, be transported by steamer to Wakamatsu in Chikuzen.

Here is a paragraph with a good wholesome *timbre*; we translate it from the *Mainichi Shimbun*:—"It is very true that, since the war with China, military experts have been visiting Japan in constantly increasing numbers to examine her fortifications and investigate her military strength. But the officials of our country also fix keen eyes on the military affairs of other States and take steps to have them observed. Those States, however, are so large-minded that they treat our investigators with civility and raise no objections to their comings and goings. It strongly behoves our people to follow the example of foreigners in this matter, and so long as no practical obstacle stands in the way, to treat the affair pleasantly and quietly; to shut our eyes, in short, and make no fuss. Unfortunately, the newspapers do not adopt that view.

They talk excitedly of such and such a foreigner having come here, and such and such another having taken drawings of a fort there, the general result being to impair the smooth progress of our foreign intercourse, and create unpleasantness. It were well if editors remembered their national obligations and behaved with more circumspection."

The Nagasaki journal has been reading the Captain of H.M.S. *Humber* a good lecture on the unnecessary amount of syren-blowing that takes place on his vessel. As our contemporary points out, a syren is never needed except in a fog: a steam-whistle is always sufficient. Yet for nearly an hour before the storeship weighed anchor at Nagasaki she gave prolonged howls on her syren at intervals of a few minutes, and then for nearly half an hour pursued her screaming way down the bay. Calculating the amount of fine that a similar performance would have cost the Captain in Hongkong, the *N. S. L.* works it out to the nice little sum of \$300. Syren playing in the Colony under those circumstances is a more expensive amusement than in Japan. Worse luck.

Messrs. Bandinel & Co., writing from Newchwang on 30th July, say:—A good deal of rain has fallen lately, and the prices of cakes are slightly lower; we quote:—

Bean oilper piculTls. 6.40
Bean cakes..... " 10 piculs...Tls. 6.20
Beans..... " 3 piculs...Tls. 5.00

The growing crops are thus far said to promise well in almost every district.

Freights are dull. The *Higo Maru* is loading at 15 cts. to Nagasaki.

Arrivals to date are 2 sailers and 209 steamers against 2 sailers and 210 steamers last year.

Vessels in port:—*Feiching, Higo Maru, Tamsui, Oslo, Sullberg, Pakhoi, Tientsin.*

According to the *Chuo Shimbun* Mr. Yamada, Superintendent-General of the Police Board, summoned on the 12th instant, by telegram, all the Directors of Police Stations in the capital to his Bureau, when Mr. Nagatani, Head of the First Section, on behalf of the Superintendent, instructed them that, as various anti-government movements are now carried on, such as exhorting the Premier and other Ministers of State to resign, and political lectures, are being held in various places, denouncing the policy of the Cabinet, drastic steps should be taken to suspend or disperse public meetings, should the proceedings assume a disorderly character. At a lecture meeting held in Aoyama the same night eight speakers out of ten were suspended in the course of their lectures. The country is fast returning to the conditions, the *Chuo* laments, which prevailed fifteen or sixteen years ago.

A considerable quantity of goods from the silkworm producing districts are being taken to railway depôts, and customers are waiting to receive them at their destination as quickly as possible. The railway station at Matsumoto in Shinshiu had to deal with about three hundred thousand cards of eggs during ten days. Yet serious inconvenience or rather bungling has arisen, says the *Nichi Nichi*, from no extra goods' vans being put on to meet the contingency. Disorder and confusion characterized these stations and silk-worm eggs, were piled up and exposed to the heat of the sun. Under the circumstances, not only was irreparable damage done, but it is feared that the most suitable period for rearing the worms has been lost. So not a little anxiety is felt by sericulturists at present. It is absolutely necessary that railway officials should endeavour to afford every facility to silkworm producers during this particular season of the year. Yet they fail to rise to the occasion.

Since the Tariff Bill was passed in America the trade in *habutae* has naturally fallen off considerably, orders having been received only on a small scale from Europe, India, and China. Many of the American merchants in Japan, in apprehension of the tariff then under discussion, exported large quantities of *habutae* in March

and April this year. The native dealers too grew extremely solicitous about the future of this trade, and a few of them proposed the advisability of organizing a company in America with a joint capital, in order that weavers might be sent there for the manufacture of the goods, and the duty be avoided thereby. Unexpectedly, however, considerable orders have of late been received from the West by many of the foreign firms in Yokohama, and sales have been effected at a price thirty or forty *sen* per 100 *momme* higher than before. Figured *habutae* for India, in particular, has risen to \$7.80.

According to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the demand for American timber for the construction of bridges, cars, houses, and vessels has considerably increased of late. During the past few years, pine was chiefly imported from Oregon, but fir is now brought over to a greater extent. The latter is considered about ten per cent. heavier and much stronger than the former, while it is abundantly produced in Oregon. The freight for timber, however, is eight dollars gold per thousand feet, being one fifth of forty *sen*, the value realizable in Yokohama. The increase of import may be seen from the following figures:—

Year.	Value. Yen.
1894.....	30,913
1895.....	14,918
1896.....	148,555

It is said that Messrs. Okura & Co. have realized enormous profits by the import of timber from America.

The *Chuo Shimbun* reports that Mr. Matsumoto, Superintendent of the Railway Bureau, has made the following remarks on the railway scheme in Formosa:—No prospect of success lies before the Formosan railway. Even the lines laid in the most important parts of the island under the supervision of eminent engineers can hardly be expected to earn, after eight years, a dividend of four per cent. That is the most favourable computation. There is no reason to believe that success can ever be attained there by private enterprise. Nevertheless, the Government having arranged to pay interest on the capital during the period that the work is going on, it may be profitable to hold the shares during such a period, but this can only be done by persons who are not in need of money. The above statement seems to have had the effect of changing the intention of many who had formerly desired to invest money in the Formosan railway enterprise. Engineer Haraguchi is also reported to have resigned his position in the Company.

The results of the extensive journeys in Central Asia made during the last four years by Dr. Sven Hedin, who has only recently returned to Sweden, are even more remarkable than was at first supposed. Not the least interesting of Dr. Sven Hedin's discoveries were the ruins of two ancient cities now covered with the shifting sands of the desert of Gobi. Paintings and sculptures testified to an advanced stage of civilisation. Dr. Hedin is a trained observer, and he has taken home with him from his numerous journeys vast masses of material as to the geography and geology of regions either wholly or almost wholly unknown. He has been able to settle a very long standing controversy as to the situation of Lob Nor, and to place on the maps many important lakes in the northern plateau of Tibet, a region so inhospitable that it does not support over a great area a single human being. Wild horses and yaks roamed these deserted highlands in immense herds, but for two months not a human being was seen.

The longest period during which any man-of-war has been retained in the British service was that of the *Royal William*, built at Chatham in 1670, and not broken up until 1830. She was originally a 100 gun ship, but was cut down to eighty-four, guns. During her 130 years' existence she was repaired innumerable times, and little, if any, of the original material was in her when finally broken up. During the time of wooden vessels, the life of a ship-of-war was

counted as thirty years, while now, with apparently indestructible material, the life of usefulness seems to have been reduced to about fifteen years. As a matter of fact, so rapid have been the improvements in ships-of-war since 1880 that vessels launched five years ago are now so nearly obsolete as no longer to figure as first-class in the essentials. The introduction of water-tube boilers, electricity, and the chances of successfully applying the turbine motive-power to warships, promise, together with nickel-steel and aluminium, to effect still greater changes in navies and make the ships of to-day obsolete in probably less than half a dozen years.

Cricket for the nonce is "off" both in Yokohama and Kobe, but the Fleet will be down soon and then the game will revive amongst us. And how pleasant these Naval matches always are! As Mr. C. B. Fry, the famous cricketer, writes in the July number of the *Windsor Magazine*: "Half the charm of playing cricket is that you knock up against men as they really are. "There is something in the game that smoothes pretence and affectation, and gives air to character. You cannot be a cricketer and stay in your shell; your inwardness must come out in your play. Most people devoted to the game have quite forgotten the use of their shells, if they ever had them. Cricket finds the truth even more surely than wine does; so it speaks well for human kind that no pleasanter fellow is to be met than the typical cricketer." This is always the predominating note in naval matches here.

Further particulars received concerning the death of Mr. J. Austin Thomson, which took place at Kobe on 10th of August, show that he left home suffering from an attack of malarial fever, but he was then hoping that the sea voyage would speedily benefit him. It is gathered from his letters that he improved until after leaving Shanghai on his way to Hongkong. On leaving the latter place he grew very much worse and landed at Singapore in a state of very high fever and great prostration. After lying ill at an hotel in that town for a week, he gained sufficient strength to attempt the journey homeward. He cabled to his wife in Yokohama that he was leaving for home on account of illness; and later, on the 3rd, again cabled from Hongkong that he was a little better and would arrive by the French Mail on the 11th August. But the day before the steamer arrived at Kobe, he was pronounced by the ship's Doctor to be dying, and growing suddenly weaker, passed away the following morning, just fifty minutes before his brother came on board to meet him.

The trial of Inspector Job. Witchell, at Hongkong, on a charge of receiving bribes, closed in very dramatic fashion. The jury having found the defendant guilty, with a recommendation to mercy in consideration of his previous good conduct, Sir John Carrington, Chief Justice, said he would hear anything the defendant had to say in extenuation, and the following dialogue took place:—

Defendant.—As I have been found guilty of this abominable charge, I beg the mercy of the Court. I have a family and five children, and a European wife, my Lord, depending solely upon me. My whole estate in Hongkong at the present time, and when this charge was instigated against me, was \$1,198 for ten years, which my Lord, I shall give you my power of attorney to go to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank or to any other place in this Colony to see my investments. That is my whole estate, excepting my household goods.

His Lordship.—I am very sorry indeed to see an intelligent and energetic officer like you fallen so low as this.

Defendant.—My Lord, I have not fallen.

His Lordship.—Stop, stop, now. I give full effect to the recommendation of the jury, and I direct that you be imprisoned for six months.

Defendant.—This is imposing infamy upon me; and on Mr. May's death-bed he shall reap the reward of that gross perjury, for upon my word of honour and upon my oath—

His Lordship interrupted and cautioned him if he did not behave he would have to increase the sentence.

Defendant then bowed to his Lordship, and left the dock.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LYING AND SLANDERING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I must ask you to be kind enough to give publicity through your columns to a denial of the damaging statements made by the *Nippon* a few weeks ago when commenting on the Sendai taxation affair. I received only to-day a copy of the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 26th ult., containing an article in which the *Nippon's* representations are quoted. This article I forward for insertion. In reply to it, I beg to say that the comments of the *Nippon* on the case are full of gross exaggerations and falsehoods. The correspondence which took place between myself and the British Minister, about which the *Nippon* professes to know so much, I am of course not at liberty to make public, the matter in dispute being still *sub judice*, but I take this occasion to say that the *Nippon's* account is a ridiculous parody of the whole affair.

The Emperor's picture episode quoted by the *Nippon*, as you will remember, concerns a former employé of the Sendai school, Mr. C. Carruthers. The "letter of apology to the city people who condemned his conduct" never existed outside the office of the *Nippon*. The excitement of the people of Sendai and the proposed meeting of denunciation are also fabrications. It is, I suppose, hardly to be expected that the silly youth, who, it is probable, supplied this information to the *Nippon*, should draw a distinction between one member and another of the hated race. He might have applied to any one of the 1,000 students to whom the facts of the picture incident were known. But any correction would have spoiled the paragraph—taken the supposed sting out of it. And this, sir, is the paper that is always boasting of its patriotism. Patriotism forsooth! There is no greater injury it can do to Japan than to stir up its fellow countrymen against foreigners by penning such lying paragraphs as the one I am now discussing. I shall of course insist on a retraction being published. But the rôle of stating and retracting is one that the *Nippon* is quite accustomed to play. I may add here that the tax question has been referred to head-quarters and that the school authorities are of opinion that the action of the local officials is irregular, and advise Dr. Seymour and myself to await instructions from Tokyo before taking further steps. The school officials are not satisfied with the explanation of the affair given by the tax collector. It is, sir, pertinent to ask why, if they are confident of the legality of their action, the municipal authorities took no steps to enforce payment in the case of Mr. Moor, who, nearly two years ago, was served with an assessment notice based on income. Mr. Moor did not pay and was allowed to move to Tokyo without being required to pay. I have ascertained that in Sendai in no case does the amount of the tax depend on the size of the house occupied. An old resident here assures me that for many years past income and not the size of the dwelling-house has been the basis of assessment. This information has been corroborated from various quarters.

Apologising for the length of this communication, I am yours, etc.,
WALTER DENING.
Sendai, August 11th, 1897.

[From the *Kobe Chronicle*.]

TAXING A FOREIGNER.

According to the *Nippon*, which is keen at ferreting out any trouble between foreigners and Japanese local authorities, a curious case has arisen at Sendai over an attempt to impose local taxes upon a foreigner. As the facts are related by a correspondent of the *Nippon*, it appears that Mr. Dening, at one time the editor of the *Fapan Gazette*, and now a teacher in the Second Higher School at Sendai, received an application recently for the payment of what appears to be local taxes to the amount of some ten yen. The tax in question is assessed upon the amount of income-tax, paid, and, as the Government has never attempted to impose this tax upon foreigners, payment of the local rate was naturally resisted. An official was then sent to press for payment, whereupon Mr. Dening communicated with his Minister in Tokyo, and, says the *Nippon*, received a reply stating that he was under no obligation to pay the tax levied by the prefectural assembly—firstly because no agreement had yet been made permitting the levy of such a tax, and secondly because no tax was levied upon salaries in his country. The correspondent is evidently incorrect in this part of his statement. Mr. Dening is, we believe, a British subject, and if his salary exceeded the limit under which exemption can be claimed, he would, if resident in England, have of course to pay income tax. But it is clear that no such reply

could have been returned by the British Minister, as the question whether income tax is payable in England or not has no bearing whatever on the point in dispute. However, Mr. Dening, relying doubtless upon advice from the Legation, declined to pay any such tax, and great indignation is said to have been aroused at Sendai in consequence. The officials informed Mr. Dening that the taxes were imposed in accordance with orders from the prefectural authorities, and suggested that he should pay the amount under protest. Mr. Dening, however, declined to do so, and there the dispute rests. We believe this question has never previously arisen in Japan in this form. Some years ago there was a controversy between the Japanese authorities and foreign landholders and leaseholders in Kobe with regard to the levying of local taxes on land and house property, and this dispute was, we believe, eventually decided in favour of the Japanese; at any rate, a building tax is paid by foreigners having property on the Hill, and to this there can be no reasonable objection. But, so far as we remember, no attempt has hitherto been made to levy other local rates, and it seems surprising that such action should be taken now, when within less than two years extra-territoriality will terminate and foreigners will be subject to the same imposts and taxation as Japanese. It is especially remarkable that such action should be taken at a place in the interior, where the success of the attempt at including the foreigner within the scope of local taxation can make but the most infinitesimal difference in the result of the levy. But, of course, the refusal of the foreigner to pay a tax which he believes cannot legally be imposed upon him has roused the local "patriot," and we learn that a meeting is to be held to consider the foreigner's "improper action." The correspondent of the *Nippon*, true to the traditions of the journal, attempts to inflame the dispute by stating that some time ago Mr. Dening acted disrespectfully towards the photograph of the Emperor, and afterwards wrote a letter of apology to the city people, who condemned his conduct. We know nothing as to this, but shall regard it as unworthy of credit until we have more than the authority of the *Nippon's* correspondent. But what a picture the writer incidentally draws of his fellow-countrymen. The people of Sendai are greatly excited, he says, over this action of the foreigner, and intend to hold a meeting of denunciation,—simply because the foreigner has refused on legal grounds to pay a local levy of ten yen!

MISSIONARIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I was interested in a conversation between a missionary and a Japanese, reported in the Correspondence column of your weekly issue for August 7th.

Although I have never been at Karuizawa, I am somewhat familiar with the camping ground from which I am writing, where every summer, for five or six weeks, a company of missionaries gathers to escape the heat of the cities, and to gain strength for the year's work.

I can hardly believe that the missionaries in Karuizawa devote themselves so entirely to play as their modest representative indicates.

Here, most of us give at least four or five hours a day to solid work, either on the Japanese language or in other preparation for the business of the year,—some of us counting these days, comparatively free from interruption, as our best time for study during the whole year.

Calls from those desiring to hear about Christianity are not infrequent, and the work for which we came to Japan is by no means forgotten. Last evening, as we watched a glorious sunset from the summit of beautiful Hieizan, I saw one of our number turn away from his friends and spend some time in speaking most earnestly of Christ to a group of *kago* carriers, who listened with evident interest.

Yours most respectfully,
Hieizan, August 11th, 1897. S. S.

HOW CAPT. STORNAWAY MADE A RAID ON ROBBER ISLAND.

(WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Captain Stornaway's career as a daring fur-seal hunter is too well known in this land of the Rising Sun to need any introduction from me as a preface to this story, but since he has not, for the last few years, been so prominently in the public eye as he was at the zenith of his power, I may as well say a few words in regard to him as a man and a story-teller. As we all know, Captain

Stornaway is not cast in the mould that heroes are supposed to be made in, but if he is small in body, in spirits he is the equal of John L. Sullivan. Many are the times,—he will tell you—when single-handed he laid out the whole boiling of a minnow deep-water crew. The little man is however, a great blusterer; but who has better right to be? Were they not also great blusterers, those roving Ishmaels of a hundred and fifty years ago, who scoured the seas in quest of prey, with every man's hand against them as theirs was against everybody's? The fur-seal hunters of ten or fifteen years ago were the latter-day Filibusters and Ocean Free-lances. Marauders they are generally designated,—and Captain Stornaway was the foremost of them all. It is several years since he told me this and other yarns, one of which I have already submitted to the public in the columns of the *Mail*. It was about the same time that he dined his marvellous stories into the ears of Rudyard Kipling, who seemed to have been fascinated by them, and proposed to have the great Wizard from the South Seas brought to Yokohama to transform Captain Stornaway's yarns into living pictures by his magic pen. Alas! the hand that wielded that pen is still. Of course it is impossible for me to relate the story in his own words, first because his language, although terse enough, is not exactly suited for publication *verbatim*, secondly because I could not possibly do justice to his style. So I will give it as a plain, unvarnished tale. But the reader must bear in mind that Capt. Stornaway is really telling the story; I have merely set the scene for him.

Robben Island is a small rocky islet off the east coast of the large island of Saghalien, and is fourteen miles distant from Cape Patience, between which promontory and the islet extends a low and dangerous reef. It is one of the principal fur-seal rookeries in the North Pacific, and was, at the time when this adventure took place, leased by the Alaska Fur-seal Company from the Russian Government. A vessel belonging to this Company was stationed off the island through the summer to prevent depredations being made by unscrupulous hunting schooners, who paid but slight regard to the laws of *meum* and *tuum*. Pelagic sealing had not yet been thought of, but a successful raid on one of the rookeries, even if it only consisted of a single night's drive, would amount to more in dollars than a whole summer spent chasing the seal herd in later days. Consequently, late in the season, just before the seals were quitting their quarters, several schooners were always hovering about the island waiting for a favourable opportunity to slip in and secure a few hundreds of skins, or perhaps more. Success meant a small fortune, while discovery only resulted in the seizure of the skins, and the vessel at the most. Now, however, detection means years of hard labour in Russian prisons or in the still more dreaded mines. The skins secured during these nocturnal and stealthy raids did not, of course, attain the same value as those carefully selected ones offered by the Fur Company, for gender or age made no difference: all encountered were indiscriminately slaughtered; haste was the watchword and quantity the principal object,—nevertheless, 25 dollars a piece, on an average, was the usual price obtained at that time.

Robben Island is separated from Saghalien by a dangerous reef, leaving only a narrow clear channel between it and the edge of the reef; through this channel the tides sweep with tremendous force. Cape Patience is a high promontory on Saghalien, overlooking the reef and the adjacent island, and back of it to the northeast is a small and snug anchorage, just big enough to hold a couple of small vessels at a time. It was there I found myself with my schooner, the *Fly-by-night*, one day in the beginning of October. I had already that year made two unsuccessful attempts to approach the island with the laudable intention of having a short but effective struggle with the seals. The previous year I had been here about the same time and had thought everything safe for making a run across when I suddenly perceived black smoke issuing from behind the island, indicating the presence of a steamer, or probably a Russian man-of-war,—enemies anyhow. I was not slow to increase my distance from such dangerous neighbours, and my intended raid that year came to naught. This year I had been there earlier in the summer, and found the schooner on watch, contrary to my expectations, with an auxiliary force on shore to reject any projected invasion.

The winter was apparently setting in early, as a light fall of snow greeted my arrival at the anchorage in the morning, and, when, an hour later, I ascended to the top of Cape Patience, it was a long and anxious look I cast at the island where it loomed up, dark and forbidding, in the now clear air. I drew a breath of relief when I

did not perceive the schooner at her anchorage, or any sign of the island being inhabited by its Russian defenders. My conclusion that the schooner had left for the year was confirmed by two Ainors who I encountered on my way back. They assured me that the schooner had left six days ago, but whether for San Francisco or Saghalien they did not know. I did not place much reliance on what they said, as I knew they would only say what they thought would please me, in the hope of getting a drink of gin, but in this they were disappointed, as I did not allow them to come on board the schooner. But what about the seals? Would the schooner leave before the seals had taken their departure? This question I asked myself as I scrambled down the precipitous side of the cape; I would find out before many hours.

The boys received me with loud acclamations when I got on board and told them my news; a couple of thousands of seals meant a couple of thousand dollars to each of them, and even my Japanese sailors, although on monthly pay, were apparently highly elated. We had the anchor up and the sails set before many minutes had passed, and went out from the little bay skimming before a fresh northerly breeze. I kept the schooner in for the channel, and as the tide was slack we made good progress, expecting to be off the rookery in another half hour. Just then, to my intense vexation, the wind died out light and shifted to the southwest, while a heavy fog bank descended on us from the low land round Patience Bay, and before we knew it, we were drifting out again to sea with the strong ebb-tide.

This was an unfortunate occurrence indeed; and it came so suddenly and unexpectedly that it fairly took my breath away; if we had not been in such an "Oh let us be joyful" state of mind, we should have seen the fog coming with the change of wind, and we should not have entered the channel, but kept off the southward around the island, and thereby perhaps escaped. Now there was no help but to trust in Providence and an early dispersal of the fog; but we looked at each other rather crestfallen, when we gathered in the cockpit and cursed in silence. A colony of sealions had a small rookery on a rock off the north point of the island, and we could hear their hoarse roarings for several hours, indicating that our drift was not so rapid after we had once got out of the channel. The wind was just strong enough to keep our sails full, and in this way the day and night, and the following day and night passed away without any sign of the fog breaking. How confoundingly aggravating it was to be drifting about like this, with the rookery so tantalizingly near, and clear weather perhaps half a mile from us! No wonder we cursed, both fore and aft.

On the morning of the third day, the wind freshened at daylight, and at 8 o'clock the fog began to thin, overhead at first and then to windward; breaking up in wisps that were quickly absorbed by a sickly looking sun that showed faintly above the sea. At 10 o'clock it was clear as a bell to north-west, and there, two points on the port bow, laid Robben Island, the blessed spot we were bound for, and only about six miles distant. Numerous seals were swimming in the water about the schooner, so we could see, to our satisfaction, that we were not too late after all, if nothing else occurred to prevent us from effecting a landing. All hands were intently gazing at the island we were nearing. The schooner was progressing at a fine rate, under the freshening northwest breeze. Now at last was the eventful moment approaching that we had been so fervently looking forward to. I had just laid my glasses down to light a pipe when a shout from one of the sailors, taken up over and over again by the rest, made me jump quickly to my feet, and a most perplexing sight met my eyes. As if by magic, two schooners appeared suddenly under a press of canvas coming round the south-west point and steering to the eastward away from the island; staysails and flying jibs were set as we looked at them, and with booms well out they fairly flew over the water. I could not make it out at first, and, going about with the schooner, I directed my gaze towards the island and beyond, expecting to see the watch schooner in pursuit. But nothing interrupted my view—nothing but the rocks, with a moving, struggling mass of seals occupying every available space. Since we had not come to solve riddles, as my head hunter sagely observed, we immediately set to work preparing for the great task before us, without, just then, giving another thought to the two schooners. Clubs and knives were put into the boats, and, after I had made one more tack to ascertain that nothing suspicious was in sight, we came to anchor within a couple of hundred yards of the

rookery. Boats were launched, and all hands started for the beach, leaving me and the cook on board the schooner. I had a crew of three hunters and a mate, Europeans, and ten sailors and a cook, Japanese; young, able men, all with some previous experience in clubbing seals, and eager for the fray. I stood watching for a moment when they landed, but had no time to observe their further movements, as I and the cook, who had no cooking to do that day, had to prepare for the reception of the skins and their salting in the hold. We had the hatches off, and were busy below when the sound of a boat coming alongside made me jump quickly on deck, anticipating that some unexpected reverse had been encountered on shore. But what was my astonishment when I looked over the side and saw a boat deeply laden with sealskins, and another just on the point of pushing off from the rocks. One of the hunters had sculled the first boat and stood at the stern evidently enjoying my amazement. Fifteen minutes had barely elapsed since they left the vessel, and here were two boats already loaded. When I perceived the man grinning in the boat I controlled my curiosity, and told him to pitch the skins on board, without making inquiry how they had been procured, which he obviously expected me to do. Contenting himself with volunteering the information that many hundred of skins were lying on the beach, he rapidly emptied the boat of its valuable contents. Three hundred and sixty-eight skins were brought off in this way, and these I covered with salt, layer on layer, as fast as the cook passed them down to me. I had in the meantime formed a theory as to how these skins were so providently left on the rocks at our disposal, and this theory I eventually found to be right.

Eight hundred clubbed seals were also lying on the beach beside the skinned ones, and all that day the work went on without intermission, skinning the seals and sending the skins on board for me to salt down. At 5 o'clock one hundred additional seals were slain and skinned, and I then sent word to the boys to come on board, to refresh the inner man, and have a needed rest ready for the following morning. One thousand and ten skins constituted the day's work. Next day I expected to get another thousand under hatches, as a long day was before us. It was 7 o'clock when the men came on board, and after a hearty meal every one turned into his berth, leaving one sailor to keep watch, which would be an hour a piece for each of the ten sailors. The fog set in again during the forenoon, and the wind was light from the north-west with a smooth sea. I could not sleep, so lighting my pipe I went on deck after having written up the log. The fog was still dense on the water, but above it was thinning fast; the wind was freshening. I watched this with some anxiety; an increasing wind would bring an increasing sea, and we were lying unpleasantly close to the rocks; still as yet there was no danger. At 10 o'clock I was thinking about going below when a dull sound, resembling a shot fired at some distance, attracted my attention; it was away off to the westward. The fog was now clearing away fast and I could see to some distance. All inclination for sleep had left me, and as it is the unexpected that generally happens, I stood with all my senses on the alert waiting for further developments. I had not long to wait; to the westward the fog had disappeared, and as the stars were coming out in all their brilliancy, their gleam disclosed the form of a large schooner, under mainsail, foresail, and staysail, standing in towards the island. One glance was enough; it was the *Leon*, the watch schooner; she was about a mile off; and that they had not yet seen us, lying as we were in the shadow of the rocks with no lights burning, I was certain. I gnashed my teeth with rage when I thought how much we lost by this unfortunate interruption, and when I called the boys up I am afraid my language was not of the choicest. Cautioning them not to make any noise we speedily slipped the chain, already prepared for this emergency, and hoisted the sails and were off before the Russians were aware of our proximity. I lost an anchor and fifteen fathoms of chain, but saved the 35,000 dollars worth of fur-seal and sea-otter skins I had on board.

Of course it was vexatious to have to take this forced departure, but still I was thankful for my lucky escape, and considering the little trouble I had had in procuring the skins, I had done tolerably well in my raid. With this consolation I kept on out of harin's way, and eight days later anchored in Yokohama harbour. Two of the hunters were grumbling at my hasty departure, but this did not trouble me in the least, as I was always accustomed to be master on my vessel, especially when the other two men sided with me.

At Yokohama I found the two schooners which had so prudently taken to flight when they saw us coming, leaving us the spoils. They had mistaken me for the *Leon*, but how they could do so, as the *Fly by Night* was rigged differently, neither I nor anybody else could understand. They were so flustered that they did not even wait to bring with them the skins lying on the beach, but left them for us, who were not in anyway loath to appropriate them. Still they had the impudence to ask me to divide with them, and when I laughed at them they brought a law suit against me. How that turned out everybody knows; for the rest of the year they remained a laughing-stock for the hunting fleet; and serve them right for their cowardice, say I.

By a San Francisco paper I saw that the *Leon* arrived there twenty days from the time I left Robben Island, so it could not have been that vessel which appeared that evening and scared me away from the rookery. This discovery I effectually kept to myself, and nobody else that I know of ever heard anything about it; if it had been generally known I should probably have had to experience many uncomfortable hours.

JOHN C. WERNER.

ARIMA CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE.

The number of visitors at Arima this year is much smaller than that of former years. However the Conference this year was, with the exception of numbers, in no respect inferior to those of the past. Never before were there more able papers, more interesting discussions, or more profitable services.

The Conference opened on Sunday morning, Aug. 1st, with a sermon by Rev. R. A. Thomson of Kobe. The evening sermon was by Rev. S. E. Hager of Tadotsu. These able sermons were listened to with interest by all who heard them.

At the organization of the Conference on Monday morning, Aug. 2nd, Rev. J. B. Hall, D.D. of Wakayama, was chosen President, and Rev. J. H. Scott, of Osaka, Secretary.

The paper of the day was then read by Rev. J. B. Hall, subject *The Hindrances to Christianity by other Religions in Japan*. The paper was an exceedingly helpful one. The writer showed great familiarity with the religions and philosophies of Japan, and pointed out how, by knowing the religious thought and life of the people, he had been able more efficiently to reach them with the Gospel. He classed these "Hindrances" as threefold: I. *Intellectual*, II. *Conventional*, III. *Emotional*.

The evening's devotional service was led by Rev. J. H. Scott, subject, *Mission work in Japan*. Interesting reports were given of the late Council of Missions at Karuizawa and also of the work of the different missions represented at the Conference.

The subject for Tuesday, August 3rd, both day and evening, was *The Jews in Prophecy and Providence*. The paper of the day was by Rev. R. H. Custerdine and the address of the evening by Mr. W. E. Towson. The chief thought of these two able discourses was that Christians had not given as yet proper attention to the evangelization of the Jews. "We apply all the blessings spoken to the Jews to ourselves spiritually, and all the curses we apply to the Jews literally." The Lord evidently has yet a great purpose to be accomplished by the Jews, and perhaps the return of the Jews of late in great numbers to Jerusalem indicates that the prophecies of God are now to be accomplished.

Both the morning and evening meetings of Wednesday were given to *Reports of Missionary Work in China*.

The remarks of Mr. J. B. Woods, M.D. on "Medical Work in China;" by Miss Shalders on "Women's Work in China;" and by Rev. J. A. Hearn on *Methods of Work, Hindrances and Results of Mission Work in China*, were all very interesting.

The subject of Thursday's paper, a very helpful one by Rev. C. A. Tague of Hiroshima, was *The Place of Prayer in the Missionary Life of Paul*. The evening's devotional service, with the same subject, was led by Rev. J. H. Hoden.

Friday, Women's day, was taken full advantage of by them, and proved to be one of special interest. The paper was by Mrs. R. A. Thomson of Kobe; subject, *The Place of Women in the Apostolic Church*. She held that although woman then did not hold positions of authority, she did hold position of importance and honour. The writer of the paper advocated a revival in the churches of to-day of the order of deaconesses. As interesting discussion was conducted by Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Warren, Mrs. Lambuth, and others.

Saturday's subject was *The Character of*

Christian Converts on the Mission Field. Although no paper or address had been assigned before, yet the "open discussion" of the day was especially interesting.

The closing sermon on Sunday morning, Aug. 8th, was by Rev. J. B. Brandrain of Kumamoto, and the evening's discourse by the President of the Conference. Both were especially helpful.

Thus closed the very interesting and profitable session of the Conference, characterized by deep interest, harmony, and presence of the spirit.

THE SECRETARY.

REPORT ON THE TRADE OF JAPAN FOR THE YEAR 1896.

Sir Ernest Satow, H.B.M.'s Minister to Japan, has forwarded to the Foreign Office a Report drawn up by Mr. Arthur Hyde Lay, Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul in Tokyo, on the Trade of Japan for the year 1896, which runs as follows:—

AGGREGATE TRADE.

The total foreign trade of Japan for the year 1896 amounted in sterling to the sum of 31,543,195*l.*, consisting of imports to the value of 18,776,896*l.*, and exports valued at 12,766,299*l.* The foreign produce re-exported from and the Japanese produce reimported into the country stood at 23,507*l.* and 137,277*l.* respectively. Deducting these figures from the total amount of trade, the following comparison between the past year and 1895 is arrived at:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1896.....	£18,753,389	£12,629,022
1895.....	13,526,710	14,624,025
Increase or decrease ..	+£ 5,226,679	-£ 1,995,003

The whole foreign trade thus exhibits an increase of 3,231,677*l.* as compared with the preceding 12 months. The balance of trade was against Japan, imports exceeding exports by 6,124,367*l.*, an occurrence rare in the history of the nation's foreign commerce. This state of affairs arose principally from the increased demand for metals, textiles, raw materials, &c., consequent on the industrial activity which sprang up after the war, and from a considerable falling off in the quantities of silk and tea—Japan's two staple articles of export—sent abroad.

TRADE OF DIFFERENT PORTS.

The various ports of the Empire participated in the trade as follows:—

Port.	Value.	Total.
Yokohama	Imports...7,957,807 Exports...6,646,644	14,604,451
Hiogo and Osaka..	Imports...9,478,047 Exports...4,434,594	13,912,641
Nagasaki	Imports...1,092,475 Exports... 502,390	1,594,865
Hakodate.....	Imports... 36,130 Exports... 94,111	130,241
*Other Ports	Imports... 188,930 Exports... 951,283	1,140,213

Total trade 31,382,411
* Under the heading "other Ports," are included Niigata, Shimonoseki, Moji, Hakata, Karatsu, Kuchinotsu, Izuhara, Shishimi, Sasuma, Sakai, Fushiki, Muroran, and Otaru.

The import trade generally has increased by nearly one-third. In imports Yokohama marks an advance of about 30 per cent., Kobe and Osaka of 31 per cent., and Nagasaki of 50 per cent., while at Hakodate the imports have more than doubled the figures of the previous year. All the ports show an increase in exports, with the exception of Yokohama, which experienced a decline of no less than 2,565,293*l.*, or about 27 per cent.

DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE AMONG FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

The trade was distributed among the foreign countries chiefly interested in it in the following way:—

Country.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
British Empire—			
Great Britain..	6,480,664	976,343	7,457,007
Hongkong ...	999,007	2,162,972	3,161,979
British India..	2,462,833	491,579	2,954,422
Australia	91,333	157,978	249,311
Canada.....	5,636	172,688	178,324
Total	10,039,483	3,961,560	14,001,034

United States ...	1,790,842	3,416,004	5,206,846
France	840,257	2,061,300	2,901,557
Germany	1,879,494	321,982	2,201,476
China	2,334,557	1,497,584	3,832,141

Comparing these figures with the corresponding ones for the previous year, the following increases or decreases in the trade of Japan with each country are shown:—

Country.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
Great Britain	Imports.....Increase ...1,775,237 Exports..... do ... 122,332		Total increase...1,897,569
Hongkong	Imports.....Increase ... 123,870 Exports..... do ... 173,669		Total increase... 297,539
British India	Imports.....Increase ...1,212,955 Exports..... do ... 19,329		Total increase...1,231,984
Australia	Imports.....Decrease... 19,329 Exports.....Increase ... 19,193		Total decrease... 136
Canada.....	Imports.....Increase ... 4,208 Exports.....Decrease... 42,479		Total decrease... 38,271
United States	Imports.....Increase ... 824,555 Exports.....Decrease...2,437,131		Total decrease...1,612,576
France	Imports.....Increase ... 260,313 Exports.....Decrease... 577,208		Total decrease... 316,895
Germany	Imports.....Increase ... 605,207 Exports.....Decrease... 39,852		Total increase... 565,355
China	Imports.....Increase ... 39,852 Exports..... do ... 507,948		Total increase... 547,800

It is satisfactory to observe that British trade is more than holding its ground. Imports from Great Britain amounted in 1896 to 36 per cent. in the total, as compared with 34 per cent. in 1895. German trade did not increase to the same extent, amounting to 30 per cent. of the whole, as compared with 9 per cent. the previous year. Imports from the United States rose 84 per cent., but a decrease of over 40 per cent. took place in the exports to that country. The trade to China grew about 50 per cent.

IMPORTS.

The whole of the imports from foreign countries to Japan amounted, as above mentioned, and as shown in Table I. of this report, to 18,753,389*l.* in sterling and according to the annual trade returns published by the Japanese Government, to 171,459,555 dol. silver currency. As in previous years, these figures represented only the original cost of the goods imported at the place of production or shipment, and in order to estimate the amount actually paid by Japan for her purchases, an addition of 15 per cent. should be made to cover freight, insurance, and other charges. Adding this percentage to the sum given before, it will be found that in 1896 Japan's imports cost her 21,566,394*l.*, or 197,178,488 dol. (silver).

The principal articles which show an increase (see Table I.) are raw cotton and cotton manufactures (with the exception of drills, T-cloths, Turkey-reds and miscellaneous piece-goods). Wool has decreased slightly, but there has been a rise in the importation of woollen manufactures.

All metals, except tin, have been more largely imported than in 1895. A similar increase has taken place in the case of machinery and kerosene oil.

RAW COTTON.

A great impetus has been given to the import of this article by the abolition of the import duty from April 1; and with the continued prosperity of the cotton-spinning industry the import of raw cotton augments year by year, the quantity of raw cotton consumed by the 61 cotton-spinning companies belonging to the United Guild of Spinners was over 210,000,000 lbs., as against 184,201,357 lbs. in 1895. Of this amount 1,356,812 lbs. of Japanese cotton were used. The largest quantity

came from India, whence the importation of cotton into Japan is increasing largely, having more than doubled as compared with the previous year in amount about 130,000,000 lbs. China supplied over 60,000,000 lbs. and the United States of America 24,000,000 lbs. French India supplied about 3,000,000 lbs.

COTTON MANUFACTURES.

Grey shirtings amounted to 216,527 yards, as against 153,082 yards the preceding 12 months. The trade in g-lbs was bad: these goods are gradually being supplanted by 46 and 48-yard cloths. In fancy cottons the import was treble that of 1895. Business for the first six months was good, but during the latter half of the year clearances were so bad that a loss was shown on most contracts. Stocks have never before been so large. The same may be said of cotton, Italians, and velvets. Turkey-reds were unfavourably influenced by the native-dyed fabrics; although they show a decrease in quantity the stocks carried over were very heavy. Altogether the result of the year's trade in cotton manufactures was most unfortunate, owing to the commercial panic which prevailed during the latter six months.

COTTON YARN.

A substantial increase took place in the import of this article, the figures for the two years 1896-95 being 11,913 tons and 8,685 tons.

The chief expansion has been in gassed and fine plain yarns, the import of which has more than doubled. 2/42's and 2/32's have also increased. 38/42's alone have decreased. At the same time business proved unremunerative owing to the failure of the native dealers to observe their contracts and remove their purchases from importer's warehouses. Stocks at the end of the year were unprecedentedly heavy, in spite of the fact that most of the goods were sold "to arrive."

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES.

The value of the woollen manufactures imported during 1896 amounted to 777,503*l.* more than in 1895. Blankets increased greatly, flannels and mousseline de laine almost doubled, while Italian cloth grew three-fold.

The stock of blankets carried forward was not excessive. The Japanese largely imported these goods direct for Government use. Wool has decreased slightly but it must be borne in mind that the quantity imported in 1895 was nearly double that in 1894. The market was, however, particularly unfavourable for woollens. Stocks have accumulated and have in many cases to be carried over till next season. The consequence is that very few fresh orders are going forward this year. The steady growth of the woollen industry in Japan will also lead to a diminution of exports from Europe. Serges and tweeds suitable for clothing purposes are made in Japan, and the coloured striped blankets, rugs, and shawls of native manufacture are gradually taking the place of the foreign article.

METALS AND MACHINERY.

With the exception of tin all metals show an increase over 1895, more particularly iron rails. Contract business was not without a small margin of profit, but all speculative ventures must have turned out badly. Prices have been steadily rising at producing centres, but excessive importation prevented any proportionate response in Japan. When the goods arrived to a bad market the Japanese dealer would not hold by his bargain, but left the importer with the goods on his hands for indefinite periods. Pig and bar iron amounted to 15 per cent., plate and sheet to 41 per cent. more than in 1895, while rails more than doubled.

AMERICAN COMPETITION.

Owing to the financial depression in America, that country has made its appearance as a serious competitor with Europe in the supply of machinery, rails, nails, and pig-iron. The dullness of trade at home caused manufacturers to seek an outlet for their goods abroad, and a bid has been made for the Japan market. It has been stated that American nails, sold largely in Japan, about the end of the year were quoted at 50 per cent. below prices current in the United States, and altogether defied the competition of the German makers who hitherto held the trade.

In the iron trade the principal feature was the competition of American rails, of which some 30,000 tons were sold at lower prices than British makers were willing to accept.

There appears to be a probability that American locomotive builders will secure a greater number of orders during the coming year. This is mainly due to the fact that British makers are not always able to supply Japan's requirements within the specified time. If British makers were able to supply them fast enough, it is practically certain that orders which have been given to America would have gone to Great Britain. Owing to the

exertion of representatives of British firms out here the list of approved British locomotive makers to the Government has been increased from 6 to 9, but even that does not appear to enable Great Britain to compete with the United States in time of delivery. If British makers are not really so full of work as is reported here and are in a position to effect quick deliveries, they should lose no time in publishing the fact, the great extension now being made on the Government lines together with the rapid formation of new private railway companies, will create a demand for a large number of locomotives within a comparatively short space of time.

To show how eager the American makers are to cultivate Japan it may be stated that one of the leading American locomotive builders, who has a representative here working solely in his interests, has recently sent out a mechanical engineer to render assistance in erecting the locomotives supplied.

A hint that might be useful to British manufacturers is that in sending catalogues out to this country, the approximate prices of goods should invariably be given. Without price, catalogues are so much waste paper. Government officials, in making up specifications, are bound to give some approximate prices in order to obtain a vote for the amount, and unless prices are specified time is lost in communicating home on the subject.

Doubts are expressed as to the permanence of American competition in machinery, rails, and pig-iron. It is certain that the prices realised have in many cases been under cost, but it must be remembered that the American manufacturers have had to contend against the strong prejudice which exists in favour of European and especially British goods. This they have endeavoured to break down by sheer force of cheapness, and some of their prices have been reduced far below what was necessary to effect the purpose.

Several points in the new competition are worthy of consideration. There is the remarkable co-operation of the railway and steamship companies which assists makers by liberal rebates, recouping themselves out of the high charges of the home market, and by facilities similar to those enjoyed by Germans, but which are not obtainable in England.

It is possible for an American manufacturer in almost any city in the United States to obtain a through rate of freight and bill of lading. In this way matters are much simplified, as there is only one ascertained charge to consider; whereas in purchasing goods in England, there are the items of railway carriage, dock dues, sundry charges, besides steamer freight. This is a valuable privilege, but in addition such low rates are quoted for large quantities that goods are actually conveyed two-thirds of the way across the Continent, and thence to Japan by steamer for less money than by the sea route from Liverpool or Glasgow.

American makers have also, as a rule, adopted the practice of quoting for their goods "packed f.o.b., New York," whereas the British prices are almost always subject to the addition of packing charges, which can rarely be estimated as closely as competition demands, and are consequently very unsatisfactory as far as the buyer is concerned.

SPINNING MACHINERY.

The importation of all kinds of machinery was greater than during the previous year, but the most noticeable increase took place in spinning machinery, to the extent of about 60 per cent. The figures are 207,395*l.*-327,289*l.*, and indicate the rapid development of the spinning industry.

SUGAR.

In the import of sugar an increase of about 6,400 tons is observable. One point worthy of mention is the increasing importation of beet sugar from Germany, a trade fostered by the bounties on export. Upwards of 6,000 tons passed through the Yokohama custom house alone. But this increase of beet sugar has had comparatively little effect on the other kinds of sugar imported, which denotes an increasing consumption in the country. Formosan sugar came in considerable quantities, and markets at first ruled higher than usual owing to the higher cost in Formosa, but with the accumulation of stocks and heavy arrivals of Manila sugar in October, prices for Takao sugar fell to under $\$4$, at which price the balance of stocks was cleared out late in the year. The whole of the sugar sent here from Formosa arrives during March-August, so that it is necessary to hold over a large proportion during the hot weather, when the loss in weight amounts to from $\frac{7}{8}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. During the past season a certain proportion of the Formosa crop came here under direct orders of Japanese from German and British firms in Formosa.

KEROSENE OIL.

The native production in the province of Echigo

shows an increase during the current year, although not so large as was at one time anticipated. Proper machinery for boring the wells has been imported from America, and the result is said to be very favourable, as in some instances the output has considerably increased. The consumption of oil in this country is, however, becoming greater year by year, and, although imports were larger than in 1895, sales were also greater, and the year closed with a comparatively small stock at the treaty ports. The demand for this article will be almost certain to increase with the growing spending power of the population. The average prices for the year under review were less than the preceding one, viz., about 25 *sen* per case, which was due to a fall in prices in America and Russia.

SHIPPING.

Several important shipping developments have taken place during the year. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has opened lines to Europe, Australia, and the United States. The steamers formerly employed in the coasting traffic and in transport service, with several chartered boats, have been used for this service, but the company has ordered 12 new vessels of the most modern type, with large carrying capacity and steaming 17 knots. All these ships will be delivered during 1897. The opening of new lines, as well as the increased trade resulting from the addition of Formosa to the Empire, has absorbed most of the increment of tonnage recently acquired, and thereby prevented any serious cutting of freight, or interference with the local coasting trade of Japan.

The first sailing of the European line in March resulted in a reduction of freights to London from 35*s.* to 30*s.* 6*d.*, but eventually the Nippon Yusen Kaisha joined the London conference on condition that the privilege of quoting 5 per cent. lower was conceded. Since then freights have remained steady at 32*s.* for English lines and 30*s.* 6*d.* for the Japanese line.

The company has been so successful in obtaining cargoes that it is rumoured they have decided to make the service a fortnightly one. This appears unlikely, as it is calculated that the company incurs a loss of over 3,000,000 *dol.* (*yen*) per annum on account of the European and American services. Should they do so, with the high speed it is proposed to maintain, the advantage of 5 per cent. may divert a large amount of cargo from English lines. English trade may be benefited by such a reduction, as the freights to London during past seasons have been kept at a high level by the conference, which has given an advantage to German ports, to which rates were much lower.

The lines to Australia and the United States have only recently been established, and it is too early to give an opinion as their prospects, but the former will undoubtedly break the monopoly which has so long controlled rates to Australia.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha had, at the end of September, 1896, 63 steamers, with an aggregate displacement of 136,579 tons, having within the last three years added 18 steamers, or 62,421 tons. The company, with the approval of the shareholders, increased its capital from 8,800,000 *yen* to 22,000,000 *yen* in June, 1896.

The Toyo Kisen Kaisha has been formed, with a capital of 7,500,000 *yen*, for the establishment of a line across the Pacific, and three vessels have been ordered for that route. This company has the intention of purchasing tank steamers for the kerosene oil trade between Batum and Japan.

Speaking generally the freights on outward cargo were maintained at a fairly equal level throughout the year, but for homeward business a considerable decline took place. Rates across the Pacific were low, which was principally due to the fact that the quantity of cargo going forward was less than the previous year. The continuous increase in the number of steamers trading with the Pacific coast is another cause for remark, but the most important feature of this trade is the large amount of cargo now brought to Japan by these vessels. There are several reasons for this. Both steamers and railroads are willing to accept very low freights; the diminution in the supply of timber within easy reach of the lines of communication and the generally enhanced cost of labour have so raised the prices of timber in Japan that it is possible to import with advantage from America for the supply of towns on the coast; and the American export trade has largely developed, as mentioned in another paragraph.

The P. and O. Co. have extended during the year their line of "Intermediate" steamships, which consists of a number of high class cargo boats with good accommodation for a limited number of passengers. As the ships go through to London without change and make fairly quick passages, they are well patronized.

The "Rickmers" line (German) has also been established to ply between English, German, and

Japanese ports, making a monthly trip. It may be noted that German lines have a good reputation for speed and regularity. It should also be mentioned that the rates of freight from Hamburg and Antwerp are always lower than from English ports.

The total tonnage of the Japanese Mercantile Marine at the end of the year was (approximately) 360,000 steam, 27,500 sail, consisting of—

STEAMERS.

	Number of Vessels.
Under 50 tons	62
Above 50 and under 100 tons	81
100 " 300 "	63
300 " 500 "	64
500 " 1,000 "	46
1,000 " 2,000 "	67
2,000 " 3,000 "	43
3,000 " 4,000 "	14
4,000 tons	3

SAILING VESSELS.

	Number of Vessels.
Under 100 tons	68
Over 100 and under 300 tons	82
300 " 500 "	16
500	7

LAW FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF NAVIGATION.

So far, the law for the encouragement of navigation has been practically inoperative. Application was made on behalf of several vessels for subsidies under the terms of the law, but up till the end of the year no steamer was passed by the Government surveyors, who construed the text of the Statute with all possible strictness. At present (April, 1897) only one steamer, the *Kinshu Maru*, late *Kintuck*, has obtained a subsidy, but only after the expenditure of large sums by the owners in bringing her up to the required high standard. The *Kanagawa Maru*, a fine new vessel built in Glasgow, of which the plans had previously been submitted to the surveyors, failed to satisfy the tests applied.

EXPORTS.

A falling off in the export trade of about 15 per cent. was experienced. This was due to the smaller business done in the two staple articles of export silk, and tea, which together show a decrease of nearly 2,300,000*l.* Miscellaneous exports show an increase of over 500,000*l.* sterling.

RAW SILK.

This, the chief staple of export amounted to 5,225,325 lbs., valued at 3,123,316*l.*, as against 7,746,728 lbs., valued at 5,185,728*l.*, for the previous year—a difference of about 60 per cent. In order to account for this large deficit, it is necessary to remark that the silk trade of 1895 was exceptionally good in all consuming centres, and that the average price ruling in Japan throughout the year was 824 *dol.* (silver), whilst the average for the past year was only 748 *dol.* (silver) per picul (133½ lbs.). Both years started on an almost equal footing in regard to the stocks on hand, the slightest preponderance being with the year just ended. America, the chief consumer of Japan raw silk, had in 1895 taken the large quantity of 1,972 tons at the high prices before mentioned; and this appears to have been more than ample for requirements, seeing that during 1896 only 1,041 tons, or little more than half that quantity, went forward to New York. The agitation caused by the currency question in the United States, and the unsettled state of finances in that country, brought about an almost complete cessation of business in the staple under review during the first half of the year. The new season in Japan, which commences on July 1, opened under very unfavourable circumstances. Climatic influences were very much against the successful rearing of the silkworm, the months of May and June being unusually rainy. Some time before the crop was harvested it was evident to close observers that it would be very short of the previous year's yield; probably to the extent of 20 per cent.

Foreign experts were further made uneasy by the receipt of reports from many of the chief silk districts to the effect that the silkworms were dying off before completing the cocoon. The fear then arose that the dread disease of "pebrine," (which played such havoc with the silk of Italy some 40 years ago) had found its way into the country. It would indeed appear from expert enquiry recently instituted, that the Government officials were aware that this disease had actually, to a slight extent, existed in the country for some years past. But the developments of the past season have so alarmed the authorities that a bill has been passed by the Diet enforcing strict examination of all silkworm eggs, in order to ascertain whether or not they are free from disease. The coming season in June, 1897, will be watched with great interest by all

those engaged in the silk trade throughout the world. The poor crop of 1896 caused Japanese spinners and dealers to purchase recklessly cocoons at very high prices, regardless of the crops in Italy, France, and the Levant. The outcome has been that during the latter half of 1896 they have been unable to market their stocks, being undersold by the cheaper silks of Europe. The year closed most disastrously for all concerned in the trade. In the export to Europe the falling-off has not been so marked.

One of the chief causes of complaint regarding Japanese raw silk is in the colour. Silks from the province of Shinshu, which were formerly noted for their brilliant white colour, have greatly changed for the worse in this respect. Perhaps the reason may be found in the largely increased number of silk filatures established in the province, where the supply of cocoons is inadequate to meet the increased demand, the result being that purchases have to be made further afield in the districts where the quality of cocoon is inferior. It may, on the other hand, be perchance that the disease of the silkworm referred to causes a discolouration of the cocoon, with resulting inferior silk.

Fluctuations in prices were very trivial during the latter half of the year, the greatest depreciation being between January and May, when prices of silk suitable for the American market fell 175 dol. (silver) per 133½ lbs.

A Bill has passed the Diet (March, 1897) providing for the payment of a bounty to Japanese merchants on all raw silk exported direct, that is, without passing through the hands of the foreign merchants, to whose exertions the silk export trade owes its existence.

TEA.

The tea crop last year was a good one; much better than usual, especially as regards the make of the leaf. The average price has been about 15 per cent. less than in 1895. During the early months of the year trade in the home markets was very dull, but after the United States presidential election quite a "boom" ensued, and a large and profitable business was transacted.

Japanese merchants are beginning to be very anxious as to the consequences of the competition they are subjected to by Indian teas. Hitherto they have done little, if any, harm to Japan, either in the United States or Canada, although strong efforts have been made to introduce them, and large sums of money spent in advertising. Japan teas are popular in America, light drawing teas being in greatest request there. The export, which was much less than the previous year, amounted to 41,321,963 lbs., valued at 690,336. The falling-off is due to the same causes which affected the raw silk trade, in a slight degree to the competition of Indian teas above mentioned, and partly to carelessness of preparation and inferior quality in certain instances.

The Japanese Government are alive to the importance of preserving the tea market, and have recently had under consideration a suggestion that 70,000 dol. should be devoted to the encouragement of tea export. The Japanese are endeavouring to open up a market in Russia for their teas, but so far without marked success.

RICE.

The year 1896 was a bad one for exporters of rice. Prices were kept up by native demand springing from a shortage in the crop, which, as mentioned elsewhere, was 10 per cent. less than that of 1895. Judging from the fact of the increased earning power of the people generally, the chances are that the quantity of grain available for export is likely to be smaller each season. The Japanese naturally prefer their own cereal, and will consume no other as long as their resources suffice. Beyond dispute the consumption in the country has very greatly increased.

COAL.

The export of coal has expanded, showing an increase of over 300,000 tons, but values for this article also show considerable advance. This advance is due to increased native consumption for use in factories, on railways, &c. The demand for export has also grown considerably, and prices, in consequence of these two factors, have increased some 25 per cent.

STRAW BRAID.

Straw braid (or straw plaits) is one of the articles of export which has lately shown a sudden development. In 1892 the amount exported was valued at 16,810. (155,162 yen); in 1895 at 150,326. (1,387,643 yen); and in 1896 at 242,355. (2,234,353 yen). The braid is chiefly made at Kasaoka, Bitchu, Oita, and a few other places. Great efforts are being made on the part of manufacturers and makers to push the sale abroad.

MATTING.

The export of matting was checked owing to

shoddy manufacture, the result being a decrease in value of over 50,000. The inferior goods sent to foreign countries have to a great extent injured the reputation of Japanese matting.

MATCHES.

The quantity of matches exported is gradually increasing. They are, however, of very inferior quality, and cheapness is their sole recommendation.

FISH OIL.

The tidal wave in summer did tremendous damage to the production of fish oil, about 3,000 tons being destroyed by it. The amount exported was about half of the previous year's figures.

By the middle of December a very good winter's catch was reported.

COTTON YARN.

The export trade in cotton yarn, which only took its rise a few years ago, is advancing rapidly, assisted by the abolition of import duty on raw cotton. Last year, 7,723 tons, valued at 436,522., of export, compared with 2,103 tons, valued at 112,068., the preceding year. China takes the bulk of this yarn, and Japan is endeavouring to supplant Indian yarn in her markets.

COPPER.

Export business during the year was on the same level as regards quantity, but showed an advance in prices. The principal destination of the metal was England and the continent of Europe.

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS AND PIECE-GOODS.

Silk handkerchiefs and piece-goods fell off to the extent of over 300,000., owing to the same causes which so disastrously affected the raw silk export. The trade in fancy piece-goods, such as *kaiki* and brocades, has been ruined, apparently beyond remedy, by deliveries of inferior qualities in past seasons.

CLOCKS.

The export trade in clocks at one time promised substantial extension in the Chinese market, but several of the late shipments were returned owing to defects, which arose from the irregular work of the native-made machines. Japanese manufacturers are beginning to realise the utility of purchasing foreign-made machinery, instead of the imitations which have been so much patronised since the recent boom in industrial development.

INDUSTRIES, &c.

Great activity has been manifested in the field of industrial and commercial undertakings since the war. The following figures show the capital invested in new enterprises during the past two years:—

	1895. Dollars.	1896. Dollars.
Railways	229,780,290	553,230,000
Banks.....	39,220,000	122,405,000
Companies.....	70,840,000	264,014,500
Total	339,840,000	939,649,500

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

The number of joint-stock companies in existence at the end of December was 1,729, with capital to the amount of 260,916,797 yen. The month of greatest activity during 1896 was January; December being the most quiet. Many of the companies no doubt were started on a purely speculative basis, and numbers of them were abandoned before long. Among many one company mentioned in the Trade Report for the first six months of the past year, the "Conscription Insurance Joint Stock Company," whose object was to guarantee support to the families of insurers drawn for conscription, being unable to raise the proposed capital, first reduced the sum to be subscribed by half, and then, failing to secure popular favour, the project was abandoned.

OSAKA HARBOUR CONSTRUCTION.

A grant of 468,000 yen per annum for 10 years from 1901 (the total cost is estimated at 14,500,000 yen) for the construction of a harbour at Osaka was passed in the last session of the Diet.

The question of constructing a harbour at Tokyo is at present under consideration.

DOCKS.

At Yokohama ironworks four new docks are projected. Only two of the docks have as yet been commenced, and the dimensions of the other two are not yet fixed. One of the docks is expected to be completed and ready for the reception of ships shortly. The other will probably be finished in December, 1898. The Kawasaki Shipbuilding and Engineering Yard at Kobe has begun the construction of a new dock 440 feet long, 100 feet wide, and 37 feet deep. The work of increasing the customs accommodation at Kobe, which was of most urgent necessity in view of the expanding trade of the port, is now being undertaken.

COTTON SPINNING.

During 1896 the cotton spinning companies belonging to the United Guild of Spinners produced 165,866,084 lbs. of yarn, as compared with 150,000,000 lbs., the previous year's production. The number of spindles at the close of the year amounted to about 1,300,000. Raw cotton to the extent of 206,553,321 lbs., was consumed, and of that quantity 1,356,812 lbs. were Japanese. An increase took place in consumption of cotton of 22,351,964 lbs., compared with 1895.

The subjoined list shows the condition during the last six months of 1896 of 22 of the principal spinning companies:—

Factories.	No. of Spindles.	Number of Employees.		Daily Wages.			Profit per Spin- dle.
		Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Sen.	
Settsu	35,328	660	1,673	70 to 21	85 to 7	5.71	
Hirano	27,648	403	1,034	80	18	3.48	
Tokyo	26,052	368	1,800	200	10	4.53	
Sakai	16,128	286	750	55	5	2.48	
Miyu	5,678	985	3,401	60	9	8.34	
Shimotake	5,136	91	218	45	9	3.64	
Hakuyama	10,752	147	358	231	9	1.59	
Owari	30,344	373	1,336	40	6	2.17	
Kurume	20,112	287	560	101	141	2.88	
Koriyama	20,368	286	793	50	5	3.77	
Kanagawa	18,848	657	9,200	50	5	2.76	
Amagasaki	30,628	423	928	45	6	2.41	
Himeji	4,228	210	153	35	3	4.51	
Kuraahiki	15,108	295	1,455	61	5	2.22	
Osaka	56,374	940	2,648	61	5	3.03	
Senbu	19,872	269	750	40	15	3.10	
Naniwa	21,922	430	1,560	40	10	2.77	
Okayama	25,488	2,407	—	—	—	2.52	
Tanahashi	14,052	718	555	—	—	2.22	
Wakayama	17,020	200	610	29	24	2.27	
Uwajima	4,228	84	308	30	21	3.76	
Milke	19,835	307	1,090	30	4	3.66	

* Average.

† Men and Women.

* Average.

† Men and Women.

The average profit per spindle was about 3 dol., not much lower than that for the first six months, in spite of trade depression. Rates of wages are rising, and in some of the mills it is a matter of difficulty to obtain a sufficiency of labour. The price of coal also rose some 10 per cent., while yarn sold at 91 dol. 40 c. per bale, as compared with 93 dol. 20 c.

WEAVING INDUSTRY.

The weaving industry continues to show signs of expansion. The total number of weaving establishments in 1896 was 660,408, with looms to the number of 949,123, giving employment to 1,042,866 weavers, of whom 57,850 were male, and 985,061 female. The value of the products was:—

	Value. Yen.
Silk textiles	46,471,401
Silk and cotton mixtures	10,281,272
Cotton fabrics	37,083,757
Hemp manufactures	2,011,467
Other manufactures	339,338
Total	96,187,235
Equivalent in sterling... (about)	10,000,000.

RAILWAYS.

According to the latest published statistics 2,681 miles of private, and 792 miles of Government railway lines were laid down, of which 1,697 private, and 593 Government lines were open to traffic. In 1895, 1,538 miles of private, 581 miles of Government railways were open to traffic, so that we observe an increase of 171 miles in all.

GENERAL REMARKS.

During the first three or four months of the year the demand for commodities which sprung up after the war was sustained, and business was conducted in a satisfactory manner. The inevitable reaction, however, was accelerated by the results of the disastrous tidal wave and terrible floods which prevailed in the summer and autumn of the year. Heavy damage was inflicted in many cities and villages throughout the Empire. Widespread disorganization of traffic ensued, and the rice crop experienced serious diminution, being about 10 per cent. less than that of the previous year, and the worst since 1889. The native banks withdrew the financial facilities they had hitherto extended to Japanese customers, which resulted in several failures, and contracted business generally. The consequent tightness of the money market caused the abandonment of many joint stock companies and industrial enterprises. In some cases where machinery had been ordered from Europe the contractors are even now experiencing difficulty in obtaining final payment from the merchants who placed the order.

Owing to change of fashion in the United States and collapse of trade due to the political situation, raw silk experienced an unparalleled absence of demand in the last half of the year.

Towards the end of the year buying diminished. The revulsion is naturally not so perceptible at present as contracts are given out a long while ahead, but by the end of 1897 a very sensible diminution of general imports as distinguished

from Government requirements will, no doubt, be discerned.

The rise in the cost of labour has not yet had time to affect appreciably the volume of business done, but it is probably one of the contributory causes to the lull now being experienced.

CONTRACTS.

In the export trade the foreign buyer who desires to avoid difficulties must exercise unceasing vigilance on all points connected with his contract, and even then be prepared to allow a very liberal margin of concessions for contingencies as to the quality and delivery. During the past year Kobe trade in matings and strawbraids has been a fertile source of trouble in this respect.

The difficulty is one which every branch of trade suffers from in turn. As soon as any article shows signs of extensive demand from abroad, deliveries are delayed and quality deteriorates. If the foreign purchaser insists on compliance with the contract, the guild of dealers in the particular article may boycott him and obtain the assistance of other guilds to that end.

Under these circumstances each delivery against a contract becomes a subject for fresh bargaining, but where prices have risen to any extent it is almost impossible to obtain compensation for the differences without risking an entire cessation of business.

On the other hand, some of the State Departments go to the other extreme and impose the stipulations of contracts for Government purposes with a rigidity which has no other effect than to increase the risks and therefore the cost of the articles required. Of late years the regulations have been administered with increasing severity, and it would be to the interests of all concerned if some modification were introduced.

CREDIT.

The extension of credit in Japan has largely increased in the past ten years, but there are not wanting signs that the people do not yet appreciate its value. Dealers had been in the habit of receiving payment from their country customers by means of promissory notes at 90 days, which were discounted by the native banks. Early in October the wholesale cloth merchants of Tokyo, finding themselves in trouble on account of the rise in interest and the difficulty of renewing their notes, combined to appeal to their creditors for special consideration, in other words to dictate their own terms. The amount involved was something over \$2,000,000 and the merchants proposed that their notes should be extended for two years. Eventually a compromise was arranged, but the banks took alarm at the possibilities revealed by this incident. They realised that similar combinations might be formed to their detriment, and as a consequence have gradually reduced the extent of their accommodation in this respect. It is this curtailment of credit which has been largely responsible for the dull trade of the end of the year, the native dealers being by this means reduced to a smaller scale of transactions.

USEFULNESS OF FORWARDING CATALOGUES.

The uselessness of sending to Her Majesty's Vice-Consulate at Tokyo elaborate catalogues was dwelt upon by Mr. Longford in last year's trade report. Opportunities are open to manufacturers to bring their names before the Japanese by means of the following journals which are published in Japanese. The *Nichi Yei Futsu go Zasshi*, journal of Japanese and English industry, which has an English representative resident in Tokyo, and the *Eikoku Shogio Zasshi*, a reproduction of the "British Journal of Trade."

POPULATION.

The population of Japan, according to the last census, amounts to 45,279,628 souls, of whom 21,345,750 are males and 20,924,878 females.

REPORT ON THE RAILWAYS OF JAPAN.

Sir E. Satow, writing to the Marquis of Salisbury, transmits a Report drawn up by Mr. Lowther, intended to act as a supplement to the Report on Railways drawn up by him in 1895. The present Report shows the advance made in the railway system since the above date, and gives also information as to schemes which it is intended shall be carried out.

GOVERNMENT LINES.

No great advance has been made in construction of Government lines since the Report of 1895. The total length of Government lines in operation, as then given, was 580 miles 69 chains. In the last Government report, issued in 1896, the total length is given as 593 miles 2 chains showing an increase of lines opened to traffic of 12 miles 13 chains during the year, and during the same period 34 miles of railway were begun.

The Government lines now open are:—

	Distance.	
	Miles.	chains.
The Tokaido	440	30
Shinano and Echigo	117	3
Oshiu and Dewa	35	40
Total	593	2

PRIVATE LINES.

In 1895 there were 1,538 miles of private lines open to traffic. This has been increased by 150 miles to 1,697 miles, which gives the total amount actually in operation. Further lines of railway extending over 984 miles have been laid down, but are not yet opened, showing an increase of 470 miles over the previous year of lines laid down. Beyond this charters have been granted for lines to extend over 476 miles.

The most important Government line, which has been partly built, is that between Hachioji and Nagoya, passing by Shiojiri, and thence west by Tajiri to Nagoya. By a reference to the map it will be seen that this will be an alternative line to the present main line between Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto, the principal centres of Japan.

The other important line undertaken by the Government is that branching off at Fukushima from the Japan Railway Company's line, which runs north from Tokyo, and touching the west coast at Akita, which it may be important some day to be in touch with, and thence running north to Aomori, likewise the terminus of the Japan Railway Company's line. There is further an extension of the line on the west coast from Kanagasaki to Toyama, and another further south, running along the coast from Yonago to Tottori and then inland, joining the main line to Kobe at Himeji; also a small piece of line in Kishu running from Yatsushiro to Kagoshima. There is also a short line connecting the dockyard at Kure with the main line. The majority of these lines are only just begun, and will require some years to be completed, as will be seen by reference to the extract from the Budget of 1897-98 quoted below.

Besides this it has been quite lately decided, that a line should be undertaken running from Matsuyama northwards by Takayama to Toyama, crossing a pass in the Hida range which is over 6,000 feet high. This railway, if it is built, will be very costly, and it is difficult to see how it can be remunerative, while its strategic value would hardly appear sufficient to compensate for the large outlay. As a further part of this system, it has been proposed to connect Gifu with Tajiri on the line from Shiojiri to Nagoya.

In Shikoku it is also proposed to build a line from Tokushima to Yawatahama, via Kochi, and a branch to Susaki.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAY BUDGET.

The Government has introduced and passed its Railway Budget for 1897-98, which stands as follows:—

	Amount.	Total.
Estimated receipts—	£	
1. Traffic	1,150,963	
2. Miscellaneous	49,895	
		1,206,828
Estimated disbursements—		
1. Salaries and wages	39,829	
2. Provision for injuries, deaths, &c.	401	
3. Compensation and legal expenses	248	
4. Foreign employes	3,321	
5. Interest	99,062	
6. Working expenses	501,391	
Reserve		644,252
Of which is set aside for general reserve fund	10,000	
And reserve for incidental expenses	10,000	
Received for material sold	599,509	
Paid for material bought	599,509	
Thus showing a net profit of		542,576

LINKS OPENED SINCE 1895.

The following is a list of the private companies, and of the lines which have been opened since 1895:—

Line	Between.	Distance.	
		Miles	Chains
Kishu	Kokura and Yokohashi ..	14	64
Kobu	Fushigome and Iidamachi ..	0	40
Hokkaido	Hakoda and Utsu ..	4	37
Hantan	Hase and Ikuno ..	5	5
.....	Himeji and Shikama ..	3	31
Kishu	Saga and Iakeo ..	17	50
Osaka	Tennoji and Tamatsukuri ..	8	38
Kwansei	Negoya and Maegami ..	10	21
.....	Kuwana (branch station to the chief station) ..	0	64
Hoshu	Yukihashi and Ida ..	16	40
Dogo	Matsuyama-Dogo ..	6	6
Naniwa	Katamachi-Shionawate ..	3	5
Nara	Kyoto-Fushimi ..	3	13

Osaka ..	Tamatsukuri-Umeda ..	4	99
Nara ..	Fushimi-Momoyama ..	1	9
Nihon ..	Tsuchiura-Tomobe ..	21	61
Kwansei ..	Kuwana-Yatomi ..	4	33
Omi ..	Ome-Hinawada ..	1	40
Hoso ..	Soga-Dami ..	11	46
Nara ..	Momoyama-Tamatsuki ..	12	46
Iyo ..	Tachibana-Morimatsu ..	2	60
Hoshu ..	Ida-Gotodera ..	1	79
Boso ..	hiba-Soga ..	3	4
Nara ..	Tamatsuki-Kizu ..	4	50
Total ..		156	66

They do not call for any special observations, the lines being principally branch lines connecting the present systems, but there is a tendency to connect the west coast with the east, which up till recently has been absent owing to the difficulties of crossing the mountains, which form the backbone, as it were, of the country.

Since the date of the Government report, a small line has been opened from Mito to Ota, and part of the line from Mito to Iwanuma as far as Taira, and a short line from Utsunomiya (Tokio) to Tonobe.

The following companies have also received charters for lines:—

Name of Co.	Location of Line.
Sanuki	Marogame-Takamatsu.
Hoshu	Idamuri Vegetamuri.
Kioto	From Kyoto through Mikata to Maizuru, Maizuru to Miyazu, Maizuru to Kobe, Mikata to Wadayama.
Chinyetsu ..	Takaoka-Shiohata.
Narita	Sakura-Sawara.
Sobu	Sakura-Narita Choshi.
Hokuyetsu ..	From Naotsu through Niitsu to Shibata, Niitsu to Nuttari.
Kozuke	Takasaka-Shimonia.
Sangu	Uji Yamadacho Miyagawa.
Toyokawa ..	Shimochimachi-Shigarakimura.
Hokkaido ..	Wanishimura-Muroan Harbour.
Boso	Chiba Soga and Narito Jechimiyu.
Kayo	Kayo Kashiwabara Mikkaichimura.
Nishinari ..	Kawagatsuma Oaza Minami Kwan-sen-Umeda.
Karatsu ..	Karatsumachi Ushitsu.
Nankai	Minatocho Wakayama.
Kujima	Kurashiki-Mino.

And the following lines are likewise to be built:—

Toyama to Naotsu.
Shibata to Chuhonai.
Kurozawajiri to Yokoto.
Hiroshima to Hamada.
Ota to Miyazaki.
Kurume to Yamaga.

PROVISIONAL CHARTERS.

Provisional charters enabling companies to be formed and construct railways in the localities indicated have been granted to the following companies:—

Name of Company.	Location of Line.
Chukuh	Umi-Komada.
Kanto	Hakodate-Shimoyukawa.
Kibi	Ishi Mura-Asao Mura.
Yamagi	Yamaga-Yoroida.
Tsuga	Kawashima-Karasuyama.
Iwakoshi ..	Koriyama-Sakaya.
Biei	Ichinomiya-Yataomi.
Uwajima ..	Uwajima Yoshino Mura.
Imari	Imari Shin-Mura.

The annexed list is that of all the private lines in existence at the end of 1896, with the amount of their capital and the total mileage of road which it is their intention to construct:—

LIST OF THE CAPITAL OF PRIVATE RAILWAY COMPANIES, &c.

Name.	Capital.	Total Miles of Road.
	£	Miles Chains
Nippon	3,000,000	852 3
Sanyo	1,800,000	308 6
Kishu	1,650,000	271 1
Chikuh	499,000	41 77
Sanuki	109,000	27 21
Kobu	300,000	26 77
Kansai	650,000	113 71
Osaka	345,000	45 25
Hankai	40,000	6 13
Iyo	10,000	12 79
Settsu	24,000	8 35
Sangu	135,000	26 18
Sano	14,500	9 60
Sobu	240,000	72 0
Hoshu	300,000	46 3
Naniwa	65,000	16 60
Kawagoe	36,000	18 40
Ome	20,000	13 0
Hantan	180,000	45 0
Nara	150,000	26 0
Boso	120,000	35 40
Ota	34,000	12 18
Nanyo	13,500	6 56
Dago	6,000	3 6
Naniwa	37,500	8 14

Hatsuse	50,000	12	17
Kioto	510,000	104	6
Chuyetsu	25,000	18	50
Narita	75,000	25	0
Hokuyetsu	370,000	99	6
Joya	40,000	20	53
Toyokawa	50,000	18	55
Kayo	30,000	11	23
Karatsu	120,000	27	30
Nishinari	110,300	47	10
Nankai	280,000	42	31
Kojima	28,000	12	38
Hankaku	400,000	67	0
Kiwa	140,000	32	34
Koya	150,000	23	40
Chugoku	500,000	98	4
Nanas	70,000	31	58
Isominato	39,000	8	26
Seiwa	36,000	64	75
Iga	120,000	25	40
Joka	80,000	24	60
Josu	25,000	10	41
Imari	27,000	8	16
Omi	100,000	27	45
Yamaga	60,000	12	40
Kibi	35,000	13	0
Bisai	60,000	15	0
Tegaru	60,000	20	0

Total 13,693,500 2,931 1

PROVISIONAL SANCTION GIVEN.

Number.	Capital.	Mileage.
	£	Miles. Chains.
22	7,037,550	1,559 2

EXPENDITURE ON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

The total amount included in the Budget 1896-97 to be expended in the construction of new railways is 1,286,666, and a further provision is made as a continuing expenditure up to 1902-3, distributed as follows:—

Year.	Line.	Amount.	Total.
		£	£
1897-98	...Fukushima-Aomori	177,777	
	Tsuruga-Toyama	180,815	
	Hachioji-Nagoya	150,000	
	Shimonoi-Shiojiri	72,222	
	Yatsushiro-Kagoshima	11,111	
			591,925
1898-99	...Fukushima-Aomori	266,666	
	Hachioji-Nagoya	338,889	
	Shimonoi-Shiojiri	199,710	
	Yatsushiro-Kagoshima	188,889	
			994,163
1899-1900	...Fukushima-Aomori	223,333	
	Hachioji-Nagoya	555,555	
	Yatsushiro-Kagoshima	194,445	
			983,333
1900-01	...Fukushima-Aomori	227,083	
	Hachioji-Nagoya	511,111	
	Yatsushiro-Kagoshima	183,331	
			921,527
1901-02	...Hachioji-Nagoya	516,667	
	Yatsushiro-Kagoshima	166,666	
			683,333
1902-03	...Yatsushiro-Kagoshima		169,043
	Grand total.....	5,630,590	

Taking the Fukushima-Aomori Line, which will cover a distance of some 300 miles, and the amount set down to be expended on it, about 1,110,000, we arrive at the result that it will cost about 3,700, a mile. In my report of 1895 I stated that the estimate of the lines to be built was set down at about 3,500, a mile. It is, however, doubtful whether even the larger of these sums will suffice for the purpose, the price of labour having risen since 1895 about 30 per cent.

RECONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES.

For the reconstruction of Government railways, that is to say, the doubling of the existing single line of the Tokaido Railway, the following sums have been set down in the Budget in the form of continuing expenditure:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1896-97	500,000
1897-98	333,333
1898-99	400,000
1899-1900	400,000
1900-01	400,000
1901-02	422,222
1902-03	427,812
1903-04	66,666

Total 2,950,033

A further sum of 2,062,450, is also estimated for railways in the Hokkaido, to be spread over 12 years. The doubling of the main Tokaido Line, that is from Tokyo to Kobe (only very small portions of this being at present doubled), has actually

been commenced, but owing to financial considerations, it is not expected that it will be entirely open to traffic until 1904. The only difficulty is the tunnelling, for which no provision was made when the line was originally built. I am told also that the landowners have proved rather obstructive. Nothing has been done towards connecting the two main lines which run into Tokyo, or in the matter of a central station. The question of altering the gauge provoked a good deal of discussion for some time, but appears to have been dropped again now.

Complaints against the management both of Government and private lines have been abundant. The permanent way of the main Government line, it is asserted, does not receive the attention it deserves. No improvement in the velocity of trains has taken place, indeed, rather the reverse. A passenger train now occupies 61 minutes going from Tokyo to Yokohama, a distance of 18 miles, and the fastest trains take 45 minutes. In the course of last summer, the majority of lines suffered considerably from the floods, and punctuality became the exception rather than the rule.

FOREIGN ADVISERS.

Two more of the foreign engineers on the Government lines have received notice that their contracts will not be renewed, and their places will be filled by Japanese.

QUOTATION OF SHARES.

It may not be without interest to compare the quotation of some of the railway shares at the present time with those ruling at the end of 1895. I then pointed out that they were for the most part abnormally high, owing to a wave of speculation in this direction, but taking this into consideration, the price of these shares has been well maintained, there being only a fall in the majority of those given of from 6 per cent. to 10 per cent., and in one case only is there a rise:—

	Paid up.	Price in 1895.	Present Price.
	Yen.	c.	
Japan Railway Co.	50	144 50	100
Ryomo "	50	84 50	88
Kobe "	45	146 00	145
Sanyo "	30	63 00	53
Kansai "	47	76 00	66
Kyushu "	41	70 00	66
Langsu "	50	91 00	91
Chikuho "	50	98 00	82
Sobu "	50	133 00	125

FORMOSA.

Very little new work on railways has been so far undertaken in Formosa, although the railway between Kelung and Taipei has been relaid. The locomotives and rolling stock are of such antiquated patterns, that they are not of much use, and their quantity is very inadequate. It is the intention of the Government to leave the construction of railways in Formosa to private enterprise, and the Diet has voted a sum of 1,289,250, as a subsidy to the company, equal to 6 per cent. of the capital. This payment is to be spread over 15 years. The country would then be divided up into four sections:—

Section	Line from—	District.
1	Kelung to Takow	West coast
2	Kelung to Giran	North
3	Takow to Hienchun	South
4	Hienchun to Giran	East coast

COMPETITION.

In my above-mentioned report, I pointed out that British manufacturers had hitherto practically had a monopoly in furnishing rails, locomotives, rolling stock, &c., but that it would require renewed exertions on their part to continue to be the purveyors in this line. Whether from an absence of such energy, or from other causes it is a fact that the tendency has latterly been for other countries to furnish such commodities.

RAILS.

As an example I may quote the following:—In September, 1896, a tender was granted to Messrs. Mitsui by the Government Railway Department for 13,000 tons of rails. They subsequently placed the order with Messrs. Carnegie, of Pittsburgh, at a price alleged to be 10 per cent. under that quoted by English makers. Some time previous to this contract being let, there existed a syndicate of American rail-makers to keep up the price of rails for home consumption, and also for export. English makers advanced their prices in sympathy with this movement, but it is asserted that, in spite of the syndicate, rails were exported by certain makers in America at prices lower than those quoted as the syndicate prices, and thus many orders went to America, but, with the advent of the McKinley régime and prospect of increased tariffs it is not improbable that Japanese orders may again be placed in England.

TENDERS.

The difficulties surrounding the system of tender have, to a certain extent, militated against orders being placed in England. The conditions of tender, purchase, and contract have lately been radically altered. Up to the end of 1895, Government requisitions and indents were sent "en bloc" to London, and the material required were purchased by Government agents under very rigid inspection and supervision. Since the end of 1895 all requisitions have been issued from the head railway office at Shimbashi, and this will probably continue to be the system adopted. In most cases a nominal fee is charged for specification, and the following conditions must be complied with:—

1. Applicants for specifications and forms of tender must be Japanese subjects.
 2. They must give proof of having been in business for at least two years.
 3. They must satisfy the department authorities that they are able financially to carry out the contracts.
 4. With the tender, an accompanying deposit of 6 per cent. of the amount of the tender must be made.
 5. In the event of the tender being accepted, such deposit must be increased to 10 per cent.
- These stringent regulations naturally reduce competition within extremely narrow limits; in fact, only some three or four Japanese firms can compete successfully. Take, for instance, the contract for rails referred to above, which would probably amount to 90,000. The required deposit would be 9,000, which is practically abstracted from the capital of a business firm during the time the contract is being executed, probably from 9 to 12 months, and this sum may also be forfeited under certain conditions.

LOCOMOTIVES.

In my report No. 390, of 1896, I pointed out the fact that a very large proportion of the locomotives on Japanese railways were of English make. I believe the proportion to have been at a comparatively recent date—English, 224; American, 6. Some of the latter were purchased in 1890, but did not give satisfaction, the finish being unsatisfactory and the consumption of coal greater than on the English engines. However, some more were ordered in 1894, with a like result. With this experience, it is not to be wondered at that the Japanese should prefer to purchase English-made locomotives, but we do not have a monopoly in this line.

In October, 1896, tenders were considered for 18 locomotives. Three Japanese firms and one foreign (French) firm tendered through a Japanese subject. The locomotives were to be of English make, six well-known manufacturers being selected. The contract was let to the French firm at 58,000, while the amount of other tenders ranged from 7 per cent. to over 50 per cent. higher. Subsequently, owing to the specified English makers being so busy, and the contractor, therefore, unable to fulfil the necessary conditions as to delivery within a specified date, the contract was thrown up, and the deposit money, 10 per cent., forfeited.

Now fresh tenders for the same 18 locomotives are being considered, but the number of approved makers has been increased to nine.

Probably owing to English makers finding it difficult to adhere exactly to a special date of delivery, which, in view of the fact that a considerable impetus has latterly been given to railway enterprise in Japan, is rather short, orders are now going to America. Some 60 or 70 locomotives have recently been ordered in America by the Government railways and the Japan Railway Company.

The building of locomotives at Kobe in Japan, referred to on page 11 of my previous report, continues, but facilities do not exist for building on a large scale. The total number built in those works now reaches nine. The last one turned out is a good engine similar to those used on the L. & N. W. R.

All the locomotives have been built at Kobe under the superintendence of Mr. R. F. Trevithick, M.I.C.E.

The Government apparently find the system of importing the material and setting up here satisfactory, as the material for six engines is about to be ordered from England and built in Tokyo. The cost of the locomotive referred to above as having been built at Kobe, I am informed, amounted to 18,237 dol., or about 2,026, made up as follows:—

	Amount.
Wages	\$ 4,650
Material's	10,100
Sundries	3,487
Total	18,238
Equivalent in sterling.....	£ 2,026

This may be considered the total cost of the locomotive ready for traffic, but no estimate is made for wear and tear of machinery or interest of buildings, for which about \$1,000 must be added, bringing the cost of the engine to 2,248*l*.

In 1894, 12 locomotives somewhat similar to that mentioned above were purchased from Beyer, Peacock, & Co., the cost of which was:—

	Amount.	£	s.	d.
Price	26,541	2	0	0
Freight, insurance and commission..	3,222	8	0	0
Total	29,763	10	0	0
	Amount.	£	s.	d.
One engine.....	2,480	5	10	0
Japanese expenses	200	0	0	0
Total	2,680	5	10	0

As against the 2,248*l*. mentioned above, an advantage in building in Japan of over 400*l*. per locomotive.

Under the most favourable circumstances, it is not likely that an English locomotive could be imported and placed in Kobe station ready for traffic under at least 2,200*l*. The foreign advisers of the Railway Department have frequently pointed out to their employers the advantage to be derived from building in Japan, but at present insufficient facilities exist for turning out any large number of locomotives.

THE "TENSIN MARU" ENQUIRY.

A Marine Court of Enquiry was opened on Friday, the 14th inst., at the Marine Bureau, Tokyo, to enquire into the circumstances of the stranding of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Tenshin Maru*, Captain Frank J. Brown, master, which occurred on the 14th June last, near Fukuyama, while on a voyage from Otaru to Yokohama, the vessel being safely floated off a few days later.

The Court was composed of Mr. K. Morimoto, President, and Messrs. T. Wakura, T. Ito, and S. Kono, Assessors.

The statement of Captain Brown and the second and third officers had previously been taken in private by the Court, and the same witnesses were now called and examined on the statements then made.

Francis John Brown, in reply to the Court, said the statement he had already made was, to the best of his knowledge, true. He added:—

When 120 miles from the Sale Rock I took my departure—off the Lighthouse. The ship was supposed to be near the Flat Rock. At 5 o'clock a.m., I stopped the engines and hauled in the patent log. Then I turned the ship round in the opposite direction and put her head to the north-west. At 6 o'clock we saw what I supposed to be the Flat Rock, underneath the fog, and steered a little nearer, north-west, so as to see the rock clearer. I then sent for the second officer to come on the bridge and take bearings with me. At 7 minutes past 6 turned the ship's head round to the south-east. At 10 minutes past 6 went ahead slow, the bearing of the rock was then N.E. by N. $\frac{1}{2}$ N., magnetic. At the same time I saw a point of land bearing E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. I supposed this was the point of land above Matsushima the bearing coming in correctly with the rock. I was not sure of my position till I found the bearing of the point corresponded properly with that of the rock. The steam in the boilers had run down and I telegraphed to get up more steam after taking the bearing. I then steered S.E. by S. $\frac{1}{2}$ S., so as to allow for the current and make good a S.E. by S. course. Just after, at 6.20, I rang the telegraph for half speed and directly afterward full speed. I did not see land on the port side, only the rock. I had two men on the lookout. At 6.25 we thought we saw something like rocks on the port side. We put the helm hard a port till the ship's head came to South-east. I thought that that course must take me clear of everything. Directly after the lookout men shouted to stop the engines and then the ship struck. Her head was then S. by E. Immediately after striking the sluice valves were closed at the water tight bulk-heads and the engines worked astern, but the ship was too fast embedded to come off. We sounded round the ship and found 23 fathoms round the bows and 10 fathoms (60 feet) round the stern. When the fog cleared we found we had mistaken the rock Aramatsa for Flat Rock. We were to the north of Flat Rock. From the bearings taken this did not seem possible.

To the President—From ten minutes past 5 till 1 minute past 6 we changed the direction of the ship's head several times to get in nearer to obtain a view of the rock. From 1 minute past 6 till 7

past six I steered north, and then stopped the ship to take bearings. This was when we saw the point of the land. I took the bearings myself and then asked the second officer to take them again to be sure we were right; his bearings were the same as mine; the rock bore N.E. by N. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. I went down to the chart room, just under the bridge to mark off the position. The deviation was 34 degrees westerly. As soon as I came out of the chart room I gave the order to keep a little more off the land to make allowance for deviation. I was steering S. by E. when the ships struck; the deviation was then 2 degrees westerly. The ship remained heading thus till she was hauled off the rocks. The speed of the ship when she struck was about 7 knots. Going slow the vessel would make about 5 knots. Seeing the point of land corresponded in its bearing with Flat Rock I felt sure we were right. Had we not seen the point of land I should have kept more to the westward. After we had struck we found there was a strong current setting in to the point; fully 4 knots. This current set us in. Had it not been for it the course we were steering would have cleared the rock. The third officer was standing by the telegraph and helping to keep a good look-out for dangers. I had been down to the chart room again and was just coming up on the bridge when the look-out man called out to stop the engines. The third officer had never been in that neighbourhood before, the second officer was an old ship-master and knew that coast. The damage to cargo would be about 3,000 packages of fish manure in the No 1 hold. It was taken out afterward at Hakodate and re-dried.

The whistle was used all the time; but it was a very bad one, in bad condition. I had requisitioned the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for a new whistle before I left Yokohama, but it had not been provided. I had notified the Superintendent Captain of the N.Y.K. that the whistle was useless.

Nils Neilsen, second officer of the *Tenshin Maru*, was next examined, and his statement corroborated that of Captain Brown.

Frederick Rehboldt, third officer of the *Tenshin Maru*, also corroborated the Captain's statement. He added that about 1 minute before 6, when the Captain was in the chart-room, witness saw an island which looked exactly like Flat Rock, and upon calling the Captain up he agreed that it was Flat Rock. At 6.7 the ship was stopped and at 6.10 went slow ahead and helm put hard a-port. The second officer was then called on the bridge, and the Captain asked his opinion as to the island, the second officer agreeing that it was Flat Rock. At 6.14 the second officer took a cross bearing and at 6.20 the engines were put at half speed. The course was altered by the Captain a little more to the south, but witness could not say at what time. At 6.28 the ship struck. About a minute before striking some rocks were seen ahead and the helm was put hard a-port. Witness had not been to Otaru before; it was the first time he had been on that part of the coast.

There being no other witnesses to call, the Court asked Captain Brown if he had any further statement to make. Capt. Brown said he forgot to tell the Court that directly the rocks were sighted and the look-outs called out, the engines were stopped. Also had it not been for the strong current, the ship would not have been so far in. They could not see the land, only the tops of some hills, which appeared to be several miles away; this led them to think they were a long way off the land. The rock which he took to be Flat Rock was very close to Aramatsa. When he said he did not consult his third officer he meant after the second officer came on deck; as the latter knew the coast and the former did not.

The second and third officers had nothing further to say.

The Court then adjourned, the President announcing that notice would be given when the finding will be delivered.

ALLEGED LARCENY AT TONOSAWA.

ACCUSED COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

James Fergusson Morrison, of no occupation, was charged in H.B.M. Court for Japan on Monday, before James Troup, Esq., Assistant Judge, with the larceny of 3 yen and some small coins.

The Japanese police laid the charge, and Mr. Fukada Tatsuno, Public Procurator of the Yokohama Court, appeared for the prosecution.

In answer to the Bench, accused said he was 28 years of age. When asked if he preferred being tried by a jury or summarily, he replied—"I hardly know; I have had no experience of this sort of

thing. Had I known, I would have been defended by a lawyer.

Mr. Thomas Jones, a merchant on a visit from Australia, and at present residing at No. 87, Main Street, Yokohama, deposed—On the 11th of this month I arrived at the Tamanoyu, Tonosawa, engaged a room for the night and then went on to the verandah, where I saw accused sitting. He asked me to have a drink. Believing him to be a lodger and a gentleman, I sat down and we had a conversation. Shortly before retiring for the night he asked me to have another drink, which I declined. We then went to our respective rooms. I left my light burning dimly, and at about 3 a.m. I heard a noise in my room as of some one walking about. I looked up and saw the defendant standing by my trousers with a purse in his hand. I said, "Hallo, what are you doing there?" As soon as he saw he was discovered he feigned drunkenness, lifted up the mosquito net and threw himself across me in the bed. I said, "Get up out of this and go to your own bed." He got up and went out. I saw this purse lying on the quilt. I looked at it and found it was nearly empty. It contained only a few cents and several five cent pieces. When I put it in my trousers pocket it contained upwards of yen 5. I immediately raised the alarm. The watchman was going round the hotel. I called him into my bedroom and explained to him as well as I could about the robbery and while explaining defendant came into my room. He said: "Don't make a noise about it, in the morning I'll make it all right." I retired to rest and waited till the morning. In the morning, I called in a Japanese female who was staying at the hotel who could speak good English. I said to her I was sorry I had been robbed by my own countryman whom I took to be a gentleman but I was sorry to find a thief. A little later I went to the front of the hotel. The Japanese servant Ochikusan came to me hastily and said defendant had thrown my boots in the water and bolted out of the back door. I came to the back and found the man had disappeared. I have never seen him from then till now. When talking with Ochikusan, defendant came round and admitted he had taken the money, that he would refund it, and that we were not to make a noise about it, or words to that effect.

Cross-examined by defendant, witness said he had one glass of whiskey and a slight taste of a second. He remembered well what he did then and afterwards.

To the Court—I think accused went to bed about 10 o'clock. I saw him just before. I should take him to have been about half drunk then.

Police Inspector Takebashi Tetsuma gave evidence regarding the arrest of defendant at the Matsuzakaya, Ashinoyu, on the 14th inst.

Mr. Jones, recalled—I wish to correct the statement in my evidence-in-chief that I arrived at the Tonosawa hotel on the 11th. I arrived there on the 10th. What I previously said in my evidence was that I arrived there about the 11th.

This concluded the evidence for the prosecution.

After being duly cautioned, accused made the following statement—I wish to make a few remarks. In the first place, I wish to say that I am totally innocent of this charge. I am receiving regular and constant remittances from my father, and I appeal to anyone, is it likely that I would place myself in a position like this for three dollars? I never took a penny of the man's money. I had money of my own. Afterwards I ran short and immediately wrote to Yokohama for a remittance. That is all I have to say. I have never previously been placed in a similar position, and immediately the Inspector spoke to me I expressed my willingness to go with him and face the charge—I paying all my own expenses, which were over the amount named in the charge. I don't think there is anything I wish to add except that I am without actual friends here, although I have acquaintances who, I believe, will stand by me.

His Honour committed accused for trial.

Accused asked to be admitted to bail, and His Honour granted the prayer, fixing it at two sureties of \$500 each, to the satisfaction of the Court, accused to be remained in custody until the production of the sureties.

Messrs. Andrew and Son, cotton spinners, of Ashton-under-Lyne, have recovered £500 damages in an action for libel against Mr. Labouchere, proprietor and editor of *Truth*.

The French captain, Ronneaux, who was arrested on a charge of embezzling funds while acting as paymaster of the forces in one of the districts of Tonkin, committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE
PRIVY COUNCIL.

(LONDON, JULY 14.)

Before the Lord CHANCELLOR, Lord HOBHOUSE, Lord MORRIS, Sir RICHARD COUCH, Sir HENRY DE VILLIERS, and Sir HENRY STRONG.

The Right Hon. Sir John Henry de Villiers, K.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the Cape Colony, took his seat for the first time as a member of the Judicial Committee.

CAREW V. THE CROWN PROSECUTOR IN JAPAN.

This was a petition presented by Edith May Hollowell Carew, now imprisoned in Hongkong, praying that she might be granted special leave to appeal from the verdict given and the sentence passed on her in February, 1897, upon her trial for the murder of her husband.

Sir Frank Lockwood, Q.C., and Mr. M. Macnaghten appeared for the petitioner. The petition was *ex parte*.

Sir Frank Lockwood, Q.C., said that the petitioner, Mrs. Carew, was charged with and convicted of murder on February 1, 1897. The charge was that she murdered her husband on October 22, 1896. The case was tried before his Honour Judge Mowat and a jury of five persons at Yokohama, and the petitioner was found guilty and sentenced to death. The sentence of death was afterwards reduced to a sentence of imprisonment with hard labour for life. The petitioner desired leave to appeal from the verdict and sentence.

The Lord Chancellor—Under what jurisdiction was the lady tried?

Sir Frank Lockwood, continuing, said that she was tried under the provisions of an Order in Council, dated March 9, 1865, which provided for the government of British subjects in China and Japan. That order provided that a Court should be established for the trial of cases in which British subjects were concerned in China and Japan. It was provided that the Court should be presided over by a Judge, and that the jury should consist of five jurors. The petitioner was tried by a Court so constituted. It was contended on her behalf that the Order in Council, was *ultra vires*. Persons tried in her Majesty's Court in Japan were entitled to be tried by a jury of 12 men. The Queen, by an Order in Council, assumed to be empowered to alter the law with regard to the constitution of a jury.

The Lord Chancellor—There is no such law in Japan; the question is whether she has power to make laws in Japan. If her Majesty has power to make laws in another country she is not under any of the limitations prevailing in this country.

Sir Frank Lockwood, continuing, said that apart from statute the Queen had no power either to make laws for the government of her subjects in places outside her dominions. In 1858 a treaty was made between her Majesty and the Tycoon of Japan by which the Queen was granted power to try British subjects residing in Japan "according to the laws of Great Britain." Therefore, so far as Japan was concerned, she had jurisdiction to try British subjects in Japan, but only according to British law. The treaty, however, could give her no right against British subjects, and unless the Queen had been given power by statute to exercise such jurisdiction in Japan any exercise of that jurisdiction would have rendered her Majesty's officials in Japan liable to legal proceedings in England either for false imprisonment or for manslaughter as the case might be. Accordingly the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts were passed in order to make the exercise of such extra territorial jurisdiction legal. And the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890, which was merely a codification of the various earlier Foreign Jurisdiction Acts, provided:—"Whereas by treaty, capitulation, grant, usage, sufferance, and other lawful means her Majesty the Queen has jurisdiction within divers foreign countries, and it is expedient to consolidate the Acts relating to the exercise of her Majesty's jurisdiction out of her dominions, be it enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, &c., . . . that it is and shall be lawful for her Majesty to hold, exercise, and enjoy any jurisdiction which her Majesty now has or may at any time hereafter have within a foreign country in the same and as ample a manner as if her Majesty had acquired that jurisdiction by the cession or conquest of territory."

The Lord Chancellor—"By cession or conquest." A conqueror imposes such laws as he pleases. Her Majesty's powers are as conqueror, not as constitutional Sovereign.

Sir Frank Lockwood—By her Order in Council she only purports to administer British law to British subjects.

The Lord Chancellor—Do you mean that in every case where her Majesty has power to impose laws she is bound by the Constitution of England?

Sir Frank Lockwood—No, but she has no power to make laws for her subjects residing in Japan. She has jurisdiction to administer the law; she has no power to make laws there. Continuing, he said that the Foreign Jurisdiction Act enabled the Queen to exercise in Japan the jurisdiction granted to her by the treaty of 1858. But it only enabled her to exercise that jurisdiction—that is to say, the power to say what the law is—to administer the law—and to punish in accordance with the law if the law were broken; but it gave her no power at all to make laws for the government of her subjects outside her Majesty's dominions. That this was so was clear, not only from the Act itself, but from the amending Act of 1878.

The Lord Chancellor—That was my Act.

Sir Frank Lockwood continued—For by section 3 of that Act the Queen was empowered by Order in Council to apply certain Acts with such modifications as she might think fit to the various places outside the dominions where she had jurisdiction. If it were the fact that the Queen had already, either in right of her Crown or by virtue of the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts, power to make laws for the government of her subjects residing in these places it would be clearly unnecessary to give her the power.

The Lord Chancellor—Some countries were added to those already dealt with. That is all the Act of 1878 did.

Lord Hobhouse—Doubts had arisen whether British subjects were bound to obey the law in certain places. There was a doubt, for instance, as to the jurisdiction on the sea.

Lord Morris—Do you argue that a British subject carries with him the right to be tried in the manner adopted in his native country? Has a Scotchman the right to be tried by 15 jurors in Japan?

Sir Frank Lockwood—No, for I say the Queen has only the power to administer the law of this country to British subjects in Japan, whether of Scotch or English origin.

The Lord Chancellor—It is 30 years too late to argue that. It has been argued that it is the inalienable right of a British subject to be tried according to British law, but the Act has done away with that. If it could be argued now all the Courts in Turkey and elsewhere have been for years exercising a jurisdiction they had no power to exercise.

Sir Frank Lockwood continued.—The Foreign Jurisdiction Act enabled her Majesty to exercise that jurisdiction which she had by treaty acquired within various places out of her dominions. In the case of Japan, therefore, the Act enabled her to exercise the jurisdiction granted by the treaty of 1858. That treaty expressly and explicitly conferred upon her a jurisdiction to try British subjects in Japan "according to the laws of Great Britain." The Foreign Jurisdiction Act did not purport to enlarge that jurisdiction. It only purported to make its exercise legal. Therefore, it was clear that the Queen had power to try her subjects in Japan according to British law, and had no other power whatsoever. As their Lordships appeared to be against him on the question of jurisdiction, there were the further important questions as to misdirection by the Judge and the misreception of evidence.

The Lord Chancellor—That is never allowed. Have you ever heard in this country of applications for new trials in murder cases?

Sir Frank Lockwood—I was under the impression that your Lordships had such a power.

The Lord Chancellor—A new trial has been granted in a case where the decision was contrary to natural justice. The Judge in the case I am speaking of told the jury that if they did not convict the prisoner they would be accusing the Attorney-General of perjury.

Lord Hobhouse—This Court never interferes except where there has been a miscarriage of justice.

Sir Frank Lockwood—I am in a position to contend that there has been a grave miscarriage of justice. A deposition taken before the coroner who held the inquest on the deceased was admitted in evidence on the ground that the witness was too unwell to attend the trial. The admission of depositions taken before magistrates had in some cases been allowed, but there was no instance of depositions taken before a coroner being allowed.

The Lord Chancellor—That is not a ground on which we would interfere.

Sir Frank Lockwood—It was a most unfortunate thing that this deposition, taken without cross-examination, was admitted, because it was of such a kind as to have great weight with the jury.

Counsel having withdrawn, after a short deliberation,

The Lord Chancellor said—This is not a case in which we consider that it is desirable, or proper, or in the ordinary course, to give leave to appeal. Her Majesty has full jurisdiction to establish Courts outside her dominions and to provide for trial by juries of five persons. The arguments adduced against that proposition would go to prevent the establishment of any Courts at all. The statute was passed to remove doubts. It gave her power to exercise jurisdiction as though she had obtained the countries by cession or conquest. It was passed to establish her right to jurisdiction over her own subjects abroad. With reference to the other questions, it is not necessary to say much beyond saying that appeals will only be allowed in exceptional cases. In "*In re Abraham Mallock Diller*" (12 App. Ca., 495, at page 497) Lord Watson said:—"Her Majesty will not review or interfere with the course of criminal proceedings unless it is shown that, by disregard of the forms of legal process, or by some violation of the principles of natural justice, or otherwise, substantial and grave injustice has been done." No such ground of injustice has been shown here. Their Lordships will therefore advise her Majesty that no leave for this appeal ought to be granted.—*The Times*.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

TURKEY AND THE POWERS.

London, Aug. 12.

The Powers informed the Greek Government that the Porte declares its inability to evacuate Thessaly at once on the plea of want of funds, but guarantees to commence the withdrawal of troops on receiving payment of the first instalment of the indemnity (one million pounds sterling).

Greece has replied that she can only raise the money by a foreign loan, and that this is only obtainable if she is allowed to negotiate directly with her bondholders.

The difficulty in connection with the payment of the Greek indemnity still delays the peace negotiations.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA.

The German Emperor has left St. Petersburg, after cordial farewells. The Russian press appears satisfied that his visit has constituted a good augury for the future peace of Europe.

THE BRITISH EXPEDITION TO BENIN.

The King of Benin (West Africa) has surrendered to the British, after eluding pursuit for six months.

PERSIA AND TURKEY.

London, Aug. 12.

Bands of Armenians from Persia are crossing the frontier and raiding Turkish territory.

THE NILE EXPEDITION.

In the capture of Abu Hamed, the loss on the Egyptian side was 21 killed and 61 wounded.

THE ITALIANS IN ABYSSINIA.

PRINCE HENRI'S STATEMENTS RESENTED.

Prince Henri of Orleans, on returning to Paris, has been forthwith challenged to fight a duel by the Italian General Albertoni, owing to the Prince's letters in the *Figaro* casting aspersions on the Italian prisoners in Abyssinia.

London, Aug. 13.

It is reported that the Count of Turin has started secretly for France, having challenged Prince Henri of Orleans to fight a duel.

[Prince Victor Emanuel, Count of Turin, is 27 years old, nephew of the King of Italy and second son of the late Duke Aosta, the King's brother-in-law. The present Duke of Aosta is married to Princess (Ediene of Orleans.)

Prince Victor Emanuel (Count of Turin) and Prince Henry of Orleans fought a duel with swords on the outskirts of Paris on Sunday. The encounter was of a desperate character, and lasted twenty-six minutes. Prince Henry was seriously wounded in the shoulder and abdomen, and Prince Victor Emanuel was wounded in the hand.

London, Aug. 16.

The duel between Prince Victor Emanuel (Duke of Turin) and Prince Henry of Orleans consisted of five assaults of four minutes each. Prince Henry was hit in the shoulder at the outset, the skin being barely pierced. Later he received a wound in the abdomen which proved serious, though the intestines are not perforated. Prince Henry, half rising from the ground, shook hands with his antagonist, and afterwards was able to walk to his carriage without assistance. The Duke of Turin's wound was merely a scratch; he left Paris in the afternoon to return to Italy.

ANARCHISTS IN EUROPE.

The Governments of France and Spain are taking active steps to expel Anarchists, who are now taking refuge in London.

THE INDIAN FRONTIER RAID.

It has transpired that the 5,000 tribesmen who raided the Peshawur Valley and were repulsed by the British were mainly Afghans, who had been in constant communication with the Afghan Commander-in-chief. Large reinforcements are hastening to Peshawur from Rawul-pindi.

London, August 15.

Upwards of twenty thousand troops are concentrated at Pawal-pindi (North-West India) prepared for all eventualities.

CHINESE LOAN.

Sheng Taotai, as representing China, has signed a provisional contract with the Hooley-Jameson Syndicate (British) for a five per cent. loan of sixteen million pounds sterling at the issuing price of 95.

CHINESE ENVOY DECORATED.

H.E. Chang Yin-huan, the special Ambassador representing China at the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, has received the honorary Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George.

ENGLISH COUNTY CRICKET.

In the County Cricket Tournament, Surrey has beaten Essex by ten wickets, and Lancashire has beaten Yorkshire by an innings and 26 runs.

THE INDIAN LOAN.

Tenders for the Indian Rupee Loan of three crores (thirty millions) amounted to 59,731,500. The minimum price at which tenders were accepted was 98.1, and 67.20 per cent. of the whole of the tenders were at this price. The average rate of acceptance was 98.5. 3.77.

THE PRINCES' DUEL.

London, Aug. 17.

Prince Henry of Orleans is progressing satisfactorily towards recovery from the wounds he received in the duel with Prince Victor Emanuel. In view of the result of that duel, General Albertoni has withdrawn the challenge he sent to Prince Henry.

ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.

The Duke and Duchess of York have started on a visit to Ireland.

TURKEY AND THE POWERS.

There is a hitch in the peace negotiations, as Great Britain objects to the proposal that Turkey be allowed to remain

in occupation of a portion of Thessaly pending payment of the indemnity and be only bound to withdraw gradually until the whole of the indemnity shall have been paid. Great Britain is alone in this objection.

GREAT RISING ON THE INDIA FRONTIER.

London, Aug. 18.

The Afridis are marching upon Jamrud, through the Khyber Pass. The Orakzais (? Waziris) are advancing through the Kurram Valley. Practically the whole Afghan frontier is aflame.

ATTACK ON PRESIDENT FAURE.

President Faure has started for St. Petersburg. A bomb filled with nails exploded, without doing any harm, on the Boulevard Denain in Paris a few minutes after President Faure had passed the spot.

EXPLOSION IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

An explosion has occurred beneath the Grand Vizier's Department at the Sublime Porte. One person was killed and several injured.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Hakodate, August 13.

H.M.S. *Rattler* has left to join the Squadron. The *Bayard* and *Eclairer* have left for the North.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

SINGAPORE OPIUM FARM.

Singapore, Aug. 3, 3.30 p.m.

Tenders for the Opium farm have been lodged, showing an increase of revenue of \$500,000 yearly.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

FLOODS IN EUROPE.

Paris, July 31.

Terrible floods have taken place in Silesia and Bohemia, causing widespread damage and loss of life.

One hundred and fifty lives have been lost by inundations at Kertch in the Crimea.

Paris, August 1.

The floods are subsiding in Bohemia and Silesia.

TERRIBLE DISASTER IN RUSSIA.

Paris, August 5.

The Kremenchug baths in Russia have been carried away by the current. There were four hundred women bathing at the time, of whom two hundred were drowned.

(FROM THE "DAILY PRESS.")

FATAL EXPLOSION AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, August 9.

The magazine at the Arsenal Camp exploded at 1 a.m. to-day. It is reported that twelve persons were injured and two killed.

Later.

Twelve Chinese were killed and four dangerously wounded. It is supposed that a high wind blew down a rotten watch-tower, which fell on the small magazine. The magazine was filled with powder and percussion capped cartridges. Numerous buildings were destroyed. The large magazine happily escaped.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

RUSSIA AND KOREA.

Söul, August 20.

The application of Russia for a piece of land upon which to establish a coal depot on Zekkei Island has been granted by the Korean Authorities.

Söul, August 20.

Last night all the Korean Ministers held a conference regarding the engagement of Russian drill instructors. Russia's application for a site on Zekkei Island for a coal deposit was also discussed.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October. The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem No. 332:—

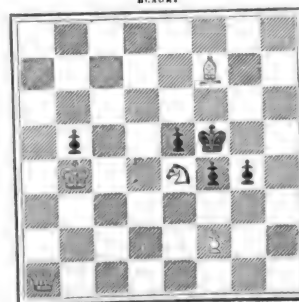
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to Kt 7	1—K takes Kt
2—B takes Q, mate	1—Q takes B ch
2—Q takes Q, mate	2—Moves Kt
2—Q to B 5, mate	1—Moves R (R 5)
2—Kt to Kt 4, mate	1—Moves R (K sq)
2—Kt to K 7, mate	1—Moves B
2—R to K 5, mate	

Correct solution received from W.H.S.

PROBLEM NO. 334.

By E. V. TANNER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

OVER THE CHESS BOARD.

The Hongkong Chess Club is feeling the want of a proper system of classification of its members. We have seen many ladder arrangements of the kind "Black Bishop" suggests, but none that seemed so perfect and gave so much satisfaction as the one devised two years back by the Messrs. Cleland of the Otago Chess Club (N.Z.). The "Cleland Ladder" has been adopted since by quite a number of Clubs in Australasia and we have much pleasure in recommending it to our Hongkong friends and indeed to all other Chess Clubs.

The system will perhaps be best understood if instead of an abstract, we give the code in Messrs. Cleland's own words:—

THE LADDER.

- 1.—All members of the Club shall be classified.
- 2.—The champion of the Club shall alone represent Class I. and shall not be displaced during the year; but any player in Class II. who beats him shall be promoted to Class I.
- 3.—Once only during the year a member may challenge any player in the class immediately above him; and if the challenger wins he changes places with the loser.
- 4.—Between classes I. and II. the procedure will be a little different. If any player in Class II. beats the champion he is promoted to Class I, but is liable to be displaced unless he also wins a second match with the champion, in which case he is fixed for the year, and any player in Class II. may score off him in the same way as if he were the champion.
- 5.—The matches shall be the best of three games, draws not to count; and all games in which the players rank in and above Class IV. must be played with clocks and score-sheets.
- 6.—All challenges must be handed to the Hon. Secretary, who will post them on the Club's notice board, such intimation to the challenged party being deemed sufficient, and all games must be played within one calendar month.
- 7.—If the challenged party refuses to play, the result shall be the same as if he had lost.
- 8.—No player may challenge or accept a challenge while he has a match pending or in progress.
- 9.—The challenger shall have the first move in the first game in every case, except in the return match with the champion or a fixed player in Class I.
- 10.—Any member may have his name removed from "the ladder" but in such case he is liable to

be di-qualified for important matches. His name can, however, be reinstated at any time, though not necessarily in the same position.

11.—In the event of any class becoming too small through names being withdrawn the vacancy will be filled by ballot from the class below. (It might also be necessary in the event of a class becoming too large, to ballot a player into the class below.)

REMARKS.

The holder of the championship of the Club is placed alone in Class I., because his play is the standard by which the other players are to be measured. The first classification of the Club is made by the match committee or any suitable person, and it is not necessary that it should be very accurate, because in a short time every player will find his proper level. Afterwards it goes on from year to year without any adjustment, except that the champion from time to time forms a new Class I. Rule 10 provides for those who, from any cause, are unable to play. They are at liberty to withdraw their names, but can be reinstated at any time. By withdrawal they may be disqualified for playing in matches, firstly because they have failed to show that they are capable of maintaining their position, and secondly because it pre-supposes a want of practise; but it is always understood that the match committee will take the facts of the case into consideration when selecting a team.

"How can I become a good Chess-player?" This question comes along regularly every week. Suppose you should ask a musician: "How can I become a good pianist?" He would probably answer: "You must, first, have some genius for music, then study and practise, and then practise and study, and keep it up." He might direct you as to the proper way to study and practise, but your success depends upon your own diligence. So it is in Chess. If you have some genius for the game, then study and practise. Study the best games. Study them carefully, diligently. Make yourself familiar with the various openings, and also the best defenses. Then practise carefully. Play slowly, thoughtfully; and remember that a game of Chess should be something more than skittles.

The *Hereford Times* believes, in spite of contradictions, that Tschigorin will be Lasker's next opponent.

Showalter will be prepared for a return match with Pillsbury next fall unless the latter is matched against Lasker in the meantime.

Lasker has been staying at Nice, the guest of a wealthy Russian amateur, and at latest accounts was at Heidelberg. It is asserted, says the *Illustrated S. and D. News*, that the chess champion will soon appear in a new rôle, as he is qualifying for a professorship of philosophy at one of the German Universities.

There is talk of arranging a tournament for chess players of the Greater New York at the New York City Chess Club. The first prize will probably be \$1,000. The idea is to have it on the plan of the tournament at the same club a few years ago, when Steinitz won first prize. It will be played in October.

The championship of South Africa has been won by Mr. Edward Roberts. Several well-known ex-Londoners took part in the contest.

Reichelm, in the *Philadelphia Times*, gives us the following list:—Champion, World—Lasker, Champion, America—Pillsbury, Champion, England—Blackburne, Champion, France—Janowski, Champion, Germany—Tarrasch, Champion, Russia—Tschigorin, Champion Club—The Franklin.

The Press Committee of the Metropolitan Chess Club, of New York city announces the following:—

"When, several months ago, the admirers of the royal game looked to the Russian capital for reports of the gigantic battle of the minds, the match between Steinitz and Lasker; when they saw their ever victorious idol meet the doom of adversity at Moscow, expressions of compassion for the veteran were frequently heard. Chess-players who had, during the Steinitz championship reign of twenty-eight years' duration, enjoyed his masterly performance, and Chess-students who appreciated the eminent services of Mr. Steinitz in the cause of Chess and particularly American Chess, gave vent to their feelings of heartfelt sympathy for the master-mind whose career was drawing to a close. A movement to aid Mr. Steinitz was in the air, and to the Metropolitan Chess Club fell the honour to inaugurate it. This club, whose members are among the most ardent admirers of the ex-champion, has re-

solved to honour him with a testimonial tendered by all American lovers of Chess, and to give a benefit entertainment in his behalf during the coming October. All indications augur a grand success, and the committee in charge of the matter entertain the most optimistic expectations."

"Black Bishop," of Hongkong, in reply to a question recently put in this column—who is Hazeland?—which we are sorry to learn unintentionally wounded the susceptibilities of some of our Kobe friends, to whom we extend regrets—says:—Mr. J. Hazeland is a Hongkongite who went to Japan some years ago and was very favourably known here as a good fellow. He has recently been contributing to the Problem Section of *The Times Chess Column*.

THE "JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNAMENT.

The following moves have been received:—

Game.	Move.	White.	Move.	Black.
1	6	B-K3	5	B-B4
2	6	B-K15 ch	6	P-B3
3	6	B-K3	5	P-Q3
4	6	PxKt	5	Kt-B3
5	6	Kt-B2	5	P-Q4
6	5	Kt-B3	4	B-R3
7	4	Kt-B3	4	Kt-B3
8	4	B-Q3	4	Kt-B3
9	4	PxP	3	B-Q3
10	5	Kt-P	5	Kt-B3

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 24th.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Wed'day, Aug. 25th.
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 22nd.
From Hongkong.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 22nd.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 22nd.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Sept. 21st.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 6th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 9th.

- China left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 5th inst.
- Lat left Kobe on the 20th inst.
- Prima left Kobe on the 21st inst.
- Gaelic left Nagasaki on the 20th inst.
- Belic left San Francisco on the 17th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Portland.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Monday, Aug. 23rd.
For Europe, via Shang-hai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 22nd.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, Aug. 25th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 28th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, August 29th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 3rd.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 4th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 6th.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Sept. 10th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,000, J. B. MacMillan, 12th August.—London and Antwerp via ports, Kobe 11th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsushima Kan (28), Japanese steel coast defence vessel, 4,278, Capt. R. Sawa, 12th August.—Yokosuka.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Day, 12th Aug.—Hongkong, and Kobe 11th Aug., General.—Dudwell, Carill & Co.

Izumi Kan (16), Japanese cruiser, 2,967, Captain G. Hayasaki, 13th August.—Yokosuka.

Phra Nang, British steamer, 1,050, W. H. Watson, 14th August.—Hongkong, 5th August, Sugar.—Butterfield and Swire.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 14th August.—San Francisco 27th July, and Honolulu 3rd August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Middleham Castle, British steamer, 1,920, Valentine, 14th August.—Liverpool via ports, and Singapore 31st July, General. Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 16th August.—Vancouver, B.C.; 2nd Aug., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Liv, Norwegian steamer, 2,003, Hansen, 16th Aug.—New York via ports, Kobe 14th Aug., General.—Frazar & Co.

Cromarty, British steamer, 1,780, W. Durcan, 17th Aug.—London via ports, and Kobe 15th Aug., General.—Dudwell, Carill & Co.

Kaiser (15), German flagship, 7,600, Capt. Zeyer, 17th August.—Hakodate, 14th August.

Princess Wilhelm (22), German cruiser, 4,400, Captain Thiele, 17th August.—Hakodate, 14th August.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, K. J. Gasson, 18th August.—London via ports, and Kobe 16th August, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Lord Wolsley, British ship, 2,518, McVicker, 18th August.—Pensacola, Florida, 23rd Feb., Coke, Pig Iron and Timber.—H. Ahrens & Co.

Commodore T. H. Allen, American ship, 2,216, Merriman, 19th Aug.—New York, 13th Aug., Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 19th Aug.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 18th August, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,488, Madsen, 19th August.—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai 15th August, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Niei, 20th August.—Shanghai via ports, 14th Aug., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tetartos, German steamer, 1,578, Cruelsen, 21st August.—Hongkong, 14th August, General.—Simons, Evers & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Pique (8), British cruiser, 3,600, Captain A. C. Corry, 13th August.—Hakodate.

Morven, British steamer, 2,360, Ellis, 13th Aug.—New York via ports, General.—H. Grauert.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3,349, Day, 15th August.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Arracan, British ship, 2,222, J. Donald, 15th August.—Portland, Or., Captain.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 15th August.—Hongkong via Kobe, and Nagasaki, Mails & General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, P. O. Marshall, 16th August.—Hongkong via ports, Mails & General.—C. P. R. Co.

Swatow, German steamer, 631, Jespersen, 16th August.—Karatsu, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 16th August.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Day, 16th Aug.—New York via Suez Canal, General.—Dudwell, Carill & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 17th Aug.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nerite, British steamer, 3,155, Daniels, 17th Aug., Marseilles and London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Phra Nang, British steamer, 1,020, W. H. Watson, 17th August.—Kobe, Sugar.—Butterfield and Swire.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, R. R. Pearce, 18th August.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, G. Shimazu, 18th August.—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prosper, American schooner, 513, Johannesen, 20th August.—Port Townsend, Ballast.—R. Isaacs & Bro.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 20th Aug.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. P. Slauskey, Mr. Masurel, Mr. Desrosseau, Mr. P. Carissinio, Mr. Victor Marsh, Capt. F. W. Grimm, Baron S. Von Kobayakawa, Mr. Pak Yong Kim, Mr. James Arthur, Mr. Pryer L. Markel, Mr. and Mrs. Lars Anderson, Miss E. Carlson, Mr. W. Westgate, Rev. & Mrs. C. M. Hyde, Rev. E. D. Bunie, Mr. G. Pollitz, Mr. H. Y. Stillman, Mr. E. Warner and Mr. T. Matsusaka in cabin. For Kobe:—Miss Luella Miner, and Mr. R. N. Grey in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. Basil Hlynosky, and Baron Von Teichman in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. H. W. Hall, and Miss Lizzie Orr in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver:—Mr. Geo. Anderson, Mrs. Chas. G. Chase, Mr. Walter G. Chase, Hon. Frank J. Canon, Hon. F. T. Dubois, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dwight, Miss Susan A. Doty, Miss Maud M. Emery, Mr. H. B. Ede, Hon. Ivor Guest, Hon. R. Grovesnor, Mr. E. S. Harkness, Mr. L. L. Kountze, Mr. H. D. Kountze, Marquis Kido, Lieut. Kato, Mr. J. Lewis, Col. Murata, Hon. R. F. Pettigrew, Mr. Bansie Dhar Pandit, Baron Rosen, Baroness Rosen, child and maid, Count Sawa, Mr. Satow, Mr. S. Shibata, Captain Funaki, Mr. Tseng King East, Miss Williams, and Miss White, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. Bannerman, Dr. & Mrs. B. Wright, Mr. R. B. Barlow, Mr. A. M. Brewin, Mr. H. Jensen, Mr. & Mrs. Schumacker, Mr. W. J. Butterfield, Mrs. L. Blanks, Mr. W. J. Russell, Mr. Wade Gardner, Mr. and Mrs. Overbeck, Miss Youngson, Mrs. Wade Gardner and two children, Mr. T. Crone, Dr. J. E. Page, U.S.N., Mr. D. J. Vereschagin and servant, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. R. Heckert, Mr. Hermann Rahrweg, Mr. Serno, Mr. Reichard, Mr. Ruegg, Mr. H. Gissing, Mrs. Hands, Mrs. Smithers, Mr. J. E. Averill, Mr. O. Fischer, Mr. C. F. Heinlein, Mr. F. G. Sale, Mr. Robison, Mr. Geo. Bayne, and Mr. A. Walk in cabin; 1 Chinese in steerage. For Vancouver:—Mr. E. Chosseler, Mr. C. H. Harris, Mr. W. S. Fyle, Mrs. D. E. Brown and maid, Mrs. Post, Mr. F. E. Richards, Mr. J. A. Hawes, Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Clark, Mr. W. Lamond, Dr. W. L. Ludlow, Mr. C. W. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Little, Mr. J. A. Wattie, Mr. H. E. King, Mr. J. D. Atkinson, Jr., and Mr. W. T. Taylor in cabin; 204 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Columbia*, for Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Wash.:—Messrs. P. E. Angell, R. E. C. Fitzcock, R. M. Gordon, I. Langvinen, C. M. Marshall, C. H. Southey, and Shi Ping Chi in cabin.

Per B. it. str. *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. H. S. Verity, N. Matsumami, T. Nakamura, H. Hanamer and native servant, Chun Tuck, Mrs. Okawa Matsumi, Rev. Nicolas Walter, Messrs. W. H. Crawford, W. G. Bayne, K. Yemi, and Lum Pak Chun in cabin; 4 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. J. Collins, Mrs. Gorham, Mr. F. B. Abenloim, Mr. H. W. Daniels, Miss Macleod, and Mr. Ng Chee Jun in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Vail and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Dautremere, son, two daughters and maid, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Bell, Capt. Gordon, Mr. T. M. Maitland, Mr. John Thymen, Lieut. P. G. Davies, Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Turnbull, Mr. Chas. Carroll, Lieut. E. C. Creagh, Miss Anna Larsen, Mr. V. Fage, Mr. and Mrs. W. Cope, Mr. C. Grant, Mr. J. W. Cumming, Mr. Wong Wing, Mr. J. G. Keating, Mr. N. S. Glazebrook, Mr. Bruce Robertson, Mr. E. A. Kearsing, Masters Geo. and Henry Russell, Mr. M. Baggehall, Mr. A. O. Gay, Mr. R. D. Robison, Mr. J. Hewit, Mr. Hartswick, Mr. Lamber, Mr. A. Levy, Mr. C. F. Heinlein, and Mr. L. D. Abraham in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver:—Mr. & Mrs. S. Apar, Mr. J. D. Atkinson, Jun., Mr. Anthony Babington, Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Ball, Baron Bonnet, Mrs. D. E. Brown, and maid, Mr. W. J. Butterfield, Mr. E. Chosseler, Mr. and Mrs. George Clarke, Mr. J. H. Coit, Mr. Derby, Mr. C. W. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Douglas, Mr. F. C. Duff, Mr. A. Ellis, Mrs. A. Fried, Mr. W. S. Fyle, Miss E. Gault, Mr. P. McG. Grant, Mr. Green, Mr. B. G. Greig, Mr. G. H. Harris, Mr. J. A. Hawes, Miss Hill, Dr. N. Holst, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Hunt, Mr. G. Hope Johnstone, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Kidston, Mr. W. H. Kidston, Jr., Mr. H. E. King, Mr. W. Lamond, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lee, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Little, Dr. W. L. Ludlow, Mr. and Mrs. Malchionoff, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pallett, Mrs. L. E. Post, Mr. Richards, Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Sale, Miss Sale, Miss Marion Sale, Miss Lillian Sale, Mr. Vivian Sale, Mr. R. S. Sale, Mr. Chas. A. Taylor, Mr. H. B. Valle, Dr. R. Vogel, Mr. John Walter, Dr. E. S. Warner, Mr. J. A. Wattie, and Baron Georges de Wyneken in cabin.

CARGOE.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 456 bales; Waste Silk, 2 bales.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver:—

	THA.				TOTAL
	CANADA, AND WEST.	AND PACIFIC COAST.	AND OTHER CITIES.	PACK-AGE.	
Hongkong	—	—	—	11	11
Amoy	1,360	—	75	—	1,435
Poochow	—	644	—	—	644
Shanghai	7,038	—	—	—	7,038
Colombo	2,856	—	—	—	2,856
Kobe	265	—	113	—	378
Yokohama	3,008	310	—	—	3,318
Total	20,429	310	644	227	21,610
SILK.					
Hongkong and Canton	371	—	—	—	371
Shanghai	—	—	—	—	—
Yokohama	113	—	—	—	113
Total	503	—	—	—	503

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import market has shown a little more life during the past week in certain lines. There has been some enquiry for grey shirtings for early arrivals, but little business has been done. In fancy cottons and woollens transactions have been fairly active, at unchanged quotations. Nothing worth mentioning has been done in yarns, though gassed yarns are on offer by holders at prices below present Manchester quotations.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
F. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 39 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds. 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds. 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.35
Valvets—Black, 35 yds. 32 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawn, 12 yds. 42 1/2 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds. 24 1/2 yds. 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2 yds. 24 1/2 yds. 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 1/2 yds. 24 1/2 yds. 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 1/2 yds. 24 1/2 yds. 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER PIECE.
Flannel—30 yds. 32 inches	0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yds. 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 5 to 5 1/2 yds.	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PIECE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$3.00 to 41.50
Nos. 18/24, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 51.50
Nos. 2/60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	116.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$24.00 to 24.50
Indian thread	21.00
Chinese	21.50

METALS.

Arrivals during the past ten days have been large, particularly of pig iron, and demand has fallen off in consequence. Holders are firm and prices have been maintained.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.10 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

KEROSENE.

Very little business has been transacted, demand being dull, and quotations remain unchanged.

	PER POUND.
American	\$2.00 to 2.05
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Since the 3rd inst. arrivals of Brown amount to 49,600 piculs, mostly Manila, and sales during the same period 17,109 piculs Manila, 1,165 piculs China, 2,360 piculs Java, and 4,500 piculs Formosa. Little has been done in White refined and quotations remain unchanged.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$36.5 to 37.5
Brown Manila	43.5 to 5.05
Brown Daitong	2.90 to 3.30
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A large business has been done during the week, quite a rush occurring for two days, when almost every lot of fine-sized filatures in the market was snapped up at advancing prices by buyers for Europe. Good re-reels are also in great demand for the American market. Total sales for the week amount to 4,079 boxes, or say 2,050 piculs. Stocks on the 19th amounted to about 2,300 piculs. Total settlements from 1st July to 19th inst. are 6,700 piculs. The *Ancona* took 456 bales for Europe on the 16th inst.

	PER POUND.
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$89.00 to 90.00
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	87.00 to 88.00
Filatures—No. 1, 10/12 deniers	85.00 to 86.00

Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	84.00 to 85.00
Filatures—No. 1, 10/12 deniers	82.00 to 83.00
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	82.00 to 83.00
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	80.00
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	81.50
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	81.50
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	81.50
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	81.00
Kakedas—No. 1	78.00
Kakedas—No. 1	74.00 to 75.00
Kakedas—No. 2	76.00
Kakedas—No. 2	—

WASTE SILK.

No transactions have taken place. Present stock is estimated at 5,600 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair	—

TEA.

A small but steady business has been done during the week, sales amounting to 243,000 cattie in Yokohama and 141,900 cattie in Kobe, principally of the better grades. Prices are still well maintained and rule from \$6 to \$7 per picul higher than at the same time last year, in spite of the fact that the quality is poor both in leaf and cup. The *Pathan* on the 16th took 184,686 lbs. for the States and Canada.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal.
Choicest	\$28 to 35
Choice	28 to 32
Finest	28 to 30
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	21 to 22
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	16 to 18

EXCHANGE.

Silver is now at its lowest "record," but exchange between China and Hongkong is the most seriously affected, the Mexican dollar being at a discount of 8 to 9 per cent. against the Japanese silver yen.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 to 1 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2 to 1
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	252 to 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	256
On Hongkong—Bank sight	11 1/2 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	12 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	84
— Private 10 days' sight	85
On India—Bank sight	153 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	157
On America—Bank bills on demand	48 1/2 to 1
— Private 4 months' sight	50
On Germany—Bank sight	2.04 to 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.08
Bai Silver (London)	24 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[MESSRS. BISSKT & URS' LIST.]

Yokohama, August 20th.

Hongkong wires us the following quotations today:—H. & S. Banks 176 per cent. sellers; Hongkong Lands \$74 sales; Union Fires \$106 sellers; H. and W. Docks 236 per cent. sellers; H. and K. Wharfs \$60 nominal; Douglas \$66.50 sellers; H. C. and M. Steamboats \$32.75 sellers; Pungum Mines \$6 sales; Ramb Mines \$21.75 sales; Hongkong Fires \$360 steady; National Banks \$22 sellers; Indo Chinas \$49.50 sellers; Straits \$17.50 sales; Unions \$232.50 buyers; and Traders \$75 buyers.

No change to report in local stocks. Oriental Hotels and Grand Hotels are wanted at \$150 and \$225 respectively. Club Hotels are enquired for at \$100. Iron Works are offering at \$200, and Betts at \$8.25. North and Raes are in demand at \$185. Langfeldts rule steady at \$225.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50	800 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100	495 B.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	325 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	300 St.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	350 B.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdn.)	\$100	450 S.
North and Raes, Ltd.	\$100	385 B.

Brett & Co., Ltd., \$100	8.35 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100	8.25 S.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd., \$100	180 W.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb., \$100	110 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100	110 S.
Yokohama United Club Deb., \$100	100 R.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100	104 S.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo, August 20th.

Five per Cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds	94.50
Redemption Loan Bonds	96.70
War Loan Bonds	96.70
New Public Loan Bonds	91.00
Old Public Loan Bonds	93.00
Naval Loan Bonds	96.50
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100.00
Japan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	97.50
Sanyo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	48.80
Ryomo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	88.00
Kansai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	58.50
Kobe Railway Company—paid up yen 45	110.00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 45	58.40
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up yen 25	36.20
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 50	88.00
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 25	54.00
Sangu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	88.00
Kawagoye Railway Company—paid up yen 50	53.50
Chikugo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	72.00
Hantan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	43.00
Hoso Railway Company—paid up yen 50	45.00
Sobu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	105.00
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50	74.70
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up yen 45	53.00
Tokuyama Railway Company—paid up yen 35	38.00
Hokuyetsu Railway Company—paid up yen 35	34.50
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47.50	30.00
Seiwa Railway Company—paid up yen 50	1.00
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 35.50	7.00
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 30	16.50
Kozuke Railway Company—paid up yen 50	30.00
Nanao Railway Company—paid up yen 37.50	22.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	57.60
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up yen 35	30.00
Domestic Transport Company—paid up yen 40	80.00
Japan Transport Company—paid up yen 15	5.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	812.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25	85.00
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up yen 25	57.82
Kanagatani Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 50	57.50
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	70.00
Mitsui Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	100.00
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 15	16.00
Japan Weaving Company—paid up yen 50	18.00
Tokyo Tramway Company—paid up yen 50	210.00
Japan Beer Company—paid up yen 40	70.00
Japan Cement Company—paid up yen 45	38.00
Tone Canal Company—paid up yen 70	73.00
Fuji Paper Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 50	75.00
Sapporo Sugar Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 47	6.50
Hokkaido Hemp Mann. Co.—paid up yen 50	50.00
Japan Seaweed Company—paid up yen 25	32.50
Yokohama Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 41	48.00
Shimogawa Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 31	4.00
Tokyo Electric Light Company—paid up yen 15	61.50
Tokyo Gas Company—paid up yen 50	90.00
Doshin Kaisha—paid up yen 50	15.40
Tokyo Marine Insurance Co.—paid up yen 100	70.00
Tokyo Stock Exchange—paid up yen 50	308.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	150.00
Nippon Ginko—paid up yen 150	378.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	54.50
Third National Bank—paid up yen 50	57.00

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A GOOD firm of agents to represent a large London manufactory of good, cheap, and reliable cycles. Machines will be largely advertised in district and country. State full particulars, terms, and quantity can dispose of. Apply WILLIAM COOPER, 755, Old Kent Road, LONDON, S.E.

August 21st, 1897.

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August 21st, 1897.

IN THE KITCHEN.

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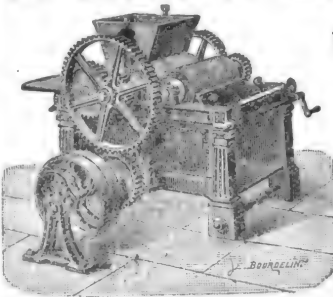
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MIXING, CRUSHING, AND PULVERISING MACHINES FOR ALL MATERIALS.

Address MESSRS. BOYES & Co., YOKOHAMA.



November 21st, 1896.

37.

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NEWEST PERFUME

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NICE ALWAYS, BUT DELICIOUSLY REVIVING IN HOT OR CROWDED ROOMS.

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17.

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17.



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December 5, 1896.

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ESTABLISHED 1866.

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17.

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June, 1896.

37

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 9.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUG. 28TH, 1897.

月三年五十二論明 Vol. XXVIII.
第貳千三百三十三號

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 28TH, 1897.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Hokkaido Cement Co. has declared a dividend of 15 per cent annum.

THE Second Marine Products Exhibition is to be opened at Kobe on the 1st September.

THE Japanese battleship *Fuji* left England on the 17th instant for Malta, en route to Japan.

NEARLY all the silver mines in Japan have stopped work of late, owing to the fall in silver.

TWO foreign residents of Yokohama were attacked by dysentery on the 21st inst. at Ikao.

THE steamer *Jinyu Maru* collided with the steamer *Tomoyoko Maru* off Hokkaido on the 22nd.

A PARTY of Formosan aborigines have lately been "doing" Japan, and were lionised in the capital.

THE regular general meeting of the Yokohama Specie Bank will take place on the 10th September next.

THE Tokyo Bay Steamship Company has opened a new line of steamers between Keiganjima,

Tokyo, and Shimoda, Izu Province. The steamer *Amagi Maru* commenced the service on the 24th instant.

A LAD of 19 was run over by a train at a crossing near Uyeno station on the 19th instant and killed on the spot.

THE work of laying a telegraphic cable through the Kurile Islands has been completed by the cable steamer *Okinawa Maru*.

A CHARTER has been given to some Yokohama capitalists to construct an electric railway from Kawasaki-machi to the Daishi temple.

VISCOUNT TANAKA, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household Department, tendered his resignation some days ago on account of indisposition.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE will attain his majority on the 31st of August. He will return to the capital from Hayama on the 30th inst.

THE Kumamoto Emigration Company has received an order from the Albin Company in Hawaii for 105 Japanese contract emigrants.

COUNT MUTSU, formerly Minister for Foreign Affairs, and one of the ablest statesmen of Japan, died after a lengthy illness on the 24th instant.

DYSENTERY is spreading rapidly in several parts of the country. During the last three months 23,816 cases have been reported and 4,311 deaths.

M. DE SPEYER, late *Chargé d'Affaires* for Russia at Tokyo, left Japan for Korea on the 24th instant to take up his post as Minister to that country.

THE rising on the Afghan border appears to be of a very serious nature, though the Ameer denies all responsibility and blames the religious leaders of the tribes.

THREE pirates who have been committing robberies in the waters extending from Kannonzaki, Yokosuka, to Shinagawa Bay for several years, have been arrested.

REAR ADMIRAL OXLEY, second in command of the British China Squadron, left for home via America by the *Gaelic* on the 25th inst., owing to the critical condition of Mrs. Oxley.

It is reported that the greater part of the salaries of the Russian drill-instructors recently engaged by Korea is to be charged to the Russian Authorities, only a small portion being defrayed by Korea.

BARON ROSEN, the new Russian Minister, was granted audience by the Emperor at the Palace on the 24th instant, and presented his credentials. The Baron was afterwards received by the Empress.

ON Tuesday morning a special Cabinet Council was convened at the Palace; all the Ministers of State being present. The subjects discussed related to the Budget for the 31st fiscal year and other important matters.

THE Commandant of the Japanese Standing Squadron hoisted his flag on the *Itukushima Kan* on the 19th instant, the *Chinyen* having hitherto been the flagship. The Squadron left for Hokkaido waters on the 24th instant.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA proceeded to the Palace on Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock and had audience with the Emperor, when His Highness submitted to His Majesty a full report of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

TWO deaths occurred at Nagasaki a few days ago by an accident with kerosene. A little boy of four, nephew of Mrs. Feldstein, playing with

some matches, exploded a tin of kerosene. The child was immediately wrapped in flames, and Mrs. Feldstein in attempting to save him was so severely burnt that she, as well as the boy, succumbed to the injuries received.

EIGHT Chinese employed on board British men-of-war, probably as cooks, have been arrested at Hakodate by the Japanese police on a charge of gambling. It is reported that the British Consul at the port has protested against their arrest.

ON Sunday afternoon, the 22nd inst. a deplorable boating accident occurred by which two Portuguese residents of Yokohama, Messrs. V. Barradas and E. Perpetuo, lost their lives. The latter, with two companions, were upset in a small sailing boat near Honmoku, and though the other two succeeded in reaching the shore, Barradas and Perpetuo were drowned, their bodies being afterwards recovered and buried.

ON the 26th inst. a case which had been committed for trial by a Jury, in which a person named Arthur Fergusson Morrison was charged with stealing 3 yen from Thomas Jones, at the Tonosama Hotel on the 11th inst., came on in the British Court before Mr. Justice Wilkinson and a Jury, but the complaining witness not putting in an appearance in Court the prisoner was acquitted and released, the recognisance of the complainant, in \$100, being estreated.

ON the 24th a case was before the British Court in which a quartermaster on the P. & O. steamer *Verona* was arrested by the Japanese Police, locked up for a night and day and then brought up on a charge of being in possession of $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of opium. As this was shown by the Assistant Judge to be no offence in British law, the charge was amended to that of smuggling the opium; but as the minimum quantity for smuggling which a penalty can be imposed under the Trade Regulations is one catty, or a pound and a third, the case was dismissed.

THE past week has been very disappointing to importers of piece goods, the little spurt of the previous seven days having completely died out. Raw cotton has made a big jump upwards, quotations being from \$4 to \$5 higher than last week, while supplies are also short. There seems to be every possibility of a glutted pig-iron market soon. Various ships have arrived lately with heavy cargoes and there are still several thousand tons afloat bound for this port. Buyers consequently are lying low, expecting to have it all their own way soon. Quotations for other lines are nominal in face of no demand. Very little is doing in kerosene just at present, but quotations remain unchanged. A small but steady business has been done in brown sugar during the week, principally for Manila sorts. White refined is quiet. There is less doing in raw silk, shippers apparently not caring to go on with heavy shipments at present rates, but holders are resolute and will not budge. In waste silk a few small transactions are recorded, but scarcely enough to make a market. Tea has been brisk, in spite of the poor quality of leaf now offering. Sales in Yokohama total about 435,000 catties and 165,000 catties in Kobe. Prices generally have run from \$19.50 to \$30 per picul, and are still well maintained. Shipments have been 382,069 lbs. by the *Empress of China*, 321,990 lbs., by the *Monmouthshire*, 90,431 lbs. by the *Gaelic*, and 78,845 lbs. by the *Kagoshima Maru*, all for American and Canadian ports. Total shipments of the season to date are 19,449,577 lbs. Exchange closes weak.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Whether the programme of military expansion mapped out by Japanese statesmen after the war with China was the result of a mere momentary impulse; whether the nation would persevere in carrying it out; whether the general increase of administrative expenditures inseparable from the inauguration of such a large scheme in two special departments, would not prove too much for the resources of the Treasury; whether the people would not grow impatient under the pressure of new burdens of taxation imposed by the necessity of undertaking productive works side by side with unproductive—these were questions that presented themselves vividly to every student of Japan's contemporary history two years ago, and as they are beginning to receive their answer now, signs of the time furnished by the writings of leading journals possess great interest. During the past twelve months, there have been many evidences that while the nation is a unit so far as approval of naval expansion is concerned, considerable difference of opinion exists as to the necessity of army expansion, the opponents of the latter measure being largely influenced by apprehensions lest the State expenditures should attain dimensions incommensurate with the resources of the people. An exhaustive argument of a general character is published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on this subject. Premising that the experiences of its first great foreign war naturally open a country's eyes to the need of efficient armaments if competence for self-defence be a means of securing tranquillity, our contemporary alludes, *en passant*, to the mutability of political views as illustrated by the attitude of the *Shimpo-to*, whose leaders, while in opposition, endeavoured to defeat the Government's programme of military expansion, declaring it too large for the needs of the country, whereas, so soon as their own friends came into power, they voted for the programme while the Diet sat, and had nothing to say against it after the session closed. Of late, however, newspapers generally supposed to be organs of officialdom begin to show considerable diversity of view. Some allege that in the absence of efficient means of communication, a large army is practically worthless: unless vehicles for transporting it exist, it can not be utilized. Others say that to carry out large schemes of army expansion in times of peace tends to disturb men's minds, and to precipitate calamities. Opposed to these views are writers who take the line that Japan's relations with a neighbouring country (Russia) are such as to involve peril of a collision, that it is hopeless to look for permanent peace between the two empires, and that unless Japan prepares for the contingency of war, she may suffer at the hands of her northern neighbour what she herself recently inflicted on her western. It is singular to find these positive and negative policies ranged side by side in the columns of ministerial organs, but the fact seems to be that as Count Matsukata came into power on a platform of financial retrenchment, the leader of the *Shimpo-to* inferred an intention on his part to reduce the scheme of military expansion by one half. On that assumption some of them apply themselves to discover reasons for such a reduction, whereas the organs in closest touch with the Cabinet take pains to popularize the opposite view. Yet the argument advanced by the latter school of publicists, namely, that Japan can not hope for continued peace with her northern neighbour and that she must make preparations for the inevitable conflict, is a shallow contention. Did the day for such a fight dawn, Japan could not expect to be allowed to carry on the combat in a closed arena, the other Powers playing the part of mere spectators. The struggle would certainly assume wider dimensions, and if her opponent joined forces with the third of the Three Powers (France), she would find that her five hundred-and-sixty thousand troops, and her two-hundred-and-fifty thousand-ton navy were very far below the standard of self-protecting efficiency. No such

short-sighted and unfriendly motives actuate her. Nothing could be more misleading than to allege that a country which, in developing its armaments, has for unique aim the preservation of tranquillity in the Orient, is in reality influenced by the project of getting ready to fight a neighbour. The recklessness and imprudence of journals adopting such a line of argument can not be too strongly condemned. As to the reasoning of those that decry the expediency of military expansion, it is scarcely less shallow. There is indeed, some semblance of justice in the contention that without vehicles of transport a big army is a useless machine. But instead of urging that the country should resign itself to a condition of self-defensive helplessness because it lacks the mechanical means to utilize its military strength, the wise and patriotic course is to urge the provision of those means with all possible speed. Again, to the contention that military expansion in times of peace disturbs men's minds by demanding large pecuniary sacrifices, the answer is simply that no such sacrifices are in reality demanded. The indemnity received by Japan from China would have amply sufficed to cover the cost of armament expansion, and there need not have been any financial strain, had not the Matsukata Cabinet embarked upon other enterprises requiring large outlays. It is because of these enterprises and of the general increase of administrative expenditures that embarrassment is now felt, and if some of the Cabinet's friends lay the blame on military expansion, they are merely seeking to find a scapegoat and to divert public attention from the true issue. That the country should take whatever steps are necessary to the preservation of its own safety and of the Orient's peace, can not be denied for a moment. If its financial strength be not equal to that fundamental duty, why talk of retrenchment in military matters only? There must be retrenchment all round. The Matsukata Cabinet has launched this country on a sea of extravagance where people, seeing no haven, are naturally perturbed. It has raised the expenditures of the State from 180 millions, the figure of its predecessors, to some 300 millions, and if its programme be pursued, a deficiency of 30 or 40 millions annually will have to be met by loans or by increased taxation. No wonder that the critics talk, and that the Cabinet's apologists seek to lay the blame on the shoulders of army expansion. But they succeed only in blinding men's eyes to the real purpose of expanding the national armaments, namely, the completion of the country's defences, a rudimentary necessity of which the practical acknowledgement can not be deferred to the eve of battle, and was not discovered for the first time during the war with China. An examination of the Imperial Messages to the Diet before the war broke out, shows that the exigencies of such a policy had already received full recognition, and that its consummation was regarded solely as a means of securing tranquillity for the country. There was no idea whatever of meaning strength with a neighbouring Power. No trisler or more mischievous interpretation of the policy of the State could be conceived.

The financial danger that menaces the country in connexion with the inauguration of gold monometallism from the 1st of October, is discussed at considerable length by the *Fiji Shimpō*. That journal was from the outset an opponent of the so-called "reform" of the currency, and it finds confirmation of its views in the present state of the bullion market. Silver has fallen to 25½d. per ounce, which means that the ratio connecting the two metals is no longer 1 to 32.34 but 1 to 36.1, so that 100 gold *yen* are intrinsically worth 226 silver *yen*. In view of such figures it is inevitable that all the silver *yen* in circulation should flow into the treasury to be exchanged for gold. The total quantity of silver *yen* coined since the establishment of the Mint is 150 millions, and of that aggregate it is believed that 35 millions are now circulating in Japan and 30 millions in China and the Straits Settlements, the remainder

having been "chopped" or gone to the melting pot. The Treasury will therefore have to exchange 65 million *yen* and it will incur a heavy loss by the transaction. What provision it has made to meet the contingency the public does not certainly know, but if it has to pay out 65 million *yen* in gold on account of the redemption of silver *yen*, no very large store of the precious metal will remain in its vaults. What course will then be adopted? Will the American plan of selling bonds be employed? If so, we shall see Japanese 5 per cent. securities offered at a low rate in the open market, and the price of all public stocks will depreciate correspondingly. The *Fiji* then proceeds to show that the one great benefit anticipated as the result of adopting gold monometallism—namely, free access to foreign capital on easy terms—has not been secured, and that the inherent disadvantages of the change are already felt in the domain of the export trade. Our contemporary dismisses as unpractical the two contentions that the loss incurred in exchanging silver *yen* will be partially covered by re-minting them into subsidiary coins, and that a large field for the profitable circulation of the latter may be found in Formosa.

The *Fomiori Shimbun* devotes no less than four articles to combatting the fears entertained on this subject of silver *yen* coins, and as our contemporary's figures may be regarded as at least semi-official, we proceed to quote them here. The total quantity of silver *yen* coined since the establishment of the Mint in 1872 is 165,124,948, out of which 46,904 have been recoined into subsidiary tokens; 15,886,684 are lying in the vault of the Bank of Japan; 34,540,889 are circulating in Japan, and 114,236,471 have found their way abroad. With regard to the coins circulating at home, it is doubtful whether any very large amount of them will be offered for exchange against gold, since the holders in rural districts will take little note of exchange fluctuations. With regard to the coins that have gone abroad it seems certain that, according to the highest calculation, not more than 50 millions retain the quality of legal tender or remain in circulation: the rest have been chopped, stamped, or otherwise defaced so as to disqualify them for exchange, and many millions have gone to the melting pot. Moreover, those 50 millions are discharging the functions of media of exchange in Hongkong, Singapore, Tientsin, and the interior of China. If they are withdrawn for exchange against gold in Japan, some other coins must be substituted for them. Evidently the operation of collecting and shipping them to Japan must be more or less protracted. Taking, however, the most unfavourable view of the situation, and omitting the fact that of the 34½ million originally circulating in the interior of Japan, some ten millions passed into the hands of Chinese and Koreans during the war, as well as the fact that in the rural districts of Japan the idea of undertaking exchange operations will not be entertained, the figures are that 50 millions will come from abroad for conversion into gold, and 34 millions from domestic supplies. Now silver was quoted in London on the 11th instant at 25½d. per ounce, which corresponds to a ratio of 1 to 36.98 against the Japanese ratio of 1 to 32.34, a difference of more than 4. Silver may fall still further in terms of gold before October 1st, but it may also rise. The cost of production is 24d. per ounce, and below that it can not descend, so that there remains a margin of only 1½d. However, at the present rate, 100 *yen* in the Japanese system are worth 114 *yen* in the open market, so that the operation of exchange at existing rates would involve a loss of 14 per cent to the Treasury. Of course, no such profit is within reach of persons presenting *yen* for exchange: many factors would contribute to diminish their gains. But the expense to the Treasury would be 14 per cent., or a total loss of 11,700,000 *yen*, in round numbers, on 84 millions. On the other hand, a very large quantity of subsidiary coins must be struck to supply the deficiency in Japan and to meet the demand in Formosa. It is estimated that at least

60 million yen worth of silver will be required for that purpose, and as the transaction will show a profit of 6 million yen, the net loss to the Treasury, on the most unfavorable hypothesis, stands at 5,700,000 yen. To some such loss the country must reconcile itself. The contingency was foreseen from the very outset. Such an immense reform as a change of the monetary system from a silver to a gold basis could not be achieved without some cost, and a loss of 5 or 6 million yen is not to be spoken of in the same breath with the immense gain of securing an absolute, stable currency and entering, for commercial and manufacturing purposes, into the financial system to which all the leading nations of the West belong. That Japan will be able to maintain the ratio she has chosen, goes without saying. In England silver circulates, for subsidiary purposes, at a ratio of 14.519 to 1; in Germany, at 15.02 to 1; in the countries of the Latin Union, at 15.5 to 1. Japan's 32.34 to 1 places her twice as close to the practical reality as is any of these nations. Turning, now, to the question of the reserves forming the basis of the new system, we find that the Bank of Japan has a store of gold coin and gold bullion amounting to 39,200,586 yen, and the amount in the Treasury's vaults is 72 millions, so that the total immediately available is 111,200,586 yen. Even supposing, then, that 84 million silver yen were presented for exchange within a few months—an evidently extravagant supposition—there would still remain upwards of 27 million yen. Moreover, the Government has 43 million yen in gold lying in London, the proceeds of the recent sale of bonds, and large sums are still to accrue from the Indemnity, a portion of which will be available for reserve purposes, since convertible notes can be issued to a corresponding amount in Japan. Thus, even assuming that the whole volume of silver yen flowed at once into the Treasury for exchange, there would still remain a store of 70 million yen in gold, independently of sums hereafter obtainable from the Indemnity. Further, the stock of silver bullion in the Bank of Japan is now 40 million yen, and that in the Treasury's vaults, 29 millions. These 62 millions, if not needed for subsidiary coins, could be exchanged for gold as opportunity offered, and the same would be true of any surplus that might remain from the stock of silver yen presented for exchange. Hence, the worst possible case is a loss of less than 6 million yen to the country, and the consummation of gold monometallism with a gold reserve of 70 millions, to be subsequently augmented by drafts from the Indemnity; a silver reserve of 69 millions, to be gradually converted into gold, and a stock of 85 millions in silver yen, to be gradually converted into subsidiary coins.

The *Chuo Shimbun* discusses the same subject and arrives at the conclusion that to put the gold monometallic system into operation would be ruinous to the country. We need not reproduce its arguments. They have been urged frequently in the editorial columns of this journal as part of the general case against the single gold standard, and their gist is, first, that a very heavy loss will be entailed upon Japan in connexion with the exchange of the silver yen; secondly, that her stock of gold will be so greatly reduced in the operation as to become insufficient as a basis for the new system; and thirdly, that the silver-using countries of the East will have an immense advantage over her in the field of exports. The *Chuo* recommends Count Matsukata to resign at once, in view of the huge failure he has made, and further recommends that steps be taken to postpone the operation of the gold system. Its expression of opinion on this latter point, which is probably dictated chiefly by party considerations, is roundly condemned by other journals. They justly claim that Japan has no choice now but to go forward, and that her international credit would be permanently wrecked if she deviated from the path deliberately chosen by her.

The action of Russia in undertaking the

training of the Korean troops after Japan had withdrawn from that field was calculated, in the first place, to destroy the equilibrium between the relations of the two empires towards Korea; in the second, to impair Japan's rights and prestige; and in the third, to bring about finally the closing of Korea to Japanese subjects. Such is the exordium of a very strong article in the *Sekai-no-Nippon*. A question of that magnitude demands the attention of all lovers of their country, continues our contemporary, and has been frequently discussed in these columns. On the 26th of February Count Okuma declared in the Diet that the steps taken by Korea up to that time in employing Russian military experts were within her rights as an independent State, and did not warrant interference from without. Subsequently, when the Representatives of England and America in Seoul contrived to prevent any extension of such a policy on Russia's part, Count Okuma gave out, through the columns of his newspaper organs, that the result had been achieved by his own representations. Again, when a new ingress of Russian officers and soldiers into Korea occurred, the same newspapers were made to say that the arrival of Baron Rosen in Japan had to be awaited before taking any steps. If Korea had an independent right to employ Russian drill instructors, why did Count Okuma make any representations on the subject? If his representations were successful on the first occasion, what necessity was there to await the coming of Baron Rosen on the second? Were not the same avenues of negotiations open throughout? One or other of the Count's statements must be untrue. It seems that for the past six months we have been the dupes of the Foreign Minister's evasions. Baron Rosen is now in Tokyo and will present his credentials in a few days. What will be the basis of the negotiations opened with him by Count Okuma? The *Sekai-no-Nippon* thinks that there can be only one basis, namely, the complete withdrawal of the Russian *Mission Militaire* from Korea. The second clause of the Moscow Convention is perfectly clear. It provides that Korea shall organize her army without any foreign assistance. It was in consequence of that clause that Japan withdrew her military instructors, and the obligation devolving upon Russia as the other signatory of the Convention is not less emphatic. Nothing is required of Count Okuma except that he should insist upon the same covenant being equally binding on both its signatories. There was, in fact, no occasion whatever to await the coming of Baron Rosen. Count Okuma seems to be still living in an era a decade old. He apparently labours under the impression that European Governments continue to await reports from their Representatives in the East before deciding diplomatic questions. His true and proper plan would have been to approach the Government in St. Petersburg through the Japanese Minister there. At all events, the opportunity has now come for which he declared himself to be waiting, and it is to be hoped that he will remember that only by procuring the withdrawal of the Russian drill-instructors can equilibrium be preserved in the positions of Russia and Japan in Korea and amity maintained in the relations between the two empires themselves.

The *Yorodsu Choho* writes on the same subject but in much more moderate terms. The gist of its arguments is that although the Lobanow-Yamagata Convention contains no provision explicitly relating to the despatch to Korea of drill instructors by either of the High Contracting Parties, the undoubted purpose of the agreement is to place the two empires on a footing of equality towards the peninsular kingdom, which purpose can not be achieved if the Korean army is to fall under Russian management.

The cases of dysentery in Kanagawa Ken now number 180 or 190 in all, the epidemic being very rife in the districts of Tsukui, Aiko and Koza.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The half yearly general meeting of the Bank of Japan took place on the 21st instant, Baron Iwasaki, President of the Bank, being in the Chair. The report presented by the President and passed at the meeting shows, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, that the receipts during the first half of the current year amounted to yen 4,132,566 and the expenses to yen 1,118,307, leaving a profit of yen 3,014,258, to which yen 138,777 brought forward from the previous account were added, making a total of yen 3,153,036. Of the above sum yen 675,000 were devoted to payment of an ordinary dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, yen 1,300,000 carried to reserve, yen 150,000 voted as remuneration to officials, yen 787,7000 appropriated for the payment of a second dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, yen 240,535 being carried forward to next account. As the above figures show, the dividend declared is altogether at the rate of 13 per cent. per annum. The profit and loss of the branch offices during the period were as follow:—The profit at the Osaka branch amounted to yen 696,208, that of the Western section branch, yen 129,590, that of the Hokkaido branch, yen 46,998, that of the Nagoya branch, yen 5,278, that of the Kyoto branch, yen 10,549, while a loss was incurred at the Sapporo branch of yen 5,828 and at the Taipei (Formosa) branch of yen 162,224.

MILITARY OFFICERS.

The number of military officers has gradually increased, says the *Nippon*, since the late war with China. The following table shows the total number of officers on the strength in August for the past three years:—

	28th year of Meiji.	29th year.	30th year.
Generals	4	4	4
Lieutenant Generals ...	12	12	19
Paymasters-General ...	—	—	1
Surgeons-General	—	—	1
Major-Generals	30	32	32
Paymasters	2	3	2
Surgeons-Principal	3	3	2
Colonels & other officers of corresponding rank	106	101	91
Lieut.-Colonels, &c. ...	148	170	173
Majors, &c.	376	418	493
Capt. & other officers of corresponding rank..	1,555	1,573	1,641
Lieutenants, &c.	1,225	1,119	944
Sub-Lieutenants, &c.	1,629	1,687	2,231
Grand Totals	5,162	5,121	5,572

These figures show that a decrease of 41 officers took place in 1896 as compared with the number recorded for 1895. But an increase of 401 is noticeable in 1897, chiefly due to the armament expansion scheme. It may confidently be asserted that the number of military officers in actual service will, on the completion of the scheme, exceed 10,000.

DYSENTERY.

The spread of dysentery in the Kwanto districts this year, according to the *Mainichi*, is accounted for by the fact that preventive measures have been neglected of late years in those districts. The Epidemic Inspection Bureau of the Home Department give the following figures up to the 23rd inst.:—

	Patiente.	Deaths.	Percentage of deaths.
Tokyo	2,518	551	20
Kanagawa	1,859	140	0.8
Saitama	2,122	430	20
Chiba	1,002	202	21
Ibaraki	746	172	23
Gumma	2,560	361	14
Tochigi	704	143	20
Yamanashi	3,162	411	18

Total 14,673 2,319 —

The number of cases throughout the empire totalled 23,816, of which 4,311 resulted in death, the percentage of deaths being 18.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

The keel of the *Shikishima*, the iron-clad recently ordered by Japan in England, was laid on the 7th instant. She is to be completed in 1899, and it is expected that her launch will take place in August or September of next year. Her displacement will be two thousand tons more than that of the *Fuji*.

The *Official Gazette* says that as the fees for shooting licences are to be paid henceforth with stamps, applicants should be careful not to write over, or impress their seals upon, the stamps attached to their applications. The stamps will be officially marked when the licences are granted.

It would seem from a paragraph in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the question of the Russo-Japanese Protocol is to be dragged, as we feared from the first, into the arena of party controversy. Our contemporary says that Russia shows signs of construing the Moscow and Soul agreements in a sense entirely favourable to herself, and that Count Okuma is perplexed to determine what attitude he shall assume in his negotiations with the new Russian Minister. Whatever may be Russia's solicitude for her own interests, we are bound to say that this disposition on the part of Japanese newspapers to complicate international problems for party purposes, can not conduce greatly to the interests of Japan.

The reports recently circulated that Count Matsukata had actually tendered his resignation, and that Baron Iwasaki was about to follow suit, are declared to be absolutely baseless.

It is said that the stagnation now prevailing in the share market has had no parallel for the past six years. Business is practically *nil*. Such a state of affairs is difficult to explain, seeing that the silk trade is good and that the prospects of the rice crop are excellent. Various causes are assigned by the vernacular press. Some of them are political; namely, anxiety about complications with Russia in Korea; uncertainty about the issue of the Hawaiian question; the prospect of an impending change of Cabinet, and so on. But other and more comprehensible reasons also are suggested; for example, disappointment at the failure to effect sales of Japanese bonds abroad; apprehensions about the fate of various companies started during the industrial fever that followed the war, and now in a precarious state; a feeling of uncertainty on the subject of the national finances in general; the probability of a further rise of rates by the Bank of Japan, and the dullness that generally prevails in business circles during the dog-days.

The *Official Gazette* gives an account which shows that since the 31st of July, Shirane-san has been in a state of more or less violent eruption. At 5 a.m. on the 31st, five or six violent shocks of earthquake were felt, and a discharge of stones, earth and ashes took place to the right and left front of the shaft leading to the sulphur mine, which is situated between the old crater and the larger lake. The ejected matter was thrown over a wide area, and rocks measuring 3 or 4 feet in diameter fell upon the mine railway. A new crater thirty or forty feet deep was

found. On the 2nd instant at 2 a.m., there were fresh indications of activity. Loud reverberations were heard, and these were followed by several discharges of large stones. On the following day at 2 p.m., the phenomenon was repeated, and a labourer was injured. Thenceforth the rumbling continued with little intermission. It resembled discharges of artillery. A number of the workmen were sent away from the mine. At 2.30 a.m. on the 13th instant, the greater lake gave forth a loud noise, and stones weighing from 400 to 500 lbs. were ejected, crashing down on the roofs of the buildings connected with the mine, and breaking them. The record on the 15th instant was still worse. Rocks of larger size and greater quantities of mud and ashes were ejected, the roofs of the buildings being destroyed through a length of 40 feet. Fortunately there was no injury to life or limb, but it was considered necessary to send all the workmen down to Kusatsu.

The Liberal organ (*Tokyo Shimpō*) will have nothing to do with the *Fiji Shimpō's* proposals for an amalgamated Cabinet. It ridicules the Mita Sage and says that his protégés, the Matsukata Ministry, having proved themselves incapable, he can not bring himself to abandon them to their well deserved fate, but is trying to obtain for them a new lease of life, suggesting a union with Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki. It appears to us that the *Tokyo Shimpō* is blessed with a convenient memory. For several years the *Fiji Shimpō* has been a persistent advocate of a combination Cabinet, and if any wiser policy can be discovered, we fail to see it.

Mr. Abe Sanemasa, Inspector of Police in the Nippon Bashi District, of Tokyo, and Mr. Okada Nobuoki, Inspector in the Akasaka District, have both been placed on the retired list, the former in consequence of the disaster on Ryogoku Bridge, and the latter for dispersing the lecture meeting of the Kwanto Jiyu Seinen Association.

The *Japan Gazette* has been at some pains to demonstrate the legality of the action recently taken by the Danish Consul in arresting one of his nationals on board a British vessel in Japanese territorial waters, outside the limits of a treaty port. Our contemporary contends that there have been instances in the past of arrests made by foreign consular authorities outside the Treaty ports, and cites one case in particular, the shocking affair of the *Iris*, in 1875, when the accountant and sub-accountant of the Comptoir d'Escompte attempted to escape from Yokohama with a large sum of money stolen from the Bank. The *Iris* was pursued by an English steam-launch, the *Sea-gull*, overtaken in Kaneda Bay, whereupon the two fugitives committed suicide. "What was right in the case of the *Sea-gull* could hardly be wrong in the case of the *Columbia*," is our contemporary's conclusion. It need only be pointed out, we imagine, that there is a fundamental difference in the two cases. The *Sea-gull* pursued men flying from the consequence of a crime committed in Japan; the arrest made on the *Columbia* was that of a man charged with committing a crime in a foreign country. There is no analogy whatever. The Japanese have always permitted the Consular Authorities to make extra-settlement arrests when the offence was committed on Japanese soil. Even in the

case of Campos, who was apprehended at Arima and released by Mr. Fraser in deference to the protest of the Japanese Government, we think it more than probable that had his crime been committed within Japan's territorial limits, no objection would have been evoked in connexion with his arrest. But a fugitive from the consequences of a crime committed abroad is another affair altogether. A wholly different principle is involved, and action taken in one case constitutes no sort of precedent for procedure in the other.

Among the stories that have been handed down from the days of feudal Japan, few are at once so pitiful and so admirable as that of Sogoro, the central figure in the Sakura disturbance. Mr. Mitford, in his "Tales of Old Japan" has recounted the outlines of Sogoro's history. Doubtless most of our readers have thus become familiar with the farmer patriot's doings and his terrible fate. Now, however, an incomparable fuller record is accessible. It is a literal translation of a book compiled by a Japanese author many years ago, and printed in 1887. The Rev. George Braithwaite is the translator. He seems to have done his work with great fidelity, and has been fortunate enough to find an illustrator and a publisher of considerable merit. The book, though doubtless accurate as a narrative of facts, partakes somewhat of the character of romance. It undertakes to enlighten the reader not merely as to incidents, but also as to the thoughts and motives of the principal actors. Still, since they are motives and thoughts attributed to Japanese people by a Japanese author, they have an interest of their own, and the book may be regarded as a tolerably accurate picture of Japanese village life and local administration two hundred and fifty years ago. We strongly recommend it to our readers.

The question raised by the British Consul on Tuesday at the close of the trial of Antonio Barcas, who was charged with smuggling opium, strikes one as decidedly interesting. Mr. Troup asked why Barcas was arrested without a warrant, and said that it would be his duty to call the attention of the Authorities to the matter. Barcas was detected in the act of carrying a half-pound tin of opium from the P. & O. steamer *Verona*, and was handed over to the police by a Customs Official. Is it conceivable that under such circumstances the police had no right to effect the arrest immediately, and that their duty was to apply in the first place for a warrant? We can not think it. Barcas was caught in the very act of breaking the law. Had he been committing an assault or stealing a purse, there could have been no question about the propriety of his immediate apprehension. In the interim of seeking out the British Consul at 7.20 p.m., and obtaining a warrant from him, the smuggler might have made himself effectually scarce. Is that result consistent with any rational police procedure? It turns out, indeed, that Barcas was not doing anything criminal. His smuggling was not on a sufficiently large scale. His tin contained five-sixths of a pound short of the minimum quantity for which the law prescribes a fine of 15 yen. It is a very peculiar law. Doubtless Mr. Troup administered it correctly, the drafting alone is in fault, but the result is bizarre. Since, then, the act did not involve any penal consequences to Barcas himself, his arrest must

have been illegal, warrant or no warrant. Apparently, the law being what it is, there ought to be a weighing machine in the Custom House for the purpose of ascertaining whether the *corpus vile* turns the scale at 1½ lbs. If it does, then the smuggler can walk away, and make provision against being accessible when the necessary warrant has been procured.

A most extraordinary and complicated story comes to us from Nikko. We do not vouch for the details, but they run in this fashion:—A gentleman on a visit to Japan had a difference of opinion with his Japanese servant. He dismissed the man and told him to return at once to Tokyo. The servant preferred to remain in Nikko. The master bought a railway ticket, put the ex-servant in the train, and shut him into a carriage. How these latter operations were effected, we are not informed. The man presently jumped out of the carriage, and indicated his ex-master to the police as a traveller without a passport. The police, acting on the hint, arrested the traveller, and marched him through Nikko, in custody which occasionally went to the length of laying on of hands. A lady acquaintance of the gentleman meets the procession, and rescues him from his ignominious position. At this point the story loses its continuity, somewhat. The next scene opens at the house of the lady. The children of the family are playing some game in which the rescued friend is taking part. A number of Japanese little ones crowd into the gate to see the fun. They are told to make themselves scarce, and as they show want of alacrity in obeying, their exit is hastened by water thrown—at the suggestion of the friend—from a tin ladle fixed on a bamboo handle. The implement being vigorously wielded and the attachment defective, the tin head flies off and strikes one of the Japanese children on the head, knocking it down, hurting it more or less and alarming it more. That evening, or the next day, the inevitable redresser of wrongs, a *Soshi*, appears on the scene and demands reparation, but being driven to admit that the injured child is no relative of his own, he takes himself away, and incites the child's father to complain. The father and his eldest son, having imbibed freely of *saké*, proceeded to the scene of the incident, force their way into the house, and require the lady to produce the ladle-wielding child that they may kill it. Of the two the father, being the more inebriated, is also the more obstreperous. He manages to get up-stairs, and the lady is terribly alarmed. But finally an inspiration comes to her. She tenders the son a *yen* and asks whether, in consideration of that douceur, he will remove his father. The son responds by throwing the father down-stairs, and thereafter the lady detains the drunken complainant until the police arrive. Then occurs the queerest episode of all. The police declare themselves incompetent to remove the complainant because he won't go! There are evidently some links wanting here. At all events, the intruders are induced to take their departure, and the lady, well known for her kindheartedness, is now deliberating whether she will prosecute. The police say that if she does, something like five years' imprisonment will be the lot of the father, who, they add, is a respectable, peaceable man, except when he is carrying a *shô* of *saké* and has had his child's head damaged.

Such are the circumstances as they come to us. The gentleman without the passport does not shape well in the affair, but the lady is a heroine.

It is arranged, we understand, that the funeral of Count Mutsu shall take place on the 28th instant. Full details will doubtless be published in due time. Very great sympathy is felt with Countess Mutsu. The past few years have been intensely sorrowful for her. Not long ago she followed her only daughter to the grave, and now she is bereaved of her husband. Young Count Mutsu also lies ill, so that the house at Nasu-no-hara is truly a house of mourning.

We are glad to be able to say that Mr. Gubbins is mending. He seems to have caught a chill when returning from Kusatsu, where he had undergone the usual but very severe course of baths, with the hope of dispelling the remnants of a rheumatic attack from which he recently suffered. The cold settled on his lungs, and complications of a typhoidal nature ensued, so that for a time his illness was quite serious. But he is now on the road to convalescence, and will doubtless be able to return to Tokyo next month.

Dr. MacDonald has gone to Karuizawa to attend Mr. Terry, who lies ill with dysentery. It is said that Mr. Terry did not contract the malady at Karuizawa, but that he brought it there from a trip in other parts of the country. We shall doubtless, therefore, be taken to task for giving Karuizawa a bad name, as we were last year. There remains, however, another case of dysentery to be accounted for, and whether the favorite resort be sinned against or sinning, it is certainly an unlucky spot, according to the records of last season and of this. With reference to dysentery, it is not irrelevant to recall an experience noted formerly in these columns, namely, that every epidemic of cholera among the Japanese has been preceded by an epidemic of dysentery among the foreign residents. Of course the syllogism is not perfect. It does not follow, that every epidemic of dysentery among the foreign residents precedes an epidemic of dysentery among the Japanese. But it appears to be possible—though we do not think of dogmatizing in such a context—that the germs which produce cholera in the system of a Japanese are not capable of more serious mischief than dysentery when they have the hydrochloric acid of the Occidental digestive organs to contend against.

The *Kobe Herald*, writing up the case of alleged assault upon an American lady in a Japanese store, says:—"For the benefit of the *Mail*, whose inherent consciousness of misrepresentation causes it to fancy that its contemporaries are all similarly devoted to the prostitution of truth, &c." That is a misconception. Sometimes we think that papers like the *Kobe Herald* do infinite credit to British journalism in the Far East by the courtesy and moderation of their style, but "devotion to the prostitution of the truth"—what a dreadful idea!

We observe that the case of the injured lady is now the subject of judicial inquiry. If she really was assaulted in the brutal manner stated, we sincerely hope that an example will be made of her assailant. The Japanese in Kobe may

think that they have a record to wipe off against the foreigner. We daresay that they have. The old times left an unsightly legacy. But there is nothing to be said against the average foreigner now-a-days. He is quiet, self-contained, and, on the whole, considerate. If the Japanese undertake to visit the sins of the free-handed, masterful fathers upon the peaceable, long-suffering children, they will put themselves terribly in the wrong. Leckey, in his immortal work, says:—"The spirit of patriotism, in its relation to foreigners, like that of political liberty in its relation to governors, is a spirit of constant and jealous self-assertion." That seems to us to describe exactly the state of affairs in Japan at present. But if the Japanese hope to be judged by philosophical tribunals, they are mistaken. The general public does not employ ethical factors when it has to solve problems of assault and battery. There will be an ugly verdict written on the wall unless matters mend speedily.

The deaths of Mrs. Feldstein and her two-year-old nephew at Nagasaki were most shocking. The burning of the poor little lad under such circumstances would have been in itself sufficiently appalling, but that the brave lady who so nobly struggled to save the child should have followed it to the grave, makes a record too terrible to contemplate.

We shall not add any lengthy comments of our own to the appeal preferred by the Rev. Gilbert Reid in our correspondence columns. Our readers have been fully informed of his scheme and kept *au courant* of its progress. That they sympathise with it, and will extend to it any help in their power, we entertain no doubt. But we venture to suggest to the Japanese that the project should interest them specially. It really appears to be one of the forlorn hopes of prising China out of the Conservative rut, and that is a result which we believe the Japanese to be sincerely desirous of consummating. Count Okuma, when he took over the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, is known to have mapped out for himself a most conciliatory and sympathetic policy towards China. He appreciates her difficulties, and believes that if she could be induced to regard Japan with honestly friendly eyes, she would recognise in her neighbour the most serviceable and least uncongenial medium for drawing to herself whatever elements of Western civilization are essential to the preservation of her integrity. She has to go through the mill; that is inevitable; and Japan having been through it already and being also racially closer to China than any Occidental nation, as well as herself a large and conscious debtor to Chinese civilization, it would be at once less hurtful to the Middle Kingdom's sensitiveness, and more convenient from many concrete points of view, to have recourse to Japanese assistance than to go far afield for Western aid. That is understood to be Count Okuma's idea of the situation, and it is an idea worthy of his general policy. The present occasion seems, therefore, to offer a suitable instrument for the pursuit of the Minister's programme. By allying himself with the supporters of the Rev. Gilbert Reid's project—many of them influential men—His Excellency might not only present to China an object lesson calculated to show the sincerity of

Japan's mood towards her recent foe, but might also be largely instrumental in promoting a really helpful scheme. The step would also be incidentally beneficial as constituting a bond of association between Japan, Great Britain, and the United States, the nationals of the latter two Powers being, thus far, prominently interested in the scheme.

It is curious to note that the Japanese newspapers publish a telegram announcing the ratification of the Revised Treaty between the Netherlands and Japan. The ratification is said to have been made by the Queen of the Netherlands on the 21st instant, but, as a matter of fact, the ratifications were exchanged in Tokyo on the 20th instant, His Excellency the Chevalier de Testa having been duly authorized for the purpose. We presume that the Minister's telegram to the Hague announcing the event has been perverted by rumour into the erroneous form referred to above.

On the 20th instant, Count Mutsu asked at what time Marquis Ito's return was expected, and when he was told that the 5th or 6th of September was the probable date, he smiled sadly as though conscious that he could not hope to meet his friend again on this side of the grave. It is said that during the last week of his illness, he wandered a good deal, and that his favorite position was to lie facing in the direction of the Imperial Palace. On learning from the Countess that the Emperor and Empress had returned to Tokyo, he made as though he would join his hands and bow towards the Palace, but his strength proved unequal to the effort. Immediately before his decease, he seemed to know that the end had come, and his lips were observed to move, but no sound issued, and sinking apparently to sleep, he breathed his last. The funeral, as already announced, will take place on the 28th instant, the cortège leaving the residence of the deceased at Nishi-hara, near Oji, at 2 p.m., and proceed to the temple Kaizen-ji, in the Asakusa district of Tokyo, where Buddhist funeral rites will be performed. The body will subsequently be cremated, and the ashes sent to Osaka for interment in the ancestral sepulchre at Tenno-ji. The route of the procession will be from Nishi-ga-hara by the Komagome road past the front of the Imperial University; then by Kiridoshi along the foot of Ueyeno hill into Matsubamachi. It is probable that the bier will reach Kaizen-ji at about 3.15 p.m.

Folks in Osaka are said to have become alarmed about the prospects connected with the inauguration of gold monometallism. They talk of the quantity of silver *yen* in circulation as 114 millions, and predict that two-thirds of that number will be presented for exchange against gold, the consequence being such a reduction of the Treasury's specie reserves that the convertibility of the bank notes will become problematical, and the nation will have to return to a fiat currency. They therefore contend that an Urgency Ordinance ought to be issued at once, postponing the adoption of gold monometallism. It is very plain that party politics are largely responsible for this pusillanimous talk. The issue of such an Ordinance would involve the immediate resignation of the Matsukata Cabinet, and that is precisely what the prophets of evil desire to contrive. We have always opposed the adoption of gold monometal-

lism in Japan, but if the danger connected with the exchange of the silver *yen* pieces were the only trouble in sight, we should not deem the question worthy of serious discussion.

We stated in a recent issue that some apprehensions were entertained lest the work of coining silver *yen* should be undertaken in China, in the event of an appreciation of gold so considerable as to render such an operation profitable. The *Tokyo Shimbun* alleges that certain foreigners in Canton have already made arrangements to strike *yen* which will be perfect in quality and execution as to defy differentiation from the genuine coins. Our contemporary adds that if the exchange of *bona fide* coins alone is likely to over-tax the resources of the Treasury, this addition of an unlimited number of new coins will prove the last straw. But a moment's thought will make it clear that no operations of the kind can be successfully conducted on a large scale.

It seems idle to recall, at this late date, an incident connected with the Gold Bill, yet we can not help regretting that the recommendation made in these columns when the Bill was placed in the hands of the Lower House, did not receive some attention. We pointed out very clearly the danger of loss and embarrassment in connexion with the exchange of the silver *yen* coins, and urged the expediency of leaving them to circulate as subsidiary tokens, making them legal tender to a limited amount. Instead of pledging itself to exchange the *yen* for gold, the Treasury might then have taken steps to gradually withdraw all those coins from circulation, replacing them by subsidiary tokens of smaller dimensions, and when the operation had proceeded far enough to insure its consummation against inconvenient results, a period for the final cessation of the *yen*'s circulation might have been fixed. But Japanese financiers were too sure of themselves to listen to counsels. Perhaps they were right, but we suspect that they would be greatly pleased now if they had dealt differently with the silver-*yen* phase of the problem.

According to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the Cabinet contemplates establishing another Department of State, to be called the *Komu-sho* (Department of Manufactures). The object is to promote the combination of engineering and economics, a somewhat vague programme which we do not profess to understand. However, as the Department is not to be organized until next April or May, there is plenty of time to learn more about it, if it be not altogether a mythical affair.

Our readers will have observed that the departure of Japanese emigrants for Hawaii has re-commenced and that very considerable numbers have left, or are about to leave, for that destination. The explanation is that contract labourers are permitted to enter the islands without difficulty. The immigration of free labour only is at a stand-still. Steps have been taken however, to put a complete stop to the ingress of Chinese labourers, in view of annexation.

The building in Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, known for over half a century as the home of the Hongkong Club, will still be retained and used for a like purpose by a new institution to be called the New Club.

DEATH OF COUNT MUTSU.

Count Mutsu expired on Tuesday afternoon at 3.45 o'clock. During the three or four days ended on the 23rd instant, his condition had been slightly better, but on the morning of the 24th, he fell into a state of unconsciousness, and in the afternoon he passed quietly away. For years he had been a sick man, but the disease of the lungs from which he suffered did not appear hopeless to his physicians in the early part of 1896, and could he then have resigned himself to protracted abstinence from all business, a long sea voyage and a residence of some months in a recuperative climate, his health might have been restored. Unfortunately, however, it is one of the troubles of that particular malady that while the physical strength is steadily sapped, the mental activity grows more and more intense. Count Mutsu did indeed make a trip to Honolulu, and benefited perceptibly by the rest and the change. But from the day of his return politics busied him again, and his health failed week by week. His attenuated frame and evident feebleness, supplemented by an invincible ardour to keep himself acquainted with public affairs and make some contribution to the welfare of his country, led his friends to expect that the end could not be long deferred, and the wonder is that the sad event which we have now to record, did not take place weeks ago. It is not an empty phrase to say that Count Mutsu's death is an immense loss to his country. To statesmanlike qualities of a high order, a keen and penetrating intellect, and a judgment as luminous as it was prompt, he added a most attractive personality and a disposition that won more than the friendship of those brought into contact with him. He held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs throughout the most momentous epoch of Japan's modern history, the consummation of the Treaty-Revision negotiations and the war with China. It would be unjust to attribute to him the chief share in procuring Japan's admission to the comity of Western nations. Count Inouye stood in the forefront of that battle, and though the victory was not given to his hands, he did so much of the preliminary fighting that the difficulties to be overcome by his successors were immensely lightened. During the time that he presided at the Foreign Office, the diplomatic attitude of Foreign Powers towards Japan underwent a radical change. He secured for her in practice the courteous and considerate treatment due to an equal, though he did not obtain conventional recognition of her equality. Count Okuma, following, accomplished the disintegration of the phalanx of Treaty States, and would certainly have achieved Revision had his countrymen appreciated him. Of Count Mutsu, therefore, it must be said that, in a certain sense, he reaped where others had sowed. But it must also be said that only a statesman of great ability could have turned to such good account the situation prepared by Counts Inouye and Okuma. In domestic politics, also, he was a prominent figure. His influence over the Liberals was almost dominant, and his death certainly postpones the end for which politicians have struggled during so many years, party cabinets. His record is eloquent. A Samurai of Wakayama fief, he became a pupil of the celebrated Katsu,

and adopting the latter's progressive views, opposed the doctrine of seclusion and advocated the opening of the country. Subsequently to the battle of Fushimi, he interested himself in foreign affairs, and having made the acquaintance of Messrs. Lowder and Satow, obtained an introduction to Sir Harry Parkes, and after exchanging views with that able man, submitted a representation to the Government. His appointment to a post connected with foreign affairs followed, in 1867, and shortly afterwards, he became Governor of Hyogo. Resigning the latter office in 1865, he returned to Wakayama, and busied himself in reforming the local administration. Under the auspices of the fief he proceeded to Europe in 1870, and coming home in 1871, publicly advocated the abolition of the fiefs and worked to bring about that result. In the same year, he was nominated Governor of Kanagawa, where he organized the first genuine police of Japan, the *rasotsu*, as they were then called. Always retaining his place in the forefront of progress, he urged, in 1872, the necessity of re-assessing the taxable value of land, and was appointed head of the taxation bureau. When the Senate was established in 1875, he was one of the first members, soon becoming manager. Then followed the one great misfortune of his career. Having been convicted of complicity with the Satsuma insurrection, he was sentenced, in 1878, to five years' imprisonment, but received his pardon in 1882, after which he proceeded to Europe and America, remaining abroad until 1885. Thereafter he was appointed to represent his country in Washington, where he did much to strengthen the friendly relations between Japan and the United States. Instructed by Count Okuma, in 1888, he concluded the Treaty with Mexico, the first instance in modern times of a treaty on equal terms between an Oriental and an Occidental State, a success which procured for him the Second Class of the Order of the Rising Sun. In 1890, he accepted the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce, and in August 1892, he became Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, receiving a patent of nobility as Viscount, exactly two years later, for distinguished services, and being raised to the rank of Count in August 1895. It will thus be seen that His Excellency's appointment to the Foreign Office, his elevation to the peerage as Viscount, his further promotion to the rank of Count and his death, all took place in the month of August. He had not completed his fifty-fourth year, we believe, at the time of his decease. On the 23rd instant, the Emperor conferred on him the very marked distinction of raising him to the First Class of the Second Grade of official rank. Count Mutsu was eminently a friend of foreigners, above all of Americans and Englishmen, and his influence in the councils of State never failed to be exercised in a liberal and large-minded sense.

PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW.

Mr. J. F. Lowder, replying to our comments on his letter to the *Japan Times*, takes the position that the fears he expressed therein were based, not on any deficiency in the laws of Japan, but on the defective qualifications of the Judges administering them; and he suggests that had we examined his letter with greater discrimination, we would have appreciated

that distinction. Having been careful to re-produce Mr. Lowder's letter *verbatim* when commenting on it, we placed our readers in a position to estimate the justice of our remarks. We shall now quote the passages from which our interpretation was derived:—"When we speak of Private International Law, what we really refer to is the full recognition by the Courts of a given country, say Japan, of rights acquired in a foreign country, say France."

It was among other things the fear lest the principles of this branch of law might be ignored which prompted the opposition to the abolition in Japan of the extraterritorial jurisdiction exercised by our Courts.

The doubt in the minds of foreigners in Japan has been (perhaps is) whether cases coming for decision before Japanese Courts would not be arbitrarily decided by the local or territorial law where the law properly applicable would be, not that law, but the law of another country.

Would the Courts of Japan recognise this principle, and recognising it, enforce rights acquired under it? With these words before him, it would not have been possible for any reader to suppose that reference was made solely to the knowledge that Japanese Judges might possess of the principles of Private International Law, and not at all to the degree of recognition extended to those principles by the Code of Japan. Indeed, even though Mr. Lowder's language had been much less explicit, we should still have been justified in inferring a reference to the Code, for let Japanese Judges be ever so well versed in Private International Law, their knowledge would be of little service to foreign suitors unless the Code authorized its application. But Mr. Lowder's language lacks nothing, so far as we can see, in point of explicitness. When he expresses apprehension about the principles of the law in question receiving recognition in Japanese Courts, and about the local or territorial law being applied where the law properly applicable would be that of another country, we are bound to suppose that he refers to the provisions of law by which the procedure of the Courts is governed; and not merely to the ignorance or erudition of the Judges sitting on the bench. On that supposition we quoted, from the "Law of Application of the Laws in General of Japan," ten clauses explicitly binding Japanese Courts to extend remarkably full and liberal recognition to the principle of Private International Law. It is therefore plain that there are no grounds to fear lest the principles of that Law should be ignored by Japanese Courts, or lest local or territorial laws should be arbitrarily applied in cases where the laws of another country are properly applicable. Mr. Lowder, however, says that the nature of the Japanese Code was not present in his thoughts when he wrote his letter, and that he referred solely to the study of Private International Law by Japanese students. Well, we should willingly admit that we had misapprehended him could we discern any ground for such an admission, but as things stand we must adopt the formula that his language misled us.

At all events some good has been done since the community has been made cognizant of an important feature in the Japanese Code, of which even Mr. Lowder himself was ignorant. For our part, we very fully endorse Mr. Lowder's criticism

of the fact that Private International Law is only now becoming a compulsory study in the law schools of Japan. The circumstance is not by any means reassuring, but before commenting further on it, we shall take steps to assure ourselves of the accuracy of the statement.

As to Mr. Lowder's assertion that "the discussion of a subject on which the mind of one's opponent has ceased to be judicial is wearisome and futile," it appears to us to be a little inartistic. He might at least have subjected his inclinations to the gentle violence of sparing us such a stroke. We, too, find something "wearisome and futile," namely, the apparent impossibility of carrying on any journalistic discussion in Yokohama without personalities.

With regard to the Codes and the manner of procuring them, we find, on reference, that the copies in our possession were obtained, several years ago, from the Hakubunsha, in Tokyo. Apart from the Penal Code and the Code of Penal Procedure, the following have been published, so far as we know:—

Loi Organique des Tribunaux.

Law of the Application of the Laws in General of Japan.

Book of the Law of Persons.

Book of the Law of Acquisition of Property.

Code of Civil Procedure.

Commercial Code.

Whether the volumes are now procurable, we can not tell.

DEATH OF MR. COMMISSIONER A. G. S. HAWES.

From Hawaiian journals we learn with much regret that Mr. A. G. S. Hawes, H.B.M.'s Commissioner and Consul-General in Hawaii, expired in Hilo on August 5th. The immediate cause of death was blood-poisoning from a carbuncle, but it seems probable that the trouble had its origin in injury to the back of the head and neck sustained from a fall during a voyage to Hilo on the S.S. *Kinaw*. The ship was rolling so badly that Mr. Hawes became apprehensive for the safety of a friend seated near him on the deck, and rising hurriedly to render assistance, was himself thrown down with considerable violence. He appears to have taken a more serious view of the accident than its character suggested to others, and it is said to have had the effect of weakening him so much that he was unable to bear up against the virus of a carbuncle which developed some time afterwards. The probability is, however, that the carbuncle resulted from the fall, for from the time of his arrival in Hilo he was confined to bed and grew weaker day by day. Mr. Hawes, even in his young days, showed a tendency to *embonpoint* and of late years had increased greatly in weight, so that a severe fall could scarcely fail to injure him. He is said to have passed cheerfully and uncomplainingly through his last illness, though the accounts suggest that he entertained little hope of recovery. The body was carried to Honolulu, and having been embalmed there, was taken to the deceased's residence in Palama, where it lay in state until August 12th, when the funeral took place. The obsequies are described by our Honolulu contemporaries at considerable length. They were evidently on a large scale, and we observe

that the procession included 250 men from the I.J.S. *Naniwa* and *Hiei*.

Mr. Hawes was only fifty-five at the time of his death. By many in this country he is remembered with feelings of sincere regard, for during the thirteen years of his service in the Japanese Naval Department, he made numerous friends. The ability that he showed in matters connected with the organization of the Japanese Imperial Marines and the useful assistance that he rendered in naval affairs generally, were fully appreciated by the Government of this country, and the Emperor conferred on him the Third Class of the Order of the Rising Sun. In conjunction with Mr. (now Sir Ernest) Satow he compiled the first guide-book of Japan, a work so admirably done that it added permanently to his reputation. The sadness of the news now received is intensified by the fact that Mr. Hawes was engaged to be married, and that September 1st had been fixed for the wedding. The following is his record of service:—

"Hawes, Albert George Sidney, F.R.G.S., entered the Royal Marines, December, 1859; retired, February, 1869. Was in the Japan Service from January 1, 1871, to January 31, 1884, and received the Third Class of the Order of the Rising Sun. Was appointed Consul for the territories of the African Kings and Chiefs in the districts adjacent to Lake Nyassa, January 16, 1885. Was employed on special duty at Zanzibar from December 30, 1888, till June 15, 1889, and was Acting Agent and Consul-General there, from April 4 to 29, 1889. Was appointed Consul for the Society Islands, to reside at Tahiti, October 1, 1889."

CURRENT TOPICS.

We observe that the *Nagasaki Press* has met with some difficulties at the outset of its career. Owing to the non-arrival of its new plant, the date of the first issue has had to be postponed, and the publication of the *Nagasaki Shipping List* and the *Rising Sun* and *Nagasaki Express* will be continued for some time longer.

We can no longer depend implicitly on the *Pomfuri Shimbun* as an exponent of Count Okuma's views, but the probability of its accuracy lends interest to the following statement attributed to that statesman by our contemporary:—"There is nothing to be perturbed about because silver has fallen in sterling value. If we had not adopted the gold standard, then indeed the state of affairs would be serious, and we have reason to congratulate ourselves sincerely to-day that such a reform in our currency system has been effected. Gold will be taken out of the country in exchange for silver *yen*, we are told. Well, let it go. If gold becomes scarce, prices will fall in terms of it, and if prices fall, exports will increase and gold will come back again. That is the ordinary sequence of events. If the price of gold be high in Japan and the prices of commodities low, gold will be sent hither from abroad to purchase our commodities. *Per contra*, if the prices of commodities be high, foreign goods will pour in and our cheap gold will flow out. We need not be alarmed about the contingency that silver *yen* will be imported for exchange against gold. What we have been hearing lately was a complaint that everything had gone up in price. But that result was perfectly clearly foreseen when the so-called "post bellum programmes" were passed in the ninth session of the Diet. The large increase of circulating media caused by bringing the Indemnity to Japan could not fail to contribute to the general appreciation. Building barracks here, erecting forts there, constructing harbours somewhere else, laying railways in other localities—government and people both engaged simultaneously in all kinds of enterprises, and of course the price of timber rose, the price of bricks rose, the price of cement

rose, everything was pushed up. Why, in the case of cement the manufacturers were embarrassed a few years ago about the low figures ruling, and were trying to find a market in distant Vladivostok. But how is it now? The demand for cement has increased so much that the domestic production does not suffice, and the price is about twice what it was two years ago. That is a fair example of the way prices have been driven up by the post-bellum programmes. There can be no doubt that in consequence of the appreciation of gold, market prices will fall after the introduction of the gold standard. Of course falling prices means temporary depression in the field of commerce and industry, but the fact is that prices are now inordinately high and that a little lowering would be decidedly wholesome. You shall hear the same folks that complain now of high prices complaining then of low. That's the way of humanity: there's nothing surprising about it. Of course so long as the Indemnity has to be handled there will be more or less disturbance in the economical sphere, but the Indemnity will not last for ever. It is inevitable that prices should fall and that depression should overtake commerce and industry, but the remedy for that will be automatically supplied by increased exports, and inflow of bullion and a consequent appreciation of prices. These habits of rejoicing or grieving, laughing or raging about paltry trifles, are really much to be deprecated."

It will be observed that Count Okuma devotes scarcely a moment's attention to the question about which the vernacular newspapers are making so much fuss at present, the question of a deluge of silver *yen* for exchange against gold. He takes the right course, we venture to think, when he dismisses that chimera in a sentence. Japan has to face a loss in introducing her gold system, and there is not the slightest use in making grimaces over the inevitable. But our readers will probably agree with us in finding it very singular that the prospect of a general fall in the prices of commodities should be held up as a happy contingency for any nation to contemplate. Europe and America have been groaning under the bitterness of low and lowering prices ever since the demonetization of silver, and now Japan is to jump into the same slough of despond with a smiling face. Circumstances assuredly alter cases.

The *Kobe Chronicle* is delightfully persistent. It keeps pegging away at the bribery question, conscious, of course, that it failed very signally to establish its sweeping accusations, but not conscious, apparently, that the most prudent plan when defeat has been total, is to lower one's lance and retire quietly from the arena. The *Nippon* says that the police, notwithstanding their wretched salaries, and notwithstanding the fact that a few officials in the higher ranks of public life remain uninfected by the chronic disease of bribery, maintain their character pure and uncorrupted. "There you are," the *Kobe Chronicle* cries exultingly. "The *Nippon* uses almost similar language concerning officialdom to that denounced by the *Mail* when it appeared in the *Chronicle*." "Almost similar"! No, no. The *Chronicle* said that, according to its experience, every official appointment was tainted with bribery. We did not "denounce" its language. We did not deny that bribery exists. We expressly explained that our own knowledge on the subject was negative, and therefore of limited value. What we did was to ask the *Chronicle* for some of the "experiences" on which it founded its wholesale accusation, and, behold, our contemporary had no experiences whatever to adduce. It might be relevant to ask now whether, when the *Kobe Chronicle* declared every official appointment to be tainted by bribery, it made a mental reservation in favour of the police. But that would be mere controversy, and controversy is not our object. Our point is simply that if all this bribery exists among high officials and low officials, it is strange that accusation should be so

general, and that no one of the accusers has the courage to give the chapter and verse of his text. That bribery does exist, we hold to be unquestionable. The dimensions of the evil are the only point at issue. As for the *Nippon*, which the *Kobe Chronicle* says is "popularly credited with having a considerable and intimate knowledge concerning the working of the Government and its administration," we can only write "!!!". The *Nippon* stands credited with having advanced a greater number of foul and false charges against Japanese and foreigners than any other newspaper in Japan.

THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.

China has been contemplating various schemes, remarks the *Tokyo Asahi*, for raising new loans to the amount of sixteen million pounds. She seems to have nearly succeeded in the project, and it may therefore be expected that the balance of the indemnity will be paid in a lump sum at no distant date. The indemnity account stands thus:—

	Yen.
Total amount of indemnity	200,000,000
First installment received	50,000,000
Second " "	50,000,000
Third " "	16,666,666
Balance due	83,333,333

Article IV. of the Shimonoseki Treaty provides that if the whole indemnity be paid in less than three years after the ratification of the Treaty, the amount of interest thereon should be cancelled, and that any interest paid within that term shall go towards payment of the principal. The figures for interest are:—

	Yen.
For the first installment	1,250,000
For the second " "	5,000,000
For the third " "	416,666
Total	6,666,666

If this amount of interest is subtracted from the balance of the indemnity above mentioned, the remainder will be little more than 76,660,000 *taels*, being the final installments of the indemnity in addition to the expenses for the garrison of Wei-hai-wei.

SAD BOATING FATALITY.

TWO LIVES LOST.

On Sunday afternoon five Portuguese residents of Yokohama, Messrs. V. F. Barrados, E. Perpetuo, B. Fernandez, Da Rosa, and a young nephew of Mr. Barrados, together with a seaman from the U.S. flagship *Olympia*, hired a small rowing boat, without keel or centre-board, from a Chinaman—Ah Teek—on the Creekside and went out for a sail to Honmoku. Before they had gone far outside the harbour the boat was very nearly capsized in a puff of wind, which was blowing very squally at the time. Fernandez and the young lad, Mr. Barrados's nephew, very shortly after this mishap, were landed, and went home in jinrikisha, the others continuing their sail. On the way back a much more serious accident befell the company. Soon after leaving the neighbourhood of Honmoku, between 5 o'clock and half past, the boat ran nose in under the choppy seas, and was gradually swamped, turning turtle immediately afterwards. The four occupants of the boat were thrown into the water, some distance from the shore. Smith, the *Olympia* man, and Da Rosa struck out for shore and were picked up by a passing Japanese boat and landed, but Barrados and Perpetuo were not seen to rise. The body of the latter was recovered by the Water Police on Sunday night, and that of Barrados was found at Kawasaki on Thursday. Perpetuo's funeral takes place this afternoon. Barrados, we believe, was in the employ of Mr. Shand.

From the *Echo Macaense* we learn that on the 13th August, an explosion of gunpowder took place at a cracker factory at Sakong. Of the five workpeople engaged in the place two were killed outright, two were so seriously injured that no hope is entertained of their recovery, and only one escaped.

PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW
IN JAPAN.

A LETTER over the signature of Mr. J. F. LOWDER, appears in the *Japan Times* of the 19th instant, from which quote a portion:—

It is gratifying to learn from a paragraph in a recent issue of *The Japan Times* that the study of Private International Law, or, as English and American writers usually call it, The Conflict of Laws (both of which terms are open to criticism), is receiving in Japan the attention that must necessarily be given to it if the Courts of this country are to become equal to the demands that will shortly be made upon them for the administration of justice in the sense understood by foreigners. It was, among other things, the fear lest the principles of this branch of law might be ignored which prompted the opposition to the abolition in Japan of the extraterritorial jurisdiction exercised by our Courts. When we speak of Private International Law, or the Conflict of Laws, what we really refer to is the full recognition by the Courts of a given country, say Japan, of rights acquired in a foreign country, say France; or, as Professor Holland calls it, "the extra-territorial recognition of rights;"—and the doubt in the minds of foreigners in Japan has been (perhaps is), whether cases coming for decision before Japanese Courts would not be arbitrarily decided by the local or territorial law, when the law properly applicable would be, not that law, but the law of another country. The position is well illustrated by Sir William Scott in his well-known judgment in the case of *Dalrymple v. Dalrymple*, where a question arose as to the law regulating the validity of a marriage celebrated in Scotland; and as this question was being "entertained in an English Court," said the Judgment, "it must be adjudicated according to the principles of English law, applicable to such a case. But the only principle applicable to such a case by the laws of England is, that the validity of Miss Gordon's marriage rights must be tried by reference to the law of the country where, if they exist at all, they had their origin. Having furnished this principle, the law of England withdraws altogether, and leaves the legal question to the exclusive judgment of the law of Scotland." Would the Courts of Japan recognize this principle, and, recognizing it, enforce rights acquired under it, after the revision of the treaties? For if they would not, injustice must inevitably result. This, as I have said, has been among our fears; and as you informed us last week that the study of Private International Law has only "recently been made compulsory upon" all law students, being now one of the subjects upon which they are examined for admission to the judiciary and the bar, it must be admitted that the fears entertained and expressed by us were not unfounded. My object in addressing you is not to provoke controversy; on the contrary, as I was among the foremost of those who publicly opposed the revision of the treaties, it is right that I should be among the first to recognize the efforts that are being made, however tardily, towards remedying and, let us hope, eventually removing one of the reasons upon which that opposition was based.

It will not be supposed, we trust, that in commenting on the above we entertain any controversial purpose. Mr. LOWDER himself will be the first to agree that if a misapprehension exists among the foreign residents, and if he himself lent the weight of his legal authority to support it, no journalist conversant with the facts ought to refrain from setting them forth.

Mr. LOWDER asks whether the Courts of Japan would recognise the rights acquired by a foreign litigant in his own country, and whether, recognising them, they would enforce them after the Revised Treaties go into operation. He adds that foreigners have doubted whether "cases coming for decision before Japanese Courts would not be arbitrarily decided by the local or territorial law, when the law properly applicable would be, not that law, but the law of another country." He further says that fears "lest the principle of this branch of law might be ignored" were "among the things which prompted the opposition to the abolition in Japan of the extra-territorial jurisdiction

exercised by our Courts;" and, finally, he claims that the fears "entertained and expressed" on this subject are now proved to be not unfounded by the fact that "the study of Private International Law has only recently been made compulsory on all law students in Japan."

These propositions cause us some surprise, first, because Mr. LOWDER writes as though the ground now taken by him had already been taken in connexion with the anti-revision movement, and secondly, because he appears not to have made any examination of the Japanese Codes before coming forward to proclaim their deficiencies. As a matter of fact, this question of Private International Law was not among the "expressed" motives of the organizers of the celebrated meeting of 1890. It found no place among those motives, so far as the general public were aware. Doubtless to men well versed as Mr. LOWDER is in legal matters, the point presented itself; but we do not think that half a dozen persons in Yokohama were cognizant of it, and certainly it was not discussed or referred to at the meeting. That, however, is a comparatively trivial matter. What is of real importance is that, whereas Mr. LOWDER and others have been labouring under an apprehension lest the principles of Private International Law should not be recognised in Japan, and have been making that apprehension one of the bases of their opposition to Treaty Revision, it happens that the Code of Japan not only recognises those principles, but does so to an extent and with a degree of explicitness probably not surpassed, or even equalled, by the Code of any Occidental country. To demonstrate that fact, we have only to turn to the "Law of Application of the Laws in General of Japan," from which we proceed to quote some Articles:—

3. The civil status and legal capacity of persons are governed by the law of the country to which they belong.

The same applies to the relation of consanguinity and the rights and duties arising from it

4. Movables and immovables are governed by the law of the place where they are situated.

With regard to successions and legacies, they are, however, governed by the law of the country to which the ancestors and legators belong.

5. With regard to an agreement made in a foreign country, the law of whichever country is to be applied thereto, is determined in accordance with an express or implied intent of the parties.

Where the intent of the parties is not clear, the law of the country to which they belong is applied if they are the people of one and the same country; if otherwise, the law of the place which bears in fact the greatest interests in the agreement is applied.

6. Where in Japan a foreigner makes an agreement with a Japanese, such one of the laws of the country to which he belongs and that of Japan as is more favourable to its existence, is applied in regard to his legal capacity.

7. Undue enrichments, unlawful injuries and legal administrations are governed by the law of the place where their causes have been produced.

8. In every case in which the law of the country to which a person belongs is applicable, the person who has no nationality, or the people of a country in which law is different in different localities, are governed by the law of their domicile; if it is not

known, they are governed by the law of their place of residence.

Any person who has both the Japanese and foreign nationalities is governed by the Japanese law, and those who have two or more foreign nationalities, are governed by the law of the country where they have last acquired their nationality.

9. The formalities of authentic documents and documents under private signature are governed by the law of the country where they are made. With regard to documents under private signature which are made by a person or several persons who are the people of one and the same country, they can be made in conformity with the formalities provided for by the law of the country to which they belong.

10. Even formal agreements or acts are valid so far as their formalities are concerned if the formalities of the country where they are made or done are complied with. The case, however, in which the Japanese law has intentionally been disregarded, is excepted.

12. The formalities of public notification established in favour of third persons are governed, if they relate to immovables, by the law of the place where they are situated, and in any other cases they are governed by the law of the country where their causes have been produced.

13. The procedures of suits are governed by the law of the country where such suits are conducted.

The manner in which decisions and agreements are executed is governed by the law of the country where such execution is made.

17. The Judges cannot refuse to decide under pretension of the obscurity, insufficiency or deficiency of the laws.

We have no doubt that with the above Articles before them, Mr. LOWDER and those sharing his apprehensions in this particular matter, will agree that, so far as the law is concerned, no cause for uneasiness exists. He and they have, in fact, been labouring under one of the drawbacks that vitiate so many of the criticisms uttered by the opponents of Treaty Revision, namely, want of knowledge. The Law from which we have quoted was promulgated on the 7th of October, 1890. The anti-Revision Meeting was held on September 11th of that year. It was well known by the promoters of the Meeting that under no circumstances was there any idea of bringing foreigners under Japanese Jurisdiction pending the operation of the new Civil Code. The Code had then been compiled, revised, and was awaiting promulgation. We have shown by quoting some of its articles that it is an eminently satisfactory and exceptionally liberal Code with respect to the very question which Mr. LOWDER now declares to have been one of the reasons that prompted him and others to organise public opposition to Treaty Revision. The fact that before organising such opposition they did not take steps to inform themselves about the provisions of the Code—information easily accessible—can not, we think, be regarded as a proof that they were actuated by any serious sense of the responsibilities they were incurring. That they still remain without that information, though the Law has been in the hands of the public for nearly seven years, does not, we think, suggest that their desire to make themselves acquainted with the nature of the jurisdiction which they so greatly distrust, is very active. At all events, if Mr. LOWDER'S ignorance that these provisions of law

existed justifies, in his opinion, some of the fears he entertained, he will doubtless admit that persons more conversant with the Code were equally justified in their freedom from such fears.

THE NEW CURRENCY.

THERE is a great deal of uneasiness in Japan about the working of the gold monometallic system, which goes into operation from the 1st of October. During the past few days, silver has depreciated so rapidly that the price quoted in London is 24½d. per ounce, and the dollar in Hongkong and Shanghai stands at 1/10, or even less. The sterling value of the *yen* in the Japanese system being 2s. ½d., in round numbers, there is a difference of at least from 11 to 12 per cent. in the gold values of the Mexican dollar and the *yen*, and, of course, with such a margin, the collecting of *yen* pieces in China and Singapore and their shipment to Japan for purposes of exchange, become highly profitable operations. It is stated that the *yen* is at a premium of 10 *sen* in Hongkong and Shanghai, and if the report be true, speculators must be working on the assumption of a further appreciation of gold, for it would scarcely pay to buy *yen* at 110 *sen* for shipment to Japan. The cause of the great decline in the gold price of silver seems to perplex financiers in the East, but apparently the dominant opinion is that the United States Government has begun to unload some of its large stocks of the white metal. As for the Japanese, they ought to remember that some trouble and expense in connection with the exchange of 1-*yen* silver coins were anticipated from the outset. It was for that reason that a Bill was submitted to the Diet last session, providing that the profits derived by the Mint from the operation of striking silver subsidiary coins should be set aside as a fund to meet the cost of exchanging 1-*yen* pieces. The subsidiary coins being only 800 fine, there is a gain of 10 per cent. in minting them, and so long as, first, the quantity of 1-*yen* pieces presented for exchange against gold does not exceed the requirements of the subsidiary circulation, and, secondly, the difference between the market price of gold in terms of silver and its price according to the Japanese ratio does not exceed 10 per cent., no actual loss will result to the Treasury from the operation of exchange. There will, indeed, be a deprivation of profit that would otherwise have accrued in connexion with the subsidiary coinage, and there will be a loss to the nation of a certain amount of gold, but the Government's accounts of expenditure and income will not be thrown out of balance. Already, however, the margin of 10 per cent. has disappeared, and an actual loss of 2, or perhaps 3, per cent. is in sight. But that is not a very serious

matter. The country has to pay the piper if it wants to dance to the jingling of the guinea. If it incurs a loss of 3 per cent., or even 5 per cent., on thirty million *yen*, the total will be only from nine hundred thousand to a million and a half of *yen*; not an alarming figure. The vernacular journals, indeed, talk of 85 million *yen* as the aggregate likely to be presented for exchange. That is on the assumption that 50 millions circulating abroad and 35 millions circulating at home, will all be presented for exchange. But why should Japanese holders of silver *yen* desire to exchange them for gold? There is no apparent reason. Hoarders of coin may have a *penchant* for the yellow metal just as they have now a *penchant* for the white. That, however, is a question apart. In the ordinary routine of business the Japanese owner of five silver *yen* can make nothing by exchanging them for one gold piece. If exchange suggests itself, his purpose will be better served by receiving a bank note. The *yen* pieces circulating abroad are the only really appreciable factor of loss. With a net gain of from ten to twelve per cent. in view, bankers, merchants, and speculators will collect every *yen* that can be procured in China or the Straits Settlements, and will despatch the pieces to Japan for redemption. What the total may aggregate it is difficult to foresee, but if it passes thirty millions we shall be surprised. Meanwhile, the outcry raised by several Japanese journals seems extravagant. As the *Yomiuri Shimbun* justly remarks, the adoption of gold monometallism was bound to cost Japan something. We ourselves do not regard the loss contingent on the exchange of the *yen* piece as worthy of mention in the same breath with the incomparably greater losses that the country will suffer in other directions, above all in the fact that the bounties hitherto enjoyed by its exporters to gold-using countries will be abolished. It is unnecessary to repeat what we have often said upon that subject; what we have been saying for the past seventeen years. The object-lesson now presented to the Japanese is more eloquent than any verbal exposition. Chinese silk already enjoys an advantage of some 12 per cent. over its Japanese rival in European and American markets, and Japanese staples exported to China fetch 12 per cent. less than they did three months ago. Stability has been secured, it is true, and a stable currency is an immense blessing, but in a country just embarking upon an industrial career, as is Japan's case, the encouragement afforded by being able to sell the products of her industry for tokens constantly appreciating in terms of the coins by which she measures the cost of labour and raw material, is of very great efficacy. However, the die is cast, and lamentations are futile. All that we have to do is to express

our surprise that any Japanese journalist should be thrown into a state of perturbation by the silver-*yen* prospect, seeing that it was anticipated and provided for at the outset, and that its dimensions, after all, are insignificant.

Allusion may be made to one other point. Considerable stress is laid on the fact that by adopting the gold standard Japan has not gained access to the stores of Occidental capital, as was hoped and expected by the advocates of the measure. Here again we find ourselves in the position of repeating what we have often said already, namely, that until Occidental capitalists are well assured of the stability of Japan's new system, in other words, well assured that nothing can induce her to go back to silver, they will not pay a premium for her securities. The bonds that she sold to a British syndicate in May last were specially guaranteed against any peril of that kind. But the sterling value of her public securities in general depends on her own legislative constancy, and if European capitalists were somewhat startled by the apparent precipitancy with which she passed to the gold standard, the moral disturbance now shown by some of her writers in the presence of a practically trivial crisis will not help to restore Western confidence. Time never works more slowly than when it engages in building up credit. If Japan hoped to legislate herself into the gold markets of the Occident by means of an eight-hours bill, she was over-sanguine.

CONSULAR CURIOSITIES AGAIN.

TROUBLES never come singly. Just as we imagine that the catalogue of possible complications connected with extraterritorial jurisdiction has been exhausted, two fresh incidents present themselves. The case heard on Tuesday in Her Britannic Majesty's Court at this port, could certainly not have been anticipated: it is too comical. Never before has the doctrine been gravely and judicially propounded that when the police observe a flagrant delict, they are to march off and procure a warrant for the arrest of the offender, leaving him meanwhile to spirit himself away by steamer or railway or any other convenient vehicle. HOMER was certainly nodding when he enunciated that principle from the bench. But if our present Consul sometimes trips among the snares and pitfalls of the strange system he has to administer, what the public feels is nothing more than annoyance that such difficulties should beset the path of an official so universally liked and trusted. He himself must be mightily tickled at the defence that has been journalistically set up on his behalf. It is urged, in the first place, that the man who was found in possession of opium when landed, was ignorant of the prohibition against importing the drug into Japan.

What a charmingly naïve plea! A quartermaster of a Peninsular and Oriental steamer ignorant that opium is contraband! If such an excuse were advanced on behalf a Japanese, it would be received with a chorus of mocking laughter. In the second place, it is urged that the principle of *flagrante delicto* did not apply, "since no personal harm would have resulted to anybody" if the man had been left at large until a warrant could be obtained! Fancy British excise officials happening upon an illicit distillery and confining themselves to a seizure of the plant and products while the distillers fled unscathed because no warrant for their arrest had been procured, and because "no personal harm would result to anybody" by waiting till that formality could be complied with. Or fancy an English game-keeper applying the same doctrine to the case of a poacher—seizing the game in the poacher's possession, and then going home to get a warrant for the man's arrest. A lofty notion of the average Britisher's intelligence must be conveyed to a Japanese who reads such arguments. If he arrives at the conclusion that his country's officials are to be convicted of "ignorance and meddlesomeness" *per fas et nefas*, he can not be much blamed.

Hakodate has furnished another of these extraterritorial entanglements. We are not yet in possession of exact details, but it seems that some Chinese *employés* of a British man-of-war landed at Hakodate, went to the house of a Japanese and began to gamble. The police surprised them in the act, apprehended them, carried them off to prison and arraigned them before a Japanese tribunal. Vernacular newspapers, reporting the affair, say that Her Majesty's Consul claimed to have the men handed over to him, on the ground that they were borne on the books of the war-ship, but the Japanese authorities declined to entertain the application. It is difficult to imagine that such a version can be correct. The true complexion of the case becomes at once apparent if we apply the test so often useful, namely, substitute an analogous situation with less equivocal data. Suppose that the *employés* of the man-of-war had been Japanese subjects; is it conceivable for a moment that they would have been judicable by the British Consul for a crime of gambling committed on Japanese territory? The substitution of Japanese for Chinese is perfectly logical, for since China does not possess any extraterritorial privileges in Japan, Chinese subjects stand on exactly the same footing as Japanese subjects for jurisdictional purposes in this country. Had the men been subjects or citizens of any Power vested with extra-territorial jurisdiction in Japan, they must of course have been handed over at once to their own Consular Authorities, but being Chinese subjects, no Court

in Japan except a Japanese Court has competence to deal with them. If Her Majesty's Consul did apply in the manner described, and if the Chinamen had been handed over to him, he would have been confronted by a pretty dilemma. Certainly no stretch of imagination could have enabled him to discover in himself competence to punish the malefactors. His only course would have been to send them back to their ship without any penalty whatever, and thus the precedent would have been established that any Chinese, Portuguese, Greeks, Mexicans, or Japanese, serving in a British vessel, would be able to land on Japanese soil and perpetrate any crime they pleased with absolute impunity. It seems strange that this particular problem never before presented itself for solution, but stranger still is the kind of solution described by the vernacular newspapers.

THE AMERICAN SILVER COMMISSION.

THE three distinguished American Senators now on a visit to Japan, contemplate spending some two months in the Far East. They may possibly proceed at once to China, or they may defer their trip thither until September, but under any circumstances Japan is to be the field of their inquiry, and if they take China into the programme of their tour, it will simply be because their proximity to that country tempts them to seize the opportunity of visiting it. They are all advocates of bimetalism, and one certainly receives a vivid impression of the strength of the bimetallic movement when one finds it supported by men of such knowledge and capacity. They have not come to Japan as propagandists of any cause. Apart, indeed, from their sympathy with Japan's industrial and commercial efforts and their consequent regret that she should have embraced a system which, in their opinion, will impede her material progress, they regard her choice as a matter of congratulation from their own particular point of view, since every addition to the ranks of the gold monometallic nations tends to accentuate the situation and render it more unendurable. On the other hand, they do not look to international action to provide an exit from the financial quagmire. International action, they say, has had its show. It has been amply tried and abundantly proved hopeless. Indeed, only romantic or exceptionally sanguine persons could ever have regarded it with confidence, since nations are not a whit more likely to abandon "the good old plan" at the close of the nineteenth century than they were at the beginning of it. The creditor gold-using States, having absorbed and locked up in their strong-rooms all the available stores of the yellow metal, are in a position to dictate

to their silver-using debtors the terms on which the latter shall discharge their obligations, and to expect that the creditors will voluntarily step down from such a pedestal of vantage, would be to repose a large measure of faith in humanity's altruism. The Senators think, therefore, that it is futile to sit waiting any longer at Europe's feet. America must select the currency that she thinks will suit her best—a right of eclecticism which belongs above all others to a free nation—and she must adopt it practically at once, confident in her undoubted strength to consummate the programme. The Senators do not attach the slightest importance to the new Tariff as an invigorator of existing industries or a creator of new ones. There was protection enough already, and a rise of duties is not going to inaugurate any reign of prosperity. Incidentally they are opposed to taxing Japanese silk fabrics heavily, their view being that America can not compete in that special branch of industry, and that, since she must have the silks, she is only penalizing her own consumers when she puts big duties on the article. The Tariff, then, having been weighed in the balance and found wanting, and the Government's attempts to secure an international agreement about bimetalism having failed signally, the next election will see an overwhelming majority of votes cast for the Democrats and for the free-silver platform. It was because of the MCKINLEY Cabinet's confident promises to contrive an international agreement that many moderate silver men supported them at the polls last Fall, and when the fallaciousness of those promises is demonstrated, and the futility of the Tariff established, the Republican following will melt away incontinently. As for the visit of the Senators to Japan, its object is simply to collect information. To understand the motives of the Japanese people it is essential to know what they are doing and what they may reasonably hope to do. An investigation directed towards the acquisition of that knowledge is what the Senators contemplate, not necessarily with the intention of publishing it, and certainly not for the purpose of erecting any *doctrinaire* edifice upon it, but simply that they may be in a position to deal intelligently with the Japanese problem whenever it comes upon the *tapis*. It should undoubtedly be a source of great satisfaction to the Japanese that their affairs are receiving such expert and potential scrutiny. This country has nothing to desire more ardently than that her condition should be thoroughly understood by the leading politicians of the great Western Powers, and from that point of view, apart from any considerations of hospitality, every possible facility will doubtless be extended to Senators PETTIGREW, DUBOIS and CANNON.

THE TEA MARKET.

Tea found a good sale, says the *Kokumin*, during the latter half of last month. Prices stood firm until the third crop was brought in for sale, when the market became glutted with fresh arrivals. Prices have now begun to fall, and foreign firms have become less eager in purchasing. Native dealers are not pressing sales at present, in spite of a general fall in the price of their goods by one or two dollars per picul; both buyers and sellers waiting for the opportunity to ripen. The following are the arrivals and sales during the past half month:—

	Catties.
Arrivals	928,000
Sales	568,700
Stock	560,600

The figures for the 29th and 30th years of *Meiji* for the first crop in each year up to the 15th August are as follows:—

	30th Year. Catties.	29th Year. Catties.
Arrivals.....	17,873,400	18,107,100
Sales	17,312,800	17,541,100
Stock in market	560,600	600,000

FOREIGN RESIDENTS OF TOKYO.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* states that the foreign residents in the capital at the end of June totalled 652, of whom 391 were males and 261 females. The following are the various nationalities:—

FOREIGN RESIDENTS WITHIN TREATY LIMITS.			
Nationality.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Chinese	5	12	17
American	51	69	120
Spanish	6	3	9
Belgian	2	2	4
Swiss	1	—	—
Italian	1	—	—
English	19	25	44
French	10	10	20
German	3	—	3
Total	98	121	219

FOREIGN RESIDENTS OUTSIDE TREATY LIMITS.			
Nationality.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Chinese	42	3	45
Belgian	2	—	2
Italian	6	—	6
American	59	45	104
English	67	49	116
Portuguese	2	—	2
German	38	15	53
Austrian	1	—	1
Russian	9	4	13
Korean	7	—	7
Swiss	3	—	3
French	46	15	61
Spanish	2	1	3
Hawaiian	2	2	4
Dutch	6	5	11
Danish	2	1	3
Total	294	140	434

KOREAN TOPICS.

Mr. Everett Frazar, of Messrs. Frazar and Company, and Mr. J. R. Morse, have been appointed Consul-General and Commercial Agent, respectively, for Korea in New York.

The *Independent* says that the newly arrived Russian officers—three commissioned and ten non-commissioned—have commenced to drill the first and second regiments. These are the Russians who just looked in at Seoul for a few days' recreation during the hot weather. We should like to hear an official Russian exposition of the Lobanow-Yamagata Convention. 'Tis said that a coach and four can be driven through any act of Parliament. International agreements are probably no less manageable.

The final survey of the Seoul-Chemulpo Railway has been completed, and six hundred men are at work on the line.

Hanging is still the punishment for coiners of counterfeit money in Korea. Two men who coined \$100 of copper tokens have been sentenced to that fate. In Japan in old times such malefactors used to be compelled to work for

life in the Mint. It was a much subtler and more refined kind of penalty.

The *Independent* vehemently denies a statement recently made by the Seoul correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpō* and translated into these columns that beggars dying, or dead, from hunger are to be seen in Korea. Our Korean contemporary takes occasion to denounce the want of veracity of many newspaper correspondents, which is, doubtless, a very just criticism. But the *Independent* itself falls into an error when it says that "the beggar nuisance is always complained of by the foreign residents at the ports in Japan."

The *Independent* contains the following paragraph, the accuracy of which we take leave to doubt:—

The Japanese Minister Mr. Kato wrote an official letter to the Korean Foreign Office stating that he heard three Russian officers and ten non-commissioned officers had arrived in Seoul at the request of the Korean Government. If so he desired to be informed of the reason which prompted the Korean Government in making the request and what steps were taken in forwarding the said request.

The Foreign Office replied that the request was made by the War Department and not by the Foreign Office, therefore the Foreign Office asked the War Department for information on the subject after receiving the official communication of the Japanese Minister. The War Department replies that as to employing foreign military instructors, the Korean Government has the right to employ whomsoever it sees fit; therefore it is a matter upon which the Department does not feel obliged to enlighten the Japanese Minister.

The Japanese Minister went to see the Minister of Foreign Affairs last Saturday and had a talk with him. What transpired during the conversation is not known. The Japanese Minister went to the War Department to see the War Minister but Minister Sim was indisposed at his house and did not see Mr. Kato.

The 13th instant was the 505th anniversary of the founding of the Ye Dynasty in Korea, the present King being the thirtieth sovereign of the line. There seems to have been some celebration in Seoul, but no account is yet published.

The King of Korea has issued two edicts of which the following translations appear in the *Independent*:—

Edict:—"We have been looking into the condition of the country. We have realized the imminent danger which threatens the maintenance of the nation. But the people of both high and low classes do not seem to mind the coming calamity and act indifferently. Under the circumstances, the country cannot prosper. We are depending upon Our Ministers for their advice and help, but they do not respond to our trust. How are we going to bring the nation out of its chaotic condition? We desire them to pause and to think that they can not enjoy their homes unless the integrity of the nation is preserved. We confess that We have not performed our part properly, but Our Ministers and other officials ought to have advised Us to refrain from wrong-doing, as their ancestors had done to Our forefathers. We will endeavour to do what is right and proper for our country hereafter, and We trust Our subjects will renew their loyalty and patriotism in helping us to carry out Our aim. Our hope is that every citizen in the land will consider the country's interest first before thinking of his private affairs. Let Us all join Our hearts to preserve the integrity of Our country."

Edict:—"The welfare of Our people is our constant thought. We realize that since last year's disturbance Our people have been suffering greatly on account of lack of peace and order. The dead suffer as much as the living but the Government has not done anything to ameliorate the existing condition. This thought makes Us worry to such an extent that the effluence by which We are surrounded is rather uncomfortable. If this fact is known to Our provincial officials they will do their best to ameliorate the condition of the people. Compulsory collection of unjust taxes and thousands of lawless officials and Government agents rob the helpless masses upon one pretence or another. Why do they treat Our people so cruelly? We hereby order the provincial officials to look into the various items of illegal taxes now being collected and abolish them all without reservation. Whoever does not heed this edict will be punished according to the law."

It is to be presumed that these strange documents were evoked by the 505th anniversary alluded to above. They are sufficiently enigmatical and very quaint if judged by Occidental standards.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Rear-Admiral C. L. Oxley left for home on Wednesday by the O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*.

A branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has been opened at Chemulpo at the office of Messrs. Holme, Ringer & Co., the Manager being Mr. W. G. Bennett.

Dr. Patrick Manson, formerly of Amoy and Hongkong, has been appointed physician and adviser to the Colonial Office, in succession to Sir Charles Gage Brown, who has retired.

The U.S. tariff bill makes new concessions to American vessels engaged in foreign trade or trading between the Atlantic and Pacific, by exempting from internal revenue taxes distilled and fermented liquors, tobaccos and cigars carried as supplies on such vessels.

Mr. William Ogilvie, Chief of the Canadian International Boundary Survey, says that Klondike, or Clondyke, is a mispronunciation of the Indian word "Thron-dak," or "Thron-duick," which means plenty of fish, from the fact that the river is a famous salmon stream.

For the East Asiatic station the new German cruiser *Victoria Louise* has been chosen to replace the lost gun-boat *Illis*. Pending the arrival of the *Victoria Louise* the *Mosse* is to come to East Asiatic waters. The Australian station will be increased by the cruiser *Geler*, while the cruiser *Arcona* is to go to America.

It seems that the O.S.K. *Taihoku Maru* was sunk off Lisbon through collision with the British steamer *Eastbourne*, from Smyrna. The latter steamer had her bows badly stove in. The British ship *Millfield* stood by the *Taihoku* till she sank and then towed the crew and officers into Lisbon, they having all managed to get out the boats before the *Taihoku* sank.

On Wednesday morning in H.B.M. Court, before Jas. Troup, Esq., Assistant-Judge, Donald McVicar, Master of the British ship *Lord Wolsley*, charged Ole Otterbeck, an able seaman, with being absent without leave, the offence having been committed on the 24th inst. Defendant pleaded guilty and volunteered to go back on board ship. He was fined two days' pay and the costs of the court \$1.50.

The remains of the late Mr. Perpetuo, who had the misfortune to lose his life in the sad sailing fatality on Sunday, were interred in Yokohama Cemetery on Monday afternoon in the presence of a large number of people, including every member of the Portuguese community, also of the Consul-General for Portugal and Brazil. The sympathy of deceased's friends and others was displayed by the numerous wreaths which covered the hearse.

Nose Yasutaro, a grog-shop keeper of Kobe, whom one of the English witnesses declared to be the "most notorious pimp in Japanese town," charged James Connors, a British seaman, in the British Consular Court, at Kobe with assaulting him on the 9th inst. After hearing a good deal of evidence, Mr. Playfair, Acting-Consul, dismissed the case, not being satisfied that the proper man was charged, or that complainant's evidence was to be believed.

Permission was given some time ago, says the *Fiji*, to the promoters of the scheme to construct an electric railway between Osaka and Kobe. Another charter having lately been granted to extend the line from Kobe to Amagasaki, a conference was held between the two parties in Osaka and Kobe interested in the project, with a view to amalgamate the two companies and apply for further permission to construct a line from Amagasaki to Osaka.

The Hydrostatic Electric Company in Bukogawa proposes to supply electric motion to the extent of a thousand horse-power. If the new Company's plan is sanctioned, however, steps will be taken to purchase the Bukogawa Company's establishment.

The following are the Raw Silk shippers per O.R. & N. Co.'s steamer *Monmonthshire*, for Portland, Ore.:

	Fales.
Otto Rimmers & Co.	203
Vivanti Brothers	185
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	178
Nabholz and Osenbüggen	149
Sieber & Co.	105
Bavie & Co.	98
Middleton and Smith	67
Herbert Dent & Co.	45
Kai Tsu Gomei Kaisha	32
China and Japan Trading Co.	25

Total 1,087

The amount of Japanese coal exported to Hongkong during the first half of this year, according to the *Shogyo*, was as follows:—

	Tons.
Miike	90,685
Mozu	132,555
Hokkaido	9,487
Karatsu	3,600

Total 236,327

These figures show a decrease of 50,757 tons as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The import of other coal into Hongkong amounted to 84,400 tons, showing a decrease of 5,140 tons against the amount for last year.

The machinery for the circulation of money in Formosa, remarks the *Shogyo*, is by no means satisfactory, and not a little inconvenience is felt by merchants in the island. A Branch of the Bank of Japan, and another of the *Chiuritsu* Bank are established in the island, but as the function of the former is limited to transactions with the Governor General's Office, no benefit is derived from it by private individuals, who are compelled to depend upon the latter Bank for loans. Formosans have shown a strong aversion to paper money; and the exchange of paper for cash involves a loss of thirteen or fifteen *yen* per thousand. Daily interest on loans is generally fixed at five or six *sen* per hundred *yen*, whereas deposits are received at the rate of only eight *rin* per cent. per day.

The M.M. *Laos* has achieved a record in doing the run from Shanghai to Kobe in 51 hours. She left Marseilles on July 18th and delivered the London mail at Singapore in three weeks; and at Yokohama in 34 days. The *Laos* is a twin screw steamer of 6,357 tons, English measurement, 2,331.39 tons net, and 8,000 horse-power. Her measurements are:—Length, 465 feet 7 in.; beam, 54 feet 2 in.; depth, 36 feet 1 in. Her internal fittings and appointments are very fine. The *Laos* had an exceptionally good run up from Kobe. She left that port at 3.55 p.m. on Friday and arrived at the Quarantine Station at Nagaura at 12.47 on Saturday, or 20 hours, 52 minutes. After a little delay at the Station she came on and entered the harbour at 1.13. This fine ship, we understand, after discharging cargo, will be opened by invitation to the inspection of the community.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* says that the third crop of tea this year is very inferior in quality and native dealers are making a mistake in forcing it upon the market. Our contemporary asserts that the short-sighted hopes of these men—who expect to recoup all their losses out of the third-crop sales—will meet with speedy disappointment. Foreign buyers are only filling immediate requirements, and are refusing to pay the advance of 2 *yen* per picul that dealers demand.

The silk weaving enterprise in Yonezawa, the *Mainichi* remarks, has made considerable progress of late. The Weavers' Guild consists at present of 420 members, all zealous for the improvement of the quality of the goods produced. A fair prospect of success now lies before them.

The annual output has greatly increased, but a deficiency of operatives is apparent, wages having risen nearly twenty-five per cent. as compared with the amount paid two or three years ago. The wages paid at present are on the following scale:—

Per 100 momme.	Weaving.	Per loom.
Reeling raw silk	9	1.50
Re-reeling raw silk	45	1.50
Twisting silk for warp	45	1.50
Twisting silk for woof	80	3.30
Dyeing.		3.70
Warp, dark blue or black	95	4.30
Warp, light blue or black	45	4.30
Woof, any light colour	45	3.60
Woof, coloured first iron and then green	75	3.30

Although Captain "Shinagawa" James had no love or liking for the Press, so long as he formed an integral part of the Marine Court of Enquiry sitting in Tokyo, he always saw that the representatives of foreign journals published in Yokohama or elsewhere had proper accommodation in the way of chairs, tables, and convenient positions adjacent to the Bench. But now that Captain James has transferred his restless activities to another part of the world, a complete change has come over the Marine Court of Inquiry, and foreign journalists find themselves more than ignored. They are not wanted, it would seem, for no provision of any kind is made for them. At the last Enquiry they had to sit at the rear of the Court on most back breaking chairs, without a table, and almost out of hearing distance. The change is not for the public benefit, we imagine.

A certain professor of Engineering, says the *Mainichi*, lately expressed the following views in regard to the improvement of the public thoroughfares of the capital:—(1.) The central part of every highway should, according to width, be paved with stone for a space of from two to five or six *ten* across. (2) Sendai stone in blocks of six feet by three in size should be used for the purpose, the stone obtained in Tokyo being too brittle to withstand the constant passage of carriages for any considerable time. (3) Granite is also excellent for the purposes of pavement, but four or five joints would have to be made in a single *tsubo*. (4) Brick is brittle and requires many joinings in pavement, and is therefore inferior in this respect to stone. (5) The number of *tsubo* covered by the highways in Tokyo is a little more than 1,900,000. Two-thirds of this area form carriage roads. If 25 *yen* were allowed for paving one *tsubo*, the whole work could be completed for 31,666,650 *yen*.

Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress arrived at Yokohama Station *en route* to the capital, at 20 minutes past 3 o'clock on Monday afternoon, by a special train of 12 cars, and, after a stay of less than three minutes, proceeded, without alighting, to Tokyo. Both the platform and the Station yard was crowded with hundreds of persons, including fifty or so naval officers from the Japanese war-vessels in Yokohama Harbour, the Governor of Kanagawa, the Superintendent of Kanagawa Police, the Station Master, and a large number of members of the Japan Red Cross Society of Yokohama, all of whom made a profound obeisance when the special train drew near. The eight men-of-war in Yokohama Harbour—Japanese, English, American, French, German, and Austrian—fired a salute of 21 guns on the arrival of Their Majesties at the Station. The crossings along the line on which the Imperial train passed were crowded with spectators.

According to the *Shogyo*, the silk trade in Europe, America, and China has revived considerably of late. Prices in Japan are now steadily rising, orders on a large scale having been received from abroad by many foreign firms in Yokohama. No considerable sales were effected on Monday last on account of scarcity of goods of a suitable quality, 250 bales only being taken delivery of. There can be no doubt as to the failure of the agricultural industry in Europe this year. China, too, seems to have yielded a smaller crop than was originally reported. In short, there has been a general falling off in the production of the world, whereas

the demand for silk is increasing rapidly. So far as present conditions indicate, nothing can show better prospects of success in Japan than the silk industry. Yokohama may fairly expect at no distant date to see some extraordinary transactions concluded on the arrival of goods from the various silk districts.

An engine room artificer of the U.S. flagship *Olympia* got into trouble in a house of ill-fame in the native town on the night of the 15th inst. and was arrested by the police and turned over to the U.S. Consular authorities on a charge of assaulting a Japanese named Kinoshita, who claims to have served several years in the American Navy. The case was set down for hearing at 10 a.m. on the 20th, notice to that effect having been sent on the previous day to the Procurator at the Saibansho. No prosecutor put in an appearance at the U.S. Court, however, on Friday morning, and it was eventually discovered that the communication from the Consulate had been pigeon-holed or mislaid at the Saibansho. In the meanwhile the complaining witness, Kinoshita, came to the wise conclusion that it would be more profitable to himself to effect a compromise with the accused, and this was effected with the consent of the Consul-General, Kinoshita receiving 15 *yen* wherewith to pay medical expenses and soothe his wounded feelings, and the *Olympia* man, who had already been in jail over four days, was released.

The progress of the establishment of telephones in Japan, the *Yomiuri* remarks, has been extremely rapid. According to the original programme the number of telephones throughout the country was to be increased by 500 during the 29th year of *Meiji*; by 1,500 during the 30th; and by 2,500 during the 31st. Overhead lines, however, are liable to be damaged by storm and fire, and considerable injury was done by the snowfall of January this year. The neighbourhood of Tokiwa bridge, in particular, is so crowded with lines that the appearance of the street is much impaired thereby. Having completed the necessary investigations on this point, the Department of Communications now contemplates changing the overhead lines to subterranean for the existing as well as for future connections, in spite of the greater cost thus incurred. The more permanent character of the new project makes it really economical in the long run. The work will consist in laying beneath the surface a succession of small iron pipes through which hundreds of telephonic lines can be passed. It will be commenced during the current fiscal year.

We mentioned in a previous issue, says the *Shogyo*, that the suspension of the free coinage of silver, as a prelude for the enforcement of gold monometallism in October next, could scarcely fail to enhance the value of the *yen* and impair trade with China, in consequence of the abnormal rise in the rate of exchange at Shanghai. The prophecy has been verified. The export of cotton yarn is beginning to be unprofitable. At one time it had overcome competition with the Bombay manufacture, but is now again threatened with displacement by its old rival. Matches too are suffering. The Match Manufacturers' Guild in Hyogo have resolved upon suspending work from the 1st of next month. In short, almost all commodities for export to China appear to have met a similar fate. It is hardly necessary to say that the growing appreciation of gold and depreciation of silver will deprive transactions with China of any prospect of success.

If the armament expansion scheme is not to be curtailed in any way, recourse must be had, the *Shogyo* alleges, to an increase of taxation. It seems too late now to adopt any curtailment of the expansion scheme. The opportunity was lost, and there remains only one process of relief. Yet the Cabinet seems to have not yet decided upon this scheme of increased taxation on land or on *raffia* as source of revenue. The tax on *saki* has already been raised 75 per cent. in the current fiscal year,

and it might affect the credit of the Government to have the rate increased to ten *yen* per *koku* before a year had elapsed since the last increase; a tax of ten *yen*, moreover, is extremely heavy. There is great difficulty in prohibiting the brewing of *sake* for domestic use, while the import of alcohol increases year by year. Under these circumstances the scheme of augmenting the tax on *sake* can not be carried out without serious trouble. Increased taxation on land can be more easily and more effectually undertaken, but unfortunately for Japan the existence of various latent influences renders it impossible to adopt such a decisive step. Rumours are afloat that the authorities are likely to advocate the scheme of revising the land assessment. It is not a matter of wonder that as the Cabinet lacks union, and difficulties with the Diet are anticipated, no decision has yet been arrived at in regard to the increased or new taxation.

General Nogi, Governor General of Formosa, has succeeded, says the *Tokyo Shimbun*, in obtaining the sanction of the Minister of Colonization to establish a military training school, which may be regarded as an enterprise preparatory to the organization of a native Formosan army. Schools are to be established in Ilan under the First Brigade, in Pulisho under the second, and in Taitung under the Third Brigade. The principal officers of these schools are to be convened at Taipeh from the 1st September till the 15th November, to be instructed in the general course of discipline to be pursued. It is said about eighty natives are to be engaged for training between December 1st of this year and March 31st of next.

The foreign trade returns for July published in the *Nichi Nichi* show the excess of imports to have reached 6,903,787 *yen*. Among staple imports, cotton amounted to 2,630,352 *yen* in value, railway cars to 1,060,486 *yen*, sugar to 2,154,291 *yen*, rice to 1,102,048 *yen*, kerosene to 926,287 *yen*, machinery to 841,676 *yen*, miscellaneous goods to 425,935 *yen*, muslin de laine to 309,432 *yen*, watches to 183,603 *yen*, making a total of 17,540,099 *yen*. These figures, added to the excess of imports from January this year constitute a total of 30,873,527 *yen*. As regards exports, raw silk aggregated 1,638,846 *yen* in value, *noshi* and waste silk 70,912 *yen*, *habutae* 523,710 *yen*, silk handkerchiefs 367,915 *yen*, cotton yarns 1,745,338 *yen*, tea 1,246,933 *yen*, matches 476,750 *yen*, coal 1,038,930 *yen*, and miscellaneous goods 1,843,533 *yen*, making a grand total of 10,636,311 *yen*, an increase of 3,300,000 *yen* as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of last year. With regard to the export and import of gold and silver it may be noted that the amount of silver coin and bullion exported during July was 551,092 *yen*, while gold coin and bullion aggregated only 454 *yen*. The import of gold coin and bullion amounted to 112,369 *yen*, while silver, did not exceed 20,997 *yen*. The excess in the export of gold and silver, therefore, did not fall short of 418,180 *yen*. That is probably due to the decrease in the drafts made by Government upon the indemnity. The customs duties for July reached 672,976 *yen*, which, together with the sums received from January, makes an aggregate of 4,215,886 *yen* for the seven months.

It is a great error to imagine, the *Shogyo* asserts, that since prices will fall with the appreciation of gold when Japan becomes a gold country, this will tend towards a restoration of the balance in trade, viz., an increase of exports and a decrease of imports. Gold's appreciation and silver's depreciation will be universal throughout the world. The price of commodities in gold-using countries will fall, but will rise in silver using countries. The fact of Japan's being a gold standard nation will of course contribute to a fall of prices in proportion to the appreciation of the yellow metal, but it must be reckoned that a similar phenomenon will present itself in other countries enjoying a gold monometallic system. While Japan remained

a silver country, other nations, in consequence, were able to purchase her commodities at comparatively cheaper prices compared with gold. These advantages will be lost upon her adopting a gold system. Trade will then go to China and other silver-using countries. In regard to imports, it may be noted that while Japan was a silver nation she paid higher prices for goods from abroad on account of the relative value of gold. Her adoption of gold monometallism completely changes the situation. The fall of silver enables her to obtain her stock at low quotations, the result being a decrease in exports and an increase in imports in so far as dealing with gold countries are concerned. It is beyond question that with respect to a silver country like China the excess of imports must necessarily grow larger in proportion to the appreciation of gold. For these reasons there is no prospect of any improvement in the country's commerce. The balance of trade, on the contrary, will grow more unfavourable than ever.

The body of the late Mr. Vincente Barradas, who was drowned on Sunday last near Honmoku, was found by the Water Police on Thursday morning on the shores of Kawasaki Bay. Information was at once given to the Portuguese Consul, and he and some of the friends of the deceased proceeded to Kawasaki, where the corpse was identified as that of Mr. Barradas. The features were unrecognisable but the clothes worn by the deceased, and his watch and a letter in his pocket enabled a friend to identify the body, which was placed in a shell and brought in to Yokohama, where it was deposited at the mortuary. The funeral is to take place this evening at 6 o'clock.

By the death of Mr. Charles St. George Cleverly, says the *Daily Press*, a connecting link with the early days of Hongkong has been removed. The deceased gentleman was appointed Assistant Surveyor when the Colonial Government was established, and a few years afterwards succeeded to the office of Surveyor-General. St. John's Cathedral, the Public Offices, and various other Government buildings were designed by him and erected under his supervision, and he was one of the committee which selected the design for the Pokfulam Waterworks, for which competitive designs had been invited. The uncomfortable but very durable pavement which is still to be found in Shelley Street and several other streets running up the hill, consisting of slabs of granite with the rows alternately raised and depressed, was Mr. Cleverly's invention. It may also be mentioned that Mr. Cleverly drew the plans for the Shanghai Club. He retired in 1865, since when he had been in receipt of a pension of \$2,000 per annum, equivalent at 4s. 2d. to the dollar, to over £400. Mr. Cleverly some years ago paid a brief visit to the colony.

The system of promissory notes seems to have been developed *pari passu* with the rapid progress of commerce. The amount of notes exchanged at the Tokyo Exchange for the past two years and the first half of this year, according to the *Nippon*, was as follows:—

	Yen.
28th year of <i>Meiji</i> (1895)	289,102,424
29th " " (1896)	417,425,507
30th " " Jan. to June (1897).....	250,352,677

The above figures show an increase of 128,320,000 *yen* in 1896 over those for 1895, while the amount for this year, already over 250 million *yen*, will doubtless total 600 millions by the end of the twelve months. Such a remarkable development may be ascribed to the simplicity of the process as compared with the inconvenience common to dealings in cash, which is slowly but steadily dispensed with in the course of social progress. The country indeed ought to be congratulated on the economic changes so effected. The facilities afforded by the system, however, are often marred by the failure of the banks to provide for the payment of promissory notes or bills of exchange at the specified time. This want of precaution on the part

of individuals or banks has led, and still leads, to serious abuses. Steps were taken to remedy these abuses by the bankers of Tokyo, in the 27th year of *Meiji* (1894) when they issued a declaration to the effect that any person failing to pay the notes punctually would be refused the privilege of entering into further transactions with the bank, until his credit was re-established. Of late, the number of persons refused accommodation by the banks in Tokyo and Yokohama is increasing. In 1895 there were only 12 such persons; in 1896, 8; but this year, from January to June, the number increased to 22. The provisions decided upon by the various banks in Tokyo and Yokohama were as follow:—1. Whenever a note or cheque for which no money is lodged, is refused payment by a bank, the bank which declined payment shall present to the Banks' Assembly Hall notice of the name and residence of the issuer and the amount involved. Steps shall then immediately be taken by the officials of the Hall to communicate these particulars to each of the allied banks. 2. No bank in the alliance is allowed to enter into transactions with a person so scheduled, until the fact of the restoration of his credit has been reported by the bank which refused to honour his paper.

Count Matsukata, the Premier, lately proceeded to Kyoto, the *Sekai no Nippon* alleges, for the purpose of obtaining the Emperor's sanction to the revised regulations for the administration of Formosa and to the appointment of Departmental Councillors of *Chokunin* grade. He failed, however, to reply satisfactorily to His Majesty's questions, and was refused the sanction applied for, bringing upon himself great disgrace. When he addressed the Emperor about the appointment of *Chokunin* Councillors, His Majesty replied as follows:—"You, some time ago, created more than ten governors whose names were unfamiliar to Us. We have felt no little anxiety about it, but now you again propose to appoint a number of men with whom we are unacquainted, to the important posts of Councillors of *Chokunin* rank. What explanation do you give of that?" The Count could make no reply and only bowed. With regard to the official organization for Formosa, too, the Emperor remarked:—"It seems that the Governor General of the Island is to be appointed from among the Generals of the first two grades of the Army. We do not suppose that the Generals, though capable military officers, are endowed with abilities for civil administration. What is the necessity for selecting for the governorship of Formosa personages connected with the army?" This question the Count also failed to answer. When the Premier requested imperial sanction for the establishment of new ranks in the Navy corresponding to those of Lieutenant-Colonel and Lieutenant in the Army, the Emperor spoke thus:—"We were informed that the grades of naval officers had been organised in accordance with foreign models, despite a lack of uniformity with military organizations. What is the reason, then, that you now propose a change?" "The existence of these two ranks being exclusively confined to the army," replied the Count, "has produced a somewhat unpleasant feeling among naval officers." "Are not the Army and the Navy the main instruments for my personal protection?" asked the Emperor again. "I will myself do whatever is necessary for harmonising the two divisions of the country's martial strength." It is very difficult to credit the above. Had Count Matsukata received such replies from the Emperor, he could scarcely hesitate to tender his resignation, and it being the object of the Opposition to bring about that result, we must take the utterances of the *Sekai-no-Nippon* with a pinch of salt. Our readers will also be curious to know how the details of an audience granted to the Prime Minister can have become known to a Tokyo journalist. It is true that the *Sekai-no-Nippon's* sources of information are exceptionally good, but we nevertheless remain sceptical about this particular incident.

THE RISING ON THE INDIAN FRONTIER.

From telegrams appearing in the Indian papers we gather that the Malakand position was attacked on the night of July 27 by a body of a thousand tribesmen, believed to be people of Swat, led by a Mullah known as a mad fakir, who now appears to have been preaching sedition in the neighbourhood for some time. Severe fighting took place and six British officers are said to have been wounded, amongst them Major Taylor of the 45th Bengal Infantry, Major Lamb of the 24th Bengal Infantry, Captain Holland of the 24th, and Captain Herbert, lately of the Commander-in-Chief's Staff, the last shot through the leg. Next morning the Malakand garrison were able to act on the offensive. Further fighting ensued. Reinforcements were at once sent to relieve the little garrison. The performance of that splendid corps, the Guides, has been much admired in connection with the affair. They had the news at Mardan on Monday midnight of the attack on Malakand, and marched twenty-five miles to the place, expecting the enemy all the way, arriving on Tuesday afternoon fit to take a prominent part in the next day's fighting. It is reported that the mad fakir was badly wounded and his companion and supporter killed on the second day. The *Pioneer's* special correspondent at Malakand, writing on the 28th ult., says it is known now that the Utman Khels, the Ranozais, the Lower Swatis, and a certain number of the Upper Swatis have all joined the rising, and the enemy's forces work in relays of about 6,000 men. Telegraphing on the 31st, the same correspondent said:—Reliable reports from the North Western frontier show that three sections of the Bunerwals, namely the whole of the Salanzai and a portion of the Gudaizai and Ashazai, have risen and joined the Swatis. Wounded returned from the fight have been found in Ashazai villages, so this news is probably correct. Altogether the Bunerwals number some seventeen thousand fighting men, and their joining against us not only increases the number to be disposed of at Malakand but may make trouble in British territory along the eighty miles of the Usufzai and Hazara border.

A telegram dated at Bombay July 30th says:—Professor Gokhale landed this morning from the *Caledonia*, and was met by the Commissioner of Police who asked for an explanation of his statements in the *Manchester Guardian* in a report of an interview. What transpired is not yet known, but in an interview by a *Bombay Gazette* representative, Mr. Gokhale said the *Guardian* made one or two remarks of his rather stronger than was warranted by what he said. The statements re the treatment of women were made on the strength of the representations of friends whose names he would rather not give at present. Asked as to the statement attributed to him by the *Guardian* that he said the plague operations had begun before he left, although they did not start till a week after, he denied having said so. His statement was that the excitement had commenced.

In the House of Common on Aug. 1st Sir William Wedderburn explained that, in view of Professor Gokhale's withdrawal of his statements, he begged to express his deep regret that he had aided to give currency to unfounded charges against the British soldiers in Poona.

The following telegrams are taken from the *San Francisco Chronicle*:—

Bombay, August 2nd.
Fort Chakdara, which was besieged by a force of insurgent natives, has been relieved by the British force under General Blood. The fighting was severe, and the tribesmen lost heavily. The loss of the British was light.

The relief forces under General Blood advanced in two columns, commanded respectively by Colonels Goldney and Meiklejohn, at dawn to-day, and brilliantly attacked and routed the enemy surrounding the fort.

London, August 2nd.
The Secretary of State for India, Lord George C. Hamilton, confirmed in the House of Commons to-day the dispatches announcing the relief of Fort Chakdara, in the Chitral district. Lord G. Hamilton further announced that the garrison at the fort were safe.

Bombay, August 2nd.
Gangadhar Tilak, the native member of the Legislative Council who was arrested on the evening of July 27th, charged with inciting the natives of Bombay to disaffection, was again brought up in the police court here and formally committed for trial. To-morrow Gangadhar Tilak will take an appeal to the judges for an order requiring the authorities to release him on bail pending his trial. Gangadhar Tilak's newspaper, the *Kesari*, prints to-day a highly inflammatory article, attacking the Indian Government for "the prosecution of obscure people," and "for making an obsolete police regulation to do duty as a secret assassin."

A Bombay telegram appearing in a Colombo paper says that bail has been refused by the High Court to Gangadhar Tilak.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT NAGASAKI.

The danger attending the careless exposure of kerosene, says the *Nagasaki Shipping List* of August 20th, was again exemplified on Wednesday night by a sad accident that occurred at No. 15, Oura, involving the loss of one life; another person receiving injuries of so serious a nature that not much hope is entertained of her recovery. It appears that during the temporary absence of Mrs. Feldstein, who had gone into another room, her nephew, a little fellow aged four, with his sister, aged seven, paid a visit to the lamp-room and picking up a box of matches, lying there, struck one and applied it to a kerosene tin which was half full of oil. An explosion immediately followed and the lad was enveloped in flames. Mr. Hoffmann, a boarder, hearing the noise, at once rushed out and carried the girl out of danger, intending to return and succour the boy. In the meantime, however, Mrs. Feldstein, alarmed by the cries, had proceeded to the spot and was endeavouring to extinguish the flames in which the boy was surrounded when the dress she wore also caught fire. Mr. Hoffmann on his return succeeded in smothering the flames, but unfortunately not until the victims had received terrible injuries, to which the boy has succumbed, and the woman now lies in a very precarious condition.

Our Nagasaki contemporary announces the death of Mrs. Feldstein, from injuries received under the sad circumstances related above.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ACCESSIBILITY OF THE CODES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."
Sir,—You are pleased to twit me with a want of knowledge of the provisions of the New Civil Code of Japan; a knowledge which you affirm was as easily accessible to the public a month before the promulgation of that Code in October, 1890, as it has been ever since; from this you draw the conclusion that the desire of the Yokohama Community to make themselves acquainted with the nature of the jurisdiction (*sic*) they so greatly distrust is not very active; and you add that "at all events if Mr. Lowder's ignorance that these provisions of law existed, justifies, in his opinion, some of the fears he entertained, he will doubtless admit that persons more conversant with the Code were equally justified in their freedom from such fears." Well, I should; but that my fears were not attempted to be justified by my ignorance, which is nonsense, nor were they based on the existence or non-existence of the provisions of the law to which you refer, as will presently appear. But first, I should much like to know where the Civil Code of Japan could have been procured in 1890; and should be still better pleased to know where it can be procured now; for I have been and still am unable to obtain a copy of it. Three years ago, a Japanese friend, a practising barrister, to whom I stated my difficulty, kindly presented me with the Commercial Code; but I understood from him that neither it nor any other of the books of the Code could be purchased. Again, only

last week, having occasion to consult a certain book of the Code, I sent to Maruya, the leading Japanese bookseller in Yokohama, for it; but he was unable either to supply me with it himself, or to procure a copy of it from Tokyo. It will therefore be apparent that the New Civil Code of Japan is not so easily accessible to the public as you imagine.

But let that pass. Even if I had had the Code before me when addressing to the Editor of the *Japan Times* the letter upon which your comments are based, I must have expressed myself somewhat obscurely if anything can be found in it, or in what I have written or said during the last seven years, to justify your criticism that I "appear not to have made any examination of the Japanese Codes before coming forward to proclaim their deficiencies." You will at all events do me the justice to acquit me of having intentionally proclaimed the deficiencies of a book that I have never seen; and I even venture to think if you will examine my letter with greater discrimination, you will find that the object I had in mind was, not to criticize the Code, but to express gratification that the study of Private International Law was, though tardily, engaging the attention of the future judges of this country; and that I based myself on a statement in the *Japan Times* that that study had only recently been made compulsory upon all law students, it being now one of the subjects upon which they are examined for admission to the judiciary and the bar. The point, you will observe, is that even though the Civil Code may have been accessible to the public for the last seven years, the study of an important branch of the jurisdiction conferred by that Code has only recently begun. And here I take the liberty of reminding you that what was apprehended in 1890,—what may be apprehended now,—has less to do with the codification than with the administration of the law. But I will not re-open the controversy; I have said what I had to say upon it years ago; and the discussion of a subject on which the mind of one's opponent has ceased to be judicial is wearisome and futile.

Very faithfully,
J. F. LOWDER.
Yokohama, 23rd Aug., 1897.

"CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND ROMAN CATHOLICISM."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your editorial note on my tract on the above subject in your issue of the 20th, you think my case is made out against the Hierarchy if I limit the discussion to mediæval times. You fail, it seems to me, to note the fact that one of my principal contentions is to show that Romanism has not changed in reality its attitude towards civil governments. I cited cases to show this to be true. It is only in states where the Hierarchy is in the minority that a change in her attitude seems to have taken place. In such positions she is still the wolf, only in sheep's clothing.

Very truly,
E. SNODGRASS.
Tokyo, Tsukiji, 14, Aug. 21, 1897.

We stated the impression produced upon our own mind by a careful perusal of the book, and the belief that our own observation has created.—[Ed. J.M.]

GIFU AND AICHI KEN INUNDATIONS RELIEF FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Dear Sir,—The work carried on in Gifu and Aichi Ken in aid of the sufferers from last year's inundations having been concluded, I am now able to send you a full report of the way in which the funds entrusted to me in answer to the appeal made by the late Bishop Bickersteth and the *Japan Mail* have been expended.

The total of subscriptions received and interest on bank deposit amounted to ¥1,342.03. Out of this the sum of ¥100 was transferred to the Rev. J. Cooper Robinson of Nagoya for relief work in the devastated districts of Owari, ¥70 being used by him in supplying bedding and clothing in Seko and surrounding villages, and ¥30 distributed in cash, with the co-operation of the local authorities, to the neediest sufferers in the town of Kanie.

The larger portion of the money used in Gifu Ken was spent in providing bedding-four-hundred and eighty-one *futon* being distributed singly or in pairs to the neediest families.

Four houseless and friendless aged people were given a permanent home in the Nagoya Yō-ō-In, two orphan girls were placed in the St. Hilda's Orphanage, Tokyo, and one man, who had lost both property and eye-sight by the floods, was provided with a year's maintenance and training

in the Gifu Blind School, from which he will go out able to support himself.

Help in money was given to the amount of \$123 17, chiefly in sums of from 25 *sen* to one *yen*. Help was given in this way throughout the winter, and in fact until the ingathering of the wheat and barley harvest—this year a plentiful one. Relief was given in four towns and twenty-five villages in Gifu Ken, to families numbering in the aggregate 1,115 people, of whom 557 were children, 111 widows, and a number of others sick, blind or aged.

Thanking once more most heartily all who have helped in this good work and appending a brief financial statement.

Yours faithfully, G. H. HAMILTON.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Receipts—

Subscriptions received	\$1335.68
Interest on Bank Deposit	6.35
	1342.03

Expenditure—

481 <i>Futon</i>	\$853.65
Packing, Freight, &c.	14.20
Clothing	10.57
Travelling Expenses of aged and orphans	7.51
Help in cash	123.17
Nagoya Yōrō In	160.60
St. Hilda's Orphanage	40.00
Gifu Blind School	32.33
Aichi Ken relief, cash	30.00
Aichi Ken relief, <i>futon</i> and clothing	70.00
	1342.03

Gifu, August 1897.

A RECENT KOBE OUTRAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your paper of yesterday I notice a letter from a person named Matsumoto regarding the outrage committed on a lady at a silk store, Kobe. I happen to know the lady and her husband, and being in Kobe at the time, I had an opportunity of seeing for myself, the state of the lady's arm after she came out of the silk store—it was swollen, and black and blue from her elbow to her shoulder. I consider it out of the question to entertain for one moment that she ever attempted to leave the place with the silk without paying for it. Any one who goes into the shop in question alone runs a serious risk of similar treatment—should they question the price asked.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

ONE WHO KNOWS.

August 21st, 1897.

[This is certainly a most wonderful charge. The rudeness of coolies and *zoshi* is one thing, but that a shopkeeper should deliberately drive away customers by assault and battery is one of the strangest things we have ever heard.—Ed. J.M.]

A MISCONCEPTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Under the caption of "The Most Costly Publications in the World," a recent issue of *The Fourth Estate* gives what the editor is pleased to call "a carefully compiled list of the most expensive newspapers in the world." But, although I subjoin a portion of the list, it seems to me that the compilation is anything but "careful":—

Name.	Appears.	Price per Copy.	Price per Year.
Calcutta En. Ishman	Monthly	\$ 1.50	\$ 17.00
Shanghai Emp. re	Fortnightly	1.25	30.00
Piji Isl.-Ind. Times	"	1.25	30.00
Yokohama Mail	Weekly	1.00	50.00
Tientsin Times	"	0.80	40.00
Singapore Times	"	0.75	39.00
Hongkong Mail	Semi-monthly	0.75	16.00
Shanghai Mail	Weekly	0.40	30.00
Hongkong Report (sic)	Daily	0.14	38.00
Bombay Statesman	"	0.12	36.00

Besides these, *The Fourth Estate* adds the names of the London Times, the Alexandria Gazette, Prague Nádodn. Lísty, Vienna Neue Freie Presse, Galgani's Messenger (Paris), Courant (Amsterdam), and Zeitung (Berlin), the annual subscription to which is given as ranging between \$26.00 and \$16.00.

The most costly magazines in the world are stated to be the *American Architect* of Boston (\$25 a year or 50 cents a copy), and the *Monthly Law Journal Report*, of London, "which is \$2.50 a copy." The editor then adds, "Fancy little Japanese new boys shouting through the streets 'Yucker Hum a Mail! Just out! \$1!'" I fancy there must be some misconception here, for all the above figures represent U.S. gold, and the *Japan Weekly Mail* costs its subscribers only 24 *yen* in

Japanese silver, yearly—or used to do so. Stay: has the subscription-price gone up in sympathy with the cheapening of silver?

Yours, &c.,

W. E.

Tokyo, August 23rd, 1897.

(Of course the figure is wrong.—Ed. J.M.)

THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE IN CHINA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—To the readers of the *Japan Mail* it is already known that a project is on foot to start in Peking an International Institute. The scheme, as I presented it to the Chinese Office of Foreign Affairs, and which received its formal sanction under its own seal, includes a library, a museum, reception rooms, class-rooms, and a large auditorium for public and popular lectures. The estimated cost for the buildings is 100,000 taels.

Of the amount estimated I have raised in China one-fifth, or 20,000 taels, and of this amount two-thirds came from the Chinese. The China Merchants Steamship Company offered to give 1,000 taels, if I should find five others. I have secured thus far seven others, two of whom are Americans, and five Chinese.

All this indicated that so far as the Chinese are concerned there is here and now a chance to promote the methods and principles of progress and reform. In such an endeavour may we not look to Japan for friendly co-operation?

With such a belief I have seen several men in Tokyo and Yokohama, representing large interests, and if rightly understood I have every reason to hope that aid will be rendered. Being unable to stay any length of time in Japan, as already I have delayed too long to open the campaign in America and Europe, I can only trust that leading men will of their own accord consult together and *con amore* decide to join in with the enterprise, making a favourable impression both in the East and West.

China is in a critical condition. Reforms are needed at once, but no one comes forward to lead the forces. There must first come the bearer of enlightenment. This institute supplies a part while other parts will come in other ways immediately after. The institute will aim to influence the old men in power and the many younger men with literary degrees and holding official position. It takes the present generation and does not wait. A National University, like that in Tokio, will probably be started later on, but this would train the rising generation to hold power twenty or thirty years hence. An impetus to enlightenment and reform is needed now. "Now is the day of salvation."

The establishment of a Museum will interest the men of Japan, since here will be found an opportunity to show forth the signs of rapid improvement in Japan, their skill, samples of their work, and illustrations of the new civilization out here in the East.

The institute being International, will ever aim to be truly cosmopolitan and broadly sympathetic and evangelical.

While away my address will be Warsaw, N.Y., U.S.A.

I am, etc.,

GILBERT REID.

Yokohama, August 25th, 1897.

A CRUISE ON THE "DAIMYO."

Again on my sloping deck I stand
And feel the heave of the sea,
With the trembling tiller in my hand,
As we bound along so free!
Oh, give me the grace of, bellying sail,
With the wind abaft the beam,
And Heaven forbid I should ever avail
Myself of that demon, steam.—*Anon.*

There were three of us—a Counsellor-at-law; a member of the staff of one of the Consulates; and a journalist—vagabonds, as it were, thrown up on the shores of Japan after drifting from lands afar. I need not enter into any more minute description of our party; the above should suffice for ordinary mortals. But for the reason of our foregathering on the Yokohama Bund that hot—terribly hot—Saturday afternoon: as to that I can be more explicit. Well, it was in the hope of getting some quiet fun out of a few hours of idleness Dame Chance had suddenly, and withal carelessly, thrown to us from her tangled basket to be disposed of absolutely as we thought fit. A glorious thing it is to come across a holiday without the slightest warning; more glorious still if two other fellow of

* The American Trading Company has also just subscribed 1,000 taels.

conductive temperament happen to be similarly blessed; most glorious of all if one of the trio owns a trim ten-ton cutter.

The *Daimyo*, on which we proposed to voyage, was built in Japan on English lines by a learned professor of the Imperial University, who afterwards disposed of her, finding photography a less absorbing mistress. Once aboard, the man-of-the-law took supreme command as skipper, the Consul-man quickly subsided into place as *chef* and butler-in-chief, while the journalist fell naturally into the position that men of his profession always fill so gracefully, that of critic-at-large and adviser-in-general. Of course, we had a couple of *sando*, the elder of whom rejoiced in an euphonious name, while the younger escaped for short with the title of No. 2. Quickly they ran up the mainsail and set the jib and foresail, then slipping the moorings, we slowly forged ahead. We had to make the best of our way out between the red and white lighthouses into the Bay, and before this was done successfully, the topsail was sent up aloft. Six bells rang out from the Honmoku lightship—one mile from Yokohama—as we passed her. It was terribly hot, despite the slight afternoon breeze, but what cared we! Had we not nothing to do till Monday morning, and one of the fairest land-and-sea-scapes that eye could wish to dwell upon spread out before us! The Gulf of Yedo is very pretty in its own quaint way. The majestic cone of Fuji-san dominates it on clear days to the south-west, and on every hand, far as the eye can reach, are wooded heights, some running up into respectable eminences, alternately with lovely lateral valleys. Here the tufa cliffs rise sheer out of the water; there stretches of sand or shingle make ideal beaches, while tiny little bays and curiously formed inlets open out one after the other as the yachtman skirts the coast. Yes, it was well to be alive that day, to have nothing to do but to lay back and catch the whispers of the water as we cut our way slowly along. As the afternoon drew on, the wind gradually died away, but, fortunately, we struck a current and this helped us to double Saratoga Spit and the baffling headland of Kannon-zaki. By this time the Boshu hills were looming up high and massive on the port bow, with the evening shadows already beginning to play hide-and-seek in the ravines that cut into their widespread base. Right under their lee we could see, in the purpling twilight, the white sail of a foreign yacht making but poor time of it in the gentle zephyrs now barely rippling the surface of the Bay. Everything looked solemnly peaceful in the strangely beautiful opalescent light that descends towards evening in these latitudes. But most of the ineffable charm of the hour was wasted on our ship's company; their sole wish just then was to make Uraga Harbour before sunset, and this haven was still some distance away. So all the delicate fancies born of the time and scene were rudely banished, and we thought only of what we should do when the wind came towards us again. For by this time we were out of the current.

Our sails from heaven received no motion,
Our keel was steady in the ocean.

It was no use whistling for the wind; that only made one athirst, and it is not well to be athirst at this time of the year, before the sun has set; no use reviling a fussy little steamboat that passed us with a triumphant hoot of its whistle—that did not help one bit. At last, just as hope was beginning to entirely disappear a few gentle catspaws came creeping over the glassy sea, fore-runners of the breeze that was "to take us to the haven under the hill." Uraga in the days of old was an important place and the official seat of a *daimyo*. Here every Japanese ship or boat entering or clearing the Bay had to stop and pay tribute to the powers that were. Here the American Commodore Perry, with his "black" warships, anchored when he came to demand the opening to foreigners of the mysterious land of Japan, and here many weary days were spent by him in what at first appeared fruitless negotiations. For a time the glory of Uraga has departed, but in years to come it will undoubtedly rise and develop into a big shipbuilding port.

Imagine, if you can, a fire-embowered fird of the Norway pattern, but on a smaller, gentler, Japanese scale; with houses built from the water's edge and thence up the mountain sides, with the harbour separating the hills as a long wide tongue. That is Uraga. At the further end is a small plateau, on which barracks have been built, so the inhabitants rise and go to bed by sound of bugle. We entered—

In the glory of the sunset,
In the purple mists of evening.

—But almost within the twinkling of an eye the short twilight had given place to night, and then from a hundred different points among the

hills around sprang into sight hundreds of lights. For a moment comparisons between a Dairy Lane pantomime or a scene from fairy-land were quite admissible. We had to be careful in going up to our moorings at the end of the harbour, owing to the large number of ocean-going junks that were about anchoring for the night. Huge and unwieldy are these junks, bearing a family resemblance to the caravels that Columbus patronised on his voyages to the Spanish Main. But in a few minutes our anxieties were over, and we were at anchor. The *chef* immediately went forward to investigate the state of the "prog" chest, and to prepare the evening meal, the skipper to fuss about generally in the way all yacht skippers do, while the journalist did nothing save lay back and endeavour to conjure up world-altering thoughts in the manner men of the Fourth Estate are supposed to do when they nothing have better on. Anon dinner was ready: rather peculiar in some of its combinations—as was only to be expected—but still appetising to hungry mariners. Having digested this we foregathered on the hatches beneath the awning—it was "a night with stars," and a heavy dew was falling—and all of us yained inconsequently for the next few hours. And what a talk it was! Ranging from observations of men and manners as personally experienced by some of the *voyageurs* in the course of their wanderings to and fro; talk of the far away Southern Seas, of quaint customs, curious beliefs, and pretty manners still flourishing in Fiji, Samoa, Tahiti, and many another island home of the brown men, despite the invasion of their sanctuaries by the white man with his fell desires and diseases. Anon we spoke of queer happenings in the crowded waterways of the Middle Kingdom, of piratical forays on the Canton, Pearl, and Red Rivers. Then, when these topics began to pall, the journalist had an innings and carried his companions along with him among books and bookmen of many lands. And so the talk went on, and the quiet hours stole away, the silence around being occasionally shattered by the deep-toned boom of a temple-bell, perched far up the mountain side, as some late worshipper drew the attention of her deity to her humble prayers. For in Japan, as elsewhere in this sin-weary world, 'tis the "woman's part to pray." We were loth to turn in, though past midnight; and then, so sound were our slumbers that we scarcely believed the *sendo* when they roused us at half-past three to wash decks and prepare to get under way again. It was dreadfully chilly and misty at that hour, and the *chef*, very torpid and full of sleep, drowsily refused to brew the matutinal coffee. But we managed in time to thoroughly evict this too-contumacious spirit from his gentle soul, and by 4.30, just as day was beginning to struggle through the mist, we crept out of harbour, and once more faced the heaving waters of the Bay.

I need not describe that early morning—the *opry* right of "Sunrise" belongs, I believe, to William Black, and anyhow I have not a copy of it handy to quote from. In all verity, it was of a beauty that could only be dimly felt, experienced by the senses, but not reduced to prose. The day was still chilly, but yard by yard the sun worked through, and by the time we made Sagami the mists had all but vanished, and it was hot again. A heavy sea was rolling in from the far-stretching Pacific, making a tremendous blather on this rocky outpost of Japan; but the *Daimyo* rose to the swell very calmly, and soon we were right out to sea, bearing down on Jogashima. This is a tiny island that looks like a bit of the South Downs, chopped off and transported to the coast of Japan. Near to it is a curious pinnacle rock that appears, at certain angles, very much like the statue of Victoria R. and I, that Sir Edgar Boehm carved. This rock, to yachtsmen in these parts, is known as "Queen Victoria," and the ledges and pinnacles around—that are always in a white lather of foam—are "her subjects." We left her Majesty on the starboard hand and then ran through a rocky, intricate channel into Misaki, a typical fishing village of Japan, built right down to the water's edge. Just as we entered, the fishermen were coming in with the night's spoils, some 70 or 80 huge bonito. The men spear these enormous fish at night, the bonito being attracted towards the boats by the flare of many torches. Exciting work it must be and at times, I am told, attended by much danger.

Misaki harbour possesses a bottom of silver sand, and though several fathoms deep, by an optical delusion one feels that there is hardly sufficient depth of water beneath the yacht to allow of her riding safely. I was sceptical of the phenomenon at the time, and was induced to dive to test it. I dived, but did not touch that bottom—the floor of the sea seeming to fall away suddenly directly my head was immersed. We did not stay at Misaki long, but ran straight out to sea for some distance to

avoid a huge ledge of rocks that rear their jagged heads at half-tide. Then, this danger cleared, we put the helm over and made for Aburatsubo (the oil-pot), a tiny harbour, the beauty of which cannot be equalled anywhere in Japan. The fringed hills that extend all the way from Sagami along the coast to Misaki, and then start afresh there, seem to continue in unbroken line straight along to Kamakura, but upon approaching the land, one perceives a small opening, or break, in the cliff. Through this we pass, and in a minute the Pacific is blotted out of view by a curve of the land. A lovely panorama of inlet, hill, dale, and waterfall, with here a stretch of white sandy beach, and there a collection of rocks of most curious formation, bursts upon the view. The intense quiet after the roar of the sullen rollers breaking on the fretted rocks outside is not the least pleasant of the complex impressions received. Verily we had found a harbour of fair delight! What mattered the storm now plainly visible in the sky?—little harm could come to the boat in this land-locked haven. Hardly had we got the sails housed and all made snug when the first signs were given:—

The wind, that grand old harper,
Struck his thunder-harp of pines,
—and sent the message of the storm hend reverberating in no measured accents along the adjacent hills. Then came the rain. How it flashed and dashed upon the waters of our little harbour! How it disappointed our hopes of further cruising for that day! After a few hours of the gale we resolved to leave the *Daimyo* in charge of the *sendo*, and come back for her on a more auspicious occasion. A long twenty-mile tramp lay between us and the nearest station, but we did not care. Tramp it we did, though the force of the gale at times prevented us from making much headway. Towards six o'clock that evening we paddled—for we were soaked to the skin, water streamed off us, and our boots "squelched" in the mud—into Yokosuka, still some miles from Yokohama, and took train home. We were the weariest, dreariest, dirtiest mortals that hot baths had had to receive for many a day. A.B.B.

HOW THE "DAIMYO" CAME HOME.

The sea is a jovial comrade,
He laughs wherever he goes;
His merriment shines in the dimpling lines
That wrinkle his hale repose.
He lay himself down at the feet of the sun,
And shakes all over with glee;
And the broad-backed billows fall faint on the shore,
In the mirth of the mighty sea.

—Bayard Taylor.

Once again were three Vagabonds gathered together on Yokohama Bund. Their gaze was seaward as they quietly absorbed the blazing sunshine of mid-July, and the hope expressed by all was that the weather might be reasonably fair—though none objected to a "wet sheet and a flowing sea, with a wind that follows fast." They were not exactly the same three that had taken the *Daimyo* down to Aburatsubo a week before. The Consul-man had fallen out, and a younger enthusiast in all that concerned yachting was filling the vacant place: likewise the duties of *M. le Chef* had descended on his shoulders. But though the party was slightly changed in composition, the desire of all was the same. Their thoughts were far away from the busy treaty-port, with its long, black ocean steamers and predominating white-walled men-of-war. Far away in lonely Aburatsubo the good yacht *Daimyo* was lying at her ease, and there also the three longed to be. To bring her home was their great desire. But how to reach the *Daimyo* was the absorbing question. Many ways offered, and it was finally decided by the Man-of-law that we should train it down to Yokosuka, the great naval arsenal of Japan which lies so snugly ensconced on the south-western side of Tokyo Gulf. From there the Vagabonds took jimikisha to Uraga, the road traversing a pretty district of hill and dale affording ever varying glimpses of the dimpling sea on one hand, and occasional peeps at solitary villages and secluded valleys on the other. At Uraga, an old ramshackle coasting-steamer was getting under way for "Misaki *vid ports*," and on being hailed, her purser kindly consented to take the hardy yachtsmen to the terminal port of call. The *Fuyo Maru* was a fearful box of crank machinery, having a perpetual list to starboard—a list that the captain assured passengers contributed greatly to the speed, comfort, and seaworthiness of his craft. The three foreigners had doubts on all points, but anyhow the fare was small, six *sen* per man, and they took chances on Providence deferring a

boiler explosion, or shipwreck, until next trip. After some unearthly howling, and screamings that woke every echo in the hills around, the good ship cleared the harbour of Uraga and set out to sea. Parenthetically we may remark that the highest ambition of the Japanese captain of a small coasting steamer before starting is to scare all his immediate neighbourhood with the most diabolical screaming he can possibly get out of a steam-siren, no matter whether the time be daylight or the dead of night.

If the previous Saturday had been as hot as the proverbial Aden frying-pan, this particular forenoon was the very cooking-stove fire itself. How we fizzled and sizzled on the unprotected fo'c'sle-head of the *Fuyo Maru*; how the purple hills across the bay and the middle distance of glassy water shimmered in the too fervent heat; and how delightfully soothing to the eye was the sight of the white sails and awnings of a cluster of fishing boats away down the offing. Yet, if it was hot while the steamer was moving, what was it when she stopped, every now and then, at a little collection of houses to send a boat ashore to distribute or collect barrels of *saké* or bales of rice or charcoal? Then all we could do was to crawl behind the wheel house and lay back and pant, while a grimy stoek-hole boy ministered unto us a none too delectable *ocha*. But all things come to an end in time, even a voyage on a coasting steamer in Tokyo Gulf. At three o'clock we arrived at Misaki. We had burdened ourselves with a supply of fresh provisions ere leaving Yokohama, so some village inns had to be engaged to carry the stuff over the hills that still lay between us and the yacht. The tramp across to Aburatsubo need not be detailed; it was hot and wearisome. Towards five o'clock we breasted the last incline, and then saw the *Daimyo* floating calmly below us, her pennant barely fluttering in the light zephyrs playing about the tiny harbour. A hail brought off the younger *sendo* with the dinghy, and three minutes later saw the company on board the yacht. A pleasant surprise greeted us. The hills around the little harbour swarm with countless lilies of the huge white and striped mountain variety, as well as a particularly attractive species of the tiger lily family. The *sendo*, anticipating our arrival, had collected a boat-load of the fragrant flowers, and made them up into garlands and bouquets. The cabin and cockpit accordingly presented a fairy spectacle that afternoon; one that the imagination can more easily conceive than the pen describe. After slaking a superabundant thirst, each Vagabond betook himself to the position previously assigned—it was still too hot to bathe. The skipper fussed around to see that nothing was amiss; the *chef* had his cooking outfit to attend to, while the journalist had all he required in the way of occupation in watching the shoals of many-coloured fish that swam and disputed in the pellucid waters of this harbour of Fair Delight. A casual conversation with the *sendo* revealed the fact that they were glad to see us back again. Aburatsubo, according to their account, possesses a ghost of peculiarly hair-raising propensities, a disembodied spirit who delights in meandering around the harbour on moonless nights bewailing the fate that befel him and his house three centuries ago. For this wraith is an aristocrat of aristocrats. Three hundred years ago, or thereabouts

So the legend runneth,

So the old men tell,

—there lived on the peninsula that shuts in Aburatsubo from the Pacific, a lordly *daimyo*, yclept Miura Dosun. Great was he in his own estimation, and mightily pretty as well as imposing must have been his *yashiki*, built on the high ground overlooking the sea. On three sides he had the Pacific for a moat and on the landward prospect a huge causeway, protected by lofty gates, was built and worthily maintained. But in the course of years, troubles rose between Miura and a much mightier personage who lived at Odawara, and soon the picturesque peninsula became the scene of a medieval siege that lacked little in the way of sanguinary persistency. The holders of the castle by the sea held on bravely, but provisions ran out, their boats were captured, their mightiest men were slain. Then the order went forth that the chief would commit *harakiri*, while he graciously gave permission to any of his followers who chose to accompany him to the Elysian fields in similar fashion, that they might do so also. Of course the whole garrison that remained preferred to attend their master and their lord on his last long journey, and when the Odawara men burst through the landward gate, they found the castle in flames, with none of its heroic defenders left alive to tell the tale. Such is the legend as we picked it up that day, though a diligent search in history books and other works translated into the English tongue, has not rewarded any of us with authentic corroborations.

tive testimony. But though the annals of Japan at present accessible to foreigners do not tell the story, the fishermen at Misaki and its neighbourhood have all the details at their command, if properly approached. Their faith is borne out, they allege, by the regular appearance of the dead lord's wraith at Aburatsubo, when the season of the year approximates to the time of his downfall. The old fellow's rice-godown, provision store, and his freshwater springs still exist under the cliff, while the outlines of his castle can be traced in the deep trenches dug along and across the peninsula, in the ruined causeway, and in the cleared plateau that crowns the breezy hill top.

But enough of Miura's ghost, and feudal history generally. Dinner was served on board the *Daimyo* in broad daylight. Then

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark.

But we landed to observe these beautiful phenomena of evening. Climbing the cliff leading up to the old *daimyo's* domain, we sought out a clearing among the trees that gave a full view of lordly Fuji, with the sun preparing to sink behind his mighty flanks. Rugged old Thomas Carlyle, in one of his lectures on "Hero Worship," attempts to depict the thoughts of the primeval savage—following on Aristotle's speculation upon the same subject—while gazing upon his first sunrise. Awkwardly chaotic are the sentences that Carlyle gives utterance to, yet one gathers some dim idea of what the rugged old sage of Chelsea intends to convey. But inexpressibly nobler must be the thoughts of a man of this later day—an heir of all the ages—who may stand alone at the close of day on some quiet sea-shore and gaze upon the wonders of the setting sun. The glories of sea and sky are then inexpressibly melancholy,—though so beautiful,—and most soul-stirring, for sunsets affect us more powerfully than sunrises simply because the setting luminary of day suggests a thousand analogies to the close of life. To the three Vagabonds looking towards Fuji that soft July evening nature seemed to have decked herself in the splendours of celestial glory: the impressions forced upon them in the vast stillness were such as to render speech inarticulate, the tongue incapable of coherent utterance. What wonder, then, that sleep fell softly and swiftly that night on all the little company.

It must have been but a few minutes past four o'clock when a loud splash announced that the skipper had gone over the side for a swim. The other members of the crew were not slow in following such an example and some healthy fun ensued. Then breakfast. By half past six we were exploring the peninsula opposite for the old *daimyo's* sake; then descended to the beach to paddle about in the pools left by the outgoing tide, behaving for all the world like children who had yet to learn the trials and griefs of the world and become acquainted with their accompanying shadows and indelible stains. It is so seldom that one can get back to the pleasures of childhood's days; so seldom that the hurry and rush of life, even in sleepy Treaty-ports, will allow of a short breathing space in which to hark back on our tracks, as it were, to assume the manners of children who can let the hours slide by with impunity without worrying or thought for what the next may bring. Verily, on that morning, Nature seemed so pleasant that nothing soured our laughter or darkened our merriment. But ere long the head *sendo* signalled that we must come aboard, and that hurriedly. Then we found that the barometer was falling rapidly with indications of the approach of a gale. So we put out and ran for the entrance to the Gulf of Tokyo. The wind served us up to Misaki; then it fell, and hour after hour went by, and still Sagami Cape was not rounded. By noonday we could see the storm in the distance but, as is usual here, a great calm prevailed for some miles in front of it. We were

As idle as a painted ship
Upon a painted ocean.

The heat was intense, and notwithstanding solar topees, two people had to go below, "sick with the sun." Even the *sendo*—used as they are to the heat—were anything but happy on deck. But ere long the storm, so long in coming, began to make up for lost time; so we shortened sail, made all things secure, and prepared to run for a safe holding ground. Soon the first angry puffs of wind came tearing along. Bravely the good ship buckled to her work, and began making the best of records past Sagami Cape, and up into Kaneda Bay. She had all the wind she wanted, and also sea, but all was in our favour, and we held on to the end with the least amount of canvas possible. The pace was terrific, the water swirling and boiling past the bows as the *Daimyo* cut her way through angry seas. Fortunately

Uraga lay at a convenient angle to our course, and we made for it. We reached safety just in time. I never want to ride out another gale like that on a 10-ton yacht—no, never again. There was nothing for it beyond getting a tight grip on Cromwell's well tried axiom:—"Put your trust in God and keep your powder dry." Once in Uraga, all fear was at an end, and we supped that night right merrily. Our *Chef* had to leave us next morning early, going home by train, but the skipper and the journalist stuck by the *Daimyo* until Yokohama anchorage was reached, late on Monday afternoon. And so did the *Daimyo* come home in safety, and thus was a pleasant holiday brought to a happy close.

A.B.B.

BRETT AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

REPORT.

The statement of Assets and Liabilities, also Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 30th June, 1897, accompany this report.

As will be seen from the accounts, business for the year may be considered satisfactory.

Six debentures of the value of yen 600.00 have been redeemed, thus leaving the balance yen 12,400.00.

JNO. H. BOAG,
Managing Director.

Yokohama, 21st August, 1897.

Balance Sheet—30th June, 1897.

CAPITAL.		
Capital—	2,500 shares (fully paid up) @ \$20 per share	\$50,000
Less 500 shares in hand	...	10,000
Debitures—184 Debitures @ \$100	...	18,400.00
Sundry Creditors—Amounts owing	...	223.50
		\$35,623.50

ASSETS.

Stock—		
Value of Stock as per Inventory and Stock		
Books—Drugs, Chemicals, etc., in		
Store and Godown	...	\$21,711.64
Outstanding Consignments	...	305.85
Aerated Water Stock	...	2,314.50
Plant, Furniture and Fixtures—		
Value as per Inventory of Aerated Water		
Plant and Fixtures	...	1,000.00
Store and Godown Furniture, and Fixtures	...	3,431.31
Goodwill	...	4,131.31
Value of Goodwill as per Prospectus of the Company June 30th, 1896	...	\$4,500
Less Written off 30th June, 1896	...	1,500
Cash—Cash on hand	...	269.93
Fire Insurance—Value of Unexpired Policy	...	123.27
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China—Balance at Credit of Current Account	...	258.30
Sundry Debtors—		
Sale Ledger	...	\$1,397.57
Aerated Water Ledger	...	553.49
S. Maw, Sons and Thompson	...	1,743.94
Balance at debit Profit and Loss Account	...	2,574.66
		\$35,623.50

Working Account—July 1st, 1896, to June 30th, 1897.

To Salaries and Wages	...	\$5,334.30
General Expenses	...	2,660.79
Auditor's Fee	...	100.00
Advertising	...	123.95
To Commission	...	
Discounts on Local Bills	...	115.95
Fire Insurance	...	123.27
Rent	...	1,410.00
Interest on Debitures	...	889.00
Balance Transferred to Profit and Loss account	...	9,615.16
		\$12,782.67

By Profit on sales—		
Goods account	...	\$115,080.34
Aerated Water	...	1,675.97
Working a/c	...	26.36
Interest	...	
		\$117,782.67

Profit and Loss Account—30th June, 1897.

To Balance—Per Balance Sheet of 30th June, 1896	...	\$4,019.97
Dividend account—Dividend of 5 per cent. paid on account year ending 30th June, 1896	...	1,210.00
Bad Debts—Amount written off	...	128.00
By Transfer Fees	...	\$5,098.17
Articles of Association	...	20.00
Old Debts—Amount recovered	...	2.40
Working account—Balance transferred	...	97.95
Balance carried forward to new account	...	2,574.66
		\$5,098.17

E. & O. E.

I certify that I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the Books and Vouchers of the Company and find them to be correct.

W. G. MACVICAR, Auditor.

Yokohama, 13th August, 1897.

Keen disappointment, says an exchange, is felt in Germany at the findings of the South Africa Inquiry. The German newspapers had apparently made up their minds that Mr. Chamberlain would have been found guilty of "lese majesté," and that Mr. Rhodes would have been recommended for punishment.

THE WRECK OF THE "ADEN."

MR. FRANK GILLET'S NARRATIVE.

Mr. Frank Gillett, one of the survivors of the wreck of the P. & O. steamer *Aden*, writing on board the steamer *India*, nearing Plymouth, July 13, sends *The Times* a graphic and touching account of the disaster. He states that the *Aden* left Yokohama, where he joined her with his wife and little girl 7½ years old, on April 28, and experienced good weather as far as Colombo. The full complement of passengers was 17 adults, two children of 11 to 13 years, and 12 children of tender years, with three Chinese nurses. The writer gives the names of the passengers, and mentions that there was a delay at Colombo for extra coaling, it being desired to pass Aden and thus avoid quarantine at Havre, where the ship had to call. He goes on to say:—

"We left Colombo on June 2 at about 1.30 a.m., and here our troubles began, as within one day after leaving the monsoon began to break upon us with considerable force, the seas ran high, violent squalls of wind accompanied by blinding rain and spray were constantly met with, and the ship, although behaving throughout as a first-class sea boat, began pitching and rolling heavily. Day by day as we proceeded the weather increased in violence, seldom was the sun visible, and the squalls increased in force, while the waves began to get truly mountainous. Naturally things began to take rather a depressing shape on board the ship, many were the vacancies at table at meal-times, the children got fractious and restless, and the sufferers from sea-sickness were numerous, my own wife being one of the worst, and utterly unable to leave her cabin the whole time, and as everything, of course, was closed up, your readers will understand that the moist heat of the air in the cabins was stifling in the extreme. Not more than three or four days had elapsed before the big seas washing over the port or weather side began to break up the stack of coal on that side of the ship, and it was found necessary to get it shifted by the crew in baskets down to the bunkers, an operation by no means without danger to life and limb, taking into consideration the rolling of the ship, the slippery decks, and the increasing violence of the seas that broke over us aft. Things got from bad to worse, until June 7 and 8 we were running in the teeth of such violent monsoon weather as was described to me by Mr. Carden, the chief officer, a bluff, good-hearted seaman of the kind that one likes to meet, as by far the worst that he had ever met with in his experience. The seas were tremendous, and the tops of the waves were carried along in blinding spray by the violent squalls which constantly struck us. At the same time, he it said, there was nothing in the nature of a typhoon or cyclone, the wind was always in one direction, somewhat west of south-west, and it must simply be described as of extremely violent monsoon force. The waves were breaking over the hurricane deck both fore and aft, and the good ship was rolling to such an extent that we took in seas on the lee side over the scuppers on the upper hurricane deck. Although ordinarily steaming 12 knots, or better in fair weather, our last 24 hours run was recorded as only 188 miles, a trifle under eight knots, and unfortunately the coal left on the starboard side had been washed away to such an extent that it was anticipated by the chief engineer that even if all got in the bunkers it would be short by 30 or 40 tons of the 100 tons first taken aboard. Early, therefore, on the morning of the 8th the captain decided to head the ship up nearer into the wind and slow down to half-speed, so that by lessening the heavy rolling it might be possible to clear away the balance of the coal, and get it safely stowed in the bunkers. This change of course doubtless carried us down a little further south than where we should otherwise have been, but as we were going so slowly the deviation from our original course was probably of small extent, and by about 11.30 a.m. on June 8th the coal was all cleared and the ship headed round in a north-west direction to clear the eastern end of Sokotra island, which it was expected would be reached somewhere about 10 or 11 o'clock that night.

"During all this time Captain Hill, whom we shall always remember with affection for his unfailing geniality and kindness, had been doing his best to cheer up the distressed ladies and their children by kindly words and assurances that it would be the last bad night, and that before dawn we should be running into smoother water on the northern side of Sokotra, and protected by it from the extreme violence of the monsoon. Would to God that it could have been so and that the morning of the 9th might have seen us still sound and running on safely homeward, instead of lying a dismantled wreck on that fearful reef off Sokotra! What was the fatal error in judgment that

brought us to that pass it is not for me to consider; the matter will be doubtless made the subject of official inquiry, and I must pass on to what I have now to tell your readers of the horrors that ensued. The rolling of the ship on the night of the 8th, together with the discomforts consequent on the fact that the seas washing over us had entered many of the cabins on the starboard side alleyway, induced many of the lady passengers to seek rest by having their mattresses brought into the saloon, and placed together on the floor, and the appearance of the saloon that night was more like a camp hospital than anything else, it being difficult to cross it without treading on somebody. The few male passengers were mostly wandering about the ship unable to sleep—I, myself, being still in my day clothes and trying to get a little rest on a seat in the companion way at the top of the saloon stairs. Thoroughly tired out I must have dropped asleep on my rather uncomfortable seat, and it was with a dreadful shock that I was awakened at about 3 a.m. on that fatal June 9 by feeling four violent bumps in quick succession towards the fore part of the ship, followed immediately by a horrid, grinding noise somewhat nearer the part where I was, and the horrible certainty was forced upon me that the good ship had struck, as I jumped from my seat and rushed down the saloon to seek for my wife and child. I met them leaving their cabin with agonized faces and in the lightest of sleeping dresses, and after begging my wife to be brave I rushed into our cabin to secure for them extra clothing.

"Meanwhile, shouts were heard from above, 'All passengers on deck.' 'Bring your life-belts,' and tearing down the three belts placed in our cabin I hurried out again to join my dear ones and get them upon deck. Ere we had crossed the saloon the steam was coming in thickly, presumably from the engine-room, and immediately also the electric light, which had been burning brightly, went out, leaving the saloon full of horror-struck ladies and children in utter darkness, frantic in their efforts to reach the staircase and get to the upper deck. There was an awful crush on the stairway, and the screams of women and children were piteous and heartrending; but, eventually, the stairway was cleared and we passengers found ourselves huddled together on the lee side of the upper deck, most being totally unprotected from the violent wind and sheets of spray which had already begun to dash over us as the seas were hurled over the port side forward. The night was hideous in its blackness, faces were impossible to distinguish, and it was only by imploring cries heard on all sides that one could form an idea of those who were round about us. It was not until some little time and the immediate shock had passed that one could gather who particularly wanted relief in clothing or protection, but now stewards and others began bringing up articles of clothing and blankets, &c., which were passed round for those who required them; and the poor, frightened creatures hurriedly wrapped themselves in anything that could be found for protection against what was really a cold night air, and made infinitely worse by the sheets of spray coming over us.

"Meanwhile the officers and crew were busily engaged in getting ready for lowering what boats remained on the wreck, which, of course, were carried inboard when at sea. The three boats on the port side had been all carried away almost immediately the ship struck, and also a little dinghy that hung over the poop, so that but three boats on the starboard (lee) side remained, and when eventually dawn began to steal upon us preparations were made to lower away the after boat. In the act of lowering, however, she was carried away by a heavy sea, which also threw into the water three of the native crew who were in her to ease off the tackles. These men, however, succeeded in getting into her and recovering a few oars, and in a half water-logged condition she gradually floated away from the ship's stern. Seeing this the chief officer, Mr. Carden, jumped overboard with a life-belt on to endeavour to swim to her assistance, but as far as I can find out no one seems to have seen that he succeeded even in reaching her, and he was never seen again by us left on the wreck. God rest his soul! If that was his last act in life it was one of noble self-sacrifice at the call of duty and may it comfort those dear ones who mourn his loss to know how bravely he gave up his life in his endeavour to help the distressed.

"Seeing the disaster to the after boat, the centre boat was then launched by the second officer, Mr. Miller, who himself had sustained serious injury from a ghastly wound on the head caused by some falling wreckage when the ship struck. This boat was only a cutter, and was manned by about 12 of the native crew with Mr. Miller at the helm, and started to pull off with the hope of bringing back the other boat. It was, however,

soon apparent that they had no chance of keeping her in the wished-for direction. She was carried away by the force of the wind and sea, and was soon lost to view, and so far as we know never sighted again. Then the third and last lifeboat was taken in hand by the third and fourth officers, Mr. Ralph Manning and Mr. E. Hurlstone, and calls were made for provisions and water to put into her before lowering away. These were passed up by the stewards from below, and after being handed in the third officer, two able-bodied quartermasters, and the stewardess took seats in the boat. While she was being lowered, however, by some mischance, either from defective tackles or a heavy sea, the after tackles gave way and the boat hung by her fore tackles only; the four occupants, together with all stores and contents, being precipitated into the water. The three men succeeded in keeping themselves afloat by grasping floating oars and spars, while a lifebuoy was flung over and grasped by the stewardess, who, however, appeared to be in imminent danger of drowning right under us, through her abortive attempts to get into proper position in the lifebuoy. By this time, however, the boat had been launched, and the fourth officer, young Hurlstone, who had got into her, plunged from the side to swim to the assistance of the stewardess, amidst the cheers of all on deck, and succeeded in bringing her back and getting her safely into the boat. Then the remainder of the foreign quartermasters and carpenter took up positions in the boat, and calls were made for ladies and children to come aft to be lowered away, the boat having been passed back nearer the stern to avoid the heavy seas breaking over the fore portion of the ship. Using a sling as the means of lowering, and under the superintendence of the captain, the surgeon, Mr. Forman, who worked most manfully to assist the frightened passengers, and two of the stewards, the following passengers were gradually lowered—Mrs. Reilly and her two children, Mrs. Collins and two children, Miss Hogan, Mrs. Robertson and three children, Mrs. Smyth and infant, Mrs. Suttis and infant, Mrs. Sinderson, and Miss Hewitt. Calls were then made for the remainder of the ladies and children, but, although I cannot say that I heard the order distinctly given, it would seem that word was passed along that the husbands would not be able to go that trip in the boat, but would have to wait for its hoped-for return. On this, however, both Mrs. Strain, Mrs. Pearce, and my own wife declined at once to be separated from their husbands, nobly preferring what then looked like imminent death to all on board, through the ship breaking up or heeling over, to being parted from them at that fateful time; and for some reason, I do not know what, Miss Weller and Miss Lloyd remained behind also; and thus it came about that when the boat left the wreck 17 passengers were left behind, who were as follows:—Mr. and Mrs. Strain, two infants and Chinese nurse; Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, two infants and Chinese nurse; Miss Lloyd, Mr. Valpy, the Chinese nurse employed by Mrs. Smyth, my own wife, and little girl, and myself.

"Probably with the view of securing a strong crew for the boat no native sailors were taken, and seats were occupied by the first and second engineers, Mr. Carmichael and Mr. Chisholm, the surgeon, chief and two other stewards, Carey, Rolls, and Barrow, and the winchman, W. Atkins, and was under the charge of the third and fourth officers. The boat left the side, and, after being partially bailed out, was pulled away from the wreck in the direction of the nearest land, about one mile or more distant. Very soon, however, after leaving the partial shelter afforded by the ship it became once more painfully evident to those left on board that the chances of the boat being able to reach land in the direction intended were most remote, and, after straining our eyes to watch their manful efforts for over half-an-hour, we saw at last that they had to put the boat about and let it run before the heavy monsoon sea on a course which might have crossed the track of any ships passing between Colombo and the Gulf of Aden, but which, with that track once crossed, could only leave them at the mercy of the wind and waves, with no chance of reaching any nearer shore than the remote coast of India; and if, as I believe to be correct, the boat left without anything in the way of provisions and water, let your readers picture to themselves the awful prospects in store for the poor occupants, of whom so many were half-clad ladies and children of tender years! What were our feelings on board as we saw them drift further and further away I can scarcely tell you. All hope of rescue now seemed gone; there were no more boats; the weather was increasing in violence every minute; and it seemed to us only a question of how long before we should be called upon to meet our deaths through the breaking up of the ship.

Besides us 17 passengers there remained now only the captain, whose reason, I firmly believe, was to some extent unhinged by the fearful calamity, and the third and fourth engineers, Mr. T. A. White and Mr. Peter Kelly, also a youth of about 19 years, Wallace Cave, who had served in the ship in the capacity of writer, each of whom on some impulse preferred standing by the ship to going in the boat.

"And now comes what, for me, is the hardest part of my story, which to write about, even at this considerable interval of time, I am not ashamed to say still causes that gulp in the throat which even the strongest men cannot at times conceal, and that is to relate the agonizing and heartrending sights of the remainder of that awful day, when gradually we had to see so many of those who were left, one by one, oft-times maimed or bruised and bleeding, with broken limbs and weakening powers, dashed backwards and forwards on the wave-swept deck, and eventually carried away by the angry seas, until nearly half our number had gone. May it be less painful to your readers than it is to me! The picture remains so vividly in my mind that now, lying awake at night, I many times seem to live the whole scene of horror over again. By the time we had lost sight of the last boat it was getting on well towards 8 a.m., and we had taken up our positions on the lee side of the engine-room bulkhead, sheltered to some extent from the immense seas breaking over us by that as well as by the wooden structure forward, which then remained intact. We were holding on for dear life to an iron rail which ran along the side of the bulkhead, my wife and little girl being at the extreme forward end of it, while I was grasping the sides of an iron ventilator just ahead of it, and next to the captain, who declined to hold on to anything, and stood shivering, and with a nervous twitching movement of his hands, just outside the saloon companion way. I several times begged him to catch hold of one side of the ventilator with me, we being the nearest exposed to the seas breaking over from the weather side, but he always refused, and his replies to anything said to him were so strange and incoherent that, as I have already stated, I fear that the good, kind fellow had partially lost his reason. The seas from the fore part still increased in violence, and often one or another was torn away from our shelter and swept along the deck. But for some time we managed to bring them back to comparative security; but ere long there began to rise up from the lee side, above the level of the scuppers, near to where we were standing, immense green seas, which would come licking over the side of the ship from the after part forward toward us, fearful return waves which we who remained on that ship so long a time never remembered to have witnessed; and these waves steadily increased in volume, until sometimes they came sweeping over in one solid green wall as high or higher than our heads, were for the most part the cause of the awful havoc amongst us. They rose up and came over entirely without warning, and as from our position our backs were towards them, they could not be guarded against like the bigger but more broken waves coming over from the weather side.

I think the first to go was the little infant son of Mrs. Pearce, torn from its mother's arms; and, at the risk of venturing on to sacred ground, we can hardly think of this otherwise than as the act of a merciful Providence, as it is barely possible to conceive that we could have kept alive without suffering an infant of such tender age on the scanty provisions left to us during the long 17 days we were together on the wreck. Mrs. Strain's little infant in arms was also early taken.

... Mr. Strain and his wife were soon afterwards carried right forward, he being immediately carried overboard by a sea from the weather side, while Mrs. Strain got her leg jammed under a piece of iron broken away from the winch pipe, and was only extracted after several minutes hard work, through the assistance of the captain and others, who managed to lift up the iron and brought her back to the shelter torn and weakened, but still able to hold on. Time went on. A Chinese nurse employed by Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, whose cramped feet had made it painfully difficult for her to retain her foothold on the seething deck, was seen to be lying cut and maimed on the deck within a few feet of where the rails were broken away, and although offered assistance and implored to come back to shelter she wearily declined, and waved away all help as she waited for the next sea, which mercifully soon came, to carry her away.

"Not long after this poor Mrs. Strain, who was already fearfully weakened and horrified at the loss of her husband and infant, was torn away from the rail by another of the green monsters and hurled along the deck forward with fearful violence against the iron rail, the sea as it swept past

and over her denuding her of every particle of clothing, and she was left lying there perfectly naked, with right arm broken close to the shoulder, rising and falling loosely on the seething water. She was yards away from any of us, and must have been from her appearance, thank God, quite unconscious. . . . We could only turn away our eyes from seeing her carried away by the next sweeping sea. Her little girl Jeannie, two years of age, was left behind, and I had her passed on from hand to hand up to where I was standing, so as to be able to do what I could to protect and shield her. I had myself been washed away and swept along the deck several times already, but, although probably badly bruised and battered about, I do not remember feeling sensibly weakened up to that time; but before long another enormous green sea caught us all, and, it coming on me solid fully as high as my shoulders, I was swept away with the child right up to the forward end, and dashed with fearful violence against the rail, only there to be met by a wave from the weather side, which cast us both back again past all the rest to about ten yards lower down, leaving me lying on the extreme edge against an open space where the rails had been broken away, and with little Jeannie about a yard further on. With both legs and feet torn and bleeding, nose and forehead gashed, and both lips badly cut, while scarcely a breath remained in my body with the awful violence from which I struck the railings, I distinctly remember, even now feeling, that it was no use to try and hold on against such odds; that to prolong life was not worth the struggle, and that it was easier far to be there where I was and wait for the next sea to wash me quietly overboard. Truly for me then the bitterness of death was passed, and I only felt the desire to keep my eyes on my wife and little girl and see the last of them ere floating overboard. But missing me, after saving herself and our child from the effects of those last dreadful seas, my wife turned round and saw me lying there, and, bidding our little Evelyn to hold on tight, she rushed aft to me and implored me to brace up, at the same time throwing out both hands to assist me. I told her, "it was no use"; but, as she again begged and implored me, I remember reaching out one arm to pull little Jeannie towards myself and her, and finding just enough breath to say, "Help Jeannie; I'll come." With the help of her other hand as she grasped the child I managed to crawl on to my knees, and eventually once more regained our place of shelter. Truly to that heroic act of my dear wife I owe my life at this moment, as by myself I should never have attempted a further struggle.

"Gradually recovering strength at the rails, I stood still endeavouring to shield between us the poor little girl Jeannie, who was sobbing pitifully; her troubles were soon over, as the next big sea that struck us carried her away to join her parents. I have omitted to mention that during this time my wife had been carried away herself several times, and once must have struck with fearful violence some iron loose on the deck as, on being helped back to the rail by me she had felt horrible pain, and I saw blood flowing at her feet, and, turning aside the loose dressing gown that she wore, discovered an awful open gash fully three inches long on one of her legs. She had turned ghastly pale, and seemed likely to fall immediately away in a fainting condition; but being implored on both sides by Mrs. Pearce and myself to brace up and hold on, she bravely responded, and succeeded in shaking off the faintness."

"Meanwhile the captain had been several times washed about, although now holding on when he could; but at last a big sea coming over from behind us carried away both himself and me, and after recovering from its effects I found him lying a little distance off, sitting on the deck with his left leg broken, there being a horrible gash about 3in. wide in the forepart of the leg above the ankle, through which the jagged end of the bone was protruding, while the foot hung loose in the retreating sea. He had not lost consciousness, and calling on me by name asked me to help him up, as, of course, he could not stand."

"We were only able to drag him aft to partial shelter, he easing himself along on his hands and with the other leg. We kept him there covered as far as we could by our legs, but it was hopeless to try and save him, as after he had been once or twice washed away and brought back again, a bigger sea than usual carried him right away from us forward over the rail, and we never saw him more. He stayed by his good ship to the last, saying farewell to her and life together."

"The next to suffer was poor Miss Weller. She was a rather short, heavily-built lady, and at one time when being washed about by the seas must have sustained some serious injury to her lower limbs, as she was quite unable to rise and sat rolling her head in a partially unconscious con-

dition. Her friend, Miss Lloyd, who, so far as I know, was uninjured in limb, sat down beside her, leaving the rail, and rested her head upon her shoulder with one arm thrown around her, and although they were only a yard or so from us, and we implored them to take our hands and come back to safety, Miss Lloyd, with perfect self-possession, calmly refused and said she would sit there with her dear friend. . . . She had not long to wait for the rest from her troubles, as another big sea swept both these ladies right forward, leaving poor Miss Weller an inert and helpless body against the rails forward, while it carried Miss Lloyd right out over the side, and as she had still her lifebelt round her chest we saw her floating quickly out to sea, still waving an arm above her head as a last "Good bye" to us all.

"All these accumulated horrors had so preyed on our minds that we had scarcely thought of the lapse of time or of our own or children's condition through lack of any sustenance whatever since morning, it being then well on towards 4 p.m. But by this time the whole of the woodwork structure in front had been carried away, the bridge and chart-room, captain's cabin, and roofing and sides of the companion way, leaving the stairway to the saloon open to the seas and unprotected; and as now for a little time the extreme violence of the seas began to abate, we took advantage of any opportunity to look down in the saloon with a view to seeing whether it might not be possible to get better shelter there. . . . So, after a hurried consultation together, those who were left—viz, the Peaces and ourselves, with Mr. Valpy and our children, determined to make a shot for it and get down below. To do this we had to go round forward to the weather side, in front of where the captain's cabin had been. We managed to get all round and down. . . . Wandering about we came across the third and fourth engineers and the writer, who were together in a little room, used as the bar, on the port side alleyway, where they had found a few stores, liquors, &c., which had been brought there for the daily use of the ship; and, on their suggestion that our small party should join them, we assembled there later on and after getting a little food and drink—the first that had passed our lips that day—we decided to remain together for what the night might bring us, there being in all to us huddled together in that little box, 9ft. by 6ft., Mr. Valpy and Cave finding a bunk elsewhere. We, of course, were in a dreadful state, all of us having sustained more or less serious injuries, while the third engineer had his left arm useless, and believed he had broken his collar bone. This we eventually found was not the case, but that the trouble was dislocation of the shoulder, a far more serious matter, which we without any experience, although trying to pull into joint, failed utterly to move. Of course we none of us slept; seas continued breaking over us all round and smashing things right and left, and we knew what to expect at any moment. But dawn at last came, and with slightly quieter weather, Kelt, fourth engineer, managed to find for us somewhere a bottle of water, which was very welcome and reserved for the little boy."

"Throughout the second day, the heavy weather continued almost unabated in its fury, and late in the afternoon we very nearly lost one of our small number, Kelt, who, it would seem, although he never remembered how it all happened, had been trying to get aft to the poop for more water. I was sitting in this bar, after a heavy sea had rushed past the door, and looking out, and at the far end of the alleyway aft I noticed what I took to be a mattress floating in the rush of water; by-and-by more big seas came over, and again looking out to watch their effect I saw an arm waving on the water above the dark object. I rushed out and down the alleyway and, reaching the end by holding on with one arm inside a doorway, was just able to seize poor Kelt by the belt and stop him from being carried out and away. I shouted for help, because, with my right arm and side quite useless from the effects of rheumatism, I was unable to do more than stop him, and hearing my shout my wife also rushed out, and calling on Mr. Pearce also to come along, quickly came to our help, and between us we dragged the helpless body, which I had already noticed was frothing at the mouth and was apparently three-parts drowned, back through the seething water and got it on a slab in the pantry, the next room to where we were. There we found that poor Kelt had two frightful gashes on the scalp, besides a deep cut in one of his hands, which was bleeding profusely, and after tying up the wrist as tight as we could to stop the severe flow of blood we proceeded to try and induce respiration by the usual artificial means, there being no sign of breathing in the body. We worked at him more than an hour before succeeding in getting what we thought with our scanty knowledge to be sufficient signs of re-

turning life, and even then had only managed to get a little of the water out of his body, which we could hear gurgling inside. To shorten my story, we were working at him in turns for between four and five hours before we felt it safe to relax our efforts and leave, and for fully five days afterwards he lay in a comatose condition, just taking sustenance when forced on him, but scarcely ever opening his eyes, and then evidently without recognition."

The second night we also passed together in that confined space, but it was dreadful work, and as next morning, June 11, brought us rather calmer weather, we determined to make a sortie with the idea of trying to find better quarters. Eventually, on the starboard side, the lee side of the ship, we found three passenger cabins fairly sound, one of which was allotted to the third and fourth engineers, Valpy and Cave, while the other two, which had been partially knocked into one by the smashing of the wooden partition, was taken possession of by the remaining party—viz., Mr. and Mrs. Pearce and their little boy of two years (Robbie), my wife and myself and our little girl (Evelyn), and the two Chinese nurses whom we had thus taken under our protection. We got shifted round all stores that we could lay our hands on, and found that our staple food must be Barcelona nuts, of which we had found a tinful, or about 10lb. in weight, about half a tin (5lb.) of small biscuits, one or two tins of fruit, and a fair supply of liquor in the shape of soda water, tonic, and such like, with two or three bottles of whisky. . . . We instituted what I am thankful to say we kept up day by day during all the time we passed on that awful reef—namely, meeting together after breakfast, and again at night after dinner to pray for our safety and rescue. The 12th passed without a change, except that we established a scale of rations. . . .

On the afternoon of the 13th a ship was sighted, but steamed past the wreck away to the northward. It appeared afterwards that this ship did not call at Aden or at Perim to report the wreck, but pursued her course to Suez and gave information there which led eventually to the rescue of the survivors."

The shipwrecked party continued to make in the ship's cabins most welcome finds of biscuits, soda-water, two bottles of a patent food for children, &c. On the 17th Mr. White was presented with two boxes of matches by the Lascars, and he gave one box to Mr. Gillett. This, which made smoking possible, greatly relieved the sufferings of the male survivors. On the same day another vessel was sighted, which appeared to be an oil-tank steamer, and though, in Mr. Gillett's opinion, she must have seen the signals made from the wreck, yet she continued her course, heading for the east end of Sokatra. Mr. Gillett endeavoured to relieve the despondency of the party, and especially of White, whose shoulder was very painful, by pointing out that the P. and O. Company were their own insurers and would be certain to send ships to the rescue. The survivors suffered a good deal from boils and swollen ankles, their strength ebbed daily, and their rations had to be further reduced. Mr. Gillett thus describes the three distinct communities on the wreck:—

"Forward in the forecabin were what I call the Portuguese community, consisting of nine men in all, mostly stewards, with the butcher, assistant cook, &c., all, I think, of Goanese extraction. Then amidships we, the foreign element, had taken up our quarters, and lastly in the poop, across the after well deck, were 24 men, whom I shall call for short Lascars, the survivors of the native crew—firemen, coal trimmers, &c. Except in moments of calm weather communication between either of these three positions was well nigh impossible, unless at great risk of life and limb, and the three communities kept for the most part separate and distinct. We saw, therefore, but little of these 33 native survivors, but their behaviour when we at last got off the wreck was fully praiseworthy, they all waiting quietly for their turn until all of our party had got into the boat, while they did capital work in keeping up an excellent watch for passing vessels."

On the 22nd, the Jubilee Day, the survivors toasted the Queen in their small rations of whisky and soda. That same evening young Cave, in spite of his severe wounds and general weakness, pluckily ventured across the open decks to search for stores. He returned next day with several bottles of spirits and wine, and further journeys undertaken by several of the male survivors resulted in the discovery of two large hams, which the party were glad to eat in spite of their uncooked condition."

Mr. Gillett concludes with a vigorous description of the rescue of the party on the 26th by the Royal Indian Marine steamship *Mayo*, on which ship they were treated with the greatest possible kindness and consideration. On the 28th, when the *Mayo*

was lying in Aden harbour, the crew of 13 who had volunteered for the dangerous work of rescue were called out separately from the rest, and the thanks of the captain and of Mr. Gillett, as spokesman of the survivors, were interpreted to them.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on August 4th. Mr. St. C. Michaelsen presided and there were also present—Hon. J. J. Bell, Irving, Messrs. J. D. Boning, R. M. Gray, D. Gubbay, A. J. Raymond, R. L. Richardson, N. A. Siebs, and Gerald Slade (Directors), Thomas Jackson (Chief Manager), Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Hon. E. R. Bellios, C.M.G., Messrs. H. N. Mody, V. A. Caesar Hawkins, G. Stewart, J. H. Lewis, G. H. Potts, A. Coutts, J. D. Stewart, C. J. Gonsalves, J. E. Thompson, E. George, A. Hancock, D. Gillies, Geo. Murray Bain, Henry Humphreys, F. Henderson, W. S. Ramsay, H. M. Mehta, W. Lysaght, S. B. Bhutta, J. R. Michael, J. M. S. Alves, A. Wright, T. Brown, F. N. Firth, G. C. Cox, C. S. Sharp, M. Chinoy, E. S. Wheeler, Ho Fook, G. Dwyer, Dr. Hattigan, C. Palmer, Anderson, E. Jones Hughes, Findlay Smith, A. Haupt, Sugden etc.

The CHIEF MANAGER read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN read the report of the Court of Directors.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the directors are pleased to meet you on the present occasion with a very favourable report. The half year has been one of many fluctuations, and of more than ordinary anxieties to the management of Eastern Banks generally. Dealing as we have been with what we are sorry to describe as a depreciating currency, it has been a difficult matter to meet all the demands of our constituents for sterling and rupee remittances, and at the same time to safeguard the interests of the Bank. It is well known to all our friends that in trying times we have not shirked our responsibilities in the matter of facilitating their exchange operations, and the report just read is a very satisfactory proof that we have succeeded in making their interests harmonize with ours. On previous occasions we seldom referred to the silver question, perhaps prudently leaving the difficult question to wiser heads than ours; however it is expedient to take this opportunity of defining our position with regard to the white metal. It will be seen from the report that we have £3,065,900 *gs.* 10d. in current accounts in London; this large amount is principally owing to the Governments we have recently been negotiating loans for and is held there in liquid securities. Our ordinary current accounts in London are about one-sixth of the amount, say a little over £500,000, which may be taken to represent our sterling liability with regard to current accounts. Our other sterling liabilities are our fixed deposits in London, amounting to £2,610,278 *gs.* 3d. These are employed in our ordinary outward business to the branches, and are at all times covered by the sterling and rupee investments we have in London, by bills in hand and by sterling remittances on the way from the East. At no time are our sterling liabilities allowed to exceed our sterling assets, in fact very much the reverse, so that while the fall in silver is a matter of regret to us, it is not, and will not be allowed to be a source of loss to our profit and loss account.—(Applause.) I hope I have made myself perfectly plain upon this point and that my explanation will be satisfactory to all our shareholders and depositors. Home investors in our shares will naturally look to the depreciating value of the dollar. Our capital consists of ten millions of dollars. Only quite recently the sterling value of the same at an exchange of 2/6 was £1,250,000, still more recently at exchange of 2/7, it represented £1,000,000, and within the last few weeks it has gone under that amount, and at 1/10½, the lowest point touched, it represents £927,083. To make up for the shrinkage in the sterling value of our capital I have great pleasure in stating that the value of our sterling securities in London exceeds by £95,890 the amount at which they stood in our books on the 30th of June last.—(applause)—not taking into consideration the difference in exchange on the £250,000 Consols standing in our books, as you will observe from the report, at 95 and Ex. 2/6½, as compared with 1/11¼d. on the 30th of June.—(Applause.) You are aware that a large portion of our business is with India where we have to deal with a protected and a contracted currency. Before the closing of the mints in June, 1893, we could count upon an out turn of 221 for any dol-

lars shipped to India for conversion into rupees, said rate was looked upon as a minimum. Within the last few days the rate touched Rs. 144½ for \$100, a very heavy margin for the Indian export trade to the Far East to contend with. Rs. 50 lacs of the Bank's capital are devoted to the Indian, Ceylon and Burmah agencies. The capital stands at an exchange of Rs. 200 for \$100, so that if it were withdrawn at an exchange of Rs. 150 for \$100 we would net the round sum of Rs. 12½ lacs.—(Applause.) You will therefore see that with our rupee, as also with our sterling commitments, the Bank is in a very fine position. From the 1st of October next Japan will be on a gold basis, and silver will only be used as a subsidiary currency. In thus changing their standard a sturdy prop is taken from silver. When their decision became known a sharp drop took place which has continued with more or less regularity ever since. Under Japan's new currency laws we can look for a steady exchange there, and should silver either decline still further or remain about present price we will realize a very handsome profit on the large amount of the Bank's funds in that country. Therefore from many points of view the recent heavy depreciation in the price of silver cannot be looked upon as an unmixed evil to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.—(Applause.) At our last meeting reference was made to the expectation of an increasing trade in the Far East, and although development has not yet come with giant strides, signs are not wanting that a more enlightened policy in the treatment of foreign trade by the rulers of the vast Chinese Empire will conduce towards this desirable result. We have in the opening of ports on the West River and facilities to trade there the first fruits of this policy, which is receiving more than encouragement from our official representatives. The depreciation in silver has placed surrounding countries which are now on a gold basis at a disadvantage in their trade with China, and will unquestionably give a further impetus to manufacturing enterprise in China and Hongkong, so that we may see considerable change in the current of trade in the not very distant future, but whatever changes may be in store for us it will be the earnest endeavour of this Bank to be always ready to meet them with benefit, not only to our constituents, but also to our shareholders.—(Applause.) The profits for the half year admit of paying the usual dividend of £1 *gs.* per share, placing five lacs to reserve, and carrying forward about three lacs. I need hardly remind you that the lower exchange goes the more onerous the task will be of maintaining a sterling dividend of £1.5/- per share; however, without being over sanguine I wish to express our confidence in being able to do so. During the late prosperous years we have made our accounts very comfortable, and have still unappropriated a considerable amount of the profits realized on the negotiations of the loans we recently participated in. After transferring the above five lacs our reserve fund will stand at \$7,000,000, and it is our intention to add to this as much as possible at the end of each half year. So that our position is an excellent one and with the steady support of our shareholders and constituents we have every reason to look confidently to the future.—(Applause.) In conclusion, I have great pleasure in recording our high appreciation of the able manner in which we have been served by the Chief Manager and the staff generally during the half year.—(Applause.) It is to their efforts we are principally indebted for the successful working of the Bank during a period which called for very careful steering. Our thanks are specially due to our Chief Manager,—(applause)—to whose foresight and ability a very considerable portion of our success is due. I have no doubt that shareholders, not only here but everywhere, will cordially concur in what I have just stated.—(Applause.) Before moving the adoption of the report and passing of the accounts, I shall be glad to answer to the best of my ability any questions shareholders may wish to ask.

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and passing of accounts.

Mr. J. H. Lewis—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I am sure that we all have listened to the remarks of the Chairman with much interest.—(Applause.) The report before us is to my mind a highly satisfactory one, and remembering what we have just been told regarding our sterling investments, funds in Japan, and capital in India, I think we may safely congratulate ourselves in being in a remarkably strong position. The strength of it, as revealed by the very full statement which you have just heard, should have the effect of removing any apprehension which may have arisen in the minds of those who feared the fall in silver might adversely affect our interests. The Chairman has so clearly and fully explained the position

of the Bank that it is unnecessary for me to refer to it beyond saying that all shareholders must agree with me that seeing our reserve fund so steadily mounting up is a sure indication that in spite of fluctuations in exchange and competition we are still able to hold our own, and that we may confidently look forward to our interests being as ably guarded in the future as they have been in the past. I have, therefore, much pleasure, gentlemen, in seconding the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.—(Applause)—Carried.

Mr. HENRY HUMPHREYS proposed the confirmation of Messrs. David Gubbay, A. J. Raymond, Gerald Slade, and G. D. Boning as Directors.

Mr. G. STEWART seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. I thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.—(Applause.)

Mr. D. GILLIES—Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in expressing a few words of satisfaction at the very excellent report which has been presented to shareholders and in complimenting the Board of Directors on this occasion for the very skillful and able manner in which they have conducted the business of the Bank. For although we have had to contend against much keen competition and rivalry, yet I feel justified in stating that at no former period of our history has the Bank ever rested on a more solid foundation. At any rate I am sure the position is such as must commend itself to every shareholder who holds the welfare of the Bank above either private or personal considerations. Our prosperity during the past six months, notwithstanding the great uncertainty that has attended most commercial enterprises and the very great anxiety and difficulty that must have been experienced in following the right course with regard to silver, indicates that our Board of Directors, our very able Manager and his staff—(applause)—have all exerted their talents and their zeal to the utmost in order to place before us such a very creditable balance sheet.—(Applause.) As a proof of our confidence I most cordially ask you to accord a very hearty vote of thanks to those gentlemen, the Board of Directors, our able Manager, and the staff.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN—On behalf of the Directors, the Chief Manager and staff, I beg to thank you for your vote of thanks.

THE QUEEN'S THANKS.

(FROM A SUPPLEMENT TO THE London Gazette.)

Whitehall, July 16th, 1897.

The following letter from The Queen has been received by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Home Department:—

Windsor Castle, July 15th, 1897.

I have frequently expressed my personal feelings to my people, and though on this memorable occasion there have been many official expressions of my deep sense of the unbounded loyalty evinced I cannot rest satisfied without personally giving utterance to these sentiments.

It is difficult for me on this occasion to say how truly touched and grateful I am for the spontaneous and universal outburst of loyal attachment and real affection which I have experienced on the completion of the Sixtieth year of my Reign.

During my progress through London on the 22nd of June this great enthusiasm was shown in the most striking manner, and can never be effaced from my heart.

It is indeed deeply gratifying, after so many years of labour and anxiety for the good of my beloved country, to find that my exertions have been appreciated throughout my vast Empire.

In weal and woe I have ever had the true sympathy of all my people, which has been warmly reciprocated by myself.

It has given me unbounded pleasure to see so many of my subjects from all parts of the World assembled here, and to find them joining in the acclamations of loyal devotion to myself, and I would wish to thank them all from the depth of my grateful heart.

I shall ever pray God to bless them and to enable me still to discharge my duties for their welfare as long as life lasts.

VICTORIA, R.I.

RECESSIONAL.

God of our fathers, known of old—
Lord of our far-flung battle-line—
Beneath Whose awful Hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine—
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

The tumult and the shouting dies—
The captains and the kings depart—
Still stands Thine ancient Sacrifice,
An humble and a contrite heart.
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

Far-called our navies melt away—
On dune and headland sinks the fire—
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!
Judge of the Nations, spare us yet,
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

If, drunk with sight of power, we loose
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe—
Such boasting as the Gentiles use
Or lesser breeds without the Law—
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

For heathen heart that puts her trust
In reeking tube and iron shard—
All valiant dust that builds on dust,
And guarding calls not Thee to guard—
For frantic boast and foolish word,
Thy Mercy on Thy People, Lord!

Amen.

RUDYARD KIPLING.

The Queen and her people, never, during her long and memorable reign, brought into more intimate relations with one another than during the past few weeks, will be bound still more closely together by Her Majesty's dignified and touching letter which we publish this morning. It is a message of thanks, divested of all the formalities of a Court and filled with true human sympathies, for "the spontaneous and universal outburst of loyal attachment," from all her subjects throughout the vast Empire over which she rules, which greeted her in the streets of London on the completion of the sixtieth year of her reign. It was, indeed, a demonstration of loyalty and enthusiasm which might cause the heart of any Sovereign to swell with gratitude and pride, and as such it is appreciated by the Queen. She is not content with the official utterances that have conveyed her thanks to the nation: "What is now published is her own outspoken expression of simple, genuine, and hearty feeling. All the subjects of the Queen, both in the United Kingdom and in the colonies and dependencies of the Empire, will cordially respond to Her Majesty's gracious Message. Her people would, indeed, be dull-witted and ungrateful if, after an experience of threescore years, they were incapable of understanding the value of the Queen's long and arduous labours as a constitutional Sovereign, which have so largely contributed to strengthen the character and to confirm the usefulness of Monarchical institutions in a free State. It is pleasing to learn that the Queen knows how thoroughly her devotion to duty has been appreciated by her subjects. "In weal and woe," she writes, "I have ever had the true sympathy of all my people, which has been warmly reciprocated by myself." The exclamations of the Jubilee have stirred up emotions which cannot be suppressed. To this unique gathering of her subjects, whether home-bred or colonial, or from conquered and alien lands, the Queen says, "I would wish to thank them all from the depths of my grateful heart." She ends by praying God to bless her people and to enable her still to discharge her duties for their welfare as long as life lasts.

The deep sense of religious feeling and of moral obligation which has coloured the whole of the Queen's life will bring her heartily into unison with the spirit of the fine poem by Mr. Rudyard Kipling which we print this morning. There is a tendency, in these days, to rush into dithyrambic raptures over every great exhibition of national power. It is well that we should be reminded by a poet who, more perhaps than any other living man, has been identified with pride of Empire and with confidence in the destinies of our race, that there is a spiritual as well as a material side to national greatness. The lesson has been taught before by some of our noblest men of letters—by Milton and Wordsworth, by Burke and Carlyle. We all acknowledge its truth, in our hours of serious thought, but none the less, we need, all of us, the warning words of the seer and the bard—"Lest we forget—lest we forget!" The most dangerous and demoralizing temper into which a State can fall is one of boastful pride. To be humble in our strength, to avoid the excesses of an over-confident vanity, to be as regardful of the rights of others as if we were neither powerful nor wealthy, to shun "Such boasting as the Gentiles use, Or lesser breeds without the Law,"—these are the conditions upon which our dominion by sea and land

is based even more than on fleets and armies. At this moment of Imperial exaltation, Mr. Kipling does well to remind his countrymen that we have something more to do than to build battleships and multiply guns. All that is, of course, a matter of duty, and, indeed, of necessity; but our immense Imperial power depends for its effectiveness on the spirit that is behind it, not only on the courage and firmness of our people, not only on their patience and reasonableness, but on their strong and sincere conviction of moral responsibility. Among all the splendours of the Jubilee, among the justifiable expressions of national pride and of personal devotion to the Sovereign, this last feeling was, we rejoice to believe, a dominant note. It rings out as clearly in the simple grandeur of the Queen's message as in Mr. Kipling's stirring verse.—*The Times*.

THE BEHRING SEA DESPATCH.

No doubt seems to have been thrown by any of the great American newspapers upon the authentic character of the extraordinary despatch on the Behring Sea seal fisheries ascribed to Mr. Secretary Sherman in the *Tribune*, while several of the New York papers have commented upon it as genuine. In these circumstances we can hardly affect to regard it as suppositions, however difficult it may be to reconcile the tone and substance of the document, not merely with the ordinary usages of diplomacy, but also with the explicit declarations made by Mr. Sherman himself long after the date at which, if authentic, it must have been signed. Last Tuesday week our New York Correspondent informed us that, in consequence of rumours then in circulation, the Secretary of State had expressly denied that the despatch in question imputed bad faith to the British Government. Mr. Sherman explained that all that he had done was to lay the bare facts before the Foreign Office in the hope of securing joint action for the protection of the seals. This account of the action of the State Department was, of course, accepted as correct in this country, and tended to encourage the expectation that an amicable and business-like adjustment of the points in dispute might readily be reached. The disappointment caused by the publication of what purports to be the substance of the despatch will be all the deeper upon this account. It is quite unnecessary to use strong language in describing the document attributed to Mr. Sherman. Of the merits claimed for it by the *Tribune* one at least is indisputable. Its meaning is absolutely unmistakable. From first to last the whole point of it is to do the thing which Mr. Sherman ten days ago repudiated all intention of doing. It is a manifest attempt to fasten upon this country a charge of bad faith, and this attempt is made in offensive language. Whether this was or was not Mr. Sherman's intention when he wrote it is a subjective problem with which we need not concern ourselves. If it was not, he has shown himself singularly unfitted for the delicate and responsible duties of his high office. If it was, the statement which he is said to have made ten days ago was deliberately misleading. In either case, the tone of the Secretary of State's despatch is of a kind which no European Minister would think it consistent with the dignity of his country or with his own position in society to employ. When Mr. Sherman was first appointed to conduct the foreign affairs of the United States, doubts were entertained and even expressed in some quarters as to the wisdom of the choice. If this despatch was really sent by him, they will be fully confirmed.

It is stated that President McKinley has come to the conclusion that the publication of the correspondence of which Mr. Sherman's despatch forms the most important portion would be injurious to the progress of the pending negotiations, and that this is the reason why the papers have not been made public in an official form. This decision is perfectly intelligible if the version of the principal document given in the *Tribune* is even approximately correct. The President is credited with an honest desire to come to a friendly arrangement with us on the question of the fisheries. Naturally he would refuse to sanction the publication of a paper which is directly calculated, as any tyro in politics and indeed any man of common good sense and good feeling would tell him, to defeat his object. We must, therefore, attribute the appearance of the unfortunate composition ascribed to Mr. Sherman to the operation of other agencies, and it is by no means difficult to surmise what they may have been. The correspondence was prepared on the resolution of Senator Morgan, the well-known "Jingo," and the "Jingoes" of the Senate who have been baffled repeatedly by the moderation of the

President in their efforts to create or embitter controversies between the United States and foreign Powers, are not all persons to be restrained, by scruples of honour and loyalty, from violating their duty to the State and to its chief magistrate. If the despatch is genuine there can be little doubt that it has been made public with the connivance, if not with the active aid, of some of the "Jingo" Senators who were under a solemn obligation to treat it as confidential. Such a breach of public trust will hardly tend to revive the somewhat decayed reputation of that once illustrious body in Europe, or, as we should imagine, amongst the larger and the better class of American citizens. The voice of condemnation in regard to the despatch has already made itself heard very loudly and clearly in certain American journals, one, at least, of which is apparently quite prepared to decide the main controversy against this country without troubling itself much to investigate the merits. We shall be surprised if this tone does not become general amongst the more respectable organs of the American Press, and still more general amongst their readers, when they have had further time to consider the language addressed to a friendly Power by Mr. Sherman in the name of their country. The *Tribune*, which published the despatch, feels bound of course, to give the document an unequalled approval, but, so far as the telegraphic summary of its contents shows, it does not even attempt to argue the issues in dispute, but contents itself with general assertions as to the attitude of the two Powers, most of which are quite unfounded, and to an amiable expression of hope that England "will surely show herself, as she has done hitherto, amenable to appeals to friendship, reason, and justice." Are we to understand that the despatch comes within the American conception of such appeals? If it does not, it certainly is a most unfortunate preparation for the arguments addressed to our judgment and our sensibilities which are to follow.

The New York *Times* is not a journal which can with truth be accused of over-fastidious refinement of language or of excessive courtesy towards England. It declares that in the present controversy our Government has acted "in outrageously bad faith," and that America has "caught the English cheating." But even the New York *Times*, which apparently does not regard the phrases we have quoted as objectionable or unworthy of an influential journal engaged in the discussion of an international question, is shocked at the contents of the despatch. It assumes that America is ready to rely upon "the fairness of the British public" and upon the facts, and then asks very pertinently why these facts should be put "in the most wantonly irritating way." "It is not unfair," continues this journal, "to describe Mr. Sherman's letter as a string of insults." That is the acknowledgment which a leading newspaper that does not shrink from taxing us with "cheating" and "outrageously bad faith" feels constrained to make about an elaborate State-paper ascribed to the responsible mouthpiece of the United States in their dealings with other Powers. In Europe, it need hardly be said, such a confession would be felt to involve the deepest humiliation on the country which had to make it. It would be recognized as an acknowledgment that the most important affairs of the nation had been intrusted to hands which did not know how worthily to support the national credit for ordinary courtesy and good breeding. The comments of the New York *Post* make it clear that a similar feeling is being experienced in America. The *Post* agrees with the *Tribune* in thinking that the despatch "imputes bad faith to Great Britain." No other conclusion is indeed possible if the words of that document are taken in their ordinary and natural sense. The suggestion which it makes that the report of the British expert was tampered without any regard to "the political exigencies of the situation" is justly censured as calculated to make further negotiations difficult. If Lord Salisbury had used such a phrase, says the *Post*, "it would have been considered impertinent and insulting." But the *Post* knows better than to suppose that a document emanating from the State Department at Washington will be construed in this country by the canons habitually applied to the diplomatic correspondence of European Chancelleries. It does not derive much consolation from the fact or from the explanation to which it feels itself driven. If the phrase is not considered impertinent and insulting by Englishmen, says the American paper, "it must be because they think that Americans are not used to refined manners and do not recognize the force of words." It is not for us to question the assertion. We sympathize with the feelings which dictated it. At the same time we would remind

Americans that, as a glance at our Money Article shows, "Jingoism" has a business aspect, and that it is not an aspect favourable to the revival of American prosperity.—*The Times*.

CHARLES DICKENS AT THE END OF THE CENTURY.

The immense and almost unparalleled popularity of Dickens has, as was inevitable, suffered some diminution. The social abuses which he satirized are for the most part extinct. The social habits which he chronicled have largely disappeared. The taste for "wallowing naked in the pathetic" is not what it was. A generation has arisen which can be charitable without waiting for Christmas, and cheerful without drinking to excess. But these are small points, and it is impossible to imagine a time when Dickens will not be regarded as one of the great masters of English fiction. The late master of Balliol, a keen and fastidious critic, a refined and delicate scholar, regarded Dickens as beyond comparison the first writer of his time. It is the language of compliment and not of detraction to call him the cockney's Shakespeare. In Shakespeare he was steeped. His favourite novelist was Smollett. But his art was all his own. He was the Hogarth of literature, painting with a broad brush, never ashamed of caricature, but always an artist, and not a dauber. There is little or no resemblance between Falstaff and Sam Weller. But they are the two comic figures which have most thoroughly seized upon the English mind. Touchstone and Mr. Micawber may be each a finer specimen of his creator's powers. They are not, however, quite so much to the taste of all readers. They require a little more fineness of palate.

It must be admitted that Dickens, though not intellectually a socialist, was a very sentimental politician. He hated political economy, and he coupled with it the name of Sir Robert Peel. A gushing and impulsive benevolence, which in Dickens's case was thoroughly genuine, is often offended by the cold-blooded temper and cautious methods of parliamentary statesmanship. When Dickens began to write, public affairs were on rather a low level, and were conducted on rather a small scale. Dickens's early work was a more or less conscious revolt against fashionable shams. His novels, unlike Thackeray's, were in a sense a part of politics. They were meant to affect, and they did affect, the political temper of the nation. I sometimes wonder that the Independent Labour party does not make more of Dickens. For Dickens, though he did not trouble himself much about abstract propositions, was possessed with the idea that both political parties were engaged in preying upon the public.

To Dickens as an historical novelist imperfect justice has been done. The "Tale of Two Cities" is said to be most admired by those who admire Dickens the least. A similar remark has been made of "Edmond." The "Tale of Two Cities" is founded upon Carlyle's "French Revolution." It has no humour, or next to none. But it is a marvellous piece of writing; the plot, though simple, is excellent, and whatever may be thought about the genuineness of the pathos in "Dombey and Son," or the "Old Curiosity Shop," the tragedy of Sidney Carton is a tragedy indeed. The use of Christ's words, especially of words which occur in the burial service of the Church of England, is always a dangerous experiment. But at the end of the "Tale of Two Cities," Dickens has justified it by the reverence and the dignity of his tone. "Barnaby Rudge," the story of Lord George Gordon and his riots, is, I cannot help thinking, an underrated book. The execution of the executioner may be melodramatic. But nobody who has read the passage can ever forget it, and the rant of Sim Tappertit deserves immortality as much as the name of Dolly Varden. Of course Dickens's historical knowledge was neither wide nor deep. His most popular history is "David Copperfield," the history of himself, his own favourite among his own books, and a remarkable exception to the rule that an author is the worst judge of his own performances. I take it that the key to a proper understanding of Dickens and his work is to be found in the master-passion of the man. Dickens was a born actor. When he was not performing in private theatricals himself, he liked best to be at the play. The famous soliloquy of Jaques expressed his philosophy of life far more thoroughly than it expressed Shakespeare's. To Dickens all the world was a stage, and all the men and women merely players. When he wrote, he had in his mind not so much the way in which things would have happened as the way in which they would act. There is no "realism" in Dickens, if realism means the worship of the literal.

He drew, no doubt, as everybody must draw, from his own experience. He made ample use of his early opportunities as a reporter in the House of Commons and the courts of law. But Dickens's dramatic instinct was the strongest of his qualities, so strong that it overmastered all the others, except his humour, which was, perhaps, a part of it.

For his humour hardly any praise can be too high. It has every merit except the depth and subtlety which are found only in the greatest masters of all. About his pathos there always have been, and probably there always will be, two opinions. It differs in different books, and even in the same book. It differs, I should say, in kind as well as in degree. Little Nell and Sidney Carton scarcely seem to have a common origin. When the old washerwoman denied that one person could have written the whole of "Dombey and Son," she perhaps only meant to express enthusiastic admiration. But people sometimes mean more than they know. If any one will compare the death of Mrs. Dombey with the death of little Paul, he must be struck by the impressive beauty of the one scene and the harrowing extenuation of the other. It is hardly strange that there should be controversy when evidence can be produced on both sides. Dickens had a singularly simple and straightforward character. There is no humorous element in his pathos, and no pathetic element in his humour. He could not have drawn a Mercutio if he had tried, and he knew better than to try. He has been reproached with not understanding the upper classes, or uppermost class, or whatever the proper term may be. The point is not very important, though a man of genius ought, perhaps, to know everything and everybody. Lord Frederick Verisoph and Sir Mulberry Hawk are not creations worthy of the master. I remember a discussion in which it was said broadly that Dickens could not draw a gentleman, and the negative instance of Sir Leicester Dedlock was produced from "Bleak House." The reply was, "You forget Joe Gargery in 'Great Expectations' and to my mind the answer is conclusive.

Dickens has been called the favourite novelist of the middle classes. If the statement be true it is creditable to their good taste and freedom from prejudice. He certainly did not flatter them. He disliked Dissenters quite as much as Mathew Arnold, whereas Thackeray gave them the Clapham sect, to which they are not entitled. But the popularity of Dickens in his lifetime was in fact universal. Everybody read his books, because nobody could help reading them. His influence upon literature, apart from his contributions to it, has been disastrous. The school of Dickens, for which he cannot be held responsible, is happily at last dying out. With their disappearance from the stage, and consignment to oblivion, the reputation of the great man they injured is relieved from a temporary strain. The position of Dickens himself is unassailable and unassailable. In this or that generation he may be less read or more. He must always remain an acknowledged master of fiction and a prince of English humorists.—Herbert Paul, in the *Nineteenth Century*.

MESSAGES THROUGH SPACE.

A most interesting lecture was recently delivered by Mr. W. H. Preece, F.R.S., before a crowded house at the Royal Institution, the subject being "The transmission of signals through space without wires." The marvellous electrical waves in ether which enable signals to be made in this unique manner, are almost as wonderful as the much-talked-of Röntgen rays, and will doubtless excite as much enthusiasm in the public mind when their magical properties become more widely known. The lecturer first proceeded to show, by means of the simple and well-known experiment of suspended pith balls, how "waves" are propagated. It was with waves electricity, however, that he dealt in his lecture, and more particularly with those to which the name "Herzian" has been given, in honour of their discoverer. The history of the transmission of signals without wires does not commence with that of Herz's wonderful investigations. Some years ago it was noticed that messages which were being sent along an overhead wire in Gray's Inn-road were transmitted to a gutta-serena-covered wire lying under the street, and were, in fact, capable of being read by means of the instrument attached to that wire. Subsequent investigation showed that where two wires are running parallel, a current flowing through one will be induced in the other, even though the second wire be situated at a very considerable distance from the first. The intensity of the current will, of course, vary with the distance. Mr. Preece illustrated this phenomenon by a very beautiful experiment.

Taking a coil of wire about one foot in diameter, he placed it on a second coil, the ends of which were attached to a telephone, which gave utterance to unearthly sounds whenever a current passed through it. As soon as the current was sent by a battery round the first, a current was induced in the second coil, as shown by the sound in the telephone. As he separated the coils from one another the intensity of the sound diminished. He then explained how he had conducted an experiment of this kind on a large scale between Flatholm Island, in the Bristol Channel, and the mainland, a distance of about four miles. Both on the mainland and on the island were erected long wires, and, by passing an alternating current through one of these, messages were transmitted to the other. This novel method of telegraphy was actually adopted shortly afterwards across the Sound of Mull, when the breaking of the submarine wire had left the post office officials in a difficulty as to how to send their telegrams. After he had experimented with this kind of electric transmission of signals for a considerable time, Mr. Preece turned his attention to the Right Radiator, the principle of which, without doubt, is one of the most marvellous discoveries of the nineteenth century. Its use for signalling at long distances was suggested to him by Mr. Marconi, a young Italian who has spent much time in perfecting the instrument. It consists essentially of two solid brass spheres separated from one another by a space of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, which is filled with oil. Outside these are two smaller brass spheres, which are connected with the secondary wires of a powerful induction coil. When the instrument is at work sparks are seen flashing through the oil, and these sparks set up a vibration in the ether at the rate of about 200 billion pulsations a second. This part of the instrument is called the "transmitter." The receiver consists of a short brass tube, inside which are placed two silver bars, forming two poles, separated from each other by a space of about half a millimetre. In this space is placed a very fine powder, consisting of about 96 per cent of nickel and 4 per cent of silver, with a very small quantity of mercury. The effect of the waves from the "transmitter" is shortly to render this dust a good conductor, so that a current from a battery is able to pass through the tube. This current then magnetises a small iron bar suspended near the tube, and the result is that the bar swings round and strikes the glass, when the sound so produced acts as a signal similar to the "tap" of an ordinary telegraphic apparatus. The effect of the magnetisation of the iron is to cause the dust again to become non-conducting, so that the instrument is in its former condition. Thus a series of taps can be given by the person who is controlling the "transmitter." For the purposes of the lecture room an electric bell was introduced into the circuit of the "receiver," so that the effect of any disturbance became apparent all over the room. The first experiments with this instrument were conducted on Salisbury Plain, with the astonishing result that signals were quite easily transmitted to a distance of four miles, e.g., the "transmitter" was separated from the "receiver" by that distance. With improved apparatus messages have even been sent nine miles. But the most startling fact in connection with electrical waves is the ease with which they pass through opaque substances, and in this particular they would appear to resemble the X rays. By a series of beautiful experiments this property was proved to demonstration, and the interest of the audience was raised to the highest pitch. In the first place, the "receiver" was placed in the centre of the theatre, and the "transmitter" was set in motion on the lecture table. Instantly the electric bell, connected with the "transmitter" by no visible conductor, responded to the action of the ethereal vibrations. The "transmitter" was then placed in the cellar of the Royal Institution, when the same effect was produced; and, finally, while the "transmitter" was still in the cellar the "receiver" itself was placed inside an iron box, and still the tinkle of the bell, though somewhat weakened, was distinctly audible! With regard to the practical uses to which this marvellous discovery may be put, Mr. Preece did not say much, but it is clear that as a means of communicating with lightships and lighthouses far out at sea its application may become invaluable. There is even now a project on foot to form a telegraphic connection with the island of Sark by means of this apparatus. Furthermore, messages of the most private character might pass between two people separated from each other by blocks of houses without even being disclosed, as they are at present, to the clerks in a telegraphic office.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

GOLD IN NORTH-WEST CANADA.
FURTHER RICH DISCOVERIES.

London, August 20.
It is reported that new and rich discoveries of gold have been made on the Stewart River and Upper Yukon (in the North-West Territory of the Dominion of Canada).

TROUBLE ON THE "ROYAL SOVEREIGN."

Two members of the crew of the *Royal Sovereign* have been brought before a court-martial, on a charge of striking their captain. The commander has reported that serious discontent prevails on board, and that the *Royal Sovereign's* cells are filled with defaulters.

THE HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

London, Aug. 21.
The reply of the Hon. John Sherman, U.S. Secretary of State, to the latest Note from Japan on the Hawaiian question, is markedly friendly in tone, and repeats the assurance contained in former Notes that Japan's rights will be safe-guarded.

BRITISH WAR-SHIPS IN COLLISION.

The British torpedo-destroyer *Thrasher* (264 tons) and the second-class cruiser *Phaeton* (4,300 tons) collided in the English Channel during heavy weather. The *Thrasher* was badly damaged.

EXECUTION OF A MURDERER.

The murderer of Senor Canovas (Spanish Premier) has been executed.

ELECTRIC CABS.

Cabs propelled by electricity have started running in London.

THE CONSTANTINOPLE CONFERENCE.

The Imperial Ottoman Bank has offered to advance a million pounds to the Greek Government to pay the first instalment of the indemnity to Turkey.

London, Aug. 22.

Lord Salisbury's attitude, in regard to the negotiations for the settlement of peace between Greece and Turkey, is greatly resented by the other Powers, which accuse him of desiring to cause a disruption of the Concert of Powers. The deadlock in the negotiations still continues. Germany threatens to withdraw from the Concert unless the Article in the Treaty relating to the evacuation of Thessaly is adopted in the same form as proposed.

The Ambassadors have received a letter from the Armenian Committee similar to that of 1896, declaring that the Armenians are weary of waiting for Europe to aid them and are resolved to act for themselves.

London, Aug. 23.

Lord Salisbury has proposed that the Powers should come to an arrangement enabling Greece to raise a loan and pay off the indemnity to Turkey, the Powers exercising control over Greek finances to an extent that will suffice for securing payment of interest out of the revenue.

London, Aug. 24.

The Powers agreeing to Lord Salisbury's proposal [to make arrangements enabling Greece to raise a loan and pay off the indemnity so that Thessaly can be evacuated by the Turks at once], inquiries are now being made of Greece as to what portion of her revenues she would be able to assign towards payment of the Indemnity Loan interest.

THE INDIAN FRONTIER RISING.

London, Aug. 20.

The Porte formally and positively denies, and characterises as "malevolent," a report that an agreement had been made between the Sultan of Turkey and the Ameer of Afghanistan to foment a *jehad*, or religious war of Mahomedans, against the British.

London, Aug. 23.

The Afridi tribesmen have attacked the British forts at Ali Musjid and Maude yesterday. It is officially stated that there is reason to fear all the tribes on the Afghan frontier have risen in arms against the British. The Ameer of Afghanistan denies all responsibility for the rising, and blames the fanatical Mollahs (religious leaders of the tribes).

London, Aug. 24.

The Afridis have captured and burnt Fort Maude. The garrison (native) retired to Ali Musjid, which is surrounded and their fate is at present unknown.

THE AMERICAN MARKETS.

London, Aug. 23.

There is great excitement in the American markets, wheat having reached the price of a dollar per bushel (25 per cent. above normal).

The excitement in American wheat markets has extended to the British markets, and the price of home wheat in some places has reached 37 shillings a quarter.

[A month ago, according to latest mail papers, the price was 26 to 29 shillings.]

THE FRENCH PRESIDENT IN RUSSIA.

President Faure was accorded a grand reception at Peterhof.

PRINCE HENRY OF ORLEANS.

Prince Henry of Orleans has recovered from the wounds he received in the duel with Prince Victor Emanuel of Italy, and intends to return to Abyssinia in March next.

PRESIDENT FAURE IN RUSSIA.

London, Aug. 24.

At a banquet given by the Tsar in honour of President Faure at Peterhof, cordial toasts were exchanged, and speeches were made affirming that the visit would draw closer the powerful ties uniting France and Russia; but no word of an alliance was mentioned.

THE RUSSIAN MINISTER AND THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT.

Söul, August 21.

It appears that the matter connected with the engagement of Russian military instructors will not be settled until the arrival of the Russian Minister, Mr. Speyer, in Korea.

Söul, August 21.

Respecting the engagement of Russian military instructors, the Russian Minister has made a vigorous representation to the Korean Government reminding the latter of the existence of a promise entered into on the subject. A Cabinet meeting was convened, but no decision was taken because several Ministers were not present.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

ADMIRAL OXLEY.

Hakodate, Aug. 22nd.

H.M.S. *Grafton* left here for Yokohama yesterday to land Rear-Admiral Oxley, who leaves for home suddenly on account of the serious illness of his wife.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PRESS.)

ARREST OF CHINESE FROM A BRITISH MAN-OF-WAR.

Hakodate, August 21.

The British Consul here has protested against the arrest of some 10 Chinese belonging to a British man-of-war, who were accused of gambling.

DYSENTERY.

Mitajiri, August 22.

Dysentery is very rife here at present. Among others Mr. Yamanaka, Post-master of Miyachi, has succumbed to the disease.

Kofu, August 22.

The cases of dysentery in Yamanashi Prefecture now number 3,600, of which 500 have proved fatal.

SENTENCE FOR EMBEZZLEMENT.

Gifu, August 22.

Hirata Kumejo, an official of the 16th National Bank, who embezzled money from the Bank the other day, has been sentenced by the Local Court to three years' imprisonment and six months' police supervision.

COLLISION NEAR KOBE.

Kobe, August 23.

The evening before last the steamer *Energia* collided with the Japanese junk *Totomi Maru* off Takamatsu. One of the crew of the junk was drowned, three others being saved and this morning arrived at this port.

THE RUSSIAN COAL DEPOT IN KOREA.

Söul, August 24th.

The Korean Government has officially sanctioned the application of the Russian Minister to occupy a piece of land in Zetsuei Island for a coal depot.

INSURGENTS IN FORMOSA.

Taipei, August 24.

On the 23rd inst. about five hundred insurgents rose in the vicinity of Goshisan. A party of gendarmes under Captain Takenouchi soon met them and dispersed the rebels. Thirty of the rebels were killed by Captain Takenouchi. During the fighting the Japanese force lost only one man and three wounded. Heichosan and other localities are in a disturbed condition.

PIRATES ARRESTED.

Yamaguchi, August 24.

Four pirates who have been carrying on their avocations in the Suwo Sea and the waters of Hiroshima Prefecture during the past ten years, have been arrested by the Shimomatsu Police.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Osaka, August 25th.

To-day at 1.17 a.m. three cars of a luggage train were derailed near Nishinomiyai. In consequence, traffic on the line between Kyoto and Osaka was interrupted for some time.

FIRE AT A COTTON MILL.

Last night about 9.15 p.m. fire broke out in the store house of the Nippon Cotton Spinning Co. The loss is estimated at yen 8,000. Happily the mill itself escaped the flames. The cause of the fire is now being investigated.

EXPLOSION OF GAS IN A MINE.

Sapporo, August 25.

At the Horonai Colliery an explosion of gas occurred to-day. Six persons were wounded more or less severely.

Söul, August 26.

Mr. Li Kaei, Korean Minister to Japan, is to leave here for Japan on the 28th inst.

Chin Shokun (Chin Sang bun) Minister of War, has tendered his resignation and left the capital.

The funeral of the late Queen of Korea has again been postponed.

The Cabinet Council regarding the engagement of Russian drill-instructors has not yet been opened. Mr. Waecher will leave the Peninsula at an early date.

All the Ministers in favour of Russia, besides Chin Shokun who has resigned, are now in despair. Li Saijun, Minister of the Imperial Household, has also tendered his resignation.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.

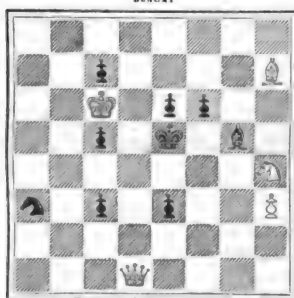
The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem No. 333:—

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Kt to R3 1—Any move
2—Q mates accordingly

Correct solution received from D.D. and W.H.S.

PROBLEM NO. 335.
By P. K. TRAXLER.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

OVER THE CHESS-BOARD.

The enthusiasm prevalent in Hongkong Chess Circles is remarkable. Apart from the many tournaments and matches that are going on during the year, there is also a constant fight kept up for the championship cup, the holder being put to the severe strain of having to meet three challengers every three weeks. This is certainly too much of a good thing and the committee is already considering the advisability of amending this rule.

The Yokohama Club, on the contrary, is closed for the summer and during its last season neither tournament nor any other Club contest was indulged in. The 4th October will see the beginning of the new season and we hope Japan's senior Club will show up better this time. At any rate, we expect a championship tourney this year, for we know of several members willing to compete for the cup, which at present is held by Mr. Griffin, the Club's champion.

We welcome back to local Chess circles His Excellency M. Wollheim, the most genial of players.

The name of the recently formed Colombo Chess Club has been changed to the "Ceylon Chess Club," Mr. Walker offering the use of the Royal College Hall for Tournament matches on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays until suitable club-rooms have been found. The club comprises now 21 members.

The first of the two correspondence games between two Kobe players and Mr. Jordan of Nagasaki, has been decided, Kobe resigning on the 26th move. We publish the game below.

The second game is a French defence and remains to be decided, 25 moves having been made so far.

GAME No. 737.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Kobe.		Black—Nagasaki.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	14 P KB4	Castles
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	15 QKt B3	BxKt
3 B Kt5	P QR3	16 RxB	Kt K3
4 BR4	Kt KB3	17 P KKt4	PxP
5 Castles	Kt xP	18 PxP	Kt Q5
6 P Q4	P QKt4	19 Q B2	Kt xR
7 B Kt3	P Q4	20 Kt xKt	Kt Q4
8 PxP	QKt K2	21 P B5	Kt xP
9 P QB3	B Kt2	22 B Kt5	Q BxQ
10 QKt Q2	Kt QB4	23 Q R4	Q Kt2
11 B B2	P Kt3	24 K B2	P KB3
12 Kt Ksq	P Q5	25 PxKtP	QxKtch
13 Q K2	B Kt2		and White resigns.

Bird and Lee were engaged during July in playing a match of five games in the public room of Simpson's Divan, 101 Strand. The first game

resulted in a victory for Mr. Lee after thirty moves. Lee had the move and adopted the Vienna opening, and, continuing with P to K Kt 3, he kept things very slow. This did not suit the veteran's lively style at all, and he ultimately lost.

Steinitz was expected to take part in the tourney of the New York State Chess Association, held at the Murray Hill Hotel, Thousand Islands, August 2nd to 7th. He was entered as a representative of the Staten Island Club, and although a protest has been made against his entry by the Manhattan Club, it is tolerably certain that the veteran will not be passed over. Harry N. Pillsbury also determined to attend the meeting as the representative of one of the clubs.

"CHESS IN THE VICTORIAN ERA."

From a very interesting article in *The British Chess Magazine* showing the progress in Chess during the last sixty years, we take the following information:—

"In 1837, Chess was the pastime of the few only—the leisureed and the opulent classes; now it is the intellectual recreation of the majority of the vast middle classes, and even the artisan is becoming a votary of the game. . . . In 1837 there was not a single periodical devoted to the interests of the game; indeed, its very existence was almost entirely ignored by the Press. In 1897, the Chess-column is a noted feature of nearly every leading weekly journal, and is further supplemented by the daily papers, which record the progress of all Chess events both at home and abroad. . . . The first International Chess-Tournament was held in London, in 1851, when the first prize was won by Professor Anderssen, by which success his claim to be considered the Chess-Champion of the World was firmly established. Since then, International Chess-Tournaments have been held in almost every part of the world. . . .

When Queen Victoria ascended the throne, Alexander McDonnell, the brilliant Irish player, had been dead two years; but his great rival, Louis Charles de Labourdonnais, was still alive. He was, then, the foremost figure in English Chess circles. He died in December, 1840, at the early age of 43. After Labourdonnais's death, the sceptre naturally fell into the hands of Howard Staunton, who, by his victory over St. Amant, in 1845, became Champion of the World. Old Löwe, Harrowitz, Horwitz, and Falkbeer gradually became more or less famous, and, finally, in 1851 Professor Anderssen won chief honours in the International Tournament, and Staunton's reign ended. Then came the palmy days of Bird, Boden, and Buckle, and many others, all young, fervid, and enthusiastic. Then came Morphy, the marvellous Chess-genius, with his splendid record of unbroken success. Morphy played brilliant Chess, because he played much better Chess than those opposed to him. Then came Steinitz with his wonderful play, which was one thing, and his wonderful theories, which are another. He, in turn, became Chess-Champion of the World by defeating Anderssen in 1866, which position he held until his defeat by Lasker in 1894. . . . Since Staunton's time (1843-51) no native Englishman has wielded the Chess-sceptre of the world."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS QUE

From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 31st 1
From Hongkong.....	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, Sept. 1st 2
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 14th 3
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Sept. 1st 4
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 4th
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 6th
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Wed'day, Sept. 8th
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 9th

- 1 Belgic left San Francisco on the 17th inst.
 - 2 City of Peking left Hon. Kong on the 24th inst.
 - 3 Fern left San Francisco via Honolulu on Aug. 24th.
 - 4 Hohenstaufen left Hongkong on Aug. 27th.
- The English mail is on board the steamer *Melpomen*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 28th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, August 29th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 3rd.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 4th.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 5th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 6th.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Sept. 10th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 14th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Chinyen Kan (18), Japanese battleship, 7,335, Capt. O. Matsumaga, 21st August,—Yokosuka.
Nestor, British steamer, 1,658, Aquith, 21st Aug.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 20th August, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, S. Tsuji, 21st Aug.—Yokkaichi, 20th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Laos, French steamer, 3,000, Flandin, 21st Aug.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 20th Aug., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 22nd August,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, 13th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Ningchow, British steamer, 1,735, H. W. Jones, 22nd August,—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,483, Saiki, 22nd Aug.—Hakodate, 20th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Howard D. Troop, British ship, 2,080, Corning, 22nd August,—New York, 21st April, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Lonsdale, British ship, 1,685, Fraser, 22nd Aug.,—Antwerp, 16th March, Coke, Pig Iron, etc.—Sale & Co.
Grafton (12), British cruiser, 7,350, Capt. E. P. Jones, 23rd August,—Hakodate, 21st Aug.
Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, C. K. McIntosh, 23rd August,—London via ports, General.—Comes & Co.
Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, H. Shinakata, 23rd August,—Kobe, 21st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Itsukushima Kan (31), Japanese coast defence vessel, 4,278, Capt. F. Hiraio, 23rd August,—Yokosuka.
Oscarschal, Norwegian steamer, 1,050, Reichtoven, 23rd August,—Hilo, Sugar.—To Order.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 23rd August,—Hongkong via ports, 14th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Selkirkshire, British barque, 1,192, Babender, 23rd August,—Portland, Or., 23rd May, Lumber.—H. Ahrens & Co.
Pelican, British steamer, 2,160, Alex Gove, 23rd August,—Tacoma, Wash., 30th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, 24th August,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Yeiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Anderson, 24th August,—Otaru, 21st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,500, J. B. MacMillan, 24th August,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Shanghai, British steamer, 1,672, E. R. Dowell, 25th Aug.—London via ports, and Kobe, 24th August, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Kamakura Maru, Japanese str., 3,600, Trennt, 25th August,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, I. Miyagi, 25th August,—Yokkaichi, 24th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Makihara, 26th August,—Kobe, 24th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 26th August,—San Francisco 5th Aug., and Honolulu 15th Aug., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Maria Valerie, Australian steamer, A. Leva, 26th August,—Tientsin via ports, and Kobe 24th August, General.—Browne & Co.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Kitahara, 26th August,—Yokkaichi, 25th Aug., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Cromarty, British steamer, 1,789, W. Duncan, 22nd August,—Mororan, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Lidin, 22nd August,—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, De la Lande, 23rd August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Middleham Castle, British steamer, 1,920, Valentine, 23rd August,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,500, J. B. MacMillan, 23rd August,—Yokosuka, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, T. Tibbals, 23rd Aug.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Kitahara, 23rd Aug.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Genogla, British steamer, 2,398, K. J. Gasson, 23rd August.—Kuchinotsu, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,488, Madsen, 23rd August.—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 24th August.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,019, C. H. Kemp, 24th August.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 24th Aug.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Arab, British steamer, 2,674, N. D. Wills, 24th August.—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Chinyen Kan (18), Japanese battleship, 7,335, Capt. O. Matsunaga, 24th August.—Yokosuka.

Matsushima Kan (28), Japanese steel coast defence vessel, 4,278, Capt. R. Sawa, 24th Aug.—Yokosuka.

Isumi Kan (16), Japanese cruiser, 2,967, Captain G. Hayasaki, 24th August.—Yokosuka.

Itsukushima Kan (31), Japanese coast defence vessel, 4,278, Capt. F. Hirao, 24th August.—Yokosuka.

Prinzess Wilhelm (22), German cruiser, 4,400, Captain Thiele, 24th August.—Kobe.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, C. Hillcoat, 25th August.—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kwanon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Z. Yasuno, 25th Aug.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, W. Thompson, 25th August.—Seattle, Washington, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 25th August.—Portland, Or., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,658, Asquith, 25th Aug.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Tetartos, German steamer, 1,578, Cruelsen, 25th August.—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 25th Aug.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O.S.S. Co.

Grafton (12), British cruiser, Capt. E. P. Jones, 25th August.—Kinkasan.

Pelican, British steamer, 2,160, Alex Gove, 26th August.—Taku, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Laos*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Alex. de Maximow, Mr. Renault, Mr. J. H. de Reuss, Mr. Henri, Lieut. C. W. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Danenbug, Mr. J. Martinez, Mr. M. Sienra, Mr. and Mrs. Favre, Mr. B. Wolf, Mr. Kerounnes, Mr. A. Levy, Mr. Schnob, Mr. H. Russell, Mr. H. Van Bonsdorff, Mr. A. Nicolle, Mr. Ph. Geedkoop, and Mr. Bars, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Lazarus, Mr. F. Maury, Mr. F. Kiene, Mrs. Hansell, child, infant and amah, and one Chinese in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. R. W. Borthwick, Mr. & Mrs. S. Benjamin, Mr. R. Finch, Mr. G. Thomas, Mr. J. Westphalen, Mr. M. Blumer, Mr. W. B. Walker, Miss Gray, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Mr. F. H. Bugbird, Mr. A. Nierheim, Mr. and Mrs. T. Hunt, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mr. G. Reid, Lieut. S. H. R. Carter, R.N., Dr. J. B. Hartwell, Rev. J. Rossi, Judge G. H. Saunders, Lieut. F. de Grafe, I.R.N., and Mrs. Hartwell, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Colonel Masumitsu, Capt. A. Thomsen, His Excellency Mr. and Mrs. Speyer, child, and nurse, Mr. W. S. Kahnweiler, Mr. Alexander de Maximow, Miss J. Nering Bogel, Miss A. Nering Bogel, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Joyce, Mr. T. Yamada, Mr. A. Wilm, Mrs. J. Sumimura, Rev. and Mrs. Geo. Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. G. Worth and 2 children, Miss Kate L. Ogborn, Miss Clara E. Merrill, Mr. D. Werschlagin, Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Caldwell and 3 children, Mr. J. Y. McGinnis, Mrs. Sykes and daughter, in cabin; Messrs. S. Motoda, Y. Kaburaki, Mr. K. Kanada, Mr. K. Kishiyama, Mr. S. Fujiwara, and Mr. Yue Hung Kyah, in 2nd class; 5 Chinese and 25 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Martin Burchard, Dr. and Mrs. S. D. Brooks, Lieut. O. H. Bonham-Carter, R.N., Mr. John Farrell, Lieut. Edouard de Grofe, I.R.N., Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Hartwell, Col. & Mrs. Karnieff, Miss Lamme, Mr. T. W. Markley, Mrs. C. G. Mitchell, the Misses Mitchell (3), Mr. A. W. Markley, Mrs. Nevills, Admiral C. L. Oxley, R.N., Miss Pierce, Mr. Gilbert Reid, Rev. J. Rossi, Mr. Wm. Roth, Judge G. H. Saunders, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Dr. R. Vogel, Mr. H. Windt, and Mr. W. H. Whiting, in cabin.

Per Hawaiian str. *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Ignacio Altamiro, Mr. Rodrigo Azperes, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Berdan, Mr. C. M. Cole, Lieut. and Mrs. T. Connolly and children, Miss Dogura, Baron Henri Foy, Mr. Aubry Fair, Mr. L. Ruessler, Hon. O. Gude, Mrs. Goodenham, Miss M. B. Ingels, Miss Tetsu Ito, Mr. Kitimura, Mr. and Mrs. B. Komatsu, Mr. A. Langfeldt, Captain J. W. Lee, Mrs. E. S. Large, Miss Kate Large, Dr. L. L. Moore, Mr. S. L. Moore, Mr. G. T. Marsh, Lieut. J. A. Norris, Miss Rohbaugh, Miss S. Spencer, Miss Kate Shaw, Mr. E. J. Shaw, Mr. J. A. Thomas, Mr. Webb Vincent, Hon. M. Wollheim, Mr. R. Wildman, Mrs. Wildman, child and maid, Dr. H. C. Whiting, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Weld, in cabin. For Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Cady and 4 children, Mr. & Mrs. G. Gardner, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Dr. W. H. Abercrombie, and Mr. S. Von Joudzoff, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. K. A. Alexneff, Dr. and Mrs. S. L. Baldwin, Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Bear and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. W. P. Bently and 2 children, Miss L. Bancroft, Dr. and Mrs. Hunter Corbett and 4 children, Rev. S. H. Chester, Mrs. H. Du Bose, Master Du Bose, Miss Du Bose, Mr. H. Garfield, Miss Lowery, Rev. and Mrs. H. Lowery, Miss Milliken, Miss G. Martin, Miss M. Mansfield, Mrs. V. Porter, Miss H. Wilson, and Rev. Jno. Wherry, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. P. G. McDonnell, Mr. & Mrs. L. A. Choy and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Rennie, and Mr. H. P. White, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SHANGHAI	HONGKONG	YOKOHAMA	AMOI	TOTAL
Shanghai	3,102	565	2,186	—	4,853
Hongkong	421	—	1,251	—	801
Yokohama	1,282	—	—	—	1,282
Amoy	335	—	—	—	335
Total	5,141	1,358	3,561	—	805

SILK.

	SHANGHAI	HONGKONG	YOKOHAMA	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	591	—	591
Hongkong	—	280	—	280
Yokohama	—	969	—	969
Total	—	1,840	—	1,840

Per Japanese steamer *Kagoshima Maru*, for Seattle, Wash.:—

TEA.

From Kobe:—Canada 1,470, Chicago & West 1,982, and New York and East 281. From Yokohama:—Chicago and West 539, and New York and East 882 packages.

Per British str. *Monmouthshire*, for Portland, Oregon:—

TEA.

	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL
Amoy	—	2,545	—	2,545
Poochow	1,819	—	812	3,105
Shanghai	217	1,156	1,141	3,003
Hongkong	2,798	—	—	2,798
Yokohama	3,019	1,253	310	4,582
Total	7,863	2,409	5,108	15,409

SILK.

	SHANGHAI	HONGKONG	YOKOHAMA	TOTAL
Hongkong and Canton	92	—	—	92
Shanghai	90	—	—	90
Yokohama	1,087	—	—	1,087
Total	1,269	—	—	1,269

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The little spurt in the market reported last week has died out and business generally is worse than last, the only transactions recorded in shittings, fancies or woollens being on a very small scale for immediate requirements. Quotations for raw cotton have made a big jump, amounting to a rise of from \$4 to \$5 per picul. This is probably owing to the falling off in the supply from Bombay.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER PICUL.
Grey Shittings—8 1/2 yds, 38 1/2 in.	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shittings—9 1/2 yds, 45 in.	2.80 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 38 in.	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shittings—12 yds, 44 in.	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 in.	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Saltean Black, 30 in.	0.18 1/2 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 in.	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42-3 in.	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 in.	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 in.	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb, 24/25 yds, 32 in.	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb, 24/25 yds, 32 in.	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—30 yds, 32 in.	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 in.	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 in.	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Common	0.15 to 0.22
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 21 yds, 31 in.	0.15 to 0.22
Clothes—Pilots, 51 @ 5 1/2 in.	0.15 to 0.50
Clothes—President, 51 @ 5 1/2 in.	0.60 to 0.75
Clothes—Union, 51 @ 5 1/2 in.	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 5 to 5 1/2 lb.	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$39.00 to 41.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	45.00 to 48.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 3/60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 3/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 3/100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 3/60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 3/100, Gassed	116.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	\$28 to 29
Indian Broach	24 to 25
Chinese	25 to 26

Pig iron seems likely to be a drag on the market before long. Besides heavy arrivals during the past month, five or six cargoes are known to be on their way out. With this in view buyers will make no offer at present, expecting to have things their own way shortly. Very little has been done in any lines during the past week, and quotations remain nominally the same.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square 4 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.50
Galvanized iron sheets	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Fin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.10 to 2.30
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

KEROSENE.

Very little business has been transacted, demand being dull, and quotations remain unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
American	\$2.00 to 2.05
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

A small but steady business has been done during the week in Brown, principally Manila, at current rates. White refined remains quiet and quotations unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Tahao	\$36.5 to 37.5
Brown Manila	43.5 to 50.5
Brown Daitong	2.90 to 3.30
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Less doing but prices well maintained. Holders are strong but shippers do not apparently care to go on with heavy shipments at present rates. Shipments include 132 piculs by the *Empress of China*, 1,120 piculs by the *Monmouthshire*, and 969 piculs by the *Gaelic* for America, and 1,088 piculs by the *Saghalien*, for Europe.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER PICUL.
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$890 to 900
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	820 to 803
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	815
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	815
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	810
Kakedas—No. 1	780
Kakedas—No. 14	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 2	760
Kakedas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

A few small transactions but not enough to make a market. By next week we may be able to furnish quotations for Noshi and Kibiso.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	—

TEA.

Buying has been brisk during the week, in spite of an accumulation of stocks at New York, and the poor quality of the second crop. Sales in Yokohama total about 435,000 cattie and 165,000 cattie in Kobe. Prices generally have run from \$19.50 to \$30 per picul, and are still well maintained. Shipments have been 382,069 lbs. by the *Empress of China*, 321,990 lbs. by the *Monmouthshire*, 90,431 lbs. by the *Gaelic*, and 78,845 lbs. by the *Kagoshima Maru*, all for American and Canadian ports. Total shipments of the season to date are 19,449,377 lbs.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$28 to 32
Finest	28 to 32
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	21 to 22
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	16 to 18

EXCHANGE.

Silver is still quoted below 24d. the ounce and exchange is consequently at its lowest.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 to 2/5
— Bills on demand ...	2/0 1/2 to 1/4
— 4 months' sight	2 0 1/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2 0 1/8
— 6 months' sight	2 0 1/4
On Paris—Bank sight	2 52 to 1
— Private 4 months' sight	2 56
On Hongkong—Bank sight	11 0 d
— Private 10 days' sight	12 0 d
On Shanghai—Bank sight	86 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	87 1/2
On India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2 to 1
— Private 4 months' sight	50
On Germany—Bank sight	1 04
— Private 4 months' sight	1 08
Bar Silver (London)	23 1/2 to 1/4

ATKINSON'S

NEWEST PERFUME

AOLINE

"Most Refreshing."

NICE ALWAYS, BUT DELICIOUSLY REVIVING IN HOT OR CROWDED ROOMS.

A true natural perfume made from flowers. Not a Chemical Preparation.

"AOLINE" PERFUME. "Most Refreshing."

"AOLINE" TOILET SOAP

for the complexion. "AOLINE" TOILET POWDER. Imparts a delightful bloom to the complexion.

"AOLINE" SACHETS. Delightful for Handkerchiefs, Gloves, &c.

"AOLINE" TOILET CREAM. Softening and beautifying for the complexion.

Of all Chemists and Stores.

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37

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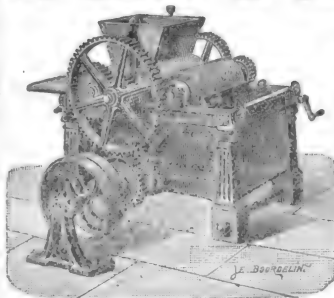
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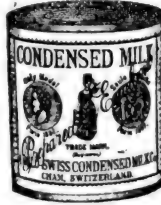
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48ins.

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To be had of all Storekeepers and Dealers.

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Keeps good in the hottest
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No. 156, Bluff, Yokohama,—SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1897.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 10.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPT. 4TH, 1897.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 4TH, 1897.

BIRTH.

On August 6th, at St. Edwin's, Robinson Street, Cinnamon Gardens, Colombo, the wife of J. K. TRAFFORD, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

On Monday, the 30th August, at 217B, Bluff, CARL SON of Leopold Abenheim, aged 24 years.

At Ikao, on the 2nd instant, CHARLES GEORGE BUCHANAN-DUNLOP.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SPRAY won the "Molly Bawn Cup" last week.

THE Colonization Department has been dissolved.

RUSSIA is to establish Consulates at Fusan and Gensan, Korea.

THE Constantinople conference still drags its weary length along.

SOME aquatic sports will take place in Yokohama harbour next week.

THE Indian frontier is quieter this week; and progress is reported along the Nile.

MR. HOSHI TORU, Japanese Minister to the United States, will, it is said, return home short-

ly, leaving Washington about the middle of September.

RINDERPEST has broken out at Osaka and Nagasaki.

THE new Japanese battle-ship *Fuji* arrived at Malta on the 27th ult., en route for Japan.

By the cave-in of a tunnel on the O-U railway on the 1st inst., 17 workmen lost their lives.

THE new Japanese cruiser *Takasago* arrived at Port Said, en route for Japan, on the 27th Aug.

THE ports of Mokpho and Chinnampo in Korea were opened to foreign trade on the 1st Sept.

MR. C. G. BUCHANAN DUNLOP, an old resident of Yokohama, died at Ikao on Thursday, of dysentery.

THE Second Fisheries Exhibition in Japan was opened on Sept. 1st, at Kobe, by Prince Komatsu.

MARQUIS ITO and suite are expected to arrive at Yokohama about the 5th of September by the *Empress of Japan*.

VISCOUNT AOKI, Minister to Germany, arrived in Japan on the 31st ult. by the N. D. L. mail steamer *Hohensollern*.

Two hundred and thirty-one Japanese labourers of both sexes returned from Hawaii on the 26th ult. by the steamer *China*.

THE new Foreign Language School in the Higher Commercial School, Kanda, Tokyo, was to be opened on the 1st of September.

THE Kobu, Nippon, Osaka, Sanyo, Kynshu, Sobu, Chikuhō and Kansai Railway Companies are conferring on the question of raising their passengers rates.

It is reported that the United States Government has imposed a special tax of 10 per cent. *ad valorem* on silk goods imported into the United States through Canada.

AN Agricultural and Commercial Bank is to be established in Shizuoka Prefecture with a capital of yen 1,000,000, of which yen 300,000 are to be granted by the Treasury.

THE Colonization Department was abolished by Imperial Ordinance on the 1st inst., and a Formosa Administration Bureau, under the direct control of the Premier, established in its place.

THE Minister of Communications has issued a notification requiring that all accidents which may occur on railway lines, shall be reported to the Communications Department without delay.

ON the 24th ult. at the Naetsu Railway Station, a locomotive while entering the station ran off the rails, breaking through a fence into the street; but happily no accident occurred to life or limb.

A RETICULE containing three \$5 gold pieces, these Japanese bank notes and a pair of gold rimmed spectacles, the property of Mrs. Buck, was stolen from the U.S. Legation on the 25th ultimo.

MR. E. D. VON WALKER, Vice-Consul for the Netherlands, who has been transferred to Shanghai, has been succeeded by Mr. J. H. Dole, Consul, who recently arrived at Yokohama to take charge of the Consulate.

ON the 23rd ult., while horse-races were going on at Tokaichi in Hiroshima Prefecture, the stand on which a number of spectators were sitting suddenly gave way and some scores of

persons were more or less seriously wounded three it is feared, fatally.

It is reported that the firm of Sassoon & Co. of Bombay, owners of an extensive Cotton Spinning Mill, will shortly open a branch at Kobe, to import Bombay raw cotton and export Japanese yarns to China.

THE Quarantine inspection stations at Nagahama (Yokohama), Kagoshima, Moji, and Wadamisaki for vessels coming from Formosa and Amoy have been closed, now that the plague epidemic at those places has been stamped out.

A scheme has been decided on by the Railway Bureau for the construction of a central railway station and a number of elevated railway lines in Tokyo. It is expected that the work will be undertaken by the Japan Railway Company.

THE epidemic of dysentery is increasing alarmingly in many parts of the country; on the 23rd ult., the cases numbered 1,793 and deaths 383; on the 24th, 1,029 and deaths 222; and on the 25th, 1,754 cases and deaths 355. The latest returns show over 3,000 cases.

THE loss of life and damage from the recent floods and landslips in Niigata Prefecture was as follows:—By floods: persons drowned 94, wounded 57, houses washed away 284, houses damaged 1,102, houses flooded above floor 31,996. By landslips: persons crushed to death 81, wounded 42, houses demolished 288, houses damaged, 431.

THE silk market at Yokohama since the beginning of August has shown very bright prospects. According to investigations made by the Mogi Shoten, the silk trade from the 1st of June up to the 25th inst. was as follows:—Stock brought from previous year, 5,523 bales; arrivals, 25,827 bales; sold, 17,525 bales; sent back to interior, 3,198, and remaining stock 7,071 bales, of which 1,309 are awaiting delivery.

THE Import market during the past week has been more inactive even than is usual at the hot season, owing to the general feeling of uncertainty as to how the change in the currency next month will affect business, and the continued fall in silver. In piece goods nothing at all has been done, with the exception of a solitary transaction each in Turkey Reds and Velvets. Yarns and woollens have suffered the same, and very little business has been done in metals, quotations remaining unaltered. Kerosene is still dull, but demand is expected to spring up shortly and prices are likely to harden. There is plenty of stock both ashore and afloat to supply all probable requirements. Some business has been done in brown sugar at somewhat lower quotations, arrivals of Manila, China and Formosa sorts being considerable. Very little has been done in refined white. The Export market has been fairly brisk, purchases of raw silk having been considerable, and would have been larger were dealers disposed to reduce their demands a little. Total settlements from 1st July to date amount to 11,575 piculs. Next to nothing has yet been done in waste silk. Tea buyers still continue to purchase freely, particularly of the good medium to finest sorts, at well maintained prices. It is reported that the picking of the third crop will be discontinued in a week's time in several districts. Shipments from May 1st to date amount to 19,970,000 lbs., some two million pounds more than last year at same date, but less than the average of five previous years. Exchange has, it is hoped, reached its bottom level.

SPRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

According to the views of the *Fuji Shimpō* the Japanese people are somewhat intoxicated by their country's success in the late war with China. Men that grew suddenly rich during the war or have amassed wealth by taking clever advantage of the conditions arising in the sequel of the war, appear to think that no further exertions are needed; that the time has come to eat, drink and be merry; that building handsome houses, laying out beautiful gardens, collecting works of art, forming reunions of dilettanti, and erecting monuments, are the chief businesses of life. Others retire on their gains and devote themselves solely to ease and luxury. Yet the truth is that although the State has undoubtedly been raised by its warlike successes to a position of consideration in the world, and has obtained admission to the comity of nations, its difficulties have been augmented in a very much larger ratio than its prestige has been increased. There now devolve on it in connexion with its new position obligations that will tax its abilities and resources to the utmost. Its foreign affairs present most disquieting features. Rest and indolence are absolutely forbidden to any patriotic subject. If men find that they have money to spend upon luxuries like gardens, villas, objects of virtu and so forth, their duty as lovers of their country is to devote every yen to national purposes, as the building of war-ships and the equipping of fortifications, or the furnishing of funds for purposes of foreign policy.

The old complaint which used to be so often made by foreign critics of Japan is now once more up taken up by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*; the complaint that the spirit of independent enterprise is lacking in Japan, and that people are still prone to rely upon official guidance. No explicit grounds for the statement are adduced. Our contemporary is satisfied to rely on its own undemonstrated conclusion. It quotes the case of France after the war with Germany as an illustration of the great results that can be achieved by a nation when its units rely upon their own exertions and initiative, but its analysis of France's history is somewhat peculiar. For, while admitting that the disasters suffered in the war spurred a proud and patriotic people to immense efforts, it appears to think that the extreme instability of French Cabinets and the volatile character of French policy weaned the nation at large from placing any reliance on the Government in the domain of industry and commerce, and thus indirectly contributed to the development of a wholesome spirit of individual enterprise—a spirit which worked wonders, and in an incredibly short space of time, carried the country to a higher pinnacle than ever of material prosperity and military strength. It is much to be desired, says the *Nichi Nichi*, that a similar disposition would show itself among the Japanese.

In the same article—which partakes of the character of a general exhortation—the *Nichi Nichi* addresses a warning to the Government. Recalling Sir Charles Dilke's dictum that, although he advocated most heartily an adequate increase of the country's armaments, he could not hide from himself the fact that their increase beyond a certain point must impair, rather than promote, the maintenance of peace, our contemporary reminds the Authorities and the nation that the steps taken by Japan to develop her army and navy have already created uneasiness in the minds of foreign statesmen, and the consummation of the programme should be accompanied by earnest efforts to convince the world that Japan's prime object is the preservation of tranquillity in the East.

The *Nippon* has an interesting article on the subject of the conditions in the Pacific Ocean. It commences with the Japanese Navy and the basis of its increase. When the war with China broke out, Great Britain, Russia, China and

Japan were thus represented in Far Eastern waters:—

	Ships.	Tons displacement.
Great Britain	19.....	42,000
Russia	10.....	25,000
Japan.....	28.....	58,000
China.....	52.....	70,000

With respect to China and Japan, however, it is to be noted that the number of sea-going ships fit for battle possessed by Japan was only 13 (out of a total of 28) with an aggregate tonnage of 42,000, and that the corresponding figures in China's case were 19 and 49,000. The conclusion to be drawn from these statistics is that the Japanese Government at that time took the British squadron as a standard of comparison, and the Russian Government's naval arrangements were on a defensive basis. The result of the war was that China's naval power was completely shattered, and some of her best ships passed into Japan's possession. Moreover, Japan has since then been busily increasing her navy, so that it now comprises 45 vessels with an aggregate displacement of 109,000 tons; of which the battle-worthy section may be put at 19 with a displacement of 60,000. Two line-of-battle ships, the *Fuji* and the *Yashima*, will very soon be added, however, so that the strength may be put at 21 ships with a total displacement of 85,000 tons. On the other hand, Great Britain and Russia have not been standing still. Russia seems to have changed her defensive armament to an offensive: she has 16 ships with a total displacement of 55,000. England, meanwhile, has raised her Squadron to 26 vessels with a displacement of 64,000. Nor is England content with that increase. She appears to have decided upon raising her Far-Eastern squadron of second class cruisers—of the *Immortalité* and *Narcissus* type—to six vessels, and upon sending out the *Powerful*, so that she will soon have a fighting force of 29 vessels with a total displacement of 109,000 tons. Turning now to Russia, it is understood that she contemplates adding to her Pacific fleet within the course of the present year, the first-class cruiser *Rosnia*, of 12,130 tons, the *Vladimir Monomach* of 5,796 tons, and a gun-boat of 936 tons, so that her squadron will number 19 vessels with a total displacement of 75,000 tons. It will thus be seen that while England's naval force in these waters will soon be superior to Japan's, Russia's will be well able to hold its own against this country. The general survey indicates that the Pacific Ocean has become the naval arena of the Great Sea Powers. England's activity is not limited to ships. She is increasing her dock accommodation at Hongkong, and she seems to be bent on carrying out the policy suggested by Sir Henry Keppel some years ago; namely, that of making Singapore her second great basis for Far-Eastern purposes. Hitherto she has been virtually content with Hongkong, but Singapore is now to have one big dock, probably two, added to its facilities, and is to be treated as a place of the utmost importance; which, indeed, it is, for it occupies the position of a kind of gate, between the West and East. Every ship, whether French, German or Russian, making its way from Europe to the Far East has to call at Singapore. Going a little farther afield, we find that Great Britain recently occupied Palmyra, an island lying in the middle of the Pacific, almost as centrally situated as Hawaii. That was undoubtedly England's precaution against the annexation of Hawaii by the United States. Holding the group to which Palmyra island belongs, she can have a coaling station in mid-Pacific, and a telegraph station, also, if she pleases. Russia, ever since, 26 years ago, she changed her naval basis in the Far East to Vladivostok, has spared no pains to strengthen and improve the latter place. She has spent large sums on its fortification; last June, she opened a big dock there, the work of several years; and she has now made such arrangements for ice-crushing that the port will be open all the year round. Still, as a place so far north does not suit all her purposes, she is directing her attention to obtaining other ports in China and Korea. Circumstances do not lend themselves to the immediate acquisition of such ports, but looking at the relations between Rus-

sia and China, it is impossible to avoid the conviction that Port Arthur will not be left permanently as it is at present. It is generally reported, also, that the St. Petersburg Government has asked Korea to lease to Russia a part of Chol-yong island. France, also, has given unmistakable signs of activity. She is not content with her position at Saigon, and seeks a basis of operations farther north. Germany also obeys a similar impulse. It was for that these two Powers sided with Russia in the Liaotung crisis. Moreover, Germany has greatly increased her naval force in the Far East, though it still remains of comparatively insignificant dimensions—7 ships with a tonnage of 12,000. Finally, the United States of America has entered the Pacific arena. If America annexes Hawaii, her flag will soon be seen much more frequently in these waters than it is at present. The lesson taught by this survey is that Japan's efforts to increase her national armaments are not regarded with indifference by Western Powers. For every thousand tons that she adds to her naval forces, they too add a thousand, and it is evident that such a competition may easily be carried far beyond the limits of Japan's resources. England maintains a fleet that can defy the world combined, but if she does so, it is because her immense wealth sanctions the effort. Japan is without that necessary preliminary. Still she must not suppose that what she is doing now will suffice. Her present programme provides fully for only three naval districts, with admiralty stations at Yokosuka, Kure and Sasebo. Partial provision is made for a fourth with an admiralty at Maizumi. But a fifth district will unquestionably have to be added in the north, with an admiralty station at either Muroan or Ominato, and a sixth must be provided for in Formosa. On the whole, the country must look forward to doubling its present naval programme, and it will probably have to raise a foreign loan for the purpose by hypothecating the customs revenue. It is because of that prospect that the *Nippon* opposes the increase of the army. Military and naval expansions simultaneously are not undertaken even by England.

The *Hochi Shimbun* contrasts the facts of Japan's situation with the aspirations that she entertained after the war. She imagined, then, that she had made for herself a name, and established a title to the world's consideration, but her record at present does not bear out that idea. In Korea her influence has waned, and the fruits of her victory have slipped from her grasp. In China, she has made a fine treaty, but the profits of its privileges are likely to be enjoyed by others. In Europe, the French seem disposed to recede from the treaty already concluded by them, and Austria-Hungary is raising all kinds of difficulties. In America, prohibitive rates are imposed on articles of Japanese manufacture, and the annexation of the Sandwich Islands without regard to her conventionally acquired interests, is contemplated. Even little Hawaii snaps its fingers at her. Finally, in Formosa she has not proved her administrative capacity, or succeeded in bringing the island completely under subjection. Turning, again, to domestic affairs, the finances are found to be in disorder, and the development of industrial enterprise is checked by want of capital. It is a most discouraging outlook, when presented as the *Hochi* presents it, but our contemporary urges its countrymen not to lose heart. The troubles now so thick are only temporary, and can be remedied by resolute and persevering effort.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has two articles the object of which is to advocate the imposition of a tax on sugar as the best device now available for increasing the income of the State. Sugar, according to our contemporary's figures, is one of the only articles of daily consumption that has not shared the general rise of prices. Ten years ago, one catty of the best refined sugar was equivalent in price to 3 *shō* of rice; a catty of medium-quality sugar, to 2 *shō*, and a catty of brown sugar to 1 *shō*. Now, the correspond

ing equivalents in rice are from 8 to 9 *go* for best quality sugar; from 6 to 7 *go* for medium, and 4 *go* for brown. (One *go* is the tenth part of one *sho*.) Our contemporary then adduces general considerations to show that sugar is a proper article of taxation, mentioning, among other things, that while the upper classes have to pay a tax of 7 *sen* on every *sho* of *sake* drunk by them, the lower classes pay nothing at all on their sugar; and that even a necessary article like kerosene is subjected to a heavier impost than a comparative luxury like sugar. The new British Tariff provides that the tax upon refined sugar shall not exceed 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, but the fourth article of the Protocol says that if Japan thinks it necessary at any time to levy an additional duty on the production or manufacture of refined sugar in her own dominions, she may make a corresponding addition to the import duty on foreign sugar. Hence no Conventional obstacle stands in the way of the *Yomiuri's* scheme. As to the revenue that would be obtained, the proposal is to put a tax of 4 *sen* per catty on the first quality; 3.5 *sen* on ordinary white sugar and 1.5 *sen* on brown sugar. The domestic production of brown sugar is now 116 million catties and that of white sugar 8 millions. From the former, an income of 1,740,000 *yen* would be obtained, and from the latter 280,000 *yen*, or a total of 2,020,000 *yen* from both kinds. Turning to foreign sugar, the importation last year was 134,072,561 catties of white, and 91,808,779 catties of brown, the revenue from which would be 4,692,784 *yen*, and 1,377,131 *yen* respectively, making a total of 6,069,915 *yen*. In order to show the net increase resulting from the proposal, it is necessary to deduct the customs dues now levied and the dues that would be levied on refined sugar under the new British Tariff. The revenue from imported sugar then becomes 4,860,000 *yen*, and adding the revenue from domestic sugar, as shown above, the final result is an addition of 6,880,000 *yen* to the Treasury's assets.

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. N.W. MCIVOR.

"He was a veray parfit gentil knight," sang Chaucer five hundred years ago, and this was the burden of the refrain in all that related to the farewell dinner tendered to Mr. Consul-General McIvor on Monday evening by the members of the Yokohama United Club. About eighty sat down under the presidency of Mr. W. J. S. Shand, who had on his right the guest of the evening, Mr. N. W. McIvor, and on his left Mr. James Troup, Her Majesty's Consul General, while next to Mr. McIvor sat Mr. Justice Wilkinson. The Vice-chairs were filled by Mr. W. Ross, and Mr. H. J. Snow. After a *recherche* repast, the Chairman in a few felicitous phrases proposed the toast of the evening. He alluded to the regret felt at his departure by every member of the Club who knew Mr. McIvor; touched on his eminent social qualities; his services on the Committee of the Club; his abilities in his chosen walk of life, and then wished him God-speed and all success and prosperity in his native country, to which he was on the eve of returning. The *Olympia* band, which during dinner had played a splendid selection of music, struck up the "Star-splangled banner" as the Chairman finished speaking: then the toast was drunk up-standing with musical honours. Mr. McIvor acknowledged the kindness shown him in feeling terms. He spoke of the happy times he had enjoyed in the Y.U.C., dilated upon its many clubbable qualities, and continued—"One lesson you have taught me. I came here in utter ignorance of such a principle, but I stand before you to-night a convert to it. You are the missionaries who have brought it to my knowledge. You may be surprised that I charge you with being missionaries, but I charge you only with what is good in such a cognomen. You have taught me that the kinship of mankind is broader, is stronger, is a better reliance than even national patriotism.—(Hear, hear.) I came here an American and I leave here an Ameri-

can. But I have learnt here among you that rare lesson. It is, that there can be developed here a friendship that rises superior to any limits that nationality may seem to impose." In humorous terms, the speaker referred to his service on the Committee and then concluded with expressions of sincere regret at having to part with so many loved friends. Mr. Justice Wilkinson, in response to strenuous calls, made a choice little speech, introducing "a slight touch of the brogue" with fine effect. Said he, "Eighteen years and a half ago ye 'waked' me and here I am, after all those years, most substantially resurrected. I can only hope, should Providence will it, that the corpse whom ye are 'waking' this night, when resurrected here will appear among us with less grey hair than I own to." Loud applause greeted the happy sally. Mr. Consul-General Troup, who followed, craved pardon for not possessing the ready Irish wit of the previous speaker, and then paid a high meed of praise to Mr. McIvor as an official and a man. Mr. A. C. Read, in response to calls, next spoke of games that he had played in the Club with Mr. McIvor; games that certainly were not played

On a cloth untrue,
With a twisted cue,
And elliptical billiard balls.

Mr. Read's remarks were most entertaining and received punctuation in hearty applause. Dr. Eldridge, Hawaiian Consul; Mr. B. C. Howard, and Capt. Gridley, of the U.S. Flagship *Olympia*, also spoke, while before the evening closed Mr. Hyde Pearson gave the toast of Mrs. McIvor, which was heartily received. Songs were contributed by Mr. A. C. Read, Mr. G. Middleton, Mr. Townley, Mr. Coghill Jackson, Mr. Bevis, Mr. Showler, Mr. Wilder, and a violoncello solo by Mr. Davis.

INCREASE OF THE CURRENCY.

According to the *Shogyo*, the increase of currency since the late war with China is surprising. The following shows the amount in circulation during the first half of each of the past three years:—

	1897. Yen.	1896. Yen.	1895. Yen.
January	291,326,879	273,022,178	210,094,669
February	282,538,414	260,777,804	236,624,655
March	280,357,098	258,672,035	235,691,656
April	277,744,319	255,473,484	235,268,436
May	286,083,143	266,204,075	234,015,643
June	292,014,629	271,750,606	243,719,397

The above figures constitute the aggregate of convertible notes issued, Government and bank paper, and gold, silver, copper, and nickel coins in circulation at the end of each month. Thus we learn that the national currency at the end of June this year reached the amount of two hundred and ninety millions of *yen*, showing an increase of twenty millions as compared with the corresponding period of last year, and of forty-eight millions as compared with the year before last. An increase of fifty million *yen* in the currency within three years is a phenomenon which can hardly fail to excite public wonder. This rapid expansion in the volume of the currency has naturally led to a rise in the prices of commodities. Investigations carried out by the Bank of Japan show the prices for the 28th year of *Meiji* to be 135 against the 100 normal figure, those for the 29th year 145, and those for July of the 30th year, 159. The corresponding increase in the demand for capital must have considerably affected the circulation of money, the interest on which was consequently raised. These facts may be proved by the following table showing the ups and downs of daily interest on loans issued by the allied banks in Tokyo for the first seven months of each of the past three years:—

	1897. Loan- Interest. Sen.	Dis- count. Sen.	1896. Loan- Interest. Sen.	Dis- count. Sen.	1895. Loan- Interest. Sen.	Dis- count. Sen.
Jan.....	2.75	2.78	2.52	2.62	2.73	2.86
Feb.....	2.73	2.77	2.52	2.62	2.85	2.84
March ..	2.65	2.71	2.48	2.53	2.72	2.81
April ...	2.74	2.75	2.46	2.47	2.74	2.83
May ...	2.80	2.82	2.43	2.43	2.74	2.83
June ...	2.76	2.84	2.45	2.44	2.63	2.86
July ...	2.81	2.82	2.45	2.50	2.69	2.75

The average value of the principal shares quoted on the Tokyo Stock Exchange during the past three years may be tabulated as follows:—

	1897. Coal Mining. Yen.	Steam Navigation. Yen.	1896. Coal Mining. Yen.	Steam Navigation. Yen.	1895. Coal Mining. Yen.	Steam Navigation. Yen.
Jan.....	83.40	70.10	90.00	95.60	81.10	76.30
Feb.....	92.60	75.30	93.50	90.60	81.00	76.50
March ..	98.50	77.10	94.10	92.70	87.40	75.10
April ...	95.00	71.50	93.70	96.10	91.40	80.60
May ...	92.00	97.10	100.70	109.80	87.70	77.90
June ...	89.90	59.80	108.10	111.70	86.40	77.90
July ...	87.10	57.00	103.80	76.80	89.50	81.20

Thus the expansion in the volume of currency caused prices of commodities to rise, the money market to tighten, the rates of interest to increase and the value of shares to fall considerably.

The Bank of Japan has undertaken to meet the increasing demand for capital by an issue of notes beyond legal limits; but the greater the issue the greater the demand, and the higher the clamour for supply. This anomaly in the economic world is, in fact, growing and becoming more serious.

The enforcement of gold monometallism in October this year is expected by many to conduce to a better state of affairs. Serious warning, the *Shogyo* asserts, is necessary at the present juncture.

OPIUM IN FORMOSA.

The Opium Law, says the *Yiji*, was enforced in the districts round Taipei, Formosa, from the 1st of April this year. On account of the inefficiency of police, however, and the frequent occurrence of raids by the insurgents in various places, it was hardly possible to put the Law in operation in villages and hamlets lying far from the towns. Nevertheless, the authorities have so far succeeded in securing its operation in Tainan, Taichiu, Changhua, Hsinchu, Keelung, Tamsui, and other localities, and it expected that during August one-third of the whole island will be brought within the control of the Law. The estimates for the 30th year, compiled at the Governor-General's Office, place the amount of sales of opium at 3,577,000 *yen*. As those estimates were made with the prospect of enforcing the Opium Regulations throughout the island from the current year, it is clear that the partial enforcement only of the same will tend to reduce the estimated receipts. Could the Law have been enforced over the whole island from the outset, no difficulty, it is said, would have been experienced in collecting the amount above stated. It may be noted that in one of the towns in Taichiu prefecture, containing a population of 21,816 who live in 4,536 houses, licenced opium smoking establishments amounted to 557 in number, while in another, possessing a population of 10,787 in 3,924 houses, there are 86 smoking establishments besides a few licenced retailers.

NEW WAR-SHIP BUILDERS.

We observe that Mr. H. S. Bickerton Brindley, of Tokyo, has been appointed sole representative for Japan of Messrs. Vickers, Sons, & Co. Ltd., of Sheffield. We gather from the *Sheffield Telegraph*, that this firm, who recently acquired the Naval Construction Works at Barrow, have secured their first order from the Admiralty for the only first-class battleship required from private builders in this year's naval programme. This battleship will be of the *Cánopus* class, of 12,950 tons. She will be able to pass through the Suez Canal. Hitherto Barrow has done all classes of Admiralty work, except the building of a battleship. Messrs. Vickers now intend to devote their principal attention to warship building, and have every prospect of success. In addition to the work mentioned above, the firm have received extensive orders from the British Admiralty for gun-forgings, gun-hoops, steel forgings, and heavy ordnance, to which will be fitted their own patented breech mechanism.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

It is scarcely necessary, we should hope, to disavow the attitude ascribed to us in connexion with the opium-smuggling case. We are represented as "very much exercised because the prosecution of the culprit failed to secure his punishment." Of course we have not, and never had, the smallest desire to see the man punished. To ascribe any such feeling to us is only another instance of the method invariably adopted by certain local English journals in their discussions with the *Japan Mail*. Unable to refute its arguments, they endeavour to discredit it by the imputation of mean and miserable motives. 'Tis an experience so familiar that its repetition only provokes a smile. As to the result of the quartermaster's arraignment, H.B.M.'s Assistant Judge had no competence to inflict a fine. The faulty drafting of the Regulations rendered him powerless. Yet that the compilers of the Regulations intended the penalty of fine to have no application unless there was question of at least 1½ lbs. of opium, seems quite incredible. A catty of opium is a very considerable quantity; a quantity far too large to be classed as "medicinal." If those that plead for the quartermaster could offer any reasonable explanation of his action in carrying the opium ashore, there would be no unwillingness to acquit him of unlawful procedure. But to tell the public that "really it was so little, don't you know;" and "really he showed so much innocence in carrying it openly, don't you see"—such lame excuses are on a par with the silly contention that the police ought not to have arrested him because he was the quartermaster of a ship lying at the pier," and "because he was not likely to forfeit his appointment by absconding under the apprehension that he had rendered himself liable to the payment of a small fine." Tide-waiters and police-constables have nothing to do with fine distinctions of that kind. A police-magistrate might exercise such discretion. The question is, however, not what a police-magistrate might have done after the man's arrest, but whether the tide-waiters and constables were acting illegally when they arrested him. With that question the man's status had nothing whatever to do. If it appeared that Japanese policemen allowed such personal considerations to influence them in the discharge of their official duties, then indeed there would be reason to anticipate with apprehension their manner of executing the law hereafter. It is strange, in truth, that the agitators can not appreciate the extreme unreason of their position when, on the one hand, they allege that the Japanese police are likely to discriminate improperly against foreigners in the future, and, on the other, blame the same police for not discriminating illegally between foreigners in the present. A quartermaster of a Peninsular and Oriental steamer is certainly "a personage" from some points of view, but to expect that he should be immediately recognised as "a superior man" by every Japanese tide-waiter and police constable at a treaty port, does seem rather "cook-a-doodle-doey."

The vernacular press publishes an epitome of a despatch said to have been addressed by the Representative of Denmark to the Japanese Foreign Office, with reference to the recent arrest of a Danish

subject on board a British steamer outside the limits of the foreign settlement, and the alleged epitome has been translated into the columns of a local English contemporary. We are in a position to state that the version thus given to the public is very erroneous.

Among the "items" circulated with reference to the Hawaiian annexation question, here is one:—

A Special to the *Herald* from Washington says:—Japan will insist that the United States assume a contingent responsibility in the matter of the arbitration of her differences with Hawaii on the subject of immigration and the tariff.

It is understood that this is one of the essential conditions upon which Japan will consent to arbitration, and that if this responsibility is not assumed by the United States Japan will break off negotiations looking to arbitration and back up her demands by a naval demonstration in Hawaiian waters.

The State Department has not yet received any official communication from the Japanese Government on this matter and the administration has not indicated whether or not it will comply with the Japanese demand when made.

There is no truth in the above. Japan has never preferred such a demand; has never asked America to accept any contingent responsibility with reference to the arbitration question. She has simply expressed her opinion that the annexation of Hawaii should not be allowed to invalidate any just claims she may have against the Island Republic.

It remains an enigma to discover the amount by which the proposed expenditures for the fiscal year 1898-9 really exceed the income now in sight. The *Fiji Shimpō* says that the appropriations demanded by the various departments aggregate 250 million *yen*, which is 30 millions more than the available income, but whether that total includes or excludes a sum of 5 millions on account of the encouragement of navigation, and 6 millions on account of Formosa, we are unable to discover. Apparently those sums are included, for after remarking that the Treasury has cut down the excess of expenditure by 20 million *yen*, and that probably 10 millions of the amount thus elided will have to be restored, our contemporary arrives at the final conclusion that about 20 million *yen* of additional revenue will have to be provided.

In connexion with this subject of the Budget, we invite our readers' attention to an article from the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, epitomized in our Weekly Summary of the Spirit of the Vernacular Press. It appears to us very probable that the tax on sugar indicated by our contemporary is an idea seriously entertained by the Cabinet.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has a timely note about the behaviour of Japanese travelling by rail. Formerly the great majority of Japanese travellers used to ride in third-class carriages, but now they prefer the second, and even the first, class. That is all very well, says our contemporary, but such folks ought to remember that when they get into a second class or a first class, the duty devolves upon them of behaving according to the rules of social propriety. They seem to think that the payment of their fare entitles them to do just what they please, and the result is that they often disgrace themselves and disgrace Japan also. Sometimes they are to be seen wearing a single garment with the sleeves tucked up over the shoulders; at others, they bare their legs

and straddle on the seat opposite to a lady, foreign or Japanese, without the least sense of decency. Then again, they pull off their coats and waistcoats and even their shirts, appearing in what they call an *ami-ori*, which performance may be compared to dressing oneself in a wide-meshed fish-net. Others act even more immodest are not infrequently seen. The long and short of the matter is that such persons are not fit to mix in the society to which a first-class or second-class railway carriage gives access.

We heartily endorse these remarks of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*'s. The risk of encountering such persons as our contemporary describes renders railway travelling in Japan a hazardous experiment for ladies. But instead of preaching to the offenders only—though that is a useful step in its way—why not urge the railway authorities to put up notices instructing people that they are not allowed to outrage their fellow-passengers' sense of decency by exposing bare legs or bare bodies, and by certain other acts which may not be described in an English newspaper, but which might be set forth in an interdict hung in a suitable place. The question is well worthy of consideration, not, indeed, in the interests of foreign travellers, for they are comparatively few, but in the interests of the Japanese themselves. To the abuses enunciated by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the average foreigner applies only one term, "Semi-savage." He makes no remonstrance *in loco*. Where would be the use? The person addressed would fail to appreciate the justice of the complaint, and might resent it angrily. But the foreigner goes his way, having taken a mental note, and when he gets home, he expresses a new opinion about the courteous, gentle-mannered Japanese. The essence of true courtesy consists in never shocking or distressing the feelings of those with whom one is brought into contact. In the case of the Japanese traveller we believe that ignorance alone is to blame. If he knew that a particular line of conduct was offensive, he would carefully avoid it. But he does not know, and it is not from the columns of a journal written in highly classical *gangan*, like the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, that he will learn. The railway is a comparatively new institution in Japan. The lower orders have yet to be taught the duties connected with travelling by it, and the railway companies ought to undertake the business of affording instruction. We greatly fear that the greedy, truculent coolie and the rustic dressed in a fish net will ultimately succeed in diverting from Japan's shores the Pactolus stream that began to flow thither a few years ago.

Here is a paragraph which we translate literally from the *Sekai-no-Nippon*:—The year 1899 will see the inauguration of mixed residence. Foreigners will then be free to trade where they please, and the Japanese must at once make up their minds as to how they are to compete in foreign trade under the altered circumstances of that time. It is to be noted, however, with regret that a good many Japanese anticipate no change in the present trade routes, and expect to send their goods to the foreign settlements just as they do now. Such persons must be informed that already foreigners are making preparations to push their enterprises into the interior so soon as ever mixed residence is permitted. Thus foreigners that deal in rice,

ammonia, straw braid, figured matting, minerals, camphor, bamboo ware, wooden articles, and marine products, intend to establish branch offices at the places of production, whence they will ship the goods direct, without sending them to Kobe. Thus the foreign middleman will become more than ever necessary to the Japanese producer, and the Japanese merchant will be shut out of the direct trade. Notably large plans in that sense are said to be contemplated by Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. of No. 45 (Kobe), and Messrs. M. Raspe & Co., No. 91. The former firm concerns itself specially in the rice-export business, and will establish a branch at Bakan (Shimonoseki); the latter will have branches in the Tohoku district, in Kiushiu, in Shikoku and in the Sanyo district for the sale of machinery, rails and timber, and for the export of products of those regions. Other Kobe firms revolving similar projects are Messrs. Hunter & Co., No. 29; Messrs. Delacamp & Co., No. 121; Messrs. Smith, Baker & Co., No. 3; Messrs. Mori & Co., No. 82; Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., No. 107; Messrs. Iles & Co., No. 12; Messrs. Lucas & Co., No. 20; Messrs. Sale & Co., No. 46; and Otto Reimers & Co., No. 8."

It is reported that when Mr. Hoshi Toru returns to Japan from Washington, where he now represents his country, he will be succeeded by Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo, President of the House of Representatives. In that event, the expectation is that Mr. Kono Hironaka will be a candidate for the presidency of the House. Mr. Kono used to be the parliamentary leader of the Liberals, and at one time he enjoyed immense influence in the Party. But he left it last session, and there are not wanting persons who hint that if the influence of the Government be exerted to secure for him the post of President, it will be by way of reward for his moderate attitude last session. We cull these assertions from vernacular newspapers, and are not in a position to confirm or deny them. The presidency of the House of Representatives is not, however, a great prize at present, for a general election takes place next year, after which a new President must of course be chosen.

From the persistency shown by the vernacular press in stating that, despite many turns of the screw dictated by the Minister of Finance, it has not been found possible to compress the aggregate of Departmental Expenditures for next fiscal year below 240 million *yen*, or push up the revenue above 220 millions, we infer that these figures may be regarded as tolerably accurate.

There is nothing very alarming in an increased expenditure of a couple of millions sterling, considering how very petty Japan's national outlay has hitherto been. The question is, however, when may the process of expansion be expected to stop. We do not, for our own part, feel in the least degree anxious on the subject. Japan is like a young lady that has just made her *début*. She wants a wardrobe and other essentials that were quite superfluous while she lived in retirement. But her cloth is not without limit, and one would like to be sure that she is keeping that fact well in mind as she cuts her new coat. As for twenty million *yen*, she can get 12 or 13 millions by imposing a not unreasonable tax on sugar

and by putting the revised Tariff into operation. The latter expedient, however, is not available for next year's needs, so we presume that building lands and *saké* will have to supply the required funds. In our review of post-bellum finance, published last month, we showed how plainly the tax now levied on urban lands falls short of the proper figure. Indeed, we insisted on the fact eight years ago, though our argument was not at that time supported by conclusive arithmetic. The State has plenty of sources from which to obtain additional revenue.

What appears to us much more interesting than this problem of a slightly increased annual expenditure is the course to be pursued about the domestic loans included in the last Budget—a total of nearly 69 million *yen* for railways and other productive purposes. Five months of the fiscal year have passed, and there is no indication of any attempt to float a portion of the loans. Of course the money market is eminently unfavourable for any such operation at present, and there is little probability of its becoming favourable, so far as we can see. People are plainly persuaded that the work of inaugurating gold monometallism will tax the Treasury's energies to the full, and until that effort is successfully accomplished, there will be hesitation about subscribing for new bonds. Besides, a greater and more radical difficulty presents itself: the people want all the capital they can command. They want a great deal more, for the matter of that, but they have no hope of getting it till the issue of this gold experiment is placed beyond doubt. Meanwhile, what is to become of the extension and improvement of the State Railways, of the riparian works, of the telephone expansion and of other measures approved by the Diet last session? It looks as though the Government intends to rely on the payment of the Indemnity *en bloc* by China. There is every appearance that China will pay in that manner. Probably the Japanese Ministry has accurate information on the subject. But to pay before the 9th of next May would be a mere waste of money on China's part, and since the Japanese fiscal year ends on March 31st, the funds coming from China can not tide over the wants of the present Budget. Still, it will probably be the Government's wisest plan to forestall the receipt of the Indemnity rather than to have recourse to a domestic loan at present. Such, we presume, is the intention. A year hence, foreign capital will be accessible enough.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that it has been decided to send the following gentleman abroad for study:—Mr. Oda Kenjiro, a teacher in the First Upper School, to proceed to America for two years to study chemistry; Mr. Nakajima Kametaro, Assistant Teacher in the College of Medicine of the Imperial University, to proceed to Germany for three years to study medicine; Mr. Takahashi Sakuye, a student of the Imperial University, to proceed to England for three years to study international law; and Mr. Yamada Saburo, also of the Imperial University, to proceed to Germany and France for three years to study private international law.

It appears that quite a brisk episode

added to the fervour of the farewell dinner given on Monday evening at the Yokohama Club to the departing American Consul-General. Some of the waiters, having provided too carefully against any waste of heel-taps, developed a Berserker mood, and went for the Steward, against whom they entertained some grudge. One against several, the Steward would have fared badly had not certain members of the Club gone vigorously to the rescue, the result being that two of the waiters are now in the hands of the police. The quaint part of the affair—if such an expression be permissible—was that, having turned off the electric light, the waiters transferred their attentions to an unfortunate member, whom they mistook for the Steward. It is to be hoped that they will have a tranquil time in jail for a few weeks.

Sir N. J. Hannen, in his Trade Report for Shanghai, says:—

Japan seems to be bent upon the introduction of a gold standard, and those here in China, who see in silver-using countries the future manufacturing countries of the world, look upon this step on the part of Japan as one which will greatly assist China in recovering her own markets first and afterwards in capturing the neutral markets of the world. Whatever effect, if any, the adoption of a gold standard by Japan may have, it cannot raise the value of silver. But as almost every commercial nation except China will soon be gold monometallic, the effect for good or evil of the fall in the gold price of silver will be the same for all. If, as is believed by the majority of commercial men here, a silver-using country has an advantage, China, or the enterprising men of other nations who have made her their field of labour, is going to try and make the most of it, and the present generation will receive an object lesson in the good or evil effects of having the cheaper metal as a monetary standard. In twenty-five years, if no change takes place in the relative rates of gold and silver, we shall be able to see by a study of Chinese manufactures whether those who advocate the silver standard are right. One circumstance consoling to British trade is that she will only be effected in the same way as every other nation, and that as her trade with China is larger than that of any other nation, China's prosperity is likely to be of more advantage to her than to any other country.

There has been a very general opinion among thoughtful persons that in allowing a period of five years for the presentation and redemption of 1 *yen* silver coins, the Japanese Government erred greatly on the side of liberality. Why, in adopting the gold standard, is the country called upon to give more for its silver coins than their actual worth in the open market? Before the gold Bill passed the Diet last session, the silver *yen* had no fixed gold price. Its equivalent in gold was precisely the amount of yellow metal for which its weight of pure silver could be sold in Europe or America. Its holders had received it subject to all exchange fluctuations, and could not reasonably expect to be guaranteed against its depreciation. Certainly, if the Government did not retain the *yen* piece as a subsidiary coin in the new system, they were bound to give gold for it when withdrawing it from circulation. But they were not bound to accept a maximum of risk in effecting the exchange. They were not bound to leave the *yen* in circulation for five years, taking their chance of being required to buy it back at the highest rate touched by gold during that long period. A reasonable interval was all that need have been allowed to holders of the coin abroad for sending it to Japan and effecting its exchange. In view of these considerations, we are not surprised to read in vernacular newspapers a statement that the Govern-

ment will probably present to the Diet next session a Bill for abbreviating the five-year period to six months. The *Yomiuri* adds that the coins, after redemption, will not be sent to the melting pot, but will probably be again put into circulation in China, Korea and the various southern colonies where silver coins are scarce. We fail to see what profit would accrue from the latter course, except that the strain upon the country's stock of gold might be slightly lessened.

The *Spectator* has the following:—

The week has been curiously full of instances of unusual courage. The *Times* on Saturday published an account of the loss of the "Aden," written by a Mr. Gillett, one of the passengers who survived. It is as impossible to condense it as to condense one of Mr. Stanley Weyman's stories, but the man who can read it without wishing to know Mr. Gillett and his wife is insensible to heroism. (Note, by the way, the remarkable literary skill which nowadays displays itself among men who are in no way literary.) The *Pioneer* received on Monday contained an account of a Sikh orderly who, in the midst of the treacherous attack at Mamar, "picked up a gun weighing 200 lbs. single-handed and carried it to the gun-mule. The mule was shot dead, so he carried it to the relief-mule. Then he went back and brought in Lieutenant Cruickshank's body." And we have all been reading how Herr Andree, the Swede, with two companions, left Danes Island on July 11th by balloon for the Pole. He hopes to see and photograph the true Polar region, and then drift on to Alaska, a journey of twelve hundred miles. That is to say, he and the two men of science with him face an imminent risk of a horrible death in an unknown land, whence their fate cannot even be reported, in order to extend the domain of human knowledge. It is a perfectly useless enterprise, even a ridiculous one, but is there a man capable of understanding the adventure who is not a little prouder because the world contains Herr Andree?

Our London contemporary makes very brief allusion to Mr. Gillett's literary skill, but it has been appreciated by all readers of his story. He has succeeded because he set down his experiences and his emotions in the simplest and most direct manner. That is the best way to tell such a story. It needs no word-painting. True art would be outraged if mere tricks of language were preferred to incidents of the kind that happened on the Socotra reef.

Mr. Sugimura Ei has hitherto discharged the functions of a foreign affairs official for the Governor-General's Office in Formosa. It is thought probable that he will henceforth have the assistance of Mr. Uchida Kosai, who recently returned from Peking, where he had been First Secretary of Legation. Mr. Uchida will have the rank of Minister Resident.

Madame Sono Yoshiko, who has already borne four children to the Emperor, two sons and two daughters, is again *enceinte*, and expects to be confined during the present month. Madame Sono, whose title is *Gon-tenji*, has taken up her residence in the *Ban-jo Go-ten* of the Aoyama Palace. *San-jo*, or in popular parlance *ubu-ya*, is a building specially set apart for occasions of the kind, according to the old *Shinto* custom. Madame Sono's first child was Prince Aki, born on the 22nd of August, 1887, and died on the 12th of November, 1888. Her daughters are the little Princesses Tsune and Kane whom many of our readers have seen at Nikko during the summer. Her last child was Prince Mitsu, born on the 30th of November, 1893, and died on August 17th, 1894.

Vague rumours have reached Tokyo from time to time about the ownership of

land by foreigners in Formosa. From the first that question was understood to be likely to give trouble, the arrangements made by the Chinese Authorities having been of a somewhat slipshod nature. After some delay, it was finally decided that, as land can not legally be owned by aliens in Japan, the only course was to grant perpetual leases to the foreigners who had acquired land under the Chinese regimen. That has been done, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says, in over seventy cases. But it appears that the Spanish priests obtained land for church sites under a special arrangement, according to which the Chinese conferred on them an exceptional title, and they are said to be now pressing for official recognition of that title. We have no information of our own on the subject, but we are disposed to doubt whether the Spanish fathers have adopted any such course. A perpetual lease differs only in name from a title in fee simple, and it would be distinctly bad policy on the part of the priests to urge a claim which the Japanese Authorities have no power to recognise, and which possesses no practical value.

The Second Marine Products Exhibition was opened in Kobe on the 1st instant. His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu performed the opening ceremony at 10 a.m., and read the following message from the Emperor:—

We hereby announce the completion of the Second Exhibition of Marine Products, and declare it open. We regard marine products as a highly important commodity of Our sea-girt country, and worthy to be called one of its sources of wealth and strength. For that reason, an exhibition was formerly opened in Tokyo and a second is now opened in Kobe. Doubtless it will be found on comparison that progress has been made. We urge you to promote the enterprise vigorously so as to increase the national wealth and strength.

Mr. Oishi, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, then read the following address on behalf of Prince Komatsu:—

We have met to-day for the purpose of opening the second Exhibition of Marine Products, which is now completed. Our country, being surrounded by sea on all sides, is gifted above all lands in the richness of its marine products, so that they constitute, equally with the products of the land, a source of national wealth. An exhibition of marine products was formerly held in Tokyo, and another is now held in Kobe for the purpose of encouraging the enterprise. There are evidences of its great prosperity. The exhibits shown here number over fifty-six thousand, being nearly double the aggregate at the First Exhibition. That happy result is attributable in part to the judicious efforts made by local officials to guide the people, but certainly it could not have been attained had not the nation been moved by the encouragement that His Majesty the Emperor extends to productive enterprise. It is to be hoped that, in accordance with the Imperial wishes, further steps will be taken to develop this industry.

It is a little curious to observe the prominence that the above speech gives to official exertions. Confucius had a very exalted notion of the value of official guidance, and the Japanese have been faithful in that respect to his philosophy for many generations. But the sooner they abandon it, the better for themselves, and we confess that we do not find it a healthy sign to hear the local officials lauded for their exertions in the cause of an industry which depends for its development on the enterprise of the people themselves.

The *Yiji* has an interesting table showing the appreciation of building land at several centres of trade during the past ten years. Taking 100 as the market price of land at those places in the year

1887, our contemporary gives these figures:—

	Prices in 1887.	Prices at end of 1897.
Tokyo	100	170
Kyoto	100	162
Osaka	100	222
Yokohama	100	240
Kobe	100	167
Bakan (Shimonoseki) ..	100	214
Hakodate	100	625
Maebashi	100	173
Otaru	100	429

Hakodate's figure is remarkable—a six-fold increase. Kyoto, it will be observed, stands lowest.

"JINSAI NO TOYO."

These words signify "the selection and employment of able men," and the phrase represents a policy attributed to the present Cabinet from the time of its assumption of office. Some folks might call the policy by a different name—the spoils system—for in practice it means that official appointments are found for the Government's supporters. That version of the innovation can not, indeed, be gainsaid. The law requires that admission to the ranks of officialdom shall be by examination, and the system of *jinsai toyo* ignores the law for the sake of drafting into the public service men whose most apparent qualification is activity in the field of party politics. However, in all countries with parliaments, the Cabinet must establish links between itself and the national assembly, and further, if Ministers of State have party relations, there ought also to be in each Department at least one official identified with the Minister in politics and capable of assisting him confidentially. Experience is teaching to Japan lessons already learned and applied elsewhere. If should be added, too, that when we speak of what the law prescribes in the matter of examinations, we do not allude to a law duly enacted by the Diet, and incapable of being set aside without the Diet's assent. The Emperor possesses absolutely autonomic authority in everything that relates to the appointment and dismissal of officials, and a rule laid down by his Majesty for the general purposes of selecting officials, can, of course, be waived by the same authority in special cases.

The total number of persons to whom important appointments have been given by the present Cabinet under the *Jinsai Toyo* system is twenty-three; namely:—

Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune to be Chief of Bureau.
Mr. Takahashi Kenzo to be Chief Secretary.
Mr. Oishi Masami to be Vice-Minister.
Mr. Inagaki Manjiro to be Minister Resident.
Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi to be Chief of Bureau.
Mr. Takata Sanae to be Chief of Bureau.
Mr. Koizuka Riu to be Chief of Bureau.
Mr. Muro Kojiro to be Local Governor.
Mr. Hadano Denzaburo to be Local Governor.
Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi to be Local Governor.
Mr. Tamura Sei to be Local Governor.
Mr. Kikuchi Kiyo to be Local Governor.
Mr. Nakamura Hikoji to be Local Governor.
Mr. Yondo Kwanichi to be Local Governor.
Mr. Ishida Kwannosuke to be Local Governor.
Mr. Yumoto Yoshinori to be Local Governor.
Mr. Matsuda Rentaro to be Local Governor.
Mr. Mitsuno Torajiro to be Local Governor.
Mr. Ozaki Yukio, to be Departmental Councillor.
Mr. Minoura Katsundo to be Chief of Bureau.
Mr. Gamo Sen to be Departmental Councillor.
Mr. Tokutomi Ichiro to be Departmental Councillor.
Mr. Shiga Juko to be Chief of Bureau.

To the above list various other names might be added, but the offices in question are minor. Twelve of the names we have set down belong to men who have

made their mark in the House of Representatives as supporters of the present Cabinet. Seven are journalists, namely:—

Mr. Takahashi Kenzo, former editor of the *Osaka Asahi*.

Mr. Takata Sanse, former editor of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*.

Mr. Koizuka Riu, former editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio, former editor of the *Hochi Shimbun*.

Mr. Minoura Katsundo, former editor of the *Hochi Shimbun*.

Mr. Tokutomi Ichiho, former editor of the *Kokumin Shimbun*.

Mr. Shiga Juko, former editor of the *Nippon Jin*.

Mr. Inagaki Manjiro has distinguished himself by his writings about the South Pacific. Undoubtedly the twenty-three men have a just title to the term "men of talent," and their inclusion in the ranks of officialdom greatly strengthens the latter. But it is not to be denied that the appointment of eleven party politicians to local governorships in the year previous to a general election invites significant construction, and will be reckoned by historians among the weak acts of the present Cabinet.

FUNERAL OF COUNT MUTSU.

The obsequies of the late Count Mutsu were performed on the 28th ultimo, the cortege leaving the residence of the deceased punctually at 2 p.m., the hour announced, and reaching the temple (*Kaisen-ji*), in the Asakusa district of Tokyo, at 4.20 p.m. Owing to the great distance between the Nishi-ga-hara villa, where the Count breathed his last, and the Asakusa temple, the Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, and many other distinguished personages, refrained from joining the procession, and contented themselves with leaving their cards at the villa, whence they proceeded independently to the temple, there to await the arrival of the bier. The troops, also, numbering about eight hundred, did not fall into the cortege until it had entered the bounds of the city proper. Thus the dimensions of the procession were not specially imposing. The temple, however, and all the temporary resting places erected within its enclosure, were crowded with mourners, and a profusion of wreaths and bouquets testified the universality of the regret caused by the death of the eminent statesman. The service lasted an hour and a half. It was conducted according to Buddhist rites, and several eulogies of the deceased were read before the Shrine, one, sent by the Liberal Party *en masse* and read by Count Itagaki, being particularly eloquent and sympathetic. On the conclusion of the religious ceremony, the usual sad and impressive custom was observed: all the relatives and friends of the deceased, from his eldest son, the chief mourner, to the general body of those present, advanced to the Shrine, and placed a lighted stick of incense in the censer. It would be useless to attempt the task of compiling a list of those present at the temple. So far as could be ascertained, nearly all the leading officials and residents of the capital were present. During the forenoon of the day of the funeral, chamberlains despatched by the Emperor and Empress, proceeded to the residence of the deceased to convey the Imperial condolences to the family, together with the gifts usual on such occasions. His Majesty sent two

rolls of red and white silk, various sweetmeats and cakes, and three thousand *yen* in money; the Empress, a thousand *yen*.

The order of the procession was as follows:—

Outriders, two gendarmes.
Troops, half a battalion of Infantry.
Two banners.
Stands of flowers sent from the Imperial Palace.
Stands of flowers sent by the Princes of the Blood.
Musicians, ten men.
The *Fukudo shi* (Priest)
The *Bekkaku doshi* (Priest)
The *Dai-doshi* (High Priest)
Flag bearing the name and rank of the deceased.
Censer.
Mortuary Tablet.
Bouquets of flowers.
Dragon Flag and Dragon Lamp.
The deceased's Orders of Merit, &c.
The Bier, with twenty Wakayama officers on either side.
Dragon Flag and Dragon Lamp.
The Chief Mourner, on foot.
Near Relations, on foot.
Countess Mutsu (in a carriage).
Wives and Daughters of Relatives (in carriages).
Troops, half a battalion of Infantry.
General Body of Mourners.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The *Shogyo Shimpō* publishes the following report on the amount of loans issued by the Bank of Japan and its branches and agencies in various parts of the Empire during June of last year and the current year:—

	June, 1896. Yen.	June 1897. Yen.
Head Office—		
Loans	22,034,899	14,178,027
Temporary overdrafts	936,110	4,812,317
Notes discounted	16,757,989	13,013,151
Osaka Branch—		
Loans	7,331,600	5,874,850
Temporary overdrafts	1,345,003	1,067,776
Notes discounted	12,060,136	7,870,129
Western Branch—		
Loans	1,338,270	706,492
Temporary overdrafts	181,500	82,100
Notes discounted	1,789,884	431,040
Hokkaido Branch—		
Loans	315,285	135,000
Temporary overdrafts	203,308	35,000
Notes discounted	2,140,923	214,500
Nagoya Branch—		
Loans	1,197,470	—
Temporary overdrafts	47,426	—
Notes discounted	702,585	—
Kyoto Agency—		
Loans	1,892,650	—
Temporary overdrafts	250,000	—
Notes discounted	606,750	—
Sapporo Agency—		
Loans	—	20,000
Temporary overdrafts	—	60,459
Notes discounted	—	235,848
Totals—		
Loans	34,110,174	20,914,369
Temporary overdrafts	2,963,348	6,057,653
Notes discounted	34,058,269	21,764,668

The above figures show an increase of over thirteen million *yen* in loans, and of twelve million *yen* in notes discounted, temporary overdrafts alone decreasing by more than three million *yen*. On the whole, however, there was an increase of no less than 22,300,000 *yen*. This is chiefly due to the increased demand for capital consequent upon the expansion of various enterprises and excess of imports during the first half of this year, as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

The following is a comparative table showing the amount of deposits held by the Bank of Japan and its branches and agencies throughout the empire during June of this year and last:—

	June, 1897. Yen.	June, 1896. Yen.
Head Office—		
Fixed deposits	6,000	15,000
Temporary deposits	5,838,886	11,218,517
Osaka Branch—		
Do.	8,600	1,600
Do.	106,235	77,417
Western Branch—		
Do.	—	—
Do.	546	1,538
Hokkaido Branch—		
Do.	—	—
Do.	2,140	5,862

Nagoya	Do.	—	—
Branch...	Do.	103,246	—
Sapporo	Do.	—	—
Agency...	Do.	10,500	5,574
Kyoto	Do.	—	—
Agency...	Do.	4,030	—
Taipei	Do.	—	—
Agency...	Do.	1,023	—
Totals	Do.	14,600	16,600
	Do.	6,066,611	11,308,963

From the above it will be seen that the deposits decreased by more than 5,200,000 *yen* during the first half of this year, as compared with the figures for the corresponding term of last year. The reason is to be found in the fact that out of the general heading of temporary deposits a separate item was made of Government deposits in December last, and consequently these do not appear in the list for this year.

According to the *Tokio Asahi*, the amount of gold and silver coin and bullion held by the Bank of Japan and their actual value at the end of June this year were as follow:—

	Face value. Yen.	Actual value. Yen.
Gold coin	156,438,615	19,769,715
Standard gold bullion	3,091,312	19,769,715
Gold coin (English)	728,796	6,415,243
Gold coin (American)	523,271	2,046,744
Old coin	156,884	225,200
Gold bullion containing iron	10,808	806
Silver bullion (in possession of the mint)	—	21,775,230
Total	—	102,889,217

The *Shogyo Shimpō*, also says the amount of convertible notes and excess of paper, issued by the Bank of Japan, as well as specie and other reserves held by the Bank during the week ended the 21st ult., were as follow:—

August.	Actual issue of Notes. Yen.	Excess above legal limit. Yen.
16	197,168,799	11,808,665
17	196,572,763	11,212,643
18	196,136,520	10,827,770
19	195,476,728	9,810,426
20	194,656,217	9,045,459
21	194,424,233	8,748,413
August.	Specie Reserve. Yen.	Securities. Yen.
16	106,449,839	90,708,960
17	106,459,825	99,112,938
18	106,408,455	89,728,065
19	106,685,505	88,791,223
20	106,629,961	88,026,256
21	106,695,023	87,729,210

From the above it may be perceived that the amount of issue of notes beyond the legal limit during last week decreased from 11,800,000 *yen*, to 8,748,000 *yen*, while no considerable change has occurred in the specie reserve. The decrease in the Securities seems to have caused a reduction of the amount of convertible notes issued, and a corresponding diminution in the amount of excess beyond the legal limit. Such a state of affairs may be regarded as the result of a diminished demand for capital, the decrease of issue beyond the limit indicating the amount of money repaid to the Bank during the week under notice. In fact, the Bank's Weekly Report of transactions shows the actual discounts and loans on the 21st to have diminished as follows, compared with the figures for the 14th:—

	August 14th. Yen.	August 21st. Yen.
Notes Discounted	36,752,605	38,573,717
Loans	125,583,890	126,674,107
Total	162,336,495	165,247,824

Thus a decrease of over three million *yen* is noticeable in discounts and loans. On the whole, it seems that the close of the *Bon* festival, the increase of the rates of interest by the Bank of Japan, the steady sale of silk, and the precautionary measures taken by the Bank, have contributed to restore large funds to its vaults.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, who served his articles with Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, has been admitted a solicitor to practise in the Hongkong Supreme Court. The Chief Justice, in making the order, said he understood that Mr. d'Almada e Castro was the first gentleman of Portuguese descent to practise as a solicitor in that Court.

THE NEW CHOKUNIN COUNCILLORS.

THE long-talked-of appointment of *Chokunin* Councillors of the Departments of State has become an accomplished fact.

Five persons are gazetted to these newly created posts. Two of them, Messrs. TAKETOMI TOKITOSHI and KOMAI CHOKAKU, were already holding official positions. Three are drafted direct from the ranks of party politicians, namely, Messrs. OZAKI YUKIO, GAMO SEN and TOKUTAMI ICHIRO.

Perhaps the easiest way to explain the nature of the new office is to say that a *Chokunin* Councillor in Japan corresponds very closely with a parliamentary under-secretary in England. The word *Chokunin*, we should perhaps add, has nothing to do with the office. It merely signifies that the official in question is of *Chokunin* rank. Every Department of State has hitherto had "Councillors," and so also has each Provincial Government. According to the Law of Organization of the Government, the number of Councillors in a Department must not exceed three, and in practice the average has been two. Provincial Governments have only one. It will naturally be supposed that a special term has been chosen for the new Councillors to distinguish them from the old. Such is not the case, however; both are called *Sanji-kan*. Neither does the Ordinance creating the new office indicate any particular duties to be undertaken by its holders. The evident intention is that they shall discharge functions similar to those hitherto devolving on Councillors; namely, the examination and revision of drafts of law, and the investigation of such matters as may be indicated by the Heads of Departments from time to time. But it is understood that the Councillors now appointed will be nominated Government Delegates in the Lower House, and that it will be their business to explain to the House whatever legislative projects or financial measures relate to the Departments represented by them: in short, they will have charge of such projects and measures in their passage through the Diet. Four of the five officials thus far gazetted are publicists. Mr. OZAKI YUKIO, who becomes Councillor in the Foreign Office, was long conspicuous as one of the most brilliant and uncompromising members of the *Kaishin-to*, before that Party's amalgamation with other political coteries into the *Shimpo-to*. He is a man of remarkable eloquence and much skill in debate, and it may be expected that association with officialdom will supply the ballast hitherto not conspicuous in his conduct. Mr. TAKETOMI TOKITOSHI, who goes to the Finance Department; and Mr. GAMO SEN, who goes to the Colonial Department, have also dis-

tinguished themselves in the Diet; and Mr. TOKUTAMI ICHIRO, who becomes Councillor in the Home Department, is well known as the founder and editor of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and the *Kokumin-no-tomo*, publications that breathe a strong spirit of aggressive patriotism. It will thus be seen that the Cabinet materially strengthens its position in the Diet. The Government Delegate in the Lower House has hitherto been nobody's friend. Every political party seemed to regard him as a fair target for hostile shafts, and though many of the Delegates, especially during recent sessions, succeeded in commanding respect and attention by their masterly expositions and thorough grasp of details, none has ever been able to win the sympathy of the House. The explanation appears to be that the Delegates do not belong to the House: they are a part of officialdom. There is something plainly anomalous and impractical in the conception of a constitutional assembly which, while invited to coöperate with the Administration for legislative and financial purposes, has not the advantage of collating its views with those of the Cabinet in actual debate. We have often commented on this peculiarity of the Japanese Constitution. If the Ministry has no real responsibility towards the Diet, as was formerly claimed, and as the Constitution indicates, then there is no reason why Ministers of State or Government Delegates should address the Houses or ever appear there in person to answer questions. All necessary information could be furnished by them to the Special Committees. Their attendance in the Lower House has hitherto proved only a source of friction, for, while in the House, they were not of it, and however willing they might be to conciliate opposition and place themselves at the disposal of honest inquirers, something invariably happened to mark their alienation and "aloofness." Their supporters had no means of turning their presence to good account, and the opposition soon learned to regard their appearance in the rostrum as an opportunity for flogging the Cabinet over their backs. The new Delegates however, as members of the House, party politicians and practised debaters, will not be handicapped by the above disadvantages. Their appointment should certainly have the effect of improving the relations between the Government and the Diet, and facilitating legislative business.

Several months have elapsed since the project of creating this new office was attributed to the Cabinet, and the delay has given rise to many curious rumours. Our information, however, furnishes a very simple explanation. In the first place, the scheme itself, though conceived in general outline, did not take definite form for some time. The ori-

ginal idea was to appoint Parliamentary Vice-Ministers, an arrangement which naturally received the endorsement of party politicians. But objections having arisen in other quarters, the more modest alternative of Departmental Councillors was adopted. It will of course be understood, however, that as no appropriation for the salaries of such officials had been included in the Budget for the current fiscal year, funds for the purpose were not forthcoming, and had the appointments been made in May, when they were first talked of, the necessary money could not have been obtained except at the cost of other officials. But nearly the first half of the fiscal year having now elapsed, some of the Departments doubtless find their finances in such a condition that they can undertake to employ an additional official at 250 *yen* monthly. No profounder reasons for the delay appear to be forthcoming.

RECRUITING THE RANKS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

MR. ARAI SHOGO has been appointed Director of the Northern Bureau in the Colonial Department. The announcement probably signifies very little to our readers. Mr. ARAI SHOGO has no existence in their catalogue of familiar personages. Yet he is a man of mark in Japan. Back in the eighties, he occupied a brief but prominent place in the vista of public observation when, from the prisoner's dock in Osaka, he addressed a political speech of nearly two days' duration, nominally to the Court, but really to the country at large. He had been arrested on suspicion of complicity in a plot to raise a rebellion in Korea, and he received a term of imprisonment—two years, if we remember aright. Probably Mr. ARAI was a believer in the philosophy of *MENCIUS*, and saw in himself the heaven-appointed instrument of Korean reforms. His next appearance upon the political stage was when the Diet met for the first time. He then presented a series of questions on the subject of Treaty Revision, and elicited from Viscount AOKI a reply that filled six columns of the *Japan Weekly Mail*. But Viscount AOKI's eloquence was nothing to that of Mr. ARAI. We have sat listening to him for hours in the House of Representatives, marvelling at his command of language and his power of marshalling his arguments. All these things happened seven years ago. The impression they left was that Mr. ARAI must be counted one of the keenest debaters in the House, and certainly one of the Government's most bitter enemies. Suddenly, however, for a reason that we never could fathom, he stepped down from his place of prominence, and thenceforth he might as well have been living in some remote corner of the

Empire as sitting in the House, so completely did he efface himself for all parliamentary purposes. Men of many words are mistrusted in Japan. Mr. SHIMADA SABURO, whose speeches in parliament it is a pleasure to listen to, seems to have concluded that he must condemn himself to silence for a while. During the past two sessions his voice was scarcely heard. The same is true of other members whose orations used once to fill pages of the *Official Gazette*. It is a strange feature of Japanese political life. There appears to be a lack of continuity in the parliamentary careers of many brilliant men. They flash out for a moment, meteor-like, and then sink below the horizon. As for Mr. ARAI, however, it must be confessed that if he showed himself an impetuous and somewhat violent politician seven years ago, he has proved by his persistent quietude ever since that noisy epoch, that he understands the value of patience and knows how to practise it. Yet his emergence from such a long obscurity is a surprise. Two days ago we should have deemed it a most remote contingency.

From an article in the *Mainichi Shimbun* we gather that these recent appointments are part of a large programme which aims at putting an end to the much condemned *Fojitsu* system of administrative organization; that is to say, the selection of candidates for office by favour of person. Marquis ITO's method of accomplishing the same reform was to enact, in 1885, a rule that all aspirants for official posts must pass an examination. Evidently if examinations are not merely qualifying but genuinely competitive, they oppose a complete barrier to the abuse in question. But it appears that these examinations have not been really competitive. Something more is needed, and the present Cabinet finds that something in the homœopathic device of curing like by like. This "selection of men of talent" may be otherwise described as the selection of prominent party politicians. That they are persons of proved ability can not be doubted, but still they are party politicians, and the gradual drafting of such men into the ranks of officialdom, means that the party they represent will no longer be able to attack the Government as a Clan Government, or to denounce its administration as corrupt and incompetent. How far is this process of "reform" to be carried, we wonder. The *Mainichi* hints at something extensive. It says that despite the opposition of the conservative section of officialdom—the old-fashioned folks to whose views it applies the now-almost-forgotten epithet *sakō shugi*, or policy of seclusion—the Government means to come out boldly, and draft "the talents" into several places at present vacant; for example, the presidency of the Iron Foundry, the control of the Railway

Construction Bureau, of the Marine Products Bureau, of the Temples and Shrines Bureau and so forth, as well as into every post of importance that falls vacant hereafter. It is impossible to have faith in the wisdom of leavening officialdom so largely with party politics, but we shall wait to see the *Mainichi's* prediction fulfilled before we form any final opinion. Meanwhile one thing is self-evident, namely, that the "talents" are not limited to one party only. If this programme be really what its advocates represent it to be, some members of the present Opposition ought to be found, by and by, among the new nominees. If that test be not satisfied, the public will be apt to conclude that there is over-much homœopathy in the new process. Apart from such criticisms, however, we may fairly consider ourselves on the eve of one of those kaleidoscopic changes which have imparted to Japan's modern history so much piquancy and picturesqueness. The very phalanx of men who, in former sessions, used to make the baiting of the Cabinet their sole parliamentary aim, will be seen, next session, ranged on the benches of the Government Delegates.

THE COLONIZATION DEPARTMENT.

ON Tuesday the vernacular journals supposed to be closest in touch with the Ministry, announced confidently that the idea of abolishing the Department of Colonization had been abandoned. On Wednesday, the *Official Gazette* contained an Imperial Ordinance declaring that, from the 2nd instant, the Department should cease to exist. Shorter shrift was never given to a State office, we imagine. Twenty-four hours' notice, and then, led out and executed! The Opposition organs have amused themselves taunting the Cabinet with want of courage to adopt this measure of abolition. We fail to see what special courage was required, but, at any rate, the Cabinet's manner of doing the thing should satisfy the most drastic of its assailants. Here are the Ordinances relating to the matter:—

We hereby announce Our sanction of the abolition of the Department of Colonization.

(Sign Manual)
&c., &c.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 294.

The organization of the Colonization Department shall be abolished from the 2nd day of the 9th month of the 30th year of Meiji. (Sept. 2nd, 1897).

(Signed) MINISTER PRESIDENT.
(Dated) Sept. 1st, 1897.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby announce Our sanction of the organization of a Formosa Administration Bureau.

(Sign Manual)
&c., &c.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 295.

Organization of the Formosa Administration Bureau.

Art. I.—A Formosa Administration Bureau shall be organized in the Cabinet, for the management of all affairs relating to Formosa.

Art. II.—The following officials shall be appointed in the Formosa Administration Office:—

One Chief of Bureau :	Chokunin rank.
Three Secretaries :	Sonin rank.
Twelve Clerks :	Hannin rank.

Art. III.—The Chief of Bureau shall direct all the business of the Bureau and superintend its officials, in accordance with the instructions of the Minister President of State and the guidance of the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet.

Art. IV.—The Secretaries shall discharge their duties in accordance with the instructions of the Chief of the Bureau.

Art. V.—The Clerks shall attend to their business in accordance with the guidance of their superior officials.

This Ordinance shall become operative from the 2nd day of the 9th month of the 30th year of Meiji.

(Signed) MINISTER PRESIDENT.
&c. &c.

The important point to be noticed in the above is that the Minister President of State henceforth assumes direct responsibility for the conduct of the new Bureau's affairs. It has been generally understood that one of the original reasons for organizing the Colonization Department was connected with this question of responsibility, and there can be little doubt that the Japanese public will welcome the course now taken. On the other hand, only a very superficial idea of the value of the new Bureau can be formed without knowledge of its functions, and of the relation in which it stands to the Governor-General's Office in Formosa. That relation must be of a slender character, we imagine. The Governor-General will certainly not be prepared to make reports to, or receive instructions from a bureau the head of which is under the guidance of a chief secretary. It would appear, therefore, that one effect of the change will be to increase the independent authority of the Governor-General. Frankly speaking, we do not think that he ever gave himself much concern about the Colonization Department or that the Department ever made any serious attempt to control him. Indeed, we have never been able to discover how the Department occupied itself. It was the last place in the world to go for information about Formosa. Thus, though the Governor-General was theoretically supposed to be more or less under its direction, he went his own way pretty much as he liked, and the only change now effected is that he will enjoy the form of independence as well as the reality. Still, there being a Formosa Administration Bureau in the Cabinet, it is to the Minister President of State that the nation will hereafter look for the responsible direction of Formosan affairs, and considering how very little credit the island has hitherto brought to any Japanese connected with it, we can not congratulate the Minister President on this new addition to his functions.

With regard to the saving effected by abolishing the Department, it will probably be insignificant. The appropriation or the service of the Department in the Budget for the current fiscal year stands

at 141,420 *yen*, but it does not follow that any such amount will be economized. The Hokkaido Bureau, which formed a moiety of the Department, will be transferred to the Home Department, where it used to be, and, as we have seen, the Formosa Bureau passes to the Cabinet. Hence the Department is distributed rather than dissolved.

The curious thing is that, within the past few days, no less than three appointments have been gazetted to this very Department. Mr. GAMO SEN became its new *Chokunin* Councillor and Mr. MOTOMURA MATAHISA, Private Secretary of its Minister on the 27th ultimo, and Mr. ARAI SHOGO was gazetted Chief of the Hokkaido Bureau on the 30th ultimo. Thus up to 48 hours before abolishing the Department, the Government was appointing new officials to it. That is peculiar. It looks as though the resolve to abolish was as sudden as its execution was rapid.

THE HAKODATE JURISDICTION AFFAIR.

THE six Chinamen, employés of British men-of-war, who were arrested by the Japanese police in Hakodate for gambling, have been sentenced to 15 days' imprisonment by the local authorities. It is understood that a protest was lodged by Her Britannic Majesty's Representative—acting, doubtless, under instructions from the home Government—against the assumption of jurisdiction by the Japanese authorities in this case, but in spite of the protest, jurisdiction was assumed and exercised. We are unable to discover any reasonable grounds for the protest. A moment's consideration will show that a man's connexion with a British man-of-war does not, under ordinary circumstances, constitute any obstacle to the assumption of jurisdiction over him by the civil power of a foreign country. Suppose that a British war-ship visited a German port, and that some of her crew, going on shore, were apprehended by the police in the act of violating German law. Is there the slightest doubt about the tribunal before which they would be arraigned? Of course not. They would be tried and punished by a German Court. The same is true, *mutatis mutandis*, of a German war-ship in a French port, or a French war-ship in an English port, and so on. In no Occidental country does the fact that a man is serving in a foreign war vessel exempt him from the jurisdiction of the civil courts of that country with respect to a violation of its laws committed on shore. If, then, exemption be claimed under such conditions in Japan, the claim must rest on exceptional grounds, namely, that Japan has conventionally surrendered a portion of her jurisdiction to certain foreign Powers; in other words, the claim must be based on our old friend, extraterritoriality. By treaty Great Britain has

acquired the privilege of exercising criminal jurisdiction over her subjects in Japan. Everybody is familiar with that fact. The words of the Treaty are "British subjects who may commit any crime, &c., shall be tried and punished by the Consul, &c." So, then, the question narrows itself to this:—Were these six Chinamen "British subjects" in the sense contemplated by the Treaty? In the Orders in Council we have definitions of what is meant by "British subject" for the purposes of Consular jurisdiction. The China and Japan Order of 1881, says:—

In this Order, "British subject" means a subject of Her Majesty whether by birth or naturalization. "Foreigner" means a subject of the Emperor of China or of the Mikado of Japan, or a subject or citizen of any other state in amity with Her Majesty.

There is nothing here that can possibly be construed as conferring the title of British subject on the Chinamen arrested in Hakodate. On the contrary, the language of the Order is explicitly fatal to any such title. Turning, however, to a later Order—that of 1884—we find an amplification of the definition.

The expression "British subject" shall include a British protected person in so far as by Treaty, capitulation, grant, usage, sufferance or other lawful means, Her Majesty has jurisdiction in relation to such person in China, Japan and Korea respectively.

Can the six Chinamen be regarded as "protected persons" in the sense of this Order? They have not acquired any such status by treaty; they have not acquired it by capitulation; they have not acquired it by grant; and they have not acquired it by sufferance, since Japan, being now brought face to face with the problem for the first time, declines to "suffer" the procedure. So, then, we are reduced to "usage." But it has been shown above that no usage of the kind exists in Europe or America. The officers or crew of a foreign man-of-war are judiciable by the civil authority of every Occidental country in respect of crimes committed by them after landing in that country. Where, then, is the usage? Last year, if we remember aright, a quotable case occurred in China. The cook of H.M.S. *Essex*, a Chinese, shot a fellow-countryman by accident, and having been arrested by the Chinese police, was afterwards surrendered to the Consular Authorities. But what China permits by "sufferance" has no concern for Japan. China, proverbially supine about matters of jurisdiction, might surrender all her judicial authority, were she so minded, without establishing any precedent that would have the least binding effect upon Japan. The Japanese are jealous about such matters. Where the Treaty can not be invoked against them, they claim to follow the usage observed by Occidental notions in their intercourse with one another, and we think they have a right to make that claim. The usage of Occidental nations offers no precedent for the protest lodged by Her

Majesty's Representative, so far as we can perceive.

Our readers will at once observe that the whole argument in favour of the protest travels in a vicious circle. If these Chinamen would have been exempt from the jurisdiction of the civil authority in a European country, then no reason exists to invoke extraterritorial privileges as a plea for their exemption in Japan. If no usage of the kind is recognised in Europe, then it can not be invoked to establish in Japan a privilege independent of those secured by the extraterritorial clauses of the Treaties.

It is unfortunate that such complications should arise—especially unfortunate in the present case seeing that the Consular Authorities have no competence to inflict a penalty for the special crime of which the Chinese were guilty, namely, gambling, even supposing that the men were handed over to them. Thus Great Britain stands in the position of advancing a claim which, if recognised, would enable the Chinese to escape the first penalty of their offence. How curious and interesting are the problems that present themselves in connexion with that perplexing make-shift, extra-territorial jurisdiction!

DEATH OF MR. C. ABENHEIM.

Death has claimed a foreign victim to dysentery in the person of Mr. Carl Abenheim. Of rather frail physique, Mr. Abenheim has not been in the best of health for the past two years, but when he left Yokohama a fortnight ago for a short trip to Ikao, it was thought that his condition was more favourable than it had been for some time. But at Ikao the first symptoms of what proved his fatal illness presented themselves. He immediately left for Yokohama and undoubtedly the long rough jinrikisha journey to Shibukawa, the tram-ride from there to Mayebashi, then the train to Yokohama proved too much for his debilitated frame. Gradually he grew worse, sinking into the last sleep of death on Monday afternoon. The sudden cutting short of so young a life—he was but 24—is particularly sad, and much sympathy is extended to sorrowing sister, father and brothers.

The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, the cortege leaving the late residence of the deceased on the Bluff at 5.30 p.m. There was a large attendance of friends at the Cemetery, where the funeral service according to Hebrew rites was performed. The floral offerings of sympathy and respect were very beautiful and included wreaths and chaplets from the following:—Messrs. H. Goldman, H. A. Dare, G. Bramhall, J. H. Rosenthal, E. Andreis, A. B. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Grath, Mr. Rose, Mr. and Mrs. H. Moss, Mr. and Mrs. Simon, Messrs. Tanner, Tuska, Russell, Joseph Schedel, Mr. and Mrs. Isaacs, Mr. Oscar Pollak, Dr. Muoro, Messrs. P. J. Hellendaal, J. Wikowski, Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs, Messrs. Schwab (Kobe), F. Solomon, Abbey, E. Mendelson, Mrs. J. Mendelson, Mrs. Wheeler, Messrs. Cohen, Blad, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Stern, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Colton, Mr. and Mrs. H. Pollack, Mr. P. Blum, Mr. and Mrs. H. Blum, Messrs. N. Kawagita, Y. Yoda, M. Kanamori, T. Hashimoto, T. Tonokura, K. Hattori, T. Miyata, Onishi Shoten, K. Egawa, G. Shiraiishi, K. Ohara, Mutsamiya, S. Takano, D. Takagi, G. Onishi, Ishi, and Ueda.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

According to the *Shinri*, the Rev. C. Munzinger has lately published in German his views on the Missionary methods that it is best to adopt in Japan. It is stated that Mr. Munzinger's opinions on this subject have been discussed by various German journals. An epitome of his essay is given in the *Shinri*, from which we extract the following. The first thing that it is important for a Missionary to do on reaching the scene of his labours is to study the peculiarities of the native mind. This can only be done by his identifying himself with the people among whom he resides to a large extent. In Greece he must become a Greek. To the Jews he must be a Jew. This is specially the case in Japan. No amount of piety or Christian zeal in the Missionary will make up for ignorance of the mental characteristics of the Japanese. The experience of the present writer, extended over a number of years, has forced upon him the conviction that in missionary affairs Japan is a country of surprises. One never knows what is going to happen next. The Japanese may be compared to a volcanic mountain which bursts into flame at a time when it looks as though it would remain quiet for ever and whose abnormal activity subsides as quickly as it commenced. The progress of the Japanese resembles that of a serpent. It is not straight in one direction, but consists of a series of convolutions. This fact is abundantly illustrated by the history of Christian missions during the past thirty years. In Japan it is not safe to predict anything.

With the above sentiments the Rev. R. Minami expresses his disagreement in the following terms:—Mr. Munzinger's estimate of Japanese character is based on observation of mere surface feeling and leaves unnoticed the depths of the Japanese mind. Unlike foreigners, the Japanese consider that it is not the proper thing to allow their feelings to find expression in change of countenance. Whether pleased or displeased they aim at presenting a calm front. The greater the issue at stake the more unperturbed do they study to remain. So that when at last a feeling makes itself known, a casual observer is apt to think that its existence and its open expression are contemporaneous; which is not the case. The use of the volcano and the serpent as illustrations of the working of the Japanese mind shows that Mr. Munzinger has not rightly understood it. When that mind is quiet it is not idle; it is assimilating material to strengthen it for future efforts. Mr. Munzinger says that in Japan there are few *kofiki-shinta* (beggar converts), but that there are numbers of persons whose chief object in coming to the Missionary is to improve their knowledge of some foreign tongue. To me this latter class appear as no other than "beggar converts," since their aim is to get worldly profit out of connection with the Missionary. It is undeniable that such persons are blameworthy, but so also are the Missionaries who receive them. Mr. Munzinger says that party spirit being highly developed in Japan in missionary work, there is a strong tendency among the Japanese to split up into a number of parties, resulting in the accomplishment of only a small portion of the work that could be done by one strong body. Mr. Munzinger also observes that Christianity in Japan is too much mixed up with politics. Church questions are all more or less affected by politics. The American missionaries who include politics in their divinity courses at theological seminaries are to a large extent responsible for this state of things. With these opinions in the main, I agree, observes Mr. Minami, but I think that the American Missionaries acted wisely in teaching politics to theological students, as a knowledge of this subject is indispensable to a Christian minister if he is to preach intelligently on the questions of the day.

To the term and to the thing signified by "Japanese Christianity" Mr. Munzinger objects as it implies that Christianity is capable of being

changed to suit Japanese taste. The aim of Missionaries must be to teach a Christianity that shall assert its dominion over the whole of the Japanese mind and mould it into its own shape, instead of a Christianity that can be modified to suit national peculiarities.

* * *

From the *Fukuin Shimpō* we extract the following particulars bearing on the progress of Christian work in the Methodist Mission during the year ending June 30th, 1897. *Literature*:—Thirty books have been issued during the year, the total number of copies printed being 35,200. Under the head of miscellaneous publications there were 27 different works printed, the total number of copies being 151,000. For use in Sunday schools 10,000 copies of various small works have been issued. Seven small English books; no. of copies printed, 8,160. Sum realised by sale of books, yen 12,699. The total number of full members is 3,524, showing an increase of 155 over last year. Catechisms number 1,197. There have been 518 baptisms during the year, being an increase of 53 over last year. The proportion of infant baptisms is not given. The sum of 8,055 yen has been expended in the salaries of pastors, being an increase of 1,745 yen over last year.

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Statistics are furnished by the same organ on Mr. Hara's work among released prisoners. From January 1st to June 30th, no less than 262 received assistance of various kinds, some being helped to find places, and sheltered and fed while idle; others being sent to their native provinces or placed out in the metropolis. The sum of 881 yen has been subscribed towards the erection of a Refuge for discharged prisoners, 517 yen of which has already been spent.

* * *

In the pages of the *Seikyō Shimpō* it is contended that the civilisation which Japan has adopted from the West is founded on Christianity and hence that Japan has adopted Christianity unawares. The manner in which Japan treated her prisoners and wounded Chinese in the late war, supplying the latter with Red Cross Society nurses, is cited as an instance of the manner in which Christian influences have so mixed themselves up with the Western system of civilisation adopted as to be inseparable from it. Neither Buddhism nor Confucianism ever exercised such a beneficent influence on the actions of men in time of war. The writer goes as far as to say that Japan's whole success in the war is to be traced to her having borrowed from the West a Christian form of civilisation, and that her new codes are based on Christianity and hence the assertion that she is indifferent to Christianity is not correct, she, in an indirect manner, having accepted Christianity. Even Buddhism has in many respects been transformed by Christian influences, and among modern Japanese scholars it has, in the case of men like the late Mr. Nakamura Keiu, and the active and enterprising proprietor of the *Yiji Shimpō*, made itself distinctly felt.

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The organ we have just quoted from furnishes the following statistics bearing on the growth of the Greek Church: At the Annual Church Meeting held in Tōkyō, July 12th, it was announced that the baptisms during the year have been 954, an increase of 11 over last year's record. The total number of converts is 23,514, and of ordained pastors and other workers 189. Ten young men have graduated at the school of Divinity during the year.

* * *

Dr. Itō Keisuke, the well-known Botanist, has reached the age of 95. According to a correspondent of the *Zaiyō* who has interviewed the old gentleman, Dr. Itō has for many years past lived a most exemplary life, imparting daily instruction to the members of his household, the purport of which is the fear of God, respect for loyalty, integrity of life, kindness and forbearance to each other, moderation in eating and drinking, early hours and diligence in the

business of life. "My eyes are so dim that I can hardly see, my ears so deaf that I can hardly hear; and my hand shakes so much that I can hardly hold a pen," says the aged scholar, "but there is one thing that I can do, which is to take care that nothing that I say or do shall be a stumbling block to my fellow-men."

* * *

The *Nihonjin* argues that it is inconsistent of Mr. Fukuzawa to open a raid against religion on the score of its ineffectiveness in the business world. In the opinion of the *Nihonjin*, Mr. Fukuzawa himself is to a large extent responsible for the materialism and money-loving spirit of the age, he having persistently advocated industrial and commercial development and all-absorbing attention to the business of money-making. He more than any other man has ridiculed the uselessness of the ancient *samurai*. This type of manhood has now become a thing of the past, but so has the moral code which the ancient *samurai* practised, the superiority to worldly maxims and the total absence of sordidness that he displayed. Mr. Fukuzawa does not like the change and appeals to teachers of religion in his distress. Apart altogether from the consistency or inconsistency of Mr. Fukuzawa, it is quite true that Japan has never needed religion so much as she does now. Life has become grovelling; money is becoming the standard of all things. The Government is corrupt, the Law is without efficacy, the Constitution has little merit, members of the Diet have bartered away what virtue they had; Courts of justice wield little influence. The nation is in a bad state and calls for help to any and every form of faith. May not religion be made to do here what it has done in the great business circles of the West? May it not act as a deterrent to check the progress of the corruption that has already set in?

* * *

The *Kyōrin* (Shintō) advocates the erection of shrines and temples in various parts of Formosa, the distribution of charms, trinkets, &c., among the natives and other efforts designed to render the inhabitants loyal subjects of the Emperor of Japan. In the opinion of the *Kyōrin* the Government should lend its assistance in pushing Shinto in the newly acquired territory, this being the only sure way of securing the permanent allegiance of Formosans to Japan.

Mr. Naitō Chisō, a rank conservative in all Shintō matters, objects altogether to the new Shintoists represented by the *Nihon Shugi*. In a letter addressed to the *Kyōrin* he contends that there can be no such thing as "New Shintō." The way of the Gods is old and ever must be so regarded. The new movement is their attempt to pander to modern tastes and has no business to make use of the term Shintō. The boasted independence of the new party exists only on paper. When the representatives of this party state that their chief object is to adopt Shintō to the modern spirit, they at once confess that they are no longer independent. They bow to that transient and unstable thing, the spirit of the age. Alarmed by the proximity of mixed residence and the inevitable contact with foreigners, they abandon the creed which we have received from our ancestors and attempt to construct a fabric more in harmony with foreign models. As for me, nothing would induce me to give up a creed that has stood the test of ages for a set of doctrines that are nothing more than an accommodation to passing sentiment. Those who say that ancient Shintō is not suitable to the present age are too ignorant of its teaching to be entitled to express an opinion on the matter.

* * *

Shintoists are, we observe, advocating the purging of the Shintō Pantheon of foreign elements. In many cases Buddhist divinities and gods of Hindoo origin have been worshipped at Shintō temples and not a few priests combine Shintō and Buddhist rites in a most improper manner, says the Shintō organ from which we quote. It is a disgrace to find in the temples of Hachiman, Kasuga, and other gods persons worshipping Brahmanic divinities.

The Shintoists have held a meeting of priests

from all parts of Japan, at which it was decided to petition the Diet next session for the revived of the office 神祇官 Jingi-kan, and to take other steps for furthering the interests of the sect.

The *Bukkyō* publishes a well-written and spirited article on the present condition of Buddhism throughout the country, the tone of which is pessimistic from beginning to end. The writer contends that Buddhism is dead. He sees no object in hiding the real facts. The attempts of numerous organs to make things appear better than they are may be traced to self-interest, to the desire to retain as long as possible the worldly advantages incidental to the position occupied by leading priests. In our opinion, says the *Bukkyō*, the only way to cure evils is to expose them, and this is what we have to say about modern Buddhism. Though the 13 sects and 30 branches all have their temples, their literary organs, and their priests, there is no life in the whole affair. The machinery is there, but it does not work. The relations of main temples to branch temples, of priests to their parishioners, of priests to the divinities they profess to worship, of sects to each other, of teachers to scholars, of preachers to hearers, of Buddhists as a body to society, are all alike characterised by perfunctoriness, artificiality and formality. Between the faith professed and the works accomplished there is no correspondence. Faith that hath no works is dead. There is no feeling of responsibility for parishioners with priests and no real respect for priests among parishioners. The class of priests known as *Sekkyō-sō* (Teaching Priests) consists for the most part of unlearned men who have never penetrated beneath the surface of things, and whose performances have, therefore, been well described as resembling those of stage-actors. The state of mind of the junior priests who in the natural course of events will be called upon to become rectors is most unsatisfactory. The majority of them take no interest in their religion and are looking with longing eyes on lucrative professions. Wherever there is the slightest inducement, they are ready to renounce their orders and devote themselves to money-making. The connection of branch temples to main temples is purely a financial affair. The main temple holds the purse strings and hence deference is shown to it. To act as centres of organisation and religious life is not a part that these temples aspire to play. The influence wielded by Chief-Abbots is all connected with money. A body without a living heart, a number of limbs with no living nerves to connect them with an all-controlling will—such is modern Buddhism.

The *Kokumin-no-tomo* thinks that sufficient attention is not paid to the religious education of children in Japan. In an article on this subject from the pen of Mr. Matsumoto Kōjiro it is maintained that it is possible to impart religious instruction of a purely scientific kind, so that the doctrines taught will suit equally well any form of faith that may be adopted in after years—a theory that looks well on paper.

The Nihon Fukuin-dōmei-kai held its ninth General Meeting in Tōkyō last month. Mr. Minami says that the Society has made remarkable progress in the past few years. In 1890 it objected to fraternise with members of the Jiyū Kirisutokyo and forbade Christians belonging to the "Friend's" mission from joining. At that time it used to spend hours in the discussion of knotty theological questions. Now all is changed. Nobody inquires as to what sect Christians belong. Theological questions are not introduced and the Society confines itself to the discussion of Christian work. Christians, concludes Mr. Minami, have a hard task before them and there is much that is unfavourable in the state of the world to-day, but they should not be discouraged, as all great causes have encountered and overcome similar difficulties.

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* reports an address de-

livered by the new President of the Dōshisha, Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo, in which the present condition and future prospects of the institution are discussed. The Dōshisha has now reached its low water mark, says Professor Yokoi. Formerly, under the management of Mr. Nijijima, it was attended by 800 or 900 students. Ten years ago among private schools there was none to compare with it. There are now not more than about 300 pupils in attendance. If the Dōshisha is to be considered an ordinary high class school, then its future existence and prosperity are by no means assured. It is essential to its success that it should be distinctly ethical in character, that it should wield Christian influences. There are three principles which need to be insisted on in Japan at the present time. (1) *Individualism*.—In Oriental ethical systems the place assigned to the individual is very inferior. (2) *Universal brotherhood*.—It was this idea that led Mr. Nijijima to set about founding the institution. There are those who maintain that this principle is opposed to nationalism, in fact, is subversive of patriotism. But to me no nationalism that is not blended with a deep regard for all members of the human race, as such, is of any value. I may go further and say that the nationalism that engenders hatred of foreigners is positively dangerous to the nation that it influences. It is impossible to observe the growth of this species of nationalism without anxiety. (3) *Ethical Nationality*.—The importance of the State as a means of insuring the welfare of mankind should be based in teaching on ethical principles. Our feeling towards our country should be that which is so well expressed by Wordsworth,

But dearly must we prize thee: we who find
In thee a bulwark for the cause of men.

If in the future Dōshisha these three principles are emphasized, the institution, like the Keiō gijuku and the Waseda Semmon Gakkō, will possess a distinct character of its own and hence its success will be assured.

In the *Shūkyō* Mr. Taguchi Ukichi is reported to have given utterance to the following sentiments when speaking on "Self-love" at the Commencement Exercises of the Senshingaku-in. The essence of self-love consists in making oneself independent of other people; as the world is now constituted, altruism has to be bestowed by one set of people and received by another. But this is an inferior state of existence. There is a higher ideal. Men ought to have sufficient self-respect and independence of spirit to be above becoming objects of charity. A state of society where there is a large call for charity is a hotbed of servility and dishonesty. As a principle, individualism is in every way superior to altruism, having for its object the rendering of each individual independent of others, while altruism implies the existence of a large class of people who either cannot or will not help themselves. Good and bad acts are all related to a state of society which it is most undesirable to perpetuate. Much of what is pronounced virtue at the present day, the help given by the fortunate to the unfortunate, the rich to the poor, would not exist were that higher stage of existence, universal self-respect and independence, reached. It is worthy of remark that Ikkyū referred to this higher plane of attainment when he wrote:—

Yo no naka ni jiji mo akuji mo senu hito wa,
Sasoya Yemmo mo komari-nuru ran.

The meaning of which is that Pluto would be puzzled what to do with men who have done no evil themselves and have not deemed it necessary to extend charity to others. To send them to Elysium or to Tartarus would be alike unreasonable. Thus did Ikkyū plainly perceive that between what is known as virtue and vice there is a state of existence in which the mind is independent of both. To reach that state is the aim of everyone who cultivates to the full the self-respect which is superior to receiving favours from others that can never be returned.*

* In reference to the evils attendant on the giving and receiving of charity, Mr. Leslie Stephen has expressed himself in similar terms to those used by Mr. Taguchi.

In the same number of the *Shūkyō* from which the above is taken is an Editorial entitled *Kokusui no kantei wa kaikaku sakkyō igo no koto*, "Judgment on nationalism must be postponed till after the opening of the country and mixed residence," of which we give the following epitome. The value of the characteristics which constitute the essence of Japanese nationality can only be tested by coming into contact with the national traits of foreigners. There is a great deal of loose, illogical sentiment afloat in reference to the subject of Japanese nationality. There are those who argue that Japan has no occasion to borrow anything from Occidentals: she is equipped with all she needs. There are others who contend that there is little that is native to the soil worth preserving: Japan needs Europeanising down to the very roots of her being. Both these theories are untenable. To retain what is valuable and to eradicate what is no longer of use must be the course adopted by all well-informed minds. People talk as though what is called nationality was some uncompounded chemical substance that never changed, instead of being a compound consisting of elements derived from a variety of sources, which is ever undergoing new modifications. The value of what we call our nationality will be well tested by the process to which it will be shortly subjected. On its superiority to that possessed by alien races it is too early to pronounce an opinion. It is not until it is displayed in the great markets of the world side by side with foreign commodities that the real value of the produce of any one nation can be determined. We have Buddhists on the one hand and Shintoists on the other expressing great anxiety lest mixed residence should work great harm to their cause. They seem to shrink from subjecting their doctrines and practices to the only sure test of merit—the world's approval. The nationalism which can come into contact with Occidentalism without losing its identity, that and that only will be worthy of preservation. The term nationalism current to-day includes a number of diverse elements and is used in many senses; that combination which most accords with the career that Japan has mapped out for herself alone can become permanent.

The *Rikugō Zasshi* in commenting on an article from the pen of the Rev. Arthur Lloyd on "The Presentation of Christianity to Japan," published a few months ago in the "Far East," says that Mr. Lloyd shows a liberality of sentiment rare among Missionaries, who, in presenting Christianity to others, are swayed by their own prejudices and proclivities. But there is one question which it is pertinent to ask in connection with Mr. Lloyd's article. Are the evidences which he adduces confined to Christianity alone, or do they not equally suit other creeds? If Mr. Lloyd's design was to show that Christianity differs from all other religions in the possession of a perfection that is absolute, his arguments are inadequate. Judged by this criterion the attempt is a failure.

The opponents and the supporters of the Shintō Nationalistic movement are still causing no small stir in the religious world, and amid the variety of interpreters of the real significance of the new departure, it is not easy to reach any satisfactory conclusion. The most probable theory is that the projectors of the movement are not agreed among themselves as to details. They have a vague notion that the interests of nationalism are to be pushed by a revival of Shintō. In the copy of the *Nihon Shugi* before us, Dr. Motora takes pains to show that principles such as nationalism, individualism, and the like have no real connection with religion, and that the cause espoused by the *Nihon Shugi* only has one object, namely, the deepening of patriotic feeling.

The *Nihon Shūkyō* argues that the only way to determine the nature of the new movement is to examine closely the general views of its chief promoters, who are all well-known men. On this subject it furnishes the following particulars,

(1) Dr. Motora Yūjirō:—Dr. Motora was formerly a Christian of considerable reputation, who studied at a Theological College abroad. Having given up Christianity, on his return to Japan, he prepared a work called *Kōka Rinri* (State Ethics), founded on advanced German treatises on the same subject, which was never published. Some 7 or 8 years ago, Dr. Motora commenced to collect opinions on the ethical notions entertained in the various provinces of Japan, and subsequently published a work on Ethics. Dr. Motora is a quiet, plodding, scholarly man and not one to be carried away by a sudden emotion. He has joined the present movement deliberately and from conviction and is to be regarded as second to none among its supporters.

Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō:—Dr. Inoue is considered by some to be a great admirer of, if not a believer in, Buddhism. His *Shūkyō Kyōiku Shōtotsu-ron* (Conflict between Religion and Education), seemed to indicate this in addition to revealing his antipathy to Christianity. But the truth is that Dr. Inoue rejects both Christianity and Buddhism. His work on "Mixed Residence" published a short time ago had a strong leaning towards the views championed by the *Nihon Shugi*.

Mr. Kimura Takatarō:—A literary graduate of the Imperial University, an earnest student and admirer of Shinō and Zoroastrianism, and the author of the *Hai-Bukkyō* (Abolition of Buddhism). Mr. Kimura has for some years past been moving in the direction of nationalism.

Mr. Yumoto Takehiko:—The son of a Shinō priest, sent to Germany to study, Mr. Yumoto became enamoured of German views on State ethics, and returned to Japan with the resolve to combine German and Shinō principles in the elaboration of a system of nationalism.

Mr. Takenouchi Manzō:—Mr. Takenouchi is very well known in religious circles. Originally a Shintoist, some years ago he joined the Methodist mission and studied at Aoyama. Subsequently he became a member of the Kirisuto Kyōkai and carried on evangelistic work in connection with that body. His next step was to join the Unitarians and to study at the Senshōgaku-in, where he spent three years. For about a year he wrote for the *Shūkyō* and now he has turned into an earnest advocate of nationalism, preaches the necessity of purging morality of religious elements. He represents Christianity as destructive of patriotism. By the foregoing it will be perceived that Mr. Takenouchi is a man of remarkable mental capacity. The only thing that surprises us is the length of time it has taken him to attain the knowledge he now possesses.

Mr. Takayama Rinjiro:—Among young writers a man of considerable promise, Mr. Takayama in the summer of last year, published an article in the *Sekai no Nihon* on "Religion and Art" in which religion received high praise. The next thing we hear of him is that he is in favour of the abandonment of all forms of religion and the adoption in lieu of them of the principles of nationalism. The rapidity with which his convictions change is a cause for wonder.

Mr. Kurabara Ikaku:—Formerly a Christian, in late years an earnest advocate of evolution, Mr. Kurabara seems to have acted deliberately in identifying himself with the new movement.

The gist of the *Nihon Shūkyō*'s contention is that, whatever may be thought as to the permanent success of the new scheme, its chief promoters are undoubtedly earnest men who regard with alarm the extent to which certain sections of the community are adopting Western notions *en masse*, and whose chief object it is to stir up those conservative instincts which lie dormant in Japanese breasts, and thus erect some kind of a bulwark against the inroads of the still more powerful Occidentalism which new Treaties and Mixed Residence will introduce. But to not a few keen observers the movement appears to be nothing but an attempt to stop the sea with a mop.

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for July, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1896.	1897.
Exports	7,347,198.520	10,636,311.670
Imports	14,653,927.710	17,540,099.350
Total exports and imports	22,001,126.230	28,176,411.020
Excess of imports	7,306,728.690	6,903,787.680
CUSTOMS DUTIES.		
Exports	148,857.391	148,857.391
Imports	504,143.637	504,143.637
Miscellaneous	19,975.740	19,975.740
Total	672,976.768	672,976.768

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
China	3,318,951.430	2,018,616.300	5,337,567.730
Hongkong	2,211,093.800	1,161,486.080	3,372,579.880
British India	446,109.730	2,553,748.730	3,000,858.460
Korea	859,995.340	460,397.630	1,320,392.970
Annam & other French India	993.090	684,033.120	685,026.210
Philippine Islands	87,304.300	410,890.950	498,195.250
Russian Asia	360,070.910	76,180.000	436,250.910
Siam	3,310.060	28,956.460	32,266.520
Great Britain	677,975.850	42,500.336.180	5,208,312.540
Germany	196,000.010	2,333,813.330	2,529,813.340
France	997,818.570	437,894.580	1,435,713.150
Switzerland	3,094.170	210,774.650	213,868.820
Netherlands	1,540.300	119,066.110	120,606.410
Italy	75,993.950	38,309.910	114,303.860
Russia	26,600.700	6,388.970	32,989.670
Austria	41,000.000	7,468.900	48,468.900
Spain	100.000	10,112.160	10,212.160
Holland	8,850.800	490.340	9,341.140
Portugal	—	3,063.900	3,063.900
Denmark	515.000	8,471.480	8,986.480
Sweden and Norway	—	471.480	471.480
Turkey	355.000	—	355.000
United States of America	3,994,405.090	3,443,938.070	7,438,343.160
Canada and other British America	433,599.370	35,218.170	468,817.540
Peru	1,000.000	—	1,000.000
Australia	163,368.880	66,117.070	229,485.950
Hawaii	21,000.910	—	21,000.910
Other Countries	30,113.770	127,379.430	157,493.200
Total	10,314,005.090	17,540,099.350	27,854,104.440

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	4,466,190.630	7,597,172.730	12,063,363.360
Kobe	4,810,015.080	8,476,399.510	13,286,414.590
Osaka	1,133,315.010	219,135.940	1,352,450.950
Nagasaki	449,512.880	89,067.490	538,580.370
Hakodate	44,418.370	3,136.180	47,554.550
Niigata	3,130.280	112.450	3,242.730
Shimonoseki	200,919.730	163,797.390	364,717.120
Mori	27,991.000	—	27,991.000
Hikata	800,019.740	377.510	800,397.250
Karatsu	36,974.000	284.000	37,258.000
Kuchinotsu	338,551.570	39,636.000	378,187.570
Idzumi	9,660.800	39,697.010	49,357.810
Shishimi	2,000.970	6,089.700	8,090.670
Nasuna	581.180	796.800	1,377.980
Hamada	39.500	593.930	633.430
Ikai	—	2,500.000	2,500.000
Muroran	71,536.600	—	71,536.600
Otsu	69,351.100	—	69,351.100
Specie and Bullion { Exports	551,547.490		
{ Imports	133,366.890		
Total	684,914.380		

Excess of imports

By Japanese Merchants { Exports

{ Imports

Imported by Government

VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED AND IMPORTED EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	11,848,718.010	13,321,882.780	25,169,600.790
February	11,566,703.320	13,318,888.490	24,885,591.810
March	14,481,499.770	17,790,093.860	32,271,593.630
April	11,355,418.320	18,103,814.940	29,459,233.260
May	14,518,141.800	20,354,406.120	34,872,547.920
June	11,888,003.150	16,198,099.310	28,086,102.460
July	10,530,321.670	17,540,099.350	28,070,421.020
Total	85,707,796.260	116,581,323.790	202,289,120.050

DEATH OF MR. G. C. B. DUNLOP.

It is with regret that we announce this morning the death of Mr. G. C. Buchanan Dunlop, which occurred at Ikao on Thursday afternoon. Brief particulars of Mr. Dunlop's demise were contained in a Japanese telegram that reached Messrs. Findlay, Richardson & Co.'s offices in Yokohama between five and six o'clock yesterday afternoon, but the hour of his passing away was not given. Mr. Dunlop and his family were spending a holiday, avoiding the heat of Yokohama, at Kindayu's hotel, Ikao, the pretty health resort that straggles up one of the flanks of Mount Haruna, and a couple of weeks ago was attacked with dysentery. At first the malady was not considered serious, but gradually the sufferer grew worse and Dr. Wheeler was telegraphed for. The good doctor at once left for Ikao and stayed there with the patient for a few days. Meanwhile one of Mr. Dunlop's little girls contracted the malady, as did also the European nursemaid. An improvement taking place in the condition of

all, Dr. Wheeler returned to Yokohama. But on Thursday he was again telegraphed for, but before he could reach Ikao, Mr. Dunlop must have succumbed. The deceased was the local resident partner of one of the oldest firms in the Far East, Messrs. Findlay, Richardson & Co., who have houses in Manila, Kobe, and Yokohama, with head offices in Glasgow. Many years of his life were spent in Manila, and the effects of its trying climate were undoubtedly present in Mr. Dunlop's system to the end. Ever since coming to Yokohama Mr. Dunlop has been a familiar figure among the horsemen of Yokohama, for he took a keen interest in all that related to equestrianism and the welfare of the Nippon Race Club. Much sympathy is extended to the widow and family in their sad bereavement.

THE LATEST MESSAGERIES MARITIMES STEAMER.

The courteous and enterprising agent of the Messageries Maritimes sent out invitations to a reception on board the Company's new steamer *Laos*, for Wednesday afternoon, and some two or three hundred ladies and gentlemen of Yokohama, of divers nationalities, availed themselves of the opportunity of inspecting one of the finest vessels that has ever entered Yokohama port, and of partaking of the lavish hospitality of M. Conil, the Company's local agent, and Captain Flandin, of the *Laos*. The four long tables in the first class saloon were spread with delicacies sufficient to tempt the appetite of the most abstemious epicure, while sparkling champagne cup and other liquid refreshments were served out to the guests *ad lib* by a well trained and obliging staff of stewards. From two till half-past five p.m. the *Laos* was thronged with visitors, most of whom we doubt not, with ourselves, left the good ship with a longing desire to make a lengthened trip in her. The *Laos* is the newest vessel built for the great company which owns her and needless to say she embodies all the latest improvements in construction and fittings known to the shipbuilding art. She was built at La Ciotat at the Messageries Maritimes' own works and left Marseilles on her maiden trip on the 17th July, making, as has already been reported, a splendid, if not a record, run out to the Far East. She is a twin screw steamer of 6,357 tons gross, 2,331 tons English register, and is 474 feet long, 52 feet beam and 37 feet deep. She is fitted with Belleville boilers of 7,200 horse-power and can steam a little over 19 knots an hour. The *Laos* is constructed with a view to being utilised as a cruiser if necessary and is fitted with abutments for guns on the main and promenade deck. Her accommodation for passengers is exceptionally large and well arranged, and in the furnishing and decoration of the saloons, music room, smoking room, and first class state rooms no expense has been spared, and in this respect probably she is the finest vessel that has ever been owned by the Company. The first class saloon is on the main deck, with ceiling open to the roof of the promenade deck above, a gallery, attached to the music room, running round the sides. The fittings and decoration are superb and culminate in the fine art work displayed in the music room on the promenade deck, the walls and ceiling of which are frescoed with paintings by leading artists and beautiful gilt mouldings in the Louis Fourteenth style. The wood carving and panelling in the saloon is also exquisite in its design and finish, and with the fine plate glass at the end of the saloon, the effect produced is that of a saloon or drawing room in a hotel of the very first class. The second saloon, though not so ornate, is a fine airy apartment running athwart ship the full breadth of the vessel. The cabins are more commodious than is usual, light and cheerful and are fitted up in pitch pine, mostly with from two to four comfortable beds in each. Under every bed or bunk is a cork life buoy. The ship is fitted throughout with the electric light, as well

as every other convenience of latest invention, the bathrooms and lavatories in particular showing a vast improvement on the old order of things. In addition to the comforts of a first class hotel, provided by the *Laos*, the vessel, moreover, has proved herself a first class sea boat.

KOREA IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

We have already learned, through the medium of a brief Reuter's telegram, that the question of Russia in Korea came upon the *tapis* in the House of Commons on July 19th. The full report of the debate is now before us. Sir Charles Dilke said:—

Turning to our position in the further East, I do not see there, any more than in connexion with Crete and Greece, any sign of what the hon. and gallant member for the Wirral Division of Cheshire called the "strong and resolute will of Lord Salisbury." What had happened in Korea was a sort of test case as regards our influence in northern China. The Russians had landed a force of marines in Korea, and we landed British marines at the same time, thus showing our continued interest in Korea. After that came another curious development of our policy—the fuss we made over Li Hung-chang, certainly a case now admitted to be one which on another occasion Lord Salisbury had described as putting our money on the wrong horse. Since that time the policy so well expressed by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in his remarkable book, "Problems of the Far East," seemed to have been abandoned, and Korea, left to its fate, came under Russian influence together with the whole of Northern China. There was a Blue-book which contained assurances which had been received from Russia with regard to the future of Korea. Russia practically pledged herself not to occupy or to interfere with the Korean territory. But there was a very large Russian staff at the present time drilling the Korean troops and the palace guard. Russia had obtained concessions in Korea for the working of timber and the mining of gold; she had made over the railway to be constructed to a French company, and she had received a special frontier tariff. He thus failed to see any sign of that strong and resolute will in the conduct of foreign affairs which the hon. member for Wirral described.

To these remarks the Honourable Mr. Curzon replied as follows:—

The right hon. baronet has asked some questions about Korea, and I do not in the least deprecate his allusion to British policy in regard to this part of the world. I am always very glad when I find members taking a great interest in that which I think myself a most important subject of Imperial politics.—(Hear, hear.) With regard to the views I have myself ventured to express I do not know that they very substantially differ from those which have been entertained and acted upon by the present Government. The right hon. gentleman asks us to state what are our interests in Korea. Well, I imagine that the independence of Korea is of international interest, but the right hon. gentleman knows enough of the history of the Far East to know that Korea is feeble and has never been able to stand alone. For years, and for centuries, she leaned upon China, and now, since the war is over, she, by virtue of a sort of common agreement, leans on Russia and Japan. The right hon. baronet seemed to think that Korea had been abandoned to her fate and that she was to be left to share the fate of Northern China, but I must say I do not agree with his account of the incidents. British interests in Korea are, of course, not identical in character or in moment with the interests of the other Powers I have mentioned. We have not a contiguous frontier, as have Russia and China, and, in the second place, we do not gaze at her across the seas, as does Japan. We have, of course, commercial interest in Korea—interests which I should be the last to minimize, but interests not assessable at a very high figure, and they have never yet persuaded any British firm to embark on mercantile enterprise there. Our interests in Korea are commercial, and first, to see that the independence of Korea is maintained, that it is not territorially or administratively absorbed into the Empire of Russia; secondly, that Korean territory and Korean harbours are not made the base of schemes for territorial aggrandizement, so as to disturb the balance of power in the Far East and give to one Power a maritime supremacy in the Eastern seas. Commercial expansion is a thing we must expect, and which we must endeavour

with the means at our disposal to meet, but any such attempts as I have been describing by one Power would find us ready to protect our own interests there.—(Hear, hear.)

FLOATING CAPITAL OF JAPAN.

According to the *Shogyo Shimpō* the amount of reserves as well as paid-up capitals of the various banks throughout the Empire for the past five years are as follow:—

Year.	Capital. Yen.	Reserves. Yen.
1892	85,681,777	26,040,111
1893	94,572,848	27,104,047
1894	101,409,881	30,231,153
1895	127,807,715	34,623,518
1896	245,134,544	(uncertain.)

The temporary and fixed deposits of these banks were as follow:—

Year.	Temporary deposits. Yen.	Fixed deposits. Yen.	Other deposits. Yen.	Totals. Yen.
1892	34,950,705	20,939,057	14,963,370	61,164,032
1893	46,796,621	27,960,817	10,078,274	85,735,712
1894	62,174,911	27,049,607	15,027,727	104,752,245
1895	89,220,665	58,440,993	21,069,071	148,730,729

The figures for Savings banks and deposits in post offices are:—

Year.	Banks. Yen.	Post Offices. Yen.
1892	7,205,423	21,341,492
1893	6,088,976	24,052,182
1894	6,871,327	23,289,346
1895	12,178,268	26,373,961

It may therefore be perceived that the amount of reserves and paid-up capital of the various banks, deposits, and savings and the amount paid into post offices throughout the Empire, all of which may be represented under the head of floating capital, has, since the 25th year of *Meiji* (1892), increased as follows:—

Year.	Totals. Yen.	Rate of increase per cent.
1892	209,834,835	—
1893	237,493,805	13
1894	267,553,991	28
1895	349,826,191	67
1896	(uncertain)	—

THE LOST "CHENG HYE TENG."

The *China Mail* publishes the following telegram:—

Shanghai, August 25th, 5 p.m.
Mr. Collins, third engineer of the Penang-owned steamer *Cheng Hye Teng*, and ten Japanese and Malay members of the crew, have arrived at Ningpo.

The steamer, which was on a voyage from Moji to Hongkong with coal, was caught in a typhoon, and foundered on the 10th inst.

Captain Scott, who was in command, committed suicide by shooting.

Four European officers and engineers and the other members of the mixed crew—making a total of twenty-one—were drowned.

The survivors had been drifting about for four and a-half days in an open boat, without food or water, when they were picked up by a Chinese junk and rescued. The boat was towed into Ningpo.

THE SCIENTIFIC COOK OF TO-DAY.

Give me a spoon of oleo, ma,
And the sodium alkali,
For I'm going to bake a pie, mamma,
I'm going to bake a pie.
For John will be hungry and tired, ma,
And his tissues will decompose;
So give me a gramme of phosphate,
And the carbon and cellulose.
Now give me a chunk of caseine, ma,
To shorten the thermic fat;
And hand me the oxygen bottle, ma,
And look at the thermostat;
And if the electric oven's cold,
Just turn it on half a ohm,
For I want to have supper ready
As soon as John comes home.

The penny-in-the-slot business is likely to go out of favour. London lads have conceived the device of cutting penny-sized discs out of the zinc advertisement placards placed in railway carriages. One firm which has automatic machines for supplying packets of sweetmeats to persons dropping in pennies, has received from 800 to 900 zinc discs.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The death is announced at Shanghai, in his 65th year, of Mr. Barnes Dallas.

Owing to a Chinaman being missing from the steamer *Airlie* when she was leaving Sydney, the agents had to pay £100 poli tax.

Among the collections bequeathed by Sir A. W. Franks to the British Museum there is a large group of Japanese *netsuke* and another of sword-guards.

The autobiography of Admiral of the Fleet the Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, from 1800 to the present time, is in the press and will be published by R. Bentley and Sons.

It is stated that the house built by the late Mr. Barney Barnato in Park-lane has been purchased by Sir Edward Sassoon (heir of the late Sir Albert Sassoon, of Brighton), for the sum of £100,000.

Mr. G. L. Jessop, the Cambridge University cricketer, playing for Gloucestershire against Warwickshire, on July 20th and 21st, scored 126 runs in 90 minutes. He made his first 50 in half an hour, and his 100 in 70 minutes. He hit 19 fours, three threes and ten twos.

"Lad's Love," the title of Mr. Crockett's latest book, was the old name for scented worm-wood, a sprig of which woovers used to wear when they went courting, and our grandmothers were wont to carry with them in their Bibles to church.

The *Powerful*, cruiser, Captain the Hon. H. Lambton, was taken into Portsmouth Dockyard on 17th July to be completed for service on the China Station. The following appointment has been made at the Admiralty:—Fleet Paymaster W. H. F. Kay to the *Powerful*.

A corner building site measuring 3,210 square feet and fronting Piccadilly and Old Bond-street, in London, was recently sold for £115,000; that is to say, nearly £36 per square foot. It will be a long time before a city lot in Tokyo fetches thirteen thousand yen per *tsubo*.

Investigations made by the Agricultural and Commercial Department, as published in the *Tokio Asahi*, show the area of mulberry plantations throughout the empire to have reached 288,937 *cho* (about 722,342 acres). Fukushima *Ken* ranks foremost with an area of 29,422 *cho*; Gunma comes next with 28,740 *cho*, and is followed by Nagano with 25,348 *cho*.

The Philippines seem to be still greatly disturbed, according to papers just received from Manila. The *China Mail* says that the fighting is confined to central Luzon, and official accounts all give out that the insurgents receive defeat after defeat. Manila newspapers are full of advertisements of estates and property for sale by people evidently desirous of getting out of the country.

On the way from Hongkong to Singapore Capt. Christiansen, of the Kingslin-liner *Della*, picked up at sea, about 500 miles from shore, a Chinaman in a sampan. So far as could be learnt the unfortunate Celestial set out from Pulau Siantan with copra, and had been five days at sea when he was picked up. He was brought on to Singapore, and now seems half deranged as the result of his sufferings.

We learn that the new U.S. Tariff Law, while allowing the import of Japanese tea duty free, so far as the schedule of duties imposed is concerned, at the same time empowers the President to impose a duty of 10 cents per pound on tea, coffee, chicory, etc., in cases where the country from which such articles are imported shall be considered to have unfairly taxed American products.

On the evening of the 15th August, a severe shock of earthquake, accompanied in many places by subterranean noises, was generally felt in Manila and throughout Luzon. In Vigan many houses were thrown down, including

that of the Captain of the Port. No lives appear to have been lost. The greatest angle of movement was 6.52.12, and the direction from north-west to south-east. The duration was 49 seconds.

An estimate has been prepared and laid on the table of the House of Commons of the expenses incurred by the Jubilee Celebration. The sum, the *Pall Mall Gazette* says, amounts to eighty thousand pounds, and a large part of it is divided between the Departments of the Lord Chamberlain, the Master of the Horse, and Lord Steward. The vote also includes the cost of entertaining the Colonial Prime Ministers.

It appears that the now celebrated despatch of Mr. Sherman about the Behring Sea Question, was an isolated paper of old date (May 10th) which had been answered in due course. Its publication did not retard the progress of the negotiations in London. Nothing, therefore, could be more erroneous than to contend, as some American journals have contended, that Great Britain's consent to a conference was caused by the despatch.

On Tuesday a gallant rescue from drowning took place in the vicinity of the Creek. Master Clarence Watson was there engaged fishing with a younger, and even smaller, companion when the latter fell into the water. Master Clarence at once plunged into the stream calling out to the little fellow that he would save him. This he managed to do before other help arrived, though it looked a difficult task at first, the tide being high.

The import of raw silk in New York and San Francisco during July was as follows:—New York, 430 bales, 93,848 lbs., \$284,545; San Francisco, 686 bales, 83,801 lbs., \$227,923; total 1,116 bales, 177,649 lbs., \$512,468. The import of waste silk in the same period was:—New York, 330 bales, 67,160 lbs., \$38,499. The import of Japan-see piece goods and handkerchiefs for January to June 26th were:—silk piece goods, 155,851 pcs.; silk handkerchiefs, 344,035 doz.

Lord George Hamilton, in the course of a debate on Indian affairs in the House of Commons, said murders had been deliberately committed in India for political purposes, and the natives who had been arrested were notorious men, and without doubt their arrest would give clues enabling the authorities to unravel the conspiracy. He believed that Mr. Rand, the Plague Commissioner at Poona, had been murdered because he drew no distinction between poor and rich.

Statistics of damages caused by the late inundations in Niigata prefecture, as published in the *Tokyo Asahi*, are as follows:—

	From drowning	From landslips	From flood	From landslips	Totals
Deaths	94	81	57	42	175
Injuries	57	42	102	288	99
Houses entirely demolished	102	288	783	431	390
Houses partly demolished	783	431	284		1,215
Houses washed away			284		284
Houses inundated above the floor					31,996

The *Record* says that the Deficit Fund of the Church Missionary Society has now fulfilled its purpose. An anonymous and quite unexpected contribution towards it of £3,000 finally wiped out the deficiency. The gross income for the financial year ending March 31st was £341,305, and it was not until the end of April that it was known that there was a deficit of £23,000. At first this seemed to chill the ardour of some, but recourse to funds available for the purpose realised £14,000; and now, within three months of the need being announced, the contributions of generous friends have supplied the remaining £9,000.

Cotton yarns from Japan and India have suffered considerably, remarks the *Yiji*, in consequence of the serious fluctuations in the rates of exchange on Hongkong. The trade is almost at a standstill, buyers supplying only their immediate requirements. Of Japanese yarns, 20's in particular have suddenly

fallen in value from \$5.50 to \$4.75 while there is scarcely any demand for 16's. As for Indian yarns, sales have to a certain extent been effected for both 16's and 20's, of ordinary and choice qualities. The export from Japan and India during two weeks ending the 12th instant was 1,060 and 14,800 bales respectively, actual sales aggregating 405 bales for the former country and 8,624 bales for the latter. Prices varied from \$106.50 to \$110 for 16's, and from \$111 to \$112 for 20's.

Over eighty per cent. of the greatest musicians, artists, poets, and scientists, according to Professor Halleck, became famous before the age of thirty. "In the case of the vast majority," said the Professor in a recent lecture in Philadelphia, "the brain attains its maximum weight by the age of fifteen. Examination of sections of the spinal cord have shown that between the time of birth and the age of fifteen there has been one hundred per cent. increase in the number of developed nerve-cells, while an increase of only four and six-tenths has been shown after fifteen."

The death was announced in England on Aug. 10th of the Bishop of Wakefield, Dr. Walsham How was in the 75th year of his age. He was educated at Shrewsbury and Wadham College, Oxford. In 1868 he was one of the Select Preachers at Oxford and in 1879 was appointed Suffragan Bishop of Bedford, being translated to Wakefield in 1888. He was the author of many theological works, and some well-known hymns are from his pen, among them being the beautiful lyric, "O, Jesu, Thou art standing outside the fast-closed door," which the Rev. E. C. Irvine, in his "Hymns of Old England," states was written in 1867.

From the *Shogyo Shimpō* we learn that the Japan and Tsuganai Straits Railway Company, which was organised in February this year, is now preparing to call up payments on its shares. Its object is, in the first place, to construct a pier in the Straits of Shimonoseki and Moji, in order that a railway may be laid there for the transportation of goods and passengers to the Sanyo and Kiushin lines. In the second place, steps are to be taken to construct a railway between Ominato and Oma, in Aomori Prefecture, for a distance of twenty miles, which will be connected with the Hakodate railway by a similar scheme.

On Monday, according to the *Hiogo News*, an alarm of fire was raised shortly after mid-day. It came from Messrs. Lucas & Co.'s Camphor Refinery at Ono. One of the retorts became over-heated, the cover was fractured, and certain vapours escaped in a burst of flame. The Fire Brigades were promptly on the scene, but the appliances within the building proved sufficient to deal with and suppress the outbreak. Three of the employes were injured, and damage was done to the plant to the extent, probably, of some 3,000 yen. This is covered by insurance; over 2,000 yen's worth of crude camphor was in the still at the time; this was fortunately saved.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes a table of figures showing the annual increase in the amounts collected from the *saké* tax and from Customs duties during seven years from the 24th to the 30th fiscal years of Meiji inclusive. From these we note that in the 24th year, the *saké* tax amounted to 14,686,919 yen and the Customs duties to 4,539,686 yen. In the 30th year, the *saké* tax brought in 29,823,852 yen and the Customs duties 6,626,829 yen. The yearly increase was irregular, one year in fact, the 27th, showing a falling off of 507,182 yen in the *saké* tax, and another year, the 29th, a decrease of 618,912 in Customs duties. In all other years there was a substantial increase in both sources of revenue.

How Formosa should be dealt with when the revised treaties come into operation is a question which has evoked much discussion in the vernacular press. Some are inclined to assert that Formosa should be regarded as a special territory outside treaty limits. But so long as there are no provisions in the

treaties providing for such a step being taken, it is impossible, the *Shogyo* argues, to deal with the island in such a manner. The operation of the treaties ought to be strictly enforced there as in Japan itself. But this, our contemporary points out, will be very difficult while the island has not yet been brought under full control of the law, and the matter is one requiring full investigation.

From the *Mainichi* we learn that Formosa was visited by a severe gale and heavy rain on the 7th and 8th August. The river Tamsui rose exceedingly high and overflowed its banks, inundating more than five hundred houses to a height of six feet above the ground, and doing other serious damage. Steps were promptly taken by the Bunka Police to distribute rice among the sufferers, of whom about four hundred are reported to have been thus saved from starvation. In Twatuatia more than 527 houses were flooded, the fine building appropriated to the Tax Office presenting only its roof above water. The Governor of Taipei, accompanied by the Inspector-General of Police, proceeded to the scene of calamity for inspection, in order to adopt necessary measures for relief.

The United States Consul at Odessa reports that Russia is having some trouble in changing the standard of her currency from silver to gold. An imperial edict announced that a five ruble gold-piece would, until further notice, be equal to seven rubles and fifty copecks of paper money. When, says Consul Heenan, the people were "offered a five-ruble gold piece in payment of a debt due them for seven rubles and fifty copecks, they refused to accept it, and pointed out that stamped on the gold piece in plain Russian characters were the words five rubles, and they furthermore demanded to know why it was that they were expected to believe that twice two and a half made seven rubles and fifty copecks in money or anything else. The government officials were equal to the emergency, however, and recoined the same five-ruble gold pieces, stamping on them seven rubles and fifty copecks"—a somewhat unique example of currency inflation.

Commenting upon the paper industry in Japan, the *Osaka Asahi* says that the manufacture of paper has not yet been placed on a footing enabling it to keep pace with the demand, which is naturally increasing in consequence of the development of printing enterprise. The import of paper, on the other hand, shows an enormous increase during the past few years. The following is the total manufacture in Japan for the year ending 30th June last:—

Manufacturers	Catties
Oji Joint Stock Paper Mill Co. ...	12,095,794
Yukosha ...	845,692
Kobe Joint Stock Paper Manufactur-	
ing Company ...	6,749,328
Yokkaichi ...	3,130,355
Fuji ...	12,168,256
Senju ...	6,208,604
Abe Paper Mill ...	2,009,699
Isono ...	119,989
Shimizu ...	794,343
Total ...	44,129,061

The *Yomiuri* states that the Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce, which, in accordance with a decision of a meeting held at Hiroshima of all the Chambers of Commerce throughout the empire, has been making investigations through a special committee with the object of submitting a memorial to the Government for the revision of the provisions of the Commercial Code touching the establishment of joint stock companies, lately completed all its examinations and forwarded the memorial to the Ministers of Finance, Colonization, and Agriculture and Commerce. The following points form the gist of the document:—1. Abolition of the provisions for granting charters for the institution of companies. 2. Every company must be legally registered within fourteen days after its initiatory general meeting. 3. Every company shall call up the payment of at least one-tenth of its shares within six months of its registration. 4. Permission

shall not be granted to issues share certificates until one-tenth of the face value thereof is paid up. 5. The cession or transfer of shares prior to the payment of one-tenth of their face value shall be invalid.

Early on Saturday morning, July 24th, four privates of the Royal Marines were discovered in the lamp-room of the cruiser *Minerva* (now lying in Chatham Dockyard) in a state of insensibility, and one of them, John Harold Delton, was quite dead. It is surmised, says the *Scotsman*, that the men had been drinking, and that the death and insensibility were due to alcoholic poisoning. There was a bottle of kerosene in the room, and it is believed they had been drinking the contents.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* reports the death of Surgeon R. J. Fyffe, R.N., who was killed by a fall from his bicycle at Bratton, in Wiltshire, on the 17th July. Dr. Fyffe was 30 years of age and came out to the China Station in the *Gibraltar* in December, 1894, and shortly afterwards joined the *Rattler*. He left the station in the *Minerva* after the *Rattler* paid off on 31st March last. His many friends in Hongkong and the coast ports, where he was very popular, will sincerely mourn his sad and early death.

About half-past five on Wednesday morning, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, the godown of Messrs. Witkowski & Co., No. 118, Settlement, was discovered to be on fire, huge volumes of smoke at that time issuing from the roof. Though most of the firemen had gone to their daily work, the Settlement Brigades were soon upon the scene and did some splendid work. The situation of the godown was such that a much more extensive fire than has fortunately resulted seemed probable, for on one side of the godown stands the bowling alley of the German Club, and on the other the offices of Messrs. Witkowski & Co. It appears that the fire originated in the upper story of the godown, and in all probability had been smouldering all night, the godown having been locked up at five o'clock the day before. There appeared to be a large quantity of bamboo ware, curios and other goods in the godown, and the loss is considerable.

Mr. F. W. Hewes contributes to *The Outlook* a study of the missionary contributions of fourteen denominations in the United States. He shows that, with the exception of four years during the Civil War, five years during the panic of 1872-79, and the period following the panic of 1893, there has been a steady increase. From 1815 to 1824 the average annual contribution was \$40,600 a year. From this time the ten-year averages show a steady and remarkable progress, culminating in the 1890 period, with an average annual increase over the 1880 period of more than \$6,000,000; or, starting with the Civil War period (1860) a total increase in thirty years of almost 460 per cent. On the basis of the entire population of the country, the contributions for the period 1820 were four-tenths of a cent per annum for each man, woman, and child in the United States. For the period 1890 this had risen to twenty-two and two-tenths cents per inhabitant.

The extraordinary interest taken by Englishmen in cricket and in the great public schools is well illustrated by the correspondence appearing in the columns of *The Times* with reference to the Eton and Harrow match. Year after year the match has resulted in a draw, two days not proving sufficient to finish it, and the question is whether three days should in future be devoted to the purpose. One would imagine from the bulk and earnestness of the correspondence that some great national problem were under consideration. Lord Granby seems to have hit the general idea when he pleads that the main purpose of any change should be to get rid of "carriages, corsets and chatter," and leave the field open for cricket pure and simple. At present the match is evidently a kind of jolly picnic, not a genuine trial of skill. But truly the volume of talk evoked by

the business is wonderful to contemplate. It may seem a trivial trait of character, but the fact is that this keen interest in athletics is one of the factors that have made the British empire. Englishmen would be a very different race were it not for cricket, rackets, boating, foot-ball, and the hunting field. And now that ladies have taken to bicycling and lawn tennis, we may expect the children of the next generation to be the finest physical specimens yet produced.

In no district, remarks the *Yiji*, have preventive measures against dysentery been so effectually enforced as in Kanagawa prefecture. To such districts in particular as Tsukui, Aiko, and Naka-gori, commissioners as well as medical advisers were specially despatched to take necessary measures for the suppression of the malady. Yet the epidemic still continues, the total number of patients since the first outbreak reaching 2,513, and new cases on the 26th instant amounted to 128. The following are the figures:—

Districts.	Since outbreak.	Deaths.	Cases.	Under treatment.
Tsukui	981	111	95	775
Takazu	419	62	83	273
Aiko	342	39	32	281
Naka	198	36	67	95
Tsuzuki	174	39	36	53
Yokohama	123	11	39	53
Total	2,513	332	427	1,754

The *Shogyo* states that the number of Joint Stock Companies (Railways and Banks excepted) throughout the empire at the end of July was 2,015, and the amount of their capitals 294,853,867 yen. These figures show an increase of 56 companies and of 322,295 yen in capital compared with the previous month. The following comparative table gives the figures for June and July this year:—

Commercial—	July.	June.
Companies	966	939
Capital	131,359,115 yen.	130,351,815 yen.
Industrial—		
Companies	961	932
Capital	161,317,936 yen.	159,102,286 yen.
Agricultural—		
Companies	88	88
Capital	2,176,815 yen.	2,176,815 yen.
Totals—		
Companies	2,015	1,959
Capital	294,853,867 yen.	291,630,916 yen.

According to investigations made by the Central Tobacco Guild, published in the *Mainichi*, the raw material and tobacco manufactures, together with the stamps used for the same, throughout the empire during the 28th year of *Meiji* (1895) were as follow:—

FROM JANUARY TO JUNE.	
Raw Material	8,044,804 <i>kwamme</i> .
Manufactured Tobacco	2,793,423 "
Stamps	1,024,253 yen.
Raw Material	128,549 <i>kwamme</i> .
Cigarettes	688,869,000 pieces.
Stamps	155,385 yen.
Raw Material	1,738 <i>kwamme</i> .
Cigars	3,210,000 pieces.
Stamps	1,645 yen.
FROM JULY TO DECEMBER.	
Raw Material	3,938,946 <i>kwamme</i> .
Tobacco manufactured	2,738,955 "
Stamps	1,083,308 yen.
Raw Material	146,438 <i>kwamme</i> .
Cigarettes	65,514,600 pieces.
Stamps	160,141 yen.
Raw Material	2,203 <i>kwamme</i> .
Cigars	3,562,000 pieces.
Stamps	1,981 yen.

Mr. Henry George Outram Bax Ironside, who has been appointed Second Secretary to Her Majesty's Legation at Peking, was educated at Eton, and Exeter College, Oxford, being nominated an Attaché to the Diplomatic Service in May, 1883, and passing a competitive examination in August of the same year. He was appointed to Constantinople in 1884, and promoted to be Third Secretary on August, 1885. He passed an examination in Public Law on Dec. 9, 1885, and received an allowance for knowledge of Turkish, and was Private Secretary to the late Sir William White. In March,

1887, he was transferred to Copenhagen, to Teheran in November, 1888, and promoted to be Second Secretary November, 1889. A further allowance for knowledge of Persian was granted December, 1889, to be followed, four years later, by an allowance for knowledge of Arabic, after he had served in Vienna and Cairo. He was transferred to Washington on July 30, 1894. Judging by Mr. Bax Ironside's linguistic attainments we may learn in a year or two's time that an allowance has been granted for a knowledge of Chinese.

The price of coal, remarks the *Tokyo Asahi*, is rapidly increasing on account of the scarcity of supplies. Yubari coal (lump) is quoted at 54 yen, dust at 43 or 44 yen per 10 tons, while Iwaki coal fetches from 35 to 36 yen. These figures show an increase of two yen over the prices paid in July last, and of ten yen over those in July or August of last year. Considerable inconvenience and expense are consequently experienced by steamship, manufacturing and railway companies, and other industries in which coal is extensively consumed. The demand for coal has increased chiefly on account of the steady development of industries and the unusual increase in the number of vessels. The production of coal in Japan seems to be far behind the demand. It takes a week or two to supply a vessel of one or two thousand tons with a sufficient quantity, while exports to Shanghai, Hongkong, and Singapore are increasing day by day. It is believed that the upward tendency of coal will not be checked unless new veins are discovered and worked.

The reception now given to Mr. Labouchere's speeches in the House of Commons is significant. He is laughed at all through. Let him be ever so violent, ever so serious, laughter always punctuates his periods. Speaking in Committee of Supply on August 19th, he said that he had "the lowest and worst opinion of Her Majesty's Government in regard to its foreign policy." (Laughter.) He said that "Hon. gentlemen opposite liked to swagger about the might and majesty of the British Empire, but the Government which they supported had cringed to Russia and to the Concert." (Laughter.) He said, "he would only ask one question, when were we going to leave Egypt?" (Laughter.) He said, "the fact was, we had a greedy desire to lay hold of all parts of the world, and we did not care more than a magpie whether what we grabbed was useful or useless." (Laughter.) He said "the Opposition would do themselves, their party and their country good by constantly calling attention to the wickedness, the iniquities, and the follies of the present Government." (Laughter.) In fact, he moved the House to mirth only, which is probably a wholesome mood under the circumstances.

Herr Andrié, says the *London and China Express* started on his perilous journey across the Polar regions in his balloon, the *Eagle*, on 11th July. By now he should have reached terra firma again unless he has unhappily been stranded on that terrible waste of ice that we all know so well from Dr. Nansen's graphic descriptions. In the latter case we greatly fear that there is but little chance of his returning alive. He cannot be equipped like Nansen, with a pack of dogs for a long journey across the ice, although he has, we understand, taken a sledge with him. The preparations for the ascent were made much earlier this year than last. By the end of June all was ready, but during the first week of this month (July) the winds were northerly, and on the 2nd a storm threatened to carry away the house in which the balloon stood ready inflated. On 11th—the wind being from the right quarter, the south, and not too strong—the final preparations were carried out, and the *Eagle*, at half-past two in the afternoon, soared into the Polar air and sailed away at the rate of twenty-two miles an hour. At that speed, supposing the wind were to hold in the same quarter long enough, the balloon should have reached the neighbourhood of the Pole in twenty-eight hours. But then should the same direction be maintained

there is about double the distance to be covered before the inhospitable shores of Eastern Siberia or Alaska are reached.

One thing effected by the publication of Mr. Sherman's extraordinary despatch is that a full and clear statement of the facts of the Behring Sea affair has been published. From the tone of the despatch and from the comments of American journals, the impression gathered was that England had for years been holding back from framing regulations which, by the award of the Paris Arbitration of 1893, she was bound to join in framing. We ourselves were under that impression. It is quite erroneous. The regulations in question refer to pelagic sealing, and the Paris Arbitrators decided that America had no right of protection or property in fur seals beyond the three-miles limit from the Pribiloff Islands. But England had agreed, prior to the Arbitration, that if the award were in her favour, the Arbitrators should be asked to determine what concurrent regulations outside the jurisdictional limits of the respective Governments were necessary. The Arbitrators did actually draw up the necessary regulations, adding a provision that they should be submitted every five years to an examination, so as to enable both of the interested Governments to consider whether in the light of past experience there was occasion for any modification. The conclusion of the first five-year period is not reached until August 1898. What on earth, therefore, Mr. Sherman's bluster is about, there is difficulty in discovering. America thinks that pelagic sealing, even as practised under the Regulations, is so destructive to seal life that immediate action is necessary if the herd is to be saved from annihilation. Therefore she wants England to anticipate the conclusion of the five-year period fixed by the Regulations. In short, she is asking for something which she has no right to ask for except as a matter of neighbourly courtesy, and we have seen what Mr. Sherman's manner of asking is. The English expert does not consider the case by any means so urgent, but nevertheless England has obeyed the dictates of neighbourly courtesy in the face of Mr. Sherman's despatch.

September is usually regarded, remarks the *Fiji*, as the month in which the demand for capital considerably relaxes. But as the purchase of stock for winter commences in this month, it may reasonably be expected that there will be a pressing demand for loans on a small scale. Moreover, some seventeen or eighteen million yen is needed for the payment of taxes and calls on shares in various companies, so that there is little reason to hope for the immediate relaxation of the money market. Among others the following calls have to be paid on shares:—

Company.	Per share.	Total payment.
	Yen.	Yen.
Japan Railway (new shares).....	15.00	3,000,000
Yokohama Fire Insurance.....	11.50	230,000
Tokyo Hydrostatic Electric	2.00	120,000
Iga Railway (4th installment) ...	4.00	96,000
Tokushima Railway.....	7.50	120,000
Kwansei Railway (new shares)....	8.00	612,000
Kwansei Bank	11.50	115,000
Funakoshi Railway (1st installment)	4.00	242,000
Shiga Public Works Loan (1st term)	10.00	25,490
Kibi Railway (3rd call)	3.00	—
Total		4,560,490

GERMAN TOPICS.

The Emperor, after receiving the injury to his eye, decided to return to Kiel for the purpose of consulting the Royal oculist, Duke Karl Theodor of Bavaria, but His Majesty's wound improved so rapidly that he resolved to adhere to his original programme and continue his tour along the Norwegian coast. Duke Karl subsequently followed the Emperor to Stavanger and, after examining the eye, pronounced that the sight was quite uninjured, and that only a slight irritation existed.

The Agrarians have petitioned the Imperial Chancellor to prohibit the importation of foreign

corn, at first for a period of six months, with a proviso that the prohibition would cease to have binding force so soon as the price of inland corn reached a certain figure. They say that Germany produces corn sufficient for her population, but that 54 millions of hundred-weights are nevertheless imported, with the result of needlessly depressing the market. The Government has replied that the proposed prohibition would be contrary to existing treaties.

The reports from the German colony in south-west Africa are not good. There has been much suffering from rinderpest, and the want of railways is said to be fatally checking development. The German Government has resolved to commence the building of railways on which trains will be drawn by mules.

According to the report of Professor Koch's Commission, which recently concluded its investigations into the plague in India, rats were found to be highly susceptible, and to be most injurious in spreading the germs and communicating them to human beings.

The German Emperor is to make Hamburg his headquarters during the Autumn Manœuvres which are now about to commence in Germany. His Majesty has invited the King and Queen of Italy, and Grumbkoff Pasha, amongst others, to attend the manœuvres.

According to an ancient law of the city of Hamburg, it was no easy matter for outsiders to become burghesses of that city. With the beginning of this year a revised law came into force, and during the first six months 5,326 new citizens were admitted to the "*Bürgerthum*."

A considerable sensation has been caused in Germany by a speech delivered by Professor Reinhold, recently appointed to the chair of Political Economy in the University of Berlin. The Professor, referring to the political situation in Germany under the present Government, said that almost the whole country was in opposition. In South Germany there existed an almost incredible antagonism against Prussia. Concerning Social Democracy and the terror it inspires, the Professor declared that to leave it severely alone was the true remedy: it had no popular mandate and existed on the unwise opposition it created. He pointed to London in support of his theory, and said that it had always been to him one of the most remarkable phenomena of political life that the English capital, "with its five million inhabitants, with its night of proletarian misery, with its volcano of suppressed emotion, the caricature of a healthy place of habitation, theoretically a hot-bed of revolution," returns a conservative majority.

The clondbursts and inundations which devastated the eastern part of Germany in the first week of August were the worst which have occurred since 1870. According to local statistics 105 persons were killed in Silesia alone, and in Saxony the casualties will not fall short of 180. The financial losses foot up over 150,000,000 marks. At Pillnitz, the country residence of the Queen of Saxony, the River Elbe rose so fast that it flooded the lower floor of the royal castle, forcing the King and Queen to hurriedly leave the place and seek refuge at Dresden. Through a landslide of the highest summit of the Silesian mountains the Hotel Schneekopfe was carried down and buried, with all its occupants. Large sums of public money have been granted for the relief of the sufferers.

The first week in August also witnessed a number of fatal accidents on German racecourses. Count von Visch, a wealthy gentleman rider and at one time the friend of the notorious Barrison sisters, and Lieutenant Bartells, also a gentleman rider, were killed during a race at Kruzenha. At the Neuss races the most successful gentleman rider in Germany, Lieutenant von Keyser, was killed, and Captain von Sutternoadt was seriously injured. Two professional jockeys also met accidental deaths.

HAWAII IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In the House of Commons on July 19th, the following references to the annexation of Hawaii were made:—

Mr. Beckett (York, N.R., Whitby) called attention to the revolution at Hawaii in the Sandwich Islands and related the circumstances leading up to what he described as the wrongful seizure of power by the missionaries, and the subsequent intervention of the United States. The proposed annexation of Hawaii by the United States concerned ourselves, and must be looked upon from our point of view as well as from that of Hawaii. Hawaii was the most important coaling station in the Pacific. We had subsidized a line of steamers between Vancouver and Australia and were anxious to promote trade between Canada and Australia, and all the steamers must coal at Hawaii. It was not only the rights of British subjects in Hawaii, but the rights of the British people which must be maintained, and considering the importance of Hawaii as a coaling station it would be unfortunate if America took possession of it and established herself there. If we could look on America as an absolutely friendly Power it would not matter so much, but in view of recent occurrences which had agitated the public mind it was difficult to assume that America was, and always would remain, a friendly Power. The basis of good relations between countries was reciprocity of good feeling, and that good feeling was likely to be disturbed if one used provocative and insulting language towards the other. When we had so recently exhibited our great strength to the world, it became us to be slow to wrath, but in shaping our policy in the future the persistent unfriendliness of America should be taken into account.

Mr. Bryce (Aberdeen, S.) said he was acquainted with Hawaii and took an interest in its affairs. He regretted what the hon. member had said. The hon. member must have been misinformed when he said the revolution in Hawaii was brought about by the missionaries. It was not at all the case, and the hon. member must have been imposed upon by statements as to the puritanical character of the rule that the missionaries sought to establish.

Mr. Beckett said he derived his information from people on the spot.

Mr. Bryce said that even people on the spot were apt to exaggerate. He regretted to hear the hon. member suggest that America should be regarded by us as an unfriendly Power. Such a suggestion should not be allowed to pass without emphatic protest. (Hear, hear.) He denied that there was an unfriendly attitude towards England on the part of the bulk of the American people. But nothing would be more likely than a debate deprecating the annexation of Hawaii to arouse the party of annexation in the United States. He believed the annexation of Hawaii would be injurious to America, and he approved of the policy the Government had followed in Hawaiian affairs as one of judicious reserve.

Mr. Davitt referred to the speech of the hon. member for Whitby (Mr. Beckett) on the annexation of Hawaii by the United States, remarking that he wished to give an emphatic contradiction to almost every statement he had made. He had been to the Sandwich Islands, and from investigation he was certain that the missionaries had not fomented the revolution, and, with the exception of a small pro-English faction, all the white population were in favour of the annexation. As to the comparison between this revolution and Dr. Jameson's raid, he would ask hon. members whether the raid would have been condemned had it been as successful as the revolution? The hon. member talked about good feeling between Great Britain and America, and assumed that all the good feeling was on the side of England. When a London newspaper talked about "blood-letting" the Yankees in order to "bring them down to a sensible international policy," he should advise them to begin at home if they wanted the American Press and American statesmen to reciprocate good feeling. —(Hear, hear.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE COOLIE AGAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As one of your correspondents upon the subject of Japanese coolies, recently discussed in your columns, I venture to supplement my observations and experiences then related by the addition of another incident which occurred this day in Yokohama. I am not inimical to the coolie fraternity in general, nor to the jinrikimen in particular. I recognise the advantages which exist in Japan everywhere as compared with any of the European countries in regard to the facilities of travel. The jinrikisha man is ubiquitous, and, generally speaking, he is certainly a very obliging and pacific man. It seems to be only in the open ports where one meets with any frictional difficulty, so far as I have observed. What I contend for is that some definite and unmistakable code of

charges should be officially decided upon and clearly printed in English and Japanese, so that none need be subjected to the insolent and pugilistic attitude so frequently assumed by the coolie when dealing with a new arrival, or a lady. No one objects to pay a fair and proper fare, and most people would rather pay a trifle more than less than a legal fare, but when a man takes a fare from the station to the Grand Hotel, and being asked "How much," replies "Dollar," as in one instance I can mention, domestic economy suggests further inquiry from one more versed in coolie methods and charges than strangers usually are.

Three lady guests from my house engaged jinrikishas to-day from the stand near the police box at Kami-no-bashi. Two of the ladies could speak Japanese well, the other was a stranger. A bargain was made for 10 sen per hour, one lady acting as spokesman. They went shopping and returned within two hours: how much within I do not know. The men were discharged at the stand where they had been engaged. One was satisfied with his fare, but the other two insisted upon 15 cents more. The lady said she was prepared to pay more, but without giving her time to say a word to her two companions one of the coolies seized her roughly by the wrist and endeavored to drag her to the police box, the other two men putting themselves into an attitude to intercept the other ladies. While the coolie was dragging the lady a gentleman happened to pass and interposed, asking if they were strangers. He suggested that the money should be put into the jinrikishas and left for the coolies to accept or decline, as they felt disposed. This was done, and there the matter ended. But had not this gentleman kindly interposed the lady might have had rougher usage. As it was, she returned home exhausted and very much upset. My contention is this friction is unnecessary, that it can be avoided, and that it is the duty of those who issue licenses, and control the actions of these men, to promulgate such a code of charges, and make them so plain, that a wayfaring man, though a fool, shall not err therein, and that it is their bounden duty to put a stop to these shameful methods of extortion by assault and to stop it now.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

F. STANILAND.

Yokohama, 27th. August.

THE LATE MR. HAWES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—On Saturday morning, the 7th of August, this community was sadly affected by the news of the death of Captain A. G. S. Hawes, Her Britannic Majesty's Commissioner and Consul-General. The sad event took place at Hilo, Island of Hawaii, at 12.30 o'clock a.m. of the 6th inst., and the intelligence was brought here by the coasting steamer *Mikahala*. Although it was known that Captain Hawes had been seriously ill, the last previous accounts had been that his condition was improving.

The last illness of Captain Hawes was caused directly from carbuncle in the neck, but it is believed he might have rallied were it not for the prior shock of an accident. While he was travelling from Honolulu to Hilo in the steamer *Kinau* a few weeks previously, the sea being unusually rough, he was violently thrown to the floor of the Captain's cabin, sustaining a severe injury in the back of his neck, together with bruises about the body. It was while chivalrously springing to the assistance of a friend, who he feared was about to be thrown down, that he met with the accident.

Within a few days after landing at Hilo, he was confined to bed. As he grew worse, Dr. Williams, who was in attendance, called Drs. Wetmore and Moore in consultation. Yet the utmost skill of the physicians was availing only to give him temporary relief, although he did not fall into a sinking condition until the day before his death. Among the friends who were by his bedside in the last few trying days to the end were Miss Gay, with whom he was to be married in a few weeks had he lived, and Mr. Thomas Rain Walker, the British Vice-Consul.

With the news of the Commissioner's death came the information that the body was being brought to Honolulu in the steamer *Kinau*, which had been recalled for the purpose by telephone from her last port of call on the islands. This vessel arrived in Honolulu at 1 o'clock p.m. the same day. In the meantime all the preparations possible for the reception of the body were being made by Captain Field, commanding H.B.M.'s ship *Penguin*, and the gentlemen of the British Vice-Consulate. They received offers of assistance and tenders of sympathy from both the Hawaiian Government and the American and Japanese naval vessels in port. Captain Kuro-

oka, commanding H.I.J.M.'s cruiser *Naniwa Kan*, was deeply affected by the sad intelligence. He had been on terms of warm friendship with the late Commissioner, from the time, many years ago, when Mr. Hawes was instructor to the Japanese Navy, and it had given him intense pleasure, on the occasion of the present stay of his ship at this port, to have their mutual intimacy revived. When an officer sent by Captain Field brought him formal notice of the death and of the expected arrival of the body for burial in Honolulu, Captain Kurooka, while conveying his deep sympathy to the British commander, offered to land detachments from the two Japanese ships—the *Naniwa Kan* and the *Hiyei Kan*—for the funeral escort. Ascertaining also, in answer to his enquiry, that the *Penguin* had no gun carriage—she being engaged in surveying and without the ordinary armaments—Captain Kurooka proffered the use of such a vehicle for carrying the coffin at the obsequies. These offers were greatly appreciated by the British authorities, although from a desire not to make the military display overshadowing, they decided to employ a hearse instead of a gun carriage.

The funeral took place on the morning of Tuesday the 10th instant, under combined military and State auspices. An escort consisting of the marines and bluejackets of the *Penguin*, about 60 strong, and a company of the Hawaiian National Guard, both detachments being under arms, attended the removal of the body from the British Legation to St. Andrew's Anglican Cathedral. The streets on the approach to the edifice were lined with American and Japanese battalions, each about 250 strong and without arms, from the U. S. ships *Philadelphia* and *Marion* and the Japanese vessels already named. Business in the European quarter of the city was suspended, and the streets were crowded with people of all nationalities. The Cathedral was crowded to overflowing, but seats had been reserved for members of the Hawaiian Government, the diplomatic and consular corps, and the foreign naval officers. Religious services having been impressively conducted by the Rev. Messrs. Mackintosh and Kicat—beautiful special hymns being sung by two choirs—the coffin was borne to the hearse by eight sailors of the *Penguin*, and the procession was formed in the following order:—

Mounted Police.
Hawaiian Band.
First Battalion, First Regiment, National Guard of Hawaii.
H. M. S. *Penguin's* Firing Party of Sixty Men.
Clergy.
Hearse. Pall-bearers.
Eight *Penguin* Men, Coffin-bearers,
CHIEF MOURNERS.
Captain Field, Royal Navy, and British Vice-Consul
T. R. Walker.
Commissioner of France Vession.
Japanese Minister Shimamura and Attaché.
United States Minister Sewell and Secretary.
Minister of Foreign Affairs Cooper and Secretary.
Band of U. S. S. *Philadelphia*.
Two Hundred and Fifty Unarmed Men of *Naniwa*
and *Hiyei*.
Two Hundred and Fifty Unarmed Men of *Philadelphia*
and *Marion*.
Officers of *Penguin*.
Officers of *Naniwa* and *Hiyei*.
Officers of *Philadelphia* and *Marion*.
Admiral Beardslee and Staff.
Consular Corps.
Chief Justice and Judges of Supreme Court.
Ministers of Interior and Finance.
Attorney-General.
President Dole and Staff.
Members of National Band.
Aloha Aina Society.
Sons of St. George.
Mounted Police.

As the procession started, a Hawaiian battery fired eleven minute guns appropriate to the rank of the dead Commissioner. When the burial services at the grave had been concluded, and three volleys in the air fired by the British escort, the American and Japanese senior vessels each fired a parting salute of eleven guns. Interment took place in the British Navy plot in the beautiful Nuanu cemetery. Contributions of flowers to the burial were in endless number and the emblematic compositions of exceeding beauty. Among the offerings were a wreath, chiefly of purple flowers, from Minister Shimamura of Japan, and an anchor of carnations from the Japanese men-of-war.

The following is from an interview with Captain Kurooka had by the editor of the *Honolulu Bulletin*:—

"Captain Kurooka says that many of the officers on board both the *Naniwa* and *Hiyei* of the Japanese Navy, new in port, had the benefit of Lieutenant Hawes' instruction. Lieutenant Hawes was attached to the Japanese

flagship *Riujo* as gunnery instructor, and afterwards organized the infantry corps of marines. He was later instructor at the Imperial Naval College in infantry tactics and fortifications, as well as in the English language. Lieutenant Hawes was altogether fourteen years in the service of His Imperial Japanese Majesty. He taught discipline and routine to the Japanese navy, according to British modes at that time. In appreciation of his services the Emperor of Japan decorated Lieutenant Hawes with the 3rd Class of the Sacred Treasure and the 4th Class of the Rising Sun."

Captain Hawes arrived at Honolulu from Tahiti to assume the office of British Commissioner and Consul-General, on the 5th August, 1894. He won the affection of people of all nationalities by his frank and genial manners and almost unexampled hospitality, his entertainments at the British Legation having been of a princely character. At the same time there is reason to believe that he was held in the greatest esteem by the Hawaiian Government, for the considerate and conciliatory way in which he exercised his diplomatic functions. Indeed, Captain Hawes is sincerely mourned in both official and private circles of Honolulu as if he had been a born member of the community.

Your obedient servant,

K.

Honolulu, August 12th, 1897.

"CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND ROMAN CATHOLICISM."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is with the greatest reluctance and after much hesitation that I have decided upon answering, as briefly as possible, the odious charges brought against Catholics by Mr. or the Rev. Snodgrass. That there are difficulties in religion, and that Protestants may in very good faith differ from Catholics, I readily admit. If preachers would confine themselves to a fair explanation of Catholic doctrine and to the defence of their own tenets, no one would have any right to object to their course. But long experience has shown that a conception of their rights is to slander Catholics and attribute to them doctrines entirely opposed to their faith. Hence we have forgery and misrepresentation and calumny. Hence we have suspicion and evil feeling. Hence we have bigotry and insult.

To contend with an honest adversary may be a pleasant duty, but to refute all the diatribes spread broadcast throughout the world becomes a task very nearly above human strength; better sometimes to leave them unheeded.

But now to come to Rev. Snodgrass. We have been accused of giving too much to civil authority. Here we have the reverend gentleman's assertions that we give too little or rather nothing at all, the Pope taking it all to himself.

Where has he seen that? Certainly not in a book of Catholic doctrine. Yet, fairness no less than common sense teaches that a man should study and examine a question from its proper sources. No man ought to attack doctrines if he has not made himself acquainted with them. Nor is it fair to form a judgment from misrepresentations made by ill-informed, interested, or prejudiced persons.

Now it appears evident to me that Mr. Snodgrass, misled by his prejudices, with his mind haunted by the bugbear of what he calls *Romanism*, has never taken the trouble of assuring himself of the true doctrine of the Catholic Church, or, if he be at all honest, he would never have written his brochure. May be he is a busy man and had no time to go to the proper sources (it is so much more simple to repeat what others have said). I will then come a little to his assistance and tell him what we, Catholics, do really believe on the subject in question. Perhaps he will be kind enough to admit that I am qualified to say that much.

1. A child 10 years old knowing his Catechism would tell him that he learned therein that he must be respectful and obedient to his superiors both spiritual and temporal.

2. All Catholic theologians teach, from Holy Scriptures, that "all power is from God," and that consequently dutiful obedience is in conscience due to Civil rulers. *Give to Caesar what is Caesar's*. The Catholic Church has always maintained that doctrine, just as Christ and the Apostles had done before her, and this even in times of persecution when her children preferred death to rebelling against cruel and unjust, yet lawful, rulers.

3. And what does the *ambitious, all-power seeking (!)* Pope say on the question? Leo XIII, in one of his late encyclical letters, writes as follows:—"Civil power is born from nature and consequently comes from God himself, the author of

nature. In other words, natural law, undoubtedly a divine one and according to which every human society must be governed, requires in that society a ruling power which, by the very fact of its existence, has a right to command and to be obeyed in conscience."

This is enough to prove that Mr. Snodgrass has misrepresented the Catholic doctrine and, when he charges Catholics with acknowledging no other authority but the Pope's and refusing all allegiance to civil power, he utters a monstrous falsehood. If the Rev. gentleman wanted us to suppose that his system is so shaky that, in order to give it an appearance of steadiness, he must have recourse to such means, he could hardly have succeeded better.

As to the gratuitous insult thrown at millions of his fellow citizens and millions of others by a member of an insignificant sect, calling them bad citizens and wolves in sheep's clothing, it is ridiculous in the extreme. The most charitable excuse I can find is that, when he wrote the above, the Rev. gentleman must have been out of his senses. There is no need to bring in here authorities far more valuable than Mr. Snodgrass's to show that, for self-devotion and patriotism, Catholics have nothing to learn from him.

Apologizing to you Mr. Editor and to the readers of the *Mail* for the length of this letter, written in such poor English,

I remain, with thanks, yours faithfully,

A. PETTIER,
Vic. Apost.

Yokohama, Aug. 27th, 1897.

A REPLY TO THE REV. E. SNODGRASS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am a Catholic and an American. Mr. Snodgrass is, I believe, a Protestant Missionary and an American. We both are Christians and Americans. We may have differences of opinion, but united by the bonds of Religion and Citizenship there does not seem to exist any great reason why we should call each other ugly names.

Mr. Snodgrass, in his letter published in the *Japan Mail* of the 24th inst., calls me a *wolf in sheep's clothing*; he says that all Catholics are "wolves in sheep's clothing." I might retaliate by calling him an *ass in man's clothing*, but I won't be so rude. I hate to be called names, however, and I like Mr. Snodgrass to know it. I accidentally saw Mr. Snodgrass' letter in the *Japan Mail* and I naturally looked around to see what it was all about. I then found the short and adverse criticism of the Editor on the Reverend gentleman's tract entitled "Civil Government and Roman Catholicism," wherein the Editor of the *Japan Mail* says that the object of Mr. Snodgrass in writing this tract is "to show that the declared principles of Roman Catholicism are against submission to any Civil Authority and that, in effect, the spread of Roman Catholicism in any country means the *alienation of its converts from allegiance to the Government of that country*." Mr. Snodgrass emphasises this by writing his letter to the Editor dated 21st inst. saying:—"One of my principal contentions is to show that Romanism has not changed its attitude towards civil Government. It is only in States where the Hierarchy is in the minority that a change in the attitude seems to have taken place. In such positions she is still the wolf, only in sheep's clothing." In other words: all Catholics, whether of the past or present, have been and are disloyal and unpatriotic citizens, revolutionists, rebels in disguise and anything else you like to call them, and this because of the *declared principle* of their church. Now the first question that presents itself to me is, why should Mr. Snodgrass, who is here, I presume, for the purpose of teaching and preaching to the natives of this country his own particular form of religion, or rather the religion of his particular Sect of the so-called Protestant Church, why, instead of employing his time attempting to demonstrate the superiority and advantages of his Belief to the Natives, the object for which he draws a fat salary, should he revile and belittle the creed of others? What is his object? I am sure no Catholic, (man, woman or child), has ever done Mr. Snodgrass any harm or interfered with his business; why then should he make a cowardly attack on the whole Catholic world? There can be only one reason and that is that the teachings of his sect are insufficiently clear and not convincing to the people he is trying to convert, and not being able, in consequence thereof, to make any progress himself, and jealous of the progress made by others, who have a clearer and more convincing teaching, he tries to retard their progress. This is not a very high motive; it smacks very much of meanness! It is bad enough when Pagan hunters after the filthy-lucres resort to such means; when

one firm of cigarette-sellers in Tokyo, jealous of their competitors who are outdoing them in business, incite a mob to wreck the opposition shop and thus clear the field for a larger business and larger profits to themselves; but what are we to think of a so-called Christian Missionary who is supposed to preach and practise the Gospel of peace and good-will, adopting the same tactics of trying to entice by false and scandalous misrepresentations all other sects, and the Government of this country, against the Roman Catholic Church, because the quiet, unassuming, hard-working and conscientious Catholic Missionary makes a hundred converts to Mr. Snodgrass' one?

If this is Mr. Snodgrass' ideal of Christian Missionary work, if this is the spirit of Mr. Snodgrass' religion, then the sooner he leaves this country the better for the country. This country is in need of Missionaries who will raise the character of the Japanese, not men to lower it. Men like Mr. Snodgrass are utter failures as Missionaries and the reason is not far to seek. They are the direct opposite to what a Missionary ought to be, to what the word implies, to what the Catholic Missionary really is. They have not been trained to their religion, they have merely adopted the business of a Missionary because they have to do something for a living and the life of a Missionary in Japan with a good fat salary, a very commodious residence in the foreign Concession of Tokio, no work of any kind and, above all, those delightful summer-holidays at Kanizawa or some other cool and comfortable place in the mountains, seemed even so much preferable to working for a living in their own country. The prospects are too inviting; were I a Protestant I should most decidedly do the same as Mr. Snodgrass has done—become a missionary in Japan. There are many others who have given this business the preference to hard work at home. There are some who have left the plough, some the carpenter's bench, some the shoe-maker's last, and some nothing at all,—learned a score of Scriptural verses by heart, whether correctly or up-side down does not matter, and then with the prefix "Reverend" to their names launched out as Missionaries to foreign countries. In due course they have amassed a certain amount of wealth and have returned to their native lands, happy in the knowledge of the good they might have done, but happier by far in the possession of a sufficiency laid by for the proverbial rainy day.

The Catholic Missionary is constituted somewhat differently. First and foremost he is, not only an educated, but a learned man,—learned in the fullest sense of the word. He has not a smattering of Scripture only but a *thorough knowledge* of all that constitutes a learned man. Secondly, he is trained to his work from an early age and, thirdly, he practises all he preaches and preaches nothing which he himself does not practise, in fact he preaches more by his actions and his daily life than he does in sermons. He has no wife or family of growing daughters to provide with dresses according to the latest fashion at every change of season; he has no worry as to the best investments for his accumulated surplus salary, whether to invest it in bonds or in curios; he lives solely and entirely for the object of his life, i.e. to spread the knowledge of Christ's teachings and to make others happy by teaching them the secret of true happiness. His life is one of work, patience, privation and abnegation, he is happy in the knowledge that he is doing good and he looks for no reward here on earth, no filled coffers to take home with him, because he takes no holiday-home-tips, the only trip home he looks forward to is the one at the end of his earthly labours, when in the consciousness of having done his duty his soul returns to God.

This may be new to Mr. Snodgrass: it is so nevertheless; it is no fable or fairy-tale, it is plain truth, and Mr. Snodgrass can see it every day right here in this country,—not perhaps from the window of his cosy dwelling in Tsukiji, but in the heart of the country, in out-of-the-way villages, in fact wherever there is a human being to be enlightened, a soul to be saved, not only in Japan, but all the world over. But I have wandered somewhat from the subject. I summarized Mr. Snodgrass' assertions above in the following sentence:—"All Catholics whether of the past or present have been and are disloyal and unpatriotic citizens, revolutionists, rebels in disguise, and all manner of undesirable characters and this because of the declared principle of their Church." With this assertion Mr. Snodgrass enters the arena and on this I will meet him.

To begin with, will Mr. Snodgrass kindly quote his authority for this assertion and say where, if anywhere, this "declared principle" is laid down? An evasive or ambiguous answer will not do, he must give chapter and verse. Lest Mr. Snod-

grass should think that what I say has been got up for the occasion, I shall quote Authorities for all I say; let Mr. Snodgrass do the same.

As far as I know, and I flatter myself that I know as much about Catholicism as Mr. Snodgrass does, the declared principles of the Catholic Church are summarized in a little book called the Catechism, a standard book in all Catholic schools and families. Butler's Catechism, Vol. 2 page 59, contains the following question and answer and explanation of the answer:—

What are the chief duties of subjects to the temporal powers? Answer:—To be subject to them, and to honour and obey them, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake: for so is the will of God. (1 Peter: Rom. XIII). Explanation: Submission, honour and obedience should be paid to the temporal powers, not only for wrath that is not only through fear of the punishment that may be inflicted on those who are wanting in those duties to their Sovereign, but also for conscience sake, that is from motives of religion, so as to avoid incurring the guilt of sin before God, whose ministers our temporal rulers are. For such is the will of God, because it is God who governs the world, and who gives kings to nations, and who invests them with his own authority, for as the Apostle says, there is no power but from God.

Besides this, on page 62 of the same book, we are admonished to pray for the spiritual and temporal happiness of our rulers and for the prosperity of our country, also for subordinate occupants of power "who are in high station." I quote from the instruction in the Catechism as follows:—

That we may lead a quiet and peaceful life, and enjoy happiness here below, we should unceasingly pour forth our prayers to heaven, that our rulers may govern their subjects, of all classes and creeds, with justice and humanity, consult for their welfare and happiness, by the enactment of just and impartial laws, and adjust their foreign and domestic relations in such a spirit and manner, as to ward off the miseries and calamities of war and civil commotions.

And in the Catholic Prayer-book before me, published in New York and bearing the Imprimatur of the Archbishop of New York, I read the following prayer, headed "To be said before Mass":—

We pray thee, O God of might, wisdom and justice, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted and judgment decreed, assist, with thy Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude, the President of these United States; that his administration may be conducted in righteousness, and be eminently useful to thy people over whom he presides, by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion; by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy; and by restraining vice and immorality. Let the light of thy divine wisdom direct the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all their proceedings and laws framed for our rule and government; so that they may tend to the preservation of peace, the promotion of national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge, and may perpetuate to us the blessings of equal liberty.

We pray for his excellency, the Governor of this State for the members of the Assembly, for all Judges, Magistrates and other Officers who are appointed to guard our political welfare: that they may be enabled, by thy powerful protection, to discharge the duties of their respect, five stations with honesty and ability.

We recommend, likewise, to thy unbounded mercy, all our brethren and fellow-citizens, throughout the United States, etc. etc.

Again, on page 64 of the Catechism I read:—

Question:—Is it sinful to resist or combine against the established authorities, or to speak with contempt or disrespect of those who rule over us?

Answer:—Yes: St. Paul says:—"Let every soul be subject to the higher powers. He that resisteth the power resisteth the ordinance of God; and they that resist purchase to themselves damnation."

Explanation:—From these words of St. Paul it clearly follows that every man, without exception, who is a subject, owes allegiance and fidelity to "the higher powers," that is, persons vested with political power for governing or ruling others, such as princes, judges and magistrates. As there is no power but from God, obedience is due to its possessor, as the vicar of God—obedience, voluntary, hearty, and interior, out of respect for God whom he represents. And the Apostle adds, "he that resisteth the power resisteth the ordinance of God," that is contravenes the order which God has established: and subjects by resisting or contravening that order, "purchase to themselves damnation," that is temporal punishment here for resisting civil legitimate authority, legitimately exercising its function, and by such resistance deserve for themselves eternal damnation hereafter. Therefore it is plain that to resist or combine against the established authorities is sinful even though their sentiments and feelings towards us should be most unfriendly, and their hostility towards our religion open and avowed; for personal enmity and hostility do not afford a just cause to release us from the duty of submission to their person and authority.

This is the teaching of the Catholic Church, taught at the beginning by the Apostles when they and their followers were persecuted because of their faith, taught during the succeeding centuries of persecution and taught to day in every part of the globe where a Catholic Priest instructs his flock. Mr. Snodgrass is quite right when he says "the Church has not changed its attitude towards civil government." He may safely complete the sentence by adding "and she never will." There is no occasion for her to do so, she has always taught submission to Civil Government, she

teaches so now and always will teach the same. That this teaching has born fruit and is practised by Catholics, history bears witness. Let Mr. Snodgrass read the history of his own country, Bancroft's History of the United States, written, not by a Catholic, but by a New England Protestant Clergyman. Can he show from history one single instance of the Catholics of America being anything but what their Church teaches: "submissive to the Civil Authorities." Can he show me that the patriotism of the Catholics of America has ever been anything but the highest and their love for their country anything but the purest? If he can I want him to do it. Here is what Cardinal Gibbons says of American Catholics:—"What shall I say of the prominent part that was taken by distinguished representatives of the Catholic Church in the cause of our American Independence? What shall I say of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, who at the risk of sacrificing his rich estates, signed the Declaration of Independence; of Rev. John Carroll, afterwards the first Archbishop of Baltimore, who, with his cousin Charles Carroll and Benjamin Franklin, was sent by Congress to Canada to secure the co-operation of the people of that province in the struggle for liberty; of Kosciusko, Lafayette, Pulaski and Barry, and a host of other Catholic heroes who laboured so effectually in the same glorious cause? American patriots without number the Church has nursed; a traitor, never."

Let us go a little further and look at the achievements of the Catholic Church in the cause of civil liberty, not to speak of religious liberty. To the Catholic Church this present generation owes its civil liberty and upon this same liberty is based our national prosperity. Look at those grand principles underlying the Constitution of the United States: Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Are they the outcome of Mr. Snodgrass's sect or are they the result of a long struggle on the part of the Church which he reviles?

I quote again from Cardinal Gibbons, "The greatest bulwark of civil liberty is the famous Magna Charta. It is the foundation not only of British but also of American constitutional freedom. Among other blessings contained in this instrument, it establishes trial by jury, and the rights of Habeas Corpus, and provides that there shall be no taxation without representation. Who were the framers of this memorable charter? Archbishop Langton of Canterbury and the Catholic Barons of England. On the plain of Runnymede in 1215 they compelled King John to sign that paper which was the death-blow to his arbitrary power and the corner-stone of constitutional government." Does this prove that the Catholics, whether in the minority or majority, are a stumbling-block in the way of progress? Does this prove them to be the undesirable citizens Mr. Snodgrass tries to make out, or does it prove that the Catholic Church is first in the line of advance towards good and liberal Government.

I think that I have made out my case; I have said enough at least to convince any fair-minded person that Mr. Snodgrass's charge against Catholics is unfounded and malicious.

Let us now take a good square look at the teachings of Mr. Snodgrass's sect.—Let us see what the "declared Principles of his religion are. I have not the pleasure of knowing the reverend gentleman personally, but in the "Japan Directory" I find him described as a member, or possibly the head, of the "Churches of Christ Mission." Presumably this is one of the 300 and odd sects of the Protestant Church in America. Possibly the "declared principles" of this particular sect are reduced to writing or printed in some form or other, possibly they are, like secret passwords, transmitted only by word of mouth, anyway we are fairly sure to get a correct idea of them by drawing our conclusion from the every-day action of the reverend ministers and teachers of the "Churches of Christ." Mr. Snodgrass and the other reverend gentlemen and ladies of his mission are in Japan presumably to teach their particular creed. Ordinary charity causes me to take it for granted that the said reverend gentlemen and ladies, one and all, act up to their own teachings. If therefore we take any one of the number, we can safely judge of the sect's "declared principles" by the "declared principles" of that one. It so happens that one of Mr. Snodgrass's colleagues, the Reverend J. M. McCaleb, a member of the same "Church of Christ" Mission, has recently given himself the trouble to lay before the world his "declared principles" in a letter to the "Shepherd's Voice," the official Organ of the Churches of Christ Mission, edited by the Rev. E. Snodgrass. Mr. McCaleb, being an American by nationality, was invited to attend and subscribe to the celebration of the American National Holiday (4th of July). His reply, printed in the "Shepherd's Voice" was as follows:—"My kingdom is not of

this world." Take no stock in it. Can't encourage mere sectional patriotism or glory in an independence established in blood and the cruelties of savage and merciless war. Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed, by the renewing of your minds, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. "Our citizenship is in heaven."

Here Mr. McCaleb, the "Church of Christ" Missionary, disclaims on religious grounds that citizenship of which every American Catholic is proud. He, the "Church of Christ" Missionary slanders his own country, where I, a Catholic, consider nothing more praiseworthy than to honour my country and the brave and loyal men of all creeds, who purchased with their blood its independence. Mr. McCaleb's letter clearly shows that the teaching of the "Churches of Christ" Missionaries, in as much as they disclaim all earthly citizenship, is distinctly against submission to any civil Government, and that being so, the conversion to the teachings of this sect means entire alienation from one's country, and if from country, as a matter of course also from the Government of the country to whom the convert happens to owe allegiance.

I began by quoting Mr. Snodgrass's assertion as to the spread of Catholicism alienating its converts from allegiance due to the civil Government, I will conclude this letter by repeating the same assertion only in its altered form, substituting "Snodgrassism or McCalebism" for "Roman Catholicism." We have it then "that the 'declared principles' of Snodgrassism or McCalebism are against submission to any civil authority, and the spread of such *ism* in any country means the alienation of its converts from allegiance to the Government of that country." If Mr. Snodgrass and Mr. McCaleb have made any converts in Japan, I hope those converts will go back to paganism and be loyal to their Sovereign rather than follow the example of their teachers disclaiming their citizenship on the 3rd of November next (their National Holiday) by saying "Our kingdom is not of this world. Take no stock in it, etc. Our citizenship is in heaven."

Your obedient servant,

A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.

ACCESSIBILITY OF THE CODES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—On the 21st August you wrote:—"Mr. Lowder appears not to have made any examination of the Japanese Codes before coming forward to proclaim their deficiencies. * * * He and those sharing his apprehensions have, in fact, been labouring under one of the drawbacks that vitiate so many of the criticisms uttered by the opponents of Treaty Revision, namely, want of knowledge. The law from which we have quoted was promulgated on the 7th of October, 1890. The anti-Revision Meeting was held on September 11th of that year. It was well known by the promoters of the Meeting that under no circumstances was there any idea of bringing foreigners under Japanese jurisdiction pending the operation of the new Civil Code. The Code had then been compiled, revised, and was awaiting promulgation. * * * The fact that before organizing opposition to treaty revision they did not inform themselves about the provisions of the Code—information easily accessible—cannot, we think, be regarded as a proof that they were actuated by any serious sense of the responsibilities they were incurring. That they still remain without that information, though the Law has been in the hands of the public nearly seven years, does not, we think, suggest that the desire to make themselves acquainted with the nature of the jurisdiction which they so greatly distrust, is very active. At all events, if Mr. Lowder's ignorance that those provisions of law existed, justifies, in his opinion, some of the fears he entertained, he will doubtless admit that persons more conversant with the Code were equally justified in their freedom from such fears."

The accusation is that the opposition to treaty revision originated in ignorance of the Code; that that ignorance was and remains inexcusable, because it might have been remedied at any time during the last seven years by referring to the Code which has been and is easily accessible to the public; and that inexcusable ignorance is culpable ignorance.

Upon reading that reflection upon the conduct of myself and others, I wrote you a letter explaining the unsuccessful efforts I had made to obtain this easily accessible information, and asking where the Code could be procured; to which you thought it sufficient to reply, on the 21st August, that certain parts of it in your possession, were obtained, several years ago, from the Hakubunsha

in Tokyo; but that you were unable to say whether the volumes were now procurable.

Thereupon I caused a letter to be written to the Hakubunsha, and was informed, in reply, that the successors to that institution were unable to obtain for me what I wanted; and I also ascertained that the Hakubunsha had been merely the printer, not the publisher of the books.

What then becomes of the very serious charges you have formulated against me and against other members of this community, in the past, and have so recently repeated? Speaking for myself, I have been for the past seven years, and am still extremely anxious to have the opportunity of informing my mind as to the provisions of the new Civil Code of Japan, or of such portion of it as have been promulgated. You tell me my ignorance is due to supineness, inasmuch as the knowledge I am seeking is and always has been of easy access,—wherein you do me an injustice.

Very faithfully, J. F. LOWDER.
Yokohama, August 30th, 1897.

[The portions of the Code catalogued in our recent note were purchased by us several years ago at the Hakubunsha. At that time there was certainly no difficulty in procuring the books. Still, if Mr. Lowder has found himself unable to obtain them, our suggestion of supineness on his part must be withdrawn.—Ed. J.M.]

"CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND ROMAN CATHOLICISM."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I note Mr. Pettier's effusion in to-day's Mail. A man, a Vic. Apost., who can't see the difference between a discussion of principles and a discussion of men, merits pity and not censure. I am familiar with the Romish contention about others not knowing the doctrines of the Hierarchy. The principles which I have shown up in my tract are in quotations from the highest Roman authorities. Did not Mr. Pettier see this? I have discussed principles and not slandered men.

Mr. Pettier says I charge "Catholics with acknowledging no other authority but the Pope's and refusing all allegiance to civil power." Now, the next time he talks about my falsehood, he would do well to correct his own. I have made no such charge. This is a characteristic false issue he raises to hide the true inwardness of the Romish system. My contention, made as clear as it can well be made, is that the Hierarchy, while recognising civil authority, claims that its own authority is superior and that the civil authority is subject to it. Not a single thing in Mr. Pettier's diatribe against me contradicts this, though he wishes to make it appear that Romish doctrine makes no such claim.

HERE IS THE DEADLY PARALLEL.

Cardinal Manning, speaking for the Pope at Kensington, 1896.	Pope Leo XIII., as quoted by Mr. Pettier, Vic. Apost. (In which Papal letter is this found?)
I acknowledge no civil power; I am the subject of no civil power; I am the subject of no prince, and I claim to be more than this. I claim to be the supreme judge and director of the consciences of men, of the peasants that till the fields, and of the prince that sits upon the throne; of the household that sits in the shade of privacy, and the legislature that makes laws for kingdoms. I am sole, last, supreme judge of what is right and wrong. Moreover, we declare, affirm, define, and pronounce it to be necessary to salvation to every human creature to be subject to the Roman Pontiff.	Civil power is born from nature and consequently comes from God himself, the author of nature. In other words, natural law, undoubtedly a divine one and according to which every human society must be governed, requires in that society a ruling power which by the very fact of its existence, has a right to command and to be obeyed in conscience. Yes, and this ruling power is the sublime Pope, supreme, and the civil rulers under him. He says, "I am the subject of no civil power;" and "I claim to be the supreme judge" etc.]

Close scrutiny of the wording of the Pope's language as quoted by Mr. Pettier, will make out no contradiction. The Pope is still supreme.

The Hierarchy, now, in this day, stamps the following as heresy. What does Mr. Pettier say?

"In the case of conflicting laws between the two powers [State and Hierarchy], the civil law ought to prevail."

Finally, he speaks of "his [my] system," and assumes that I am a "member of an insignificant sect." I would beg to be excused from either having a "system" or membership in a sect. I am entirely without any sect, and have never put forth any system of doctrine. I am simply a member of the church you read of in the New Testament. The Roman Hierarchy is a true sect with unscriptural doctrines, and if Mr. Pettier is bold enough to face the issue, I am ready to undertake the task of proving my affirmation.

Thanks, Mr. Editor, for the kindness in permitting a reply to so ugly a phase of the matter.

Very truly,
R. SNODGRASS.
14, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Aug. 31st, 1897.

[It is our duty to point out that when Mr. Pettier undertook to rebut the charge that "Catholics acknowledge no other authority but the Pope's and refuse all allegiance to civil power," he merely quoted the words in which we had described the gist of Mr. Snodgrass' brochure. If, then, "falsehood" is to be charged against any one, it must be charged against us, not against Mr. Pettier. Our reply to the charge is that, in reviewing Mr. Snodgrass' book, we epitomized his general contention in terms that seemed consistent with the logical conclusion to which his premises pointed. Had we written "Catholics acknowledge no supreme authority but the Pope's and refuse ultimate allegiance to civil power," we should have accurately defined the position taken by Mr. Snodgrass. But it appears to us that whether the qualifiers "supreme" and "ultimate" be inserted or omitted, the practical result is the same. We must also ask that personalities and discourteas be excluded from any letters intended for insertion with reference to such a subject as this. It is unnecessary, we trust, to be more explicit.—Ed. J.M.]

REPLY TO

"A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—This gentleman in a bombast of hatred in to-day's *Mail* complains that I have called him a hard name. Well, that is not my fault. I usually call people by the name they call themselves. Mr. "Wolf in Sheep's Clothing" ought to change his name. If I had such a name as that I'd never give a priest another cent to get him to pray for the soul of the person who named me when I was an infant. If the God-father could not have found a better name he ought at least to have done like the old negro who called his infant son Proteus John Smith, saying that the boy might wish to name himself when he got old enough. I would suggest that "Proteus Wolf in Sheep's Clothing" would leave a hope for a better name. To save time and space I shall on the present occasion write only the initials of the gentleman's name.

Before I come to Mr. W. I. S. C.'s (or Wisc's) chief issue, I must lay the axe at the root of his preliminary brush. I have had some experience with Romans in discussion. Unfortunately, I have never seen one attempt to answer his religious opponent without first trying to besmear him with mud. Mr. Wisc pictures me out in his vain, corrupted imagination as the head of a sect in this country, fat, living on a fat salary, in a luxurious house in Tokyo, no work of any kind, off to a delightful summer resort, &c. Now Mr. Wisc has, just here, to speak plain Anglo-Saxon, uttered five willful falsehoods. The ever recurring Romish lament that they are the only misrepresented ones becomes nauseating. It was simply criminal neglect in Mr. Wisc not to inform himself about me before he poured out the gall of inherited hate and slander. Far be it from me to boast, but I must inform Mr. Wisc that I am the head of no sect, that I belong to no sect, that I am not fat (rather lean), draw no kind of salary from any sect (but work with my own hands for what I live on), and that during 9 years of residence in Japan I have never spent any time at a summer resort. We live in a moderately good house in which we keep boarders for our living besides my teaching in a Japanese school, and preaching the gospel. And almost entirely out of the labours of my own hands I have built a chapel last year, conduct a school for destitute children in which two native teachers are employed; besides other Christian work, all together amounting to over 1,200 yen. Show me the Romish priest that has done more. I hope the readers will pardon these personal references, since they are given to stop the blatant mouth of this champion of Mother Rome. However, it is hardly necessary to tear away the thin gauze of Papal fallacy. It shines through too plainly.

Mr. Wisc betrays considerable ignorance of his own sect when he institutes an educational comparison between Romans and Protestants. Yes, Romans are trained, learned in Papal dogma. Priests are trained in the Papal interpretation of scripture. And does not Mr. Wisc know that none dare look at God's word other than through the eye-glasses of Papish interpretation.

"It is permitted to no one to interpret the sacred Scriptures contrary to this sense [Mother Church's sense], nor, likewise, contrary to the unanimous consent of the Father."—Vatican Council, 1870.

Moreover, every great modern thinker from Locke to Emerson has been without the Papal sect. There have been a few great scholars within the Roman pale,—Galileo for instance. And yet Papal intolerance, which has ever put a check on free investigation of truth, would have taken his head off had he not recanted.

And in further inflating his laudations of the Romish priesthood he holds up their celibacy as a virtue. He must surely think that Rome is

not *semper eadem* in the moral fortitude of her priesthood, that he boasts of their unscriptural celibacy; for in medieval times they were permitted to keep concubines. If this is questioned the proof will be forthcoming.

I should not have jostled this decayed mummy of the Hierarchy had not Mr. Wisc been so liberally gratuitous in his complimentary epithets. I feel perfectly safe in answering him according to his folly, since in enlightened communities the Papal fogot has been quenched.

Another shift Mr. Wisc seeks to make is in his reference to McCaleb. Mr. McCaleb and myself are entirely independent. We are members of no kind of missionary body. He answers for himself, I do the same. But when Mr. Wisc talks about the relation of our respective beliefs to the Japanese Government, we are willing for the matter to be tested by the facts of history.

Before I come to what I affirm, I wish to call attention to Mr. Wisc's quotations from the Catechism. These passages do not contradict a single statement I have made in my tract. If they can be shown to contradict me, I will show that they also contradict the Pope. Romans may and can be subject to civil powers. Mr. Wisc, as Papal custom is, scrapes together what he wants me to say, then launches forth a Romish bull at it. Mr. Wisc is like the priest and belle looking at the moon. He sees in my tract just what he wants to see.

I have said, and have shown in my tract, from the highest Papal authority, that the doctrines of the Papacy are antagonistic to the civil power, that they claim to be supreme. It will be noted in both Mr. Wisc's and Mr. Pettier's tirades that not a single fact of my tract has been challenged. They have skimmed around in true Hierarchical fashion, made a feeble bluster of generalities, quoted a little; but not a single statement of mine has been given in my own words and denied.

The issue lies right here. The Pope, as representative of the Hierarchy, is supreme, superior to the civil power. Just as he approves any civil power so may Romish subjects render also obedience to that civil power. Since the Pope has lost his power to dictate to civil governments what they must do, in obedience rendered under such circumstances mental reservation or equivocation is permitted by the Pope. Here it is:—

"To swear with equivocation, where there is a good reason, and equivocation itself is lawful, is not wrong. And if a person swears without a good reason, it is not to be considered a perjury; since, in one sense of the word, and according to mental restriction, he swears what is true."—Ligari, Lib. III. N. 151.

No one will question the loyalty of a Papist to a civil power approved by the Pope. But when the Pope has power and disapproves of a temporal Prince he can call his subjects to rebel against the civil authority. Does not Mr. Wisc know this. Pope Pius IX., of infallibility fame, said, July 21st, 1873:—

"There are many errors regarding infallibility; but the most malicious of all is that which includes, in that dogma, the right of deposing sovereigns, and declaring the people no longer bound by the obligation of fidelity. This *Right* has now and again in critical circumstances been exercised by the pontiffs. Its origin was not in the infallibility, but in the *Authority* of the Pope."

Is Mr. Wisc ignorant of this doctrine of his church? Is he so blind as to declare all others blind? Does he not know that the Pope claims temporal power,—two swords? and that this power is not granted to him by civil authority which can at its pleasure deprive him of that temporal power? Here it is in the Papal Syllabus of Errors, 1864:—

"In addition to the authority inherent in the Episcopate, a further and temporal power is granted to it by the civil authority, either expressly or tacitly, which power is on that account also revocable by the civil authority whenever it pleases."

Let Mr. Wisc answer me. Is the following heresy? I have put the same question to Mr. Pettier. Come, thou redoubtable Wisc: is this heresy?

"In case of conflicting laws between the two powers [State and Hierarchy], the civil law ought to prevail."

Does not Mr. Wisc know that in a State where the Hierarchy gains the ascendancy the civil law is subject to the Papal see? Is he ignorant of these historical facts? I cite him an instance in the South American State of Ecuador.

It is simply darkening facts to soar in generalities about what Romans have done in nations like the United States, where Papists are so vastly in the minority, and where the government is acceptable to Romans in the present circumstances. Even Papists there and elsewhere

are enjoined by the Pope to work in political affairs so that the constitutions of States may be modelled according to the principles of the Hierarchy.

"All Catholics must make themselves felt as active elements in daily political life in countries where they live. All Catholics should exert their power to cause the constitutions of State to be modelled on the principles of the true Church."—Leo; 1885.

Finally, since Mr. Wisc has declared his courage to meet the issue of his sect against any opponents, I might as well tell him that I am ready to deny that his sect has any scriptural authority for its existence or for its dogma. I desire chiefly to pay my respects to doctrines and principles, and attribute the errors into which my fellow men fall to the weakness of human flesh. The hierarchical dogmas are much like what a Republican said of the Democratic Party,—"Rotten through and through." But most Democrats are better than their principles; and so it is with many Papists. With thanks to the Editor,

Very truly,
E. SNODGRASS.

14, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Sept. 1, 1897.

THE "ADEN" DISASTER.

MR. GILLET TELLS OF THE RESCUE.

We have already reproduced from the columns of *The Times* Mr. Frank Gillett's account of the *Aden* disaster. Our readers doubtless remember that the account was abbreviated, *The Times* not finding space for his description of the rescue by the Royal Indian Marine steamer *Mayo*. We now give this concluding portion in Mr. Gillett's words:—

"During the last three days the weather distinctly moderated, the spells of comparative quiet were more frequent and lasted longer, and this, you may be sure, was welcomed by us, as with fewer seas actually breaking over the good ship our chances of rescue were far brighter, and although the waves were still exceedingly high all round, we felt that it was just possible that a boat well manned might have a chance of getting near us, which certainly during most of the time we had been there would have been impossible. And now we came to the 25th, when, late in the afternoon, we saw to our great joy the masts of first one ship and then another appearing over the long spit of land which forms the S.E. end of Socotra Island. The first kept on her course and steamed away in the direction of Colombo, but the second was apparently anchoring just on the north side of the spit of land. We of course kept our usual signals going and soon noticed a string of signals flying from the stationary vessel, which we thought were intended for us, although having no Code Book, we could not have read them, but afterwards we found that these were intended for the vessel which steamed away, a P. & O. ship, bound for Colombo. Darkness soon set in, but we kept candles burning all that night in three of the port holes on the side nearest the island, although with but faint hopes that the light could be seen from the other ship, as the land intervened. We were very glad afterwards that we had done this, as we heard later from our rescuers that, although they had sighted the wreck before finding it necessary to anchor for the night on the lee side of the island, they had failed from the bridge to discern any signs of life on board, and that it was not until after dusk, when it occurred to one of them to mount the rigging for a last look at us before actual darkness set in, that from our candle-lights, which they could then plainly see, they knew for certain there were fellow creatures there to be saved, and, as they said, it made them all feel good to think they had come in time to do something any way. As for ourselves, I need scarcely say how thankfully and peacefully we went to rest that last night, and were all up and about at daybreak to look for the earliest signs of the vessel's movements. Soon we saw her move to pick up her anchor and then steam slowly forward to beyond the spit of land, and it was with keen delight that we noticed the white hull and yellow funnel which proved her to be a Naval boat. We had many times, in discussing the possibilities of rescue, agreed that if we were ever to be saved, our best and in fact almost only chance, was if a man-of-war came along, and now it all seemed to be coming true just as we had hoped!

She steamed along for about a mile or so to clear the land and give the reefs a wide berth, and then we saw her heading in towards us, proceeding of course very cautiously and sounding on both sides, and eventually anchoring within about three-quarters of a mile of us, we meanwhile keeping up

an endless round of cheering, waving of flags, torn sails, etc., which went more wildly and with greater excitement as we saw with glistening eyes preparations being made for a boat to be lowered from her lee side. Here, to do full justice to the truly heroic rescue, I must give the details as I afterwards learnt them from those on board. Commander de Berry, having steamed in as close to us as he dared for the safety of his own ship, in view of the high and dangerous seas running, declined on his own responsibility to order out a boat to try and get near us, but told his 1st Officer, Lieut. H. C. E. Dobbin, that if he could get volunteers to go, he might get the boat down and away. This noble fellow, who I may remind your readers was on the *Warren Hastings* when she was wrecked, and was very highly commended in despatches then for notably praiseworthy conduct, did not lose any time in acting on the permission given, and being joined at once by Sub-Lieut. O. Goldsmith, a strapping young Irishman, the crew were marshalled on deck and volunteers called for. I may here mention that outside of the Officers, Engineers, etc., the entire crew of the *Mayo*, which is used as a despatch boat, and is generally stationed at Aden, consists only of natives of our Indian provinces, and it was on these men that the call was made. The boat selected, a rather light cutter, chosen because of its being lighter and more easily handled against the heavy seas than the others, required a crew of 12 men, but at the call no less than 43 stood forward volunteering to go! Lieut. Dobbin picked out 13 of the strongest of them, and having got the boat quickly lowered, and all hands fitted with their life belts, they started to pull towards the wreck, he being at the tiller and Lieut. Goldsmith up in front in the bows. Pulling hard against the strong wind and heavy seas running, which, however, were fortunately not breaking, it took them fully 45 minutes to reach us, and they ventured right up under our lee, bringing up alongside us just aft of the amidships portion, where a big piece of the iron bulwarks had been torn away by the seas rushing over us.

With what delicious joy we from the wreck had watched their approach, I leave your readers to imagine, and when, fearing that at any moment a big sea might break over the wreck, and swamp the boat, Lieut. Dobbin shouted, "Lose no time, come at once," we did not stop to think of anything but getting off, just as we were, and as the boat rose and fell on the big waves rolling under us, we did our best to choose the highest point reached by the boat and jump for it, and although, I think, we hardly knew how we got there, in a very short space of time, we all found ourselves without serious mishap in the boat and were quickly followed there by about 10 or 12 of the native crew of the *Aden* who had patiently waited until all our party had dropped in. Then seeing that she had enough to carry, Lieut. Dobbin, shouting some words in Hindostani to the remainder of our native survivors, promising that the boat would return for them and bidding them all get together and be ready, ordered his crew to pull away, and with wind and sea in their favour, and elated by what they had already done, the good fellows bent their backs to it and in very quick time had us under the lee of the *Mayo*, where kind hands were waiting to help us aboard and kind hearts to cheer and welcome us!

Clinging together with mingled smiles and tears at the happy ending of our awful suspense, we must, I think, have presented a piteous and pathetic sight to our brave rescuers, and the good fellows, not leaving us time to pour out our heartfelt thanks to them, hurried us into a small deck cabin, where hot soups and nourishing food was ready prepared for us. Meanwhile, preparations were being made outside for the second journey to the wreck, and it was considered advisable that, seeing the arduous work they had gone through, the former crew should be taken out, and a fresh crew selected for the last battle against the elements, particularly as both wind and sea were momentarily increasing in violence, but when it was put to them these 13 brave fellows, after a short consultation together, asked, through their head man, if the same officers were going for the second time, and on being told "Yes," their immediate reply was, "Then we would like to remain and go too," and as the 1st officer told me, even if they might be tired, and running perhaps some extra risk in acceding to their request, he could not find it in his heart to shift them then, so after giving them a short rest, and some good hot coffee to refresh them, the boat and its gallant crew were ordered away to the wreck again, and after a hard pull, this time of over an hour, they succeeded again without mishap in getting alongside and taking off all the remainder of the native survivors. Then came the final return to the *Mayo*, and as, pulling with a will, they brought up under the lee, I can tell you the cheers were deafening which on all sides saluted

this brave band, who had thus, in that early grey morning, been the means of saving the lives of 45 of their fellow creatures.

Now, Sir, I have often heard these Indian natives derided, spoken of contemptuously as "only niggers," and such like, but I should like to record my humble testimony from what I have seen of them, when well disciplined, well officered, and well led by those in whom they have confidence, that these men are capable of work that would be creditable to any flag and any country, and I put it to your readers whether anything finer or nobler in conduct could have been expected from a picked lot of our own justly praised blue-jackets than was shown by these native sailors on that memorable 26th June, and let them bear in mind that there was no rush of excitement to carry them on, and induce to heroic deeds. The rescue was effected in what may be termed cold blood!

Feeling quite revived by the hot soup, &c., the first warm food that had passed our lips for 17 days, and after having had our wounds attended to by the Doctor, we hastened out again on deck in time to see the good boat hauled up, and the anchor weighed, and as the *Mayo* swung around to start on her return journey, we said our last "good-bye" to the good ship *Aden* as she lay now deserted on that fearful reef! Yes, she had indeed been a good ship to us, holding us together bravely during those long 17 days despite the awful boiling seas which almost incessantly raged over and around her, and it was with at least some shade of regret mingled with the joys of rescue that we parted from the now, alas! sadly battered hull which for so long had been to us a home and haven of refuge. . . . Good, noble ship! she must indeed have been splendidly put together to stand out for so long against the forces arrayed against her; and I wonder how many ships there are now extant which could have equally well withstood so awful a trial! My narrative has, I fear, already run to undue length, so I must shorten what I could wish to say about the untiring generosity, kindness and attention pressed upon us by all on board the *Mayo*. Returning, we reached Aden on the afternoon of June 28th, and spent there, waiting on board for the incoming P. & O. steamer from Bombay, two of the happiest days we ever remember. Many of the residents on shore sent gifts of clothing for our immediate wants, and as no children's clothes could be procured, two of the ladies, our good Captain's charming wife, Mrs. de Berry, and Mrs. Hayes-Sadler, the wife of the Assistant Resident, purchased material, and made with their own hands some clothing for the little ones, Bobbie Pearce, and our own little Evelyn. A very touching scene took place on the morning of June 29th when, in the presence of the entire ship's company on the deck of the *Mayo*, the crew of 13 who had volunteered for the dangerous work of the rescue were called out separately from the rest and the thanks of the Commander, and of myself as spokesman for the survivors, were interpreted to them. On June 30th, amidst cheers of the crew in the rigging, we left on the P. & O. steaming to join the mail steamer *India* lying outside Aden harbour, and there waved our last "good-byes" to those dear kind fellows who had shewn us such sincere and warm-hearted friendship—and never, while the lives they saved are spared to us, shall we forget *Aden*, the good ship *Mayo*, and its happy united band of officers and crew. On the *India*, homeward bound, we were treated with the greatest kindness and consideration by Capt. Briscoe, R.N.R., and all his officers and crew, including also all the very numerous ranks of stewards, stewardesses and servants needed for so large a ship, our wounds were carefully attended to and everything done to make us happy and comfortable, many of the passengers too showing us the greatest kindness, tendering gifts of clothing to eke out our rather scanty wardrobes, and doing all in their power to make our homeward journey happy and pleasant.

It was with a deep sense of her ever thoughtful kindness and sympathy that we listened, on the morning of July 4th, to the reading by Capt. Briscoe of the telegram sent by our gracious Queen-Empress to catch us at Suez. "The Queen is deeply concerned at the sad disaster of the loss of the *Aden*, and asks you to express her sincere sympathy and condolence with the bereaved, and with the survivors, for the terrible sufferings they must have undergone," and to which the same morning we, through the kind assistance of the Captain, telegraphed the following reply:—"The survivors of *Aden* shipwreck beg to thank H. M. the Queen-Empress for her most gracious message and solicitude for them. Are deeply touched by her sympathy. They are getting every care and attention from the Captain and officers of the *India*. All are doing well."

And now, landed in safety on the shores of our dear old country once more, with, we trust, peace

and rest before us, we cannot but feel that our long trials have brought us already one great good, and that is, the bringing home to our hearts and minds how much of true loving-kindness and sympathy there still is in this busy world of ours for those who are suffering or distressed. Thank God for it, and for the noble hearts which are always ready to feel and show it!

THE "ADEN" ENQUIRY.

We take the following telegrams from Indian papers:—

London, 10th August.

The Board of Trade judgment on the loss of the steamer *Aden* states that the speed was slightly reduced, whereby the current altered the course; but that the evidence is insufficient to show whether this was enough to account for the casualty. It expresses high opinion of the conduct of the officers and passengers.

Later.

The judgment of the Board of Trade in the Court of Enquiry into the loss of the steamer *Aden* further states the steamer was well provided in every respect, but it was impossible to arrive at a definite conclusion as to the cause of the casualty, there being no evidence from the officers, all being lost. There is some ground for supposing that the Captain anticipated a stronger north easterly current than was actually experienced, the current being probably abnormally less than usual at the beginning of the monsoon and being possibly affected by the cyclonic disturbance. The Court found that every necessary measure was promptly taken by the Peninsular and Oriental Company to cause assistance to be sent to the survivors and to despatch a land expedition to search the island of Socotra and steamers to search for the missing boat. The Court desires to speak most highly of the discipline on board and the entire absence of panic amongst the crew and the passengers under severely trying circumstances. It also commends highly the conduct of the officers, and mentions with special approbation the conduct of the surviving lascars and the other Indian crew.

THE GOLD FIELDS OF ALASKA.

Mr. Harry de Windt, writing to *The Times* says:—"The discovery in Alaska within the past few months of gold in large quantities has attracted considerable attention, not only throughout the United States, but also in Canada and British Columbia. The auriferous deposits are of extraordinary richness, 40 pounds to the pan has been obtained on Bonanza Creek, which is equal to the best records of California or Cariboo; and although the output of gold throughout the Yukon district in 1895 amounted to only \$3,000,000, these figures show an increase in 1896 of \$1,670,000, while further important discoveries have been made since the publication of these statistics. It is possible that the very favourable report of Inspector Constantine (published in the *Standard* a few weeks ago) may attract capital and labour from this country, but although the inspector very rightly dwells upon the possibilities offered by this new Eldorado he does not mention the difficulties that at present attend the journey to the goldfields—difficulties which should not be overlooked by intending prospectors. The report concludes, "A route from the South to the headwaters of the Yukon is required," but this scarcely conveys a correct impression of the hardships, and even perils, that at present encompass the voyage into the interior of Alaska from the sea.

There are two ways of entering Alaska—one by sea from San Francisco, Vancouver, Victoria, and other southern ports to St. Michael's in Behring Sea; the other, which I chose, and which is taken by fully 90 per cent. of the gold-seekers, by crossing the mountains further south and descending a chain of lakes and rapids to the headwaters of the Yukon River. The distance saved by adopting the overland journey is no less than 2,500 miles. The difficulties of this voyage are only realized at Dyea, 100 miles from Juneau, where the land journey commences and where a bad anchorage frequently compels the traveller to wade knee-deep for a considerable distance before landing. Dyea consists of a rude log store and a movable town of tents occupied by diggers bound for the goldfields. A delay of several days occurs here while Indians are procured to carry tents and baggage to the lakes 24 miles distant, over the Chilkoot Pass, nearly 4,000 feet high. Provisions must be brought from Juneau, for there is nothing to be had here, or indeed anywhere this side of Forty Mile City, 600 miles away.

The Chilkoot Pass is difficult, even dangerous, to those not possessed of steady nerves. Toward the summit there is a sheer ascent of 1,000 feet where a slip would certainly be fatal. At this point a dense mist overtook us, but we reached Lake Lindeman—the first of a series of five lakes—in safety after a fatiguing tramp of 14 consecutive hours through half-melted snow. Here we had to build our own boat, first felling the timber for the purpose. The journey down the lakes occupied 10 days, four of which were passed in camp on Lake Bennett during a violent storm which raised a heavy sea. The rapids followed. One of these latter, the "Grand Cañon, is a mile long, and dashes through walls of rock from 50 to 100 feet high, six miles below are the "White Horse Rapids," a name which many fatal accidents have converted into the "Miner's Grave." But snags and rocks are everywhere a fruitful source of danger on this river, and from this rapid, downward, scarcely a day passed that one did not see some cairn or wooden cross marking the last resting-place of some drowned pilgrim to the land of gold.

The above is a brief sketch of the troubles that beset the Alaskan gold prospector—troubles that, although unknown in the Eastern States and Canada, have for many years past associated the name of "Yukon" with an ugly sound in Western America.

The journey to the Alaskan goldfields is a hard one for the well-equipped explorer, who travels in light marching order. The gold prospector, on the other hand, must carry a winter's provisions, dearly purchased at Juneau, to be transported at ruinous prices over the Chilkoot Pass. He must construct his own boat (often single-handed) on Lake Lindemann, and, assuming that he arrives at his destination, must secure lodgings at a price that would startle a West-end landlord. And all this on, perhaps, a capital of \$1,000, not including a ticket to Juneau from the Golden Gate or elsewhere. No wonder that the annals of the Alaska Commercial Company bear witness to the fact that, within the past five years, hundreds of starving miners have been sent out of the country at the company's expense, and these, as I can testify, are but a percentage of those who have perished from actual starvation in the dreary purlieus of Circle City and Forty Mile Creek.

There is, however, a brighter side to this gloomy picture, for there are fortunately other approaches to the Yukon Valley besides the dreaded Chilkoot. The chain of mountains of which the latter forms a part is cut by three other passes—the Takin, the Chilkat, and the White Pass. Of these the two former may be dismissed as being, on account of their length and other difficulties, almost as impracticable as the Chilkoot, over which it would be impossible to lay a bridle path; but the White Pass offers no serious obstacles to the construction of a railway. The White Pass is at least 1,000 feet lower than the Chilkoot, and, unlike the latter, is timbered the entire length. The water terminus of this pass is in Skagway Bay, 85 miles from Juneau. Here ocean steamers can run up at all times to a wharf which has been constructed in a sheltered position, and there is an excellent town site with protection from storms. The pass lies through a box canon surrounded by high granite peaks and is comparatively easy. It has already been used by miners who report very favourably upon the trial, and when it is considered that the adoption of this route obviates the dangers and expenses of the Chilkoot, avoids Lakes Lindemann and Bennett (the stormiest and most perilous of the whole chain), shortens and greatly diminishes the expense of the journey to the Yukon Valley, and, above all, can be used throughout the year (the interior of Alaska is now completely cut off from the world for nine months in the year), there can be little reasonable doubt that the White Pass is the best and most practicable route to the Yukon goldfields.

It is said that a scheme is now in progress to open up the White Pass and facilitate the transport of miners and stores to the mining settlements, and this is earnestly to be wished. An English company, the British Columbia Development Association (Limited), has already established a landing wharf, and are erecting a store and sawmills at Skagway, whence it is proposed (as soon as may be feasible) to lay down a line of rail some 35 miles long, striking the Yukon river at a branch of the Teslin Lake, about 100 miles from Lake Lindemann, which is the débouchure of the Chilkoot Pass. By this means the tedious and difficult navigation between these two points will be avoided, and the only dangerous parts of the river below—viz., the Grand Cañon and White Horse Rapids—will be circumvented by a road or rail portage. Light draught steamers will be put on from Teslin Lake to the canon, and from the foot of the latter to all the towns and camps on the

river. Arrangements will also be made for direct communication with Skagway by the existing lines of steamers, which now only call at Juneau, whence transshipment is necessary.

It is stated that this route will be open for use and traffic in a few months' time, when the cost of transporting freight and passengers will be very considerably reduced and the difficulties of the transit practically eliminated. Much, however, depends upon the Canadian Government, which, in view of the increasing rush of miners to the Yukon Valley (many of whom must, under existing conditions, inevitably starve during the coming winter), should lose no time in constructing a wagon road over the White Pass.

When the above scheme has been carried out the prospector (even of limited means) may reasonably hope to reach his claim in safety and at a comparatively moderate outlay. At present I should certainly recommend all those intending to try their luck in Alaska to defer their journey until a less hazardous route than that *via* the Chilkoot Pass is open to them. It is with the object of warning Englishmen, who may be deceived by the alluring advertisements of unscrupulous agents, that I have addressed you this letter. That there is gold in large quantities on the Yukon has been conclusively proved, but the wealth of the Indies would not compensate the risks now attendant on the journey. As an old Yukon miner remarked to me at Juneau, "\$1,000 a day would not fetch me over the Chilkoot again, but open up the 'White Pass' and we will soon have another Johannesburg at Forty Mile Creek."

NAGASAKI ROLLER FLOUR MILLS COMPANY, LIMITED.

From the Nagasaki journal we learn that at the half-yearly general meeting of the shareholders of this company, held on Thursday August 26th, Mr. F. Ringer, speaking as Chairman, said that since the report had been written, the American wheat market had gone up, and flour had advanced 40 cents per bag, so that the value of the Company's stocks had much increased. Since 1892, 60 per cent. had been paid in dividends, an average of 10 per cent. per annum. The property was now worth double the book value, which was still the same as in 1892. The land alone cost \$2,500 and it was now worth \$17,000, an increase of nearly \$15,000. There was also a gain of \$9,600 in the value of the machinery by reason of the difference in the rate of exchange. The buildings cost \$18,000 and at the increased cost of labour and bricks were worth double that amount at the present time. \$5,000 worth of spare gear had been laid down. Since 1892 additions of machinery to the extent of \$7,000 had been made, although only \$4,000 appears in the accounts. The total valuation of the property and plant was fully \$120,000, and in view of that fact it was worth while considering the expediency of increasing the capital to \$120,000, giving shareholders ten shares of \$100 each for every \$500 share held by them at present. The reduction in the face value of shares would render them more easy of sale. The stock of flour at Vladivostok was still heavy, but if the present position continued it would no doubt be possible to obtain better prices than were provided for in estimating the value of stocks there. A claim for shortage of wheat had just been settled with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for \$2,500.

The report and accounts having been passed and the retiring directors re-elected, Mr. Robertson moved—"That on account of the increased value of the property, the Directors be requested to consider the advisability of calling an Extraordinary General Meeting for the purpose of increasing the capital of the Company to \$120,000, to be divided into 1,200 shares of \$100, each shareholder to receive ten shares of \$100 each for every \$500 share held at present." Mr. Glover having seconded, the motion was agreed to.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

TURKEY AND GREECE.

London, August 25. Germany has declined to join the other Powers in approaching the Greek Government regarding the method of raising the indemnity money until after the peace preliminaries are signed. France and Russia seem disposed to adopt Lord Salisbury's plan, but Austria sides with Germany.

London, August 29.

The position of the Eastern Question is very complex, and changes its aspect daily. Lord Salisbury has made a fresh proposal that Great Britain, France, and Russia guarantee the indemnity loan, and undertake the control of certain Greek revenues. Greece has replied that she is unable to state what revenues she can assign to guarantee the loan, as the amount of the indemnity is not yet fixed. Meanwhile, the Cretan Assembly has adopted a resolution in favour of the immediate establishment of autonomy.

London, August 31.

The Powers have again addressed a communication to the Greek Government on the subject of the indemnity loan.

London, Sept. 1.

In reply to the Powers, the Greek Government offers to assign the stamp revenue of eleven million drachmas as security for the indemnity loan.

London, September 2.

The Greek reply satisfies all the Powers except Germany, whose views are unknown.

THE INDIAN FRONTIER RISING.

London, August 25.

The Afridis have captured and burnt Ali Mu-jid.

[Ali Mu-jid is between Peshawar and the Afghan frontier, about twenty miles from each.]

London, September 2.

The delay in sending the big expedition into the Afridi country is owing to the fact that the necessary sanction has not yet been received from the Secretary of State. This is said to be in consequence of considerable unrest in Beluchistan where troubles are feared.

The Afridis still hold the Khyber Pass, while the Waziris threaten Kohat, Tochi, and Malakand.

THE TRANSVAAL AND GREAT BRITAIN.

President Kruger, speaking in the Volksraad, declared that British suzerainty over the Transvaal had ceased to exist, but that the Transvaal desired to uphold the Convention entirely, and to preserve friendly relations with Britain and the whole world.

London, August 26.

The English papers accept President Kruger's statement [that British supremacy in the Transvaal has ceased] quite calmly, and declare that as long as the Convention is maintained there is no need to quarrel about mere words.

THE FRENCH PRESIDENT IN RUSSIA.

The Russians are indulging in the most extravagant outburst of Francophile enthusiasm, the French sailor being embraced by the Russians in the streets, and the French officers covered with flowers. The prevalent display of sentiment is described as a delirious frenzy.

The Tzar yesterday conferred with M. Hanotaux and M. Mouravieff for an hour.

London, Aug. 27.

President Faure has left St. Petersburg.

THE KING OF SIAM.

The King of Siam has arrived at Potsdam, and was accorded a hearty reception by the German Emperor.

THE SOUDAN EXPEDITION.

One of the Nile gunboats has reached Abu Hamed, and five others have passed the worst part of the (Fourth) cataract.

The waters of the Nile are rising steadily.

London, Aug. 31.

The gunboats on the Nile have passed all the cataracts below Berber, and found that the garrison of that place had been withdrawn to Metemes.*

(* Probably Matammeh, a town lying on the Nile in the province of the same name about midway between Berber and Khartoum.)

THE WHEAT PROSPECT.

London, August 29th.

There is an agitation in France against the corn duties, owing to the rise in the price of bread.

The Hungarian official estimate calculates that there will be a shortage of fifty million metric hundred-weights in the world's wheat harvest of 1897-98.

BRITISH ARMY APPOINTMENTS.

Sir Evelyn Wood, V.C., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., has been appointed Adjutant-General, and Sir George Stewart White, V.C., G.C.I.E., K.C.B. (Commander-in-Chief, India), succeeds him as Quarter-master-General.

A FRANCO-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE.

London, Sept. 1.

The German Press has received the Czar's announcement of an alliance with France calmly, being convinced that Russia would not support France in a war of revenge.

M. Faure had a most enthusiastic reception on his return to Paris, where addresses and speeches all dwelt on the peaceful nature of the Franco-Russian alliance. Just after M. Faure passed the Madeleine, however, a bomb exploded but did no harm.

The English Press is not disposed to cavil at the Franco-Russian alliance, believing that it strengthens the peace of the world.

MORE ISOLATION!

Some German papers believe that Russia will bring France and Germany closer together to the detriment of Great Britain! "THE TIMES" ON THE JAPANESE.

The *Times*, in a leading article commenting on the progress of Japan, asks how soon the commercial supremacy of Great Britain will be shaken in the East by the sharp-eyed, intelligent Japanese.

THE DUKE OF YORK IN IRELAND.

The Duke and Duchess of York have been accorded a hearty reception in Ireland.

A CHINESE RAILWAY.

The first sod of the Chinese Eastern Railway has been turned at Stanitz.

COLLISION NEAR GIBRALTAR.

London, Aug. 27.

The steamship *Glengyle* collided with another vessel near Gibraltar and had to be beached, as she was badly damaged. The passengers and crew were all saved.

A later report state that the *Glengyle* has been refloated and towed into Gibraltar.

London, September 2.

The *Times* publishes a letter from Mr. Cooke, Secretary of the British Chamber of Shipping, vehemently denouncing the conduct of the commanders of fifteen British men-of-war at Gibraltar who ignored the danger to the *Glengyle* on the occasion of that vessel's recent accident.

COUNCIL BILLS.

London, Sept. 2.

The Secretary of State announces that the biddings for Council Bills will be suspended for not less than six weeks.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

FRANCE AND ITALY.

Paris, August 7.

The Italian General San Martino arrived at Modane yesterday to present the compliments of King Humbert to President Faure. There was a most cordial interview. The General afterwards dined with the President.

DISASTROUS EXPLOSION.

By the explosion of a cartridge factory at Roustchoux, forty-six persons were killed and sixty injured.

OBITUARY.

Paris, August 8.

M. Boelle, President of the Tribunal at Haiphong, has died in Paris.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR IN RUSSIA.

The German sovereigns have arrived at St. Petersburg. At a gala dinner, the Czar said that this visit was a precious guarantee of the maintenance of peace, his constant effort and his most fervent wish. Emperor William, in reply, said that he and his people would assist in maintaining peace. They and he would take a firm stand against anyone who sought to destroy the peace of Europe.

THE DEATH OF CANOVAS.

Paris, August 8.

An official despatch from Milan announces that Sen. Canovas was wounded three times by the revolver of an anarchist at Santa Aguela. Canovas died an hour later, crying "Vive l'Espagne!"

Paris, August 11.

The assassin of Canovas was arrested immediately. He is a Neapolitan anarchist named José Manto (Santo?). He had declared his intention of avenging the anarchists tortured at Monunich. There is much indignation throughout Europe over the assassination.

The body of the deceased statesman will be taken to Madrid where the most solemn obsequies will be observed.

PRESIDENT FAURE.

M. Félix Faure has concluded his travels in Savoy and has returned to Havre.

M. FAURE'S VISIT TO RUSSIA.

Paris, August 18.

President Faure, accompanied by M. Hanotaux, Foreign Minister, and Admiral Gervais, embarked to-day at Dunkirk for Cronstadt on board the *Pothuan*, which will be escorted by the *Surcouf* and the *Brueys*.

Paris, August 19.

The *Brueys*, having sustained some damages, has returned to Dunkirk. Her place has been taken by the *Dupuy de Lôme*.

TRIBAL REVOLT IN AFGHANISTAN.

The Afridis and Orakzais, on the frontier of Afghanistan, have revolted against the English. These tribes, as well as the Mazarais, are advancing on the English outposts.

(FROM THE "MANILA COMERCIO.")

THE ATTACK ON PRESIDENT FAURE.

Madrid, August 18th.

An anarchist threw a bomb at the President of the French Republic, M. Felix Faure, who was unhurt. One of the President's suite was injured.

INCREASE IN CUSTOMS DUTIES IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Madrid, August 15.

The royal decree imposing a new Customs tax in the Philippines has been signed. The new tax consists of six per cent. *ad valorem* on all national merchandise and the same on foreign merchandise. The new tax will apply to all goods leaving their port of origin after the publication of the decree.

(THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

DEATH OF A BRITISH CONSUL.

Hongkong, August 21.

Mr. Charles Sinclair, formerly H.B.M.'s Consul at Foochow, is dead. He was 79 years of age.

DIPLOMATIC.

Mr. H. Ironside has been transferred from the British Legation at Washington to be Secretary to the Peking Legation.

THE CHINA SQUADRON.

H.M.S. *Powerful* has been ordered by the Admiralty to join the China Squadron in Sept.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

THE RUSSIAN MINISTER TO KOREA.

Söul, August 29.

Mr. Waeber, ex-Russian Minister, will leave here for home about the 11th of September.

Nagasaki, August 29.

M. de Speyer, Russian Minister to Korea, left here for Chemulpo to-day at 5 p.m.

THE "TOYOHASHI MARU."

Yokosuka, August 30.

The steamer *Toyohashi Maru*, which arrived here on the 28th inst., will be requisitioned for service by the Naval Authorities.

THE HAKODATE GAMBLING CASE.

Hakodate, August 30.

The trial of Chinese belonging to a British man-of-war, who are charged with gambling, is to take place to-morrow.

TROOPS FOR SIBERIA.

Nagasaki, August 31.

A Russian steamer conveying soldiers from Odessa called here *en route* to Vladivostok.

THE HOKURIKU RAILWAY.

Kanagawa, August 31.

The opening of the line between Fukui and Komatsu on the Hokuriku Railway, which was to have taken place to-morrow, has been postponed till the 15th of September owing to delay in the work.

FIRE AT WAKAMATSU.

Wakamatsu, August 31.

Fire has broken out at Hange-cho, Kawamura-gun and is still burning.

AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL BANK.

Kagoshima, August 30th.

A meeting of the organizing committee of the proposed Agricultural and Commercial Bank was held to-day and it was arranged to start the Bank with a capital of yen 500,000.

EARTHQUAKE.

Miyake, Tango, August 31.

This morning a severe earthquake was felt here.

Maizuru, Tango, August 31.

This morning at a little past 1 a sharp earthquake was felt here.

RELIEF FOR WEI-HAI-WEI.

Bakan, August 31.

Over 530 soldiers for the Wei-hai-wei garrison are to leave here to-morrow.

YOKKAICHI ELECTRIC LIGHT.

Yokkaichi, Sept. 1.

The Yokkaichi Electric Light Company commenced to furnish light to-day.

BANK AMALGAMATION.

Osaka, Sept. 1.

The 34th Bank and the 121st Bank have made an arrangement to amalgamate. The former Bank has a capital of yen 1,500,000 and the later of yen 600,000.

KOREAN AMBASSADORS.

Söul, Sept. 1.

Bin Eiyoku has been appointed Ambassador to the six Powers.

THE MARINE EXHIBITION.

Kobe, Sept. 1.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu left Kobe Station this morning for the Marine Produce Exhibition at Wadamisaki in a special train of the Sanyo Railway Company. He was accompanied by Mr. Oishi and the Governors of Hyogo and Okinawa.

THE KOREAN MINISTER.

Nagasaki, Sept. 1.

Mr. Li Kaei, Korean Minister to Japan, arrived here from Chemulpo this morning and left for Kobe towards evening.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.

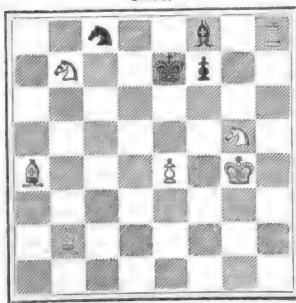
The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem No. 334:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to B 3	1—K takes Kt
2—B to K 6	2—Any move
3—Q or P mates	
	1—P to Kt 6
2—P to B 3	2—P moves
3—Q to B 8, mate	
	1—P to B 6
2—Q to K 3	2—P moves
3—Q takes P, mate	

Correct solution received from W.H.S. and D.D.

PROBLEM NO. 336.
By J. M. K. LUFTON.



White to play and mate in two moves.

This Tourney was in danger of a sudden collapse a few days ago, one of the combatants having to leave Yokohama for a garrison town so far removed from here that it would have been impossible for him to carry on the games in accordance with the rules of the Tourney—48 hours being the time limit. To avert the catastrophe, however, we arranged a meeting between him and two of his adversaries at which Games 7 and 9 were played off *vis-à-vis*, the result being a draw in game 7, and a win for "Fardel" in Game No. 9. The score therefore stands:—"Fardel" 1½; "Olymp" ½; "Shepherd" 0.

Game No. 4, "Fardel" v. "Pakeha," and Game No. 10, "Nemo" v. "Fardel" will be continued by telegraph and we feel sure they will prove of interest, for all three combatants are good fighters and the games—one a King's gambit and the other a Danish gambit—promise to become rather lively. Below we give the scores to date. The other six games are proceeding in the ordinary way.

GAME NO. 4.

KING'S BISHOP'S GAMBIT.			
White—Fardel.		Black—Pakeha.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	7 Castles	B Q3
2 P KB4	PxP	8 Kt B3	Q KR4
3 B B4	P Q4	9 Q K2 ch	B K3
4 BxP	Kt KB3	10 P Q4	Castles
5 Kt KB3	Kt B	11 Kt K4	P QK4
6 PxKt	QxP		

GAME NO. 10.

DANISH GAMBIT.			
White—Nemo.		Black—Fardel.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	6 K Kt K2	B B4
2 P Q4	PxP	7 Castles	Kt K4
3 Q B3	PxP	8 B Kt3	Kt (B3) Kt5
4 B Q B4	Kt Q B3	9 B KB4	
5 Kt xP	Kt B3		

OVER THE CHESS BOARD.

This is an age of "young men," like Lasker and Pillsbury. Above forty a player gets shifted into the "veteran class," and above sixty he becomes "an old veteran." Curiously enough, the oldest of the English Chess veterans has recently pitted himself in a small match against a much younger opponent in a home-side encounter, to which we have made previous reference. Fortune has, however, declared itself in favour of the older player, and the match at present stands:—Bud 3, Lee 2.

The Berlin tourney, at which all the leading lights in the chess world will gather, has been fixed to take place on Sept. 12th. Entries closed on August 26th. Four prizes, respectively 2,000, 1,500, 1,000 and 600 marks, are offered.

The *British Chess Magazine* reports that an extraordinary exhibition of chess with living pieces took place at St. Petersburg on June 5th, which drew an immense crowd to the velodrome of the St. Petersburg Cycling Club. The game selected to be played was the 13th of the match, in which, as we have already shown, Tschigorin at his 23rd move had a beautiful mate on in five moves. It was intended to illustrate the episode in the Hungarian uprising of 1849, when the dictator Georgey, after his unfortunate battle at Vilagos, was taken prisoner, and surrendered to the Russians, and more or less the costumes adopted called to mind the nationalists of both sides. The large open space in the velodrome was laid out as a gigantic chess board whose squares were clearly distinguished by sprinkled white sand and dark material. Its size was about 5,000 square metres, and each piece was represented by from three to eight persons. Thus the King and Queen were on horseback, surrounded by servants, pages, and warriors. Each Knight was represented by three armed riders; the Bishops (as we so absurdly call them) consisted of six young ladies clothed in tasteful and dark red dresses; the Castles were nearly ten feet high, and on their ramparts were cannons and troops; finally, each Pawn was embodied in five foot soldiers. This combination of persons for each piece must have been somewhat confusing, but all seems to have gone off well. The conductors were Tschigorin and Schiffer, the former commanding the Russian and the latter the Hungarian army. Each move was heralded by a horn signal, which set the respective division of forces in motion.

The midsummer meeting of the New York State Chess Association took place at the Murray Hill Hotel, Thousand Islands. Steinitz, against whom a protest had been lodged, was permitted to compete in the contest for the *Staats Zeitung* challenge cup, and was pitted against Lipschultz and Napier, the boy champion of the Brooklyn Club. Play in the cup tournament was of a high order, and, although Steinitz defeated Napier somewhat easily in the initial game, the tables were turned when the sixteen-year-old boy created a mild sensation by "tuning down" his formidable opponent. This defeat makes it necessary for Steinitz to beat Lipschultz in the final struggle in order to tie, the score of the contest being:—Lipschultz, won 2½, lost ½; Napier, won 1, lost 2; Steinitz, won 1½, lost 1½. As Pillsbury was under obligations to play for New York in the inter-state team match with Pennsylvania, he could not find the time necessary to participate in the cup contest. This caused the young champion no little chagrin, as he was of the opinion that he had a splendid opportunity for carrying off the trophy. The special feature of the meeting was the problem solving open to all competitors. The problem was by M. Lissner, a three-mover, and the contestants were required to write out at least five variations in black's play, after the initial "key" move of white. It fell to Pillsbury after only six minutes' work. Next came Steinitz, followed by Lipschultz, the others being much later with their solutions.

The second game in the Kobe-Nagasaki correspondence game has been won by Kobe, Mr. Jordan, the *Herold* says, having wired his resignation on Thursday.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	Pern 2	Su. Sept. 12
Europe	M. M. Co.	Yarra 2	W. Sept. 8
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona 3	Sa. Sept. 4
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Su. Sept. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 4	Th. Sept. 9
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 5	M. Sept. 13
America	O. & O. Co.	Cotic 6	Tu. Sept. 21
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Sept. 29

1 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on Aug. 24th.
2 Left Hongkong on Aug. 31st.
3 Left Kobe on the 3rd inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 1st inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 2nd inst.
6 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 2nd inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Sept. 4
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Laos	Su. Sept. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of Japan	M. Sept. 6

Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of India	Fri. Sept. 20
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Su. Sept. 22
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Tu. Sept. 14
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Sa. Sept. 18
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Oct. 1
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	Tu. Sept. 7

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Albion, German steamer, Webb, 28th August, Taku, Formosa, Sugar.—Becker & Co.
Princess Wilhelm (22), German cruiser, 4,400, Capt. Thiele, 29th August.—Cruise.
Belgie, British steamer, 1,827, J. H. Rinder, 30th August.—San Francisco, 14th Aug., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, W. H. Cross, 30th August.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 29th August, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Erato, German steamer, 2,377, Ostermann, 30th August.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 24th August, General.—Simon Evers & Co.
Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker, 1st Sept.—Hongkong, 27th Aug., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Melpomene, Austrian steamer, 1,848, Martindich, 1st Sept.—Trieste via Hongkong, and Kobe 30th Aug., General.—Browne & Co.
Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Esquivel, 1st Sept.—Manila, Sugar.—Browne & Co.
Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, Truebridge, 1st Sept.—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.
Cromartyshire, British ship, Hendersen, 2nd September.—Barry via Nagasaki, 26th April, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Donar, German steamer, 1,201, B. Grundman, 2nd September.—Hongkong, Coal.—Langfeldt & Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 3rd September.—Hongkong via ports, 24th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 3rd Sept.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Lorenzen, 4th Sept.—Hongkong, Coal.—Raspe & Co.
Tekoa, British steamer, 2,646, George H. Noakes, 4th Sept.—Middlesbrough via ports, and Kobe 2nd Sept., General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.

DEPARTURES.

China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 27th August.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, J. Higo, 28th August.—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, Potter, 29th August.—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, T. A. Whistler, 29th Aug.—Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.
Oscarschal, Norwegian steamer, 1,050, Reich-toven, 29th August.—Karatsu, Ballast.—Capt. Maria Valeris, Austrian steamer, 2,350, A. Leva, 29th August.—Venice and Trieste via ports, General.—Brown & Co.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 29th August.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, C. K. McIntosh, 31st August.—Kobe, General.—Cunnes & Co.
Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 31st August.—Hongkong, via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Liv, Norwegian steamer, 2,603, Hansen, 2nd September.—Moji, Ballast.—Frazz & Co.
Shanghai, British steamer, 1,672, E. P. Bishop, 2nd September.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, H. W. Jones, 3rd Sept.—London and Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,376, H. Bleeker, 3rd Sept.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Descartes (16), French cruiser, 2,710, Captain Bernard, 4th Sept.—Hakodate.
Comete (3), French gunboat, 475, Captain Simon, 4th Sept.—Hakodate.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong via ports.—Mr. R. M. Haider, and Mr. R. Higaki, in cabin. For Tacoma, Wash.:—Miss F.

Parsons, Miss H. Ennis, Mr. and Mrs. G. Kearton, Mr. Fred B. B-r-y, Mr. and Mrs. L. Rosen-thal and infant, and Mr. Leon N. Ford, in cabin; 11 Japanese and 63 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Viscount Hayashi, Capt. H. Yamada, Mr. H. Nakano, Mr. and Mrs. Hiji-kata, Mr. J. B. Robinson, Manager Haruta, Mr. Agohara, Mr. E. Wagner, Mr. J. Bless, Mr. F. Watanabe, Mr. and two Masters Shoda, Mrs. H. Sakao, and Mrs. M. Shimamura, in cabin; Mr. B. Ninomiya, Mr. Burns, Mr. Shogimoto, Mr. K. Kusuna, Mrs. Sugimoto, Mrs. T. Kusuna, Mr. N. Matsumoto, Mr. Mison, Mr. T. Murai, and Mr. White, in 2nd class; 8 Chinese, 2 Europeans, and 48 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. M. F. Neimeyer, Mr. and Mrs. Portman, Mr. S. Mitsushashi, Mr. J. Ohara, Mr. O. Pollak, Eug. J. F. Marshall, U.S.N., Surgeon F. Anderson, U.S.N., Mr. G. Maisui, Mrs. C. F. McWilliams, daughter and amah, and Mr. Jno. H. Jennings, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. Milton Har-ley, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. Jno. Gooduow, U.S. Consul-General, Mr. A. H. White, Mr. G. H. Echelberger, Mrs. J. P. Campbell, and Mr. Shang Hsi Iseng, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. G. C. Holberton, Mr. Chan Pao Tung, Mr. Wang Ta Chun, Miss B. Brown, Misses M. S., and J. Burrows, and Miss E. Jackson, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hong-kong:—Viscount Aoki, Viscountess Aoki, The Hon. Miss Aoki, Mr. St. C. Michaelson and children, Miss S. Habelhorst, Mr. G. H. Rollinson, Mr. P. C. Hansen, Mr. Kosiwo Kami-yama, Mr. C. Reimann, Mr. C. Holstein, Mr. E. Vogel, Mr. G. Wild, Mr. S. Saunders, Mr. Lhauser, Dr. Asakura, Miss Taku Koyano, Mr. V. Ray, Miss Anne Sinke, and Dr. S. Otani.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, from Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C.:—Rev. K. Ihuka, Mrs. Uhler and child, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Boyer and family, and Rev. A. Segawa, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss Ella J. Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Shearer and family, Miss Taylor, and Mr. John Northey, in cabin; 25 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. T. Chisholm, Mr. Joseph Leonard, Mr. E. R. Budden, Mr. W. Tomenjo, Mr. Chas. H. Schroth, Mrs. M. M. Kuhn, Miss W. Atkinson, Mr. M. Raspe, Miss B. Kuhn, Mr. J. H. Rogers, Mr. P. Piry, Mr. J. Anglada, Lieut. G. Papa Federoff, Mr. A. W. Crombie, Mrs. J. L. Atkinson, Mr. Max Samuel, Miss Kuhn, and Mr. A. H. Butler, in cabin; Mr. Tong Cheek Ping, and Mr. Ah Yon, in steerage. For Honolulu:—288 natives in steerage. For San Francisco:—Mr. A. A. Rassadin, Mrs. A. C. Nichols, Master Nichols, Miss S. B. Reynolds, Miss Nichols, Miss Vesta A'kinson and maid, and Mr. P. Hennessey, in cabin; 95 natives in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. James, Mrs. James, Mr. Y. Ishii, Mr. Copmann, Miss Braess, Mr. Braess, Mr. G. Matsumoto, Mr. C. Eymard, Mr. K. Kioka, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Dollarme, Mr. and Mrs. Matlock, and Mrs. Grand, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. J. Kato and children, Mr. T. Takagi, Mr. K. Uyemura, Mr. Y. Sakai, and Mr. G. Brook, in 2nd class.

DEPARTED.

Per Hawaiian steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. McCashin, Mr. J. Ambrose, Col. and Mrs. C. F. A. Turnbull, Mr. Albert S. mon, Rev. S. R. Hope, Miss M. B. Ingold, Mr. V. Marsh, Mr. H. J. Neville, Mr. L. L. Little, Mr. and Mrs. M. March, Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Bain, Mr. Robert H. Moorehead, Mr. J. Rief, Mr. C. Thiel, Mr. John A. Morris, Mr. H. C. Du Rose, Mr. & Mrs. A. H. Mancell, Mr. Ernest Helling, and Mr. G. S. Northote, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Tomonaru Koyama, Surg. John E. Page, Mr. M. Blumer, Mr. Richard Hecker, Mr. E. Keilmann, Lieut.-Col. Nutt, Mr. Ioki Chekora, Mr. T. Kronenberg, Mr. A. Walte, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Cunningham, Mrs. Chue Fai Foon and child, and Mr. F. Taylor Gause, in cabin; 10 Chinese and 2 Europeans in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Shang-hai via ports:—Hon. N. Ro-poppoff, Hon. Ed. D. von Waerber, Rev. and Mrs. Haden, Mrs. McGinnis, Miss Shinya, Rev. Bishop P. M. Osoul, Rev. J. M. Lemarche, Capt. M. Yagi, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Pury, Mrs. Kuwabara, Mr. and Mrs. Faidel, Miss Haygood, and Mr. Nakahara, in cabin; Mr. M. Seray, Miss J. Ichiki, Mr. N. Kunbara, Mr. R. Yoshida, Mr. K. Miye, Mr. Y. Tanaka, Mr. K. Nakamura, Mr. K. Kudo, Misses Shima, and Mr. J. Harvie in 2nd class; 61 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Shanghai*, for London via ports:—Messrs. John Browning, Ed. Eddy, Alfred Penfold, Wm. Somerville, Edgar Bray, Arthur Randall, Ernest Rayment, A. Snell, S. Bebbings, J. W. S. Neeson, A. Nirenheim, C. A. Fraser, J. Northey, M. L. Ellis, and Dr. H. C. Whiting, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Shang-hai:—Mr. A. Reichard, Capt. Stopani, Dr. and Mrs. G. H. Bateson Wright, Mr. G. Thomas, Mr. F. Tiansky, Mr. W. T. Andrews, and Rev. L. F. Ryde, in cabin; 4 Europeans in steerage, and 1 Chinese on deck.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 847 bales; Waste Silk, 65 bales.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:

	TEA.				TOTAL PACKAGES.
	CANADA AND AMERICA.	WEST. INDIES.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	
Shanghai	668	4,684	304	133	5,869
Yokohama	235	3,843	1,803	133	6,014
Calcutta	148	2,479	1,697	532	4,856
Total	1,051	10,956	3,804	81	15,732

	SILK.				TOTAL.
	NEW YORK.	SAN FRANCISCO.	SHANGHAI.	YOKOHAMA.	
Shanghai	173	—	—	—	173
Hongkong	125	—	—	—	125
Yokohama	371	—	—	—	371
Total	669	—	—	—	669

Tea 1 cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement \$10 Gold per ton.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hong-kong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe 222 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market generally is as dull as it can be. In shittings and yarns all business is at a standstill, while next to nothing has been done in fancy cottons and woolsens. Sales of some 200 pieces of Turkey Reds and 300 pieces of velvets are all that have been recorded. Quotations remain nominally the same.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shittings—1 1/2 yds. 37 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shittings—3/4 yds. 37 1/2 inches	2.80 to 3.35
1. Cloth—7/8 yds. 37 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shittings—1 1/2 yds. 37 inches	1.95 to 2.20
Prints—Assorted, 2 1/2 yds. 37 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattens Black, 37 inches	0.18 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yds. 2 1/2 inches	7.75 to 9.00
Victoria Lanes, 12 yds. 12 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 1/2 yds. 2 1/2 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds. 2 1/2 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds. 2 1/2 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds. 2 1/2 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER POUND.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 37 inches	0.30 to 0.32
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27
Common	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarflet and Green, 3 to 5 lb.	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$39.00 to 41.50
Nos. 18 32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38 42, Singles	45.00 to 48.00
Nos. 34, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 48, Doubles	51.75 to 51.50
Nos. 2 60, Plain	61.00 to 61.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	90.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	80.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	116.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$18 to 20
Indian Broach	24 to 25
Chinese	25 to 26

METALS.

None but very small orders in any line of metals have been filled. Some shipments of pig iron have arrived, but have not affected business, and rates have not changed.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward.	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40 to 4.50

Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Lin Plates, per box	5.00 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.10 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 1/2 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

KEROSENE.

The market still continues dull in the extreme with quotations unchanged. An improvement is looked for after the end of the hot weather, in another month, when purchases for the early winter generally commence. Stocks here and afloat are ample but not excessive.

American	\$2.00 to 2.05
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Prices for Brown have dropped from ten to fifteen cents a picul and a fair business has been done. Arrivals include 77,000 piculs Manila and 12,400 piculs China, and sales 93,000 piculs in all, including 35,000 piculs Formosa. Stocks amount to 65,000 piculs. Very little has been done in White refined, at former rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$3.90 to 4.00
Brown Manila	4.00 to 4.50
Brown Dailong	3.90 to 3.95
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market during the past week has been quiet, with a turn in favour of buyers, dealers having discovered that they could not have it altogether their own way. Quotations for filatures remain the same, but some concession could doubtless be obtained if buyers showed a desire to do business. In Kakedas a large transaction has taken place at \$20 below the maximum rates of last month. Settlements from Aug. 18th to Sept. 1st amount in all to 4,300 piculs; stock 4,825 piculs. Shipments have been 669 bales per *Gaelic* and 371 bales per *Tacoma* for America, and 847 bales per *Verona* for Europe.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$890 to 900
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	810 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	820 to 803
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 11/18 deniers	800 —
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	815 —
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	815 —
Re-reels—No. 2, 11/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 11/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	810 —
Kakedas—No. 1	780 —
Kakedas—No. 2	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 3	760 —
Kakedas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

Very little has yet been done and prices have not been fixed.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shimshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shimshu, Good	—
Noshi—Shimshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Medium	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair	—

TEA.

Business has continued brisk during the past week, sales in Yokohama having amounted to about 433,000 catties, and in Kobe to about half that amount. Teas costing from \$23 to \$29 per picul have met with the readiest sale. Prices are well maintained, especially for the lower grades, which are dear at present quotations. Supplies have arrived freely hitherto, but it is said by dealers that the picking of the third crop will be discontinued after the 10th inst. in most districts. Shipments have been 335,353 lbs. per *Tacoma* and 182,676 lbs. per *Braemar*, on the 29th ult., for Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal.
Choice	\$31 to 35
Fine	30 to 32
Good	29 to 30
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Silver continues greatly depressed.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 10 $\frac{1}{8}$
— — Bills on demand...	2/0 $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$
— — 4 months' sight	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — 6 months' sight.....	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
On Paris—Bank sight	2 52 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2 56
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d
On Shanghai—Bank sight	87 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	89
On India—Bank sight	151 $\frac{1}{2}$
— — Private 30 days' sight.....	155
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	48 $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$
— — Private 4 months' sight	50
On Germany—Bank sight	2 04
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2 08
Bar Silver (London)	23 $\frac{1}{2}$

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, September 3rd.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50 ...	300 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100.....	475 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100.....	385 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100.....	300 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100.....	135 Sa.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., (Fdn.), \$125.....	415 St.
North and Rae, Ltd., \$100.....	185 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., \$50.....	835 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100.....	225 Sa.
Hingo Gas Co., Ltd., \$100.....	180 W.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb., \$100.....	110 St.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100.....	110 Sa.
Yokohama United Club Deb., \$100.....	100 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100.....	104 S.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo, September 3rd.

Five per Cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds ...	94 50
Redemption Loan Bonds	96 60
War Loan Bonds	97 00
New Public Loan Bonds	91 50
Old Public Loan Bonds	93 00
Naval Loan Bonds	96 30
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100 00
Japan Railway Company—paid up 100 00	98 00
Sanyo Railway Company—paid up 100 00	49 30
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up 100 00	88 00
Kansai Railway Company—paid up 100 00	38 80
Kobe Railway Company—paid up 100 00	109 00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up 100 00	59 00
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up 100 00	36 80
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up 100 00	88 50
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up 100 00	54 00
Sangu Railway Company—paid up 100 00	83 00
Kawagoye Railway Company—paid up 100 00	53 50
Chukuo Railway Company—paid up 100 00	72 00
Hantani Railway Company—paid up 100 00	40 00
Boso Railway Company—paid up 100 00	43 00
Sobu Railway Company—paid up 100 00	104 00
Narita Railway Company—paid up 100 00	77 00
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up 100 00	51 00
Toyo-kawa Railway Company—paid up 100 00	35 00

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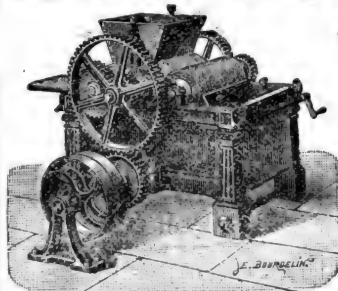
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 11TH, 1897.

MARRIAGE.

On Dec. 14th, 1896, at St. John's Church, by the Rev. Alex. Williams, JOHN LEWIS DAY, M.A., M.D., late sessional lecturer in classics McGill University, Montreal, to GERTRUDE ELIZABETH, daughter of J. Troughton Thompson, Esq., Toronto, and niece of A. G. Caton-Thompson, Tokyo.

DEATHS.

At Kobe, on the 5th instant, HENRY ST. JOHN BROWNE, At No. 24-B, Bluff, on Sunday, 5th September, 1897. ELLEN ALICE WALKER, aged 15 years. At Ikao, on the 10th inst., PHYLLIS EVELYN BUCHANAN DUNLOP.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

VISCOUNT Aoki is to be appointed a Privy Councillor.

THE Railway Bureau has ordered 20 locomotives from America.

THE Japanese battle-ship *Fashima* has finished her gun trials in England.

H.I.H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL, who has been staying at Hayama for some time, left Zushi

Station for Kamakura on the morning of the 6th instant.

MARQUIS ITO returned home by the *Empress of Japan* on the 5th instant.

A Japanese Legation was opened at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on the 30th ult.

OSAKA will celebrate the formal commencement of work on the new harbour on the 20th instant.

MR. MAKINO, the new Minister of Japan to Italy, left for Europe by the *Zaors* on the 5th inst.

MOUNT KIRISHIMA, in Kiushiu, commenced rumbling and showed signs of eruption on the 4th inst.

SPECULATIONS are rife as to possible changes in the Cabinet now that Marquis Ito has returned home.

It is reported that arrangements have been made for Korea to join the International Telegraph Convention in January 1899.

THE new Korean Minister to Japan, Ei Kaei (Ye Ha yong) and suite arrived in the capital on the afternoon of the 7th instant.

THE Hawaiian Authorities have acceded to the proposal of Japan, to ask Belgium to act as arbitrator in settling the emigration affair.

THE cable service to the Chishima (Kurile) group, which was completed the other day, will be opened to the public on the 16th inst.

A NUMBER of persons in Gifu Prefecture have been arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the forgery and circulation of forged 5 yen bank notes.

ON Monday night a man of about 28 years was found run over by a train on the railway line near Takanawa, Shiba. It is believed that it was a case of suicide.

THE question of raising the passenger fares on all private railways is to be considered at a friendly meeting of the united railway companies to be held in October next.

THE Education Department has under consideration the establishment of a University to be called the Kyushu Imperial University, in the town of Kumamoto, Kyushu.

YOKOHAMA, Tokyo and neighbouring districts were visited on the morning of the 9th inst. by a severe typhoon. Much damage was done on land and sea, and many lives were lost.

THE Japan Red Cross Society has ordered two steamers from England for use as hospital ships in time of war, and to be chartered to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha in time of peace.

VISC NT AOKI, Japanese Minister to Germany, who returned home the other day, proceeded to the Palace on the morning of the 6th instant and was received by the Emperor and Empress.

EARTHQUAKES were reported on the 4th inst. from Kure at 12.30 p.m.; Kochi at 12.31 p.m.; Tadotsu at 12.31 p.m.; Nemuro at 1.43 p.m.; Oshima Island at 6.01 a.m.; Matsuyama at 12.35 p.m.; Yaksuka at 2.09 a.m. respectively.

MARQUIS ITO, ex Premier, who returned home on the 5th instant, proceeded to the Palace on Tuesday morning and was received in audience by the Emperor, to whom he submitted minute reports regarding the Diamond Jubilee celebration.

REAR-ADMIRAL VON DIEDERICH, Commander-

in-Chief of the German Eastern Squadron, and other officers of the squadron, accompanied by Mr. Von Treutler, German *Chargé d'Affaires*, had audience with His Majesty the Emperor on the 6th inst.

ON Tuesday morning, with the exception of Marquis Saigo, all the Ministers of State, and Count Kuroda, President of the Privy Council, assembled at the Cabinet Office and held a conference with regard to the amendment of administrative affairs.

ON Tuesday a jinrikisha man was killed by collision with a race pony which had bolted and become unmanageable, at the corner of Awacho and Main Street, Yokohama. The rider of the pony, a jockey named Kobayashi, had his shoulder dislocated.

AN expenditure of 35,000 yen from the Treasury has been sanctioned for the establishment of temporary sanitary inspection stations in Niigata, Miye, Gifu, Nagano, Tottori, Shimane, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Tokushima, Kagawa, Ehime, Fukuoka and Kumamoto prefectures.

IT is stated that the London Chamber of Commerce having found that the Raw Silk Direct Export Encouragement Law of Japan is opposed to the spirit of the treaty between Great Britain and Japan, has presented a petition to the British Authorities to protest to the Japanese Authorities to that effect.

ON the 7th inst. (at about 2.40 a.m.) fire broke out in the work shed at the western corner of the compound of the Akasaka Detached Palace, and all the contents were destroyed, the flames being subdued at 3.50 a.m. by the Court police and the fire brigades. The Palace itself and other adjoining buildings were untouched by the flames.

THERE were ninety three warships under construction in the United Kingdom at the end of the quarter closing June 30th last; and of this number seventy-nine, or 214,175 tons displacement, were in private yards, while only fourteen, of 133,020 tons displacement, were being built in Royal dockyards. It should be stated that of the seventy-nine ships building in private yards, thirty-three, of 84,800 tons displacement, were for foreign orders.

BUSINESS is taking a long time to revive in Yokohama this year, though no doubt a good deal of the apathy is due to fears regarding the probable effect of the change in the currency that comes into force at the beginning of next month. During the past week only hand-to-mouth transactions took place in the piece goods market, fancies and fine yarns being enquired for. Prices are nominally unchanged in consequence. Kerosene should soon be looking up now that the hot weather is passing, and no doubt buyers will appear next week. Stocks both ashore and afloat are ample but not excessive. Nothing is doing in metals, and pig iron stock gradually increases. A fair business was done in brown sugars from Manila, at slightly hardening rates, while white refined continues steady. Raw silk is quiet at late rates, though buyers are having a slight turn in their favour, hardening exchange working against holders. Dealers in waste silk are preventing business, being too-anxious to bring prices to a parity with those prevailing in the raw silk market, but to this buyers will not accede. Tea has been fairly brisk, though the market is being gradually denuded of suitable leaf. Quotations are unchanged. Exchange, thank goodness, is again on the rise.

SPRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The question of gold monometallism is discussed in a lucid article by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Japan's great hope, according to our contemporary, is to become a manufacturing country, and until the Government abandoned silver in favour of gold, there was every prospect that she would achieve success. It is unnecessary to quote statistics bearing on the growth of her industrial enterprises: they are familiar to everybody. But it is in the East that she must seek her principal markets for many years to come, and the effect of her reversion to gold monometallism will be to shut the markets of the East to her. In former years her great competitor in the cotton-spinning enterprise was India. But India closed her mints to silver and from that time Japan acquired a marked advantage in competing for Chinese custom. Then came the currency system now on the verge of inauguration. Its consequences are already before the country's eyes. All imports from Japan to gold-using countries now sell for considerably less in the currency of Japan than they would have fetched had no change of the financial system been effected. Meanwhile India has again opened her mints to silver, so that she secures for herself the advantage which Japan formerly enjoyed but has now deliberately sacrificed. On the other hand, foreign projectors of spinning mills in China, who had hesitated to inaugurate their enterprises in view of the possible contingency that China might impose a heavy tax on goods as they left the mill, see that China is not disposed to impose any such tax, and are pushing forward their undertakings with vigour. These enterprising men now receive substantial encouragement owing to Japan's suicidal action in the matter of gold, and it will be strange if they do not secure the whole custom of China. Another source of regret is that the Japanese silver *yen* had virtually become the coin of the Orient when the new scheme was introduced. It circulated everywhere east of India. But it is now reduced to the rank of mere bullion. The notion that it will not come back to Japan for exchange against gold because it is wanted for currency purposes, is absurd. The confidence it enjoys is primarily due to its being legal tender in the country where it is minted. Deprived of that quality, it will certainly be presented for exchange, especially as the operation shows a large profit. The *Nichi Nichi* finds no redeeming feature in the new currency.

The *Fiji Shimo* has one of its characteristically sensible articles, the subject being "the origin of industrial progress in Japan." Our contemporary's conclusion is that the nation's sole need is experience. It recalls the days when industrial machinery was first imported from the West. The machines were neither worse nor better than those imported now, but the people could not get them to work. Many failures and great losses resulted. But now the same machines and multitudes of others subsequently procured are working successfully under Japanese management. It is the same with railways and telegraphs. At the outset, foreign experts had to be employed to build the line from Yokohama to Tokyo, and when it was finished, foreign experts had to be employed to run the trains. But now the Japanese build and work their own lines without any recourse whatever to foreign aid. So also with navigation and the management of steamers. Even in the matter of shipbuilding, there are plain indications of the development of independent ability. It is all a question of experience. Just as the top-spinner Gensai makes a top traverse his back, run along his arm or around his fan, whereas the same top in the hands of a tyro can scarcely be induced to spin at all, so a machine which at first will not even move for an inexperienced workman, by and by becomes almost sentient. Japan need not be concerned about the future. She has proved her capacity for manufacturing enterprise, and

has only to walk steadily forward on her way. Every railway she builds, every line of telegraphs she erects, every factory she establishes, every manufacture that she learns how to conduct, is so much added to the capital of the nation. The *Fiji* concludes by suggesting that she should build her own iron-clads. It would be a more expensive business than procuring them from abroad, but in the end it would pay, for the extra outlay would have bought precious experience.

The currency question affords a subject for discussion in several consecutive issues of the *Tokyo Shimbun* (Liberal organ), the articles being signed by Mr. Morimoto Shun. No new arguments are adduced. The writer's conclusion is that if the present programme of gold monometallism be insisted on, Japan will find herself once more in the throes of a fiat currency. To prove his prediction, he recapitulates the figures already published more than once in these columns with reference to the gold reserves of the Treasury, but in estimating the amount of silver *yen* likely to come from abroad for exchange, he assumes that Count Matsukata's total is vitiated by a telegraphic error. Count Matsukata, it will be remembered, basing his estimate an intelligence received originally by wire from Singapore, anticipates that some eight millions of *yen* are circulating there. Mr. Morimoto thinks that a cipher has dropped out, and that the true figure is eighty millions, but, of course, that is pure conjecture. He arrives at the conclusion that the Treasury's gold reserves will be speedily exhausted, for he entertains no hope of silver's recovering its sterling value to any appreciable extent. With regard to its collapse, he finds the chief reason in American sales of the great stores of the white metal lying in her vaults, and he has no hesitation in foretelling that silver will go from bad to worse. We need not follow these arguments and figures in detail, especially as the articles obviously derive much of their colour from political considerations. It will be remembered that when Count Matsukata was about to introduce the gold monometallic Bill, he was said to have consulted Marquis Ito and to have secured the latter's endorsement. The *Tokyo Shimbun* now alleges that it was a very qualified endorsement; that Marquis Ito did not discuss the merits of the measure, but merely told Count Matsukata that if he, the Count, was convinced of the advantages of such a step, and was prepared to accept the responsibility, he might proceed with the Bill. Our contemporary's conclusion is that an Imperial Urgency Ordinance should be issued postponing the operation of the new system, and that Count Matsukata ought to resign at once.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* steadily continues to combat all pessimistic forecasts about the currency. It declares that no one who has taken the trouble to examine the figures relating to the reserves in the Treasury and the maximum quantity of silver *yen* likely to be presented for exchange, can attach the slightest importance to the *Tokyo Shimbun's* prediction that the Government's stock of gold will be exhausted, and that recourse to a fiat currency will become necessary. There is not the faintest basis for any such apprehension. As for the general question, nothing could be shallower than the arguments of folks who contend that a country receives larger prices for its exports simply because the tokens in which payments are made to it increase in number. The intrinsic value of the tokens must be included in the reckoning. If their purchasing power falls in a ratio even greater than the increased number of them received, it is folly to talk of any advantages accruing to their recipient. The plain fact is that silver, owing to the sharp and frequent fluctuations to which its gold price is liable, has become totally unfitted for a standard of value. One might as well use gum. Foreign purchasers of Japanese products and manufactures are, of course, able to pay a larger quantity of silver in proportion as that metal depreciates in terms of the gold for which they expect to sell the commodities. But against

that fact has to be set the caution dictated by the perils of a fluctuating exchange—perils which compel them to work with a wide margin. It is far more conducive to the interests of sound trade that buyers and sellers alike should conduct their transactions with a currency guaranteed against fluctuations. They know, then, exactly what they are doing, and can extend their business without dread of disasters against which no precautions can be taken. The *Yomiuri's* arguments are simply a well digested repetition of those advanced by the advocates of gold the world over. It maintains that the adoption of gold monometallism must tend to reduce the general level of prices in Japan, which will be followed by an increased volume of exports, and it contends that for purposes of competition with gold-using countries of the West or South in Eastern markets, Japan can not be said to have placed herself at any disadvantage by adopting their system of currency, while on the other hand, she retains all the advantages of her proximity to those markets, and of cheap labour.

The *Osaka Asahi* writes in support of increasing the Land Tax. It anticipates that the administrative expenditures of the State are likely to diminish rather than to grow larger, and that the burdens connected with military and naval expansion will also become less after next year. But the country must not shrink from productive enterprises without which its resources can not be developed, and the nation must consequently be prepared to put its hand in its pocket freely. The Government, therefore, should not shrink from imposing new or increased taxes, and the Land Tax offers itself as the simplest and justest means of obtaining additional revenue. The *Osaka* journal's presentation of the case should be already quite familiar to our readers. Briefly stated it amounts to this—that whereas the price of rice did not exceed 4 *yen* per *koku* when the tax was fixed at 3 per cent. in 1873, the price is now 13 *yen* a *koku* and the tax only 2½ per cent.; and that whereas the income derived from land in 1873 was about 6 per cent., it must be now at least three times that amount. The *Asahi* recommends the adoption of a progressive scale (*ruishin-ho*). In other words, it would make the increase of tax proportionate to the size of the holding. That recommendation is influenced by the fact that small holdings have been growing fewer of late years. Our contemporary gives these tables:—

LAND TAX PAYERS.		
	Persons paying from 5 to 20 <i>yen</i> annually.	Persons paying from 20 to 200 <i>yen</i> annually.
1886	1,653,621	900,192
1887	1,581,726	882,517
1888	1,602,000	884,754
1889	1,544,146	884,043
1890	1,485,056	815,504
1891	1,237,349	672,776
1892	1,185,454	642,181
1893	1,181,114	636,772
1894	1,146,146	620,545
1895	1,142,790	621,554

From some points of view it may be advantageous that the size of farms should increase, but, in the *Asahi's* opinion, the above table shows that the small farmers are gradually losing their hold of the land, and being reduced to the position of mere tenants. Hence one reason of its suggestion that the large landowners should be taxed more heavily than the small. It thinks that the Government should not hesitate to raise the general rate from 2½ to 4 per cent., by which means an additional income of some 23 million *yen* would be obtained.

Prince Max of Saxony, after a year's missionary work in Whitechapel, has returned to Dresden and says he awaits the decision of his Bishop as to whether he will return to Whitechapel, though the members of the Royal family at Dresden are exerting their influence to withdraw him from such work and install him in some court religious position. The Prince, however, is disinclined to accept such an office.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

Reports from all parts of Japan indicate that the rice crop this year will be exceptionally good. It is predicted, indeed, that the yield will exceed anything seen during the past seventy years. The *Miyako Shimbun*, speaking of the districts in the neighbourhood of Tokyo, says that whereas the average yield is 6.3 bags per *tan* (one-fourth of an acre), the crop this year is expected to be 8.3 bags. As to the Tokaido districts, from Suruga, Totomi and Mikawa, an increase of 15 per cent. above the average is reported; and from Mino and Ise, an increase of as much as 30 or 40 per cent. In the Chiugoku region, there has been some slight damage from insects, but it is insignificant. Tottori reports splendid weather and fine prospects, and that the market has fallen to from 3 *yen* to 3.50 *yen* per bag (*i.e.* 4*to*, or $\frac{2}{3}$ of a *koku*), which means from 7.50 *yen* to 8.75 *yen* per *koku*. In Kiushu the weather was too dry at first, but since the *Doyo* there has been an abundance of rain, and a fine crop is now in sight. Altogether, if no heavy storms come during the next two months, there will be a magnificent crop.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes a strange report from Fukuoka and Kumamoto to the effect that quite a large number of Koreans have come to those places with the intention of wreaking vengeance upon the Japanese who were implicated in the Söul disturbance of last year when the Queen of Korea was killed. One Japanese in Fukuoka is said to have barely escaped from them with his life. Our contemporary does not say whether it attaches any credit to this singular rumour.

It has been stated of late that Mr. Kaneko Kentaro was likely to proceed abroad in the capacity of a Minister Plenipotentiary. A representative of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* waited on him to learn the truth of the allegation, and was informed that, on the occasion of his retirement from the post of Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Mr. Kaneko had been asked by the Minister President whether he had any desire to go abroad, but had replied that he did not wish to leave his mother, who is now very aged.

The *Official Gazette* says that, according to returns furnished by the Cotton Spinners Union, the number of spindles at work in the 63 mills forming the Union during June last was 764,369, and the weight of the yarns produced aggregated 2,159,401 *kwan* (1 *kwan*=8½ lbs), the cotton consumed being 2,472,027 *kwan*. The average price per bale was 96.23 *yen*.

It has always been anticipated that when Japan had time to think carefully about her programme of military and naval expansion, she would discover some omissions. Considering, indeed, the rapidity with which the plan was drafted, we have, for our own part, been prepared to hear that many additions were required. Not in the naval part of the scheme, perhaps. So far as that is concerned, we believe it to be remarkably thorough. A fully competent foreign expert who has had an opportunity of examining it in every detail, has pronounced it wonderfully complete, and declared that it does the highest credit to its Japanese compilers, the adjustment of the various items and the general balance of the whole

evinced remarkable competence. Very likely the same may be said of the military programme, though as a certain secrecy is observed with regard to its details, no foreigner is in a position to pronounce a definite opinion. But there are many other directions into which the drafters of the scheme had to direct their prevision, and it seems that their fallibility is now becoming known. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* indicates the following points, on the authority of an anonymous General officer:—

- 1.—The establishment of an admiralty station at Ominato.
- 2.—The establishment of naval ports at Oshima in Satsuma, Sayeki in Bungo, Toba in Shima, Megawa in Rokuchu, Nanao in Noto, Seigan in Kitami, Atsukishi and Hamanaga in Kushiro, and Itsukashio in Oki.
- 3.—The establishment of an admiralty station and naval ports in Formosa.
- 4.—Reform of the Hokkaido military organization.

That is a formidable list. The establishment of an admiralty station means the construction of docks, the building and armament of forts, the provision of torpedoes, of coal-stores, of barracks and so on, the whole costing some five or six million *yen*, and running up to 10 millions under unfavourable topographical circumstances. A naval port, also, requires torpedoes, coal deposits and barracks. If the whole list were adopted as a practical programme, a pretty large addition would have to be made to the expenditures set down in the Expansion Bill of 1895. Happily several of the items can be deferred.

To judge from the writings of the *Fiji Shimpō* the days of the present Cabinet are numbered. That it is divided against itself is the principal reason given. A very sufficient reason, certainly, if it were founded on fact, but difficult to endorse without some fuller information. Reviewing the course of events during the past ten months, we are bound to say that some of the journals generally supposed to be supporters of the present Ministry, have, wittingly or unwittingly, made genuine working union very difficult for the members of the Cabinet. The epithet of "Knife-and-fork Ministers" that they applied to a section of the Cabinet, and their generally insulting tone towards the Minister of Education, the Minister of Communications and the Minister of Justice, while not of great importance, perhaps, as mere newspaper utterances, must have wounded the susceptibilities of men who knew that they might easily have been spared such onslaughts. All that is past, however, and we are at a loss to understand where the "rift within the lute" is situated at present, more especially as the *Fiji* formulates three charges quite sufficient in themselves to account for Ministerial instability, without any supplement of internal discussion. They are failure in the field of finance, failure in the control of Formosa, and failure in foreign affairs. Whatever be the true explanation of the crisis, however,—supposing that there is a crisis—the *Fiji* says that there is a party in favour of asking Marquis Ito to accept the presidency of the Cabinet, leaving the remaining portfolios pretty much as they are; but that the National Unionists and the Liberals are very much opposed to anything of the kind. Naturally they are, but it seems to us that their opposition is at least premature. Why should Marquis Ito assume the direction of the administration at present? Is

it not much more likely that, if he is to form a Cabinet or to take charge of one already formed, he will wait until the end of the Diet's next session? Of course, if he could see his way clearly to a coalition Ministry enjoying the support of all, or nearly all, the political parties, the case would be different. But that is a very large hypothesis.

A correspondent writes from Formosa:—"I notice that the *Japan Mail* speaks of every rebellion in Formosa as the work of the *Hakkas*." (We are not aware of having done so. Certainly we have not supposed the *Hakkas* to be the invariable delinquents). "Many Japanese think that *Hakka* is the word for rebel, and use it accordingly. But the *Hakkas* are only a section of the Chinese, just as are the Fokienese or Cantonese. They rebelled once, two years ago, but have remained quiet since. It is also an error to say that there is no English man-of-war at Tamsui. There is and has been one ever since the Twatutia attack of last May. At present, a large gun-boat, the *Phoenix*, I think, is anchored up the river. The German Consul also asked for a man-of-war, and were the British ship withdrawn, a German would doubtless replace her. It is to be regretted that a foreign man-of-war should be needed, but she is. The Japanese Government is not disposed, apparently, to send a force of troops sufficient to garrison the north effectively. The small body now here is expected to guard both foreigners and Japanese, and is quite inadequate to do so. On the 23rd of August, a party of rebels came within two hours' march of Twatutia. As for the Chinese in the interior, they are almost completely without protection. The necessary presence of a foreign man-of-war should be known. It indicates that the Japanese do not grasp the situation. We have confidence in General Nogai if he were given a free hand. So far as the treatment of the Chinese in the cities is concerned, there has been a great improvement of late."

It is stated, we observe, as an item of novel intelligence, that Viscount Aoki is likely to be succeeded at Berlin by Viscount Okabe, but the fact has been known for some time, and was published weeks ago. Another statement now advanced is that Mr. Hoshi Toru has resigned, and that Mr. Komura will be appointed Minister to Washington, Mr. Ozaki Yukio succeeding him as Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Hoshi has not resigned, so far as we know. He has applied for leave to return to Japan, and his application has been granted provided that he first concludes the proposed treaty with Chile. In order to expedite the task, the details of the treaty have been telegraphed to him, we believe.

It is stated that Count Okuma intends to give up his extra portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce at an early date, and that, although Messrs. Mayejima Mitsu and Oishi Masami are candidates for the post, it will probably be given to Mr. Tomita Tetsunosuke.

In the *Official Gazette* we read that, at the end of August, the number of banks in Japan was 1,511, with a total capital of 298,267,514 *yen*, which figures show increases of 24 and 3,382,000 *yen*, respectively, compared with the figures at the

end of July. The following is a list of the banks:—

Name.	Number.	Capital. Yen.
Bank of Japan	1.....	30,000,000
Specie Bank	1.....	12,000,000
Industrial Bank	1.....	10,000,000
National Banks	72.....	16,965,000
Savings Banks	204.....	17,380,000
Joint Stock Banks	1,035.....	193,299,920
Partnership Banks	28.....	5,593,990
Limited Partnership Banks..	97.....	8,304,674
Private Banks	72.....	4,754,020

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that Marquis Ito, in his hurried journey through America en route for Japan, did not grant an interview to even one journalist, and that whatever alleged interviews are published by United States newspapers must be regarded as fabrications.

Charters have been granted to the following railway companies:—

The Nara Railway Company; a line from Nara to Sakurai *via* Talkai, Ichii, Namba, Yanaimoto and Miwa.

The Kyushu Railway Company; a line from Usui to Kumata in Chikuzen.

The Tobu Railway Company; a line from Senfu on the Nippon Tetsudo to Kuki, *via* Sogo-machi and Hasho-machi.

Some temporary charters have also been granted, but they need not be enumerated yet.

It is generally said that the Japanese are a law-abiding people. If the expression means that they are easily controlled by duly constituted authority on ordinary occasions, it is doubtless correct. But they are certainly a people that set the law altogether at defiance on extraordinary occasions. Consider the case just reported from Omori, which, as our readers doubtless know, is a sea-side village a few miles from Tokyo, where special facilities exist for gathering edible seaweed. The fishermen have a dispute of old standing with reference to the boundaries of the various areas from which this crop is collected. A settlement is effected by mutual consultation, but it fails to stand the test of practice. What do the fishermen do next? Proceed to carry the case before a tribunal of law, will be the natural supposition. Not at all. They get into their boats—300 boats—and deliberately row out to sea for a pitched battle. If that kind of thing were quite out of the common; if only an isolated instance of it occurred in a dozen years, we should be justified in attributing it to the influence of some altogether abnormal phrensy. But it is not a bit uncommon. Scarcely a year passes without one or more happenings of the kind, the difference being that the men generally succeed in coming to blows, whereas at Omori on the recent occasion the police were able to keep the peace in spite of frequent efforts to break it. There is something grimly ferocious in the notion of some fifteen hundred fishermen getting into their boats and rowing off to a convenient place for the purpose of engaging in a pitched battle. Fatal casualties seldom occur at these combats, but broken heads and disabled limbs are plentiful. It is not the physical consequences, however, that seem so deserving of comment. It is the mood that leads to such doings.

There is a persistent rumour that the purpose of the Japanese Admiralty in sending the *Itsukushima*, the *Matsushima*, the *Chinyen* and other vessels to Hakodate, is to organise naval manoeuvres, in which Japanese and German vessels are to act as assailants and defenders, respectively, and

Russians are to discharge the functions of umpire. If such a programme be really contemplated, it will be a novel departure. We find it difficult to credit, but the authority for the statement seems good.

A twenty-five-years-old story may fairly be called a chesnut. The *Japan Gazette* has collected and compiled with apparent zest a tale about the editor of this journal; how he shot a crow in his garden within the precincts of Tokyo; how the police complained about such a violation of the law; how the editor applied for a passport and, not receiving it promptly, started for Hakone without it, leaving directions to have the passport sent after him; how it was not sent after him because of the shooting trouble, and how he had to return ignominiously, having violated the law a second time. The story has some grains of truth, but the incidents happened in 1872 not 1897. It is very agreeable to have these pages of early life re-opened so considerably. If the *Gazette* has any more records of our pre-historical and pre-editorial career, we shall be so pleased to have our memories refreshed. It is like getting a timely look at one's own biography.

The Foreign Concession of Tsukiji, writes a correspondent, suffered severely from the fierce typhoon of Thursday morning. Scarcely a house escaped without more or less injury to roof, fences, trees, windows, etc. The most serious damage was done to the Presbyterian property, Nos. 42 and 43, against which the wind had full sweep. The Baptist Academy, No. 42, was unroofed; and the flying pieces of zinc were for a time very dangerous; several junks were blown ashore on the Bund. It is said to be the worst storm that has visited Tsukiji for many years.

We have more than once commented on the placid method in which Japanese defenders of gold monometallism look forward to a general fall in prices as a consequence of the measure, and tell the nation to derive comfort from that outlook. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, for example, which has always been a staunch advocate of gold and is now the ablest journalistic exponent of the financial actualities of the situation, traverses the theory that to increase the Land Tax would be a fair measure, for, says our contemporary, the supporters of such a measure base their argument on the present high price of rice, forgetting that the staple will certainly depreciate after October 1st, and will probably fall as low as 8.50 *yen* by the end of November. We are of opinion that these predictions of a rapid fall in the market prices of commodities immediately after the adoption of gold standard, will prove very fallacious. That the change will ultimately have the effect of producing general depreciation, we can not doubt, first, because the world's stock of gold is insufficient for the functions that it has to perform, and secondly, because the competition of silver-using countries in foreign markets, as well as the diminution of the purchasing power of their currency in terms of sterling, must help to depress gold prices. But the fall will be slow, and probably inappreciable at the outset. Be that as it may, however, the curious thing is that the Japanese nation is invited by the goldites to regard a general and continued fall in the prices of commodities as a blessing. A general fall in

the prices of commodities means general stagnation of business, a general feeling of discontent, and a general paralysis of enterprise. If those be agreeable projects to the Japanese, Japan is a very unaccountable kind of country. Another strange thing is that European and American gold-men decline peremptorily to attribute to the demonetization of silver the depreciation of prices from which the Occident has suffered so acutely during the past thirty years, whereas Japanese gold men confidently anticipate that depreciation will speedily follow upon the introduction of gold monometallism into this country.

Tokyo presented a most dilapidated appearance on Thursday morning. The storm was of brief duration. It can scarcely be said to have made itself felt before 2 a.m. and four hours later the sun was shining. Yet during that short interval damage was done such as has not been wrought by a gale for the past twelve or fifteen years. The rivers all rose, not, however, to such a height as to produce dangerous inundations, though a stream of water 1½ feet deep was at one time flowing through Hamacho. In the Shiba district, one man was crushed to death and one wounded; 56 houses were blown down, and the number of trees uprooted or smashed was immense. In the Nihon-bashi district, two persons were killed and two wounded, and everywhere trees, shrubs, and fences suffered extensively. The acacia trees along the edges of the moats were blown down, sometimes in whole rows, and many large willows were snapped across. The Ejiri-Shizuoka section of the Tokaido Railway became impassable, and with the exception of Chiba Prefecture, every district about the capital reports broken telegraphs. The Echigo region and the districts along the Tokaido seem to have suffered severely, and doubtless the damage done to the rice crop is very great. As to the origin of the storm, it is alleged that the typhoon reported from the south of Kiushu on the 5th instant, began to travel northward from the forenoon of the 7th, and then divided, one portion going towards Hokuriku and through the central province, until it reached Uzen on the morning of the 8th; while the other, which at one time appeared likely not to develop any considerable dimensions, ultimately travelled towards Tokyo. But it must be confessed that the statement leaves much to be desired in point of clearness.

THE JAPANESE "DESCENT UPON HAWAII."

We published in our correspondence columns on the morning of the 4th inst., a letter signed "An American," the writer of which quoted a statement from a Minnesota journal to the effect that, in June last, Japan contemplated a descent upon Honolulu, which operation would be greatly facilitated by the presence of some eighteen thousand Japanese emigrants in Hawaii, since these men having already received military training under the conscription regulations of their country, needed only weapons to become an efficient army. The American journal, in publishing this statement, attributed it to the *Japan Herald*, which it described as "the Government organ." Our correspondent asked whether the *Japan*

Herald had made any such statement, and added that, if it had, it deserved to be denounced as a slanderer and a stirrer up of international strife. By way of reply the *Japan Herald* now shields itself behind the fact that the statement had its origin in a letter addressed to it by a correspondent, and pleads that a newspaper is not responsible for matter appearing in that form. It is quite true that every journal disavows responsibility for "the sentiments or opinions" of its correspondents. But there is a limit to such irresponsibility. There is the very plain limit that no newspaper is justified in lending any part of its columns for the purpose of ventilating matter injurious to good morals, public peace, or international amity. The *Japan Herald* does not recognise any limit of the kind. We should be surprised if it did.

But, in point of fact, the *Japan Herald's* attempt to escape responsibility by laying the *onus* on the shoulders of its anonymous correspondent is of a piece with the whole miserable falsehood. When a newspaper gives space to an anonymous letter and refrains from any comment of its own, it can claim that its opinion has been reserved. It can not, indeed, divest itself of all responsibility that depends upon the nature of the matter contained in the latter. But it can say that it has maintained a non-committal attitude. When, however, it comments editorially on the letter, endorsing some of the writer's views and not contradicting any of them, then, it unquestionably identifies itself with him. That is what the *Japan Herald* did. Its words were:—

Under the caption of "Coming Events casting their Shadows before,"—a correspondent, who claims to be particularly well informed about a matter going on, that is for the present enveloped in secrecy, which is, that at this time there exists a deliberate intention on the part of the Japanese in the event of an insufficient satisfaction being had of the Dole Administration, to occupy the Hawaiian Islands, either temporarily until justice is obtained, or permanently if not, which in that case would be added to the Japanese empire.

The Hawaiian Government is practically quite powerless to resist a blockade by way of a preliminary to an actual invasion, and the only question which then suggests itself, is would the United States be likely to interfere by force of arms. As our correspondent points out there is practically a Japanese army already there, and all that the contract labourers from this country require, are the weapons which they have been trained in the use of when serving as conscripts at home, and these arms could be readily furnished from here, and when supplemented by a few regiments and ships of war, so far as the feeble Dole Government is concerned, no resistance could possibly be made. Further, it is held by those who affect to know, that at sea the Japanese navy, with the addition of the few very powerful ships of war which are now completed, would be fully a match for the navy of the United States, and very considerably in excess of the ships it has available on the Pacific station.

But even if it may be assumed that the information conveyed by our correspondent is mainly correct, &c.

The article then goes on to discuss what Hawaii might be expected to do and what the United States might be expected to do in the given premises. It is an unmistakable endorsement of the correspondent's views. There is not from first to last as much as one word that contradicts those views. We recur to the question because the public is certainly interested in knowing that the ventilators and endorsers of treacherous falsehood calculated to impair the friendship of two nations, are not allowed to escape the consequences of their malevolence by fresh falsehoods.

THE TAXATION AFFAIR.

The *Nippon* continues to take a keen interest in the Sendai taxation affair, and continues to publish misleading information about it. It says that the Councillor of the Prefecture has called on Mr. Dening at the instance of the Governor and urged him to pay the tax without further query instead of raising objections which would necessitate reference to the Central Government. We can not believe that the Governor has taken any such action, for the matter has already been referred to Tokyo. Doubtless the Central Government's view is that every resident in a locality ought to contribute his due quota to the fund required for local administrative purposes, and that the collectors of taxes look to the fact of a house's occupation not to the nationality of its occupant. But that condition does not appear to have as much validity in the case of an income tax, which the proposed impost appears to be, as in the case of a house tax. In point of fact, every foreigner residing outside the Settlements pays whatever taxes are leviable in respect of the house in which he resides or the land on which it stands. For the Japanese owner of the house and land has to defray the local taxes, and naturally he includes them in the rent charged to the foreign occupant. That is the simple and easy course, and to such taxes foreigners appear to be justly liable. But taxes levied on the individual belong to a different category. The Japanese Authorities have no competence to enforce their payment in the case of a foreigner, and that fact constitutes, in our opinion, a conclusive proof that they are without any right to impose them. One of the Sendai papers takes that line. It recently published several articles, contending that the local officials have fallen into an error, and that if they have no power to distraint the property of a foreign defaulter, it follows of necessity that they have no authority to tax him. The local journal pushes its arguments to their logical conclusion: it recommends the responsible officials to apologise to the foreigner and resign. We understand that there is not by any means a consensus of opinion among the local officials themselves, and that other leading authorities in Sendai also regard the tax as illegal. The whole thing is extremely petty, but if it be suffered to remain unsettled, a disagreeable agitation may grow about it. We do not see how Her Majesty's Legation can possibly consent to the levy of the tax. The mere fact that all foreign nationals have not been invited to pay it, compels the British Representative to withhold his concurrence. He cannot agree that Her Majesty's subjects should be discriminated against. We are bound to say that we consider it radically bad policy on the part of the Japanese to raise such an issue. In a very short time there will no longer be room for questions of the kind, and since they have been allowed to sleep for thirty years, to wake them up now on the very eve of the abolition of the Settlements, seems vexatious and ill-judged. The unfortunate objects of the demand are also placed in an invidious, and possibly injurious, position. The amount of the tax is nothing to them, but the principle is a great deal. With every desire to show becoming deference towards the Japanese Authorities, and with entire willingness to bear their

share of public burdens, they are nevertheless compelled by a sense of plain duty to hesitate before they subscribe to an innovation which presents an illegal as well as an arbitrary aspect, and which, moreover, concerns others besides themselves. The result is that, to the roughly judging public, they assume the character of obstructionists, and a black mark is set against their names. As a matter of fact, the foreigners directly concerned in this case have offered, we understand, to pay the tax if the educational authorities to whom they are directly responsible instruct them to do so; but the educational authorities appear to entertain views not consonant with those of the local officials. For our own part, we strongly advise the foreigners to pay, under protest. If they are not legally liable for the tax, there is no manner of doubt that their money will be restored to them. If they are liable, their prompt compliance with the demand will have been a right step. There is no reason why they should suffer in reputation as well as in pocket.

THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVE'S BLACK-MAILED.

It is amusing to learn that the Foreign Representatives at the Court of the Emperor of Japan are systematically black-mailed by a newspaper published in Yokohama, and still more amusing to find that the newspaper is, at once, so confident in the efficacy of its system, and so conveniently devoid of all moral sensibilities, as to openly blazon forth the fact. "Upwards of thirty years ago," says the *Japan Herald*, "this journal was appointed the medium for the publication of all official announcements without exception, and this in the main has been honourably observed, though there have been some exceptions to the pursuit of the correct course, when either from spite or ignorance, some few advertisements in derogation of our right, have been diverted elsewhere, but this deprivation in fraud of what was due to us, has been mostly of a temporary character, for we took care to make this injustice expensive to the luckless perpetrators, who no doubt wished afterwards they had not so foolishly committed themselves to the violation of an agreement. Their successors have restored to us what it is but right and proper we should possess."

The most conspicuous examples of Representatives whose failure to patronize the *Japan Herald* was made "expensive to the luckless perpetrators," were the British Representative, the late Mr. Hugh Fraser, and the last American Representative, Mr. E. Dun. There were other cases, but these were the most prominent. Readers of the *Japan Herald* know what showers of mud were thrown at both of those gentlemen, but did not, perhaps, recognise at the time the cause of the journalistic fury. They know it now, however. They have it on the authority of the *Herald* itself that Mr. Fraser and Mr. Dun having ceased to advertise in the *Herald*, that journal "took care to make the injustice expensive to the luckless perpetrators." It was for that that Mr. Fraser was insulted as probably no English gentleman was ever before insulted by an English newspaper. It was for that that even while his body lay awaiting burial, words were written which would have augmented the grief of

his bereaved widow had they not been indignantly rebuked by the leading residents of Yokohama. It was for that that Mr. Dun was called an incompetent; was taunted with having been in the service of Japan before he became an American official; was flogged over the back of one of America's most respected and venerable statesmen. All for an advertisement! But the successors of these "luckless perpetrators" have profited by the stern object lesson of their predecessors' sufferings. They have restored their advertisements to the *Japan Herald*, and may reckon on its support. They have kissed the rod, and black-mailing has triumphed.

JAPANESE CRUISERS.

A rumour was circulated some time ago to the effect that the Japanese Government contemplated purchasing two cruisers from Chile, but inasmuch as the list of the latter's navy did not contain any vessels that would have been adapted to the standard laid down in the Japanese programme of armament expansion, little attention was paid to the report. It has now been revived, however, and an explanation which sounds reasonable is furnished by the *Miyako Shimbun*. The original scheme of naval expansion, as our readers doubtless remember, included four line-of-battle ships and 4 unarmoured first-class cruisers of 7,000 tons each. Subsequently, however, a modification was effected, in the sense that the number of cruisers should be increased to 6, that their tonnage should be 9,000, and that they should be armoured. As to these ships, the idea was to have one built at the Vulcan Works in Germany, one in France, one at Kure, two in England, and concerning the sixth no definite plan was formulated. Now it appears that Lord Armstrong and Company—of whom, we may note in parenthesis, our contemporary speaks as a firm possessing Japan's "full confidence, since they are the builders of the *Chiyoda*, the *Yoshino*, and the fastest line-of-battle ship in the world, the *Yashima*—have had for some time upon the stocks two first-class nine-thousand-ton armoured cruisers, of the newest design and expected to develop a speed of 21 knots. These vessels were originally destined for Chili, but her financial circumstances do not allow her to implement the contract, and they are virtually left upon their builders' hands. It is, therefore, contemplated, or has been actually decided, by the Japanese Government to take over the two cruisers, and their construction will be immediately proceeded with. One of them will be ready for sea in eight months, the other within a year, so that not only will the strengthening of the Japanese navy be effected at an earlier date than was originally anticipated, but also, so far as two of the six first-class cruisers are concerned, a considerable saving of money will be made, the ships now on the stocks at Newcastle being much cheaper than the same class of vessel would be if newly ordered. We have no authority for this statement except that of the *Miyako Shimbun*, but it sounds credible, and for Japan's sake we hope that it is true, for anything that she gets from Armstrong is safe to be good.

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

The *Keisai Zasshi* thinks that not only the *yen* pieces but also the subsidiary silver coins of Japan now circulating abroad will come back here for exchange when the gold system goes into operation, and it gives figures to show that the amount of such coins is 8,474,560 *yen*. The result will be, of course, not only that gold to that extent will leave Japan, but also that the stock of subsidiary coins now circulating in the country will be correspondingly increased, thus depriving the Treasury, to some extent, of the outlet contemplated by it for the silver contained in *yen* pieces which may be presented for exchange. Such is the *Keisai's* forecast, and it is no doubt sound. In fact, the subsidiary silver coins are even more certain than the *yen* pieces to return to Japan, since they will be more easily procurable. A speculator desiring to collect *yen* pieces abroad will have to pay very nearly their sterling value for them, whereas the subsidiary coins are likely to remain beyond the range of any manipulators except the patient petty-gain loving Chinamen, who will take them over the counter of his exchange shop, and send them to Yokohama as soon as he has amassed a hundred *yens'* worth. It will be a tedious business, however. In connexion with this subject we note that discussion is now beginning to turn upon the expediency of shortening to six months the period for the circulation of the *yen* piece, and that some critics are condemning such a change, on the ground that it would certainly expose the Treasury to a heavy outflow of gold at the very inauguration of the new system, whereas by leaving the period at five years, as now fixed, a considerable portion of the *yen* pieces would probably continue to circulate at something very near their sterling value. There is, doubtless, a good deal to be said on both sides, but it appears to us that the sooner this disquieting element of the *yen* piece is eliminated the better for Japan's credit and for the success of her new system. So long as the *yen* remains to be dealt with, there will always be a feeling of uncertainty about a possible drain on the Treasury's reserves of gold, and a corresponding doubt of Japan's ability to carry out her monometallic programme. Once the *yen* phantom is finally exorcised, and the foreign public assured that Japan is determined and competent to drive the gold plough without looking back, her five per cent. securities will become marketable in Europe at a fine premium.

MILITARY TOPICS.

It was decided, last year, that a Railway Battalion should be organized, consisting of two railway companies and one telegraph company. In December last, the first of the railway companies was formed, and the second will be called into being next December, but the telegraph company is not to be organized until next year.

The formation of a body of native troops in Formosa seems to have now been definitely decided. Only one battalion of four companies is spoken of, but, so far as we can gather from the vernacular press, the companies are to be larger than those of the regular Japanese army. Each will consist of 275 of all ranks. The battalion will have independent head-

quarters, with a staff consisting of a Lieut.-Colonel or a Major, a Captain, a Lieutenant, and a second-class sergeant. Apparently the officers are all to be Japanese, namely, a Captain, four subalterns, a sergeant-major, and eighteen non-commissioned officers to each company. The organization is to be completed within three years.

MACAO.

It appears that the opening of the West River is likely to prove disastrous to Macao. The two great importing centres for foreign goods in China are Shanghai and Hongkong, whence the commodities are sent to secondary centres for distribution in the districts adjacent to the latter. Macao is one of those secondary centres. It supplies the wealthiest departments of Kwangtung. By the opening of the West River, however, a new distributing centre, namely, Samshiu, will be obtained, a port much nearer to the districts in question. Hongkong will not suffer. Instead of sending goods to Macao, it will send them to Canton and Samshiu, whither the buyers will go to fetch them in steam launches, leaving Macao out in the cold. We learn from the *Hongkong Daily Press* that the people of Macao are stirring in the matter, and that the coöperation of Hongkong is solicited to prevent any material change of the present system. There appears to be a feeling in Hongkong also that, irrespective of distances, a saving of duties would be effected by retaining the services of Macao. But it can scarcely be doubted that official interference in such a matter must prove abortive. The goods will ultimately take the quickest route whatever attempts be made to deflect them from it.

"AN AMERICAN."

Referring to the letter signed "An American," which appears in our correspondence column, the mischievous falsehoods in question were originally advanced by a correspondent of the *Japan Herald*, who signed himself "One not quite in the dark." He declared that preparations were secretly on foot for a Japanese descent upon Hawaii; that the Government in Tokyo had definitely made up its mind to annex the islands, and that the eighteen thousand Japanese immigrants in Hawaii practically constituted an army, requiring only weapons, "in the use of which they had been trained when serving as conscripts at home." We do not remember precisely how far these allegations were confirmed by the journal in which they appeared, but we pointed out at the time that since only 66 out of every thousand adult males in Japan serve as conscripts, there could not be more than 1,188 trained men among the 18,000 in Hawaii. It is now tolerably evident that "One not quite in the dark" wrote with the deliberate intention of creating a false impression about Japan's designs, and that he took care to secure the ventilation of his falsehoods in America by describing the *Japan Herald* as "the Government organ." This last statement is only a perversion of the truth; not an original lie. The *Japan Herald* is an official organ, though on a very limited scale. It used to proclaim the fact very conspicuously, but has ceased to do so since its official patrons were reduced to Germany and one or two other States of Continental Europe. The whole scheme of "One not quite in the dark" is about as disgraceful as they make them, but he chose an appropriate medium and by persistent lying achieved a modicum of success.

THE CAREW CASE AND THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

WE observe that the *Law Times* takes the same view as we did with regard to the decision of the Privy Council in the CAREW appeal case. In its issue of July 24th, it says:—

It is difficult to understand how the words of the section, which seem plain and simple enough, can be made to bear the meaning which the Judicial Committee has placed on them, for the section provides that the Queen may exercise any jurisdiction which she may have in a foreign country in the same and as ample a manner as if she had obtained that jurisdiction by cession or conquest of territory, and it does not purport to extend or enlarge in any way such jurisdiction.

In the case of Japan, therefore, the Act would, if it were not for the decision of the Privy Council, appear to enable Her Majesty to exercise in the most ample manner the jurisdiction which she has under the treaty of 1858—namely, the jurisdiction to try and to punish British subjects according to the laws of Great Britain. The Judicial Committee, however, have decided, and their decision is final, that section I. of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act confers on the Queen powers to try and punish her subjects in Japan according to any laws which she may be pleased, by Order in Council, to ordain.

It is curious to note that the construction which the Judicial Committee have, without hesitation, placed on the statute is a construction which the late Mr. W. E. Hall, who was, no doubt, a very eminent authority on the subject, considered clearly impossible. At page 11 of his *Treatise on the Foreign Jurisdiction of the British Crown*, referring to the language of sect. I. of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act 1890, he says:—"It is unnecessary to say that this language does not assimilate the jurisdiction exercised in a foreign country, either in nature or degree, to that which belongs to the Crown in a conquered territory." But that is precisely the effect which the Judicial Committee have given to the section. They decided that the jurisdiction exercised in a foreign country is similar in all respect to that exercised in a conquered territory. It is certainly remarkable that a construction which Mr. Hall rejected as obviously impossible should have been accepted by the Judicial Committee as so clearly correct that it would not be proper even to give leave for the question to be argued.

We are of opinion—and any one carefully reading the proceedings before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council will, we think, agree with us—that the Lord CHANCELLOR and his colleagues paid less attention to the legal aspects of the question than to the practical results of the decision they were invited to give by the counsel for the appellant. "Here is a system," their Lordships said in effect, "that has been in operation for thirty years, and has, on the whole, worked fairly well. To pronounce it an illegal system, at this late epoch, would be to raise issues possibly of immense magnitude, to create confusion appalling to contemplate, and to invalidate a great part of the acts of British tribunals in every country where Great Britain possesses extraterritorial jurisdiction." That their Lordships would shrink from creating such a situation might have been anticipated. Every close observer of England's conduct in Oriental countries must see that the first object which she proposes to herself is to secure the ends of justice, and that she relegates to a rank of minor considerations the methods adopted to achieve that object. If an obligation devolves on her, she discharges it rigorously. It will be admitted, we think, that among all the Western Powers enjoying the privilege of Consular jurisdic-

tion in Japan, she alone has organized and equipped courts of law such as the competent exercise of that jurisdiction demands. On the other hand, being without—and rightly without—much faith in the quality of the justice administered by eastern tribunals, she has not shrunk from placing the largest possible construction on the jurisdictional powers delegated to her own tribunals by treaty. As an example we may cite a case already referred to in these columns—the case of the Chinese cook on board H.M.S. *Essex*. The man was apprehended by the Chinese police for a crime committed on shore, yet Great Britain claimed and obtained jurisdiction over him. It is not possible, so far as we can see, to construct out of Occidental precedents or Occidental usages any theory justifying such a claim. Yet there was excellent warrant to believe that had the man been left in Chinese hands, the measures adopted against him would have been of a most prejudiced and harsh nature. Hence the course adopted by the British authorities served the ends of true justice and promoted the cause of humanity. Everyone, we think, must admire and applaud the sound practical instincts that guide England's action in such matters, though, as the Hakodate affair now actually on the *tapis* shows, she sometimes places herself in an embarrassing situation by indiscriminate adherence to precedents which she has herself established. The same instinct forbade the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council to pronounce a decision which, while redressing one hypothetical wrong, would have invalidated a moiety of the judgments delivered by British Consular tribunals during the past thirty years. But that their Lordships really denied the truth of the contention advanced by the Counsel for the appellant, it is impossible to believe. No thinking man can imagine that when the QUEEN acquired by Treaty the explicit right of trying and punishing her subjects in Japan "according to the laws of Great Britain," she also acquired the right of trying and punishing them according to laws which are not the laws of Great Britain. No thinking man can imagine that because the QUEEN obtained for her subjects the privilege of access to Japan, she became invested with the power of ignoring in their case all the constitutional machinery provided for legislative purposes in England, and with the power of enacting any laws she pleased for the control of such of her subjects as might take advantage of that privilege. Yet the circumstances were such that unless arbitrary power were assumed, justice could not have been administered at all. There it was that the sound, practical British instinct came in. The ends of justice were secured: the method of securing them was not too closely scrutinized. It is not justice pre-

cisely after the approved British pattern, but it is good enough justice for all everyday purposes. To approach the Privy Council with a proposal that the whole system should be declared illegal at this eleventh hour may have been an interesting experiment from an academical point of view, but certainly was not likely to achieve much in Mrs. CAREW'S interests.

BRITISH JURISDICTION IN JAPAN.

THE point made by Mr. LOWDER in his letter, which we publish elsewhere, is very interesting, and, of course, derives much force from his endorsement. But although his interpretation of the Judicial Committee's judgment looks reasonable at first sight, we find considerable difficulty in accepting it. He suggests, if we understand him aright, that whatever legislative methods be adopted by Her Majesty's Government for the purposes of the jurisdiction possessed by Great Britain in Japan, British subjects are not warranted in objecting so long as Japan makes no protest. That becomes a difficult doctrine when it is thought out. The fact that criminal jurisdiction is in question must not be lost sight of. As to civil jurisdiction, Japan certainly has an interest in the nature of the laws administered by British tribunals at the open ports, since it is to those tribunals that her own nationals must have recourse if they deem themselves wronged by a British subject. Yet, even in the case of civil laws, it appears to us that Japan would be plainly exceeding her competence did she venture to base any international protest on their legislative validity or general quality. It is enough for her, and should be enough, that they are laws having the apparent sanction of due authority and that they are applied by duly qualified tribunals. One of her great difficulties in negotiating the revision of the Treaties was that some Western Powers wanted to insist on scrutinizing her Civil Code before submitting their nationals to its operation, and wanted also to provide that all amendments of it should receive the same scrutiny. Japan stoutly objected to any such condition, maintaining that it would constitute an infraction of her Sovereign right of legislation. Would she not be equally infringing Great Britain's Sovereign right if she asserted a title to scrutinize the laws administered by British tribunals at the open ports? Did those laws discriminate in any way against Japanese subjects, or were their nature so inconsistent with the generally recognised principles of justice as to render legal remedy inaccessible, there would be proper ground for international remonstrance. But that is a question apart. On the other hand, when we turn to consider the criminal laws administered by British tribunals in the foreign Settlements, we are unable to discover any ground whatever

for Japanese interference. Those laws have nothing to do with Japanese subjects; they are not applicable to the latter under any circumstances. What conceivable right has Japan then, to scrutinize them? They are the laws that Great Britain, represented by the British Government, chooses to apply for the control of British subjects in Japan, and beyond that fact Japan has apparently no business to go. She is, indeed, entitled to protest, we think, if British criminal tribunals decline to enforce against their nationals Japanese law which, though not included among British statutes, are necessary for the preservation of good order in Japan. But that, also, is a question apart. It does not at all help us to conceive the propriety of a Japanese protest against the general quality of British criminal law or against the validity of the machinery employed in enacting it.

There is another phase of the problem. Japan might certainly take exception to the language of the Order in Council where she is described as a conquered or ceded country for purposes of extraterritorial jurisdiction. She might say to Great Britain:—"The jurisdiction you exercise within my borders has been voluntarily delegated by me to you, and has not been acquired by you as a right of conquest. If the laws that your tribunals administer in the Settlements are laws of such a character as to be incapable of administration without the hypothesis of conquest, then I most emphatically object to their being administered in my realms." Such an objection would seem to be valid, but, on the other hand, it could be met. What concerns us now, however, is not the manner of meeting it, but the question whether, even on the assumption of conquest or cession, the legislative methods adopted by Great Britain for the purposes of her criminal jurisdiction in Japan, are legal. It would be very interesting to hear Mr. LOWDER'S opinion on that point. As the case presents itself to us, the legislative rights accruing to a conqueror in respect of conquered territory are valid against the inhabitants of that territory, whereas it is against British subjects themselves that the arbitrary power of legislation is exercised in this instance. Japanese subjects, the hypothetically conquered people, stand entirely outside the pale of the disputed laws. We are aware, of course, that the theory lends itself to a less perplexing form of statement. It may be referred to the case of uninhabited territory acquired by conquest. We may be told that for the control of British subjects visiting such territory, Her Majesty has competence to enact any laws she pleases without recourse to Parliament, and that, since the laws in question have no validity against Japanese subjects, the territory represented by the Settlements may be regarded as uninhabited so far as Japanese subjects are concerned. That is a conceivable but an exceedingly subtle rendering of the problem. Is it the right rendering?

THE "YEN" PIECE.

WE should think that our readers are getting pretty weary of predictions about the exchange of the silver yen piece and the working of gold monometallism in Japan. To Japanese journals these topics are naturally of perennial interest, but they have been pretty well thrashed out by this time. From Korea, however, there comes a curious item of news. It is that the Japanese merchants there are very anxious to keep the silver yen in circulation, since without it their only available currency would be Korean copper cash. The Fusan Chamber of Commerce is said to have made a representation to the Government in that sense, and other merchants are reported to have sought the views of Mr. MCLEAVY BROWN, Financial Adviser to the Korean Government. If is, of course, out of the question that the Japanese Authorities should make any exception in the case of silver coins circulating in Korea. They have no power to control such a matter, even if they desired to do so, for it is plain that any European or American importer of foreign goods into Korea who received payment in silver yen, and who wished to make a remittance Westward, would at once send the coins to Tokyo to be exchanged for gold. Such, at any rate, is the opinion of vernacular newspapers. But it is founded on the hypothesis that the silver yen, after its nominal demonetization, will circulate at its bullion value only. Does that follow? Does it not seem certain, on the contrary, that the 1-yen piece, so long as it remains exchangeable at the Bank of Japan or its agencies for a fixed weight of gold, will circulate at that value approximately in the open market? Take the case of a Korean merchant purchasing British commodities for which he is prepared to pay with silver yen coins. He knows that simply by sending the coins to Japan he can sell them for 24½d. each. Will he not insist on reckoning them at very nearly that figure for the purposes of his transactions? The silver yen is worth fully 24 pence in Japan at present, though its bullion value is only 22 pence. It is practically worth 24 pence in China, Hongkong and Singapore also, for though not specially quoted for exchange purposes at those places, speculative transactions have raised it considerably above its bullion price. In short, its sterling value being guaranteed by the Japanese Government, it has ceased to be purchasable at any appreciably cheaper rate. The meaning of that is that it will not find its way to Japan for exchange against gold as quickly as some people imagine. Banks that have stocks of yen in their vaults will of course present them at the Treasury in Tokyo without loss of time. But speculators desiring to collect the coins and ship them to Japan, will have to buy them

at sterling prices leaving no considerable margin of profit. As for Korea, where the yen is practically without a competitor, we see no reason why it should not remain in circulation until very nearly the end of the period fixed by the Japanese Government for its redemption. It will pass as a token representing its sterling value less the cost involved in transmitting it to Japan and getting it changed there. The shroff's work will become more onerous, of course, since any defacement means loss of exchangeable qualification, but, for the rest, the coin may continue to do its old duty as a measure of value. The *Shogyo Shimpō* says that Mr. MCLEAVY BROWN has advised stamping the coins as the only certain way of keeping them in circulation in Korea, but it is difficult to attribute such an unpractical suggestion to MR. BROWN. No holder of a yen would be at all likely to submit it readily to a process reducing its sterling value by from 10 to 12 per cent.

Formosa presents a problem of some difficulty. The Chinese and the natives there will have nothing to do with gold, it is said. They want silver and silver only. Hence if gold be put into circulation, any one carrying clean dollars from Amoy or elsewhere, will find no difficulty in purchasing a 5-yen gold piece with five Mexicans: in other words, 122½ pence worth of Japanese gold will be procurable for 112 pence worth of Mexican silver. Formosa would thus become an avenue for the constant outflow of the yellow metal. In view of such eventualities, the Japanese Government, according to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, has decided not to send gold to Formosa, but to supply a good store of silver subsidiary coins and silver ingots. We do not exactly understand how such a device could be employed with entire success. The complication furnishes another illustration of the difficulties that beset Japan's attempt to dissociate herself from the currency system of her neighbours.

THE NAGANO RIOTS.

The *Yiji Shimpō* publishes the following details of the recent serious riots in Nagano Prefecture:—"On the nights of the 1st and 2nd inst., serious disturbances occurred in Iida-machi, Nagano Prefecture, in which about 2,000 men, mostly coolies, took part, several of whom were killed or wounded by the police and gendarmes who were obliged to resort to the use of arms in repressing the riot. The cause of the trouble seems to have been that since January last the Oji Paper Mill near Asukayama dispatched about 300 coolies to the woods of Toyama, over ten miles from Iida-machi, Nagano Prefecture, to obtain material for the Company's works, and since that time the rice for these coolies has been supplied from the Kawano rice cleaning mill. The price of the rice was raised at the mill day after day, till at last the coolies could bear it no longer, and attacked the rice mill, believing that the increased charge was the result of avarice on the part of the managers of the Mill, Messrs. Kono and Kuroda. Just prior to the disturbance, towards the end of last month, some of the ring-leaders

plotted to destroy the buildings of the mill, and for that purpose over 100 men were at once enrolled. The 1st inst. being the festival of the Atago Shrine, they all drank their fill of *sake* on the evening of that day, and then descending Atago hill in a body, about 8 p.m., proceeded to the mill for the purpose of an attack on it. During their march, they were joined by other coolies, till the crowd numbered over 1,000 men. Just as the mob were going to attack the buildings a member of the mill staff named Yazawa, unconscious of the danger, came out of the buildings, whereupon the mob at once caught him and, after administering a severe beating, threw him into the river. They were about to break down the buildings when a number of police came upon the scene and after a short skirmish succeeded in dispersing the rioters. The mob, however, again assembled on the night of the 2nd inst. on Atago hill, and about 11 p.m., when over 2,000 strong, pressed up to the mill and within a short time succeeded in completely wrecking the buildings. The police and gendarmes were at once called up to suppress the tumult, but the night being pitch dark they could effect nothing against the mob, who greeted them with volleys of stones. As no moderate measures were effectual, the gendarmes began to fire their pistols and the police drew swords and used them on the mob, thus eventually succeeding in dispersing the rioters. During the excitement several of those who opposed the police were killed or wounded, while seven were arrested. On the following night, the 3rd inst., the mob, considering the action of the police to be unjust and cruel, attacked Iida Police Station, but were all dispersed by the police who used their swords freely and wounded several. During the combat the Chief of the Gendarmes, who came to the assistance of the police with his men, received a wound, though not severe. The district was the scene of great disturbances during the three successive nights.

FATAL STREET ACCIDENT.

On Tuesday morning, a little before 8 o'clock, a jockey named Kobayashi Otokichi, in the employ of Messrs. Durand & Co., mounted on a racing pony, came galloping along Awacho, from the direction of Mayeda-bashi, and on reaching the corner of Main Street opposite Clausen's Hotel, ran right into a jinrikisha—conveying a foreigner—which was coming up Main Street. The vehicle was broken to pieces, but the foreign occupant got off with a few bruises. The unfortunate ricksha coolie, however, appears to have encountered the full force of the charge and was kicked by the frightened horse with such violence that he was quite unable to rise. Some time elapsed before anything was done to aid him, but after a while a policeman, at the close of a leisurely verbal examination of the sufferer, obtained further assistance and the man was conveyed to the Settlement Police Station, where it was found that he had one leg broken besides serious wounds on the head. Sanuki, the injured man, was afterwards taken to the Yokohama hospital, where he died from the injuries received during the course of the day. We understand that Kobayashi will be handed over to the Saibansho for examination.

Kobayashi is a well-known jockey, and reputed for his careful behaviour at all times. It seems that while riding along Awacho, three dogs, apparently, homeless curs—the curse of Yokohama—sprang across his path and the race-pony he was riding bolted. Kobayashi himself is suffering from a dislocated shoulder.

From letters just received from Professor John Milne, we gather that soon after reaching Canada—where he was to speak before the British Association—"honest John" caught the Clondyke gold-fever very badly and had to lay violent hands upon himself to keep his feet from wandering off to the new El Dorado.

SEVERE TYPHOON IN YOKOHAMA

The severest storm which has visited Yokohama for several years past occurred during Wednesday night and the early hours of Thursday morning. All through Wednesday the weather was threatening in the extreme, and the lowering skies, persistent rain, and sultry atmosphere presaged a typhoon. Between 11 and 12 p.m. a thunderstorm broke over the town with a violence seldom experienced outside the tropics, accompanied and followed by deluges of rain. This, however, failed to clear the air, as might have been expected, and through the night the barometer continued falling, until it eventually registered 29.10—typhoon mark in these latitudes. In the meanwhile the wind gradually increased in violence, coming from the south and south-west, and from about 4 a.m. till 6 o'clock, blew in fierce gusts and with typhoon force. The strength of the gale reached its maximum between 5.30 and 6, when it gradually decreased, and, with a rising glass, had vented all its fury by 6.30 a.m. The damage done by the storm will take a long time to repair. Fences, roofs, compounds, and gardens on the Bluff on Thursday morning presented an indescribable scene of wreck and ruin. On the Bluff main road, from No. 1 to Camp Hill fences are down all the way, and in many places tiles from roofs, branches of trees, etc., were scattered over the roadway. At the General Hospital, and Dr. Mécere's opposite, where the open brick wall partially collapsed, the British Naval Hospital, and the General Cemetery, the fences are all lying in the road, and in some parts, notably at Dr. Meacham's house, 62 Bluff, trees fell across the thoroughfare. In the gardens of the French Consular villa on Camp Hill numbers of trees were broken down. The same scene of havoc and destruction met the eye on the other side of the Bluff leading to Honmoku and in many of the intervening compounds. In the Settlement the damage done appears to have been less, but we hear of one godown on the Creek having been partially unroofed; and plaster walls and tiles on many buildings were torn away. In the native town the damage was very considerable. At Takashima-cho, near Kanagawa railway station, the tall iron chimney of a glass factory was blown down into the street and two men, who were passing, were killed on the spot by the falling material. At the Custom House, by the fall of some tiles, one man was severely injured. So far these are the only casualties to life or limb on shore of which we have heard, but the damage to property has been large indeed. A fire tower at Noge and a number of houses on the outskirts of the town were utterly demolished, and the number of outhouses, fences, and other light constructions destroyed will foot up to a total of enormous proportions.

When the havoc caused by the gale ashore was so very great, it could scarcely be expected that the vessels and small craft in harbour could escape without accident; and the list of casualties there is not light. The only loss of life afloat of which we have been able to definite obtain information, occurred by the wreck of one of two lighters on the Kanagawa side, by which five or six *sendo* are said to have been drowned. During the height of the gale the German cruiser *Irene* dragged her anchors and drifted on to the spit to the north of the Spit Red Bouy, where she grounded fore and aft, and remained till late in the afternoon, when, having been lightened, she came off with assistance from the *Princess Wilhelm*. The Blue-funnel steamer *Patroclus*, caught in one of the fierce squalls, carried away the P. & O. moorings, to which she was anchored, and drifted alongside the German flagship *Kaiser*, from which she took a long time to clear. What damage she has received we have not yet been able to ascertain. The sailing ships *Carmarthenshire* and *Selkirkshire* also dragged their moorings and drifted up against one another. The boats of the yacht squadron suffered severely. The flag-boat of the Mosquitos, the *Aborigine*, broke adrift and was carried away by the wind and tide to the other side of the harbour. She struck the Break-

water and went to pieces. Several of the other yachts met with mishaps. Some broke their moorings but were recovered, while three of the small craft, 12 or 17-raters, capsized at their moorings, and showed their keels till late on Thursday. Altogether, independent of the sad fatalities, the bill of damages will be a big one.

In the height of the gale a large water boat drifted out from the creek into the harbour with five *sendo* on board. Finding the boat utterly unmanageable when in the harbour, the men jumped into the water to try and swim ashore. Four of them succeeded and were assisted up on to the Bund by several persons who had seen the accident, but the other poor fellow, who could not swim, made a jump at the Bathing-barge as he floated by. He succeeded in crawling on to it and was afterwards brought ashore. A coolie named Tsuji Saikichi, was employed with others in clearing away an obstruction caused by a number of logs of timber that had got jammed in and about the piers of one of the railway bridges near Yokohama. A train from Tokyo came along, apparently unnoticed by Saikichi, who was on the bridge at the time. Whether the engine knocked the poor fellow off the bridge, or whether he jumped from the bridge in order to avoid being run over seems uncertain, but the unfortunate man received a nasty cut behind the left ear. The body sank and was recovered about a half mile away, close to the embankment along which run the pipes leading to the oil tanks. Telegrams from various parts of the country have been received reporting damage by the storm of Thursday morning. It struck Chiba at 5 a.m. and did much damage. An engine house on the Boso Railway was demolished and many houses wrecked. Several persons were injured. At Urawa the jail buildings were partially demolished. At Mayebashi, Naoyedzu, and Toyama much damage was done and the rivers overflowed their banks and flooded large districts.

The typhoon caused great damage to telegraphic and telephone wires between Yokohama and Tokyo, and communications are partially suspended. The railway line between Tokyo and Yokohama as well as lines east of Shizuoka are in working order. The buildings in the rear of the Teikoku Seito Kaisha (Imperial Sugar Factory) at Tenjin-yama, were entirely wrecked. The small steamer *Fudo Maru* sank near Benten Bridge, but all her crew escaped with their lives. Near Kanagawa port a Japanese junk is reported to have been lost, together with the occupants. At Suruga-cho, Yokohama, a boy (5 years) and a girl (8 years) were crushed to death by the falling of a chimney of a bath-house. Tsuji Benkichi (36 years), of Ichome, Koto-buki-cho, while walking along the river bank near Tsukimi Bridge was blown into the river and his body has not yet been found. The large work-sheds of the Yokohama Dock Company were totally destroyed, as were also the buildings of the Christian School: the temple of Narita-Fudo met with a similar fate. Two women, a mother and her daughter, are reported to have been drowned in a boat near Nagaragawa. All the small craft along the shores of Kanagawa were dashed upon the beach and received more or less damage.

In regard to the telegram from Chiba that tells of the wreck of an American sailing ship down the bay, we learn that the *Vigilant*, an oil-ship, is about due, as well as a lumber-vessel from Portland, but no news of either can be obtained, the U. S. Consulate as well as the agents being without information.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*, Capt. A. E. Moses, which arrived yesterday morning from Seattle, experienced Thursday's storm off Cape Inuboye. She reports:—Left Seattle at 8.00 p.m. on Monday Aug. 23rd. Experienced light to moderate winds and occasional fogs to Kinkasan, which was passed at 2.40 p.m. on the 8th. From thence to Inuboye Saki, increasing breeze and sea from S.S.E. with threatening appearance. Off Inuboye wind had increased to a terrific gale, with very high sea, damaging two life-boats. The gale continued to noon on the 9th, with the wind gradually work-

ing into the westward. From noon the gale and sea abated and at 4.00 p.m. had fine clear weather and moderate sea. Thence to port fine weather, arriving at 2.40 a.m. yesterday morning.

THE LOST "ABORIGINE."

The loss of the Mosquito Yacht Club flagship *Aborigine* is causing profound regret among the members, for the little cutter had been the means of bringing together many good fellows blessed with sympathetic temperaments and imbued with a true love of sailing and cruising. As far as can be gathered, the *Aborigine*, in the height of the gale, broke adrift and struck some of the shipping on her way to the harbour entrance. In doing so she must have carried away her mast and split open her deck; then she struck the break-water head on, cleared the obstacle, and sank almost immediately. Mr. W. W. Campbell, the indefatigable Commodore of the Club, in company with Mr. F. J. Hall and some *sendo* went out in search early on Thursday. They found the mast and spar on one side of the break-water with half of the deck, the fore-part, on the other: Mr. Campbell dived down to see what might be left of the hull, but could find only a small portion of the port side. The amateur diver found a most curious and unpleasant collection of *débris* at the bottom of the harbour, the flotsam and jetsam of the typhoon—casks of soy, tubs of saké, boxes of soap, bales of rice, dead fish, etc.—and he was glad to come up. The mast, sails, rigging and piece of the deck were brought ashore as relics. The ice-chest and log-book—most essential equipments of the good ship, were they—are still missing.

SUSPECTED MURDER.

On the night of the 5th inst., Miyaji Hidemasa, aged 43, a silk-handkerchief embroiderer of Ichome, Matsukage-cho, Yokohama, sent a messenger to Dr. Hiramatsu Kenosuke of Rokuchome, Honcho, requesting his prompt attendance on his old step-mother. The doctor, however, being pressed with work did not visit Miyaji's house till the following morning, when he found the poor woman dead in an upstairs room. Upon examination he found nine wounds, or bruises, on the side and chest down to the waist, and other suspicious appearances. The doctor at once informed the Kotobuki-cho Police, who notified the Yokohama Local Court, and some Public Procurators accompanied by police proceeded to the house and examined the body, which, on the morning of the 7th inst., was conveyed to Kotobuki-cho Police Station, where a *post mortem* examination was made. Miyaji Hidemasa and his wife were at once arrested and have been handed over to the Local Court for examination on a charge of having caused the death of the woman.

THE FORMOSA RAILWAY.

With regard to the proposal that the remaining unsubscribed portion of the Formosa Railway shares should be taken up by the Government, Baron Yasuba and other members of the Railway Committee have, according to the *Yomiuri*, made earnest representations to the Ministers of State. The request, however, can not be complied with in full owing to present financial conditions, but the Government has managed to take up 200,000 shares out of 300,000 and have persuaded Formosans to subscribe for the balance, in order that the Company may be enabled to hold its initiatory meeting at once. With these liberal arrangements of the Government the Company is highly gratified, and so soon as the existing railway between Kelung and Hsinchu is handed over to its charge, and the locomotives and passenger cars arrive from America steps are to be taken to complete the work slowly but steadily. The agitation that arose over Adjutant Yamamoto's speech on the Formosan Railway may now be said to have subsided.

THE STOPPAGE OF THE YOKOHAMA WATER SUPPLY.

From enquiries made at the office of the Yokohama Water Works, we understand that little or nothing is known regarding the cause of the cessation of the water supply. Early on Thursday morning, the supply of water by the main from the Noge Reservoir ceased, but the cause of the stoppage was not known up to Thursday evening, as the telegraph and telephone wires in the neighbourhood had all been thrown down by the storm of Thursday morning. It was, however, believed at the office that the main pipe, west of Isukui-gun, (beyond Kanagawa) must have been broken by a landslip caused by the heavy rainfall. As the supply of water is now very limited and nothing definite is known as to how long it will take to repair damages, it was decided yesterday to turn off the water at all the hydrants except for one hour, from 5 to 6 p.m. on the 9th, and for two hours—from 6 to 7 a.m., and from 5 to 6 p.m. on the 10th instant. This will, it is needless to say, cause very serious inconvenience to the inhabitants of Yokohama, as it is practically a water famine, but it is to be hoped the injury to the supply main will promptly be discovered and repaired, and that the full supply will be restored as quickly as possible.

DEATH OF MR. H. ST. JOHN BROWNE.

The *Kobe Chronicle* in announcing the death of Mr. H. St. John Browne, said it occurred at Rokkusan on Sunday morning, where Mr. Browne had been staying since his return from Europe in June. "The news comes as a painful surprise, the fatal illness having been of very brief duration. The sad event removes from Kobe another link with the past, as Mr. Browne came to Kobe from Yokohama two or three days before the port was opened, in 1868, and started the business of Browne & Co. During the past twenty-nine years he has taken a keen interest in the public affairs of the port; serving the community for many years as a member of the Municipal Council, as Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, and in many other capacities. His life had been a very active one, and his trip home last year was not taken before it was needed. When he returned a few months ago, Mr. Browne was looking well, and his friends even up to Saturday had no reason to think his end was so near. Mr. Browne is believed to be about 63 years of age."

The *Hyogo News* says:—Of late years of Mr. Browne's health has weakened, and he has been much less seen than formerly. His departure for home some eighteen months since was probably his good-bye to quite a large proportion of his friends in Japan. Nor would he have returned so soon as he did save for the untimely death of his partner, Mr. Macpherson, in Yokohama. Since his arrival he has spent nearly all his time on Rokkusan, where his house was one of the first built. The life suited him, and he has kept generally well and always quietly happy.

On Friday, we are informed, Mr. Browne was stung by some insect, with unusually bad effects. Medical means were resorted to on Saturday to afford relief. Later on fever supervened, the patient's temperature rose ominously, a critical state of exhaustion became apparent, and death occurred at 11 a.m. yesterday.

The funeral of the late Mr. St. John Browne took place on Monday evening, being attended, says the *Kobe Herald*, by a large and representative body of Japanese and foreigners. Mr. E. H. Gill and Mr. Ozawa followed the hearses as chief mourners, while Messrs. A. H. Groom, J. Carey Hall, H. L. Baggally, A. Milne, Ryle Holme and James Green bore the pall. The solemn and impressive burial service of the Church of England was read at the grave-side by the Rev. H. J. Foss. The grave was literally hidden amid the profusion of floral tributes.

ARTISANS WAGES.

The rise in the prices of commodities has naturally tended, says the *Yiji*, to enhance the rate of wages. Investigations made by the *Yiji's* representatives in the capital show that the wages of operatives have risen thirty per cent. on the average as compared with 1895. The following is a comparative table showing the average rate of pay per diem for labour:—

Occupation.	Aug., '97.	Aug., '95.	Increase.
Carpenter.....	0.60	0.40	0.20
Plasterer.....	0.80	0.60	0.20
Mason.....	0.80	0.50	0.30
Sawyer.....	0.70	0.60	0.10
Roofer.....	0.65	0.40	0.25
Roofer (tile).....	0.70	0.50	0.20
Roofer (brick).....	0.55	0.40	0.15
Floor mat maker.....	0.80	0.60	0.20
<i>Tateguya</i> (maker of doors, screens, &c.).....	0.60	0.50	0.10
Papering.....	0.75	0.50	0.25
Cabinet maker.....	0.70	0.50	0.20
Cooper.....	0.30	0.25	0.05
Wooden clog makers.....	0.30	0.25	0.05
Shoe-maker { 1st class... 1.20		0.90	0.30
{ 2nd class... 0.80		0.60	0.20
{ 3rd class... 0.50		0.40	0.10
Carriage-maker { 1st class... 0.60		0.50	0.10
{ 2nd class... 0.50		0.43	0.07
{ 3rd class... 0.40		0.33	0.07
Tailor (Japanese style).....	0.40	0.30	0.10
Tailor (foreign { 1st class... 1.50		1.20	0.30
{ 2nd class... 1.00		0.80	0.20
{ 3rd class... 0.80		0.60	0.20
Ribbon maker.....	1.30	1.00	0.30
<i>Fukuromonoya</i> (maker of purses tobacco pouches, &c. (1st class).....	1.00	0.80	0.20
" (2nd class).....	0.70	0.50	0.20
Dyer.....	0.35	0.20	0.15
Cotton-whipper.....	0.30	0.25	0.05
Black-smith.....	0.60	0.45	0.15
File maker.....	1.00	0.80	0.20
Caster or founder.....	0.90	0.65	0.25
Tobacco-cutter.....	0.44	0.36	0.08
Ship-carpenter { 1st class... 0.80		0.65	0.15
{ 2nd " ... 0.70		0.60	0.10
{ 3rd " ... 0.60		0.55	0.05
Gardener.....	0.50	0.30	0.20
Coolie.....	0.40	0.30	0.10
Book-binder.....	0.70	0.50	0.20
Sculptor { 1st class..... 5.00		3.00	2.00
{ 2nd " 1.50		1.00	0.50
{ 3rd " 1.00		0.70	0.30

THE NIKKO AFFAIR.

The *Hogo News*, reproducing the account of the Nikko affair recently sent to the *Yasan Gazette*, asks its readers to contrast it with the account previously published in these columns, and in doing so suggest that the epithet "shady" was applied by us to Mr. Twinning's conduct. That is a complete misapprehension. We made no comment of any kind on Mr. Twinning's conduct. For the rest, no substantial difference exists between the account published by us and the account sent to the *Japan Gazette*, so far as the apparently inexcusable conduct of the policeman was concerned. From the letter in the *Gazette* we learn, however, that an apology for the detective's rudeness was tendered by the police to Mr. Twinning, a fact that should not be omitted.

FOREIGN TRADE OF NAGASAKI.

According to the *Yomiuri*, the import and export trade of Nagasaki for the first half of this year totalled respectively 7,263,935 yen and 2,612,726 yen in value, making an aggregate of 9,876,661 yen, and showing an increase of 2,587,543 yen in imports and 525,321 yen in exports, on the corresponding period of last year. Upon making investigations as to the articles of export and import, it is found that of the staple exports flour has made considerable progress, having increased by sixty per cent. over the amount exported last year, while coal, paper, *awabi*, and dried sea-slug (*iriko*) show an increase of from ten to thirty per cent. Rice, however, decreased thirty per cent. and a slight reduction is also noticeable in dried mushrooms, charcoal, timber, earthenware, porcelain, and dried cuttlefish:

COTTON SPINNING IN JAPAN.

The spinning industry, remarks the *Yiji*, has developed considerably of late, the total number of spindles now reaching 830,000 and the annual output of yarn 23 million *kwamme*. As old fashioned spinning wheels are still used in many of the rural districts of the empire, it is impossible to obtain precise statistics of the consumption in the interior. Nevertheless, it may easily be conjectured that the spindles fitted to these wheels do not exceed 500,000,—the number calculated by experts on the basis of experience. The annual demand for cotton yarns may be ascertained by taking the average total manufacture, as well as the import and export of cotton for the past five years, as follows:

Year.	Import.	Export.	Excess of Domestic	Excess of Domestic	Totals.
	Catties.	Catties.	Import.	Production.	Catties.
1892	14,460,271	34,664	84,497,517	83,310,006	107,737,598
1893	19,534,713	315,093	19,226,222	18,380,530	10,815,658
1894	16,066,404	3,338,868	12,327,536	122,000,000	134,327,536
1895	14,591,083	3,534,893	11,056,190	153,178,090	164,237,180
1896	10,211,948	12,974,713	7,837,225	19,610,030	203,340,165
Totals.	94,881,821	80,995,221	74,865,500	64,348,516	717,968,116
Average.	18,976,364	4,079,044	14,897,310	12,866,503	143,593,693

Thus the average domestic production, together with the excess of imports over exports amounts to 143,593,623 catties. Taking this figure as the annual average home demand for yarns, the domestic production must have exceeded the demand in 1896 by 52,509,307 catties. If, again, from the latter figures the imports from abroad are deducted, there appears to be a decrease of over eighteen million catties on the total manufacture. But as the imports are chiefly fine yarns which the Japanese spinning factories are not able to produce, or which, even if they could be produced, would hardly pay, the amount referred to will, for the present, continue to be imported and can not therefore be excluded from the account. Again, comparing the number of spindles with the amount of yarn manufactured, it will be perceived that each spindle produces about 236 catties annually. If the excess of production, amounting to 52,500,000 catties, is divided by this figure, the figures 264,822 are obtained, representing the number of spindles in excess of domestic requirements. It follows, therefore, that the manufacturers of cotton yarns must sell abroad the amount of yarn produced by 268,822 spindles. This year, over twenty million catties were exported up to June last, and another twenty millions are to be sent abroad during the latter half of the year, with a view to clearing off the total excess of domestic production. Unfortunately, however, the sudden and severe fall in the rates of exchange on Shanghai has seriously affected this important branch of trade, and now threatens to hinder the progress of the spinning industry in Japan. Nevertheless, the embarrassment may only be temporary, and manufacturers ought not to feel serious anxiety.

THE "YIJI" ON MARQUIS ITO

The following conversation is reported by the *Yiji* to have passed between Baron Suyematsu, who has intimate relations with Marquis Ito, and a *Yiji*'s representative who called on the Baron on the 6th instant with a view to ascertain what is to be the Marquis' procedure after his return from Europe:—

Representative.—Several theories have been advanced by the public as to the cause of Marquis Ito's hasty return to Japan. Some are inclined to suppose that his return is the result of a special message from the Imperial Household; others imagine that it is based on the request of political colleagues; still others assert that in the course of his tour in Europe the Marquis was deeply struck with certain diplomatic questions which seemed to him of great import to Japan, and therefore resolved to return. Which of these suppositions, or assertions, is the true explanation of the situation?

Baron.—As to the first of those conjectures, it is impossible to ascertain the truth. I have never heard of any Imperial message having been transmitted to the Marquis. So far as the present state of affairs is concerned, it is hardly possible to suppose that the political friends of the Marquis should have refrained from writing to him during his sojourn in Europe. Yet

I do not think their communication was the principal cause of his return. The suggestion of a diplomatic crisis also seems to have no relation to the Marquis' homeward journey, though the public appear apt to think that it might have been the cause. It is beyond question, however, that he has obtained the views of foreign politicians with regard to the policy pursued by the present Cabinet. With respect to the late Hawaiian affair in particular, Americans who appear to have become apprehensive of Japan's expansion of power after the war with China were seriously offended by the despatch of a war vessel to the little Republic. The Marquis seems to have devoted some pains to explaining to Americans the absence of any aggressive spirit on the part of Japan. I have not yet ascertained the Marquis' opinion, yet I believe he will not proceed, as the public had imagined, so far as to lay all the problems before the Emperor by way of furnishing materials for adverse criticism of the present Cabinet, although he is on the whole opposed to the policy carried on at present.

Rep.—Rumour has it that the Marquis' sudden return is only preparatory to the restoration of the old Cabinet, to which men of the highest merit only are to be admitted. What do you say to that?

Bar.—The Marquis will certainly not be so ill-advised as to coöperate and share political responsibility with the existing Cabinet, which has committed, and is still committing, blunder upon blunder, and bungling upon bungling. Do you not see that the single attempt to transfer Mr. Arai to the post of Superintendent of the Formosan Affairs Bureau is sufficient proof of the corruption of official organisation. The pernicious results arising from the adoption of gold monometallism, the strange system of selecting men of talent, the lack of unity among the members of the Cabinet,—these are things unworthy to be commented upon owing to the anomalies they involve. To coöperate with such a Cabinet is impossible. The present Cabinet is something like an over-ripened persimmon, on the point of decay, destined to fall to the ground in the course of time without being plucked. The Marquis is fully sensible of these facts, and will not allow himself to be plunged into the vortex of corruption.

Rep.—Mr. Hoshi, Minister to America, is also preparing for his homeward journey. Is that the result of the Marquis' communication, as is supposed by the public?

Bar.—I cannot make a definite reply as I have not any accurate information on the subject. Yet I suppose he may be unable to do anything satisfactory under Count Okuma's diplomatic instructions. His determination to return is quite reasonable.

COAL SUPPLY.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* states that the number of specially chartered coal mines in Chikuzen and Buzen reaches 437, covering an area of 76,823,881 *tsubo*. These figures indicate a decrease of 15 mines, but an increase of 616,137 *tsubo* as compared with last year. A slow but steady development of the enterprise is shown while the annual output is also increasing. In the 28th year of *Meiji* (1895) the output of coal amounted to 5,150,000,000 catties, showing an increase of over 350 millions as compared with the figures for the previous year. There are sixty-seven mines producing more than fifty million catties each. The Miike mine is the most important, with an annual output of over one hundred million catties. Next come Namagata, Akaike, Takao, Katsuno, Oshiro, Otsuji, and a few other districts, each yielding one hundred millions. The statistics for three years are as follow:—

Year.	Mines.	Area.	Catties.
		<i>Tsubo</i> .	
1893	208	66,131,735	3,554,140,844
1894	452	70,662,884	4,807,258,086
1895	437	76,823,881	5,257,578,739

The figures for last year are said to have decreased a little as compared with the previous year, the total output not exceeding five hundred millions.

Senior Lisboa, the new Brazilian Minister to Japan, arrived here on Sunday last, with his wife, son and two daughters, by the *Empress of Japan*, and proceeded on to Tokyo, where the Minister and his family have taken up their quarters temporarily at the Imperial Hotel.

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR REGULATIONS.

The following regulations were promulgated on the 1st instant with regard to the special appointment of Diplomatic Agents, Consuls, and Commercial Commissioners:—

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 290.

Art. I.—Student Secretaries of the Foreign Department who have served more than five years in a Legation, Consulate, or Commercial Commissioner's Office, and have received in remuneration a salary of the third class, may, within three years after the enforcement of these Regulations, be appointed Diplomatic Agents, after passing the examination set by the Committee established for the examination of Diplomatic and Consular Agents.

Art. II.—First and Second Interpreters in Legations who have continued in office for more than two years, within three years after the enforcement of these Regulations, and after passing the examination set by the Committee for Diplomatic and Consular Agents, may be appointed Consuls or Diplomatic Agents or Commercial Commissioners to countries other than those in which they have previously discharged duties.

Art. III.—Secretary-Translators of the Foreign Department who have rendered services for more than three years may also, within the term and process above specified, be appointed Diplomatic or Consular Agents or Commercial Commissioners.

Art. IV.—Any Diplomatic Agent or Consul who has served in a Legation or Consulate more than two years previously to the promulgation of Imperial Ordinance No. 187 of the 26th year of *Meiji*, respecting the appointment of Diplomatic and Consular Agents, and Student Secretaries, may, with the approval of the Examination Committee, be promoted to the rank of Diplomatic Agent, Consul, or Commercial Commissioner.

Art. V.—Any Diplomatic Agent, Consul, or Commercial Commissioner who has been appointed to a post in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 188 of the 26th year of *Meiji*, providing for the special appointment of Consular Agents, or in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 182 of the 29th year of *Meiji*, or in accordance with these Regulations, may be transferred from one post to another within the three offices above mentioned.

MARQUIS ITO'S RETURN.

Marquis Ito and suite arrived at Yokohama on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock by the P. C. steamer *Empress of India*. The Marquis landed very soon after the steamer came to anchor and left Yokohama Station at 4.55 p.m. for Shinagawa, where he and suite alighted and proceeded to his residence at Isarago, Shiba. Among those who received and welcomed the Marquis at the hatoba were Count Okuma, Count Inouye, Viscount Yoshikawa, Mr. Komura, Vice-Minister of the Foreign Office, Lieut.-General Kodama, Vice-Minister of War, Baron Suyematsu, Baron Ito and many others. The Marquis appeared to be in excellent health and spirits.

VARIOUS TOPICS.

The Report of the Agricultural Commission shows that it is a mistake to attribute the agricultural depression in Great Britain to bad seasons. The seasons, with few exceptions, have been good since 1882. The real cause is the progressive and serious decline in the prices of farm produce. The general conclusions arrived at are:—

1. That as regards grain the price of the three staple cereals during the last 20 years has fallen over 40 per cent., in the case of wheat alone 50 per cent. 2. That the price of beef in the same period has fallen from 24 to 40 per cent., according to quality, and that of mutton since 1882 84 from 20 to 30 per cent. 3. That wool has fallen in price upwards of 50 per cent. since 1882-84. 4. That, as regards dairy produce, the fall in the prices of milk, butter, and cheese has approached 30 per cent. 5. That potatoes have declined at least 20 to 30 per cent. in price. 6. That fluctuating as are the prices of hops, they have nevertheless tended to fall to an unprofitable level. "One of the gravest features," the Commissioners say, "of the depreciation which has been so manifest in the course of prices of agricultural produce

during the period under review has been its persistency."

For this depreciation the Commissioners appear to think that foreign competition is chiefly responsible, and although they are of opinion that the United States, owing to its rapidly growing population, may soon have less produce to export, they see in Argentina, "with her immense area of virgin soil, her climatic and other natural conditions, cheap labour, and artificial stimulus arising from monetary causes," a serious source of menace. In fact they can perceive "no near prospect of any permanent abatement in the pressure of foreign competition."

With reference to the denunciation of England's commercial treaty with Germany, *The Times* says:—

Canada, as our readers will remember, did not offer anything specifically and exclusively to this country. What she offered was offered to all the world, but upon conditions which practically only this country, with one or two of her colonies or dependencies, is at all likely to satisfy. The offer is a reduction of the tariff, amounting to 12½ per cent. this year and 25 per cent. afterwards, upon the goods of all countries disposed to give equal advantages to Canadian goods. As we place no duties upon Canadian or any other goods, with the exception of a very few articles excepted from the Canadian conditions, it follows that the reduction will be enjoyed by our exporters without doubt or question. Canada resorted to this mode of operation in order to facilitate acceptance of the boon by this country without regard to existing treaties. But were other countries to aim at sharing in the discount off the Canadian tariff, it is possible that troublesome questions of degree would have to be dealt with under such an arrangement. It would not always be easy to compare different tariffs in such a manner as to decide when reciprocal advantages reach the equality which is the condition of Canadian relaxation. By terminating in due form the treaties which stand in the way, we relieve Canada of the necessity for the ingenious arrangement just described. As soon as these treaties expire Canada will be perfectly free to give to this country specifically and exclusively whatever tariff reductions she may find convenient. At the same time it will become far more easy than at present for any colony to follow her example without in the least committing itself to reduction of duties all round. Commercial treaties have never been satisfactorily reconciled with pure free trade theory, but abstract objections of that kind need not be allowed very much weight as against practical convenience. In view, however, of a commercial Imperial federation the balance of practical convenience falls the other way. By denouncing the German treaty we secure to our colonies a freedom of fiscal arrangement which has hitherto been under some restraint.

The annual meeting of the British Association was opened in Toronto on August 18th, Lord Aberdeen presided and welcomed the delegates. Mayor Shaw then made an eloquent address of welcome which was responded to by Lord Lister and Sir John Evans, who spoke of Canada's recent exhibition of loyalty to Britain. Lord Kelvin also spoke, as did Mr. Hardy in behalf of the Province, and Hon. Mr. Ross spoke in the evening, when Massey Hall had an audience of 1,200, despite the heavy rain. Lord and Lady Aberdeen and Sir Oliver Mowat were present. Lord Lister, as the retiring President, made a speech and surrendered the chair to Sir John Evans, who made an admirable address on the antiquity of man. Lord Aberdeen moved a vote of thanks, describing the members of the Association as the best immigration agents possible. The feature of the next day's proceedings was the delivery of addresses by the Presidents of Sections, and the Vice-regal reception in the evening. The Royal Canadian Yacht Club gave a garden party which was attended by nearly 1,000 guests, and the affair was one of the most brilliant ever held in this city. The Parliament buildings were brilliantly illuminated and handsomely decorated. The Vice-regal reception began at 9 o'clock p.m., and the Governor-General and his Countess were on their feet shaking hands till 11 o'clock p.m. On August 20th, Toronto University conferred the degree of LL.D. on Lord Kelvin and Lord Lister, Sir J. Evans and the Hon. A. S. Handy. At the meeting of the Association at night, Mr.

Roberts, Director of the Mint, lectured on "Canada's metals." He held that England will turn to Canada as the newest colony for the supply of metals on which the prosperity of the Empire depends. He described the gold mining industry in Canada, and noted as the reason for its slow progress that mining districts cannot be opened freely until proper railway facilities are obtained. He enlarged on the importance of iron and steel production and, by experiments showing the effect of nickel on steel, showed the immense importance of Canada's nickel deposits.

A representative of the *Neue Freie Presse* obtained an interview with Marquis Ito when the latter was in Vienna. "The Japanese statesman was asked, among other things, whether he believed that England's power in Asia was declining, as was so frequently asserted nowadays, and whether Russia, which thwarted victorious Japan at Shimonoeki, threatened to become preponderant in the Further East. In reply, the Marquis said that he had conversed with Lord Salisbury and other leading statesmen in London, but saw no sign of any apprehension on their part as to England's position in Asia. He himself was not at all disposed to think that Russia would soon get ahead of England. So far as Japan was concerned, the English flag floated in all their harbours and the trade of other nations was of secondary importance compared with that of England. In answer to the question whether Japan felt any anxiety as to the pressure which Russia was now bringing to bear upon China, the Marquis said that it would be a mistake to suppose that China could ever become a field for the exclusive exploitation of Russia. She would always have to reckon with English competition from Burma, as well as that of France from Tongking. He was convinced that the problem of the future would be the struggle of England and France against Russian influence in China. Referring to the enthusiastic reception accorded to Li Hung-chang in Berlin last summer and the comparative neglect of the Japanese Moliike, Marshal Yamagata, who visited the German capital at the same time, Marquis Ito said that it was believed in Berlin that China would, out of gratitude, open its markets to German industry. He did not believe that this would be the case. China would never voluntarily permit access to her markets. These could only be conquered by force. The day might come when the Powers would decide to apply that force without which China would never open her gates to civilization. His Excellency declared that the newspapers had exaggerated the differences between the United States and Japan, which, he said, need cause no uneasiness whatever. The conversation was carried on in the English language, which the ex-Premier had learnt in England as a student. He concluded his remarks by stating that he never regretted having recommended his country to follow the example of Europe, although he had been decried as a revolutionist for doing so. "But then I was born for revolution," exclaimed the Japanese statesman."

Lord Kelvin has written a letter to *The Times* on the subject of the recent death of a lady from fire caused by the explosion of inflammable hair-wash with which her hair was being treated by a London hair-dresser. The principal ingredient of the wash was petroleum, and it is a Paris concoction. Lord Kelvin says:—

As a warning that may possibly be useful in preventing the recurrence of any such terrible accident as that which recently happened through the ignition of an inflammable hair-wash, it ought to be generally known that the faintest electric spark suffices to ignite an inflammable mixture of a combustible gas with air. This is illustrated in elementary lectures on electricity by "Volta's cannon"—a little varnished brass gun, mounted on a glass pillar, and having a wide touch-hole plugged with sealing wax, in the centre of which is mounted a brass wire carrying a little brass knob outside and projecting inside to within 1-20th of an inch of the end of another brass wire fixed to the metal of the gun. The gun is filled with an explosive mixture of oxygen and hydrogen, and its muzzle is plugged with a cork. The

varnished outside is struck with a piece of cat-skin, and, thus electrified, the gun is left insulated on its glass pillar. To fire it, all that is necessary is to touch the projecting knob with the finger. This causes discharge of the electricity by two exceedingly faint sparks, one barely, if at all, perceptible by the finger before contact with the knob outside, the other in the 1-20th of an inch air space within the explosive mixture inside. A loud explosion is heard, and the cork is projected with sufficient violence to tear a canvas picture if it chanced to touch one.

Ignition of vapour of benzine by electric spark is well known to dyers in their process for cleaning silks and other fabrics by boiling in large cauldrons of liquid benzine. When the goods are taken out of the cauldron and spread out to dry on a table explosions have often taken place; and I believe it is quite certain that an electric spark, caused by some slight friction between dried or partially dried portions of the fabric, is the incendiary. We all know how readily electric sparks, visible in the dark, and perceptible to the ear by slight crackling sounds, are produced by drawing a hand over very dry hair or the teeth of a comb through it.

In the recent inquest it was stated that the merit of the hair-wash was that it dried so readily. The hairdresser said he felt the hair warm in his hand and immediately after that all was enveloped in flames. The fact that the hair seemed warm to the hand was due, not to the beginning of some kind of spontaneous combustion, as must, I believe, have been imagined by many readers of the report. It showed merely that the part of the hair touched had quickly become dry. Very slight friction of the hand on the dry hair would suffice to produce an electric spark; and the explosive atmosphere of air mixed with combustible vapour, from the portions of the hair not yet dry, was there. The conclusion of the inquest shows that no gas was burning in the neighbourhood, and that no lucifer matches were lying about on the floor which could have been ignited by being trodden on. A gas flame within a yard or two of the place would certainly have been dangerous, but far less apt to produce the disaster than an electric spark from the hair in the very place of greatest liability to the presence of an explosive mixture.

CHINESE TOPICS.

The inexorable indiscriminating law of China, which condemns a parricide to death by the slicing process, whether he be the perpetrator of a wilful crime or the victim of an accident, is terribly illustrated by a case now vexing the souls of humane folk in Shanghai. A little lad of eleven, swinging some article about his head in play, happened to strike his mother a blow, from the effects of which she died. The boy is to be sliced to death by the public executioner. A correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* asks whether something can not be done. It is probably now too late, but certainly any Foreign Representative who urged the Chinese Government to pause before permitting such a horror, would be acting a friendly part to China and doing his duty as a man. The Emperor's prerogative of pardon could not be exercised on a worthier occasion. The thing is shocking in its grim barbarity.

It appears that none of the materials for constructing the Shanghai-Woosung Railway are to be procured from England. The sleepers are to come from America; so are the locomotives, the American Trading Company having contracted to supply Brooks tank locomotives; Germany sends the iron bridges; the rails are to be furnished from the Iron and Steel Works at Hanyang; and the carriages will be built at the Government workshop in Tientsin. In connexion with this subject, we should like to learn from the *N.-C. Daily News* whence it obtained the information that "Brooks tank locomotives have been adopted by all the Japanese Government lines." That is a gross blunder. Ninety-nine per cent. of the engines on the Japanese State lines are English. We suggest to our Shanghai contemporary the advisability of correcting a misstatement calculated to mislead the Chinese, to the detriment of British manufacturers.

The silver mines said to exist in the Feng-hwa district of Ningpo, are to be opened despite

the opposition offered by the people. It has been discovered that the opposition was fomented by three licentiate, who probably wanted to be bought off. They have been cashiered. But this is surely a strange time for opening silver mines. Now that the Emperor of China has given permission for the opening of all mines within his realm, there seems to be an access of activity in that direction. A certain Mr. Sieh, who has spent 60 years travelling about his native country, is reported to have found a rich deposit of copper in Hunan, and to have obtained official aid for exploiting it. Attempts to mine for gold in Manchuria, however, have not been successful, but the failure appears to have been due chiefly to incompetence and dishonesty.

The splendid conservatism of the Chinese is illustrated by a recent decree of the Emperor. There is to be an eclipse of the sun on the 22nd of next January. The Board of Astronomy in Peking informed the Sovereign of the fact and could of course explain the exact cause and inevitable character of such events. But in the dark eras of ignorance it used to be imagined that an eclipse of the sun was heaven's method of warning the ruling prince that he lacked wisdom or morality. The Emperor accepts the warning. He declares that he is "filled with a great fear," and that he has "tried during his moments of leisure to inwardly question himself as to the errors he has committed." Accordingly, his Majesty commands that, "as a token of humility and submission to the will of heaven," the New-Year's-day ceremonies of congratulation paid to him are to be held in a hall the name of which signifies "clearing the political atmosphere." The other steps to be taken are these:—

The annual banquet given to the clansmen of the Imperial House on the day in question is also ordered to be discontinued for that year, while every one belonging to the Court is commanded to put on sober, every-day garments, while the eclipse is in evidence, instead of the gorgeous full dress Court robes demanded by etiquette on the first day of the year. The Court will then assemble in the Inner Palace where an altar to heaven will be erected, i.e. facing the open air, before which the Emperor and his full Court will prostrate themselves "to beseech the mercy of High Heaven to his chosen people." With regard, however, to the ceremonies to be observed when congratulating the Empress Dowager, the Emperor commands that the usual etiquette be observed at the Tzenging Palace, "for as they are to be paid to one senior to the Emperor, High Heaven will not be displeased at this display of Imperial pomp, being really an expression of his filial piety."

It is reported from Weihai that anti-foreign placards are once more posted in that district. The story told in these documents now takes the form that persons with hypnotic power go about drawing men, women and children to follow them, whose eyes and hearts they remove for sale to foreigners. The placard represents Tientsin as a centre of such iniquities.

GERMAN NEWS.

M. Rochefort certainly out-did himself in connexion with the prosecution of the *Mechverst*, the Paris organ of the Young Turkey party. Being cited as a witness, he excused himself by a telegram from the seaside, adding that the Ottoman Government had attempted a vast system of corruption, and that he had received a visit from a representative of the Sultan who had offered him money, assuring him that he would be in good company—namely, with diplomatists and with the Emperor William, who had received six millions.

The official statement of the Imperial German finances for the financial year 1896-97 was published on July 30th by the *Imperial Gazette*. The total expenditure amounts to 1,995,700 marks less than was anticipated in the Budget. This was effected in the main by a decrease of 4,372,000 marks in the estimated outlay for the army, and of 3,637,000 marks in the amount required for the Imperial Debt, while addition-

al sums over and above the estimates were only required to the extent of 454,000 marks for the navy, 1,973,000 marks for the Colonial Department of the Foreign Office—required for administration purposes in German South-West Africa—of 1,000,000 marks for the Ministry of the Interior, and 1,131,000 marks for the postal and telegraphic service, together with other smaller sums. The revenue receipts represent an increase of 76,471,145 marks over the estimated amount, the Customs and tobacco-tax having alone brought in 78,000,000 marks more than was provided for in the Budget. After deducting 50,000,000 marks, which, according to the Law of March 29 of this year, is the sum to be devoted for diminishing the Imperial Debt, the financial statement for the year 1896-97 shows a total surplus of 28,467,115 marks.

The Berlin correspondent of *The Times*, writing under date August 4th, says:—

"The trend of German policy has been for some time past to curtail favour more and more with Russia, and it has been noted with some degree of complacency that the former misunderstandings between the two Empires have been entirely removed since the accession of the Emperor Nicholas II. The cultivation of good relations between the two neighbouring States is prompted by reasons of cool and calculating diplomacy and by considerations of a unitarian policy. It is recognized in Germany, however, that the emotions and sentiment which gave rise to scenes such as were enacted of late in Cronstadt, Toulon, and Paris must ever be lacking in friendship between Russia and Germany. Whenever personal feelings are allowed to play a part in Russo-German relations they must invariably exercise an unfavourable tendency.

The short interval of time between the visit of the German Emperor to the Russian Court and that of President Faure is the subject of some discussion in the German Press. The comments, however, do not agree in endeavouring to ascertain the precise bearing of the facts. In the view of a somewhat sensitive journal, the *éclat* of the Emperor William's visit may possibly be overshadowed by the subsequent presence of M. Faure, in much the same way as the "Huchs" of the "Kaiser days" at Breslau were drowned by the Parisian hymns of triumph. But to the *Bismarckian Hamburger Nachrichten*, the rapidity with which the visit of the French President follows upon that of the German Emperor is a matter of importance. "A Franco-Russo-German co-operation," it says, "such as we have seen in the Far East, is not removed beyond the bounds of all possibility, in spite of the continuance of the old 'revenge relations' between Germany and France, especially as such a co-operation is rendered more possible by the antagonism between Russia and England in the East." The *Vossische Zeitung*, while understanding why the Russian Press is full of M. Faure's visit but practically ignores the immediate arrival of the Emperor William, considers that "President Faure's visit casts no shadows before and will be followed by no results. The friendship of centuries between Berlin and St. Petersburg may well be subject to passing clouds, but these cannot do away with the community of interest of the two neighbouring States. The present disturbances in the East, especially, have proved that the political interests of both countries move in the same direction—the maintenance of the peace of Europe."

The facts about the shooting of a prisoner by his escort in Danzig appear to be these:—"A young fellow, by trade a locksmith, but a recognized ne'er-do-well, was arrested for trespassing on the Imperial dockyards and trying to stab some workmen who attempted to remove him. As he was being escorted through the public streets on the way to the main guard-house he attempted to escape. The soldier in charge called upon him three times to stop, and then, at a distance estimated at 80 paces, shot him through the head. The ball passed clean through the skull, penetrated an iron notice board a short distance off, and finally buried itself some four inches in the stone wall of the guard-house. These facts can, apparently, be vouched for. According to supplementary versions, the street was fairly crowded at the time, and the soldier had to level his rifle twice before being sure of hitting his man and not someone else. In the present instance, though the occurrence has made no small stir, especially among

the inhabitants of Danzig, the comments in the Press are couched in perfectly sober terms. They are, therefore, the more likely to carry weight with them. The past history of the unfortunate young man precludes much personal sympathy, and it is recognized that the soldier acted strictly within the limits of his orders. But the facts of the case, it is argued, provide material for serious reflection. Not every soldier in the German Army could be relied upon to shoot as accurately as the hero of the present incident, and somebody else's head might well have been where the notice-board and the pillar were. A similar occurrence took place some years ago in Berlin which led to an interpellation in the Imperial Diet and a resolution condemning the use of firearms by soldiers for such purposes. The military authorities, however, would appear to have taken but little notice of the wishes of the country. It is, therefore, scarcely to be wondered that a feeling of bitterness is fostered against those who are responsible for the military regulations, when some simple precaution, such as the conveyance of prisoners through the public thoroughfares in closed vehicles, is omitted. The military spirit is strong in Germany, but on occasions like the present it cannot prevent outbursts of indignation that such a slight misdemeanour as that of which the young locksmith is guilty should be visited with the penalty of death." A joint military and civil commission was appointed to investigate the matter.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Sir Nicholas Hannen has joined his family at Hakone.

The Hongkong players have resigned both games in the cable chess match with Singapore. The victors must be congratulated upon their success.

A Japanese well-cleaner lost his life at Arima last week, being overcome by the gases that had accumulated at the bottom of a well. His companion had a narrow escape.

Capt. Kane, who commanded the British warship *Calliope* at Samoa in 1889, has been obliged through ill-health to give up his appointment at the Admiralty as director of Naval Ordnance.

We hear that Kobe's latest weekly paper—the *Kackling Kagmag*, *Kataphracted Kidney-bean*, or *Kalm Kritik*—has not survived the perils of extreme infancy, expiring last week without a struggle.

Kobe's sporting wit is proverbially keen and to the point. We note that the Canoe and Dinghy Club has just inaugurated another series of short distant races for members for a trophy that will be known as "The Growlers' Prize."

The last news from Malakand contained in Indian papers was that the Ranizari, from the Khar downwards, were sending in begging for peace. That was considered important as the tribe is one of the largest in the Lower Swat Valley.

In the race for the Mosquito fleet on Saturday *Nandeska* finished some minutes ahead of *Sodeska*, but as there was some error in the taking of the time, it was decided by the respective captains—subject to the approval of the officer of the day—to sail the race over again.

A correspondent writes to the *Singapore Free Press* suggesting the creation of a Gambling Farm for the Straits Settlements, urging that an annual saving to the Colony of \$150,000 would be effected. This sum would help to relieve the Colony from the burden of the Military Contribution.

The Austrian Government have placed a contract with Messrs. Yarrow & Co., of Poplar, for four first-class torpedo boats of the improved *Viper* type. As the result of exhaustive experiments, the Austrian Government have determined to fit the Yarrow boilers in the cruiser building at Pola. It will be of 8,000 horse-power. There

will be eight boilers in all, having 2,500 ft. of heating surface each.

It is reported, says the Korean *Independent*, that the new Prime Minister considers that it is necessary for the welfare of the country to have three Prime Ministers in the Government. Besides himself he proposes to have a Prime Minister for the Right and another for the Left, according to the customs of the happy old days.

The body of a sailor was picked up in Nagasaki harbour on the 3rd inst. and conveyed to the Water Police Station, where it was identified as William Montgomery, a seaman from the U.S.S. *Yorktown*. The deceased deserted his vessel on the night of the 1st inst. by jumping overboard, and it is supposed that he was drowned in endeavouring to reach the shore.

A pretty severe earthquake shock was experienced in Yokohama at about 11.50 a.m. on Wednesday. There appeared to be three distinct motions: first, a trembling or vibration of the earth, then a rather sharp perpendicular jerk upwards, followed by a horizontal shake from west to east of about a minute's duration. The shock was almost immediately followed by thunder.

Golden Hind won the "Maid Marion Cup" on Saturday; *Spray* being second, and *Mary* third. *Isabel* won the 17-raters race. The 12-raters had a rough time of it in the gusty weather, one, the *Botchan*, being capsized and precipitating the brothers Irwine into the water. She was towed on shore and righted. *Susume* had her sailed badly ripped. *Chocho* won the race.

Last Summer a foreign resident found a purse containing one yen and eighty five sen in small coins and as there was no clue to the owner he handed it to the Bluff Police station. The affair was forgotten until Tuesday, when a policeman called at his house with the purse and contents and a message from the Inspector saying that as they had failed to find the owner they returned the purse to the finder—and would he please sign a receipt.

The following items are taken from the Straits papers:—Over \$185,650 were spent on new barracks in Singapore last year.—Dissatisfaction is being expressed at Penang with the working of the Registration Department.—On silver coin the Straits Government, last year, made a profit of \$13,732; on copper coin \$85,443.—The total military expenditure for the Straits in 1896 was \$900,189.84—so exact are the accounts kept!

The author of "The Mikado's Empire" is fully sustaining his reputation as an ardent investigator, indefatigable worker, and prolific writer. At present he is putting the finishing touches to a student's edition of Motley's "Dutch Republic," reducing the original text by one-half, and adding a historical sketch of his own of the Dutch people from 1585 to 1897. He has also begun a little book to be entitled, "The Pilgrims in their Three Homes."

The sailing vessel *John Baisley* arrived at Shanghai on Sunday, the 22nd ult., after a fifteen days' trip from Nagasaki, says the *Daily Press*. When five days out and only about sixty miles from the Saddle, she met the full force of the recent typhoon and was driven out to sea again. During the gale the topgallantmast was blown off, the fore-top mast also split, after which it took her ten days to make port. The crew escaped without injuries and are all well.

Mr. Playfair held a Board of Trade Inquiry at the British Consulate, Kobe, on Wednesday touching the death of John Macgonigle, late Second Officer of the ship *Royledale*. Captain McCann produced his ship's log showing the circumstances, so far as he knew them. The accident happened on May 20th in stormy weather. A heavy sea was running in which no boat could live, and he last saw the deceased on top of the life-boat skids; when told that the man was overboard nothing could be done. Wallace Roach, A.B., described the shipping of three

heavy seas in succession; the deceased jumped on the rail, holding the main-shrouds, and from there to the skids to avoid the water. He did not see him washed overboard, but saw a cap in the water and rushed aft to give the alarm. Mr. Playfair entered a finding in accordance with the evidence.

The funeral of the late Mr. C. G. Buchanan Dunlop took place on Sunday afternoon, the remains having been cremated at Ikao, and the ashes sent down to Yokohama, on Saturday evening. The service at Christ Church, conducted by Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, was largely attended and many friends of the deceased followed the ashes to their last resting place, in spite of the inclemency of the weather.

Statistics compiled from reports presented by various cities and prefectures to the Temporary Epidemic Inspection Bureau, on the 1st instant, as published in the *Tokyo Asahi*, show the total number of cases of dysentery throughout the empire to have been 35,400 cases and 6,613 deaths. The districts where more than 40 new cases occurred on the 1st inst. were as follow:

	New cases.	Deaths.		New cases.	Deaths.
Tokyo	220	17	Gumma	207	24
Saitama	64	16	Hiogo	45	9
Niigata	74	3	Yamanashi ..	91	2
Yamaguchi ..	48	8			

We observe that Mrs. Ayrton read a paper on "Certain points connected with the Electric Arc," at the meeting of the British Association in Toronto; and that Professor Ayrton and Mr. J. Mather read one on "The use of a constant Total Current Shunt with Ballistic Galvanometers," and another on "Short versus Long Period Galvanometers for very sensitive Zero Tests." Professor J. Milne read a paper on "Submarine Earthquakes," and delivered one of the three public lectures, his subject being "Earthquakes and Volcanoes."

In the Half-mile Amateur Swimming Championship, which was contested at Southport, on July 31st, Percy Cavill, the Sydney swimmer, and eight others competed. Derbyshire, the English champion, and Cavill took the lead at the start, and at the half-distance Derbyshire, led by twelve yards, the time being 6min. 35sec. Towards the finish Green swam stroke for stroke with Cavill, but the latter swerved, and Derbyshire won the race by fifteen yards. Time, 13min. 38sec. There was a fine race between Cavill and Green for second place, and the latter won by a clever touch at the post.

The *New York Times*, writing on August 12th said—Secretary Sherman's bad condition of health and mind is no longer concealed, even by his friends. Yesterday Mr. Sherman made an absolute denial of all interviews concerning Senator Canovas' assassination that appeared in the newspapers on Monday morning. He seems to remember none of the occurrences of Sunday night, when he brought his chair out on the front stoop, and newspaper men gathered around him, and he gave out a variety of interviews. The Secretary's condition is painful to his friends. A physical collapse at any time would create no surprise.

The *Osaka Asahi* says that 222 contract labourers raised by the Japan Immigration Co. were despatched to Hawaii by the *City of Peking*. A second party, also contracted for through the same Company, are to leave by the *Doric* on the 10th instant. The party will consist of 135 men and 133 women, making a total of 268. Other contract labourers, 900 in all, enlisted by the Hiroshima Transpacific Immigration Company, are to be sent to Hawaii in two parties by steamers sailing from Yokohama on the 5th and 10th October. Another party of 300 will also be despatched on the 2nd of next month.

The tea trade for the latter half of last month in Yokohama was somewhat stagnant, says the *Tokyo Shimbun*. Yet owing to the scarcity of stock and an insignificant amount of arrivals from the manufacturing districts, native dealers displayed great firmness, particularly as a favourable report from America naturally

raised values to a considerable extent. It is said that, on the average, prices this year are three dollars higher than ever before. Arrivals and sales for the period under notice amounted to 1,400,080 and 1,233,000 catties respectively, the remaining stock being 385,600 catties. The following comparative table gives the figures since the opening of the tea season till the 31st August in 1896 and 1897:—

	1897. Catties.	1896. Catties.
Arrivals.....	19,106,400	19,053,100
Sales	18,720,800	19,399,600
Stock	385,600	653,500

The *Temps* says:—"If the British union were to be carried out, France would find herself in a singularly humble position as regards trade, for France could not count on her colonies for many years, and meanwhile what would become of France's trade and agriculture? Such, according to the *Temps*, is the peril, and it talks of the grave problems which are arising over the threshold of the 20th century. It is simply a question of life or death for France." These remarks, it should be added, refer to the possibility that England's denunciation of her treaty with Germany precludes the adoption of a protective policy.

The industrial mania, remarks the *Shogyo*, seems to have subsided. Many of the unsubstantial companies recently formed have disappeared leaving no trace of their existence. Yet the newly organised companies and the capital invested in commercial, industrial, and agricultural undertakings since January this year have reached the following figures.—

	Companies.	Capitals. Yen.
January	85	12,509,270
February	65	11,763,100
March	142	13,808,700
April	99	11,222,200
May	116	25,513,300
June	136	23,735,800
July	151	16,664,550
Total.....	794	115,166,920

On Sunday morning an accident which unhappily resulted fatally, occurred on the U.S. flagship *Olympia*. An apprentice named Otto Youghman, 16 years of age, was engaged fixing a cover over a hatchway when he fell through the grating on to a platform, breaking one or more of his ribs and receiving some internal injuries. The sufferer was conveyed to the U.S. Naval Hospital, where he expired shortly after 1 p.m. Deceased was buried on Monday morning with naval honours, some fifty blue-jackets, a firing party and the ship's band, under Lieut. Upham, forming the funeral cortege. The burial service was conducted by the Chaplain of the *Olympia*.

A report of the transactions of the various banks throughout the empire for the first half of the 30th year of *Meiji*, as published in the *Shogyo*, shows a decrease of 27,366,100 yen in capital, 18,846,558 yen in profits, 16,524,470 yen in reserves, and 1,763,920 yen in dividends, as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of the previous year. Special reserves alone increased by 377,965 yen, while the rate of dividends decreased on the average 5.3 per cent. The following are the figures:—

	30th year. Yen.	29th year. Yen.
Capital.....	{ Original	21,490,000
	{ Increased	30,000
Profits.....	25,549,855	21,308,514
Loss.....	16,904	163
Reserves	657,788	800,959
Special reserves ..	618,069	271,693
Dividends.....	{ On original shares ..	1,844,818
	{ On increased shares ..	1,510
Average rate of dividend.....	3.395%	3.333%

In the year 1887, says the *Daily Press*, Hongkong contracted a gold loan of £200,000, which realised \$1,263,158. In 1893 another gold loan of £200,000 was contracted, which realised \$1,536,000. Altogether the colony has borrowed \$2,799,158, and after paying back £60,000, say \$370,000, it owes at the present time about \$3,800,000. The case is something like that of the Dock Company and its Admiralty loan: the Company goes on steadily paying off the loan year by year according to

agreement, but year by year the amount it owes continues to increase, and according to the statement of the Chairman of the Company at the meeting the other day, the Government declines to receive payment at once of the whole sum due in sterling and thus allow the Company to clear itself of further loss.

According to the *Shogyo*, arrivals of silk in Yokohama during the three months, from June 1st, the beginning of the silk season, to August 31st this year, amounted to 29,985 bales, showing a decrease of about forty per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of the year before last, but an increase of forty-six per cent. as compared with last year. The following are the figures:—

Classification.	1897 Bales.	1896 Bales.	Increase or decrease. Bales.
Flatures.....	21,412	15,743	+ 5,669
Zakuri.....	5,017	3,761	+ 1,256
Orikueshi.....	3,165	808	+ 2,357
Hanks.....	136	19	—6
Hamatsuki.....	362	85	+ 278
Miscellaneous..	16	16	—1
Total	29,985	22,540	+ 9,587

The *sake* tax, which, the *Nichi Nichi* remarks, was raised from four to seven *yen* per *koku* this year, is to be further increased to ten *yen* next year. The following is the amount produced by the tax during this and last year:—

Tax.	1897— <i>Yen</i> .	1896— <i>Yen</i> .
<i>Sake</i> brewing	28,603,840	17,158,239
Mixed <i>Sake</i>	40,939	26,085
<i>Sake</i> for domestic use	1,176,096	790,032
<i>Sake</i> brewing licenses in Okinawa	2,976	3,000
<i>Sake</i> brewing licenses.....	—	430,510

Total

29,823,852	18,407,867
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If the tax on *sake* is really raised to ten *yen* per *koku*, the revenue may be increased by twelve million *yen*, but it must be noted, at the same time, that the brewing of *sake* for domestic use, amounting to some two million *koku* annually, must be prohibited, and that therefore a reduction of about one million *yen* will take place in the revenue from that source.

The increase or decrease of loans and discounts negotiated by the Bank of Japan indicates as a rule the general condition of the money market. The report of the 6th inst. published in the *Hochi*, places the amount of loans issued at 116,663,337 *yen* and of discounted bills at 36,214,202 *yen*. The Bank of Japan has published twenty reports since the 1st May, but none except that for the 1st showed a falling off in loans below 116 million *yen*. Since under the head of loans are also included the Government drafts with which the Bank is entrusted, the true condition of the money market can not always be ascertained from the amount of the transactions of the Bank. The discounts, however, represent capital absolutely thrown into circulation among the people, and yet these too appear to have fallen to 36,170,000 *yen* on the 31st July. Such a phenomenon was not known before, says our contemporary, and may be regarded as a result of the utter stagnation in the economic world.

Mr. N. W. McIvor, late Consul-General for the United States at this port, accompanied by Mrs. McIvor and family, left for home by the P.M. steamer *City of Peking* on Saturday morning. The large number of friends of all nationalities who assembled on the *batoba* to bid farewell and tender their best wishes for a pleasant voyage and future health and prosperity to Mr. and Mrs. McIvor, was a slight evidence of the esteem and affection in which the departing couple are held by all who have had the pleasure of their acquaintance. Among those present were a considerable number of ladies, nearly all the American community of Yokohama, including the whole Consular staff, the U.S. Consulate having been closed for the day; Mr. Nakano, Governor of Kanagawa, and Mrs. Nakano; representatives of the foreign Consulates, heads of the principal firms in the port, and members the Y.U. Club, etc. Mr.

and Mrs. McIvor with their charming little family arrived on the *batoba* shortly after 11 a.m., and after a cordial hand-shake with numerous friends and acquaintances, were conveyed in Admiral McNair's steam-launch on board the *City of Peking*, where other friends had also assembled to bid them good-bye. The launch put off from the *batoba* about 11.15, much to the disappointment of many friends who were expecting that the ex-Consul-General would not embark before 11.30. If good wishes can ensure happiness and prosperity, Mr. McIvor has a bright and happy future before him.

The *Sekai-no-Nippon* publishes statistics compiled by the Board of Police in Niigata prefecture showing the result of investigations in sixteen districts devastated by the inundations that occurred on the 13th July and on the 5th to the 8th August this year. According to these reports, the calamity seems to have extended over 676 villages, washing away more than 177 bridges, and causing 126 others to give way. Damages to rice and other fields are calculated to have extended over 37,220 *cho* and 11,691 *cho* respectively, irrespective of fields which were entirely inundated. The length of embankments damaged is enormous, being 112,177 *ken* in all, while roads were destroyed to the extent of 17,562 *ken*.

The *Chuo* states that the Municipal Council of Tokyo proposes to raise a loan of two million *yen*, in addition to ten millions previously contemplated, to be appropriated, together with three and a half millions set apart for the construction of roads and bridges, to the expenditure for the repairs to be made after the laying of iron water pipes, and for the alteration of public thoroughfares and municipal divisions. The completion of the Water Works being at hand, arrangements are now being made to levy a certain rate of fees for the supply of water. The scheme is expected to be a new source of revenue, part of which is of course to be appropriated for the redemption of the loans.

A monument to Daguerre, one of the fathers of photography, was recently unveiled at By-sur-Marne, where he died in 1851. Corneille-en-Parisis, where he was born in 1787, is not very far from the place of his death. He was a decorative painter, who, in default of work, took up with the panorama, and founded the diorama. In 1826 he joined with Niepce Saint-Victor to find a means of taking heliographs or pictures by sunlight, and in 1839 was shown the first photograph taken on a silver plate by Niepce Saint-Victor, a son of the former. The process was afterwards called Daguerreotype, after Daguerre, but although Daguerre supplied the means, and also assisted with his knowledge of chemistry, the discovery must be regarded as a joint one.

Concerning the success of the negotiations between England and the United States for a conference in October to regulate seal fishing in Behring Sea, *The Times* says:—

The only obstacle to the success of the negotiations has been the despatch of May 10, signed by Mr. Sherman, Secretary of State, which was inspired, it is believed, by Mr. Foster. We published a summary of that singular State paper in our issue of July 15th. The United States Government have, however, so far modified their views as to be content with the conference above described. Nothing beyond that has been proposed by the American Ambassador, and the negotiations have followed the course fore-shadowed in *The Times* of July 19th. Apart from the tone of Mr. Sherman's despatch there never was any real difficulty in the matter, both Governments being desirous to protect, so far as possible, a legitimate industry, and differing only as to the facts and the methods to be pursued. By next October the facts will have been more completely ascertained, and, when the conference shall have done its work, each Government will be in a position to decide whether further negotiations are necessary.

Some particulars of the accident that happened to No. 13 tunnel on the Itaya section of the O-u railway on the 31st ult. are now to hand. They are to the effect that while 21 labourers, including

several women, were engaged in piling up some bricks in the tunnel on the afternoon of the 31st, a large portion of the tunnel caved in suddenly, and the 21 workpeople were blocked within the tunnel, though not crushed to death. Upon information of the accident reaching the inspection bureau, a party of men was despatched and the work of digging out the sufferers commenced. One man and three women were extricated alive during the course of that afternoon. The following morning, about 4 o'clock, another man was dug out safely, and on further excavation two corpses were found. While the diggers were engaged excavating for the other buried persons cries for help reached the diggers' ears from far below, but the rescuers could not reach them for a long time, and it is believed that the remaining 14 must have perished underground.

The regulations for the re-inspection of leaf tobacco have been established as follows:—

Art. I.—Any person desirous of having the quality and classification of his leaf tobacco re-examined in accordance with the second clause of Art. IV. of the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly Law, shall present to the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly Office a written application stating the reasons for raising an objection to the result of the original inspection.

Art. II.—Whenever the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly Office has received an application for re-inspection, as mentioned in the foregoing Article, steps shall be taken to undertake the examination by more than two experts.

In the foregoing case at least one-half of the experts shall be chosen from among those other than members of the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly Office.

Art. III.—On the completion of the examination a statement containing the decision shall be delivered to the applicant.

According to the *Shogyo*, the stock of rice in Osaka at the end of August this year, compared with the amount on the 15th, was as follows:—

Rice.	End of August. <i>Koku</i> .	15th August. <i>Koku</i> .	Decrease. <i>Koku</i> .
Native.....	185,794	218,900	33,106
Foreign	45,779	46,197	418
Total	231,573	265,097	33,524

The figures for the corresponding period of each of the past three years are:—

Rice.	1897. <i>Koku</i> .	1896. <i>Koku</i> .	1895. <i>Koku</i> .
Native.....	185,794	587,341	193,443
Foreign	45,779	23,675	17,244
Total	231,573	611,016	210,687

The principal officials of the Tokyo Tramway Company held a meeting on the 7th inst. and decided to carry out the following:—1. A special general meeting of shareholders shall be convened on the 15th inst. at the Company's Office. 2. The following subjects of debate shall be submitted for the approval of the meeting:—

(a) A new programme specially prepared for altering the tramway into an electric railway shall be presented to the proper authorities.

(b) When permission has been obtained for the construction of an electric railway, the capital shall be increased by two million *yen* to meet the expenses of the work.

(c) With regard to the sum of 250,000 *yen* which still remains unpaid out of the capital of the company, the council of officials of the company shall be granted the right of fixing the date of payment.

(d) The period of settling accounts, now fixed for June and December, shall be altered to May and November.

The *Kobe Chronicle* on Thursday reported that in H.I.G.M.'s Court, before Mr. von Krencki sitting as Judge, and Messrs. H. O. Delacamp, M. W. Kocnen, E. Becker and H. Clement as assessors, W. Wernstedt was tried on a charge of fraud. It appeared from the evidence of the witnesses called—Messrs. McGlew, Fuselle and K. Saito—that on the 21st June the accused borrowed \$1,600 from Mr. A. E. McGlew, ostensibly to buy shells for his button-making business, but when Mr. McGlew demanded the goods as security, the defendant declared they were in Messrs. Winckler & Co.'s godowns, and offered instead his button-making machinery and stock-in-trade, which he valued at \$6,000. As a matter of fact, defendant had already given a

bill of sale on his machines, &c., to Mr. W. Velling against a loan of some \$1,500, of which about \$300 had been repaid. Defendant acknowledged that he had omitted to inform Mr. McGlew of the prior bill of sale, but could not remember having stated the value of his machines and stock-in-trade at \$6,000. Conclusive evidence having been given, and the defendant being found guilty of fraud, he implored the leniency of the Court. The Judge sentenced defendant to two months' imprisonment, to date from the day of his arrest, the costs of the case to be borne by the defendant.

In "Bishops of the Day," Mr. F. S. Lowndes has compiled "a biographical dictionary of the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England, and of all the Churches in communion therewith throughout the world." Mr. Lowndes draws attention to the extent to which bishops have been drawn from other professions than the clerical. The Archbishop of York and the Bishops of Colchester and St. Helena have held commissions in the Army, and the Bishops of Hull, Melbourne, East Carolina, North Carolina, and others, have been trained for the law, if they have not all practised as lawyers. Six bishops, it seems, are qualified and authorised to act as doctors of medicine.

In the course of his speech at the Hardwicke Society, when he led the debate on "The growing pretensions of the daily Press," Mr. Birrell alluded to Cardinal Newman's brother-in-law, the Rev. Thomas Mozley, "whose long connection with *The Times* was one of the most astounding facts in the history of the Press." The *Globe* hopes that it may be permitted to supplement this allusion with the following anecdote. Late in life Mozley went to see a publisher with a view to the issue of a book. The publisher, who was unaware of his client's antecedents, asked him in a somewhat cavalier fashion if he had ever published anything before, whereupon Mozley gently replied, "Two volumes of sermons and about 7,000 leaders in *The Times*."

Writing on August 11th, the *Pioneer* of Allahabad, said:—Regarding the Mohmand raid, the extraordinary thing is that the civil authorities at Peshawar should have disbelieved the reports which were sent in regarding the Hadda Mullah's intentions. The Hindu bunnias of Shankargarh had had information at least a week before-hand of the impending trouble, and several of them took the precaution of moving to Peshawar itself, while those who remained took refuge in the fort even before the Mohmands appeared. We probably have not heard the last of the Hadda Mullah, though his prestige must have been shaken by the defeat of the Mohmands. His proclamation, summoning all the tribes along the border to join in a *jehad*, has been circulated broadcast through Bajaur, Swat, the Black Mountain, Indus, Kohistan, and Khyber districts and southwards among the Afridis, Orakzai and Zainiakht clans. The local Afghan officials are said to have passed them on, and the Government of India may well insist on the Amir's bringing these men to account, for their action unquestionably has given rise to a feeling among the tribes that any rising would be welcome to the ruler of Afghanistan, whose recent pamphlets have given the mullahs a good text on which to preach. The *Pioneer* adds:—The Amir is responsible indirectly at any rate for much of the trouble on the north west border and it is about time for the Government of India to make this clear to His Highness.

According to the *Mainichi*, a charter was granted by the Government on the 30th ultimo, for the organisation of a company to be called the "Japan Social Life Insurance Company." The corporation is the first ever organised in Japan with the object of insuring social life. The company proposes to call up payment on its shares from the 5th to the 20th of this month and to commence business on the 1st October. In spite of the tightness of the

market at present the payments are expected to be made without any serious hindrance. The business of insuring social life in part appertains to ordinary life insurance, in which is included the insurance of funds for education and for the support of old age. The latter classes of business are now to be conducted by the new company, which is founded on plans which seem to work in Germany. America, too, is reported to abound with companies as above described. The programme is divided into four parts, viz:—(1) Insurance of funds for education and marriage. (2) Funds for the attainment of occupation. (3) Funds for subsistence in advanced years. (4) Funds for longevity. The first of the above items is applicable to children above the age of one year and below fifteen; the second to persons from the age of one to thirty-five, the third to adults between sixteen and fifty-five, the fourth to those above thirty-six and below seventy-five. The main object of the Company therefore is to provide funds, not to be paid after one's death, but to the person insured, while living.

Article XVI. of the appendix to the Coinage Law provides that the period for the exchange of silver *yen* will be five years from the day immediately following the suspension of the coin's circulation. The term fixed, the *Hochi* considers, is too long. The gold reserve for exchange must lie idle in the Treasury vaults to the inconvenience of financial arrangements. The contraction of the term for exchange would not only have the effect of reducing the amount of silver to be exchanged, but also contribute to lighten the burdens of the Treasury. The future value of silver is involved in darkness, and it is not improbable that its price may fall below twenty-three pence. These considerations alone will justify the shortening of the period to three or six months. Such are the views now entertained by some of the officials in the Bank of Japan, and also of a few government officials. It is very likely that the question will be presented in the next session of the Diet. According to the plan now proposed an Imperial Ordinance is to be issued early in October for the suspension of the silver *yen* with the proviso that their circulation will be prohibited after the 31st of March next, and that the exchange of silver will cease at the end of three or six months after such prohibition. The white metal therefore is destined to be withdrawn from the market by June or Sept. next. Whatever remains after that period will be treated as bullion.

The supposed "recent occupation" of Palmyra island by Great Britain having been commented on by the Japanese press, we publish the following telegrams:—

New York, July 28th.

The *Herald* publishes a telegram from Washington stating that Mr. Sewall, the United States Minister at Honolulu, has reported by wire, via San Francisco, that the British have seized the island of Palmyra, situated 1,000 miles southwest of Hawaii. The journal adds that, according to the Hawaiian Government, Palmyra is one of the dependencies of Hawaii, and intimates that, if the rights of Hawaii to the island are strengthened by the United States inquiry, Mr. Dole, the Hawaiian President, will be urged to protest against its seizure.

Washington, July 28.

The State Department says that no new issue is presented in connexion with Palmyra Island, as Great Britain has not only maintained her claim to the island for the last nine years, but declared it to be actually occupied. Although Hawaii at one time claimed the island, the United States has not been strongly convinced of the validity of this claim, but, in view of the probable annexation of Hawaii, the Department will doubtless give closer attention to the matter in the future. It is not expected, however, that the matter will be difficult of adjustment, as Palmyra Island is nothing more than a barren rock.

Reuter's Agency learns that the uninhabited guano islet of Palmyra has been a British possession since 1888. The report that it had been annexed by Great Britain probably arose from the fact that her Majesty's sloop *Wild Swan*, in the course of one of her periodical visits to these distant islands, called there in May last.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A SCANDALOUS MATTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I enclose a clipping taken from the *Austin* (Minnesota) *Daily Register* of July 13th. It is a syndicate dispatch published in several hundred daily papers.

Now did the *Japan Herald* make any such statement? If it did, the Editor may congratulate himself as being one of the principal instigators in creating discord between Japan and America. The Editor of the *Herald* has, since the days of the first Japanese Expedition to Formosa, which was despatched to punish the savages in the south of the island, made many attempts to place Japan in a false position and cause her every possible loss and humiliation. The last has been a master-stroke for him. Of course there is but little to be said for the Bostonian-Washington correspondent who states that the *Japan Herald* is the Government Organ. However, the statements of any foreign journal published in Japan on such a subject would be received with much confidence in America. It seems that the Japanese Government would not go amiss if some of the foreign journals of Japan were placed under the censorship of the Government. No statement that the most rabid Japanese journal ever made has quite equalled that of the *Herald's* in plain lying and the endangering of public peace.

Yours, truly,

AN AMERICAN.

[EXTRACT.]

FOREIGN COMPLICATIONS.

The Japanese Government has followed its protest to the United States by a protest filed with the Hawaiian government. The gravamen of this latter is that Japan demands that her claims against Hawaii be settled in full before the annexation takes place. The *Japan Herald*, the government organ, does not intimate but says boldly that the Japanese are preparing for a descent on the islands. It alludes with sinister meaning to the fact that Japan now has about twenty thousand men in Hawaii all of whom have served an enlistment in the army.—Special to *The Register*.

A PRACTICAL THANKS-OFFERING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In returning a couple of days ago from a month's summer-school work in Yamaguchi Ken, I found awaiting me the following letter. It was accompanied by a box supposed to contain six hundred dried *awabi*. As these are by some esteemed as special delicacies for the sick, I have sent them unopened to the *Fusen Byōin* where I trust they may be of service to the suffering inmates.

Respectfully yours,

ALBERT ARNOLD BENNETT.

[COPY OF LETTER.]

Kanagawa Kencho,
11th Aug., 1897.

Sir,—The Iwate Ken authorities inform us that on the occasion of the disastrous Tidal Wave which occurred last year in the same prefecture, you were good enough, as the agent for an association formed by a certain number of foreigners residing here at the time, to donate certain fishing boats, implements, etc., to the sufferers.

We are now requested by the same authorities to transmit to you a box containing dried sea-eels gathered by Hakoishi Nitara and 35 other sufferers of Komoto village, Hei-Gori, Iwate Ken, with the boats given to them by you, which box these Japanese are desirous to present to you as a token of their gratitude for the kindness thus shown to them.

The box in question is therefore forwarded to you together with this note, and I request that you will be good enough to send us a receipt for the same.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

C. SEINO,
Councillor of Kanagawa Ken.

Yokohama, Sept. 2nd, 1897.

THE LATE APPEAL CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A writer in the *Law Times*, who is in agreement with a view you had previously expressed with reference to the jurisdiction conferred on the Queen in Japan by sec. 1 of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, quotes, as his authority, from Hall on the Foreign Jurisdiction of the British Crown, as follows:—"It is unnecessary to say

that this language [i.e. the language of sec. 1] does not assimilate the jurisdiction exercised in a foreign country, either in nature or degree, to that which belongs to the Crown in a conquered country." And the writer goes on to remark, "But that is precisely the effect which the Judicial Committee have given to the section. They decided that the jurisdiction exercised in a foreign country is similar in all respects to that exercised in a conquered country."

But did they so decide? I think not. What Mr. Hall really says (pp. 11-12) is as follows:—"It is unnecessary to say that this language does not assimilate the jurisdiction exercised in a foreign country, either in nature or degree, to that which belongs to the Crown in a conquered country. Its object is simply to provide that such jurisdiction as may have been acquired by express consent or sufferance of the foreign State shall be exercised by the Crown precisely as if it were exercised by sole virtue of the prerogative. The position of the Crown relatively both to parliament and to individuals is declared to be identical with that which it holds in a country which has been conquered or ceded."

I think that all the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in the case referred to, decided or intended to decide was that it is not within the competence of a subject to question the extent or nature of the jurisdiction which his Sovereign, believing herself to have acquired, has been allowed to exercise in a foreign State by sufferance or silence on the part of that State.

The decision of the *Carew* appeal case, tested by their opinion, may be shortly stated thus:—"So long as Japan chooses to suffer the exercise of jurisdiction by the Queen as interpreted by the Orders in Council, it is not for the appellant to question it."

Very faithfully,
Yokohama, 7th September, 1897.

FOREIGN JURISDICTION OF THE BRITISH CROWN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Whether Japan has the right to scrutinize the Criminal Laws administered by foreign tribunals at the open ports is a question the answer to which does not affect my proposition; but I may say parenthetically that under conceivable circumstances I think she might do so with propriety, and that that opinion is not weakened by your contention that the jurisdiction exercised by those tribunals is delegated by Japan. For instance, the treaty provides that British subjects in Japan shall be tried and punished according to the laws of Great Britain; to try and punish them otherwise would therefore constitute a breach of the treaty. Now suppose, as has been contended, that by those laws a British subject may not be lawfully condemned or put to death unless on the verdict of twelve of his countrymen; would not Japan be justified in interfering to prevent a breach of the treaty, and the pollution of her soil, by the judicial murder thereof of a person sentenced to death on the verdict of five jurymen? This by the way.

My proposition is that, whatever legislative methods are duly provided by Order in Council for the purposes of jurisdiction possessed by Great Britain in Japan, British subjects are not warranted in objecting, unless the particular provision of the Order in Council to which objection is taken is repugnant to the law of England as defined in Sec. 12 of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890.

I understand you to question that proposition on the ground that the legislative rights of Great Britain in Japan are the rights accruing to a conqueror in respect of conquered territory; that if so they ought to be valid against the inhabitants of that territory; but that as Japanese subjects, the hypothetically conquered people, stand entirely outside the pale of the disputed laws, therefore the power of legislation exercised by the Queen in Japan against British subjects is an arbitrary and unwarranted power.

If I have rightly appreciated your argument so far, I think its fallacy lies in the assumption that Japan is described in the Order in Council as a conquered or ceded country for purposes of extra-territorial jurisdiction—Japan is nowhere so described. What is described, or rather illustrated, by reference to powers possessed elsewhere, is the nature and extent of the powers exercisable by the Queen over her subjects in Japan. But I understand you to go further, and to suggest that the whole system is wrong; that when, to use your own words, the Queen obtained for her subjects the privilege of access to Japan, she did not become invested with the power of ignoring, in their case, all the constitutional machinery provided for legislative purposes in England, and with the power

of enacting any laws she pleased for the control of such of her subjects as might take advantage of that privilege; that when she acquired by treaty the explicit right of trying and punishing her subjects in Japan "according to the laws of Great Britain," she did not also acquire the right of trying and punishing them according to laws which are not the laws of Great Britain.

What is meant by the laws of Great Britain? I answer, by reference to Sec. 12 of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act of 1890, which is a Consolidating Act, that every Order of Council that has been, or shall or may be duly laid before both Houses of Parliament, and made in pursuance of the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts, as respects a foreign country, forms an integral part of the laws of England, unless it is repugnant to the provisions of some Act of Parliament extending to Her Majesty's subjects in that foreign country, or to some order or regulation made under the authority of such Act of Parliament. That being so, I have no hesitation in expressing it as my opinion, in answer to your question, that as between Sovereign and subject, or Sovereign and Parliament, the legislative methods adopted by Great Britain for the purposes of her criminal jurisdiction in Japan, are legal, in so far as they do not transgress the limitation above described.

That the jurisdiction of Her Majesty the Queen in a foreign country may be lawfully held, exercised, and enjoyed in the same and as ample a manner as if Her Majesty had acquired that jurisdiction by the cession or conquest of territory, and yet be restricted, as to its exercise, to Her Majesty's subjects for the time being resident in or resorting to that country, and to others who may be said to submit to the jurisdiction, will perhaps be more easily understood by reading the first and second Sections of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, which are as follows:—

1. It is and shall be lawful for Her Majesty the Queen to hold, exercise, and enjoy any jurisdiction which Her Majesty now has or may at any time hereafter have within a foreign country in the same and as ample a manner as if Her Majesty had acquired that jurisdiction by the cession or conquest of territory.
2. When a foreign country is not subject to any Government from whom Her Majesty the Queen might obtain jurisdiction in the manner recited by this Act, Her Majesty shall by virtue of this Act have jurisdiction over Her Majesty's subjects for the time being resident in or resorting to that country, and that jurisdiction shall be jurisdiction of Her Majesty in a foreign country within the meaning of the other provisions of this Act.

I do not therefore think it necessary to resort to the fiction you suggest, viz.—that the Settlement may be regarded as uninhabited so far as Japanese subjects are concerned, for the solution of the problem you propound.

Very faithfully,
Yokohama, 9th Sept., 1897.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM IN ITS RELATION TO CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Could we not settle the controversy on "Civil Government and Roman Catholicism" by stating simply, in the words of an official document, not of a private catechism, the views of the infallible leader of the Roman Catholic Church? Unfortunately I belong to that wicked set of Protestant Missionaries who waste some of their time in "those delightful summer holidays at some cool and comfortable place in the mountains," and thus my material at hand is rather scanty. But the *Syllabus errorum prohibitorum*, edited by Pius IX. 1864, two years after the festival of the Japanese martyrs, will at any rate be considered authoritative, though it is 6 years older than the declaration of his infallibility. I shall translate a few of the sections not only from Latin into English—though I must ask pardon for the English, it being not my mother tongue—but also from the negative expressions used in the document, into positive declarations.

19. The Church is a Society, real, perfect and absolutely free, having its own divine right, given to it by its divine founder; and no worldly power is allowed to limit the exercise of these rights.

20. The Church may exercise its power without, or against, the permission of any secular Government.

24. The Church may use force [for the exercise of its rights], for the Church has worldly power indirect as well as direct.

30. The Church and its clergy are, by divine right, exempted from the secular law.

31. No clergyman, involved in a law suit, whether civil or criminal, can be summoned before a secular tribunal or judge.

32. No clergyman must be forced to serve as a soldier.

42. In case of a conflict between the Civil and the Church power it is the Civil power which has to yield.

45-47. The Church has the right to interfere in every public school, in discipline, arrangement of study, right of graduation, election of teachers.

54. Kings and princes are subjected to the jurisdiction of the Church.

57. Philosophy, Ethics and Civil law can not be independent from the authority of the Roman Catholic Church.

77. The Roman Catholic religion must be the only religion of every State, excluding all other forms of worship.

78. It is wrong to allow religious liberty and tolerance.

80. The Roman Pope can and must never be reconciled with progress, liberalism and modern culture.

I think these few passages will allow every impartial reader to form his judgment on the tone and essential position of the official Roman Catholic Church towards civil liberty. I may add that according to the good authority of the German *Hase*, this syllabus has been made in the *Gesetz*, i.e., the Jesuit College in Rome. There is a smack of the same origin about the saying of the "Wolf in Sheep's Clothing"—"To the Catholic Church this present generation owes its civil liberty." And that glorious statement in the declaration of Independence, that every legitimate power of a Government has its origin in the consent of those who are governed, did that also arise from the Catholic Church?

I send you my card, but though I usually sign such contributions with my full name, I should avoid it this time, for I would not like to be covered with so much mud as the "Wolf" has in store for poor Mr. Snodgrass, though I acknowledge that everybody naturally takes the weapon which lies next to his hand.

Your obedient servant,
A PROTESTANT MISSIONARY.
Nikko, September 2nd, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Dear Sir,—It is very kind of you to shift the ground of Mr. Pettier's attack on to your own shoulders; but this seems premature since there appears some discrepancy between your statement of my views and his statement of the same when they are placed side by side. And, moreover, there is no reason why Mr. Pettier should not have gone to the original instead of following a second (a thing which Romans so much detest!), and, besides, there is nothing in his dynamic effusion to lead one to think that he has not read my tract, except the miserable misrepresentation of it.

EDITOR OF THE "MAIL."

MR. PETTIER.

The writer's object is to show that the declared principles of Roman Catholicism are against submission to any civil authority; that the Pope claims to be supreme in every sphere, and that, in effect, the spread of Roman Catholicism in any country means the alienation of its converts from allegiance to the Government of that country.

I had hoped that Mr. Pettier and his redoubtable "Wise" would return to the combat. But Romanism is gone-up-the-spoil when it begins to nibble at discussion. But will you note the personality and ingenuity of Mr. Pettier's statement above? "No other authority but the Pope's." We are talking about authority outside the realm of religion. Mr. Pettier, in the above language, clearly declares that in such matters the Pope has authority, whoever else also may have authority. We are still waiting for Mr. Pettier to tell us

which authority is supreme. It would not be politic in Japan, where the Papacy is so weak, for him to say the Pope's authority is supreme; therefore, you may expect no answer at all since he is forbidden to say the civil authority is supreme. Silence is the better part of valor.

I must pay my parting respect to the prolix yet repressible "Wisc." He has cited Catholics in the United States, their meek submission to the laws of the land, and has asked me to show that this is not so. Now, this I can easily do, and refer him to the Government Schools of the U.S. The Government has established free schools for her citizens and expects that they will patronize and support them by paying a suitable tax. The attendance upon the schools is not compulsory, but the payment of the tax is. Romans treat the schools with contempt, refuse to send their children to them; and to destroy them, make every effort to banish from them the simple reading of the Bible. This looks like meek accord and allegiance to the Government, indeed! And not only this, while they cannot avoid paying the school tax, they submit to it—well not meekly,—and turn and demand that it shall be returned to them, and in hundred of instances where Romans fill the civil offices, by intimidation and boycott, they have subjugated the non-Roman officials: this is done,—and often without the general public knowing it. Is this cheerful allegiance to the powers that be? Let Mr. "Wisc" answer, if his first effort has not exhausted his armory. But, what can be said of Canada, the Netherlands, and Ecuador, where the Hierarchy is stronger?

I do not expect that Romanism will ever return to its golden age. It can yet cause a great deal of trouble to civil society. The ratio of its increase in the U.S. is among the lowest of the sects as shown by the latest statistics. This is hard for Mr. "Wisc" to swallow; it is a wholesome sedative, however, and will do him good.

Again, Mr. "Wisc" has referred to the Magna Carta as a product of the Romish principles. This I emphatically deny. The Magna Carta was obtained in opposition to the tyranny of Romanism. The general newspaper reader is not always acquainted with the records of long-past history, and besides, does not generally have the disposition to investigate statements made concerning passed events. It happens, therefore, that Romish boasts and perversions of truth are allowed to pass unchallenged and so confirm ignorant Papists in their delusions and intimidate untought Protestants.

A brief reference to the facts of history will show how the Magna Carta originated,—not from the sterile soil of Romanism. Papists are loud, often, in their cry for freedom, but it is a freedom to oppress all that are not Romans. Witness the present condition of Ecuador.

The principles embodied in the Magna Carta were originally covered in the Charter of Liberties put forth previously by Henry I. to reconcile "all to his accession" over his brother Robert.

John was on the English throne and Innocent III. on the Papal throne, two very bad rulers, when the Barons extorted from John, and against the order of the Pope who personates the Romish principles, the Magna Carta. Previously John had embroiled himself with the Pope about the choosing of the Archbishop of Canterbury, John claiming that the Bishops at large should choose, the Pope deciding that the Canterbury monks should choose, and recommending Stephen Langton, whom the monks chose. John refusing to receive Langton, the Pope laid the Kingdom under an interdict. And mark this fact, the Papists obeyed the Pope rather than the King. Since Rome has not changed, would the case be different to-day should similar circumstances arise? I know not. The Pope went further. And just here do not forget that Mr. "Wisc" has asserted that the Hierarchy's attitude towards the civil law has not changed and will not change. The Pope declared John deposed from his throne and released the English subjects from their allegiance to the King, and committed to Philip of France the waging of war against John. So long as John was obedient to the Pope his subjects were required by the Pope to render allegiance to the King; but when a conflict between Pope and King arose the Pope instigated rebellion against the King. Under like circumstances would it be different to day? I know not.

John was forced to yield, and by charter gave his kingdom away to the Pope, and henceforth became only his vassal.

The Barons resolved to check the oppression of John. At a private meeting of the Barons in 1213, Langton brought forward the forgotten Charters of Henry I., upon which they proposed to base their demands. Two years later they took an oath to withdraw their allegiance from the king

if he should refuse their demands. I wonder if, under similar circumstances, Romish principles would work differently to-day? I know not. The Charter was submitted to the King; he refused; Barons marched upon London; the King submitted and sealed the Charter.

But what immediately followed shows the true animus of the Romish principles. John went about to devise means of revenge. He implored the help of his superior the Pope. The Pope annulled Magna Carta and commanded the Barons to submit, saying that he would see that they got their rights. But the Barons held firm even against the Romish principle of absolute submission to an infallible Pope. The Pope excommunicated them, and laid London under an interdict. In reply, it is said that the Barons applied to the Pope the words of Isaiah, "Woe unto them which justify the wicked." A bloody war arose between the King with the Pope on one side embodying the Romish principles and the Barons on the other side in defiance of the Pope and holding on to the principles of liberty.

The history of Magna Carta is rather a history of the development of principles of justice and freedom in spite of the surrounding circumstances of the dense darkness and oppression of Roman Catholicism. No one will hardly doubt that there are men in the Papal Church who rise far above the principles of the Hierarchy. They are bad Catholics, but good men.

It has occurred to me to add this note for the delectation of the ethical taste of Mr. "Wisc." Kentucky University, the oldest university west of the Alleghany mountains, recently changed presidents. The erudite *Catholic Review* immediately raised a hue and cry against a Protestant sectarian being appointed to preside over a government institution. If a Roman sectarian had been appointed would the ignorant *Review* have rebelled? But the force of the *Review's* petulance was in its not knowing that the Kentucky University is not a state or government institution!

Very truly,
E. SNODGRASS.
14, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Sept. 6th, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With no particular desire to take part in the discussion now being carried on in your columns between Mr. E. Snodgrass and the Roman Catholics, I only ask for space concerning the personal reference to myself found in your issue of September 1st. Before taking note directly of what Mr. "A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing" has said, I wish to add that no one save myself is to be held responsible for my public utterances, nor to be classed with me as holding a common view. Since Mr. "A Wolf," etc., is so accustomed to having a human head to sit in judgment over the faith and conscience of other, and to be the mouthpiece through which to express their convictions, the thought may be a little difficult for him to grasp that every Christian should speak for himself in religious matters, and should go directly to the Sacred Writings for his faith and not to any man or set of men.

In reference to a card that appeared in the last number of *The Shepherd's Voice*, Mr. "A Wolf," etc., says:—"Here Mr. McCaleb, the Church of Christ Missionary, disclaims on religious grounds that citizenship of which every American Catholic is proud."—"Inasmuch as they disclaim all earthly citizenship." I may inform my Roman Catholic friend that he is quite mistaken in saying I "disclaim all earthly citizenship." The occasion of my card upon which he erroneously bases his conclusion is this:—Some American citizens decided to have a Fourth of July celebration, a purely private affair. It was gotten up by no official authority. I was invited to contribute to it and to take part in it. I declined, saying I "take no stock in it." In what? In this Fourth of July carnival to buy fireworks, coffee and lemonade. Did I thereby "disclaim all earthly citizenship?" Fourth of July carnivals gotten up by a few private persons have no proper bearing whatever on one's citizenship. Where is it said in the Constitution or any law of the United States that all citizens thereof must take part in Fourth of July celebrations or be disfranchised? Yet this is what the gentleman would make believe. What then becomes of the citizenship of all the Americans living in Japan, since they have habitually neglected to celebrate the Fourth of July for thirty years? Wonder how it is with my critic? Honour bright, Mr. "Wolf,"—did you attend this Fourth of July carnival? If not, how about your boasted loyalty? Please be so good as to dismantle yourself and let us see you in your true colours.

But I spoke against sectional strife, quoted Jesus and Paul against war and fleshly lusts. St. Paul says "our citizenship is in heaven." There-

fore I have "disclaimed, on religious grounds, that citizenship of which every American Catholic is proud." Let's see. My friend asserts that he is an American citizen; therefore according to the logic he has applied to me, he has disclaimed all heavenly citizenship. Will he accept the force of his own logic? Is he prepared to deny Paul's statement that "our citizenship is in heaven?" He must either do this or there is no force whatever in his criticism.

Most respectfully,
J. M. MCCALED.
12, Tsukiji, Tokyo, September 7th, 1897.

INFORMATION WANTED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—For about three years past I have contributed money to an orphanage in Yokohama. Recently I have learned from people who live in Yokohama that there is no orphanage there. As my own gifts were largely influenced by the long list of contributors, many of whom were well known missionaries, it seems high time that the above humbug be advertised.

Very truly Yours,
A. D. WOODWORTH.

Kanizawa, Sept. 4th, 1897.

BRETT & CO. LIMITED.

The tenth half-yearly general meeting of the shareholders of Brett & Co., Limited, was held on Saturday the 4th instant.

Mr. J. H. BOAG, Managing Director, presided, and there were also present Messrs. G. Blundell, J. Batchelor, L. Brower, H. McArthur and J. R. Best, Secretary, and F. W. Thomas, manager.

The minutes of the last general meeting were read and confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts—which were taken as read. He considered the results of the half year's working fairly satisfactory. With regard to the question of rent of the company's premises, which was before the last meeting, he had taken advice and found they would have to submit to an increase. The Company had not got possession of the lease in time to give the necessary six months' notice of renewal. This notice however Mr. Wylie had agreed to waive but held that the Company had never had a lease of the premises and were only monthly tenants. They would therefore have to pay \$150 per month instead of \$125.

Mr. BROWER seconded the adoption of the report and accounts and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said the next question was as regards payment of a dividend, and he would rather like to hear what shareholders had to say on that subject.

Mr. MCARTHUR said it seemed to him that the Company was in a position to pay and the shareholders were entitled to a dividend on last year's work. It had been decided up to the present to work off some of the debentures before paying a dividend. But now that there was a reserve of some 10 per cent. on the capital of \$28,000, he thought that a dividend should be paid. The debenture holders were well secured and satisfied. He would move that a dividend of 7½ per cent. be declared.

Mr. BROWER thought it would be better to wipe out the debit balance first.

On the suggestion of the Chairman Mr. McArthur amended his motion to the effect that the dividend be 5 per cent.

Mr. BATCHELOR seconded the motion.

Mr. THOMAS thought it would be better to wait till December and pay off all liabilities and so enable themselves to pay 10 per cent. next year. As a matter of fact they had not money in the bank to pay 5 per cent. now.

Mr. MCARTHUR contended that the debenture holders were being paid interest all along, and the shareholders who had borne the brunt, had received nothing.

The CHAIRMAN expressed himself in favour of waiting until they were quite clear of any debit before paying a dividend. It was, he thought, better for the business. They had earned the dividend it was true, and if they paid it they would still be in a better position than last year, but it would be better to clear off the debit balance first.

Mr. MCARTHUR said the debit balance of \$2,000 was only a matter of account and was a matter between shareholders only.

Mr. THOMAS said that the business done in June and July last was the best done since they started.

After some further discussion Mr. McArthur's

motion was put to the meeting and carried by three to two, the shares represented by Messrs. McArthur, Batchelor and Blundel being 102.

On the motion of Mr. McArthur, seconded by Mr. Blundel, Mr. McVicar was reappointed auditor to the end of the year.

Mr. CHAIRMAN then read a special resolution to alter clause No. 49 of the Articles, so that instead of two half-yearly meetings one annual meeting should be held in August.

Mr. BLUNDEL proposed and Mr. BATCHELOR seconded the resolution and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. MCARTHUR proposed a vote of thanks to the Managing Director, Manager and Committee, which was carried *nem con*.

HONGKONG AND PRESENT DAY QUESTIONS.

Writing on August 30th, the *China Mail* said:—There has been considerable talk during the past few days of the tightness in the money market, owing to the withdrawal of the Japanese *yen* from Penang, Singapore, Hongkong and Shanghai. That the market has been affected in Penang and Singapore by the withdrawal of the *yen* is an undoubted fact, but it is maintained that Hongkong and Shanghai have not been affected to the same extent owing to the comparatively smaller amount of Japanese coin in circulation at these ports. We are assured that the outflow of specie in Hongkong dollars into Canton and the adjoining provinces has amounted to between thirty and forty lacs during the past six weeks. This has naturally affected Hongkong adversely, but, as usual, the current may turn as it has done on previous occasions and there will be an influx of British specie again. We are informed that there is sufficient silver in British dollars *en route* for the Far Eastern ports which will more than fill the vacuum temporarily created by the withdrawal of the currency to China. Asked his opinion on the financial condition of Hongkong at the present moment, a local expert says it was never on a sounder basis. Companies without exception are in a sounder condition at the present time than they have been for many years, and were never earning more substantial profits in the history of the Colony. Interest with the native banks up north last week was at the rate of 22 per cent per annum. To-day, it is down to 6 per cent, and we learn that the bulk of the gold settlements with the foreign banks have been arranged, so the further trouble up north need not be feared. With large arrivals of Mexican dollars from Mexico and California and large shipments of silver to the Indian mints for coinage into British dollars, the opinion is that the markets at Hongkong and Shanghai will be suffering soon from a plethora of money.

The question might reasonably be asked, what does the slump in silver not affect? But the result of the fall of the dollar has been very disastrous to the yarn and piece goods trade in the Colony. From inquiries made at different sources, we learn that the sequel has been a complete stoppage of business. The Chinese have taken delivery of the cheap contract goods, and left the dear-quoted article in the hands of the dealer. One merchant, doing an extensive business, stated that the Chinese, fortunately for themselves, had made extensive purchases at the former rate of exchange, and they will depend upon their stock to supply customers until a clearance has been nearly effected, when they will only move at the pinch of necessity, and purchase sparingly at the increased rate. There is a rise in the present selling price, from that previously offering, of from 5 to 7½ per cent. One good effect of this cessation in business will be that clearances will be made of stock more readily than used to be the case. The state of trade, of course, depends entirely on the necessity for the article. Sometimes prices went up in a way beyond all expectations, while at other times they remained at a low rate. The Indian market has responded more freely to the fall in the exchange than the English market. In the event of the further rise in the price of goods, the Chinese may be forced to fall back upon the native material.

Another merchant doing a large business in Indian yarns gives as gloomy a view of the situation. He states that they have now got to a point where the Chinese will be unable to pay any further advance for yarns, and a re-adjustment will have to take place either by a fall in value in India or a rise in exchange, before any business can be carried out. Excepting for one or two special parcels the Chinese will buy nothing until forced by the calls of necessity. The adjustment of currency prices is, however, a very difficult matter until silver is somewhat settled. As an instance of the rise in prices, Anglo Indian yarn No. 20's was selling in

October last year at \$95, and at the present time that article is offering at \$109. There is a uniform rise in all the other spinnings.

THE JAPANESE BUDGET.

A Foreign Office paper containing a report by Mr. Lowther on the Budget of Japan for the year 1897-98 has just been issued. Mr. Lowther says:—The Budget presents no special features of originality, but the proposals made are a continuation of the scheme inaugurated by the late Government under Marquis Ito. The total expenditure amounts to about £25,400,000, of which sum £24,000,000 belongs to the main budget, the remainder, £1,400,000, being made up by supplementary budgets introduced and passed in the latter part of the session. The Budget shows a very marked increase compared with that of the year before the war—namely, 150 per cent. This is accounted for by the extensive military and naval schemes undertaken by the Government. The institution of new diplomatic posts in Mexico and Brazil, and consulates at Chicago, Manila, and Newchwang; the improvement of educational institutions, and the colonial schemes for Formosa and Hokkaido require considerable sums, and the extension of the railway and telephone systems, and the institution of the tobacco monopoly absorb a certain amount, although these latter will very soon show a return on the outlay. In presenting the Budget to the Diet, the Prime Minister gave vent to the expression of a hope that, three years hence, the expenditure of the country would be again reduced to £15,000,000.

The items of increase in the ordinary revenue are derived from the business tax, the tobacco monopoly, which will be in force during the last three months of the present financial year, the saké tax, amended last year, additional receipts from customs duties, from income tax, from railways, Government forests, post and telegraph services, amounting to an increase of over £2,000,000. The increase in the extraordinary revenue is derived principally from the Public Undertakings Loan, which, though not strictly revenue, figures as such. Last year only about £800,000 of this loan was issued. This year it is intended, according to the budget, to issue over £6,000,000, although it is probable that this sum may be derived from other sources. The decrease in the extraordinary budget is explained by a smaller appropriation from the previous year's surplus, and from the extraordinary War Fund. The net increase, consequently, in the extraordinary revenue amounts to over £3,000,000.

On the expenditure side we find an increase in ordinary expenditure in all the departments with the exception of the Household Department, which remains stationary, and the Home Department. The Colonisation Department, moreover, which did not figure in the last budget now appears for the first time for a large sum for Formosa. There is a total increase of nearly £9,000,000 accounted for in the following manner:—£30,000 required for establishing new legations in Hawaii, Mexico, Brazil, and Siam, and consulates in Sydney, Antwerp, Chicago, Manila, and Newchwang, a sum of £80,000 spread over six years for reconstructing the harbour of Nagasaki, a sum of £52,000 for putting the tobacco monopoly into operation; several sums for building and arming new forts at Maidzuru, Nagasaki, Hakodate, and Tsuchima. Further, the sums required for the initial expenses of the second period programme for the expansion of the army and navy. Small sums are set down for establishing the Imperial Library, for founding a College of Medicine in Kyoto, for extending the telegraph system, for building railways in Hokkaido, and for constructing the harbour of Otaru.

A sum of £133,989 is allowed as an increase of capital to the Senju Woollen Factory, where the military uniforms are manufactured. The improvement of the Kobe wharves absorbs £8,412; out of the total of £1,289,250, which is the subsidy to be given to the Formosan Railway, this year £17,625 is required, and this is given in the form of a 6 per cent. guarantee on the paid-up capital. Sending a representative to the International Geological Congress takes £1,816. The bounty for the navigation of the Yangtze-kiang is fixed at £14,954 per annum till 1907. Adding the supplementary departmental budgets to the sums that appear as extraordinary expenditure in the main budget we find that the total expenditure amounts to £26,487,371.

The Army Estimates are divided into three parts, the ordinary, the extraordinary, and the continuing expenditure. Under the heading of ordinary the expenditure is set down at £2,912,937,

as against £1,631,365 spent last year, an increase of £1,281,572, or of 78 per cent. The estimate for the gendarmerie is sixfold, this force having been augmented for service in Formosa. The extraordinary expenditure amounts to £2,008,879, as against £1,926,118, or about 56 per cent. over that of last year. Before the expansion scheme was inaugurated the outlay required for the army amounted to about £1,520,000 per annum. Now the cost is set down at £2,460,000, an advance of over 61 per cent., but this sum will furnish Japan with an army of 145,000 men, and a reserve of 375,000.

The Navy Estimates are divided in the same manner as the army estimates. The ordinary expenditure of the navy for the year 1897-98 is set down at £981,304, as against £783,380 spent last year, an increase of £198,024, all of which is absorbed in the maintenance, salaries, &c., of the navy and naval department. The extraordinary expenditure shows £6,699,412, as against £2,963,183, an increase of £3,736,229, or considerably more than double the expenditure of last year. Before the inauguration of the expansion scheme,—that is, in 1895, the cost of the navy was set down at about £1,370,000. When the programme is completed Japan intends to have 65 ships, of 233,000 tons, and 126 torpedo boats.

These schemes are divided into two periods, the first period programme and the second period programme, beginning with April 1, 1896, and terminating March 31, 1906. The second period programme was omitted in the Budget proposals for last year, owing to the uncertainty of the payment of the war indemnity. We find that it is the intention of the Government to incur the following expenditure:—

Army, 1st period	£ 4,332,940	—
Army, 2nd period	3,835,066	£ 8,167,940
Navy, 1st period	11,608,640	—
Navy, 2nd period	14,461,877	26,070,517

Making a total of £34,238,457

Analysing the first period army programme, we find that it is divided into five headings—namely construction of forts, building and equipment of barracks, manufacture of arms, development of arsenals, and extraordinary constructions. In the second period programme, however, only the first three items appear. Provision is made for the building of forts, in the Straits of Naruto, at Kure, in the Aki-Iyo Strait, at Sasebo, at Tsuchima, Nagasaki, Maidzuru, and Hakodate.

To the above must be added for the extension of arsenals a sum of £360,446, which gives a grand total of £10,046,990.

Formosa.—The budget for Formosa has been kept distinct from the main budget, and shows revenue, ordinary £811,224; extraordinary, £642,957,181. Expenditure, ordinary, £1,052,401; extraordinary, £401,779; total, £1,454,180. In the Formosa budget of last year the expenses of occupation, gendarmerie, &c., were included, as well as all military expenses, not only for Formosa, but also for the occupation of Wei-hai-wei. These amounted to a total of £2,754,000; adding this sum to the estimated expenditure of the present year we arrive at a figure of £4,201,108, as against £3,841,350, showing an increase in the expenditure of the present year of over £366,000. Turning to revenue, we find it set down at £1,454,181, but as £642,033 of this is provided from the Supplementary Fund, probably the indemnity, we must take the real revenue as being about £812,148, as against a revenue set down last year as £668,000. It is not to be supposed that the island can be counted upon as a source of revenue for many years to come.

A considerable advance is taking place in the direction of granting Government aids to assist in developing various branches of commerce. The present budget provides for the payment of £792,595 this financial year, and the legislation of the past session will entail upon the Treasury further payments in the future. It may not be without interest to mention that in the budget of last year a sum of £295,820 only was set down for Government aids, thus showing an increase in the present budget of nearly £500,000. A Bill was also laid before the Diet with a view to grant a subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line of about £300,000, in order to enable that company to maintain the newly-opened lines to Europe, Australia, and America, but the discussion of the Bill was postponed until next session, owing to opposition on the part of members interested in other companies. In some form or another this subsidy will probably be given to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Without some assistance the company could not afford to continue these

lines, and the dignity of the country will require that they should not be dropped so soon after being started.

The war indemnity received from China forms a very important feature in the Budget of the past and present fiscal years. If regularly paid in the future, it will no doubt be set aside for the army and navy expansion scheme. It makes a sum of £36,275,000 to be paid by China if she elects to let it run till 1902.

National Debt.—The following is a statement of the present indebtedness of Japan:—

Foreign loan	£ 23,375
Old loan	548,936
Hereditary pensions commutation loan, 5 per cent.....	2,982,332
Satsuma rebellion loan	4 0 000
Navy loan	1,500,600
Consolidated public loan	17,206,170
Redemption of paper money loan.....	2,200,000
Railway loan	1,000,000
War loan	12,172,400
Public undertakings loan.....	300,000
	38 333.513
Government paper money	904.508
Total	39 238.021

There are to be issued this year:—Public Undertakings Loan, £6,100,000; Consolidated Bonds, £500,000; so that at the end of the fiscal year 1898, the total debt of Japan will stand at £45,494,546.

The last session of the Imperial Diet was rendered remarkable by the passage, in an incredibly short space of time and without the adoption of any amendments, of a Currency Reform Bill introduced by the Government. The reasons given as having prompted the introduction of this measure were the fact that China had to pay Japan an indemnity of Tls. 230,000,000, which sums has to be paid in English gold. The depreciation of silver had, it was supposed, caused prices to rise 30 per cent. in Japan. It is hoped that the adoption of the gold standard will prevent fluctuations in prices and the disturbance of the relation between debtor and creditor, that exports will increase, and that it may remove difficulties in the conclusion of a foreign loan. The portion of the Public Undertakings Loan issued last year was not a success with the public, and it is more than probable that some other plan may be adopted for raising the sum which is required for the expenditure, but which may only be required towards the latter part of the fiscal year.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

GERMANY AND GREECE.

London, Sept. 3.

Germany has informed Greece that she still maintains opposition to the indemnity loan in its present form.

Germany has declined to discuss the offers made by Greece in regard to the indemnity loan until the Ambassadors of the Powers at Constantinople have settled the whole financial question.

The peace parleying is at a standstill. France and Russia are disinclined to join in the guarantee for the Greek indemnity loan, and Great Britain is not disposed to guarantee the loan single-handed.

London, Sept. 6.

The Porte has addressed a Note to the Ambassadors of the Powers at Constantinople requiring that the Governor of Crete shall be an Ottoman and the retention there of the Turkish Garrison.

London, Sept. 8.

General Muravieff, the Russian Ambassador to the Porte, having sent a Note implying that Great Britain is responsible for the evils resulting from the delay in the conclusion of peace between Turkey and Greece, the Marquis of Salisbury has now proposed the appointment of an international commission, to consist of six members, with power to control the Greek revenues sufficient to cover the services of the old and new loans, to be accompanied by a prompt evacuation of Thessaly.

ITALY AND GERMANY.

The King of Italy, attended by his Foreign Minister, will meet the Emperor William at Hamburg to-day.

THE SULTAN'S ACCESSION.

At a review of the Turkish troops at Canea, and a banquet in honour of the anniversary of the Sultan's accession, all the foreign Admirals were present except Admiral Harris, whose absence is much commented on.

THE MOHMAND REBELLION.

London, Sept. 4.

Two columns, consisting together of ten thousand men, one under General Sir B. Blood and the other under General Elles, are about to advance from Shabkadar and Khar respectively against the Mohmands.* The latter are being led by Kadda Mullah. The Afridis will be attacked after the Mohmands are disposed of.

[*General Elles has already had a brush with the Mohmands, when on the 9th ult while on a visit to Shabkadar he found the enemy about 6,000 strong in position on low hills, the British force there being under Colonel Woon. General Elles ordered the guns into action and ordered the Cavalry to charge the enemy's left flank. This was brilliantly carried out by two squadrons of the 13th Bengal Lancers. Major Atkinson's and Lieut. Cheyne's chargers were shot under them. The enemy suffered severely and retired into the high hills, where the British force was unable to follow with any advantage and so returned to Shabkadar. The British casualties were:—Capt Blacker, R. A., Major Lamb, of the Somerset, severely wounded; Lieut. Cheyne, 13th Bengal Lancers, two N.C.O. R. A., one officer and nine men of the Somerset and 14 men of the B.L., 25 of the 26th P. I., wounded; Second Lieut E. G. Drummond, Somerset, slightly wounded, four men of the Somerset, one of the 13th B.L., seven of the 26th P. I., killed. The enemy's loss was severe. Total of all ranks, twelve killed, 64 wounded. The column under General Elles has been strengthened by the 9th Bengal Lancers, 1st Gurkhas, and No. 1 Field Battery, which will bring it up to the number stated in the telegram.]

London, Sept. 6.

Lieut.-General Sir W. S. A. Lockhart, K.C.B., commanding the forces in the Punjab, recently on leave in England, who has been hastily summoned to return to India, left Brindisi yesterday to take command of the Afridi expedition.

The native rulers in India have offered the services of their troops in co-operation with the Imperial forces in the frontier trouble, which offer the Government has accepted.

The Ameer of Afghanistan has publicly repudiated the complicity of his officials with the frontier disturbances.

A RETURN FROM THE ARCTIC.

The *Windward* has returned from the Arctic with Mr. Jackson, who spent three winters there, having completely mapped Franz Josef Land.

INDIAN DRAFTS.

London, Sept. 6.

Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for the Indian Department, offers to buy ten days' drafts on Calcutta or Bombay to the value of one crore of rupees, tenders to be opened on the 7th instant.

London, Sept. 7.

Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for the Indian Department, asks for tenders receivable on the 14th September for India bills to the amount of two and a half millions sterling, payable in six or twelve months after date.

London, Sept. 8.

The tenders for Indian Council drafts opened yesterday amounted to 29,190,000 rupees, and a hundred lacs were accepted at an average of 1s. 4¹/₂d. Tenders at 1s. 4³/₄d. receive about eleven percentage lower.

THREATENED FAMINE IN IRELAND.

Continuous heavy rains in the West of Ireland have completely ruined the potato crop, and it is believed that the coming winter will be one of the worst seen since 1847.

THE BLOCKADE IN CRETE.

Owing to the acceptance by the Cretans of autonomy, the Admirals of the Powers will raise the blockade on the 10th inst.

A GERMAN GOVERNOR KILLED.

The Governor of Kaiser Wilhelmsland, a German Colony in New Guinea, has been killed by the natives.

RESIGNATION OF CHIN SANG-HUN.

Söul, Sept. 8.

Chhin Sang-hun, Minister of Finance and Acting Minister of War, who tendered his resignation some time before, has been relieved of the additional portfolio of War. The appointment of his successor has not yet been announced, but it is supposed that Min Chihong-menk or Nam Chông-chhöl will occupy the post. It is also reported that during the illness of the Minister of Finance, Chhin Sang-hun, Vice-Minister Kim will be appointed Minister *ad interim*.

Söul, Sept. 8.

The question of retaining Russian Military Officers in the Korean army will probably be decided at to-day's Cabinet meeting. The salaries are *yen* 150 for officers and *yen* 20 for non-commissioned officers, beside certain allowances for oil, fuel, etc. The term will be three years.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

*Hakodate, Sept. 9, 8 40 a.m.

H.M.S. *Centurion*, *Grafton*, *Immortalite*, *Narcissus*, *Pique*, *Archer*, *Rattler*, *Redpole*, *Hart* and *Handy* left here yesterday for Endermo. The *Rainbow*, with invalids, has gone to Yokohama; the *Humber* has left for Hongkong, and the *Daphne* for the Behring Sea. H.M.S. *Alacrity*, H.I.J.M.S. *Itsukushima*, *Fuso*, *Isumi*, and *Chinyen* are in harbour. H.M.S. *Linnet* has arrived from the Behring Sea.

*Delayed in transmission.

(FROM "LE COURRIER DE SAIGON.")

PRESIDENT FAURE IN RUSSIA.

Paris, August 24.

At a banquet last night, the Czar said that the President's visit and the sentiments that had been aroused would bind together the two countries of France and Russia. President Faure replied that he had come in the name of France to bind closer the ties which united the two countries.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

THE "TAIHOKU'S" CARGO.

Osaka, Sept. 6.

The cargo on board the *Taihoku Maru* of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which sank some time ago after collision, consisted chiefly of iron pipes for the Tokyo Water Works. It is stated that a London Insurance Company which issued a policy on the lost vessel has made a claim against the steamer with which the *Taihoku* collided.

RICE EXCHANGE TROUBLES.

Hakodate, Sept. 6.

The members of the Rice and Grain Exchange here have all resigned owing to a great disturbance among them.

RINDERPEST.

Nagasaki, Sept. 8.

Rinderpest is rapidly spreading in this locality.

LOSS OF AN AMERICAN SHIP.

Chiba, Sept. 9.

Last night an American sailing vessel was wrecked by the storm off Boshu.

FORMOSAN DISTURBANCE.

Koshun, Formosa, Sept. 9.
A gendarme has been killed here by some Formosans.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC STOPPED.

Naoyedzu, Sept. 10.
The railway lines in this district are all suspended owing to the floods.

Nagano, Sept. 10.
The line between Nagano and Yashiro is interrupted by the floods.

CHASS

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Room.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season, and reopens on Monday, 4th October.

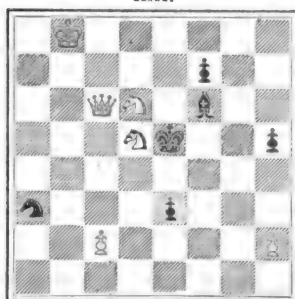
The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday season, and reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem No. 335:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to B 5	1—P takes B
2—Kt to Kt 6, ch	2—K K 3
3—Q to Q 5, mate	
	1—B takes Kt
2—Q to B 3	2—P takes B
3—Q takes P (K 3), mate	
	1—P to B 5
2—Q to Q 4, ch	2—K takes Q
3—Kt to B 3, mate	
	1—B to B 5
2—Q to Q 3,	2—P takes B
3—Q to Q 5, mate	
	1—K to B 5
2—Q to B 3, ch	2—K to K 4
3—Q to K 4, mate	
	1—Moves Kt, or
	either advanced
2—Kt to Kt 6, ch	2—K takes B [P
3—Q to Q 3, mate	

Correct solution received from W.H.S., D.D., and P.E.F.S.

PROBLEM No. 337.
By M. EHRENSTEIN.



White to play and mate in three moves.

OVER THE CHESS-BOARD.

In the match between Bird and Lee—five games up—we learn that Bird won the fifth game, and Lee secured the sixth and seventh games, which gave him a lead of 4 to 3. Then Lee obtained the eighth game, and won the match with a score of 5 to 3.

Singapore won the Inter-Colonial Chess-match with Hongkong. It is hoped that the Cable Companies will allow of a return match being played between the colonies at an early date.

Chess is a subject which, from remote antiquity, has commanded the attention and compelled to a degree the admiration of the ablest thinkers. Incomprehensible to the layman, and full of difficulty even to the proficient, the complexities produced by the movements on a plane figure subdivided into 64 equal squares of a few bits of bone or wooden automata have excited in all ages the wonder of the savant, the enthusiasm of the artist, and the keen interest of the soldier.

Petroff, gazing at these little toys aligned upon the surface of the chessboard, discerned, with amazement equalled only by his delight, that what the uninitiated regarded as a game, or merely as an æsthetic and pleasing form of recreation, was in reality a great mathematical

proposition, ranking "not lower than the integral calculus."

Anderson, elaborating the idea of the famous Russian geometrician, detected in the demonstration, "intricacies beyond anything known in the most abstruse mathematics;" and Leibnitz, summing up the whole proposition, declared, "Chess is an exact science."

The genius of Vida caught from the evolutions of Knight, King and Pawn the theme of an epic poem; Franklin discovered that "many high principles of the moral order are to be learned from its practice;" and every great captain from Timour to Von Moltke has commended constant study of the problems of the chessboard to the student of military art and science.

But in these modern days of materialistic impulses and tendencies sentiment is at a discount; the panegyrics of the philosopher, the poet, and the historian are not current at their face value, and the parity of a thing with the times is maintained only by a satisfying answer to the query, "Is the thing of practical utility?"

"Chess," writes Buckle, "is the gymnasium of the mind; it does for the brain what athletics does for the body."—From an article by Mr. F. K. Young in the "Pall Mall Magazine" for March.

KOBE VERSUS NAGASAKI.

The second game in the Kobe-Nagasaki Correspondence Tourney, as announced earlier in the week, was won by the Kobe players, who conducted the game with admirable skill, working up a grand attack on the King's side which the Nagasaki champion only met by a rather weak counter attack on the opposite wing, where the Black King had sought refuge in casting. We give the score below as taken from the *Kobe Herald*:—

GAMR No. 338.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

White—Nagasaki.	Black—Kobe.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3
2 P Q4	P Q4
3 Kt QB3	Kt KB3
4 B K5	PxP
5 BxKt	PxB
6 KxP	P KB4
7 Kt K3	P QB4
8 Kt KB3	Q K3
9 B Q3	Kt B3
10 Q K2	B Q2
11 PxP	BxP
12 Castles	Castles
(KR)	(QR)
13 P QB3	P KR4
14 P QK4	B Q3
15 Kt Ktq	P R5
16 Kt B-q	Q B2
17 P QR4	P K4
18 B Kt5	QR Kt q
	and White resigns.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNAMENT.

The following moves have been received:—

Game	Move.	White.	M ve.	Black.
1	18	QR-B x q	17	Q-KK3
2	18	KxB	18	QxB
3	19	PxKt	18	K-(B4)xP
4	12	Q KB2	12	B B5
5	17	Q-Q x q	17	B-B4
6	12	P B4	11	P QR3
7		Dawn		
8	11	B-B5	11	Kt-Q5
9	21	QxP ch		Resigns
10	10	P KR3	9	P-Q3

Have our readers noticed one singular feature in this Tourney, viz., that every one of the ten games played represents a "different" opening, and half of the number are gambits, and some of a very interesting type. There is a Zukertort opening, Four Knight's Game, Giuoco Piano, King's Bishop's Gambit, Vienna game, Queen's Gambit, Greco Counter Gambit, King's Gambit declined, Danish Gambit, and an opening that has yet to receive a name and for the present must be styled "Irregular."

We should have published games 7 and 9, which, our readers will remember, were finished last week, but neither present many interesting points. The former besides stretched out to the considerable length of 60 moves, whilst the latter is spoilt by some bad blunders. The end of this month should see the finish of the Tourney, the games being now well advanced. Only a few moves were made last week in the two telegraph games No. 4 and 10. The typhoon of Thursday morning has rather broken up the Telegraph Department, but we may look forward to chronicling some smart play next week.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	Feru 1	Su. Sept. 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 2	Su. Sept. 12
America	O. & O. Co.	Cotic 3	Tu. Sept. 12
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ravenna 4	Sa. Sept. 18
Taroma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Columbia 5	Tu. Oct. 21
Europe	M. M. Co.	Sydney	M. Sept. 20
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Su. Sept. 26
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Sept. 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Oct. 7

- 1 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on Aug. 24th.
- 2 Left Kobe on the 10th inst.
- 3 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 10th inst.
- 4 The English mail is on board the steamer Ravenna.
- 5 Left Victoria on the 5th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Su. Sept. 12
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Tu. Sept. 12
Victoria, B.C. via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Sa. Sept. 18
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Yarra	Su. Sept. 19
America	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Sept. 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of China	M. Sept. 27
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Oct. 1
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Fri. Oct. 8
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Satauma Maru	Tu. Sept. 14

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 4th Sept.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 3rd Sept., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Ler, 5th September.—Vancouver, B.C., 2nd August, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. Brady, 5th September.—Yokkaichi 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 5th September.—Osaka via ports, 1st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Candia, British steamer, 4,195, G. K. Wright, 6th September.—London via ports, and Kobe 5th September, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Kawannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Z. Yasuno, 6th Sept.—Kobe, 4th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hokoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Kawamuro, 6th Sept.—Kobe, 5th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Patroclus, British steamer, 3,339, Dickens, 6th Sept.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 5th Sept., General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, H. Shimakata, 7th Sept.—Kobe, 5th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Arcona (18), German cruiser, 3,200, Capt. Becker, 8th Sept.—Hakodate, 6th Sept.
Meji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, G. Makiyama, 8th Sept.—Osaka via ports, 4th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Irene (22), German cruiser, 4,400, Capt. Du Bois, 8th Sept.—Hakodate, 6th Sept.
Rainbow (8), British cruiser, 3,600, Captain V. A. Tisdall, 9th Sept.—Hakodate, 7th Sept.
Chusan, German steamer, 870, H. Hendt, 9th September.—Hongkong, 1st Sept., General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, P. O. Marshall, 9th Sept.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 8th Sept., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 9th Sept.—Kobe, 7th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Hayashi, 9th Sept.—Fukuoka, 7th Sept., General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, R. Nume, 9th Sept.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 8th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yarra, French steamer, 2,084, Le Coispeiller, 9th Sept.—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 8th Sept., Mail and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, A. E. Moses, 10th Sept.—Seattle, Washington, 23rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, S. Muramatsu, 10th Sept.—Yokkaichi, 9th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 10th Sept.—Shanghai via ports, 4th Sept., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, M.

J. Curnow, 10th Sept.—Otaru via ports, 6th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Hertha, German steamer, 2,199, Hildebrandt, 11th Sept.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 3rd Sept., General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

DEPARTURES.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 4th Sept.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, Truebridge, 4th Sept.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Maria Felsen, German str., 1,771, A. Bendixen, 4th Sept.—Mojito, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, J. Muramatsu, 4th Sept.—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Poole, 4th Sept.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Esquivel, 4th Sept.—Kobe and Moji, Sugar.—Browne & Co.
Laos, French steamer, 3,000, Plandin, 5th Sept.—Shanghai and Kobe, Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.
Ningchow, British steamer, 1,735, W. N. Cross, 5th Sept.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 6th September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails & General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 6th Sept.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 7th Sept.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, T. Iki, 1,656, 7th Sept.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Evato, German steamer, 2,377, Ostermann, 8th Sept.—Havre & Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon Evers & Co.
Kyoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,665, K. Sakuta, 8th Sept.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F. Allen, 8th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tekoa, British steamer, 2,646, George H. Noakes, 8th Sept.—Fraser River, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 10th Sept.—Vancouver, B.C.; Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—General Cunliffe, Mr. F. W. F. Harris, Mr. G. R. Stevens and servant, Mr. L. L. Bailey, Mr. F. Pessensolin, and Mr. H. Dieckman, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Jas. A. Anderson, Mr. Michael Andrews, Mrs. Alford, nurse and children, Mr. and Mrs. Beigny, Rev. and Mrs. Booth and three children, Mr. and Mrs. I. V. Brokaw, Mr. Howard C. Brokaw, Mr. George T. Brokaw, His Excellency Chang Yen Hoon, Mr. Chas Chesley, Miss A. M. Culby, Mr. Chen Oi Tin, Mr. Chas. Connis, Mr. Cheng Ming Pak, Mr. Chan Chow Sheng, Mr. and Mrs. R. Cook, Mr. George Copeman, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cline, Mr. and Mrs. Tracey C. Drake, Mr. P. S. Dudley, Mr. H. B. Ede, Mr. James H. Ebersole, Mr. H. B. Everest, Miss Everest, Mr. A. W. Hoyt, Mr. Charles S. Hamlin, Miss H. G. Hamlin, Mrs. W. C. Hatley, Miss Marie Hatley, Vicomte d'Heusele, Mr. G. Harang, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Horn, Mr. Haggard, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Hovey, Mr. Hsieh Ksilu, Marquis Ito, Mr. Isaacs, Mr. E. Y. Judd, Miss Cavellhill Jones, Mr. St. de Poklowski-Kozell, Mr. Kon Kong Man, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Ker, Mr. A. H. Kirk, Mr. J. B. Keifoot, Mr. Liang Shing, Capt. Loveland, Mr. Li, Mr. Lee Ka Shing, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. R. Lisboa, Miss Lisboa, Miss M. T. Lisboa, Mr. Chas. Lisboa, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Li Liang Hsun, Mr. Loh Fung Fung Wah, Mrs. Morgan, children and maid, Midwood, Mr. Y. C. Min, Mr. Mah Tung Liang, Mr. K. Nabeshima, Mr. J. Nakahara, Mr. Seymour H. Odell, Mr. Wm. Oldis, Mr. G. G. Peters, Mr. E. L. Palmer, Mr. Pang, Mr. C. F. Pereira, Miss Robertson, Miss Sifton, Mrs. A. E. Shepard, Mr. Sul Liang, Mr. T. Tokioka, Mr. T. D. Tson, Miss Florence Twitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Usher, Miss Washington, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Waters, Miss Mabel Waters, Mr. R. Werden-

man, Mr. Yen Chun Sook, and Mr. K. Yi, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Todd, Mr. S. H. Levi, Mr. and Mrs. D. Gal, infant and maid, Mr. W. A. Harper, Lt. R. G. King, Miss Black, Mr. J. Pimintal, Mr. V. Plaza, Dr. & Mrs. D. Main, Mr. S. Leslie Mr. G. Rodwest, Mr. W. P. Craik, Mr. S. Emens and 3 sons, Dr. C. P. Kiddleberger, Mr. C. K. Harrington, Mr. and Mrs. C. Leopold, Mrs. Ichukhine, Mr. & Mrs. Parratt, and Mrs. S. Komor and infant, in cabin; 9 in second class; 272 in steerage.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles via ports:—Baron Decken, Mr. J. Munnelly, Mr. Sengruher Krop, Mr. Rindous, Mr. J. S. Nawke, Mr. P. Culicet, and Mr. A. Scharffe, in cabin; Mr. Jacoulet, Mr. T. Osada, Mr. Kataro Mochizuki, Mr. Lachopelle, Mr. Voreaux, Mr. Veaux, Mrs. Lanthoanne, Mr. Lok Sung, Mr. Cha Shing Kong, Rev. P. Hende, and 1 Chinese and 1 infant; 1 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. Haskell, and Mr. Kaiser, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. A. A. Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. T. Uno, Lieut. R. Yoshioka, Mr. Y. Toki, Mr. C. Yamamoto, Mr. T. Shugane, Mr. P. W. Edwards, Master M. Shibayama, Master J. Shibayama, Miss K. Ogaki and child, Mrs. F. Takahashi, Mr. R. Koyama and son, Mr. S. Hirayama, Mr. T. Miyazaki, and Mr. S. Oda, in cabin; 46 Japanese; 1 Chinese and 1 European in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Vesta Atkinson Dr. and Mrs. Paul Fitzsimons and son, Mr. Hermann Kahrweg, Mr. N. Igarashi, Mr. George Macondray, Capt. S. Mukoyama, I. J. N., Prof. and Mrs. Moses, Mr. and Mrs. N. W. McIvor, 3 children and amah, Mr. G. O. Nakayama, Mrs. Geo. A. Nichols, Miss Nichols, Master Nichols, Dr. and Mrs. J. Poppen and 2 children, Mr. M. M. Rossadin, Mrs. E. Rogers, two children and governess, Miss S. B. Reynolds, Mr. C. A. Schroth, Mr. G. Seiple, Mr. Frank Shaw, Miss E. Voltmer, and Mr. A. Waley, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Laos*, for Shanghai and Kobe:—Messrs. Makino, D. Larrien, Leigh L. J. Hunt and boy, Cowan, G. Braccialini, G. Wild, Saunders, E. Ribeiro, W. Thomas, Captain G. Moore, Lieut. Hewerton, Messrs. D. Becker, Y. Miwa, K. Kimura, Francis F. Maury, Matsutaro, Delour, H. Ishida, Hung See, V. Blockhuys, G. W. Lee, J. Fergusson Morrison, and Dr. Blanc, in cabin; 8 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. D. O. Gubbay, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Davison and son, Mr. M. H. Mitchell, Mr. G. Kammerling, Dr. Jas. Dutchart, Mrs. Chas. Grant and infant, Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Benjamin, Miss Gray, Mrs. H. Wickings, Mrs. Atkinson, Miss Atkinson, Capt. A. Crawford, Mr. N. J. Ede, Mr. E. R. Burdon, Mr. A. Brook Smith, Miss Melvin, Count Bernstoff, Mr. P. G. Fiedler, Mr. Schirmir, Mrs. A. W. Curtis and 2 children, Mr. Cheong Bun Yee, Mr. Stuart Black, Mr. A. M. Delf, Mr. A. Nicolle, Mr. G. C. Hirschfield, Mr. and Mrs. G. Marshall Allen, and Mr. Alford Brown, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Capt. H. Yamada, Miss Mancini, Mr. J. W. Copman, Count K. Hirasawa, Mr. G. Tanaka, Rev. Aug. Gerome, Miss Berninger, Mr. H. Marquardt, Consul and Mrs. Y. Kato, Mrs. Montrie, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Parker, Miss Emerson, Mr. T. H. Grayson, Miss E. Boardman, and Mr. and Mrs. Nagai and two sons, in cabin; Mr. Y. Fuki, Judge K. Usigome, Mr. K. Yoshii, Mr. W. Aways, Mr. K. Tsuboi, Mr. Un Hin Tong, Mr. W. Inshenko, Mr. King Hoon, and Mr. Nuzzur, in 2nd class; 34 Japanese and 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. E. J. Calbeck, Mrs. E. J. Calbeck, Rev. I. W. Cate, Mrs. I. W. Cate, Miss Esther Cate, Master Weston Cate, Mr. W. G. Chase, Mrs. C. G. Chase, Mr. W. P. Craik, Mr. Duff, Mrs. Duff, Miss Douglas, Miss Emery, Mr. W. S. Emens, Masters Emens (3), Mr. A. F. Green, Mr. J. T. Hackett, Lieut. C. Inigo, Madame C. Inigo, Mr. Ichukhine, Mr. F. Lelievre, Mr. C. Leopold, Mrs. C. Leopold, Mr. S. H. Levi, Madame Meunier, Mr. Mihara, Mr. C. J. Morse, Mr. K. Ota, Mr. M. K. Rand, Mr. H. C. Richardson, Dr. J. Runckwitz, Mr. S. Takemura, Mr. Chas. A. Taylor, Mr. Uyeda, Mr. S. Watanabe, Mrs. A. D. Woodworth, Miss Lina Woodworth, and Miss Ruth Woodworth in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver:—

	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	TOTAL
	CANADA AND WEST.	PACIFIC COAST CITIES.	PACIFIC COAST CITIES.
Hongkong	22	—	74
Colombo	—	370	—
Amoy	—	1,301	—
Foochow	1,082	—	1,473
Shanghai	1,268	301	1,318
Calcutta	—	213	213
Kobe	1,463	—	1,463
Yokohama	5,230	—	5,230
Total	9,065	1,201	11,344

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The suspension of business still continues, only a very few hand-to-mouth purchases having been made in fancy goods and yarns. Quotations remain nominally the same.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER PICK.	PER PICK.
Grey Shirts—8 1/2 yds. 35 inches	\$2.50	to 2.80
Grey Shirts—8 1/2 yds. 45 inches	1.80	to 3.35
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	1.60	to 1.90
Indigo Shirts—12 yds. 44 inches	1.95	to 2.90
Points—Assorted, 24 yds. 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.18	to 0.35
Velvets—Black, 35 yds. 22 inches	7.75	to 9.90
Victoria Lawn, 12 yds. 42 inches	0.75	to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.50	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.40	to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	3.00	to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	PER YARD.
Flannel	10.30	to 10.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches heat	0.35	to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches Medium	0.30	to 0.34
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches Common	0.25	to 0.27
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 yds. 36 inches	0.15	to 0.20
Cloths—President, 51 1/2 yds. 36 inches	0.60	to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds. 36 inches	0.50	to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds. 80 in.	0.50	to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICK.	PER PICK.
Nos. 16/22, Singles	\$39.00	to 41.50
Nos. 18/24, Singles	41.00	to 43.00
Nos. 18/24, Singles	46.00	to 48.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00	to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75	to 51.50
Nos. 1/60, Plain	61.00	to 62.00
Nos. 1/80, Plain	75.00	to 77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00	to 100.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	72.00	to 79.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	89.00	to 95.00
Nos. 3/100, Gassed	110.00	to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICK.	PER PICK.
American Middling	\$18	to 20
Indian Broach	24	to 25
Chinese	25	to 26

METALS.

Nothing doing. Quotations nominal.

	PER PICK.	PER PICK.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15	to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40	to 4.50
Sheet Iron	6.20	to 6.50
Galvanized iron sheets	10.00	to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00	to 6.50
Pin Plates, per box	5.00	to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.10	to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	4.80	to 5.00

KEROSENE.

The market still continues dull in the extreme, with quotations unchanged. An improvement is looked for now that the hot weather is nearly over, when purchases for the early winter generally commence. Stocks here and afloat are ample but not excessive.

	PER PICK.	PER PICK.
American	\$2.60	to 2.66
Russian	2.00	to 2.06
Langkat	—	—

SUGAR.

A fair business has been done in Brown, principally Manila, and prices have a tendency to harden. Little has been done in White refined.

	PER PICK.	PER PICK.
Brown Takao	\$3.90	to 4.00
Brown Manila	4.20	to 4.80
Brown Daitong	3.20	to 3.25
Brown Canton	3.30	to 3.40
White Java and Penang	6.50	to 6.60
White Refined	7.30	to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Market quiet at late rates, with the turn in favour of buyers, but quotations are nominally unchanged. A hardening exchange also works against holders.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Katra 9/11, 10/12 den.	830 to 900
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	810 to 850
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	820 to 803
Filatures—No. 14, 13/15, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	800
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	815
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	815
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/15, 14/17 den.	815
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	815
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	815
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	815
Kakedas—Extra	810
Kakedas—No. 1	780
Kakedas—No. 14	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 2	760
Kakedas—No. 21	760

WASTE SILK.

In statu quo. Dealers want to raise prices to a parity of those ruling in the Raw Market; but shippers cannot give such figures and consequently nothing is doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	—

TEA.

The market continues fairly brisk for this season of the year, though the total sales of the past week only amount to a little more than half of those of the previous week, being 228,300 catties against 430,000 catties. Prices have been well maintained and there is little stock of the sorts wanted left on the market. Quotations are unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$31 to 38
Finest	30 to 32
Fine	29 to 30
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Telegraph lines are still interrupted and there is no news from abroad; no change in rates.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 to 1/4
— Bills on demand	2/0 to 1/4
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/8
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	2/53 to 1/4
— Private 4 months' sight	2/57
On Hongkong—Bank sight	9 1/2 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	11 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	83 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	85 1/2
On India—Bank sight	150
— Private 30 days' sight	153
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	50 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2/04 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/08 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	25

[FROM THE FORTY STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo September 10th

Five per Cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds	94 30
Redemption Loan Bonds	96 65
War Loan Bonds	95 85
New Public Loan Bonds	91 30
Old Public Loan Bonds	83 00
Naval Loan Bonds	96 30
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100 00
Japan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	98 00
Sanyo Railway Company—paid up yen 33	47 80
Ryomo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	88 00
Kansai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	39 50
Kobe Railway Company—paid up yen 15	109 00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 41	59 30
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up yen 25	36 00
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 50	90 30
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 23	34 80
Sagami Railway Company—paid up yen 50	83 00
Kawaguchi Railway Company—paid up yen 50	53 50
Chikugo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	79 00
Hantan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	40 00
Boso Railway Company—paid up yen 50	45 00
Sohn Railway Company—paid up yen 50	104 00
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50	77 00

Nishinari Railway Company—paid up yen 44	60 00
Toyokawa Railway Company—paid up yen 35	35 00
Hokuyetau Railway Company—paid up yen 33	34 50
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47 50	30 00
Seiwa Railway Company—paid up yen 3	1 80
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 18 50	7 50
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 30	15 70
Kozuke Railway Company—paid up yen 50	30 00
Nanao Railway Company—paid up yen 37 50	32 00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	53 80
Tokyo Hay Steamship Company—paid up yen 25	30 00
Domestic Transport Company—paid up yen 40	40 00
Japan Transport Company—paid up yen 15	15 50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	176 00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25	90 00
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up yen 25	37 70
Kanaguchi Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 50	53 80
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	63 00
Miyu Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	100 00
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 15	38 00
Japan Weaving Company—paid up yen 50	18 00
Tokyo Weaving Company—paid up yen 50	205 00
Japan Beer Company—paid up yen 40	70 00
Japan Cement Company—paid up yen 85	34 00
Time Canal Company—paid up yen 40	12 00
Fuji Paper Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 50	75 00
Sapporo Sugar Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 47	53 50
Hokkaido Hemp Manu. Co.—paid up yen 50	50 00
Japan Seaweed Company—paid up yen 25	32 50
Yokohama Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 41	48 00
Shinagawa Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 31	40 00

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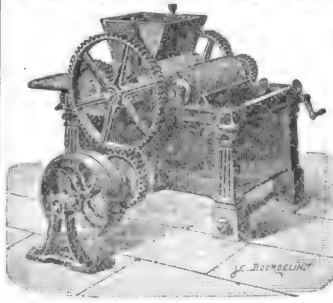
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17.

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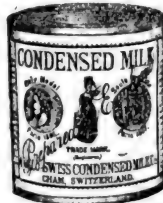
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48ins.

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And see that each Jar bears Justus von Liebig's
Signature in Blue Ink across the Label.

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length of time.

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To be had of all Storekeepers and Dealers.

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No. 156, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1897.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

三年五十二拾明 Vol. XXVIII.
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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 18TH, 1897.

DEATH.

On 7th September, 1897, at No. 7, Bund, Tsukiji, Tokyo, CHO (KITIV), the beloved wife of Edmund P. Pallister.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A SUBMARINE cable from Hokkaido to the Kurile Islands has been laid.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE left Hayama for Kamakura on the 11th instant.

TRAINING has begun for the races at the Autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club.

THE crack Russian cruiser *Rurik* arrived at Yokohama on Wednesday morning.

THE Japanese cruiser *Naniwa Kan* left Honolulu for home on the 7th instant.

A DYNAMITE explosion in a mine at Johannesburg has caused the death of several people.

MARQUIS ITO, now staying at Oiso, paid a visit on the Crown Prince at Hayama on the 9th

inst., and offered to His Highness some presents which he had brought from Europe.

FIFTY thousand troops are now assembled on the Indian frontier. The Afridis are still showing fight.

THE Government officially sanctioned the construction of the new harbour at Osaka on the 8th inst.

OFFICIAL permission has been granted for the establishment of a bullion exchange in Tokyo or Yokohama.

FIFTY houses were wrecked and a boy and horse killed by the storm of the 9th instant in Tochigi Prefecture.

THE telephone lines in the capital, which were broken in many places by the recent storm, have all been repaired.

LIEUT. COLONEL IGNACIO ALTAMIRA and Senor Rodrigo Azpiroz have joined the Mexican Legation in Tokyo as attachés.

THE number of cases of dysentery throughout the country this summer, up to the 11th inst., was over 47,000 and deaths over 9,300.

AN employé of the Boso Railway Company was killed at Chiba station on the 13th inst. by a collision between a locomotive and a stationary train.

THE peace negotiations at Constantinople are proceeding very slowly, though Germany has at last come into line with England regarding the indemnity.

The new Brazilian Minister to Japan, Senor Lisboa, was received in audience by the Emperor on the 15th inst. and presented his credentials.

ABOUT 316,000 silver *yen* pieces and 29 700 *yen* in Japanese bank notes were brought from Hongkong to Yokohama on the 10th inst. by the *Empress* boat.

DURING the gale of the 9th instant the Tanko Kaisha (Colliery Company) lost eight lighters and some 100 tons of coal. The loss will amount in all to about yen 10,000.

T.I.H. PRINCES FUSHIMI and KANIN, who went to Kyoto to attend the fifth anniversary of the death of the late Princess Fushimi Kageko, returned to the capital on the 12th inst.

ACCORDING to a London telegram received at the Yokohama Specie Bank on the 13th inst., Japanese Consolidated Loan Bonds were quoted at £98, showing an increase of £3.

The Tokyo Tramway Company being about to change its present system to that of an Electric Railway, proposes to increase its capital to yen 3,000,000, the present capital being yen 1,000,000.

THE Foreign Department will next year establish Legations in Belgium, Turkey and Spain and five Consulates at Marseilles (France), Hamburg (Germany), Odessa (Russia), Calcutta (India), and Kanko (China).

DURING the storm of Thursday, the 9th, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha lost three boats in the Bay of Shinagawa, together with much cargo. The Company's store houses at Etchu-jima, Okawabata, and other places were all inundated.

THE manoeuvres which are to take place between the 5th Army Division (Hiroshima) and the 6th Army Division (Kumamoto) in the northern part of Kyushu will commence on the second of November next. The centre of the manoeuvres will be in the vicinity of Dazaifu.

A CONSIDERABLE number of the more conservative members of the Administration Investigative

tion Committee have been removed and their places filled by new officials, the new appointments including several Vice-Ministers of Departments and a number of newly appointed Councillors.

As the port of Chinnampho in Daidoko Province, Korea, is opened to foreign trade on the 1st of October, one European, a Japanese, and two Koreans are reported to have left Chemulpo on the 5th inst. for the new port to open the Customs office there.

THE owners of the Austrian-Lloyd steamer *Melpomene* have attached the Blue-funnel steamer *Patroclus* and demand yen 30,000 for damages caused by the latter vessel to their ship during the typhoon of the 9th inst. The suit was commenced in H. B. M. Court on Wednesday before Mr. Justice Wilkinson.

THE following personages have been granted permission by the Board of Decorations to accept and wear the silver Jubilee Commemorative Medals conferred on them by Queen Victoria:—Mr. Saito Momotaro, Secretary of the Imperial Household Department; Captain Funnaki Rentaro, of the Navy; Marquis Kido Kosei; Lieut.-Colonel Murata Shun; and Lieutenant Kata Sadakichi of the Navy.

The most serious accident caused afloat by the typhoon of the 9th inst., was the total loss of the Norwegian barque *Alette*, with nine lives. The *Alette* was bound from Vancouver to Yokohama, with a cargo of lumber. She was caught in the typhoon in entering the gulf of Tokyo, all her sails were blown away and her steering gear broken. She was then dashed on the rocks at the entrance to Tateyama Bay, and smashed to pieces. The Captain, second mate, carpenter, steward and two seamen saved their lives by jumping on the rocks, but the rest of the crew, nine men, including the chief mate, were drowned.

THE Import market cannot be said to have improved much during the past week for it still remains dull and stagnant. In shirtings nothing is doing and in fancies and woollens next to nothing in spite of a slight weaving in prices. In yarns, a few transactions have taken place and the prospect for the immediate future looks a little brighter. In metals there have been considerable arrivals and dealers have taken delivery of goods to order, but very little new business has been done. The kerosene market is firm at improved rates, but transactions so far have been on a small scale; it is probable, however, that business will shortly improve, as the brisk season in the illuminant is approaching. Arrivals of sugar, China, Manila and Formosa brown, have been fairly large, and sales have been effected in the first two sorts. In white refined there has been a small business. Prices of brown have dropped 10 to 25 per picul, white remaining unchanged. The export business has been much brighter. Quite a small excitement occurred in the silk market and large purchases have been made at a material rise in quotations all round. The waste silk market has at last opened and a very fair business has been done for a start. Prospects are bright for the future in both raw and waste silk. A steady business has been put through in tea, though sales have dropped off during the last two weeks. Shipments of earlier purchases have been large. In rice nothing has been doing for export, and prices have gone up to such an extent that there is a semi-panic in the market and many of the rice exchanges have temporarily suspended business. Exchange is firm at slightly improved rates.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Administrative reform has long been a formula to conjure with, writes the *Yiji Shimpō*, but its accomplishment remains as yet in the lap of the future. There is no question of reorganizing the Government *in toto*. What has to be done is simply to re-arrange the already existing components. That does not sound as though it should be a very difficult task, but it must be difficult or it would have been achieved ere now. Where, then, is the difficulty? It lies wholly in the fact that the so-called reformers do not work in unison. The conduct of an administration may be compared with the management of a household. It would be of little service that the domestics of an establishment were inspired by economical motives, if the master of the house wasted money on entertainments or the mistress on dress; neither could the affairs of the family be successfully managed if side by side with close scrutiny of accounts and curtailment of unnecessary expenses, the old and serviceable purveyors of the establishment were dismissed in favour of new and untried men. In a word, reform to be really complete must be undertaken by every one connected with the household, and the same is true of State administration. But it seems very plain that unanimity of purpose and action is precisely what is wanting on the part of Japanese officialdom. Futile attempts at reform are made here and there, but they do not extend to the whole body politic, and are not sustained. For example, an apparently sweeping scheme of reform was recently carried out in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, to be followed by similar measures at the Departments of Home Affairs and Communications. But there the movement seems to have stopped. So, too, the much discussed appointment of *Chokunin* Councillors has been effected, in the case of four Departments, and has stopped there. If such officials are essential, they must be needed in all the Departments, not in four only. Looking at these things, it is impossible to hope that the administrative reforms now projected will be seriously and successfully carried out. We see, on the one hand, a Department abolished and we hear declarations that no additions are to be made to the ranks of officialdom under any pretext; yet, on the other, new and untried men are appointed and posts are created for them, under the pretext of *jinsai toyo*, or the utilization of talent. Unless the Government can secure the co-operation of all its members in carrying out its projected reforms, they will fare as all reforms have hitherto fared, and that will be bad for the Cabinet, which has not a particularly bright record to present to the Diet in the approaching session.

The same subject occupies the attention of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* at considerable length, and much the same conclusion is reached. The *Nichi Nichi* thinks that this talk of administrative reform is only talk. It is true that when Count Matsukata accepted the responsibility of forming a Cabinet last year, he pledged himself to a large scheme of administrative reform, and it is also true that a show of fulfilling the pledge was made by appointing a Commission of Administrative Inquiry. But the composition of the Commission did not inspire the public with much confidence in the success of its labours, nor has the recent action of the Cabinet tended to remove the unfavourable impression. The Commission has been allowed to fade quietly out of the vista of public observation, and the Cabinet has proceeded to create new offices and to fill them with men possessing no official experience. Observers are compelled to ask whether party politics rather than administrative reforms are not the mainsprings of the Cabinet's procedure. Administrative reform does not consist in merely re-grouping the officials that serve the State, re-distributing them among the various bureaux, and re-constructing the bureaux themselves. Such things are, for the most part, mere show. What is really wanted is genuine co-operation

on the part of all officials to secure the speedy and efficient discharge of public business, and from that wholesome improvement the Administration appears to be as far as ever removed, nor do the Cabinet's schemes of reform promise to shorten the interval materially.

This question of Administrative reform now occupies public attention almost to the exclusion of any other subject, and our readers will not be surprised to hear that the *Hochi Shimbun* also discusses it. The *Hochi*, however, confines itself to criticizing the composition of the Commission of Administrative Inquiry—a somewhat tardy criticism, seeing that the Commission was appointed nearly a year ago, and that its labours are now understood to have been completed. However, the *Hochi* taking note of the fact that the Commission is composed exclusively of prominent officials belonging to the organization which is supposed to need reform, compares the Government's action in appointing such a commission to that of a man who should set himself to build a new house with old timbers. In certain parts of the edifice old timbers may unquestionably be used to advantage, but to employ old timbers only is obviously a poor kind of proceeding. If the Government is really in earnest, it had better infuse some new blood into the Commission's veins, so as to convince the public that the promised reforms mean something more than the remodelling of official ranks without any change of official methods or official spirit.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* has a clever article with reference to Japan and Russia in Korea. It commences by noting that the new Russian Representative is now engaged in discussing with Count Okuma the arrangements necessary by way of supplement to the Yamagata-Lobanow convention. Exactly what these arrangements may be, the *Kokumin* does not know, but it apprehends that no very momentous question is on the tapis. Beyond doubt, the prime purpose of both sides is to secure the maintenance of Korean independence. The cause of the war between Japan and China, as the public is well aware, was that the latter Power, taking advantage of Korea's internal dissensions, sent troops to the Peninsula, and by attempting to convert into a practical reality the shadowy suzerainty previously claimed by her over the little Kingdom, threatened to disturb the balance of power in the Far East. That Japan yielded to the protest of the Three Powers with respect to the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula was because, although, in taking possession of the Peninsula, she had done what seemed advisable in the interests of oriental tranquillity, she saw that, by retaining it, she would endanger that tranquillity. The negotiations conducted by Marquis Yamagata on the occasion of his visit to Russia were equally actuated by the desire of reaching, with regard to certain important Korean affairs, such an understanding as would conduce to the preservation of the peace of the Far East. When we speak of the peace of the Far East, we include also the preservation of peace with Japan's Western neighbour, and, in brief, the preservation of the peace of the world. If we inquire what factor is most likely to prove immediately injurious to that peace, the answer is, internal complications in Korea. Thus, then, the best way to preserve the peace of the East, in other words, the peace of the world, is to maintain the independence of Korea, and to avoid complications calculated to produce friction there. These objects can evidently be best attained by a clear understanding between Japan and Russia. It is because such an understanding does not exist that Korea is, from time to time, shaken by internal disturbances. Now a pro-Russian party raises its head, now a pro-Japanese, and their rivalry and conflicts constitute grave menaces to general peace. If Japan and Russia were in thorough accord, if they had entered into an agreement without mutual reserve of any kind, there would be no *raison d'être* for a philo-Russian coterie in Korea, no *raison d'être* for a philo-Japanese, no

menace to the tranquillity of the Orient and no menace to the tranquillity of the world. A ravelled skein can not be straightened out by hasty fingers; the best way to clear muddy water is to suffer the sediment to subside. So it is with Korean affairs. Any open attempt to check complications must tend to promote them. To correct the situation without any overtly applied remedy, to exercise tranquillizing influence without any perceptible show of exercising them—that is the plan which Russia and Japan must devote themselves carefully to pursue. Instead of a positive policy of intervention, they must adopt a negative. Instead of direct supervision, they must continue to supervise without any evidence of doing so. Their great object must be absolute and honest co-operation. Anything like mutual rivalry for the sake of selfish advantage can not fail to induce complications in Korea, and to involve both Powers in grave troubles. Their only policy must be to prevent without any show of prevention; to administer without any show of administration; and thus to profit mutually without directly seeking to profit (*fusegasaru wo moite kore wo fusegi, osamesaru wo moite kore wo osame, shikashite tagai ni risearu no ri wo risuru ni aru nomi*). That is the true way to prevent domestic complications in Korea, to preserve the peace of the Orient and to turn to full advantage the understanding between Japan and Russia. Upon Russia and Japan devolves the responsibility of contriving that the tranquillity of the East may be secured by the three great steps taken in its interests, the war with China, the intervention of the Three Powers, and the Yamagata-Lobanow Convention.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which has always been distinguished for its advocacy of maritime enterprise, writes at considerable length on the subject of the Formosa-Amoy steamship service, which, it contends, ought to be in Japanese hands. At present the route is monopolized by vessels belonging to the Douglas S. S. Company, a state of affairs which our contemporary finds even more anomalous than would be the monopolization of the Shimonoseki-Fusan line by foreign vessels. The *Yomiuri* adduces statistics to show not only the commercial importance of the line, but also the political advisability of getting it into Japanese hands. The idea is not new. Marquis Ito entertained it when he presided over the Cabinet, and he investigated the question on the occasion of his trip to Formosa. But the conclusion seems to have been reached that, however advantageous might be the performance of the service by Japanese steamers, little hope could be entertained of competing successfully with such a well established line as that of the Douglas Company. If, however, the Government, recognising the importance of the matter, sets aside a good round sum by way of subsidy, a Japanese company would have no difficulty in competing. The *Yomiuri* alleges that the annual passage of Chinese between Amoy and Formosa is over seventeen thousand, either way, and that Amoy is practical the port of import and export for Formosa.

The *Shogyo Shimpō* reverts to the subject of the gold currency, and adduces figures to show that the proposed system rests on an absolutely secure basis. We imagined that this matter had been pretty fully threshed out, but since doubts still seem to exist, an epitome of our contemporary's figures will not be out of place:—

Amount of silver yen exported from	YEN.
Japan up to July 31st, 1897	114,474,448.
Amount put into circulation at home	36,791,415

Among the silver coins sent abroad, there can be no question that a large quantity have gone to the melting pot, and that many have been either lost or defaced. It is estimated that, taking a liberal view of the matter, not more than from one-third to one-fourth of these coins will return to Japan for exchange, and that about two-thirds of the silver yen in circulation at home will be presented for the same purpose. Hence it appears that the Treasury may

look forward to being required to exchange from 53,146,222 yen to 62,685,759 yen. Now the gold reserves stand thus:—

	Yen.
Stock of gold in the Treasury	76,468,670
Do do in the Bank of Japan.....	39,530,173
Do do lying in London.....	43,000,000

Total 158,998,843

Hence, if from 53 to 63 million silver yen-pieces be presented for exchange, the stock of gold remaining after the transaction is completed will be from 106 to 96 million yen, and to this must be added 100 million taels, the amount of the Indemnity still to be received from China. It is plain, therefore, that the provision made by Government is abundant for the purpose, and that not the smallest anxiety need be entertained about Japan's competence to carry out the task to which she has put her hand. She will find herself, of course, in possession of a considerable stock of silver. For example:—

	Yen.
Silver now in the Treasury	29,680,000
Silver now in the Bank of Japan	27,000,000

Total..... 56,680,000

If to this we add from 53 to 63 millions of yen-pieces presented for exchange, it is seen that the stock of silver on hand will be from 109½ to 119½ million yen. Out of that total some 50 or 60 millions will be required for purposes of subsidiary coinage, so that there will remain from 59½ to 64½ million yen. Of course that amount will not be thrown upon the market at once. Opportunities to dispose of it quietly and gradually will not be wanting.

SOME REMARKABLE BAROMETRIC PHENOMENA.

A short essay of high importance was recently sent in to the Directorate of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha by Capt. J. F. Allen, late of the *Meiji Maru* and now the senior captain of the Company in so far as trans Pacific voyages are concerned. The observations of Captain Allen were made while in command of the *Wakanoura Maru*, *Yamaguchi Maru*, and *Matsuyama Maru*, all plying between Yokohama and Seattle; and give the result of investigations made during the course of six voyages, one being to Seattle via Honolulu, while all the others were directly across the Pacific, either going or coming. The course taken by the N.Y.K. boats between Yokohama and the Puget Sound port, is very similar to that followed by the Canadian Pacific liners, with the exception that the N. Y. K. steamers often run much nearer to the Aleutian islands than do the "Empress" ships. The southernmost islands of the Alexandrinov Group are occasionally approached within two miles, while these sturdy little freighters rarely go farther south of them than 10-15 miles. There is hereabouts, however, a most pertinacious fog-belt, probably consequent upon the warmer current of the Kuro Shiwo coming into contact, just south of the archipelago, with the arctic marine rivers. On the *Matsuyama's* last voyage across the Pacific, for instance (July 19th—August 6th), the steamer was unquestionably on one occasion within three miles of land, yet despite hundreds of puffins, divers and guillemots proving its close proximity, no terra firma was to be seen. The fog would at times lift, things within a radius of 1½ miles becoming faintly visible. From the monthly charts published by the U.S. Hydrographical Bureau, it is evident that a fog-belt, of a persistent nature, ranges in the months of May to September between N. latitude 43° 52' and from 155° of E. longitude to 170°-165° of W. longitude. The weather is of a very variable nature. Snow-squalls and white squalls are frequent above 48°; while circular storms with mountainous seas and heavy fog are as often encountered when the vessel begins steaming directly contrary to the direction of the Kuro Shiwo. As a rule, the winds range between W.N.W. and E.N.E., veering from E. to W. and W. to E. without any appreciable cause, and often shifting from one point to the

almost exactly opposite one, three or even four times within twenty-four hours.

On each of the six voyages above referred to, between, broadly speaking, E. long. 153 deg. and W. long. 165 deg. and the 27th to 52nd degrees of N. latitude, the barometer was observed to act in a manner absolutely independent of the weather and entirely irreconcilable with existent atmospheric conditions. This irregularity or phenomenal behaviour was most pronounced in the more northerly latitude, 45 deg. and above; observable, however, though in a much less degree, as far south as 27 deg. On a rough computation, the width of the area thus affected was about 1,500 nautical miles. Starting, say, from the 165th degree of W. longitude, the barometer falls steadily, wholly irrespective of the weather, until a minimum is reached generally a little W. of the meridian; thence the mercury rises as gradually, and the moment it regains its normal condition the weather clears up, as a rule, though on one occasion this meant that nothing more than the horizon was visible for a few hours. This steady fall followed by a steady rise is absolutely independent of the weather. The fall does not indicate either a change or a storm, while the glass on several occasions rose in the teeth of a coming squall or fresh gale. It is evident therefore that between the above mentioned degrees of latitude and longitude, the barometer is not a sure guide and rises or falls in sympathy with something besides the state of the atmosphere.

Most noticeable was this abnormal behaviour of the thermometer found to be in the very deep water between 5°-51° N. lat. and 165°-170° E. longitude. Now here or hereabouts lies the so-called Tuscarora Deep, and an average depth of 4,000 to 4,500 fathoms is found throughout. The suggestion lies at hand that the barometer is indicating a submarine rise; a steady upheaval of the bed of the ocean. In the great seismic wave of last year, it will be remembered, the theory that the submarine trouble originated in or near the Tuscarora Deep, found many believers. If there were seismic or seismo-volcanic agencies at work far down in these gloomy ocean-abysces, a sudden upheaval of the ocean-bed may very probably have sent the terrible wave on its journey of destruction.

The voyages during the course of which these observations were made covered very nearly if not quite a year. But no matter what the season, the phenomena were invariably recorded, the barometer always acting in this inexplicable fashion. If, however, it is true that this barometric rise and fall indicated a slow rise of the ocean-bed, and if the phenomena are much less strongly marked as one proceeds farther south, or below the 45th degree of N. latitude, it may not be wrong to conclude that the rise is going on more quickly between the 45th and 52nd parallels of N. latitude. It would be, all things considered, of prime interest to take fresh soundings in these great depths and to test just how far the ocean-bed has moved upwards. It may be—who can say?—that we are about to witness the gradual formation of another group of islands, or some mid Pacific continent. And if indeed the barometric disturbances really prove that the ocean-bed thereabouts is rising, it is quite possible that we may again have to witness great seismic disturbances. With this unpleasant probability in view, a thorough investigation of the indicated area is surely advisable, and one can but hope that some Government will take the matter in hand.

It is finally of importance that these data should be brought to the attention of mariners. Observing the steady fall, the master of a sailing vessel would perforce shorten sail in expectation of a blow—and thereby possibly lose favourable wind and much time; or again, deceived by the abnormal rise, the same master mariner might set all sails, to meet shortly with a fierce squall or small cyclone. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha is certainly to be congratulated upon observant commanders in its employ, for it is quite possible that these data collected by Capt. Allen will turn out eventually to be of great scientific interest.

EFFECTS OF THE STORM IN TOKYO.

A detailed list is now published of the damage done by the storm in Tokyo. These are the particulars:—

District.	Persons killed.	Persons injured.	Houses wrecked.	Houses 1' or more blown d'n.	Telegraph & Poles killed.	Oxen killed.
Nihon-bashi...	2	1	1	—	75	—
Shiba	1	2	12	—	—	—
Kyohashi	—	—	13	59	—	—
Honjo	—	—	10	406	—	—
Fukagawa	—	—	18	3,200	—	—
Knishikawa	—	—	3	1,500	—	—
Yotuya	—	—	4	2	—	—
Akasaka	—	—	1	—	—	—
Kojimachi	—	—	—	—	54	—
Kanda	—	—	—	—	20	—
Hongo	—	—	4	—	—	2
Shitaya	—	—	6	—	—	2
Asakusa	1	4	8	—	—	—

It need scarcely be said that the arrangements of the Electric Light Company were dislocated. That result is easily achieved. But the company is not to be blamed in this instance, except for the initial mistake of running its wires over-head. No poles supporting heavy electric-light wires could have withstood the blow of Thursday morning.

On the Tokaido Railway the Ejiri Station was altogether demolished, not a single building being left erect. The line, too, was so much injured that the train due at Shimbashi at 9 a.m. did not get in until 1.40 p.m.

Two barges laden with ten thousand catties of coal for transmission by the Japan Railway, were moored near Azuma Bridge. They were blown over, and all the coal was lost.

The rivers in the neighbourhood of the city rose considerably, of course, but we do not learn that any serious inundations resulted. The figures given to show the heights by which these rivers rose are:—Ara-kawa, 8½ feet; Edogawa, 26 feet; Nakagawa, 8½ feet; and Sumidagawa, 12 feet.

From the *Tokyo Asahi*, which gives a detailed account of the inundations in Tokyo and adjoining districts, we gather the following:—The Yodogawa began to swell on the night of the 9th instant, and eventually rose to one foot higher than it did at the time of last year's inundation. The embankments of the river Tone being far from substantial in structure, were in imminent danger of being washed away. Steps were taken to prevent their destruction by the engagement of coolies at midnight to strengthen the embankments. The Nakagawa rose three feet higher than its ordinary level. Reports received by the *Tokyo Fucho* contain the following particulars:—The rivers in Minami Tama and Kita Tama rose seven and nine feet respectively, and still continued to rise. On the 10th instant, the embankments for a distance of 300 *ken* were overflowed and in danger of being destroyed. Fortunately, however, the Tama, which had attained the height of seven feet over its original level, began to subside, and only slight damage was done to the embankments now in course of repair. The Yedokawa continues to rise, having reached thirteen feet above the normal on the morning of the 10th. It seems to increase at the rate of six inches an hour. A telegram from the Governor of Saitama announces that many of the rivers have risen higher than last year and that telegraphic communication was suspended in the districts along the river Yedo. At 6 a.m. on the 10th Koiwamura was entirely inundated in consequence of the overflow of the river, which rose more than twelve feet. Traffic on the Tokaido railway has been restored but a portion of the O-U line is still impassable.

Mr. E. A. Morphy has shaken the dust of Kobe from off his feet. According to one authority he has left for work on the Afghan frontier, but a paragraph in the *Kobe Chronicle* leads one to suppose that he is accompanying Mr. Cowen to Hongkong, to share his work on the *Telegraph*.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Viscount Sugi Magoshichiro has been appointed a member of the Privy Council, and Mr. Yamada Kinoshige is gazetted Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives.

Viscount Aoki, with the Viscountess and Miss Aoki, are now staying at the Imperial Hotel. The general impression appears to be that the Viscount will be appointed a Privy Councillor, as a temporary measure. His Excellency has certainly won his laurels as Japanese Representative in Berlin, but after five years' service in that city, his return to Japan must be a welcome change.

Our readers have not forgotten the assault said to have been committed upon Mrs. Carver, wife of Captain Carver of the American ship *R. D. Rice*. It was alleged that a clerk in the store of Messrs J. Matsumoto and Company, in Moto-machi, Kobe, "set upon the lady and badly bruised and blackened her," without the least provocation. It is, indeed, difficult to conceive any provocation which could justify such brutality, but we merely state the facts as they were related by a Kobe newspaper. The case came up for trial before the Hyogo Local Court on the 4th instant, a criminal charge being laid against the alleged assailant, but the Court dismissed it, on what grounds we are not informed. An appeal has been lodged by the Public Procurator, and the Osaka Appeal Court will be invited to review the finding of the lower tribunal. The *Kobe Herald* shows some want of equanimity in writing about the affair. It alleges that we "saw fit to insinuate that it distorted things maliciously in giving publication to the details of the assault," and that we "subsequently swallowed the lie thus expressed." It further insinuates that justice is not likely to be done by the Osaka Court "in view of the influential standing of the Matsumoto's." We trust that the latter prediction is not well founded. Unfortunately Mrs. Carver has left Japan, and consequently the Court can not have the advantage of receiving her evidence in person. Moreover, the accusation seems to rest solely on her unsupported statement, and as the people of the shop doubtless tendered unanimous testimony in rebuttal, the failure of the prosecution is easily understood. It is a pity that the mystery can not be elucidated. We call it a mystery, because, despite the outcry of cheaply courageous folk who discover a fine patriotic satisfaction in denouncing every impartial disposition to judge a case on its merits and not simply in accordance with the promptings of racial prejudice, we decline to believe that a foreign lady was deliberately set upon by the inmates of a respectable Japanese shop, and so severely handled as to carry away palpable marks of ill-treatment. It will be agreed by all moderate persons that judgment must be suspended in the Matsumoto affair until fuller details are forthcoming. What seems to us very singular is that the *Kobe Herald*, which has conspicuously committed itself to a final verdict, does not endeavour to vindicate its sense of justice by direct reference to the Matsumoto store. We have had one side of the story. Why not the other also?

The plan that seems to be now in favour for making next year's income

equal to the contemplated expenditures, is to raise twelve million *yen* by increasing the rate of the *sake* tax and interdicting all brewing of *sake* for domestic use, but to refrain from any other addition to the present weight of taxation. There will still remain a deficiency of 11 million *yen* on the side of revenue—the excess of estimated outgoings over incomings being 23 millions. But it is claimed that the Treasury always puts the revenue at too low a figure when compiling the Budget, and that as a natural increment of income amounting to two million *yen* may reasonably be anticipated next year, there can be no objection to including that expectation in the estimates. In other words, an actual provision of twelve millions will be made by means of the *sake* tax, and the revenue will then be set down at such a figure as the expenditures dictate. Even if the sources of revenue now in sight do not yield the expected increase of ten or eleven millions, there is the new Tariff to fall back upon. Its operation can not be very much longer deferred, and, once in force, it will yield an additional revenue of some six millions. Such, according to the *Mainichi*, is the plan now on the tapis. But our contemporary is evidently uncertain of its ground. It mentions another plan, namely, recourse to the surplus revenue. There is no considerable sum of surplus revenue, in the true sense of the term, but there is a large sum—50 millions, it is said—of unexpended revenue; that is to say, revenue appointed by the Diet for certain works which it has not been found possible to carry out within the fixed period. That unexpended revenue might be temporarily employed—in the alleged opinion of some financiers—to tide over the deficiency in next year's income. But, of course, such a method of financing would be quite unsound.

An Imperial Ordinance has been issued dissolving the Fukui Prefectural Assembly which, as has already been stated in these columns, assumed a markedly contumelious attitude towards the Governor.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* states, for the information of the public in general, that the exchangeable bank notes marked "one-*yen* silver" will circulate, after the 1st proximo, as one-*yen* gold notes. In other words, five of the old notes will be at all times equivalent to, and may be exchanged for, a five-*yen* gold note. Of course the silver notes will ultimately be withdrawn altogether from circulation, but until that can be accomplished, they will do duty as gold notes.

The Administrative Reform Commission, as now constituted, consists of six Vice-Ministers, four Councillors of Department, and two Directors of Bureau. It formerly included the Vice-Minister of the Navy, the Vice-Minister of the Army, and the Paymaster-General of the Army. From the elimination of these three officials, it may be assumed that the Military and Naval Departments are excluded from the scope of the contemplated reforms.

A sale of State Railways is again said to be under serious consideration. The Communications Department, we read in vernacular newspapers, asked for an appropriation of 10 million *yen* in next year's Budget, to be applied to the development of railways, telegraphs and telephones. Seven millions out of the ten were struck

out, however, by the financial authorities, and the Department is now casting about for some independent source whence the required funds can be raised. The sale of the Osaka-Kobe Railway to the Sanyo Company, and of the Aomori-Hiromaye line to the Nippon Railway Company is reported to be under discussion, as is also the sale of all spare land owned by the Government in the neighbourhood of railway stations. There is said to be a considerable area of such land, and it would now command a high price for the purpose of erecting tea-houses, hotels, and warehouses. It seems a great pity that Japan can not make up her mind to have recourse to foreign markets for capital.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN IN KOREA.

The views of a moderate, level-headed journal like the *Shogyo Shimpō* on a subject of such interest as the relations between Russia and Japan in Korea, are worth hearing. They are views put into the mouth of "a certain statesman" described as notably well versed in the matter but as they are published without any expression of dissent on the part of the *Shogyo*, they may be taken, we presume, as having that newspaper's endorsement. "Russia," the anonymous statesman is represented as saying, "has had her eyes fixed on the East for some time. If she had anticipated, at the commencement of the war between Japan and China, that victory would rest with Japan, her interference would not have been deferred until after the conclusion of a treaty of peace by the belligerents, but would have been exercised before the opening battle at Yashan. But her conviction at that time was that Japan would never be able to make head against the immense armies of China and that she had no chance of ultimate success. It would seem, too, that the disasters which overtook China at Pingyang and the Yalu were not very seriously regarded at St. Petersburg: they were considered to be merely temporary reverses. But the annihilation of the Peiyang Squadron, the capture of Port Arthur and Weihaiwei, and Japan's menace of moving on Peking itself, startled Russia, and induced her to form the triple alliance, by means of which she was able to control Japan, and to accomplish the first part of her own programme in the East. Her ambition is directed towards the Orient, and though she has a number of plans in view, it may be said that the step she is now engaged in taking towards the goal of her aims is to win the heart of the Korean nation. She is, moreover, spending large sums every year on the Siberian Railway. The steady march of her ambition is not to be checked, but, at the same time, it is probably a mere fiction to say that she intends to consummate her purpose before Japan's military, and naval expansion is complete. She does not labour under any apprehension as to the meaning of the Convention concluded between Prince Lobanow and Marquis Yamagata, but the plan pursued by the diplomatic officials of strong Powers in their foreign relations is to secure every possible advantage for their country, and the rule observed by their government is never to give up an advantage once it has been secured. That, indeed, may be called an unavoidable policy nowadays. If, as rumour alleges, an agree-

ment has been concluded between Russia and Korea for the employment of the former's drill instructors by the latter, it will be a very difficult matter indeed to prevent it from being implemented, especially since Korea's desire is to hold Japan at a distance and to get closer to Russia. Korea must be treated for the present as if she were eight parts Russian and two parts Japanese, so far as her feelings towards the two are concerned. Under the circumstances, it is evident that very little can be expected to result from the negotiations now proceeding between the Japanese Foreign Minister and the Russian Representative.

We take it that the above may be regarded as a tolerably accurate *exposé* of the ideas entertained by the average Japanese observer. The subject is not one that lends itself usefully to newspaper comment just at present. Japan's statesmen doubtless know very well what they are doing, and, for the rest, no one that has watched the progress of events carefully for the past twenty years, can have much doubt about the issue.

MARQUIS ITO IN BELGIUM.

One of the Brussels journals contains an account of the visit of Marquis Ito to Belgium. The Marquis was accompanied by quite a large party, namely, Baron d'Anethan, Belgian Minister to Japan, Mr. Kurino, Japanese Representative in Paris, Mr. Akabane, Japanese Representative in Holland, Mr. Nabeshima, Secretary of the Foreign Office in Tokyo, Mr. Nishi, Secretary of the Legation in Berlin, Mr. A. Halot, Consul for Japan in Brussels, Mr. Vander Elst, of the Belgian Foreign Office and others. The party were met at the station by Mr. Suzuki, Japanese Consul in Anvers, Mr. Masuda, and Mr. E. Liffe, Agent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. They proceeded to the N.Y.K.'s ship *Kanagawa Maru* and were entertained at a *déjeuner* given by the Company. Several speeches seem to have been made, but the reports given in the Brussels journal are too meagre to be worth reproducing. Marquis Ito proposed the health of the King of the Belgians, and Baron d'Anethan, in a speech said to have been much applauded, proposed that of the Emperor of Japan. Mr. Halot toasted Baron d'Anethan, and the latter, speaking in English, invited the company to drink to the success of "the great and powerful company" whose hospitality they were enjoying. The health of the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs was proposed by Marquis Ito. Subsequently a visit was made to the objects of interest in the city, and in the evening Marquis Ito dined at the Court, and received the Grand Cordon of the Order of Leopold. *Le Matin*, in concluding the account from which we extract these notes, says:—"The Belgians that had the honour of meeting Marquis Ito and his companions, were pleased to find that Japan possesses men so affable and so well-informed; and that, from that point of view, Japan can certainly hold her own with the great Powers of Europe."

The proposed Tosa Railway Company having received a charter the other day, some of the promoters held a meeting on the 12th inst. and consulted about the details of the construction of the line, which will run for a distance of 33 miles from Susaki to Yamada.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

With regard to the export trade of Kobe, the *Fiji* states that the market is almost at a standstill. The export of rice on the 8th instant amounted to 606 tons, valued at 53,275 *yen*. Of this figure 139 tons were native uncleaned rice, worth 12,243 *yen*, and 467 tons were cleaned rice valued at 41,032 *yen*. Since the last transaction was made with No. 12, copper has continued to rise in price. On the 11th instant, fifty tons were sold to the same firm at \$27.30 per picul. Prices are still rising. In imports, foreign beans and peas are stagnant and indicate no change whatever. The refuse of beans found a good sale, being quoted on the 9th inst. at 1.95 *yen* per bag. The beans imported on the 11th inst. were as follow:—White, 900,000 catties; green, 300,000 catties; red, 100,000 catties; refuse, 1,150,000 catties.

The recent storm is supposed to have devastated to a considerable extent tobacco plantations throughout the empire. The Finance Department has issued instructions to the various Tax Bureaux to investigate and report on the damage. Information from Kanagawa prefecture already brings an account of damage which is really beyond imagination. It announces that the tobacco plantations there have been entirely destroyed. If Hatano district, which is renowned for the production of excellent leaf, has been laid waste, there is every reason to suppose that other noted localities in Mito have met with a similar fate. The damage done to the tobacco farms in Kwanto is scarcely less considerable. The revenue of the Government from this source is expected to fall off this year by several millions of *yen*, but inasmuch as there is no such margin of possible loss, the estimate is plainly excessive.

The *Fiji Shimpō* states that at a meeting held in Nagasaki on the 2nd instant by representatives of the tea producers of Kiushiu, the following provisions were decided upon:—(1) Tea producers of Kiushiu shall, in addition to conforming with the general policy of the corporation, devote their energies to extending sales in Russia and the northern territories of China. (2) A scheme for opening a new market in Russia shall be carried on continuously for seven years from now, and steps shall be taken to obtain at once a sum of 20,000 *yen*, out of the 70,000 granted by the Treasury in aid of tea projects, so that arrangements may be made for carrying out this object. (3) In order to accomplish the above ends, three delegates shall be despatched to the proper Department in Tokyo to obtain a subsidy from the Treasury for the purpose of extending tea sales in Russia; and rules shall be framed to facilitate the work and to specify the duties of all tea dealers in Kiushiu.

The Hankwaku Railway Company proposes to hold its general meeting about the 20th inst. when the progress of the work will be reported, and a dividend declared. The work of repairing and constructing the Kanzaki Ikuse railway on the Company's line has, says the *Fiji*, steadily progressed and is expected to be completed by the end of this month, and new rails will be laid at the same time between Ikeda and Ikuse, and Tsukaguchi and Nagasu, the latter line being expected to be finished early in next month, at which time the Kanzaki-Ikuse railway will be opened for traffic. Three locomotive engines ordered in America and thirty-six goods trucks, as well as other cars ordered through the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and other companies, having lately arrived, steps are now being taken to put them together in the Ikeda workshop, while eleven passenger cars building at Nagoya are to be completed by the end of the month. The paid-up capital of the Company amounts to two million *yen*, and the dividend to be declared is at the rate of 5.6 per cent.

The complication between Osaka *Fu* and certain influential citizens with regard to the harbour construction, has, according to the *Yoroku*, not only been amicably settled, but

furthermore a sum of 50,000 *yen*, which was paid to Mr. Shibukawa, one of the objectors to the scheme, by the Municipal Council for a piece of land, has since been contributed by him towards the work. The Home Department lately sanctioned the programme and also the scheme for raising a municipal loan, with the proviso that a subsidy of 468,000 *yen* will be granted by the Treasury in aid of the project for ten years from the 34th year of *Meiji* (1901). The principal instructions issued by the Minister of Home Affairs with regard to the harbour construction scheme are as follow:—(1.) The work of construction shall be commenced within three months from the date of issue of these instructions, and be completed within eight years from the commencement of the work. (2.) On the completion of the work of "filling in," an area of reclaimed land of 100,000 *tsubo*, specified by the Minister for Home Affairs, shall be transferred to the Government without charge, the rest of the land to become the property of the City. When the filling in is finished, reclaimed land to the extent of 380,000 *tsubo*, in the vicinity of the pier, as specified by the Minister for Home Affairs, shall, under no circumstances, be withdrawn from the ownership of the City.

The raw silk of Italy and France is more than a match for the Japanese production, remarks the *Tokyo Asahi*, and Japan has in the future to face a formidable rival in the European markets in the product from China, which is rapidly increasing in reputation. To these facts the silk producers in Japan ought to direct their serious attention. As to the cause of the development of sericulture in China, a gentleman who lately made a tour of inspection through the various districts in that country reports that the three provinces, Su, Kiang, and Chou, all renowned for the production of silk, recently contributed money towards payment of the indemnity to Japan. A certain amount of surplus was subscribed, and as it was found difficult to return the same to subscribers in due proportion, it was appropriated, with the consent of the people, to the establishment of a semi-official silk factory, where a plant on the Italian model was fitted up under the supervision of Italian experts. The project induced manufacturers to organise similar institutions in various localities. The process adopted by them bears no semblance to the temporising system of *sakuri*, which is universally resorted to in Japan, and enables the manufacturer to turn out his goods free from all imperfections for export to European markets.

What will be the excess of imports over exports for this year is a question, remarks the *Mainichi*, which the public are eager to have answered. The figures of the foreign trade of Japan for the first eight months of this year, compared with those for the corresponding period of last year, were as follow:—

	1896-Yen.	1897-Yen.
Exports	98,705,129	16,209,076
Imports	137,023,821	112,395,071
Excess of imports ...	38,318,692	43,186,895

Thus an increase of forty-three per cent. is noticeable in exports and of twenty two per cent. in imports over those of last year. The excess of imports this year has decreased by five million *yen* as compared with the amount for last year. The cause is due to the steady development of the export trade rather than to a decrease in the amount of imports. Yet it must be remarked that the export trade which seems to have attained unusual dimensions during the first eight months of this year, was doubtless stimulated by the American tariff question. Now that this problem has been settled exports must be expected to diminish gradually. Cotton yarns in particular and other staples of export have already shown signs of decrease, and it is not altogether improbable that the imports for the remaining four months will increase to such an extent as to exceed the fifty-four millions of last year.

Along the picturesque coast of Tagonoura, in Shizuoka Prefecture, stood many fancy villas, owned by famous Japanese actors such as Messrs. Ichikawa Danjaro, Fukusuke, Enno-

ake, Dampachi and others. These pretty houses were nearly all wrecked during the storm of the 9th inst., and in addition, we learn that the father of Mr. Dampachi, 82 years of age, was crushed to death during the gale by the fall of his house.

The amalgamation of joint-stock companies, the *Sekai no Nippon* asserts, involves the formality of their previous dissolution, in accordance with the provisions of the Commercial Code. The process is accompanied with great trouble and delay, and attempts at amalgamation are therefore rare. The officers of various banks and railway and spinning companies are consequently now preparing a petition to the Government urging the advisability of framing special regulations for the amalgamation of corporations.

Investigations made by the Finance Department and published in the *Yorodun* show that the total values of exports and imports during August this year amounted to 12,997,933 yen and 20,442,498 yen respectively, 7,445,565 yen being the balance in excess of imports. This, added to the amount of excess since January, gives an aggregate of 38,318,672 yen. Under these circumstances it may be expected that the total excess of imports by the end of this year will not be less than fifty millions. The import and export of gold and silver coins presents a different aspect, the excess of imports during this month being only 267,939 yen. A large proportion of the coins have been imported for exchange.

The reputation of the Chinese Silk in European markets seems to have been misunderstood by the Japanese, the *Tokyo Shimbun* remarks, for superiority in the eggs. This delusion has had the effect of inducing native sericulturists to import eggs of Chinese breeding for rearing. Nevertheless, according to investigations made by a certain gentleman who lately travelled through the various silk producing localities in China, it seems that sericulture in the "Middle Kingdom" is carried on without any regulations either for strict control or inspection, and that therefore the silk worms are not altogether free from a peculiar disease of virulent type. The import of these worms, it is feared, will quickly spread the virus to the original breed of Japan. Warning is thus rendered necessary to the silk producers of the country.

A report from Shizuoka, published in the *Tokyo Asahi*, places the total number of deaths there from the late storm and floods at 38, persons injured 42, houses collapsed 1,060, partially demolished 1,040, damaged 4,000. Damage done to rice crops in Hikisagan has extended over 4,000 cho, decreasing the crop by two per cent. Sugar plantations in various villages were damaged to the extent of twenty per cent. on an average.

A report of the Cotton Spinning Guild for the first half of this year published in the *Yiji* shows the number of allied companies to be 54, net profits 2,489,808 yen, reserves 757,100 yen, and dividends 1,388,678 yen. The average amount of net profit per company has thus exceeded 46,108 yen, with reserves of 14,202 yen and dividends of 25,716 yen, the rate of dividend being more than 10.13 per cent. per annum. This rate, however, is not the same with all the companies. The maximum dividend belongs to the Hirano Spinning Factory, being forty per cent. The Kashiwasaki, Konokizawa, Hiroshima, Azukijima, and Fukuushima Companies paid no dividend at all, while some companies even made a loss. The statistics on the whole, compared with those for last year, show an increase of 2 companies, of 21,300 yen in net profits, of 145,789 yen in reserve and of 113,003 yen paid in dividends.

According to the *Yiji* the amount of silver yen imported to Yokohama during last month was as follows:—From Singapore, 150,000 yen; from Amoy, 7,500 yen; from Shanghai, 2,750; from Hongkong, 124,000; and from Penang, 50,000; making a total of 334,250 yen. Of the

above 300,000 yen had already been received by the middle of last month, the amount decreasing towards the end. In the beginning of this month, however, a large increase was noticeable, the aggregate of the week reaching 500,000 yen. The number of yen brought from Hongkong and Shanghai by the Canadian Pacific and Japan Steam Navigation Companies' steamships during the past few days having reached the following figures, the total receipts for this month will probably exceed one million yen:—

	Amount.
Consignor: Ch'nd Bank's H'kong Branch	300,000
Consignee: Yokohama Chartered Bank	
Consignor: H'kong Chinese Merchant...	16,000
Consignee: Mianan, Yokohama	
Consignor: Ch'nd Bank's S'pore Branch	100,000
Consignee: Chartered Bank Yokohama	
Consignor: H'kong Commercial Bank...	25,000
Consignee: Jardine, Matheson & Co...	
Consignor: Sh'hai Chinese Merchant...	2,000
Consignee: Hung Ta, Yokohama	
Consignor: Jardine, Matheson's S'pore Branch	7,000
Consignee: Jardine, Matheson & Co...	
Total	531,000

In addition to the above figures the Chartered Bank of Yokohama is said to have imported convertible notes to the amount of 20,860 yen.

In an article on the subject of national finance and economy, the *Kokumin* says:—Some critics are inclined to think that despite the possibility of the outflow of specie from Japan abroad, in consequence of the excess of imports, no reduction in the amount of currency can be expected to take place so long as any portion of the indemnity remains to be appropriated for administrative expenditure. What amount of specie will ultimately be in circulation as a result of the appropriation of the indemnity? To what extent can the excess of imports continue without causing a reduction in the amount of currency? The following table shows the outlays to be made from the indemnity for payments to foreign countries for *post bellum* undertakings, and the balance which will remain in circulation in the interior:—

Year.	Outlays of indemnity.	Payments made abroad.	Balance for circulation in the country.
1896	40,000,000	30,750,537	9,249,463
1897	32,930,100	25,571,981	17,358,119
1898	34,934,122	48,288,560	13,994,440
1899	31,818,363	31,618,782	1,200,418
1900	23,751,738	22,012,758	1,738,980
1901	18,912,931	10,801,831	8,111,100
1902	6,773,702	5,890,014	883,688
1903	8,088,660	8,633,792	545,132
1904	53,198	718,180	664,982
1905	75,217	484,550	409,333
Total	227,099,813	224,390,548	2,709,265

From the above it may be perceived that payments to foreign countries on account of *post bellum* and other Government undertakings are greater than the amount to be appropriated from the indemnity. An exodus of specie must therefore be anticipated as the inevitable result.

H.I.H. Prince Akihito, President of the Military Art Society, is reported by the *Tokyo Asahi* to have summoned the directors to his temporary residence in Osaka and delivered to them a memorandum containing the following instructions:—In the administration of this society discretion must be exercised at the outset in order to attain our ends. The Society, in the course of its progress so far, has proved successful and has every prospect of growth. Despite the extreme heat of the season, officers were despatched to various parts of the empire for the purpose of enlisting new members, while vigorous steps were also taken to encourage youths in the training and development of their physical strength. Perseverance and assiduity will doubtless lead to speedy success. The Society takes upon itself the responsibility of a most important enterprise in relation to the development of the fundamental spirit of the nation and its members are warned against departing from the programme originally determined. The by-laws of the Society should be decided upon by discussion at a general meeting. Failure in any social enterprise originates in most cases from financial mismanagement,

and records and accounts must therefore be kept on a sound basis and with precision. Frequent changes of officials hinders the progress of the Society, and the fullest consideration must be paid to their selection at the outset. Steps must be taken to establish branches so that the military arts of the Society may be widely diffused. Shooting and horsemanship in particular should be encouraged. Kyoto being the seat of the *Buikuden* (the ancient court where military arts were taught) and the head-quarters of the Society, should be made a model for the empire. It is said that about ten thousand members are to be enlisted in Kyoto within this year.

According to the *Yiji*, the demand for kerosene oil in Shikoku, Kiusiu, Echizen, and Tamba has increased considerably of late, as it is extensively used in the destruction of locusts and other noxious insects. Kobe is reported to have lately sent about 200,000 cases to these districts. The market is now cleared of stock, and prices are rising day by day. The supply of "Chester" brand held by native dealers in Yokohama has also decreased, but they appear unwilling to offer the rest for sale fearing that, should they clear off their stock, they may soon find themselves obliged to buy from foreign merchants at disadvantageous prices. Some have resolved to hold their goods until the arrival of vessels that sailed at the end of April, when they may suddenly bring their stock into the market. Russian oil has risen, and is still rising. Quotations on the 14th inst. were as follows—"Chester," 2.08 yen; "Comet," 2.06; "Anchor," 2.10 yen; "Star," 2.04 yen; "Tank," 2 yen.

The amount of revenue to be paid into the Treasury within this month is reported by the *Mainichi* to exceed 13,550,000 yen, inclusive of taxes on urban and rural lands, income, *saké*, and soy. Payments on shares of various companies amount to 6,350,000 yen, of which three millions are receivable by the Japan Railway Company and two millions by the Funakoshi Railway Company. These facts might lead us to anticipate tightness in the money market. But since the sale of silk has been extremely brisk this year and tended to invigorate transactions of all descriptions, the money market remains as peaceful as ever, the rate of daily interest on loans to private individuals being from 2.7 sen to 2.9 sen per 100 yen. In short, funds are procurable without hindrance. Even the Bank of Japan's Weekly Report shows a considerable decrease in loans and discounts negotiated. The amount of repayments made to the Bank was unusually great, and though more or less stringency may be expected, as a rule, towards the close of the month, the financial world will be easy by the beginning of next.

According to the *Shogyo* the accounts of the Bank of Japan for the week ending the 11th instant stand as follow:—

Convertible notes issued.	Excess over legal limit.	Specie reserve.	Reserve securities.
Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
6 192,781,077	11,192,480	102,417,120	90,363,957
7 191,850,617	10,714,589	101,964,551	89,886,066
8 191,207,499	10,677,396	101,358,626	89,848,873
9 191,165,472	12,535,593	99,458,502	91,706,970
10 190,842,041	12,957,373	99,529,119	91,312,922
11 190,671,642	13,359,901	98,065,182	92,606,460

From the above, it may be perceived that despite the decrease in amount of convertible notes issued during last week, and in the specie reserve held by the Bank, the amount of notes in excess of the legal limit has been gradually increasing.

An election of a representative of the Lower House was held in Saitama prefecture on the 14th instant, but owing to the great number of electors the result could not be ascertained that day. According to a report made by Mr. Nakajima, Director of the Progressionist Party, who has returned from Saitama, it seems that the action of the Liberals was indescribably violent and almost beyond control. Mr. Oshima seems to have received 2,400 votes; Mr. Nagase,

2,100. The rivalry in the fifth electoral section was especially keen. A telegram received by the authorities on the 14th instant, with regard to the competition between the two parties, runs as follows:—"Last night the district of Yoshikawa was the scene of terrible strife. The *soshi* of the two parties assailed each other in Hikonari village, one of them from Mr. Nagase's party being shot and killed, and another from Mr. Oshima's party, severely wounded." The above account is taken from the *Hochi*.

Since the fall in the value of silver and the rise in the rates of exchange with China, the trade with that country in marine products has almost come to a standstill. The following comparative table published in the *Shogyo* gives details:—

EXPORT.	AUGUST, 1897.		AUGUST, 1896	
	Catties.	Yen.	Catties.	Yen.
Dried Cuttlefish—				
China	1,290	194	28,923	4,271
Hongkong	1,603	262	30,960	4,924
Salmon and Codfish—				
China	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	15,865	798	244	17
Dried Sea-slug—				
China	17,857	7,147	29,959	10,641
Hongkong	6,500	2,977	10,546	3,304
Seaweed—				
China	1,248,370	16,626	3,764,760	56,712
Hongkong	97,162	1,375	55,080	656
Cut seaweed—				
China	291,329	6,086	823,292	16,739
Hongkong	2,646	53	—	—
Herrings—				
China	5,105	1,814	2,724	1,061
Hongkong	14,101	4,635	11,562	2,780
Awabi—				
China	2,283	1,102	4,478	1,656
Hongkong	38,960	15,074	52,428	20,820
Lobsters—				
China	—	—	280	42
Hongkong	—	—	1,115	164
Dried Sardines—				
China	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	5,111	218	—	—
Cytherea meretrix—				
China	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	—	—	210	17
Vegetables—				
China	6,389	785	19,348	2,018
Hongkong	51	4	2,889	284
Kaibashira—				
China	284	78	20,345	5,205
Hongkong	2,278	557	6,774	1,846
Shells—				
China	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	—	2,342	—	784
Sundries—				
China	16,005	1,043	39,586	2,876
Hongkong	—	—	—	—

Totals...1,773,246 93,870 4,905,503 136,916

Thus the staple exports to Hongkong, such as salmon, codfish, seaweed, &c., show a slight increase compared with last year, but the figures on the whole have decreased 64 per cent. in quantity and 54 per cent. in total value. Nevertheless, the price of silver having risen slightly at the beginning of this month, quotations for dried sea-slug and *awabi* rose two or three *yen* higher than last month, and transactions in these commodities began to revive. Japan has no rival in the supply of marine products to China, and the scarcity of stock in Shanghai, which may be expected to take place before long, will hardly fail to restore the trade to its former prosperity. Yet Japan, as a gold country, must be prepared to accept all the risks involved in transactions with the silver-using countries of the Orient. Marine products exported to China in particular are constantly liable to vicissitudes consequent upon fluctuations in silver. Merchants engaged in this branch of trade must therefore be prepared to meet any contingency.

On July 31st, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Leader of the House of Commons, rode from Downing-street to the House on a motor-car, on which was also Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P. The start from Downing-street was witnessed by Mr. Chaplin, Sir W. Walsford, and other members of the Government.

TOTAL WRECK OF THE BARQUE "ALETTE."

NINE MEN DROWNED.

The telegram from Chiba published in Friday's issue of the *Japan Mail*, reporting the wreck of an American sailing vessel on the coast of Boshu, is now known to have referred to the Norwegian barque *Alette*, 1,306 tons, which left Vancouver for Yokohama, timber laden, on the 3rd of July last. Late on Thursday night, the Consul for Norway and Sweden at this port, Mr. J. H. de Reus, received a Japanese telegram informing him that the *Alette* was stranded near Tatehama, on the northern point of Tateyama Bay, at the entrance to the gulf of Tokyo, that ten of the crew had been drowned and assistance was urgently wanted. Mr. Reus, Captain Carst, Surveyor for Veritas, Capt. Weston, Mr. Laffin, Doctors Eldridge and Munro, and a representative of Messrs. Frazer and Co., consignees of the *Alette's* cargo, started for the scene of the disaster before 4 p.m. on Friday in the Canadian Pacific Co.'s steam-tug *Spindrift*, in charge of Captain Pope. The tug arrived back in Yokohama about 6 o'clock this morning, bringing with them the Captain, the second mate and three seamen of the *Alette*, the rest of the crew, nine men, having lost their lives. The surviving members of the crew after arrival at Yokohama were at once conveyed to the General Hospital, all being more or less hurt and exhausted, there they remained till Sunday morning. The *Alette* was a Norwegian barque of 1,306 tons, built in 1879, and owned by J. Gullichsen. She left Vancouver, consigned to Messrs. Frazer & Co., with about 800,000 feet of lumber.

Messrs. Eyton and Pratt's auction room was crowded on Monday morning on the occasion of the sale of the wreck and cargo of the barque *Alette*. The cargo, consisting of some 900,000 feet of Oregon pine, in the log, and as it may be found along the shore, was first put up in one lot. The bidding began at \$1,000 and rose by hundreds and fifties, the latter figure being the minimum bid allowed. There appeared to be several Japanese syndicates among the possible buyers, as well as a number of foreigners. By the time the bidding had reached \$7,000, nearly all the Japanese had dropped off; but from that figure it was carried on by the foreign buyers up to \$11,200, at which price it was knocked down to Capt. Weston. The second lot, consisting of what is left of the ship herself and her apparel, was knocked down to a Japanese iron dealer for \$1,400.

We understand that the bodies of three of the nine members of the crew of the *Alette* who were drowned, have been recovered and buried; one of them being that of the first mate. The survivors of the disaster, Captain Lornstelen, G. Telefen, second mate, J. Johansen, steward, A. Borj, sailmaker, and Charles Linstrom and Peter Hammons, seamen, are being looked after by the Norwegian Consul and will probably be sent home by the first opportunity.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

The Yokohama Specie Bank held its regular half-yearly general meeting on the 10th inst., Mr. Soma Nagaiane, President of the Bank, being in the chair. The report for the past half-year, presented by the Directors and passed at the meeting, shows that the total profits during the term amounted to *yen* 4,769,970 and the expenses to *yen* 2,087,208, leaving a balance of *yen* 2,682,761, to which *yen* 195,296 brought forward from the previous account was added, making a total of *yen* 2,878,058. From this sum *yen* 3,500 was written off property account, leaving a balance of *yen* 2,874,558; of which *yen* 561,500 was appropriated for payment of a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, *yen* 350,000 laid aside as reserve, *yen* 160,755 voted as remuneration to officials, *yen* 1,500,000 declared as a special dividend at the rate of 4 per cent., *yen* 50,000, passed to reserve for building purposes, and *yen* 251,303 carried to new account.

"LANDING OF A FOREIGN ARMY IN HOKKAIDO."

The above sensational heading introduces an article in the *Tokyo Asahi*, dealing with nothing more terrible than some military manoeuvres that lately took place in that part of the empire. The Third Battalion of the Local Militia seems to have been the force employed. In compliance with an order issued by the Commandant of the Seventh Division, the Battalion assembled at Takigawamura on the 4th instant, and having entered the train, was about to proceed to Sapporo, when fresh instructions reached it to the effect that a foreign force having taken possession of the Shigarua coast, and effected a landing at Awajiri, measures must at once be adopted to repel the invasion. The Battalion accordingly marched to Hokke, and having passed the night there, moved on to Kyomizu-dai the following morning. Scouts reported that the main body of the invading force had passed through Chubetsu at 8 o'clock that morning, and was advancing inland. Meanwhile the instructions issued to the invading army—composed, apparently of one wing of the Battalion—were that the enemy had landed at Muroran and were about to march upon Sapporo when news reached them of the landing effected by the invading force at Awajiri, whereupon they had changed front and moved in the direction of Daibagahara, whither the invaders were to proceed for the purpose of attack. The two bodies came into action in the afternoon, but the result not being decisive, fighting was resumed on the following day, the invaders being repulsed in the end.

JAPAN AND THE BEHRING SEA QUESTION.

The Honorable Charles S. Hamlin, late Assistant Secretary of the United States Treasury, is now on a visit to Japan. He has come here officially for the purpose of inducing the Japanese Government to take part in the Behring Sea Conference, but inasmuch as the Government had decided upon that course before Mr. Hamlin's arrival, his visit has been superfluous so far as its immediate object is concerned. He will be able, however, to convey to Japanese officials a clear idea of the view taken by the United States Government, and that, we presume, is considered desirable by the Cabinet in Washington. To outside observers, however, the aim of the Conference does not look very practical. What the United States Government desires, is the drafting and enforcement of a system of regulations imposing restrictions upon pelagic sealing. Assuming that the arguments advanced by the Washington Cabinet establish the advisability of the course, how is it to be enforced? Pelagic sealing is not poaching, neither can any area of the high seas be monopolized by a group of Powers for the purpose of conducting or preventing pelagic sealing. The United States, Russia, Japan and Great Britain may agree to abstain from pelagic sealing in Behring Sea, except under certain conditions, but will their agreement serve to procure the abstinence of other nations also? We see no reason to expect that it will. Already some of the vessels engaged in the business of pelagic sealing have transferred their register to Great Britain, in order to be able to enjoy the larger freedom secured by the English flag. There will be nothing to prevent another transfer of their register, say to Mexico, or Brazil, or Chile, after Great Britain has pledged herself to limit or suspend pelagic sealing. If the scheme is to be practically effective, it must be endorsed by a greater number of States than those now preparing to confer in Washington. Possibly there may be no difficulty in coming to an understanding with all the other Powers of the American continent, but we have not yet heard that anything of the kind is contemplated.

POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE SANCTIONS.

ONE would suppose that a discovery had been made. A party of members of the House of Peers, headed by Prince KONOYE, have issued a brochure, urging the advisability of altering the Fourth Article of the new Civil Code from a negative to a positive form. The Article, in its present shape, reads:—"Foreigners enjoy private rights, excepting those which are prohibited by law or treaty." Prince KONOYE and his fellow-thinkers wish to change it into:—"Foreigners enjoy such private rights as are permitted by law or treaty." Several journals discuss this question as though it were brought upon the *tapis* now for the first time, but the fact is that it has been before the public for nearly two years. Mr. MOTODA HAJIME, a barrister of considerable eminence and leader of the National Unionists, was the first to associate himself publicly with the proposed change. He advocated it by speech and pen in the 1895-6 session of the Diet, and endeavoured to direct the attention of the Lower House to a Bill embodying the principle last session. Public opinion, however, as we recorded in these columns at the time, was manifestly opposed to him. The Bill was quietly shelved, and the leading newspapers of Tokyo unanimously condemned it. With considerable regret, therefore, do we see the idea resuscitated and advocated by Prince KONOYE and his followers. Considered casually the change does not appear significant, but a moment's thought will show that its result would be far-reaching were not foreigners conventionally protected against the effects of such illiberality. With the exception of small portions of the new Civil Code, it may be said that not so much as one Japanese law has been framed with reference to foreigners. Every law now operative in Japan was framed for Japanese subjects, and in the exceedingly rare cases where the framers took account of foreigners, it was merely to provide that they should not be eligible for some particular privilege. Hence to enact that foreigners shall not be entitled to any private rights except those permitted by law, would be to cut them off from all private rights. We recently had an experience which may be recalled in this context. It was in connexion with the revision of the Press Law. Because the revisers did not alter the old formula that "Japanese subjects might edit, own, print or publish newspapers or magazines," certain critics contended that the revised law was intended to withhold those privileges from foreigners. But the fact is that the question of foreign journalists had not been taken into account at all, either when the Law was originally framed or when it was subsequently altered. The critics, in their desire to convict the Japan-

ese Diet of illiberality, interpreted the revised Press Law exactly as Prince KONOYE and his friends now want to have all Japanese laws interpreted. Because the privilege of engaging in the profession of journalism was not explicitly extended to foreigners by the Press Law, therefore, argued the critics, it was denied to them. That is just the principle for which Prince KONOYE and Mr. MOTODA HAJIME want to obtain general recognition. Take the Constitution, for example. It provides that Japanese subjects shall have liberty and sanctity of abode, security from arrest or punishment except according to law; inviolability of correspondence; inviolability of property; freedom of conscience; liberty of speech and pen; and the right of petition. Without these privileges life would be intolerable. But Prince KONOYE's contention, were it put into practice, would, in the absence of treaties, exclude foreigners from the enjoyment of all these privileges unless the Constitution were altered so as explicitly to include them. The idea is quite extravagant. We are glad to think that it will never receive the endorsement of public opinion in Japan. Happily, too, it would be without any practical significance in view of the Revised Treaties. The British Revised Treaty provides that, in all matters connected with the administration of justice, with rights of residence and travel, with succession to personal estate, with the disposal of property, with liberty of conscience, with religious worship, with the payment of taxes, with commerce and navigation, with the owning and hiring of houses, with travel and the transport of goods, with inviolability of dwelling, factory, warehouse and shop, with customs dues, with protection of trade marks and patents, and so forth, British subjects shall stand on exactly the same footing as Japanese subjects. According to the British Treaty, therefore, whatever rights or privileges are granted by Japanese laws to Japanese subjects in connexion with the wide range of matters here enumerated, will accrue to British subjects after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. It thus becomes evident that what Prince KONOYE proposes is, for the most part, frivolous, seeing that foreigners cannot claim any rights and privileges other than those guaranteed to them by treaty, and the rights and privileges thus guaranteed are beyond the range of the projected alteration. But the spirit that prompts such legislation is narrow-minded, illiberal, and discreditable, and we have too much faith in the Japanese people to suppose that they will follow Prince KONOYE's lead.

"Mr. E. T. Hooley's proposal to amalgamate all the freezing companies in Australasia into one large concern, has not met with very warm approval from the persons interested." So we read in a colonial contemporary. The meaning is clear, but the adjectives are somewhat mixed.

THE GOLD SYSTEM.

IT is alleged that many of the foreign merchants of Yokohama are sceptical about the enforcement of the gold monometallic system from the appointed date, namely, October the 1st, and that their doubts have induced them to make prospective exchange arrangements with the banks just as though the days of silver were to be indefinitely prolonged. The rumour is difficult to credit, but it comes to us on authority that we can not question. The banks, of course, are vastly pleased to encounter such a mood: they will make the sceptics pay handsomely to be guaranteed against risks which have only a subjective existence. How any reflecting man of business can seriously suppose that Japan will turn back now from the route deliberately selected by herself a few months ago, we are at a loss to understand. In order to postpone the operation of the Gold-standard Law, one of two courses would have to be taken. Either the Diet must be summoned in special session and asked to change the Law, or an urgency ordinance must be issued by the EMPEROR. The former course is obviously impossible. The Law of the Houses requires that a proclamation convening the Diet, whether for an ordinary or an extraordinary session, must be issued at least 40 days before hand. After August 15th a special session for the purpose of altering or postponing a law which has to go into force from October 1st, became an impossibility. An urgency ordinance, then, is the only feasible expedient. But why should an urgency ordinance be issued? Is it imagined that Japan's official financiers are seriously alarmed by the much discussed prospect of an influx of silver *yen* for exchange against gold? Why, that prospect was from the first regarded as a thing to be reckoned with. It can not surely have been forgotten that the Government made special provision to meet possible loss connected with exchange: it set apart for that purpose all the profits accruing to the Mint from the coinage of subsidiary silver tokens. Those tokens being only 800 fine, there is a clear gain of 10 per cent. to their issuers. Hence, assuming, as the Treasury is understood to assume, that at least fifty million *yen* worth must be struck, there is here a sum of five million *yen* to set against loss resulting from the redemption of the silver *yen*. Now how many *yen* coins are likely to be presented for redemption? The pessimists say 70 millions; the Government says 30 millions. Let us suppose that the truth lies between the two estimates, and that 50 millions will have to be dealt with at a loss of 12 per cent. Then the Treasury is confronted by the possibility of having to put up 2 million *yen* over and above the provision already made to meet the cost of exchange. That is the bagatelle on

account of which Japan is supposed to be scared to the extent of abandoning the whole scheme! The idea is supremely silly. If Japan drew back now, she would be deliberately abandoning all title to international credit hereafter. She would be playing the part of a giddy child in the face of the world, and must expect to be treated as a giddy child. Her method of pledging herself to gold monometallism savoured strongly of levity, and did not tend to promote her reputation in the Occident. But were she now to crown the proceeding by reversion to silver, she might just as well step out of the business arena altogether. If may be taken for granted that she appreciates that phase of the situation. Her responsible statesmen, at all events, appreciate it, and we venture to affirm that there is not the remotest possibility of their retracing their steps. People in Yokohama live at a considerable distance from political Japan, and are not disposed, apparently, to take either the Government or the people very seriously. They are wrong, we think, and we have been telling them so for nearly seventeen years. They seem to have now fallen into the mistake of attaching practical importance to the vapouring of party politicians. All the attempts made by Tokyo journals to invest the gold problem with alarming contingencies, and to suggest the necessity of postponing the operation of the new Law, have been inspired by a desire to destroy the Matsukata Cabinet's credit with the public. It does not suggest a very high sense of responsibility that matters of the gravest national moment should be dragged into the lists of party politics, but as yet nothing seems to be sacred in the eyes of Japanese agitators. The empire's statesmen, however, have never betrayed any disposition to under-estimate their responsibility to their own people and to foreign nations. In financial matters, above all, they have rigidly implemented every engagement made by them, and it is extremely short-sighted to imagine that they will now violate the most serious engagement to which they have ever pledged themselves; an engagement that has attracted the attention of all western countries, is watched with interest by the civilized world, and has already betrayed bankers into transactions of magnitude. Nothing but faith in the Government's determination and ability to consummate the adoption of gold monometallism has kept the silver *yen* ten per cent. above its bullion value during the past month, and the Japanese Government is distinctly responsible for the sterling rate at which the coin is now quoted. Merchants that pay the banks to shoulder purely imaginary risks, are simply throwing away their money, and displaying signal ignorance of Japanese character.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

THE Cabinet has taken a significant and noteworthy step. It has remodelled the Administrative Reform Commission, removing a number of members supposed to be more or less conservative in their views, and replacing them by politicians to whom offices have been recently given under the system of *Fin-sai-toyo*. Thus the Commission now includes Messrs. OISHI MASAMI, TAKE-TOMI TOKUTOSHI, KOMAI JUKAKU, OZAKI YUKIO, and KOMUCHI TOMOTSUNE. Our readers will be able to appreciate the import of this measure when we explain that these five gentlemen have hitherto distinguished themselves as leaders of a political party having administrative reform for a principal plank in its platform, but that, according to their repeated asseverations, their's is a kind of administrative reform differing radically from the kind contemplated by the Cabinet itself. In short, the Opposition in the House of Representatives, and, we may add in the press also, clamoured, during several years, for administrative reform, and insisted that now this Department of State, now that, did not deserve to be entrusted with the management of national affairs, or even with the expenditure of public funds, while the Government, in response to the outcry, made re-castings here or re-constructions there, but always failed to obtain the approval of its critics. We do not suppose that to obtain their approval was ever a possible achievement: they were determined to be dissatisfied. However, time and again the Cabinet of the day promised to do something, and time and again the leaders of the Opposition sought to enforce their view by unconstitutionally encroaching on the EMPEROR'S prerogatives and cutting down official salaries. Retrenchment in that direction was understood to be only a part of their scheme, but they never got any farther, and even the docking of pay already much too small in many instances, could not be accomplished. Perhaps it may be well to recall the last chapters of the record more explicitly. In 1893, a signal collision occurred between the Cabinet and the Lower House, the latter refusing to vote money for naval expansion unless the former agreed to a sweeping reduction of official stipends. The Diet had to be suspended, and for a time things wore a very ugly aspect. But a clever compromise saved the situation. The EMPEROR met the views of the Houses to the extent of ordering that, during a term of five years, official salaries should suffer a diminution of ten per cent.—HIS MAJESTY'S own income being included in the programme—, and met the views of the Cabinet by ordering that the funds thus obtained should be devoted to purchasing war-ships. In the follow-

ing year, the war with China broke out, and the Diet being convened solely for the purpose of granting supplies, no reference to administrative reform could be made. But, indeed, there did not appear to be any very active desire to reopen the question. It did not figure prominently in the debates of the 1895-6 session, and the Lower House, before rising last spring, took a step which seemed to indicate abandonment of the lists: it passed an Address to the Throne praying that the EMPEROR would thenceforth remit the ten-per-cent. reduction of official salaries, which, in the ordinary course of events, should have continued until 1898. We may almost say, therefore, that administrative reform ceased to rank among the burning problems of the day after the celebrated compromise of 1893. Still its existence as a problem demanding solution never failed to be insisted on by the various political parties, nor did they ever forget it when electing their committees and assigning the latter's subjects of investigation. Further, when the present Cabinet took office, its President publicly pledged himself to reform, and no time was lost in organizing a Commission to conduct preliminary inquiries. That is the Commission whose composition has now been materially altered. It originally consisted of 19 members, independently of the President. It has now been reduced to 12; and, moreover, while 13 of the old members have been removed, the six appointed in their places all belong to the ranks of political parties. The Commission, as at present constituted, represents the political parties hitherto standing outside the Government. The opportunity is afforded them of showing exactly what they understand by administrative reform. Probably our readers will be surprised to hear that any doubt exists on such a subject. But the fact is that very great doubt exists. We ourselves have never failed to study the manifestoes issued by the political parties, the speeches of their leaders and the articles of their journalistic representatives, but to this day we remain competely in the dark as to the scope and method of the reforms contemplated by them. However, they are now in a position to dispel all the obscurity that has hitherto shrouded their purposes. The Government has placed the modelling tools in their hands, and commissioned them to shape an image after their own hearts. One result of the plan is that it virtually shifts the responsibility from the shoulders of the Cabinet. When the latter meets the Diet next session, it will be able to point to the fulfillment of three important pledges—the grant of freedom of speech and pen, the recruiting of officialdom from the ranks of "men of talent," and the entrusting of the task of administrative reform to the political parties themselves. It must be confessed that a great change has come over the spirit of Japanese politics during the past five years.

THE HAKODATE AFFAIR.

THE *Chuo Shimbun* is of opinion that the recent complication at Hakodate in connexion with the arrest of six Chinamen, employés of a British man-of-war, should not have been allowed to assume the dimensions of an international question, but should have been "settled out of court." Our contemporary advances that view in consideration of the relations now existing between England and Japan, and quite independently of the merits of the affair. We can not but share the *Chuo's* opinion. It would be a most unwise, and, we hope, a most distasteful, policy on Japan's part to alienate Great Britain's sympathy, and while no moderate person can expect any voluntary sacrifice of rights, every one must understand that such problems are generally capable of solution in a manner which, while entailing no loss of dignity on either side, obviates all subsequent unpleasantness. In the present instance Great Britain is behaving with remarkable forbearance. For our own part, we fail to discover any solid ground for the position originally assumed by her, but the fact that she assumed it is sufficient evidence that she herself deemed it a warrantable position. Her protest, however, was set aside by the Japanese Government, yet she has not renewed it, and there can be little doubt, we think, that she has no intention of pressing it in any importunate manner. The Japanese, on their side, must be well aware that it is not the custom of great Powers to allow their protests to pass unheeded, and that if Great Britain shows such exceptional toleration, it is not because she believes herself to be in the wrong, but because she is unwilling to embarrass a friendly State for the sake of a bagatelle. Another consideration, also, has probably had great weight with her; namely, that, although claiming jurisdiction over the Chinese in question her Consular Courts would not have been competent to exercise it, the offence committed by the men not being punishable under British law. Great Britain does not want to be the accidental means of screening culprits from the consequences of an act which the Japanese authorities deem incompatible with the preservation of good order, though in the United Kingdom it can be tolerated without evil results. Such a motive deserves to be recognised by the Japanese. In truth, while unable to appreciate the grounds upon which the surrender of the six Chinese was demanded, we think that it would be difficult to show greater magnanimity and consideration than England has shown in her conduct subsequently to preferring the demand. The Chinamen have expiated their offence by this time. They were sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment. The law fixes one month and two years as the minimum

and maximum penalties in such a case, but gives the Judge discretion to reduce the punishment under extenuating circumstances, and the discretion was exercised to the full in the present instance. Still the Japanese Authorities declined to surrender their jurisdiction, and certainly the history of Great Britain's dealings with Eastern nations would not have warranted any expectation of the good-humoured tolerance she has displayed in the face of an unsuccessful protest. In the matter of the *Kowshing*, in the matter of the Liaotung retrocession, and now in the matter of this disputed jurisdiction, it must be confessed that Japan has reason to congratulate herself on England's attitude towards her.

THE SENDAI TAXATION AFFAIR.

ONE hears a great many opinions expressed about the Japanese, sometimes complimentary opinions, sometimes condemnatory. But upon our own mind several years' observation has produced an impression which grows constantly deeper, namely, that where a principle is in question, they lose all sense of proportion. That is not by any means a bad characteristic. It finds time-hallowed expression in the nursery rhyme which inculcates the enormity of the sin of stealing a pin. But it may prove an exceedingly inconvenient characteristic where some ill-starred foreigner is the object viewed through the moral magnifying glass. Lying before us at the present moment are three Tokyo newspapers and one Osaka journal, all of the same date (Sept. 9th) each of which contains a lengthy paragraph about the Sendai taxation affair. It really does not matter a straw to the Japanese Government or the Japanese people whether the little band of foreigners living outside the Settlements pay local taxes or do not pay them, especially as all such problems will be finally solved two years hence. But there is a principle at stake, and so Japanese journalists have gradually written themselves into the conviction that this paltry matter deserves large space in their columns. That is precisely what we apprehended from the first. The sufferers are the men that decline to pay the tax. They, too, conceive that there is a principle at stake, and for the sake of that principle have incurred the penalty of being publicly talked about, misconstrued, and regarded as contumelious opponents of Japanese rights. At the outset we perceived very clearly that such would be the case, and ventured to say so. We venture now to repeat our comment that the long delay in settling this question is exceedingly unfair towards the foreigners concerned. A black mark of steadily increasing dimensions is being set against their names, and by and by it will be impossible for them to right

themselves in public opinion. Their most prudent plan would have been to pay the tax at once under protest. But since they have not done so, but have asked for instructions, it is not just that the issue of instructions should be so long delayed as to invest the problem with a fictitious semblance of importance. One vernacular journal says one thing, another says something else, but all alike miss the vital point, namely, that the two Englishmen in Sendai are not attempting to contravene any legitimate right possessed by the Local Authorities or to shirk any obligation properly devolving on themselves. They are simply waiting until official guidance is given to them. They do not deny the abstract principle that every inhabitant of a locality, whatever his nationality, is bound to contribute his due quota towards the necessary expenses of road making, sanitation, lighting, policing, and such matters. But they have been suddenly asked to pay a tax not levied upon foreign residents in any other locality, and not levied upon the other foreign residents in the Sendai locality. Moreover, it is a tax which, according to one of the vernacular journals now before us, was last year pronounced by the British Minister himself to be unwarranted. Naturally they have sought instructions. If they are officially recommended to pay, they will pay with the utmost cheerfulness. But until they receive an official recommendation, they can not pay except under protest, and in the meanwhile they are placed in the pillory and pelted with journalistic missiles in ever increasing quantity. It seems to us that they have legitimate cause of complaint. Moreover, from what we know of Japanese character, we do not hesitate to say that this affair will assume very troublesome dimensions unless it is speedily settled one way or the other. So much has been written in the newspapers, and the principle involved has been given such prominence over the facts, that thousands of persons must feel more or less excited. We are not alarmists and it is possible, therefore, that some weight may attach to our warning. Wherever the responsibility for the delay rests, it has already become a heavy responsibility, and will become heavier unless timely promptness is now shown.

"THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS."

The Department of Foreign Affairs in Honolulu has lent its auspices for the issue of a brochure called "The Hawaiian Islands." It is a beautifully printed book with pretty colotype illustrations, and it contains, apparently, all the information that any one can desire about the Central Pacific Republic, its people, its politics, its industries and its resources. The most interesting feature of the work is a chapter on coffee planting. The writer asserts confidently that coffee planting is destined to become a great industry in Hawaii. There are, he says, large tracts of the finest coffee land in the world only waiting to be cultivated. An accurate

account of the method of coffee planting is given, and to it is appended an estimate of the cost of establishing and maintaining a coffee plantation of 75 acres from the first to the seventh year. Land for such a purpose can be purchased in Hawaii for \$10 (gold) per acre, the estimate is based on the hypothesis that 100 acres are purchased and 75 planted. The first two years show outlay only—a total of \$10,035. In the third year a crop of berries is obtained for sale, but the income thus obtained does not balance the expenditure. In fact, it appears to be necessary to have a capital of about \$12,000. for by the end of the third year the total net expenditures are \$11,505. From the fourth year, the balance begins to be on the right side, if the year's figures alone be considered, but if the whole account from the commencement be cast up the planter does not find himself in pocket until the end of the fifth year. Thenceforth his net gain is some ten thousand dollars annually, and at the end of the seventh year, he finds himself owner of a plantation in full working order, all his initial expenses recouped, and a net profit of \$21,275 [gold]. That is a sufficiently tempting estimate, and we read that the yields in it are far below what may be obtained by thorough cultivation and fertilizing. We observe, however, that no allowance is made for interest on capital. The owner, of course, is not supposed to devote his time to the plantation: he keeps a manager at \$100 a month. With the exception of the latter, the employees are set down as all Japanese, their pay being \$15 monthly.

CHINA'S BORROWINGS.

Do any of our readers recall an essay published in *Blackwood's Magazine* the year before last, discussing the final phases of the war between Japan and China, especially with reference to the parts played by Mr. Detring and Herr von Brandt? If so, they doubtless remember also what paramount stress the essayist placed on the financing of China's first loan by France and Russia, and on the terrible hold thus acquired by the two latter Powers on the throat of the Middle Kingdom. We ventured, at the time, to traverse the writer's ideas very emphatically; pointing out that England stood always in the background, ready to rescue China from any political troubles in connexion with finance, and that the task of supplying Peking with funds to pay the second half of the Indemnity would devolve upon London. For the first half of the Indemnity China had excellent security to offer. No capitalists, receiving such security, placed her under any obligation of gratitude by advancing a hundred million taels. But the second half was a different affair. The security there is by no means so satisfactory, and when we expressed our expectation that England would be China's banker at the time of real difficulty, we also said that the accommodation would be given quietly, as a pure matter of business, without any interference on the part of the British Government, and without any flourish of political trumpets. That is precisely what seems to be happening now. Of course no Englishman will pretend to think that there is any sentiment in the transaction, or that England expects China to feel thankful. If British capitalists advance money, it is because they see their account in doing so. They don't care a row of pins about China's "pretty eyes," nor are they influenced by any political considerations. We shall not hear, therefore, any renewal of the chorus that the alarmists raised when Russia and France undertook the unwonted rôle of finding money for an Oriental country, nor shall we hear from the Russians or the French any sinister suggestions about Great Britain's motives. These differences, however, are precisely the points that deserve notice, and it may be presumed that they will not escape China's notice.

THE "RURIK."

The Russian armoured cruiser *Rurik*, which arrived here on Wednesday morning, and exchanged salutes with the forts and the men-of-war in port, is undoubtedly the most formidable vessel in the Russian Pacific Squadron. Launched in 1894, she is constructed of steel, of 10,923 tons displacement, is 390 ft. 6 in. in length, 67 feet beam, and 26 feet draught, with twin screws and horse-power of 13,250. She is belted with 10 inches composition armour and has a protective deck of 2½ inches steel. The *Rurik* carries four 8 inch, sixteen 6-inch and six 4.7 inch quick-firing guns, as well as eighteen smaller quick-firing and machine guns, and five torpedo dischargers. She can steam 18 knots an hour; and when carrying 2,000 tons of coal can steam 20,000 knots at 10 knots an hour.

THE QUEEN AND THE SALVATION ARMY.

The Queen has given to the Salvation Army a certificate that its members evidently value very highly. This incident of the Jubilee is set forth in the following communications:—

THE GENERAL'S MESSAGE TO THE QUEEN.

To her Majesty the Queen-Empress, Windsor.
Your Majesty,—On behalf of the Officers and Soldiers of The Salvation Army now assembled in London for their Triennial Congress, may it please your Majesty to receive my congratulations upon the long period of your Majesty's reign, and upon the moral and philanthropic advances which have marked the progress of the nation since you ascended the throne.

I desire to offer my assurances of the faithfulness of my people in all parts of your empire to your Majesty's throne and person, and their determination to continue to devote their lives to promoting such works of religion and mercy as are calculated to benefit all classes, but especially the least fortunate of your Majesty's subjects, and by binding them together in the love and favour of God, to help to extend throughout your empire those principles of truth and righteousness which ensure order and good government, and which are the foundations of lasting prosperity.

Your Majesty may ever rely upon our prayers to Almighty God that you and all the members of your family may share abundantly in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and that your Majesty may long be spared to influence your subjects so as to further their well-being for this life and for the life to come.

WILLIAM BOOTH.

HER MAJESTY'S GRACIOUS REPLY.

Windsor Castle, July 20, 1897.
To General Booth,—The Queen wishes to express to all the members of the Salvation Army now assembled for their Triennial Congress her heartfelt thanks for their touching message of loyal congratulations and earnest good wishes.

Her Majesty fully recognises the great and varied works so courageously undertaken by the Army on behalf of so many of their unhappy fellow-creatures in different parts of her empire.

The Queen fervently trusts that Divine guidance and blessing may accompany all future efforts of the Army.

We note, also, that Commander Booth-Tucker has had an interview with the President of the United States:—

Commander Booth-Tucker has had the honour of an interview with the President of the United States. The interview took place at the White House, Washington. The Commander presented a note of introduction from Vice-President Hobart.

The President, who received the General's American representative most cordially, expressed his pleasure at meeting a man of whom he had heard so much, and praised the work of the Salvation Army, in which, it seems, he has long taken a friendly interest.

The Commander presented the respectful greetings of the many thousands of Salvationists in the United States, and told the President that he was on his way West, to make enquiry as to land upon which to begin, on a larger scale, the Army project for colonising the destitute poor of the cities. The President showed much interest in this proposal, and wished the Commander God-speed in his undertaking.

THE CAMPHOR OIL TAX.

The following Notification (No. 9) has been issued by the Governor-General of Formosa with regard to the imposition of a tax on camphor oil:—

RULES OF TAXATION ON CRUDE CAMPHOR OIL.

Art. I.—Manufacturers of crude camphor oil shall pay a tax of three yen per hundred catties of oil produced.

Art. II.—When any camphor oil for which the tax has not been paid is mixed with camphor, or camphor with oil, the tax shall be levied on the whole quantity or weight so adulterated.

Art. III.—With regard to the business of camphor-oil manufacture, Law No. 12 of the 29th year of Meiji shall be applied.

Note.—No person but the holder of a licence for the manufacture, purchase, or sale of camphor is allowed to engage in any of the respective transactions.

APPENDIX.

Art. IV.—These Rules shall be put in operation from the 1st September of the 30th year of Meiji.

Art. V.—Manufacturers of camphor, brokers in camphor oil, or transporters of the same, who may be in possession of camphor at the time of the enforcement of these Rules shall also be dealt with in accordance with the same.

RULES FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE ABOVE REGULATIONS.

Art. I.—No dealer in camphor is permitted to pursue his occupation in a place other than that specified for the purpose.

Art. II.—Any person who has received a license in accordance with the Rules for taxation on camphor need not receive a license for engaging in the camphor-oil trade.

Art. III.—The provisions of Articles II., V., VII., VIII., IX., and XII., of the By-laws for the enforcement of the Camphor Tax Law shall also be applied to dealers in camphor oil.

Art. IV.—Any person violating Art. I. of these Rules, or failing to keep proper account books and bills of lading, or to provide necessary books or to make entries in them, shall be sentenced to a fine of not less than two, and not more than twenty, yen.

Art. V.—Any person making fraudulent entries in the books or purposely neglecting to enter every transaction in them, shall be liable to a fine of not less than five yen and not more than twenty-five yen.

THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS" & THE CAPT.-SUPT. OF POLICE.

In a recent issue the *Hongkong Daily Press* published a letter said to have been addressed by Inspector Stanton of the Hongkong Police to the Captain Superintendent of that corps. Inspector Stanton was charged with neglect of duty—or something worse—in failing to report the existence of a certain gambling house. He compiled a long defence, in which some reflections were made upon the official to whom it was addressed—the Captain Superintendent—but he was nevertheless dismissed from office, despite twenty years' of good service. Indeed, his defence may have injured his cause, for its want of moderation, though probably due to defective skill rather than to any insubordinate impulse, was not calculated to propitiate the Captain Superintendent. The latter came to the conclusion that the publication of the Inspector's letter in the columns of the *Hongkong Daily Press* constituted a libel. He accordingly directed his legal adviser to call upon the newspaper for an apology, but the *Daily Press* declined to comply with the demand. It should be noted that the Inspector's trial was held in secret. The Captain Superintendent is invested with power to deal with such cases on his own responsibility. Mr. Stanton's defence partook, consequently, of the nature of a private document, and its publication will probably be judged a technical offence. The *Daily Press* contends that as Stanton, and the other police officials implicated in the recent accusations of bribery and neglect of duty, were publicly disgraced, they have a right to be publicly heard in their own vindication, although their trial was secret. That seems to us to be an undeniable proposition; but does it cover the ground of the Captain Superintendent's com-

plaint? Mr. May would not think of denying, we presume, that every man is entitled to publicly defend himself against public obloquy. But he may deny, and doubtless does deny, that a newspaper lending its columns for the insertion of such a defence, can avoid the responsibility ordinarily attaching to every act of publication. If the published matter is libellous, the newspaper is held accountable, whatever motive may have dictated the publication. We do not say that Mr. Stanton's letter was libellous. Upon that point no opinion may now be legitimately expressed. But we do say that in addressing its argument to Mr. Stanton's right to make a public defence, and ignoring the nature of the defence, the *Daily Press* seems to place Mr. May in a false position.

KOREAN TOPICS.

Mr. and Mrs. de Speyer arrived in Seoul on September 2nd. They had been escorted from Chemulpo by a number of Korean officials.

All the gold mines in Korea have been made the property of the Royal Household Department, and their control has been transferred to that Department from the Department of Commerce and Industry. We are not clear what the change means.

A Korean soldier appears to have conceived a good device for providing himself with a gun. He took one from a servant of Lieut. Hinehoff, the officer on guard at the Russian Legation, on the ground that the law did not allow private persons to carry firearms. But he did not hand the gun over to the Authorities, and they now are vainly trying to discover who the soldier was. Soldiers seem to discharge police functions in Seoul.

Mr. Min Yungik has been appointed to represent Korea at the Courts of Great Britain, Germany, Russia, Italy, France and Austria. *The Independent* writes about him:—

The newly appointed Minister to the six European Courts is the nephew of the late Queen. He has been for many years, and is still, sojourning in Hongkong and Shanghai. His cousin Mr. Min Yungwhan was sent to these missions early last Spring, but for some unknown reason he delivered his credentials to the Courts at St. Petersburg and London, and suddenly went to America before going to the rest of his accredited posts. He was dismissed from his office and the position has been vacant. The Government has now appointed Mr. Min Yungik in his place for the purpose of fulfilling the mission. We do not know whether the new Minister will return to Korea before his departure for Europe or not, but it is more than likely that he will come back here to receive his instructions before he makes the journey to Europe.

The idea of inducing the King of Korea to assume the title of "emperor" is again on the tapis. The new Prime Minister, Sim Suntak, accompanied by the other members of the Cabinet, was to appear before the King on Sept. 1st, and urge his Majesty to raise himself to the desired elevation. The anticipated programme was that the King would twice refuse, but that, being importuned a third time, he would yield. When this same project was on the tapis last year, some of the treaty-port foreign journals were very confident that the suggestion had come from the Japanese. Do they still hold that view?

We take the following significant paragraph from the *Independent*:—

The War Office has received an official communication from the Foreign Office to the following effect:—The Foreign Office has received a communication from the Russian representative who states that Article 2 of the contract which the Korean Government made with a Russian engineer, Mr. Remnoff, the engineer of the Royal Korean arsenal, allows Mr. Remnoff \$500 as his travelling expenses from St. Petersburg to Seoul. The Korean Government has not yet fulfilled that part of the contract and it is hoped that the Government will pay Mr. Remnoff the amount at an early date. Further, Mr. Remnoff complains that the Korean officials in the arsenal do not follow the instructions of the Engineer in the management of the institution, so that the effects belonging to the arsenal are often missing and the workmen spend the official hours by taking naps. Another unsatisfactory condition of the arsenal is that the Korean officials discharge the employees of

the machine shops so often that no one has time to learn to be an efficient mechanic. The Korean officials do not supply the engineer with materials for carrying on his work and he has been often treated discourteously by them. If this condition of affairs continue the engineer can not render effective service to the Government, and he can not be responsible for the property of the Arsenal. The War Office replied that the Department will see to the various matters mentioned in the communication of the Russian Minister and will remedy the defects as far as is possible within the power of the Department.

A gentleman of Seoul committed suicide on Sept. 1st under circumstances that would have met with Seneca's approval. He left this letter, according to the *Independent*:—

I have been a gentleman of leisure and have always enjoyed my life with the fortune which was left to me by my father. But the money is nearly all gone and I do not expect to get any more. I am a gentleman and I cannot think of doing menial work for a livelihood. The best way to get out of the difficulty and approaching disgrace is to die. Therefore I am going to take the step of self-destruction, and before doing it I leave a few lines here to my friends, bidding them cordial farewell. I want to say one more word, that is, to teach your children a skilful trade or some of the new knowledge of the West while they are young. If they grow up as I did, some of them will be, in after years, in the same condition I am at present.

CHINESE TOPICS.

Baron Guido Vitale, Chinese Secretary to the Italian Legation in Peking, has published a book containing translations of 170 Chinese nursery rhymes. The work is highly spoken of.

We gather from Shanghai contemporaries that China's projected loan of sixteen million pounds sterling has been virtually settled. Mr. Frosell conducted the negotiations in Peking, on account of the Jameson-Hooley Syndicate, and returned to Shanghai on September 5th, with the intelligence that some details about the railway alone remained to be settled. The money lies waiting in London.

The Tientsin newspaper seems to be quite in earnest when it discusses the contingency that "Russia is making preparations for an early spring attack upon Japan, or an immediate one before that Power can receive the magnificent additions to her navy now being constructed in English dockyards." We should not have regarded such hypotheses as serious if our Tientsin contemporary's language left any room for doubt. But it obviously believes what it writes.

The Tientsin community have been relieved from their famine. Consular pressure having been brought to bear on the City Magistrate, he was induced, not indeed to openly withdraw his proclamation against the slaughter of oxen, but to relax his measures for enforcing it, so that the butchers went to work again, and sirloins and steaks are once more to be found on Tientsin dinner tables. It was a curious incident.

With regard to the case of a little boy in Soochow, who was said to have killed his mother accidentally and to have been sentenced to death by the "slicing process," the Rev. W. Muirhead of Shanghai instituted vigorous inquiries, with the object of intervening on behalf of the lad. The results of the philanthropic gentleman's investigation suggests that the story had no foundation in fact. Nothing is known about it at any of the Soochow *Yaméns*.

The *North-China Daily News* says:—"The cotton spinning mills at Hanyang having been handed over to government control, all the female hands hitherto engaged there were immediately dismissed and male hands substituted in their places. The Chinese Government act on the principle that woman's sphere is in her home, and hence never engage females in the public service, but with one solitary exception—female wardens who look after female prisoners."

Mr. Voelkel, the dispensing chemist of Shanghai, through whose mistake in making up a prescription Mr. J. Chambers lost his little boy, was sentenced by the German Consul to

four weeks' imprisonment. There is naturally a great deal of sympathy with him in Shanghai. To have been instrumental in causing the death of a child under such circumstances must have punished him so terribly that the disgrace of imprisonment was not needed.

It is curious to observe that the Peking correspondent of the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, writing under date of September 3rd, gives a very different account of the loan affair. He says:—

Mr. Frisell, the Hooley representative, has been up here with Mr. Platt, endeavouring to work something for British coin, but though I repeatedly saw them running to and fro, looking hot, wearied and worried, I fancy their mission has fallen flat. Whether the quiet and persistent assurance on the part of the Russo-Chinese Bank that, whenever China requires money it is there ready at her hand in the vaults of the said Bank, has had anything to do with her independence, I do not know.

Mr. Frisell, or Frosell, we do not know which, and have to apologise to him for spelling his name in two ways—must have left Peking four or five days before the date of the above letter, and as the information contained in the Shanghai papers was apparently obtained from him direct, it deserves more credit than the speculations of the Peking correspondent.

Mr. Detring has presented to the *Tsungli Pamen* a petition of which the *N.-C. Daily News* has procured a translation. The petition bears no date, but we infer that it was sent in about April last, since it speaks of a first month petition ("previously submitted") as being three months old. Perhaps, however, Mr. Detring indicates the Chinese calendar when he says "first month." If that be so, the date of the second petition would be May. Considering Mr. Detring's reputation and the weight of his words when they refer to Chinese affairs, we should re-produce the document, were it not evidently marred by clumsy translation, and did it not extend to a length incommensurate with the facts it embodies. Briefly speaking, Mr. Detring recommends that China should set about developing her mineral resources as a means—the only means in his opinion—of extricating herself from her present financial difficulties. When he returned recently to China from Europe, he brought out with him at his own charges, a German mining engineer, and caused him to prospect in Chih-li and Manchuria. The engineer's report seems to have been most encouraging. He examined the ores of various places and "found them not at all inferior to those in Germany," coal, also, for smelting purposes being procurable in the vicinity. Mr. Detring's suggestion is that the mines should be managed on the same system as the Imperial Customs; in other words, that they should be placed under foreign direction and organization. It is an excellent suggestion, but that China will act upon it, seems too much to expect. The collection of Customs dues and the working of mines are two very different things, from the national point of view.

Perhaps the most interesting part of Mr. Detring's petition is his very outspoken denunciation of the prominent Chinaman known as Shêng Taotai—now very much higher than a Taotai, since he is a *Tai-changtsi*, or Director of the Court of Sacrificial Ceremonies. Concerning this great person, the position he has attained, and some phases of China's foreign relations, Mr. Detring says:—

There seemed to be no good methods until there appeared on the scene Shêng Ching'ching, who has undertaken to manage the business (mining) and who is becoming a substitute of another "in riding the tiger." Great honours and promotion have been bestowed upon him—he has been made an official of Metropolitan rank and *Tai-ch'angtsi*—Director of the Court of Sacrificial Ceremonies—and Director General of Railways. This is like opening the prison cage to invite people to come and occupy it; but neither Chinese nor foreigners will buy shares from him; both denounce him and no one has confidence in his conduct of affairs. He is riding the tiger and looking about in all directions without the least prospect of help; he enter-

tains the idea of feeding the tiger by cutting up the people. Belgium is a small country with wealth, but it has very little trade with China and there is no great friendship between the two countries. How is it that it can suddenly lend China such a large sum of money? The French, really, are the masters in the business, and the Russians help them, and so Siêng has been able to arrange his loan with Belgium. This matter is now settled, but China's danger is ever present. For instance, the Russian railway is to communicate with Manchuria and French railways will connect with Lungchow. France has had her eye upon Hankow for many years. The North and South are very distant but they are opposite each other. Their object is to obtain the central portion of China. At present the money and name are Belgian, but really it is France and Russia who are assisting in its completion. These two countries now possess all the advantages of this plan and leave China only one chance. When the time arrives and they see China occupied elsewhere, then will be their opportunity. Among the ten thousand countries of the world there is not one which gives to a single person the supreme power. For example, one man now has the control of our steamship company, the telegraphs, cotton mills, ironworks, and such like, with the control also of relations with foreign countries. There is great danger in giving all this into the hands of one man to manage. He will control China's trunk line, which will be like giving the tiger wings, i.e., he will be irresistible; whether there is injury or advantage in this the country will probably not recognise just at present. He knows that armed with such powers he is bound to win. What his heart wishes, that he accomplishes. Afterwards, if affairs should become unmanageable, or if the conditions should be changed, and if things turn out to be not agreeable to him, what is there to prevent him from letting loose the tiger to eat up the people? I do not know what virtues or what talents he possesses that the country should believe in him and use him to this extent.

GERMAN NOTES.

It is stated that Prince Radolin, the German Ambassador at St. Petersburg, will succeed Count von Hatzfeldt-Wildenburg as German Ambassador to Great Britain at the end of the year. The latter is retiring from the diplomatic service because of ill-health.

Accounts from Bayreuth report that this year's Wagnerian festival was supported mainly by Americans and English. The drift of the public taste toward Wagner has impelled many singers whose reputations have been acquired in the Italian school to the study of the German master. Jean de Reszke, it is believed, will devote himself almost entirely to Wagnerian rôles in the future.

Rinderpest being a cattle disease, Dr. Koch has found that it does not attack birds. He tried to inoculate hens, pigeons, guinea fowls, a crane, an eagle and a secretary bird with the bacillus of the disease, but it did not affect them. He was equally unsuccessful with dogs, mice, rabbits and guinea pigs, but is not sure that the disease may not be conveyed to cattle by any of these animals.

A great strike in the building trades began at Buda-pesth on Aug. 23rd. More than 20,000 men were involved. The strikers, in an endeavour to prevent others from working, came repeatedly into conflict with the police and desperate pitched battles ensued in several of the principal streets of the city. Two hundred persons were injured, some dangerously, and the police arrested 100 ring-leaders.

Wine exporters say that the vintage of 1897 will not rank high. The best reports have been received from Mayence, where it is said that a heavy crop is assured. In the important wine districts of Germany a high quality of grapes is expected. The French vintage is much smaller than that of 1896, though it is of fair quality. The port and sherry districts are lacking in both quality and quantity.

The German Minister for War, General von Gosler, has published a decree in the *Reichsanzeiger* in regard to the suppression of all socialism and socialistic literature in the army. In Wurtemberg, Lieutenant Rabe, of the One

Hundred and Twenty-second Infantry Regiment, whose inhuman treatment drove a recruit named Bauer to commit suicide, has been dismissed from the army and sentenced to four months' confinement in jail.

News comes from Vienna that the crypt of the Cathedral at Stuhweissenburg, lying north-east of Lake Balaton, Hungary, known as the Marienkirch, in which fourteen of the Arpad Kings of Hungary were buried, has been desecrated and many skulls and bones stolen.

To facilitate the discharging of cargoes of wheat vessels, pneumatic elevators have recently been adopted at the ports of Hamburg and Bremerhaven. The Bremerhaven pneumatic elevator is built on the wharf at Geestemünde. At the first glance it is a somewhat fantastic structure, its towers and tubes built on a regular ship's hull. This hull is 300 feet long and the towers go skyward at least fifty feet. The 400-horse-power engine has six cylinders, one each for high and low pressure, the remainder for suction purposes. Each tower has an automatic scale, which tips the beam at a ton and empties the grain into the hull of the elevator. From there conveyers, resembling the paternoster-baggers, shoot into smaller vessels bound for more distant points, or the warehouses along the wharf. The elevator unloads in one hour 120 tons. In a day the entire cargo of a big ocean freighter is unloaded, leaving the steamer ready for reloading in the shortest possible space of time.

Anton Seidl, as conductor of Wagnerian plays in London, has been winning high praise from the critics. Says *The Saturday Review*:—"Lohengrin has been sung scores of times at Covent Garden in one fashion or another; but I declare that we heard something resembling real 'Lohengrin' for the first time on Saturday evening last. We had come to regard it as a pretty opera, an opera full of an individual, strange, indefinable sweetness; but Mr. Anton Seidl came all the way from New York city to show us how out of sweetness can come forth strength." And the *London Musician* says:—"The *début* of Herr Anton Seidl, the new Wagnerian conductor, was perhaps the most important of the evening, for upon him much of the success of the ensuing season must necessarily depend. He is not exactly fresh to London, but it is so long since he has appeared among us that he may practically be regarded as a new-comer. The impression he made was distinctly favourable. His beat is firm and decided and his readings were thoughtful and musicianly."

MR. LAY'S REPORT.

Mr. Lay's Summary of the Trade of Japan for 1896, which strikes us as being one of the best compilations of the kind that we have had the advantage of examining, is thus noticed by the *London Economist*:—

Mr. Lay mentions that owing to the financial depression in the United States, that country in the past year made its appearance as a serious competitor with Europe in supplying Japan with machinery, rails, nails, and pig-iron. In rails alone American producers sold 30,000 tons at lower prices than British makers were willing to accept, and there appears to be a probability that American locomotive builders will secure a greater number of Japanese orders during the current year, owing mainly to the inability of British makers to always complete their orders within the time specified. Owing to the exertion of the representatives of British firms the list of approved locomotive makers to the Japanese Government has been increased from six to nine; but that does not appear to enable us to compete with the United States in time of delivery, so that if British makers are in a position to effect quick delivery they should lose no time in letting the fact be known in Japan, as the great extension of the Government lines and the rapid formation of new private railway companies will, it is expected, create a demand for a large number of locomotives within a comparatively short space of time. Mr. Lay mentions that in all catalogues the approximate prices of goods should invariably be given, and points out how

greatly the American competition has been assisted by the co-operation of the railway and steamship companies, which renders it possible for an American manufacturer in almost any city in the United States to obtain a through rate of freight and bill of lading. Spinning machinery is being imported in large quantities, indicating the rapid development of the spinning industry. With regard to the export trade, the abolition of the duty on raw cotton has greatly assisted the export trade in cotton yarn. At present China takes the bulk of this yarn, but Japan is endeavouring to supplant Indian yarn in her markets. Since the war great activity has been manifested in industrial and commercial undertakings, the capital invested in new enterprises last year having reached \$939,649,000, in contrast with \$329,840,000 in the preceding year. Many of the companies were, however, started on a purely speculative basis, and numbers of them were abandoned before long. The report refers to the large increase in long-dated credits in Japan in the past ten years, but there are not wanting signs that the people do not yet appreciate the value of this form of accommodation. Dealers have been in the habit of receiving payment from their country customers by means of promissory notes at 90 days, which were discounted by native banks; but early in October the wholesale cloth merchants of Tokio, finding it difficult to renew their notes, appealed to their creditors to extend the notes for about \$2,000,000 for two years. Eventually a compromise was arranged, but the banks took alarm, and have since gradually reduced the extent of their accommodation in this respect, with the result that trade became dull at the end of the year.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Ideal won the Insurance Cup in the 26-raters race of the Yokohama Yacht Club on Saturday.

The torpedo-destroyers *Whiting* and *Bat* were to hoist the pennant at Portsmouth on Aug. 10th for service on the China station.

H.M.S. *Mohawk*, 1,770 tons, a twin-screw cruiser of the third-class, six guns, will be placed in commission for the Australian station early this month.

Great Britain is considering a proposal to construct a graving dock at Simon's Town, Cape Colony, at a cost of two and a half millions sterling.

The Mosquito Yacht Club's race to Tomioka on Saturday, for the Ladies' Purse, resulted in a win for *Nandaka*; *Sodeska* being second, *Doris* third, and *Kodesu* fourth.

The members of the Cobden Club have caused a special gold medal to be struck for presentation to the Canadian Premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in formal recognition of his attachment to free trade.

As the *Saikio Maru* was leaving Yokohama on Tuesday last an unfortunate accident happened. A Japanese deck-hand engaged in hauling up the forward port gangway, fell into the water just outside the light houses on the Breakwater, and though a boat was lowered he was never recovered.

The receipts of the American Board for eleven months of its financial year, ending July 31st, amount to \$409,805, which indicates a decrease for the period from last year of \$54,148. The falling off is in regular donations and legacies. There was an increase in donations for special objects, but a considerable falling off in each of the other items.

The Italian authorities are erecting a new quay at Brindisi, with the object of facilitating the passenger traffic in connection with the P. and O. Company's mail steamers. They hope to be able to accelerate the mail service between London and Brindisi, and to improve the arrangements in connection with the calling of the mail steamers at the latter port.

Says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of Sept. 7th:—Among the items in the Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance read a first time at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council is one of \$223.19, under the heading of "Go-

vernor and Legislature," which in the explanatory remarks accompanying the estimates is described as "Increase caused by expenses incurred in connection with the luncheon in honour of H.E. Li Hung-chang." This is the luncheon that Li would not land to eat.

There is a good deal of the mundane element in the Celestial after all. A Chinese witness, whose evidence had to be interpreted in the Thames Police Court, suddenly called out to the prisoner in very good English, "You—liar; you one loafer." No wonder that police magistrates are beginning to grow sceptical as to the necessity for employing interpreters where foreign litigants are concerned.

Near Bangkok on the 18th August, the boiler of a steam launch burst, killing eighteen or nineteen persons, including the owner, Prince Ong Chariat, a son of the late Second King of Siam, and Prince Chariat's wife. His little child was picked up unhurt. The deceased prince was only twenty years of age. The Bangkok papers are now demanding the proper supervision and examination of all steam craft plying on the river.

A shocking fatality occurred on the night of the 5th Aug. on board the recently built Japanese battleship *Yashima*, then lying in the Tyne, taking in ammunition and stores. A workman named John Templeman was employed in the hold, when his head came in contact with a huge hydraulic lift used for the raising of shell and ammunition. The unfortunate man's head was carried a considerable distance up the lift, the body afterwards dropping on the lower deck.

The P. & O. Company circulate the following announcement:—"Owing to the many complaints received from passengers of the discomfort and inconvenience caused by the presence of dogs on board the ships, the directors have reluctantly determined not to receive these animals in future. No dogs will, therefore, be conveyed in the company's steamers after Sept. 15th, 1897, the date on which the new regulations of the Board of Agriculture, with regard to the importation of dogs, comes into force."

Monthly current charts of the Atlantic ocean for six months of the year have been prepared by the British Meteorological Office from about 18,500 mariners' logs, extending back to 1880. Among the interesting facts brought to light is that the velocity of the Gulf-stream varies with the season, being about 100 miles a day in June, not more than seventy miles in October and November, and at times not over twenty miles. The Guinea and equatorial currents also undergo considerable variations with the time of the year.

It is stated that the collection of works of art bequeathed to the British nation by the late Lady Wallace will be vested in a body of trustees consisting of the following gentlemen, who have been nominated by the Treasury:—The Earl of Rosebery, the Right Hon. Sir Edward B. Malet, Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Major-General Sir Arthur Ellis, Mr. A. B. Freeman-Mitford, Mr. Alfred C. de Rothschild, and Mr. John Murray Scott, who is required by the terms of the will to be a trustee. Mr. Claude Phillips has been appointed keeper of the collection.

Cases of plague continue to occur in Bombay at the rate of four or five a day. In some other parts of the province the disease is virulent. A Bombay telegram of the 16th August reads:—"The plague is raging badly at Kirkee, where there were 23 cases and 20 deaths yesterday. A segregation camp has been pitched, and a hospital will be established. Panic is prevailing in the bazaar, which has been closed. Many persons have also closed their houses. At Lanauli there were two cases and one death yesterday. The plague has also appeared at Sirur. The special plague hospital at Poona has now 31 patients.—*Hongkong Daily Press*."

It has transpired that the Anglican Bishops in Conference at Lambeth unanimously agreed to recognise the title of Archbishop which has been conferred on the Metropolitan of Canada.

They are also of opinion, as it was to be expected they would be, that the title of Archbishop should be borne by the Metropolitans in South Africa, the West Indies, and New South Wales. In the cases of Cape Town and Sydney the title will be annexed to the sees, but the Primacy in the West Indies is elective, and the title will belong to the see which, from time to time, may be held by the Primate.

The woman and one of the men who were concerned in the *Pegu* tragedy, have, it is reported, been arrested by Chut Nyak, Rajah of Kortie, and have been handed over to the Dutch authorities at Teluk Semawe. Cash, to the amount of \$7,000, was found upon them, and this money was also handed over by the rajah. The prisoners, says the *Pinang Gazette*, will in due course be taken to Edie. It is said that the other members of the band of pirates are away in the interior of Kortie, and are at present quite out of reach of the rajah, who is, however, doing his best to get at them.

Further details of the explosion which occurred in a cartridge dépôt at Rustchuk, Bulgaria, in August, show that the disaster was much more serious than the first reports indicated. The total number of persons killed is now stated to be 130, while 170 were injured. The persons killed and injured were mostly women and children who were engaged at the time in emptying old cartridges. Many of the unfortunate people who lost their lives were blown to atoms by the explosion, and a number of others who had their clothing set on fire jumped into the River Danube and were drowned.

The case in which the owners of the Austrian Lloyd steamer *Melpomene* are suing the owners of the "Blue Fannel" steamer *Patroclus* for \$30,000 damages for injuries received by a collision between the two steamers during the storm of Thursday morning last, was opened in chambers on Wednesday, before Mr. Justice Wilkinson, H.M.S. Acting Judge. Mr. Lowder appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. Walford for the defendants. Evidence was taken during the forenoon and afternoon, so as to enable the vessels to get away as soon as possible, but we understand that the matter was not settled.

The following notice to Mariners, No. 310, for the Yangtze River—Chinkiang District—has been issued by the Coast Inspector of the I.M.C. It relates to Cooper Bank beacon light, which is discontinued. Notice is hereby given that the Cooper Bank Beacon Light, No. 61 in the published List for 1897, has been discontinued and replaced by a light-boat, exhibiting a fixed white light of the Sixth Order and moored on the north-eastern edge of the centre shoal of Cooper Bank. Vessels should pass to the northward of the light-boat.

Ireland of prehistoric times was the gold mine of Europe. In no other country, at any rate, has so much manufactured gold of early ages been found, not less than 400 specimens of Irish gold antiques being contained in the museum of the Royal Irish Academy alone, while the British Museum's gold antiques illustrative of British history are entirely Irish. Trinity College, Dublin, has many fine examples, and there are large private collections. Native gold occurs in seven localities in Ireland, and the ancient miners may have had sources of supply that are now worked out or lost.

The British officers who command the forces on the North-West Frontier of India have all seen active service. Brigadier-General Sir Bindon Blood, who holds the chief command, served in the Jowaki Expedition of 1877-8 and in the Zulu War of the following year. Then followed service in Afghanistan, in Egypt, and finally in Chitral, where he was Chief Staff Officer of the Relief Force in 1895. Colonel Meiklejohn, to whom has been entrusted the command of a brigade, took part in the Hazara and Afghan campaigns, and accompanied several expeditions. Colonel Jeffreys, who commands the other brigade, has seen service

in Zululand and Burmah: while Lieut.-Colonel Aitken, who is in charge of the Artillery, went through the Afghan and Burmah campaigns, and was also with the Chitral Relief Force.

Advocates of temperance often draw invidious comparisons between the bibulous Briton and the frugal Frenchman. But the official report of the last Municipal Ball at the Hôtel de Ville, Paris, throws quite a new light on this contention. We have not space to give all the figures, and must content ourselves with noting that the liquids consumed included 3,600 bottles of champagne, 8,100 glasses of punch, 2,700 bottles of beer, 810 bottles of Bordeaux, and, last and not least, 350 pints of orangeade. Can it be that this development of thirst among the Parisians is due to their recent enthusiasm for the Russians, a race renowned for their Homeric potations?

Among the last installment of "Collections and Recollections" contributed to the *Manchester Guardian*, we find the following quaint advertisements:—

Under-Housekeeper, under-matron, desired by a Young Woman, age 22. Energetic, domesticated. Great misfortune in losing right arm, but good artificial one. Happy home, with small remuneration. Apply—

The next is extracted from the *Manchester Guardian* of 1894:—

A child of God, seeking employment, would like to take charge of property and collect rents; has a slight knowledge of architecture and sanitary; can give unexceptionable reference; age 31; married.

Lord Esher, the "grand old man" of the English Bench, celebrated at the beginning of the Long Vacation the completion of his eighty-second year. He was born two months after the battle of Waterloo. His judicial career has occupied nearly half the Queen's reign and he was appointed a judge of the Common Pleas in 1868. His promotion to the Court of Appeal took place in 1876, and his appointment as Master of the Rolls in 1883. During nearly half his career on the Bench he has been entitled to retire on a pension. Rumours of his retirement grow more numerous as each Long Vacation comes round, but hitherto he has shown them all to be baseless by reappearing in the Court of Appeal in a new wig.

Wednesday last, says the *Nagasaki Daily Press*, was a red-letter day in the annals of Catholicism in Japan, for it was the anniversary of the third centenary of the introduction of the old faith in this empire. The occasion was fittingly availed of to consecrate the new Catholic church at Nakamatsu—an imposing building which does no little credit to its architect, the Rev. Pere Franeau. The ceremony of consecration began at nine o'clock in the morning, his grace the Archbishop of Tokyo pontificated, being assisted by the Bishops of Nagasaki and Osaka. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Archbishop delivered a most impressive sermon in Japanese. The attendance was all that could be desired.

It is stated in a home paper that Messrs. Humphreys and Tennant, of Deptford, where the engineering strike started, have filled some of the vacant places in their works with Japanese mechanics, whom they have secured from vessels in the river. These men only number a score or so, but the strikers are very indignant at anyone else doing the work which they refused, and a memorial is to be forwarded by them to the Japanese Minister in London telling him that his nationals should not be permitted to assist the employers in resisting the demands of British working-men. Meanwhile, the Japanese sleep and take their meals in the shop, where special accommodation has been provided for them.

A recent statistical estimate places the number of newspapers annually printed at the enormous figure of 12,000,000,000. A mathematician, apparently with considerable time at his disposal, in order to give a more comprehensive idea of this number, has calculated that a surface of 30,000 square kilometers

could be covered with these papers. The paper alone weighs 781,240 tons. In case one machine was forced to print these millions at the rate of one a second, 333 years would be necessary. Placed one upon another the papers would reach to the height of 80,000 meters. Assuming that a person devotes five minutes a day to reading his paper, the time used by the entire population of the world in reading newspapers each year amounts to 100,000 years.

In H.B.M.'s Court, on Thursday, before Mr. R. G. E. Forster, Acting Assistant Judge, Ole Otterbeck, a seaman belonging to the British ship *Lord Wolseley*, was charged with absence without leave from his ship from the 13th to the 16th inst. The charge was proved and accused sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment, and costs; to be put on board his ship should she leave port before the expiry of the term.

It is understood in the Straits that the Samuel Syndicate, which is now about to exploit South Borneo for oil, is prepared to spend a quarter of a million sterling on the work. The European staff numbers 40, of whom 33 are skilled American or Canadian oil prospectors. There are quantities of boring machinery now on the spot, as well as five miles of metre railway which will be used to take the machinery about the country, as required, the rails in rear being picked up and laid ahead again at a rapid pace as the rolling stock with the machinery and stores is moved on. The steamer *Craffie*, which unfortunately sunk the Norddeutscher Lloyd *Elbe* in collision in the North Sea, is to act as tender to the syndicate, and will run between Kotie and Singapore at intervals.

It seems that the immediate cause of Bishop Bickersteth's death was pneumonia, following a recurrence of his old Indian malady. Referring to the death of the late Prelate, an English journal says:—Bishop Bickersteth did much to consolidate and build up the work of the Church in Japan, and, although he took a hopeful view of the future of Christianity in that country, he was by no means insensible to the dangers which beset missionary effort amongst so philosophic a people. He recognised to the full that it would not be wise to force upon the native Church there the full system of the Anglican Prayer-book, and he was prepared to grant the Church a wide discretion in matters which do not belong to the essentials of the faith. He was a missionary statesman, and, although since he went to Japan three additional bishops have been consecrated to supervise the work in other parts of the country, his loss will be keenly felt, and his place will be hard to fill.

The popular impression of a Girton girl, according to R. S. Warren Bell in the *Windsor Magazine* for August, is that she is a wan and pale young lady, that she wears spectacles, that she is a mere bundle of nerves, and that, somewhat in the manner attributed to Ophelia, she wanders round muttering snatches from Greek plays or cudgelling her wearied brains for solutions of mathematical problems of abstruse kind. That this idea is mistaken, it is hardly necessary to point out. The Girtonian is little more than a big schoolgirl; when she is not working she is playing or talking hockey, cycling, golfing, or drinking tea, which is invariably made very weak (this is one of Girton's unwritten laws); she is blessed with an excellent appetite; she goes to bed early and gets up early; and there you have the average "Varsity woman in a nutshell. Each student has two rooms, these being connected by folding doors. Residence at Newnham is said to be cheaper than at Girton, and yet Girton—on paper—appears to make no inordinate charges for maintenance and education. The fees come to £35 per term, and this sum is an inclusive one, there being at a ladies' college few of those extra disbursements that are too often a sore trial to the needy undergraduate. Speaking roughly, a career at Girton costs about £100 a year. And when it is taken into consideration that the establishment is self-supporting, it must be

admitted that these terms are exceedingly moderate. A visit of a few hours' duration to Girton leaves a vague impression of endless corridors, bright little rooms, green lawns, and packed bookshelves in one's mind. I quitted Girton wiser than I entered it. I saw that there the famed blue-stocking is non-existent; that the muscles are cultivated quite as much as the brain, and that the students seem to be profoundly contented with their lot, each one being blessed, apparently with that truly enviable possession, a sound mind in a sound body.

Mysterious stories are being whispered in City shipping circles, says the *Westminster Gazette*, concerning the loss of the *Aden*. They are to the effect that the fact of the vessel being ashore on Socotra was known to a few fortunate shipping men with risks to insure before the public had any inkling of the cause of the ship's delay. The question, of course, arises as to how the favoured few could secure the information. The steamer *Volute*, an oil tank boat, owned by the Messrs. Samuels, reported having seen an abandoned ship ashore on Socotra, and the Liverpool steamer *Logician* made a similar report. In neither case were the officers of the reporting ships able to distinguish the name or any funnel mark about the wrecked vessel, although, oddly enough, a survivor of the *Aden*, writing on board the *India*, on his way home, said he and his fellow-sufferers on board the wreck saw an oil-tanker of the Shell Line, to which the *Volute* belongs, pass them about a mile away, and that they waved sheets in an unsuccessful attempt to draw attention. But this is a point of, comparatively speaking, side issue to the business world. What the City man ponders over is the oddness of the fact that between the date of the *Aden's* going ashore and the publication of the news of the disaster in London, large reinsurance companies are said to have been effected at Lloyd's, in some cases at very ordinary premiums.

The *Shanghai Mercury* has gathered the following account of the British fleet manoeuvres in the north this year:—H.M.S. *Immortalite* was one of a number of men-of-war engaged in defending the harbour against the entrance of the two newly arrived torpedo boat catchers *Handy* and *Hart*. The rest of the fleet were in readiness in the bay and in convenient positions anticipating an attack, which was made shortly before midnight. Search lights were used, and the attacking steamers were duly located completely enveloped in smoke, but not before they had dodged past the first line of defence and were well into the harbour. They were immediately fired upon and sunk (in imagination). Other tactics were gone through and all were satisfactorily completed. The ships then steamed away in couples to various places along the Russian Tartary coast with orders to rendezvous at sea at noon on a given date and in a given latitude and longitude. This they did; and the scene of the fourteen vessels all steaming up within a minute of the arranged time from all four points of the compass spoke much for the excellent arrangements for mobility of British men-of-war in foreign waters. Orders were then given to assemble at Hakodate, where some fourteen ships duly arrived to date, and about 4,000 British jacks were let loose on the Japanese outpost. A couple of grog sellers arrived about the same time, from Yokohama, and also some Salvation lassies as a wholesome corrective. Both classes of caterers were well patronised by the men. The blue-jackets enjoyed themselves very much and their equestrianism astonished the natives. A couple of German men-of-war were in port, but left before the Naval Regatta, which was a matter for regret on all sides. The Regatta was a great success and totalling up the wins, honours were pretty evenly distributed throughout the fleet. On the whole the men behaved in an exemplary manner and gave the Japanese policemen not so much as the ghost of an opportunity of running them in. True, some Chinese aliens from the ships were locked up for gambling, but, like the little dogs Dr. Watts tells us of, "it is their nature to."

CORRESPONDENCE.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM IN ITS RELATION TO CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I did not intend to reply to Mr. Snodgrass' answer to my letter because he seems to me (may be I am mistaken) to be of a kind of upside-down turn of mind, the consequence of which is that he makes others say what they have not said, or gives to their words a meaning not intended by their author. His pamphlet, which I have now read, contains more than one illustration of this.

Even in his answer to my letter, after quoting the *resumé* I had given of the teaching of Leo XIII. with regard to civil power, he adds that Leo meant Papal power, which presently was out of the question. I cannot consider this as fair dealing and have no time to waste in discussion of that sort.

Now another protestant Missionary has thought it pertinent to step in, and ask the same question (Is the Pope supreme?) under another form. I will therefore try to answer the question in all fairness, and, I hope, without provocation of any kind. He quotes a few propositions contained in the "Syllabus," adding that this is a document that will settle the question, as it is a document, which, coming from the Pope, no Catholic can refuse to admit. Exactly so, and I would be the last to refuse it my assent, provided it be taken in its true sense, in the sense meant by the Catholic Church, and not otherwise. The Syllabus was a bold act, I confess, and at first elicited much comment even in Catholic circles; but a better study of the document soon cleared away all these divergences, and even many non-Catholic writers have long ago recognized the appropriateness of the Pontifical act.

I suppose I am not expected to take all the propositions one by one and explain them here. The thing has been done many a time, and those who would know more I can refer to Rinaldi, *Il valore del Syllabo*;—to Ruffini, *Il Syllabo e la Regola di fede*, etc. Confining myself to the two first propositions, 19, 20, as embodying all the rest, I think I will have answered sufficiently the principal question.

I must establish first what the doctrine of the Church is with regard to the two powers; the Church and the State. The words of our Lord Jesus Christ to his Apostles:—*Render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's and to God the things that are God's*—teach us that "there exists a two-fold order of things, and, at the same time, that two powers are to be distinguished on earth. The one, natural, which provides for the tranquillity of human society and human offices; the other, the origin of which is above nature, supreme over the City of God, that is the Church of Christ, divinely instituted for the peace and the eternal salvation of souls. And the offices of that two-fold power are in wisdom ordained that the things of God should be rendered to God, and that, in obedience to God, the things of Cæsar should be rendered to Cæsar." (Encycl. letter of Pius IX., 21 Nov. 1873).

By these words the Lord Jesus has shown to us that his followers, besides being members of the universal Church, are also members of some special human society or nation; that they are at the same time Christians and citizens, and have Christians' and citizens' rights and duties; that there are two distinct authorities, each to be obeyed in its lawful behests. This, I suppose, is being admitted by all.

Each of these two powers is, in its own sphere, equally independent, equally supreme. No one can interfere with the other's affairs. The State has nothing to do in spiritual matters and the Church absolutely nothing to do in merely temporal affairs. This last point has been most emphatically established by one of the greatest Canonists of our time, Cardinal Tarquini (a Jesuit, and consequently a man not likely to lessen Papal power). In his "Juris. Eccl. publ. instit." second edition, p. 48, he says:—"In all temporal things and in what has a relation to the temporal end, the church has no control in civil society." Pope S. Gelase (to cite only one) himself, in a letter to Emperor Anastase, says:—"With regard to the administration of public (Civil) affairs, the Bishops, knowing that the Imperial power has been given you by the disposition of God, obey they also, to your laws."

It is not true, therefore, that the Church is antagonist to the State and shows a tendency to encroach on the civil power. Whenever there have been any quarrels between Church and State, the latter was always the aggressor in meddling in things that did not concern it.

For the Church also is a power. She represents the divine Sovereignty and is commissioned by

God himself to teach and to govern in his name. Her authority, then, is His authority, and it is He that teaches and govern in her and through her. As such, and in all spiritual matters, she is absolutely independent of the State.

But should a conflict arise, as it may happen in mixed matters—that is in temporal matters—directly or indirectly connected with faith and morals, which of the two powers shall be supreme, the Church or the State? This so much agitated question, too often the cause of ill-feeling, is, no doubt, a difficult one. It seems, however, that to answer it, we have but to examine the nature of the two powers. They have been established to correspond to a two-fold order of things: the natural and the supernatural. The first has for its object the welfare of man during his mortal life; the second raises the whole being of man to the supernatural end of the vision and possession of God. To affirm therefore, as Catholics do, the supremacy of the Church over the State in all mixed questions, is but to express, in another way, the supremacy of the supernatural over the natural order, of the soul over the body, of man's eternal happiness over temporal welfare, which fundamental truth no Christian can deny.

But can this monstrous pretension—as it is called—be supported by Holy Scriptures? In the Acts of the Apostles, chap. V., 28, 29, I read:—"Commanding, we commanded you, that you should not teach in his (Jesus') name."

But Peter answering, and the apostles said:—"We ought to obey God rather than men." We must remark here that the priests and ancients were the magistrates of the Jewish nation and the Apostles represented the Church. Here is a conflict between the two authorities, and the Apostles judged that no notice should be taken of the prohibition to preach. Suppose a Government enacts such a law as my conscience reproves, as if, for instance, I am commanded to lie, to steal, to apostatize, who will pretend that the State, being supreme, I must submit? No one. He will say that there is a superior law, the law of God, against which no human law can prevail, and he will not obey. It is all very well when the law is so manifestly unjust: but in cases where there is room for doubt, who is to determine whether the law is just or unjust? A great American philosopher, V. Brownson (art. War and Loyalty) has answered the question and I make no scruple to borrow from him:—

"Who is to determine whether the law is just or unjust? Not absolutely the State, for that would make the distinction between just and unjust laws nugatory, since the State, in enacting a law, decides that it is just; not the individual, for that would make the law depend on the assent of the subject for its legality, which cannot be the fact, if we are to have Government at all. We may answer the question by laying down the principle, that authority is always *presumptively* in the right, and the law *prima facie* evidence of justice. The *onus probandi* rests on the shoulders of the subject, who must prove the law to be unjust, before he can have the right to refuse it obedience. For this his own private judgment or conviction can never suffice. If he can allege nothing against the law but his own individual persuasion of its injustice, he is bound, by his general obligation to obey the laws, to obey it. No one, then, can ever be justified in disobeying on his own private authority. He must sustain his refusal to obey by an authority higher than his own, higher than that of the State, or else he will be guilty of resisting the ordinance of God.

"And where is this higher authority to be found? In the Scriptures? But if the Scriptures are interpreted individually they have no other authority than that of the individual who interprets them. Consequently none at all except if he can prove he has been divinely commissioned. Now the authority claimed and exercised by the Catholic Church is precisely nothing else but the assertion over the State of the divine Sovereignty which she represents, or the subjection of the prince to the law of God in his character of prince as well as in his character of man. That the prince or civil power is subject to the law of God, no man who admits Christianity at all dares question; and if the church be the divinely commissioned teacher and guardian of that law, as she certainly is, the same subjection to her must be conceded.

"This is called spiritual despotism. It is not the Catholic Church that establishes spiritual despotism; it is she, on the contrary, who saves us from it. Spiritual despotism is that which subjects us, in spiritual matters, to a human authority, whether our own or that of others. The Church teaches by divine authority; in submitting to her, we submit to God, she teaches infallibility; therefore, in believing what she teaches, we believe the truth, which frees us from

all falsehood and error, to which all men without an infallible guide are subject, and subjection to which is the elemental principle of all despotism."

The Rev. gentleman who writes from Nikko had done better to translate the propositions in their proper forms—the negative. It seems to be the same and yet is not; there are also inaccuracies, but there is no necessity to cavil at that. For his little sneer at infallibility, which of course he rejects as a monstrosity, I beg leave to offer him a few quotations only from German authors, as I think he is a German.

"Infallibility is the most important of all dogmas of Catholics: it is irrefutable." (Christlicher Diogenes, I liv. 44). "When in religion the starting point is a supernatural principle, one must necessarily admit that the Divinity who deigned to grant to man a revelation, will also take care that the meaning of that revelation be not abandoned to the arbitrary judgment of men: to reject that principle is to show inconsistency." (Stöcklin's Magazin, III., p. 83). "It is not without reason that it has been advanced that the Catholic system of infallibility is the only possible supernatural system." (Götting'sche Bibliothek, 1797, T. III., p. 721). "The mere statement of doctrines which must remain absolutely irrelevant to the control of reason is sufficient to put aside, as impossible, all appeal to reason for their interpretation and to demonstrate the truth of the Catholic system. For if God has really revealed these doctrines as necessary to salvation, their interpretation can be left but to a teaching authority always guided by the Holy Ghost and consequently infallible." (Leipziger Literatur Zeitung, 1829, No. 261). "If the end of all divine revelation is to give man not only practical truths, but also to assure him of the precise meaning of these truths, it obviously follows that the Christian Church who transmits them to him must be infallible." (N. Quartal schrift I, 2.)

I do not certainly give this as a proof of infallibility; but as all these quotations are taken from Protestant authors (and I could quote many more); they prove at least that, among the better educated class of Protestants, many think that, in believing the above dogma, Catholics are not after all so stupid as some imagine.

In one point, however, I agree with "A Protestant missionary." "That glorious statement that every legitimate power of a Government has its origin in the consent of those who are governed" did not arise from the Catholic Church. Never will she utter such a proposition, at least without a proper explanation. It does not require, indeed, long reflection to see that such a principle inculcated, such as it is, in the minds of nations, is far more dangerous for Civil Governments and the peace of the world than ever was the spiritual and temporal power of the Pope.

This letter is already too long, but I will not regret the time thus spent if only it can contribute to show where the real cause of dispute between Catholics and Protestants lies: it is a contest between authority and private judgment, nothing more, nothing less; a difference though, which, as long as it exists, will make reconciliation impossible and all other minor discussions useless.

They live at the two opposite poles; their fundamental principle is contradictory. Private judgment, which gives everyone the right to think for himself, to build a religion for himself, to believe or reject just what he likes, which refuses infallibility to the Church and arrogates to itself that privilege; such is the principle of Protestantism. To that principle—the only cause of disunion among Christians—Catholics oppose the principle of authority. They believe that the divine Founder of the Church did not abandon his children, leaving them to find their way as they could, without a teacher, without a guide, to prevent their going astray from the road to Salvation. Jesus Christ was God, consequently a "Wise person," who knew what he was doing when addressing his Apostles, he said:—"Going therefore, teach ye all nations, etc." (Matt. XXVI, 19). "He that heareth you heareth me."—Luke X, 16).

In submitting to the Church we submit to God and to God only. It has been said that this submission is the abnegation of reason. Nonsense. Reason does not, in submitting, fold her hands, close her eyes and take a doze, like a fat alderman after dinner, but keeps wide awake, and exercises her highest powers, her most sacred rights, according to her own nature. Catholics are not idiots.

Yours truly, A. PETTIER, Miss. Apost.
[We have to apologise to Mr. Pettier for erroneously styling him "Vic Apost." when inserting his last letter.—Ed. J.N.]

"DUTCH COURAGE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me to ask you through the columns of your paper, whether the Japanese word *okubyō*—cowardice, pusillanimity, etc., can also mean "false or temporary courage inspired by or as by intoxicating drink; also the drink itself." The words last quoted are from the "Standard Dictionary" as its definition of *Dutch Courage*, which last expression you give as one definition of *okubyō* in your "Unabridged Japanese-English Dictionary." Now if the above can be the meaning of the Japanese word in question, should you not have given this definition of it in so many words before giving the definition of "Dutch Courage"? As it stands in your Dictionary, the natural inference is, to those who do not know the real meaning of "Dutch Courage," that the Dutch (Hollanders) as a nation are proverbially cowardly, pusillanimous, effeminate; epithets which the history of Holland in her dealings with other nations decidedly marks as false and slanderous. Hence, will you kindly state publicly in your paper, either that the Japanese word *okubyō* bears this meaning of "Dutch Courage" as properly defined, or, that this particular definition of *okubyō* is a mistake?

Yours truly,

A DUTCHMAN.

Nagasaki, Sept. 7th, 1897.

[Emphatically it is a mistake. "Dutch courage" means courage inspired by gin, or Dutch liquor, and has nothing whatever to do with the courage of Dutchmen. *Okubyō* can never, so far as we know, mean "Dutch courage." To give such a definition to it is a gross blunder. It may interest our correspondent to know that the words "Dutch courage" were deleted in the proof by the writer of this note. They had evidently been inserted under some misapprehension. But either the printer by neglect, or another authority by design, preserved them.—Ed. J.M.]

DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS IN CENTRAL ASIA.

A correspondent in Kashmir sends the *Globe* the following:—The sand-buried cities of the Gobi desert have already yielded up several documents of great philological and palaeographic interest. The vicinities of the Chinese town of Kachar have lately added to the Sanscrit leaves which are known to Orientalists as the Bower manuscripts. Dr. A. Rudolf Hoernle, Principal of the Calcutta Madrasah, is now engaged in deciphering a curious collection of papers that will probably become known as the Godfrey and the Macartney manuscripts. The manner in which the former of these two sets was acquired illustrates a not unpleasant trait of Eastern character. Some years ago the country of Ladak, through which the chief trade route from Kashmir to Chinese Turkestan runs, was visited by serious floods. The British Commissioner of Ladak, Captain S. H. Godfrey, while travelling there, fell in with a party of Afghan merchants journeying northwards. Their caravan had been stopped by the destruction of the bridge that spanned a deep and rapid river. Capt. Godfrey succeeded in replacing this bridge, and the merchants with their convoy of coral and valuable Indian products, resumed their interrupted expedition to Yarkand. The caravan leaders inquired whether there was any way in which they could make a return for the services they had been rendered. They were asked to procure if possible specimens of the old books which were popularly said to be occasionally exhumed from among the ruins of certain buried cities in Chinese territory. The gratitude of the Afghan merchants seems to have been real. About a year afterwards a parcel of ancient manuscripts, said to be early Tibetan records, were dispatched to Captain Godfrey from Khutan, and reached India safely. They were eventually placed in Dr. Hoernle's hands. The documents are reported to be very fragmentary, but it has apparently been ascertained that some of them at least are of Sanscrit origin.

The Macartney manuscripts are believed to have been purchased in Kashgar, and to be written in the Nagri character. Neither of the two sets has yet been translated. The Russian Government have in their possession similar specimens to those obtained by Captain Godfrey and Mr. Macartney. A translation or some account of these strange records should prove of scientific value, and it is to be hoped that Dr. Hoernle will publish his investigations of their contents. The philologists of both Great Britain and Russia will have a common interest in endeavouring to throw light upon relics which might show traces of a Central Asian colonisation of the Gobi desert older than the Norman Conquest or the establishment of the Romanoff dynasty.

AQUATIC SPORTS AT YOKOHAMA.

Never particularly lively, the annual water sports of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club this year surpassed all previous records for dullness and lack of interest. Slow, unutterably slow; were all the events from start to finish, and this despite a large attendance of members and a verandah overflowing with gaily dressed ladies. Friday evening was perfect for such an affair, the water being without a ripple, while the air was balmy; the water, however, was chilly. A band was in attendance and discoursed a variety of selections, including the following:—

PROGRAMME.

- 1.—The Gladiator March Southwell.
- 2.—Overture Z. Op. Die Schone Galathie Suppe.
- 3.—Grand Fantasia "Fidelity" Jaxone.
- 4.—Potpourri, Soldier's Life Bela.

At the conclusion of this series, a number of dances were given, but the numbers taking part were very limited, as compared with previous years. The prizes were neat match-boxes of hammered silver. The Committee were:—

H. C. Litchfield, President; F. J. Hall, Captain; W. W. Campbell, J. MacArthur, H. R. Main, G. C. Murray, G. Phillip, J. B. Rentier, M. Schellenberg, Hon. Treas., and H. E. Hayward, Hon. Sec.

Details:—

BATH TUB RACE.

H. Y. Irwine 1 | H. Lee 0
E. H. Irwine 2 | H. Goddard 0

Four started on this adventurous voyage "out and home," in the most homely of tubs with carpet-brooms for propellers. Lee was the first to capsize, but the other three kept on and rounded the stake-boat almost together. Goddard left the company of the tubbers near the end of the sea-wall, leaving the race to the Irwine brothers. Harold slowly overhauled Eric and then brought his "coracle" home first by a long distance.

TOURNAMENT.

FIRST ROUND.

H. Lee beat H. Y. Irwine.

This was sharp, short, and decisive, Irwine's resistance being of the slightest.

S. H. Kuhn beat W. Goddard.

Goddard succumbed to a neat prod planted right under the chin.

H. F. Arthur beat A. Kingdon.

Arthur forced Kingdon back into the boat and then followed on to his rival's quarter deck much to his own surprise.

J. M. Carst beat M. Sakamoto.

This was the best bout of the round, both men refusing to knuckle under to any ordinary "jabs."

SECOND ROUND.

J. B. Gibbs beat S. Kuhn.

A very fair fight was made before the youngster went overboard, though the result never seemed doubtful.

H. Lee beat H. F. Arthur.

Arthur seemed rather confident at the outset, but Lee had little difficulty in brushing him aside.

SEMI-FINAL.

J. M. Carst beat J. M. Scott.

A capital encounter, perhaps the best of the whole tourney, Carst getting in some capital strokes. J. B. Gibbs beat H. Lee.

Lee's luck seemed to have deserted him by this time for Gibbs had very little trouble in disposing of his man.

FINAL.

J. M. Carst beat J. B. Gibbs.

Gibbs was handicapped by having the services of a poor water man in his punt, and in the end he fell out more through bad balance than from the assaults of his rival.

GREASY POLE.

H. F. Arthur 1 | A. Kingdon 0
J. B. Gibbs 2 | S. H. Kuhn 0
W. Goddard 0 | H. Lee 0
H. Y. Irwine 0 | J. M. Scott 0

Eight entered for this event, from which, for reasons of humanity, the duck was eliminated this year. Arthur eventually collared the flag, Gibbs being a good second.

WATER POLO.

RED. H. E. Hayward (Capt.) 0
W. Goddard 0
E. H. Irwine 0
H. Y. Irwine 0
W. M. Carst 0
S. H. Kuhn 0
M. Sakamoto 0
W. T. Crane 0

WHITE. H. Goddard (Capt.) 0
H. A. Poole 0
H. F. Arthur 0
J. F. Drummond 0
A. Kingdon 0
E. M. Banby 0
J. M. Scott 0
H. Lee 0

White played with the tide in their favour and the sun on their backs. For the first few moments White pressed; then Red got the ball and worked it down, until Harold Irwine, playing on the side, secured it and with a skilful throw placed the leather between the posts. White then pulled together and had almost secured a goal when the whistle blew. Upon resuming, the teams changed ends and in the sequel to some brisk play, Hayward scored the second point for Red. H. Goddard at this point retired owing to cramp, while a little later A. Kingdon had to be helped aboard the barge from a similar cause. Thus weakened the White side could do little in defence and Harold Irwine had little difficulty in scoring the third and final goal for Red, who thus won by three goals to nothing.

SAMPAN RACE.

A. Kingdon 1 | J. E. Moss 0
J. M. Scott 1 | W. Goddard 0
W. Carst 2 | H. F. Arthur 0
L. Sallabelle 2 | F. L. Elliot 0
H. Lee 0 | J. F. Drummond 0
S. H. Kuhn 0 | H. Y. Irwine 0
H. Goddard 0
E. H. Irwine 0

The moon had long been up when this race started. Sakbelle was winning easily when his boat became unmanageable and struck the end of the pontoon. Before he could start afresh Kingdon and Scott came in and secured the gun.

LEPROSY IN JAPAN.

Dr. Day, medical officer of health at Honolulu, whilst investigating the working of the quarantine regulations in this country, also paid some attention to the subject of leprosy. In an addendum to his report, recently submitted to the Honolulu Board of Health, he says:—"Leprosy, unfortunately, is common enough, even in the large cities. No attempt is made by the Japanese Government to deal with it. In fact, the disease is ignored by the Government, just as consumption is, but public opinion deals with it almost as effectively as the Government might. The people fear the disease and force the lepers to live by themselves, apart from other people. They are outcasts, and for the most part beggars."

"In conversation with Dr. Kitasato, at Tokyo, I learned that in Japan the disease is not considered contagious, but is looked upon as hereditary. The doctor said he is working constantly upon the problem of an anti-toxin for leprosy, but so far without results. The treatment most in vogue amongst the Japanese for the relief of the disease is hot bathing and moxa. The moxa are closely applied over the tubercles and leprosy patches until they are completely covered with the canterizations. Some faces look like cases of recent confluent small-pox, the scars are so close together, and cover such a broad area. The treatment is considered valueless unless from 10,000 to 50,000 are used."

"The Kitasato Springs have the greatest reputation of any of the many hot springs for the relief of leprosy, and about 400 new cases come for the baths every season."

"Kusatsu is a pretty village, nesting in a valley near the foot of Shiranesan, an active mud volcano. There are many hot sulphur springs in the village, which probably have a common source, as the chemical analyses are almost alike."

"It is customary for the patients to use the baths as hot as can be borne. I have seen Japanese in water of 128 deg. F., but most foreigners do not use it hotter than 118 deg. They bathe from three to eight times a day and remain in the water about three minutes each time. After continuing the treatment from ten days to two weeks it causes a very troublesome eczematous inflammation of the skin which will pass away in three weeks if the treatment is persisted in, or can be promptly cured by resorting to the waters of Shibu Springs, 17 miles distant."

"The lepers, for they form only a small portion of the number of the invalids who come to Kusatsu for treatment, are obliged to live by themselves in the lowest portion of the village and to confine themselves to the use of one spring, the Gozanoya."

"Dr. Kondou, a Japanese physician, who lives in Kusatsu, thinks that the baths relieve the lepers, but do not cure them. He said he knew of three cases that he considered cured, but on further inquiry I found that the disease has remained stationary being paralysis and atrophy of the muscles supplied by the ulnar nerve. Nevertheless, the baths have an excellent reputation amongst the Japanese, and they certainly afford more relief in a short time than any treatment with which I am familiar."

BASEBALL.

Y. C. AND A. C. VERSUS "OLYMPIA."

On Saturday afternoon the deciding game in the series of baseball matches arranged between the Y. C. and A. C. and the U.S.S. Olympia took place. The weather was ideal, the heat of the sun being tempered by a pleasant breeze. The attendance of the general public was rather small, though the ladies' tent was well-patronised. Play began at five minutes past 3, Smith opening for Yokohama. He was caught on the fly before reaching first base. Merriman was second man in and was caught out by the catcher on the second ball. McChesney, third man in, obtained his first base on foul balls and his second and third by an overthrow from the field. Then Blake went in and got down to first base on the first ball. Morse followed in and had instructions to play a waiting game. He did so effectually, allowing McChesney to get home and score the first run; but Blake was left on third. Rooney opened for the Olympia, only to be caught at first base by Morse. Whalen followed and took his first base at the expense of the pitcher, and his second and third came through some wild overthrowing on the part of the field. Winslow, the third man in, took his first base, having been touched by the ball, but Thorne, who followed, was given out on strikes. Methfessel took a base on balls; and then the Olympia scored their first run. The next ball, the whole side were out; Blake making the decisive catch. Score, Yokohama, 1; Olympia, 1.

Bain went in to start the second innings of the home-side, but was given out on strikes. Azbill followed and obtained his first base easily. Vaughan was the eighth man in, and sending the ball down near third base, played it through the fielder's hands. Azbill profited by the blunder and got home—the second run for his side. Curtis filled the vacancy at the plate but was caught out on the second ball. Smith followed and got down to second base. Then Merriman secured a base, and Smith got in on an overthrow, to be followed by Merriman two balls later. McChesney was the next to get a base and steal another, but lost his third, the whole side thus going out. Score, Olympia, 1; Yokohama, 5. Church opened for the visitors in the next innings and provided plenty of fun at the various bases, finally getting home on a capital hit to deep field made by Probert. Probert, however, was put out by a quick throw-in. Davis, next in, was caught before reaching first base, and Rooney never left the plate. Score Yokohama, 5; Olympia, 2. Blake started the next innings for the home team with a brilliant two base hit; Morse and Bain were, however, given out on first base; Azbill was caught in right field by Methfessel, and the side were out, Blake being left on third base. No change had been made in the score. The Olympia had similar luck in their innings, none of their players getting home. A three base hit was made in the next innings by Vaughan off his first ball, when following on. Curtis went out for nothing, but Vaughan and Smith got home on a well placed ball played by Merriman. Merriman had a run to his credit off the next ball. Before the innings closed the score had been taken to 12—the Navy were evidently "rattled." In the fifth innings of the visitors, Blake did a pretty piece of double play, putting out a man on second and another on third. Again a maiden innings resulted for the Olympia team. It was not until the seventh innings was started that luck came back to the visitors, when, owing to some good strikes and indifferent fielding, they made 10 runs, bringing their score level with the home side—18 all. But after this they made nothing, and the game closed with Yokohama the winner of the game—and the rubber—by 23 runs to 18.

Y. C. & A. C.

U.S.S. "OLYMPIA."

Pos.	Runs.	P.O.	Pos.	Runs.	P.O.
Mr. Smith 3	1	1	Mr. Rooney 3	0	3
Mr. Merriman 3	4	1	Mr. Whalen 3	4	2
Mr. McChesney 3	2	1	Mr. Winslow 3	3	3
Mr. Blake 1	1	1	Mr. Thorne 1	1	1
Mr. Max 1	3	1	Mr. Methfessel 1	1	1
Mr. Bain 1	3	1	Mr. McDonald 1	3	1
Mr. Azbill 1	3	1	Mr. Church 1	3	1
Mr. Vaughan 3	4	1	Mr. Probert 1	3	1
Mr. Curtis 1	5	1	Mr. Davis 1	0	3
Total 23	27	1	Total 18	27	1

INNINGS.

Y. C. & A. C.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
U.S.S. Olympia	1	0	0	1	4	1	2	4	23

MODERN JAPAN. — INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC.

THE CHANCES OF THE FOREIGN ENGINEER.

As pointed out in a former article of this series, there is now—and there must be for some time—a dearth of experienced native engineers in this country; for engineering requirements have been increasing with such rapid strides that the supply of thoroughly-trained men in this profession has not been able to keep pace with the demand. It must be borne in mind that modern technical education in Japan, on anything of a scale, only dates back a short time. But it is not theoretical training now that is wanting; but, from force of circumstances, the practical side of the engineer's education has been neglected.

On the other hand, the foreign engineer does not stand any chance whatever of remunerative employment in Japan; for the Japanese, in their crusade against the foreigner, admit that it is their policy to discourage him by every possible means. Foreigners may be utilised to advantage as purchasers of Japanese products, and for providing Japan with what she cannot make for herself, but, apart from this, they are not wanted.

The Japanese, who are nearly always logical, even when outsiders do not approve of their logic, and when the carrying out of their logic is injurious to themselves, will not have the foreigner at any price. They far prefer to put an inexperienced Japanese at the head of some important engineering enterprise than a thoroughly competent European. This, no doubt, is an expensive way of doing business, but, in the long run, I have no doubt that it will work out its own remedy. When I came to this country my instructions were to write: first, on the development of engineering work in Japan; secondly, on Japan as a market for British engineering products; and thirdly, on Japan as a field for the British engineer. On the first two points there is a great deal to be said, but with regard to the third, all that one has to say can be summed up in a very few words, viz., that, for the reasons given above, there is no field for foreign engineers out here at present, nor can one see any prospect of there being one in the future. For every year will increase the professional experience of the native engineers, and no one who knows anything about the Japanese can deny their great aptitude for absorbing knowledge and for profiting by experience.

Just now are the palmy days for young engineers in this country. They must be likened to that period, some fifty or sixty years ago, when in Great Britain the railway system began to develop with rapidity, and when, in consequence, anybody who could handle a theodolite and had a smattering of mathematics became, by a species of evolution, an "engineer," and was sure of profitable employment in that capacity. The situation here to-day differs, however, from the above state of things, in that the English ready-made engineers which were forthcoming at the time did not so much lack practical knowledge as they did a technical education; whereas, with the Japanese of to-day, the situation is reversed. It is probable that the system of technically educating engineers in Japan will bear comparison with that of any country in the world, and is certainly at the present day far superior to anything of the sort to be found in Great Britain, or elsewhere, half a century ago. Then, again, when railways in Europe were developing, people had to feel their way, and to go slowly in consequence, for there were no data to refer to, and no people with a higher knowledge to call in in case of emergency. With Japan, however, at the present time, it is a comparatively easy matter to start a railway company, and still more easy to purchase the necessary materials from abroad.

Thus it is that the business enterprise of the Japanese is just now running ahead of their capacity for coping with it, and it is for this reason that inexperienced students find themselves directly they leave college in good and remunerative employment at an age when in most countries such youths would be going through the drudgery of practical work with an engineering firm, or serving in the drawing office of a civil engineer, or, at the best, being employed on a small salary in a very subordinate position on some big engineering contract.

While there is no doubt that the foreign engineer is at a very great discount in Japan at the present time, it must not be imagined that his influence is not felt, nor, indeed, that his experience is not invoked, continually. For the London advisers of the Japanese are thoroughly competent men, and their handiwork in the way of designs, and so forth, which they have made and sent out to this

country, is traceable in almost every big engineering enterprise that is carried out here. And such will necessarily be the case for many years to come.

It is a continual cause of complaint by the foreigner here that the Japanese never demonstrate any gratitude for what the foreigner has done for the country. But while it is quite true that a foreign engineer seldom gets much, if any, honour and glory for his achievements in the way of modernising Japan, he has nearly always been extremely well paid for his work. For when the Japanese have considered that they require outside advice, they have been willing to pay for it. No doubt many people give the Japanese credit for originating and designing many things which have actually been worked out by foreigners, or directly copied from foreign designs. But in the first case such work has not been carried out by the foreigner from purely philanthropic motives, but from a business point of view; and in the second case there is not a civilised country in the world which does not copy from its neighbour, if it considers that there is any advantage to be gained by so doing.

English engineers must not build up any great hopes of employment in Japan when the new treaties, which are said to open up the country to the foreigner, come into force. For though, on the face of it, it might seem that a great many openings for foreigners would follow in consequence, such openings will not come in the way of engineering employment. It may, and I have no doubt will, do a great deal of good to commercial people; but the only chance for the foreign engineer would be in the event of a large number of foreign enterprises being started here.

But I can see no likelihood of the treaties having this effect, as the working of them, more particularly prohibit foreigners from establishing themselves industrially on any large scale. Then, again, in a few years' time there is no doubt that there will be a far larger supply of efficient Japanese engineers to compete with the foreigner seeking employment in this direction; and foreign employers out here would probably give the former the preference, from the point of view of the smaller salaries they would require. For it is not brains nor intelligence that the Japanese engineer lacks, but merely the necessary experience, which will come with time.—Special Commissioner of the Engineer.

PHARAOH AND THE SERGEANT.

Consider that the meritorious services of the Sergeant Instructors attached to the Egyptian Army have been inadequately acknowledged. . . . To the excellence of their work is mainly due the great improvement that has taken place in the soldiers of H. H. the Khedive.—Extract from letter.

Said England unto Pharaoh, "I must make a man of you,
That will stand upon his feet and play the game;
That will Maxim his oppressor as a Christian ought to do."

And she sent old Pharaoh Sergeant Whatisname.

It was not a Duke, nor Earl, nor yet a Viscount—

It was not a big brass General that came;
But a man in khaki kit who could handle men a bit,

With his bedding labelled Sergeant Whatisname.

Said England unto Pharaoh, "The" at present singing small,

You shall hum a proper tune before it ends."

And she introduced old Pharaoh to the Sergeant once for all,

And left 'em in the desert making friends.

It was not a Crystal Palace nor Cathedral;

It was not a public-house of common fame;

But a piece of red-hot sand, with a palm on either hand,

And a little hut for Sergeant Whatisname.

Said England unto Pharaoh, "You've had miracles before,

When Aaron struck your rivers into blood;—

But if you watch the Sergeant he can show you something more;

He's a charm for making riffmen from mud."

It was neither Hindustani, French, nor Coptic;

It was odds and ends and leavings of the same,

Translated by a stick (which is really half the trick),

And Pharaoh hearkened to Sergeant Whatisname.

There were years that no one talked of; there were times of horrid doubt—

There was faith and hope and whacking and despair—

While the Sergeant gave the cautions and he combed old Pharaoh out,

And England didn't look to know nor care,

That is England's awful way o' doing business—

She would serve her God or Gordon just the same—

For she thinks her Empire still is the Strand and Holborn Hill,

And she didn't think o' Sergeant Whatisname.

Said England to the Sergeant, "You can let my people go!"

(England used 'em cheap and nasty from the start)

And they entered 'em at Fiskeh on a most astonished foe—

But the Sergeant he had hardened Pharaoh's heart

That was broke, along of all the Plagues of Egypt,

Three thousand years before the Sergeant came—

And he mended it again in a little more than ten,

So Pharaoh fought like Sergeant Whatisname!

It was wicked-bad campaigning (cheap and nasty from the first).

There was heat and dust and coolie work and sun,

There were vipers, flies and sandstorms, there was cholera and thirst,

But Pharaoh done the best he ever done,

Down the desert, down the railway, down the river,

Like the Israelites from bondage on he came,

'Tween the clouds o' dust and fire to the land of his desire,

And his Moses it was Sergeant Whatisname!

We are eating dirt in handfuls for to save our daily bread,

Which we have to buy from those that hate us mos',

And we must not raise the money where the Sergeant raised the dead,

And it's wrong and bad and dangerous to boast,

But he did it on the cheap and on the quiet,

And he's not allowed to forward any claim—

Though he drilled a black man white, though he made a mummy fight,

He will still continue Sergeant Whatisname—

Private, Corporal, Colour Sergeant, and Instructor—

But the everlasting miracle's the same.

—Rudyard Kipling.

SOCIAL DYNAMITE IN CHINA.

Within the past six or seven years foreigners living in parts of China widely distant from one another, have had univalued opportunity for studying the evolution of those forces which, when fully developed, make formidable mobs, and inflict terrible damage. Within the past few months a fresh illustration has been afforded us, which, so far as we know, differs in some essential particulars from any of its predecessors.

In the month of June the railway from Tientsin to Peking was completed, and the capital was full of tales about children buried under the ties and slain to solidify the bridges. The rehabilitation of the old Roman Catholic cathedral at Tientsin, by special agreement with the Chinese Government, violently angered the people of that inflammable city. The gravity of the situation there was such that effective precautions were at once taken by the foreign Consuls, and the Chinese officials bestirred themselves in a way to do them great credit. Had the rulers of Tientsin last June been of the same stamp as those in 1870, there would almost certainly have been an outbreak, albeit foreigners were forewarned this time as they then were not. By numerous ruthless (and probably unjust) exertions in the district *yamen*, the people were held perfectly in control, so that the trouble may be said to have been quite nipped in the bud, and, with the exception of some rudeness to foreigners, there were no cases of a serious character requiring foreign interference. The Chinese officials acted

promptly and efficiently. Tientsin is the commercial centre of a large part of the four northern provinces, and is connected with three of them by numerous waterways along which social influences are easily and rapidly propagated. That vague rumours of something wrong in that metropolis should get abroad was inevitable. But the celerity of the transmission, as compared with the slow progress of mis-called "intelligence" in the time of actual war, a few months previous, was a surprise to every one. Not only so, but compared with kidnapping minors, the war news excited at best but a languid interest, even on the part of those who had some dim idea of what was going on. This was well illustrated by a Tientsin servant who had been informed by his mistress of the terrible battle of the Yalu, and the extinction of the Chinese navy. He received the news with interest, but after a moment's consideration said decisively, "they were not my boats!"

The Chinese have from antiquity been familiar with the kidnapping of women and children. The former goes on all the time even in quiet neighbourhoods, but the kidnapping of a woman implies her co-operation for its successful issue, otherwise she gets away, and the price is a loss. It is otherwise with children. At first the untutored foreigner finds it hard to imagine what boys are kidnapped for, when they are to be had everywhere in such plenty. It is probably true as alleged that a good many are annually swept off from Tientsin in the grain junks which go South after discharging cargo. Of these children some are treated with horrible cruelties to make them objects of commercial value. Some are clamped between parts of a split jar, with the head alone protruding, and are kept in this horrible posture permanently. This makes them little dwarfs with big heads, and such monstrosities can be exhibited at a large profit. There are children whose feet have been made to drop off by having the ankles girdled with fine wire kept tight. These may, at any time, be seen in the large cities as beggars. There are many ways in which small male children may be made objects of commercial value, but what becomes of kidnapped girls it is unnecessary to mention.

The Chinese seem to be unemotional and, to the last degree, a practical race. Under appropriate conditions they are most excitable, and conditions like those to which we have but alluded, amply explain the passionate excitement on the part of Chinese influenced by Tientsin.

During the second week in June the excitement in and about Tientsin over alleged cases of kidnapping amounted to a literal frenzy. It was currently reported there, with what truth we do not know, that several persons had been executed at the hands of the officials on the charge of complicity with these proceedings. Chinese magistrates neither know nor care anything about the laws of evidence, and in cases of this sort, there may be said to be a hundred chances to one that a friendless and unprotected man would be summarily dealt with, on the general principle of allaying popular feeling. At such a time some one must be sacrificed, and the possibly guilty man is the victim. But aside from those judicially murdered, it is supposed that at least six men were killed by mobs in and about Tientsin during the prevalence of this fatal mania. One of them was said to be a jirnikisha coolie who merely accosted a child. In *The North China Magazine* for August, a periodical published by the North-China Tract Society, there is a long and interesting article written by a native colporteur who was set upon by a crowd of loafers and ruffians in the northern part of the suburbs of the city of Tientsin, charging him with being a "Kuai tze" or kidnapper. His escape from the mob who threw stones at him, plastered him with mud and filth, and were about to tie him up and fling him into the river, was due to the timely arrival of soldiers who heard of the disturbance. After examinations by different officials, being made on one occasion to take two doses of his cough medicine in tea, and on another occasion five to show that it was not a poison, and after being ordered up to show his genuineness as a colporteur by reading and explaining in open court the fourth chapter of Acts—a most happy choice of the officials—he was at last released. In the villages about Tientsin Chinese who were known to have any connection with foreigners were reviled, had their houses searched, and were sometimes beaten. The impulse of excitement was propagated along every line of travel, like a tidal wave in the Pacific Ocean due to a South American earthquake. It seems to have been felt everywhere, to a distance of hundreds of miles from Tientsin. In all cases the old stale stories of eyes and hearts dug out for foreign use were revamped, and found ready credence. All the district magistrates issued proclama-

tions, and many of these were phrased in such a way as to inflame the people to madness. They were at once to seize every one who could not give an account of himself and to deliver him to the *yamen*. This was, of course, construed to mean that ordinary legal protection to human life was at an end, which was certainly the case. Specific cases were reported to foreigners living in different neighbourhoods, illustrating all forms of violence. In one instance a man who was listening to the hearing of a law-suit in open court was accused by a military attaché of being a "Kuai tze" on the ground that his clothes were of an unusual colour. The accused man was a returned soldier with a bundle of clothing to be pawned but he injudiciously banded words with his questioner, was at once accused to the official, who tried him on the spot and condemned him to be imprisoned in the "cage," which is one of the most horrible of the many illegal Chinese instruments of torture. In this rack, where he can neither stand nor sit, nor lie, unable to touch more than his toes to the ground, the accused is suspended by his head, exposed to the fierce rays of the dog-days' sun, slowly starving to death, reviled by every passer by, and pitted by no one. In this case bondsmen from the village of the accused came forward, but being snubbed by the magistrate, became frightened and left their townsman to his fate. In the prefectural city next to the one in which this happened another man was similarly treated by the prefect because he was from a distant province, did not speak clearly nor quickly and was, of course, a "Kuai tze." He was thus tortured to death on the third day. A woman on the way to a relative having engaged a lad to carry a heavy bundle, was set upon and half killed regardless of all explanations, till found by one who knew her in time to save her. In still another case, a half-witted man who was going somewhere, and who happened to be followed by a boy at some distance, was set upon by some rustics who were hoeing their fields, and after a few incoherent replies, he was dispatched with a hoe and his body flung into the Grand Canal. Considering the density of the population in the wide region affected by these rumours, it is not perhaps too much to estimate that hundreds must have been murdered outright, and many other hundreds grossly wronged, all on account of an excitement as baseless as a dream. Forces of this sort existing in Chinese society cannot be ignored, and ought not to be misunderstood. They do not indicate that the Chinese are worse than other races, nor even that they are necessarily more ignorant, although they often are so. They are a highly passionate people, and so also are we. Nothing that has here been mentioned cannot be more than paralleled in English-speaking countries, and even in this particular year of grace lynching goes on in many parts of the United States, even in the older and more "civilized" portions, while strike violence in England and the colonies: race, antipathies and race hatreds, wherever an adequate opportunity is given for their evolution, make our house so conspicuously full of glass, that it is not safe to throw many stones.

Nothing but a slow and a progressive enlightenment will free China from the dangers to which she is exposed from these dynamic forces of evil. The same enlightenment is needed wherever man has to do with his fellow. Whatever tends to promote such enlightenment should be sedulously encouraged. Whatever hinders it should be frowned upon and put away.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE REFINING OF CHINESE OPIUM.

In the network of villages north-west of Swatow lies Saleng, about 20 miles distant from the Treaty Port. It is easy of approach by one or other of the numerous creeks which run in bewildering numbers northwards from Swatow, and is sheltered on its northern side by hills which afford cover to a few wild goats and porcupines. A small factory has been established at this spot with native capital and under native management. The object arrived at is to refine native opium so that it will be able to compete on even terms as regards appearance, smell, taste and strength with the foreign drug. If this can be attained then, it is stated, the refined native article will be placed on the market at a price against which foreign competition will be impossible. The idea of refining native opium has originated with some Chinese traders who have seen a little of the world as far as the Straits Settlements. The local merchant who has been abroad returns with larger ideas, at any rate as far as trade is concerned, and would no doubt strike out new commercial lines for himself were he sure of non-interference.

But he knows that he is regarded by his officials as a legitimate source of plunder and he is accordingly inclined to run in the old grooves unless he has some connection with the local foreign firms.

Handsome houses have been built in Saleng and the neighbouring villages and others are in course of erection. They are the property of Chinese engaged in business with Hongkong and the Straits Settlements. These men live retired lives and are seldom interfered with, for their travels abroad have emboldened them to dangle the terrors of the British flag before the eyes of would-be spoilers. Also, small sums judiciously distributed among *yamen* underlings have hitherto kept these wolves from the door.

To return, however, to our opium refinery. There are no chimneys belching forth black smoke, no ring of metal, no busy hum of voices, only a large Chinese house in a secluded nook with a score of Chinese women busily engaged in damping and singeing white poppy leaves. This process unites the leaves, which form a layer wherein to wrap an opium ball. One cash represents the emolument for the labour thus expended. The work is light and an active woman could probably earn \$4 to \$5 a month, but her wage-earning capacity is limited not by the work she can do but by the amount she is required to do.

The opium is refined in rooms on an upper floor. The manager was very nervous that we should get scent of his refining "medicine" and did not wish us to ascend and see for ourselves. The process, however, is simple. The native opium, which is in the form of tiles or slabs, is heated in iron pans under the supervision of an Indian workman. The dirt and other foreign ingredients are gradually eliminated as far as possible and the residue is then doctored. The refined opium is afterwards moulded into balls, of about 6lbs. each, which are covered with a wrapping of dried poppy leaves so as to retain the smell and strength. The medicine is said to be a prescription of the manager, who once kept a dispensary of foreign and native drugs in Penang. The Indian workman is not an "expert." He receives \$10 a month and will no doubt be superseded by Chinese who have by this time already learned the tricks of the trade, such as they are.

The manager, who is also part proprietor, is very sanguine of success and intends placing his goods on the market as soon as they shall have matured. A small quantity will be tried by way of experiment in the local opium divans during the coming winter. If the preparation be fancied by smokers it is expected that large orders will follow. The retail price will be, as far as it is possible to judge, about one-half that of the foreign article. It is estimated that about two balls of refined opium can be turned out monthly from the small premises at Saleng and any increase in the output can be met by additional capital. Some land near at hand has been sown with imported poppy seed and the leaves of these plants are used as coverings for the balls.

The establishment of the refinery is considered by the promoters as an experiment which, if successful, will enable native grown opium, to all intents and purposes similar to the foreign commodity, to be sold at a price which would preclude all idea of competition. Even if only partially successful there will be an increase in the demand for the native and a corresponding decrease in that of the foreign article.

The Imperial Maritime Customs collected 86 Taels 3,722,730 as duties on foreign opium in 1896. This represents a percentage of more than 20 per cent of the entire Customs Revenue. It is possible, therefore, that the Central Government may consider the duty on foreign opium so serious an item that, if native opium appears likely to completely displace its foreign competitors at a more rapid rate than it is doing at present, some arrangement will be made whereby the native will take the place of the imported drug in the Customs Returns. A steady decrease in the import of opium has been going on yearly, while the consumption of native opium has steadily increased, and the annual output is not less than five times the quantity of the foreign imports.

The want of ready money is pressing heavily upon both the central and provincial authorities. If, therefore, native opium can take the place of Indian it is reasonable to suppose that it will be subject to increased taxation. Theoretically speaking, of course, every encouragement should be given to the home grown product, but theories of this kind are very rarely worked out in practice in China. We have only to direct a glance at the tea trade, for instance, which is so hampered by direct and indirect burdens that it is being surely elbowing out of foreign markets by its Indian rival. It is also extremely unlikely that the use of opium, even if entirely home

grown, will ever be prohibited on moral grounds. Its consumption is too universal from the *yaméns* down to the coolie shops.

The Anti-Opium Society did once elicit an opinion from one of the best-known and most influential of Chinese viceroys that he considered opium to be the greatest curse ever visited upon his country. He omitted to add, however, that he was largely interested in the growth of native opium, which was being successfully cultivated on his own estates. This is but one example of the official attitude towards opium—public denunciation and private approval.

It remains to be seen, however, whether in the event of native opium being refined so as to compete on equal or approximate terms in quality with the imported drug, the consequent increase in the cost of the supply of the raw material and additional burdens in the shape of taxes and impositions will enable it to undersell its foreign competitors to any appreciable extent.—*N. C. Daily News.*

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE OPERATIONS IN EGYPT.

London, Sept. 9.

In consequence of the Dervishes having evacuated Berber, arrangements are in preparation at Suakin to make communication with the Nile forces. The Dervishes are withdrawing all their eastern posts.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK.

The Duke and Duchess of York have left Ireland, terminating their visit at Belfast, where they received an immense ovation.

THE RUPEE.

The Indian treasuries are receiving sovereigns and half-sovereigns at the rate of 1s. 3½d. per rupee.

GREECE, TURKEY, AND THE POWERS.

Sept. 10.

The Greek Government acquiesces in the foreign control of the revenues to meet the payment of the interest on the indemnity loan, but the Powers are still disagreed as to whether the first installment of the indemnity to Turkey shall precede the evacuation of Thessaly.

The recent proposal by the Marquis of Salisbury that Great Britain, Russia, and France jointly guarantee the Greek loan for the payment of the indemnity, and undertake the control of certain Greek revenues, has been accepted by the Powers.

The idea of raising the blockade of Crete has been abandoned owing to the opposition of Germany.

Russia, Great Britain, and Germany are unable to agree in regard to the indemnity question.

Germany and Great Britain have at length practically agreed upon a settlement of the indemnity question, the basis of the agreement being the Marquis of Salisbury's proposal for the evacuation of Thessaly, which has not been made subordinate to the payment of the indemnity.

COFFEE PLANTING IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Government of New South Wales is encouraging the planting of coffee in that colony.

SHORT TIME IN LANCASHIRE.

Two of the largest firms in Preston are working short time. Five thousand looms are affected, and the outlook is gloomy.

THE REBELLION IN CUBA.

The Cuban insurgent forces have captured an important fortified town, which has caused great excitement in Spain and the United States.

MINING CATASTROPHE.

A explosion of dynamite has occurred in one of the lower levels of a mine near Johannesburg, which resulted in great havoc to the works and the death of five white miners and twenty-five Kaffirs.

THE DONCASTER ST. LEGER.

The race for the St. Leger Stakes resulted as follows:—

Galtee More	1
Chelandry	2
St. Cloud	3
Silver Fox	4
Galeta	5

These five composed the field.

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

The troubles on the Afghan frontier are generally quieting and the gatherings of the hostile tribesmen are dispersing, the outlying posts having been relieved.

London, Sept. 14.

The Afridis, in great force, have been attacking all the British posts on the Samana range. They have captured the fort at Saragari, and are believed to have massacred the garrison, which consisted of twenty-one men. Generals Blood and Elles, with their respective columns, will advance into the Mohmaud country on the 15th instant.

Fifty-nine thousand men, with ninety guns, are now on the frontier.

THE FRANCO-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE.

There are varying reports in regard to the object and purport of the Franco-Russian alliance, one of which is that either is bound to assist the other whenever attacked, but not so if it declares war.

The *Times* Paris correspondent says that the leading subject that was discussed at the recent meeting at Peterhof was how best to paralyze the action of Great Britain if the latter joined the Triple Alliance.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND'S RESERVE.

London, Sept. 13.

The *Times* publishes an article, described as from a trustworthy correspondent, which states that the Bank of England has consented to hold one-fifth of its reserve in silver. The *Times* assumes that there are some weighty reasons of State for such a harmful and revolutionary measure, which would possibly stop the bimetallic supporters in the Government. The Bank of England has refused to confirm, deny, or explain the report.

The *Times*, in its money article, states that the one-fifth silver reserve scheme of the Bank of England is absolutely condemned in banking circles.

JAPANESE FINANCE.

An article in *The Times*, commending Japanese finance, concludes with the remark that Japan ought to find no difficulty in placing five per cent. loans on the European market.

LABOUR TROUBLES IN AMERICA.

Disturbances by striking miners have occurred in Pennsylvania, and the Sheriff, with a posse of Nagelton's men, fired into the crowd after the miners commenced hustling the Sheriff. The result was that 21 were killed and 41 wounded. The strikers are mostly Hungarians. General indignation is expressed at the action of the authorities.

THE BOMBAY SEDITION CASE.

London, Sept. 15.

Mr. Tilak has been sentenced to eighteen

months' rigorous imprisonment by the Bombay High Court.

[The Hon. Mr. B. G. Tilak, an additional member of the Bombay Legislative Council, was arrested in July last, brought before the Court in Bombay, and remanded on a charge of seditious writing in a native paper of which he is the editor. His publisher Kishan, and Mr. Kellar, another native editor, were also arrested and brought up on a similar charge, while two Brahmin inamdars, Sitar Natu and his brother Lalya Saheb, were arrested and afterward deported during the pleasure of the Government, for disloyalty.]

INDIA COUNCIL BILLS.

Tenders for twelve months' India Council Bills have been accepted at £97 5s. 3d.

THE NILE EXPEDITION.

The Egyptian troops have occupied Berber.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

Paris, August 27.

The Czar and Czarina lunched on board the *Polhuau*. M. Faure proposed the toast of "The two friendly and allied nations fraternally united." The Czar proposed the toast of "The two friendly and allied nations, who are resolved to maintain peace." The farewells were most cordial.

Paris, August 28.

Enthusiasm is general in France. The public buildings have been decorated and will be illuminated on Tuesday on the occasion of the return of M. Faure. The French and foreign Press recognise the importance of the alliance.

Paris, August 30.

Paris is preparing to receive M. Faure worthily.

Paris, August 31.

On his arrival at Dunkerque M. Faure was loudly cheered.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club reopens on Monday, 4th October.

The Tokyo Chess Club reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem No. 336:—

WHITE.

1—P to K 5

2—P takes P, *en passant*, mate

2—P takes K1, mate

2—B to R 3, mate

2—R to K 8, mate

2—P takes P, mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Nemo, P.E.F.S., and D.D.

BLACK.

1—P to B 4, ch

1—K1 to Q 3

1—Kt any other

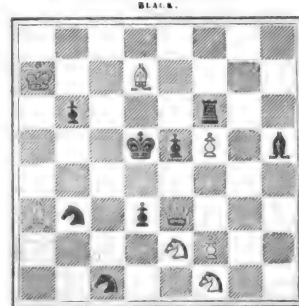
1—Moves B

1—P to B 3

PROBLEM No. 338.

M. LISSNER.

This problem was composed by Mr. Lissner for the problem-solving tournament of the New York State Chess Association just concluded. Pillsbury secured a gold chess pin for handling in the solution after but six minutes' work:—



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

The match between the two masters, Bird and Lee, which we reported last week as having been won by Lee, has by mutual consent been pro-

longed to one of seven games up, and at the time the mail left the twelfth game had been reached. Lee has won six, Bud three, with two games drawn.

The British Chess Club has been dissolved and reorganized on a larger basis, in which chess is only a feature, though the principal one. Its new quarters are Carrington House, 4 Whitehall Court, London.

According to the *British Chess Magazine*, there is an effort being made to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, in London, with a National Chess Tournament to take place in October next, open to British born and naturalized foreign players. The scheme has been mooted for some time past.

The summer tournament of the New York State Chess Association, held at Thousand Isles, N. Y. came to a close on Saturday, the 7th August, leaving the issue of the *Staats Zeitung* cup contest still in doubt. There were only three entries: Steinitz, representing the Staten Island Chess Club; Lipschutz, battling for the Manhattan Chess Club of New York city; and the Bay Champion Napier, of the Brooklyn Chess Club. Of the four games played, Napier won only from Steinitz. Here follows the score:—

CUP CONTEST.

Player.	Won.	Lost.
Lipschutz.....	2½.....	1½
Napier.....	1.....	3
Steinitz.....	2½.....	1½

Lipschutz beat Napier two games, and drew one with Steinitz; Napier beat Steinitz one game, lost one to Steinitz and two to Lipschutz. Steinitz won one with Napier, and 1½ with Lipschutz.

An effort was made on the concluding day to decide the tie between Steinitz and Lipschutz, but after a well-fought game of sixty-seven moves had been played and the chances of the contestants were about even, it was decided by the tournament committee that three more games should be played to decide the competition. These games will be played at intervals of one week and it at the close the tie is not dissolved the association will hold the trophy until next year. The cup has been won in previous years as follows:—1891, by J. M. Hanham, for City Club; 1893, by A. B. Hodges, for Staten Island Club; 1894, by J. W. Showalter, for Manhattan Club; 1895, by E. Delmar, for Metropolitan Club; 1896, by S. Lipschutz, for Manhattan Club.

The inter-state tournament was finished on 7th August and resulted in a somewhat unexpected victory for the New Yorkers by a score of 25½ to 21½ points. The following are individual scores, showing how many points each player contributed to his State's total:—

New York.	Pennsylvania.
Pillsbury.....	6½
Hodges.....	6
Deviser.....	4½
Hanham.....	4
Scheffelin.....	2
Delmar.....	2
Ruth.....	0
Total.....	25½
Kemeny.....	4½
Shipley.....	4
McCutcheon.....	3½
Hampton.....	3
Stuart.....	1
Young.....	3
Newman.....	2½
Total.....	21½

We have been compelled to resign both the games with Singapore, says "Black Bishop" of Hongkong. It is merely human to seek to find excuses for defeat and to suggest they had a larger playing committee than we, that they gave longer consideration to their moves and so forth, but it seems most straight-forward to confess at once that Singapore played better than we did and have well earned their victory. I trust that it may be found possible to arrange a return match, and that we may do better next time.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNAMENT.

The following moves have been sent in:—

Game	Move.	White.	Move.	Black.
1	35	R R6 mate		
2		Ki-Q6	22	Ki-Kt
3	23	R K-q	13	B Q4
4	13			Resigns
5				
6		Drawn		
7		P-QKt3	15	P-Q5
8	15			Resigns
9				
10	11	Kt R4	10	P KR4

Another game was decided this week, "Pakeha" scoring a win from "Shepherd" in Game 2, the latter resigning on the 20th move. Three further games have had to be concluded in *vis-a-vis* play

previous to the departure from Yokohama of another of the combatants. The winners were:—Game 1, "Pakeha"; Game 5, "Shepherd" and Game 6, "Nemo." The score to date is:—

Player.	Won.	Lost.
Pakeha.....	2.....	—
Olymp.....	—.....	3½
Shepherd.....	1.....	2
Nemo.....	1.....	—
Fardel.....	1½.....	½

Below we publish the finishing moves of games 1, 5, 6, and 9, starting with the last moves published in our daily issue. We do this for the benefit of those who have followed the tourney from day to day, and not because these games possess any special merit. Those who are watching the progress of Nos. 3, 4, and 10, however, will be repaid for their trouble, for the games are well contested, and one, at least, is now at a critical stage.

GAME No. 1.

White-Pakeha.		Black-Olymp.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
23 QxQ	PxQ	30 R QB6	R Kt2
24 Kt B7	Kt x P	31 P QR4	K R3
25 K x KR	K x R	32 K B2	K R4
26 Kt x P ch	P x Kt	33 K B3	P Kt4
27 Kt Kt	P R4	34 P Kt4 ch	K R5
28 R B6	R Kt sq	35 R R6 mate.	
29 R x BP	K Kt2		

GAME No. 5.

White—1 sq.		Black—Shepherd.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
22 K x Kt	R K sq	26 K x R (B2)	Q K7 ch
23 Q Kt3	R x Kt ch	27 K B2	R B5 ch
24 K Q sq	Q Q5	28 K Kt sq	Q K5 ch
25 Kt Kt5	Q B7	29 Resigns.	

GAME No. 6.

White-Nemo.		Black-Olymp.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
17 B R4	Q Q3	24 R B-q	R R2
18 R B5	B B-q	25 Kt K4	Q Kt3
19 B x Kt	B x R	26 B R5	Q R2
20 B K5	Q Kt3	27 Q Kt4	Kt Q2
21 P x B	Q x P	28 B Kt6	Q R-q
22 B Kt4	Q Kt4	29 Q K6 ch	Resigns
23 Q B3	P B3		

GAME No. 9.

White-Fardel.		Black-Shepherd.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
10 Kt B3	Q QR4	16 Kt (B3) K4	Q Kt3
11 Castles	R K-q	17 R B5	Kt K3
12 Kt Kt15	P KR3	18 B QB4	Q B3
13 Kt x P	Q B4 ch	19 Q R5	K R2
14 K R-q	Kt K4	20 R B7	R x Kt (Q3)
15 Kt x P (Q3)	R K3	21 Q x P ch	Resigns

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America.....	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 1	Tu. Sept. 21
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	China 1	W. Sept. 20
Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.	N. P. Co.	Columbia 2	Tu. Oct. 21
Europe.....	M. M. Co.	Sydney 4	Su. Sept. 19
America.....	P. M. Co.	Aztec 5	Tu. Sept. 22
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 6	M. Sept. 27
Europe.....	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Sept. 29
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Oct. 7

- 1 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 4th inst.
- 2 Left Shanghai on the 15th inst.
- 3 Left Victoria on the 5th inst.
- 4 Left Kobe on the 18th inst.
- 5 Left San Francisco on the 11th inst.
- 6 Left Vancouver on the 13th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Su. Sept. 19
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Yarra	Su. Sept. 19
America.....	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Sept. 23
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	Ravenna	Th. Sept. 23
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of China	M. Sept. 27
Europe, via Hongkong.....	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Oct. 2
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Fri. Oct. 2
America.....	O. & O. Co.	Belgic	Sa. Oct. 2
Shanghai.....	N. Y. K.	Nagato Maru	Tu. Sept. 27

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Thetis, British barque, John Oliver, 13th Sept.—Caleta Buena via Kobe, Nitate.—Illies & Co.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, J. W. Saunders, 13th Sept.—San Francisco 24th Aug., and Honolulu 1st Sept., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,299, Williams, 14th Sept.—Liverpool via port, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,682, 14th Sept.—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Maria Rickmers, German steamer, 3,140, E. Berg, 14th Sept.—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai 7th September, General.—Raspe & Co.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Tenick, 14th Sept.—Nagasaki 10th September, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Co.
Oloru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Ponte, 14th Sept.—Oahu via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Rurik, Russian cruiser, 10,900, Capt. Rovenoff, 15th September.—Vladivostok.
Lombard, British steamer, 1,658, Raison, 15th Sept.—New York via ports, Suez Canal, and Kobe 14th Sept., General.—Fazaz & Co.
Glenfarg, British steamer, 2,350, Selby, 16th Sept.—London via ports, and Kobe 14th Sept., General.—Jardine, Mathieson & Co.
Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, G. Makihara, 16th Sept.—Kobe, 14th Sept., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 16th Sept.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saint Mary, British steamer, 1,860, Perrill, 16th Sept.—London via port, and Kobe 14th Sept., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Ravenna, British steamer, 1,915, C. T. Denny, 17th September.—Bombay via ports, 19th August, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, A. E. Moses, 11th Sept.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Energia, British steamer, 2,064, Saw, 11th Sept.—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.
Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 12th Sept.—Oahu via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 12th Sept.—Hongkong via Kobe, and Nagasaki, Mails & General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Panther (10), Austrian cruiser, 1,530, Capt. Carl Koppel, 12th Sept.—Kobe.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, S. Muramatsu, 12th Sept.—Yokkaichi General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,500, Thomson, 13th Sept.—Nagasaki via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, T. Tibbals, 13th Sept.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Doric, British steamer, 2,036, Harry Smith, 14th September.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,483, K. Nakajima, 14th September.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Idsumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, R. Nunnor, 14th Sept.—Bombay v ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Rainbow (8), British cruiser, 3,600, Captain V. A. Tidball, 14th September.—Hakodate.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 14th September.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagar, 14th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Chusan, German steamer, 870, H. Hendt, 15th September.—Kobe, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, J. M. Saunders, 15th Sept.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Takao, Japanese steamer, 1,672, Dodds, 15th Sept.—Moj, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Kaisha.
Olympia (14), American flagship, Capt. Gridley, 15th Sept.—Chefoo.
Shigauro Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, M. Suda, 15th Sept.—Oahu via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Lorenzen, 16th Sept.—Hongkong, Ballast.—Raspe & Co.
Candia, British steamer, 4,195, G. K. Wright, 16th Sept.—Sydney via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 16th September.—Oahu via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, S. Muramatsu, 16th Sept.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Patroclus, British steamer, 3,339, Dirckens, 17th Sept.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Brooks, Mr. J. W. O. D. Miss Holliswell, Master Emiloff, Mr. W. Styles, Mr. G. H. Gill, Mr. M. L. Ellis, Mr. J. Briggs, Mrs. A. Duncan, Mr. J. J. Collins, Mr. E. E. Miller and son, Mrs. Elton, Miss Belle J. Allen, Mr. C. A. Crosse, Mr. R. H. Woolfall, and Dr. G. L. Tait, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Dr. and Mrs. Keays, Mrs. T. Bassett and child, Mr. A. Wilm, Miss Carroll, Mr. W. Davidson, Mr. John C. Seigfried, Mrs. Koeppe, 4 children and servant and Mr. F. E. Fernald, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Mrs. J. L. Brett, Dr. and Mrs. A. F. Price, Mr. R. G. Watkins, Mr. Schlitz Emanuel, Mr. and Mrs. E. Emanuel, Dr. T. J. Edwards, Mr. H. T. Edwards, Mrs. M. K. Plummer, Mr. F. W. Amick, Mr. R. S. Brewster, and Mr. G. C. Brooke, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mrs. Mead Drew, Mr. G. D. Brill, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Fitch and 2 children, Mr. H. Lehmann, and Mr. J. Kohn, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. and Mrs. Montgomery and servant, and Mr. W. A. Montgomery, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ravena*, from Bombay via ports:—Mr. R. A. A. Jenkins, Mrs. Jenkins, infant and amah, Master Longford, Master Allan Smith, Mr. E. Becker, Mrs. Ah. Saw, Mr. D. E. Brown and native servant, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. W. Fitzgerald Harris, Mrs. Grant, Mr. E. Y. Judd, Mr. and Mrs. J. Troup, Miss Troup and native servant, Messrs. M. T. Niemeyer, A. L. J. Dewette, A. W. Crombie, F. Harrold, O. Pollak, G. Reichert, and Chue Yue Kwon, in cabin; 11 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco, via Honolulu:—Med. Inspector Jos. G. Ayers, U.S.N., Mr. Nathan Bentz, Mrs. Nathan Bentz, Miss S. P. Birnie, Mr. D. P. Birnie, Mr. C. H. Blake, Mrs. C. H. Blake and daughter, Mrs. T. Bassett, Miss Bassett, Miss Carroll, Mr. W. Davidson, Mr. F. E. Fernald, Lieut. Papa-Fedoroff, Miss C. J. Harrison, Mr. P. C. C. Hansen, Jun., Staff-Surgeon S. Keays, R.N., Mrs. S. Keays, Mrs. Koeppe, 4 children and amah, Mr. C. P. Low, Mrs. C. P. Low, Mr. J. P. Nugent, Mrs. L. L. Reamey, Master Reamey, Mr. J. C. Siegfried, Dr. W. E. Taylor, Mrs. W. E. Taylor, Miss Hattie Thorn, Mr. R. J. Wood, and Mr. A. Wilm in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. W. Craus, Mr. and Mrs. W. Moore and child, Mr. & Mrs. W. McIlwaine and 2 children, Miss A. Dowd, Miss S. Evans, Miss C. E. Sterling, Mrs. L. M. Naylor, Mr. T. Shirotori, Miss Riddell, Miss Wright, Mr. J. Gibbs, and Mr. Harry Smith, in cabin; Mr. H. Takahashi, and Mr. Tow Tan Sing, in 2nd class; 25 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss F. A. Duffield, Mr. C. N. Crosse, Mr. R. N. Gray, Capt. Leigh Smith, Mr. P. A. Barlow, Mr. G. B. Brutton, and Mr. W. B. Walker, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk 575 bales, and Waste Silk 20 bales.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.	NEW YORK, N.Y.		HONOLULU, HAWAII		OTHER PORTS		TOTAL
	FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	HONOLULU	OTHER	OTHER	OTHER	
Shanghai	1,787	290	1,438	—	—	—	4,515
Higo	—	—	2,016	517	—	—	2,533
Yokohama	2,123	252	333	—	—	—	3,208
Hongkong	380	—	—	—	—	—	380
Total	4,278	542	4,788	517	—	—	10,635

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.	NEW YORK, N.Y.		HONOLULU, HAWAII		OTHER PORTS		TOTAL
	FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	HONOLULU	OTHER	OTHER	OTHER	
Shanghai	13	334	—	—	—	—	347
Hongkong	—	508	—	—	—	—	508
Yokohama	—	1,098	—	—	—	—	1,098
Total	13	2,000	—	—	—	—	2,013

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

In shertings nothing is doing, and in fancies and woollens next to nothing, in spite of a slight weakening in prices. In yarns a few transactions have taken place and the prospect for the immediate future looks a little brighter.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

Grey Shirts—8 1/2 lb., 38 yds., 3 1/2 inches	\$2.50	to	2.80
Grey Shirts—9 lb., 38 yds., 3 1/2 inches	2.80	to	3.35
T. Cloth—7 lb., 24 yds., 3 1/2 inches	1.60	to	1.90
Indigo Shirts—12 yds., 4 1/2 inches	1.95	to	2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds., 30 inches	2.00	to	3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2	to	0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yds., 22 inches	7.75	to	9.00
Victoria Lawn, 12 yds., 42 3/4 inches	0.75	to	1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 1/2 lb., 24 1/2 yds., 30 inches	1.50	to	1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb., 24 1/2 yds., 30 inches	1.75	to	2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb., 24 1/2 yds., 32 inches	2.40	to	2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb., 24 1/2 yds., 32 inches	3.00	to	3.50

WOOLLENS.

Flannel—	\$0.30	to	0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds., 32 inches	0.35	to	0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds., 32 inches	0.30	to	0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds., 32 inches	0.25	to	0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 32 yds., 31 inches	0.15	to	0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.35	to	0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.60	to	0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.50	to	0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb., per lb.	0.50	to	0.60

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$39.00	to	41.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	41.00	to	43.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	46.00	to	48.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00	to	48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75	to	54.50
Nos. 3/60, Plain	61.00	to	62.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	75.00	to	77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	90.00	to	100.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	72.00	to	79.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	80.00	to	95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	110.00	to	127.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	\$28	to	29
Indian Broach	24	to	25
Chinese	25	to	26

METALS.

Dealers have been occupied in taking delivery of recent arrivals, particularly of pig iron, but very little new business has been transacted. Quotations are firm at former rates.

Round and square 1/2 inch and upward	4.15	to	4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40	to	4.50
Sheet Iron	6.20	to	6.50
Galvanized iron sheets	10.00	to	10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00	to	6.50
Fin Plates, per box	5.90	to	6.00
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.10	to	2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	4.80	to	5.00

KEROSENE.

The market is rather firmer, but little business has been done.

American	\$2.00	to	2.06
Russian	2.00	to	2.06
Langkat	—	—	—

SUGAR.

Some business has been done in Brown. Arrivals of Manila during the week amount to about 14,000 piculs, and of China about 12,000 piculs, while sales of both kinds total some 20,000 piculs. China sorts have dropped from 10 to 20 cents, Manila quotations remaining unchanged. Some arrivals of Formosa have also taken place and rates have fallen slightly. A small business has been done in White refined.

Brown Takao	\$3.90	to	4.00
Brown Manila	4.10	to	4.40
Brown Daitong	3.20	to	3.35
Brown Canton	3.30	to	4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50	to	6.60
White Refined	7.30	to	8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Market excited and advancing. Quotations all more or less nominal. Stock reduced and holders very strong altho' supplies are coming in from the interior pretty freely. Tendency upward, with prospects of good trade ahead.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 0/11, 10/15 den.	\$900	to	920
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	900	to	910
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	880	to	890
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	880	to	890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	850	to	860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850	to	860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850	to	860
Filatures—No. 2, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850	to	860
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850	to	860
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820	to	830
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	800	to	810
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	780	to	790
Re-reels—No. 3, 13/20 deniers	—	—	—
Kakadas—Extra	840	to	850
Kakadas—No. 1	820	to	830
Kakadas—No. 1	790	to	800
Kakadas—No. 2	760	to	770
Kakadas—No. 2	—	—	—

WASTE SILK.

Some little appearance of life at last and we give quotations. Holders, however, are not ready sellers at these figures, they think their produce worth more and that they will get an advance by and bye. *Nous verrons.*

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$115	to	120
Noshi—Filature, Good	105	to	110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110	to	115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100	to	105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	90	to	95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70	to	75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65	to	67 1/2
Noshi—Bushi, Best	115	to	120
Noshi—Bushi, Good	100	to	110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	90	to	95
Noshi—Joshu, Good	60	to	65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55	to	57 1/2
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95	to	100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85	to	90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25	to	30
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair	20	to	22 1/2

TEA.

A fair business has been done but not so large as that during the previous week, though the shipments have been large. The total sales for the week in Yokohama amount to 184,000 catties, while the shipments have been, by *Energia*, 215,690 lbs., *Doric*, 3,208 packages, *Empress of India*, 5,250 packages. Prices still rule high.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$31 to 35
Finest	30 to 32
Fine	29 to 30
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

No change to report in quotations, though rates are very firm. Silver slightly stronger, and sterling exchange in China quoted 1/2 better.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 to 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0 to 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	25 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	25 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	7 1/2 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	9 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	8 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	8 1/2
On India—Bank sight	15 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	15 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2 to 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	50 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.05
— Private 4 months' sight	2.08 1/2
Bai Silver (London)	25 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bissot & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, September 17th.	
Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100
Club Hotel, Ltd.	\$100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdr.)	\$100
North and Ike, Ltd.	\$100
Brett & Co., Ltd.	\$100
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd.	\$100
Higo Gas Co., Ltd.	\$100
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb.	\$100
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100
Yokohama United Club Deb.	\$100
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo, September 17th.

Five per Cent. Capitalized Fenslon Bonds	94 90
Redemption Loan Bonds	97 00
War Loan Bonds	97 20
New Public Loan Bonds	95 00
Old Public Loan Bonds	93 00
Naval Loan Bonds	96 50
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	100 00
Japan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	97 50
Sanyo Railway Company—paid up yen 30	30 70
Kyomo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	98 00
Kansai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	99 50
Kobe Railway Company—paid up yen 45	110 00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 45	98 50
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up yen 35	96 70
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 50	90 30
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 25	94 80

Saigun Railway Company—paid up yen 50	87.00
Kanagawa Railway Company—paid up yen 50	51.50
Chikun Railway Company—paid up yen 50	72.00
Hanran Railway Company—paid up yen 50	40.00
Boso Railway Company—paid up yen 50	43.00
Sohn Railway Company—paid up yen 50	104.00
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50	77.00
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up yen 44	65.00
Toyokawa Railway Company—paid up yen 35	35.00
Hokuyetsu Railway Company—paid up yen 33	34.50
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47.50	30.00
Seiwa Railway Company—paid up yen 5	1.80
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 12.50	7.50
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 30	13.70
Kokusei Railway Company—paid up yen 50	30.00
Nanai Railway Company—paid up yen 17.50	32.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	58.60
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up yen 25	30.00
Domestic Transport Company—paid up yen 10	40.00
Japan Transport Company—paid up yen 15	5.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	276.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25	90.00
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up yen 25	17.70
Kanagawachi Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 50	52.00
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	68.00
Miyu Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	100.00
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 25	12.00
Japan Weaving Company—paid up yen 50	18.00
Tokyo Tramway Company—paid up yen 50	203.00
Japan Beer Company—paid up yen 40	70.00
Japan Cement Company—paid up yen 45	34.00
Tone Canal Company—paid up yen 40	12.00
Fuji Paper Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 5	75.00
Sepporo Sugar Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 47	5.50
Hokkaido Hemp Manufacturing Co.—paid up yen 50	10.00
Japan Seaweed Company—paid up yen 25	31.50
Yokohama Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 40	48.00
Shingawa Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 31	4.00
Tokyo Electric Light Company—paid up yen 15	64.50
Tokyo Gas Company—paid up yen 10	55.00
Doshin Kaisha—paid up yen 10	15.00



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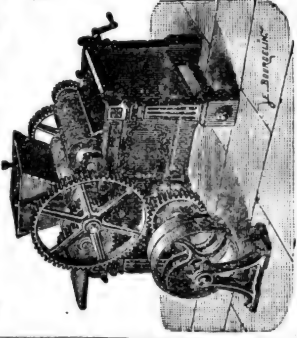
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 25TH, 1897.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Treaty of Peace between Greece and Turkey has at last been signed.

THE Yacht *Devonia* won the German Cup in the race for her rating on Saturday.

MARQUIS ITO's mansion at Isarago, Shiba has been sold to the Mitsui family for 30,000 yen.

MOST of the railway lines damaged by the storm of the 9th inst. have now been restored to working order.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha will pay off by lottery Bonds to the amount of yen 50,000 on the 30th inst.

SEÑOR WOLLHYM, Mexican Minister to Japan, presented his credentials to the Emperor on the 21st inst.

THE new Japanese battle-ship *Yashima* left Newcastle for Plymouth on the 15th inst. on her way to Japan.

THE Empress has contributed 4,500 yen towards the relief of the sufferers by the storm of the 9th inst. in Shizuoka Prefecture.

DURING the month of March, the number of telegrams to and from foreign parts amounted to

1,045,536 of which 69,313 were on Government service.

THE two men charged with grand larceny in the U.S. Consular Court this week have been acquitted owing to lack of evidence.

FIGHTING on the Indian frontier continues, and the British in one attack had to fall back on their camp, having sustained severe losses.

THE Naval Authorities have instituted new grades of officers corresponding to the ranks of Lieut. Colonel and Lieutenant in the Army.

THE Government will have yen 48,000,000 of gold coins sent to the Central Treasury from the Osaka Mint in the course of September.

AN expert of the Japan Marine Products Association will attend the International Fishery Exhibition in Norway, with exhibits from Japan.

YOKOHAMA Cricket week begins on October 12. A baseball match, a billiard tourney, and other sports are to be included in the programme this year.

THE members of the United Bankers' Corporation of Tokyo and Yokohama have decided to omit *rin* from their accounts from the 1st of November next.

THE revised Treaty between Spain and Japan, which was signed at Madrid on the 2nd of January was promulgated by the Emperor on the 16th of September.

THE new Administrative Reform Committee met at the official residence of Count Okuma, Foreign Minister, on the afternoon of the 21st inst., Count Okuma taking the chair.

LIEUT. GENERAL KAWAKAMI, Vice-President of the General Staff Office, and staff, who have been touring Siberia during the summer vacation, arrived in Tokyo on the 20th instant.

THE number of applications for registration of trade marks presented by subjects of England, Germany and the United States reaches 1,000, and yen 40,000 is reported to have been paid by them as fees.

THE Epidemic Diseases Hospitals, opened in Tokyo and eleven other Prefectures on the 23rd ult. for one month, will remain open for another month on account of dysentery still raging throughout the country.

MR. BURTON, consulting engineer in the Home Department, who has been in Formosa some time making investigations with a view to the construction of water works, has presented a report on the subject to the Government.

ACCORDING to Reuter, the U.S. Minister to the Court of Spain, has delivered a note from President McKinley fixing six weeks in which Spain is to put down the Cuban rebellion. The truth of this statement is greatly doubted.

THE draft of instructions in regard to the Hawaiian problem, which the authorities have been compiling for some time, was dispatched to Mr. Shimamura, Japanese Minister in Hawaii, on the 23rd inst. by the steamer *China*.

THE inhabitants of the Loochoo Islands have sent a deputation to Tokyo to petition the Government for special administrative regulations and the appointment of a Governor from the Sho family, the descendants of the former kings of the island.

MARQUIS SAIGO, Minister of the Navy, gave an entertainment at his official residence, Uchi-

saiwaimachi, Kojimachi-ku, on the evening of the 20th inst., to which Baron Rozen, Russian Minister to Japan; Vice-Admiral Alexieff, Commander of the Russian Pacific Squadron, and some Russian officers: Count Okuma, Foreign Minister; and other officers were invited.

EARLY on the morning of the 17th inst. a sea-man named Thomas Kennedy, belonging to the British ship *Glenericht*, met his death by having his skull fractured by a heavy blow during a *fracas* with Japanese in a street in the native town of Yokohama. An inquest has been opened and evidence taken, but the enquiry was adjourned till the 29th inst. to see if the Japanese police, who have arrested several suspects, can obtain evidence as to the perpetrator of the homicide.

THE Yokohama *jinrikisha* corporation, which presented a petition to the Kanagawa Prefectural Office the other day, requesting exemption from the existing tax, having received no reply from the Office, presented another petition with like effect. On the 20th inst. some *jinrikisha* coolies, about 50 in all, assembled at the office and asked to have an interview with the Chief, but they were dispersed by the police.

THE proposed regulations for the Formosa Administrative Office are not yet decided, though the subject was discussed at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday week. However, we hear that the Governor-General will be selected from personages above the rank of Lieut.-General or Vice-Admiral in the Army and Navy, and at the same time the Vice Governor General will also be chosen, the former residing in Tokyo while the latter stays in Formosa. In case there is no suitable Governor General to be selected, either Marquis Saigo or Count Kabayama will take charge for the present, and we learn further that the Vice-Governor-General who will officiate in Formosa will have to act solely on the orders from the Governor-General in the capital.

THE Import market during the past week, so far as regards cotton goods, fancies and woollens, has been utterly dead and stagnant, quotations being purely nominal. In yarns some little business has been transacted at a slight reduction in prices, but buyers are not inclined to make purchases for the future. The metal market is also dull in the extreme, a drop in home prices being anticipated by dealers, who are consequently loath to venture on any purchases except to fill immediate orders. In kerosene not much business has been done, but the market is firmer and it is expected that in a week or two business will become brisker, particularly as arrivals have been rather under than over the expected demand. In the sugar market there has been a brisk business in brown, both Manila and China, at higher quotations, owing to some extent to a rumour that the Spanish Government proposes to impose a tax on the export of sugar from Manila. In Exports a large business has been done in raw silk, though the excitement in the market which existed last week has calmed down. Prices at the end have hardened and the stock of Shinshu filatures has been cleared off. In waste silk there has also been a fairly brisk trade owing to better news from home markets. Dealers are firm and the tone of the market is towards a further rise. In tea business is gradually decreasing, as most of the stock on the market is of too poor a quality for the American market. Exchange has slightly improved, bank demand rate being 2/0-1/2 to 2/0-1/2 at closing.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Ten years have passed since the system of examination as a necessary preliminary to official appointment was introduced. The reform was due to Marquis Ito, and the rule laid down was that all appointments must depend upon the qualifications of candidates as determined by examination unless certain educational or administrative tests had already been satisfied. There are four classes of officials: *Shin-nin*, *Choku-nin*, *So-nin* and *Han-nin*. The two first receive their appointments direct from the Emperor, and are consequently independent of the examination rule; it applies to the two last only. Briefly speaking, the *So-nin* are officials filling posts of importance, but of less responsibility than the post of prefectural governor or head of a bureau. The *Han-nin* comprise all officials occupying inferior positions. There are *employés* also, but they do not belong to the regular ranks of officialdom. It is to the *So-nin*, of whom there are 3,500, and to the *Han-nin*, who number 30,000, approximately, that the examination system applies. The rule, enacted in 1887, is that no person is eligible for a *So-nin* post without examination unless he has served for 3 years as a civil officer in an Upper School or as a public procurator or Judge, and that no person is eligible for a *Han-nin* post without examination unless he has graduated at a Middle School, or at a public school of corresponding status. The object of introducing these regulations was to correct an abuse concerning which the public had begun to complain much at the time, the abuse of appointment through personal influence. The Constitution had not yet been promulgated, and as there was no Diet to scrutinize the conduct of the Administration, political agitators contended that the offices of the State had been monopolized by the leading men of a few great clans, and that, by filling junior posts with their own creatures these men managed public affairs with a view rather to private than to national interests. The inauguration of the examination system greatly mitigated the evil and to a considerable extent quieted political clamour. But the wheel of change has now brought about a new phase of sentiment. It is contended that the reasons which dictated the examination system ten years ago, no longer possess efficacy, and that its result is to deprive the State of the services of many able men. The *Yiji Shimpō* takes that view, and it is a view that has been advanced for some time by politicians outside the Government, in other words, by the very men whose voices were formerly raised in condemnation of the idea that any appointments should be subject to the personal proclivities of Ministers of State. Our contemporary contends that clan government is a thing of the past and that no grounds exist any longer for denying the influence of public opinion on the conduct of the Administration. Proofs have just been furnished in the case of Formosa and the Colonial Department. Public opinion declared that re-organization was absolutely necessary in Formosa, and re-organization has been undertaken; public opinion declared that the Colonization Department was superfluous, and the Colonization Department has been abolished. The Cabinet, by appointing several men of note to *Choku-nin* posts—governors of prefectures, heads of bureau, and department councillors—has shown its appreciation of the fact that excursions should be made far afield in search of talent for the use of the public service, and it seems advisable that the same principle should be extended to the case of *So-nin* and *Choku-nin* officials. To that end, some modification of the examination regulations is necessary. The *Yiji's* arguments against hard and fast adherence to such regulations are precisely the arguments that have been advanced, from time to time, in Europe and America against the competitive examination system as a necessary gate to public office. There are no doubt forcible arguments, but there is much to be said on the other side. At all events, the significance of our contemporary's tone, and of the tone of

political parties outside the Government, consists in the fact that old-time suspicions of clan influence seem to have been laid aside, and politicians are now advocating the Cabinet's resumption of a power for the surrender of which they formerly contended.

It must have been foreseen from the first that the Law of Election in Japan would soon be subjected to severe criticism. Naturally and prudently the framers of the country's first representative system of government, regarding the essay as more or less experimental, confined its dimensions within comparatively narrow limits. Hence, as time went by, and as experience proved that the representative system was not unfitted to the genius of the nation, it was inevitable that politicians should begin to ask for its extension. Demands in that sense have been preferred now and again in the columns of the press, and have actually been embodied in Bills for presentation to the Diet. But the question has not yet reached the field of practical politics. There are signs, however, that it will henceforth attract more vivid attention. The *Nippon*, for example, has a series of powerful and carefully argued essays on the subject. There is always a difficulty in determining the basis upon which a representative system should be established. To block out the population into sections of equal size and allot to each section one representative, seems the simplest and most rational plan. But then the question arises, what should be the size of the sections. The Occident furnishes no hard and fast precedent for answering such a question. Great diversities are observable in the size of the electorates in different countries, and in the same country at different epochs. In the United States, for example, the ratio of the present electorate to the electorate of last century is about 3 to 1. The framers of the Japanese system adopted the rule of giving one representative to every hundred thousand of the population. But the result of their method of parcelling out the realm is that the total number of representatives falls far short of the number indicated by their rule of division. One representative for each hundred thousand of the population would give an aggregate of about 420 representatives, whereas the number in the Lower House is only 300. It can not be alleged, indeed, as a mere question of ratio, that the system is manifestly defective. But certainly the state of affairs it has produced is not satisfactory. In the first place, the number of representatives taking any really active and intelligent interest in administrative affairs, and subjecting them to the scrutiny which is the object of parliamentary institutions, is inconveniently small. In the British House of Commons there are 670 members, but if the proceedings of the House be carefully examined, it appears that not more than 70 can be described as active leaders of thought; not more than 70 take part in the debates and act as mouthpieces of the masses. A similar examination of the proceedings of the Japanese House of Representatives shows about 30 figures efficient in the above sense. Then it appears that the three cities and forty-three prefectures can not boast even one representative each who really makes their views known and openly advocates their interests in the Lower House. That is distinctly a defective condition, and that it would be in some degree remedied if each hundred thousand of the population sent a member to the House, can scarcely be doubted. There would then be from 420 to 430 members, and 40 or 50 among them might be expected to play the part of genuinely efficient representatives, so that at least each city and each prefecture would have a mouthpiece. A further objection to the arithmetical paucity of the present House is that it has a demoralizing effect. Nominally there are three parties in the House, the Progressionists (*Shimpō to*), the Liberals (*Yiyu to*), and the National Unionists (*Kokumin Kyokai*), but practically the three may be regarded as two, since one is always in opposition to the other two. Between them floats an uncertain element, the so-called "independents," who really hold the balance of

power. Thus an opportunity is presented for the Cabinet to secure a majority by improper means, and for the members to turn their position to lucrative account; an opportunity of which it were extravagant to expect that, human nature being what it is, no advantage will be taken. There are, in truth, unsightly abuses, whether their dimensions be large or small, and they are pretty sure to continue so long as the parliamentary system lends itself to them as readily and temptingly as it does at present. If, on the other hand, the number of representatives were increased to 420, it might be reasonably expected that the independents would aggregate 60 or 70, perhaps even 100, in the new House, and it is evident that the corrupt manipulation of 70 or 100 would be a much more difficult matter than the manipulation of 25 or 30. The composition of the House also invites unfavorable criticism. It represents, not the people at large, but the seniors and the men of property only. The aggregate of the direct taxes paid to the State is 68,231,032 *yen*, or an average of 1.69 *sen* per head of the population. But the property qualification for the franchise is the annual payment of 15 *yen* of direct taxes. Hence, speaking roughly, a man must pay ten times the average tax in order to have a vote. There are, in fact, 517,130 men throughout the whole realm who possess the franchise qualification in respect of taxes, and if from that total we subtract priests, teachers, and others specially excluded, the number is reduced to 467,887, or about one per cent. of the population. Of course, it is somewhat misleading to strike a general average in such a matter. The number of males under 25 years of age—namely 7,134,718—must be subtracted, and so also must the number of women—namely, 20,690,316. There then remain 12 millions of males, in round numbers, who, being over 25 years of age, satisfy the age qualification. Of these only 467,887 possess votes, so that the property qualification reduces the voters to 4 per cent. of the number that would be eligible under a system of universal suffrage. If the property qualification were one-third of the present figure—i.e. 5 *yen* instead of 15—the number of voters would be about 1½ millions, which seems the minimum that ought to have a voice in administrative affairs. Of course it may be argued that a high property qualification limits the suffrage to the intelligent and prosperous classes. That is true as a general rule. But in Japan's case the former *samurai*, that is to say, the present *shisaku*, are the real repositories of intelligence and education. The *shisaku*, however, were never blessed with large worldly possessions, and the abolition of feudalism rendered their resources slenderer than ever. Very few indeed among them now pay 15 *yen* in the form of direct annual taxes. They are virtually excluded from the franchise, which may be said to be chiefly enjoyed by well-to-do farmers, prosperous tradesmen, and persons who, without any merit of their own, have succeeded to property conferring the required qualification. In short, the electors may be said to consist of men of rank and men without special education or intelligence. Finally, the limits of the electorates ought to be changed. According to the present system, each city or prefecture is divided into a certain number of electoral districts, and each district returns one member. Undoubtedly there was originally a valid reason for that method of division. It was rightly felt that if a whole city or prefecture were invited to elect its representatives by the votes of all its franchise-holding inhabitants *en masse*, all the members would be returned by the political party possessing the greatest number of votes in the prefecture or city. Such an abuse had to be guarded against. On the other hand, it must be remembered that the persons elected are representatives of the nation, not of a mere section of the people or a mere portion of the realm. Unfortunately the men returned under the present system have given frequent proofs that their legislative horizon does not extend beyond the narrow limits of their constituency. It is most desirable that every defect of that nature should be

remedied, and the best plan would seem to be the extension of the electorates from districts to cities and prefectures. As for the danger that excessive representation would thus be secured to the strongest political parties, it can easily be obviated by the method of proportional representatives. As things are now arranged, it may easily happen that the strongest party in a prefecture or city fails to return even one member. Suppose that there are three parties, A, B, and C, the first possessing 11,500 votes in a given prefecture, the second, 7,500 and the third 5,000; and suppose, further, that the prefecture is divided into five electorates. Now if A has 2,300 votes in each district; B, 2,600 in the first district, 2,400 in the second, 2,500 in the third, and none at all in the fourth and fifth; and, finally, if C has 2,500 each in the fourth and fifth, it is plain that B can return 3 members, and C, 2, whereas A fails to secure a single seat. Hence in avoiding one abuse, the present system opens the door to another. Proportional representation would obviate all such evils, for each elector would then have one vote, and under the circumstances assumed above, A would return 2 members, B, 2, and C, 1.

Such is the gist of the *Nippon's* four essays. We have epitomized them at some length, because it is obvious that this question is among the issues destined soon to occupy public attention.

There is much talk at present of organizing a large political party. There has often been much talk of a similar project, but the occasion is now more imperative than ever. A large party is a very fine thing, and every one wishes that it could become a reality, but thoughtful persons do not fail to perceive that Japan's experience furnishes little hope of a large party's usefulness. The larger the party, says the *Kokumin Shimbun*, from which we are quoting, the more incapable it shows itself of effective action, and the more liable to disruption from within. One cause of that inefficiency is doubtless to be sought in defective organization. There is a president, there is a general committee, there is a business committee, there are managers, and there are local committees. But the functions of each are so ill-defined that they constantly encroach upon each other's spheres of action, friction, and confusion being the inevitable result. That, however, is in reality a minor defect. The great obstacle to success is that the members have no practical sense of discipline and no operative appreciation of the value of organization. Everyone behaves as if he were president, or manager, or committee man. If the majority want to move in one direction, the minority pull in another, and unless the latter's voices are heard and obeyed, they threaten to abandon their affiliation. To prevent disruption the majority have to halt in their course, and the final result is that the party stands wavering, tied to one spot by its own want of cohesion. These men who have banded themselves together for the proud purpose of giving practical effect to representative institutions, are incapable of adapting their own conduct to the most elementary principle of such institutions, namely, obedience to the will of the majority. No such suicidal unwisdom is to be noted in the behaviour of political parties in Europe. Even the socialists in France, whose platform does not suggest any high sense of order and docility, never fail in the Chamber to act as a compact body, obeying their leader's dictates and realizing all the advantages of organized union. So, too, in the British House of Commons, such a thing is scarcely ever seen as rebellion against the policy mapped out by the leaders of a party; every member subordinates his individual views to the general interests of the platform he is pledged to support, and so strict is the etiquette of parliamentary procedure, that the moral as well as the nominal position acquired by a member in the ranks of his party is recognized, in precedence of speaking, not merely by his own political associates but also by the members of the party opposed to him, and there

devolves upon the leader of each party the responsibility of preserving among his followers order and discipline towards the whole House. Compared with the English House of Commons the Japanese House of Representatives presents much the same appearance as a mob of rustics presents to the standing armies of Germany or France. The defects so glaringly apparent in the procedure of the House, make themselves still more conspicuous in the conduct of political parties outside the House, and until members learn the imperative necessity of discipline and subordination, it seems futile to talk of organizing a big party.

FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN.

A report of the foreign trade of Japan from January to August this year, with corresponding figures for last year, is published in the *Tokyo Asahi* as follows:—

	EXPORTS.		Increase or decrease.
	1897. Yen.	1896. Yen.	
Raw silk	27,856,216	12,990,593	14,865,623
Noshi & waste silk	1,633,979	1,641,292	—7,312
Habutae	5,829,847	3,488,862	2,340,985
Other silk fabrics	129,350	259,642	—130,291
Silk handkerchiefs	2,434,874	3,555,062	—1,120,187
Cotton yarns	9,448,634	2,238,595	7,210,039
Cotton fabrics	1,550,899	1,169,195	381,706
Rugs	700,672	749,774	—49,101
Matches	3,749,326	3,367,326	382,000
Coarse Matting	2,378,070	1,967,597	406,473
Porcelain and earthen wares	1,263,958	1,409,658	—145,697
Lacquer wares	540,577	661,394	—120,816
Straw braid	1,720,361	1,066,980	653,371
Tea	6,325,849	4,505,082	1,820,766
Rice	5,086,883	5,072,715	14,267
Herrings	753,913	528,196	225,716
Sea-weed	477,928	353,440	124,418
Fish and vegetable oil	354,962	179,741	175,220
Dried Mushrooms	385,208	455,587	—70,378
Camphor	965,450	701,388	268,207
Crude and refined cop- per	4,082,898	3,231,246	851,651
Coal	7,159,209	5,712,703	1,437,505
Miscellaneous	15,494,653	13,903,102	1,591,550
Totals	100,314,726	69,209,076	31,105,650
	IMPORTS.		
	1897. Yen.	1896. Yen.	
Raw cotton	31,328,606	24,604,886	6,723,720
Cotton yarns	5,548,111	7,304,510	—1,756,998
Shuttings	2,178,053	2,461,178	—283,123
Other cotton fabrics	3,658,071	4,922,611	—1,264,540
Wool	549,032	788,361	—239,328
Muslin de laine	2,552,098	4,596,124	—2,044,026
Satin	1,059,021	1,528,724	—469,700
Flannel	814,917	1,171,201	—356,284
Cloth	1,129,018	2,141,246	—1,012,228
Matches	20,223	1,190,891	391,333
Machinery	9,047,493	3,927,937	5,119,555
Locomotives and cars	3,595,075	1,326,690	2,266,385
Iron—bar, rod and sheet	1,630,120	1,469,305	160,804
Rails—iron & steel	2,477,857	1,625,766	846,060
Railway materials	1,220,845	653,054	567,790
Nails, iron	770,678	1,048,857	—278,171
Other iron & steel	2,115,061	2,267,890	—152,828
Sugar	13,044,767	7,651,286	5,393,480
Rice	11,146,055	2,695,364	8,450,691
Beans & peas	3,246,074	2,365,885	880,189
Kerosene oil	5,421,704	3,843,335	1,578,368
Oil Cake	1,598,918	1,916,809	—317,191
Miscellaneous	33,745,804	30,891,042	2,854,762
Totals	139,089,603	112,395,971	26,693,632
Total imports & exports	239,404,329	181,605,047	57,799,282
Excess of imports	38,774,875	43,186,894	—

THE "SHOGYO" ON THE EXCESS OF REVENUE.

The excess of revenue for the 29th fiscal year was stated in the actual accounts of the 31st July to have amounted to 18,750,000 yen. A report of the Finance Department shows the actual account on August 31st to have been as follows:—

	YEN.
Revenue	186,998,415
Expenditure	168,856,500
Balance of revenue	18,141,915

This excess is probably attributable to the fact that, some of the Government undertakings having been delayed, it became unnecessary to defray certain expenses during the fiscal year as originally estimated. To carry the amount to next year's account as a surplus would therefore be altogether incompatible with the spirit of good book-keeping. Whether this excess includes any amount that may legitimately be carried forward as a surplus to next year's account there is no means of ascertaining, as final accounts have not yet been made up. But even granting that the amount of 18,140,000 yen is really a surplus, it seems that a considerable portion of the revenue, yen 186,998,415, properly belongs to the estimates for the 30th year. Thus:—

	YEN.
Excess of Revenue for the 29th year	18,141,914
Less proportion of estimated revenue for the 30th year	10,815,186
Balance	7,326,628

While the account stands as above, if any outlays over and above the budgetary items are to be made after the entire disbursement of the Second Reserve, and if the supplementary estimates are, as is usual, supplied from the excess under notice, a serious deficiency will present itself. Whatever surplus there may have been for the 30th year will fall far short of supplying the deficit of twenty-three million yen for the 31st year.

THAT WONDERFUL JAPAN!

A short time ago Japan was about to swallow up Hawaii. So, at least, it was affirmed by agitators who saw their account in persuading the people of the United States that nothing short of annexation by America could save the little republic from falling into the hands of the new Eastern Power. The story was absurd, but it seems to have served its purpose to a certain extent. The sensationalists are now in the field with another and a still stranger tale. The *New York Herald's* special correspondent in Washington wires that journal:—"Japan, not content with interference with the annexation policy, now has designs upon the Nicaragua canal. According to semi-official advice just received here from Nicaragua, the Japanese Government is secretly negotiating with the Diet of the Greater Republic of Central America, which recently met in Salvador, for the construction of the Nicaragua canal, independent and in defiance of the interests and influence of the United States or other nations." American newspaper correspondents have become the greatest writers of fiction of the era, so far as mere imaginative powers are concerned, but the clumsiest if the realistic quality of their fabrications be considered.

SHIPMENTS TO AMERICA BY THE C.P.R. ROUTE.

We are glad to learn officially that with reference to the 22nd section of the United States new Tariff Law, a telegram has been received in Yokohama from Montreal stating that the U.S. Treasury have decided to suspend the operation of the clause, and so the duty of 10 per cent. that it was feared would be imposed on goods entering America by the C.P.R. route, will not be levied. Shippers will be glad to be relieved of anxiety in this matter.

ANOTHER PSEUDO-INTERNATIONAL QUESTION.

Vague rumours have been in circulation for some time with reference to exports of arms from Japan for the use of the insurgents in Manila, and it is now asserted that the Spanish Authorities have attempted to procure Japan's official assistance with the object of preventing such operations. Some time after the outbreak of the rebellion in the Philippines, the Japanese Government, having been approached by Spain on this very subject, namely, the possibility that arms might be shipped from Yokohama and elsewhere, is understood to have intimated its intention of discountenancing anything of the kind, and to have issued orders in that sense to the customs officials. The force of such orders must, of course, be very limited and their issue was a pure act of friendship, for the Government of Japan is not bound to interfere at all under existing circumstances. It is now alleged, however, that certain Spaniards, sympathisers with the Manila insurgents, have come to Japan, and located themselves at Hommoku, a suburb of Yokohama, where they collect arms and ship them to the Philippines. The story further runs that the Spanish Consul approached the Japanese Local Authorities, urging that, as the persons engaged in this export were living outside the Settlement without passports, they ought to be arrested and arraigned before him. How much truth there may be in that part of the rumour we do not pretend to say, but, from a theoretical point of view, we find it incredible. In the first place, it is not a matter of legitimate concern for a foreign Consul whether his nationals are provided, or are not provided, with passports when they travel or reside outside a settlement. That is a matter for the consideration of the Japanese authorities alone. In the second place, if any Spaniards are really living outside the settlement of Yokohama, it is to be presumed that they have complied with the formalities which are a necessary preliminary to such residence. The limits of the foreign settlement of Yokohama have become very elastic. They have virtually been extended to Negishi, Hommoku, Noge, Kanagawa, Totsuka, and even Tomioka. We do not know how the thing has been contrived, but the Japanese authorities are satisfied, and that is all that need be said about it. The Spaniards in question have doubtless employed the same means to set themselves right *vis-à-vis* the law, a process not calling for passports, not requiring Consular assistance, and not subject to Consular supervision. As for the export of arms, the injunction addressed by the Government to the customs officials ought to be sufficient. There is no question of observing neutrality in this case. These Manila insurgents are not recognized as belligerents, and foreign Powers have, consequently, no responsibilities towards either Spain or them in connexion with the rebellion. Indeed, it is difficult to see why agents for the export of arms should come to Japan. The Japanese Government has gone out of its way, to place obstacles in the path of proceedings such as theirs, whereas no obstacle whatever exist in Hongkong, Shanghai or Singapore. They could purchase and ship all the arms they wanted in any of those places. The Japanese Government

does not sympathise with the rebels, we presume. Neither do we, for the matter of that. Our sympathies are all with Spain in her gallant struggle, and if any legitimate plan could be devised for cutting off supplies of every kind from the rebels, we should advocate it heartily. But from what is written and spoken about this matter we infer a disposition to charge the Japanese with conniving at a violation of international law, and it is well that such a misconception should be dispelled. Probably the Hommoku business—assuming that anything of the kind really exists—is of dimensions too insignificant to be dangerous. But under any circumstances we do not see how it can be controlled except by the aid of the customs, a most defective instrument, seeing that the Spaniards can easily make their shipments through the agency of some other nationals with whose transactions the Japanese have no competence to interfere. It is, indeed, alleged that some of the Hommoku Spaniards have English names, real or assumed, and are carrying on their operations as British subjects. Unfortunately there is no help for such abuses. If the rebels had received recognition as belligerents, the case would assume a very different complexion, but under present circumstances nothing can be done.

JAPANESE RECRUITS.

We find it stated in the vernacular press that, according to investigations conducted in one of the Divisional sections of Japan—that is to say, in one of the sections forming the recruiting ground of a military Division—only 32 per cent. of the youths liable to conscription satisfy the physical standard. At twenty years of age every Japanese becomes liable to conscription, and has to present himself for medical examination. Those that pass are divided into two batches, according to their physical measurements, the best developed being placed in the first batch, and those of inferior, yet still qualifying, physique, in the second. First-class recruits constitute fully 20 per cent. of the total that qualify, and as, out of 200,000 who successfully pass the medical examination every year, only 40,000 are actually taken for service with the colours, it is seen that no necessity exists to go beyond the first class. Three years ago, we procured figures showing the measures obtained from five years' examination of recruits enrolled for service. The averages stood thus:—

Height	64½ inches.
Weight	126½ lbs.
Chest circumference	32.99 inches.
Difference of chest circumference caused by inspiration	2½ inches.
Cubic capacity of lungs ...	25.1 inches.

At that time, only 20,000 recruits were enrolled annually, and as the number is now doubled, the measurements are doubtless less favourable. Another fact brought out by the same statistics was that the average rejections for the whole empire, on account of deformity or other physical debility, were only 41.83 per 1,000, but the difficulty of procuring recruits of the prescribed height was considerable. In England the height qualification is 64 inches; in Germany 61.6 inches; in France 60.06 inches; and in Japan, 59.5 inches. Out of all the adult males in the empire the statistics for the five-year period 1890-4

showed that only 10.46 per cent. attained that height. The *Miyako Shimbun*, however, speaking on the alleged authority of an army officer, gives 32 per cent. as the average number that now come up to the physical standard. We do not understand the discrepancy, unless it be due to the fact that the *Miyako Shimbun's* informant applies to the whole empire figures obtained from investigations in one district only. It is well known that the average heights of the male population in different parts of Japan show marked discrepancies. The smallest men in the empire are to be found in the provinces surrounding Tokyo. The provinces encircling Osaka Bay come next in the list. Kiushu and the belt of inland provinces beginning with Yamato and ending with Mutsu, stand at the head. But we are not aware that in any part of of Kiushu, or even in the island of Tsushima, where the tallest Japanese are to be found, 32 per cent. attain a height of 59½ inches. It is necessary to conclude either that our Tokyo contemporary's information is incorrect, or that some confusion has crept into the statement. With reference to this question of height, our readers will observe, from the table given above, that despite the generally small stature of the Japanese, the recruits drafted into the service each year used to attain an average height of 64½ inches, prior to the inauguration of the Army Expansion programme. Now that the yearly draft is doubled, the average height is doubtless reduced, but no information on that point is at present procurable.

MR. AKIYAMA'S ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

A very sad event occurred on the 20th instant. Mr. Akiyama, a Councillor of the Foreign Office, who was sent to Hawaii in connexion with the emigration trouble, and who left Honolulu for Japan on the 24th of July, has been in a melancholy frame of mind ever since his return to Tokyo. Nothing calculated to weigh upon his spirits had occurred, so far as the public knows, during his stay in Hawaii. He seems to have discharged his mission there in a perfectly satisfactory manner, and the agreement with reference to arbitration had been concluded before he left Honolulu. Still, from the time of his return, it was evident that he had some cause of chagrin. At 2 o'clock on the 20th, he went away from the Foreign Office, saying that he felt unwell, and on reaching home, he complained of suffering and retired to lie down, having first partaken of some tea prepared by his mother. About half an hour later, a member of the household entering his room, found him bathed in blood. A sword, some three feet long, was grasped in his right hand, and severe wounds were visible in his stomach and neck. He was almost unconscious, but happily owing to the difficulty of using a weapon of such length for suicidal purposes according to the orthodox Japanese fashion, he had failed to inflict mortal injuries. It would seem that when he plunged the sword into his stomach and attempted to draw it across, the impossibility of guiding it correctly resulted in its glancing upward against the ribs on the left, and although an effort was made to change the direction to the right, the enfeebling effect of the first cut rendered the second comparatively innocuous. The same difficulty saved the

jugular vein when the sword was directed against the throat. Still, two terrible wounds were inflicted, that in the stomach being 8 inches long and 2 inches deep, and that in the throat, 2 inches long and seven-tenths of an inch deep. When Mr. Akiyama's mother raised his head, and asked him what had induced him to take such a course, he made no answer, but managed to let it be understood that he did not wish to have medical aid. A physician was soon on the spot, however, and the wounds were treated, that on the stomach requiring fifty stitches. It is understood to be the doctor's opinion that if no complications ensue, a fatal result need not be apprehended. The almost invariable custom with a Japanese who contemplates suicide is to leave a written statement of his reasons for the act, but nothing of the kind has been found in Mr. Akiyama's case, and it is, of course, idle to speculate on the motives by which he was influenced. Possibly the simple explanation is mental derangement, but naturally there is a disposition to infer that some feature of the Hawaiian affair had distressed him beyond endurance.

Several of the vernacular newspapers contain paragraphs about Mr. Akiyama's resolute attempt upon his life, but all appear to be without any accurate knowledge. The *Yorodau Choho* confidently affirms that Mr. Akiyama prepared a brief but clear statement of his reasons, which was taken possession of by his mother and is kept secret. It may well be supposed that many particulars are published about Mr. Akiyama's disposition and his career. We should reproduce them if they presented any interesting features, but they may be summed up in the statement that he has always shown himself to be a man of a sensitive and perhaps hasty disposition with an almost romantic sense of honour and the obligations of moral dignity. The report that, ever since his return from Hawaii, he had showed signs of depression can not be reconciled with facts now published. On the evening of the 17th instant, he met Mr. Shibata, a Secretary of the Foreign Office, by appointment, and the two friends passed a considerable time in each other's company, drinking *sake* and discussing politics. The evening of the 19th was similarly spent at Mr. Shibata's house. On the latter occasion Mr. Akiyama is said to have been somewhat out of spirits, but he remained with Mr. Shibata until a late hour, and nothing in his demeanour suggested the least cause for uneasiness. The following day he attended to his duties at the Foreign Office as usual, and was engaged until the afternoon on work given to him by the Vice-Minister. There is a rumour that some official censure of one of the despatches prepared by him in connexion with the Hawaiian affair caused him much chagrin, but, on the other hand, it is confidently affirmed that his action throughout that complication was approved by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and that he had reason to be gratified rather than disappointed by the result of his labours. The truth is that everybody is more or less perplexed by the affair, and that no reliance can be placed on any of the surmises published in the vernacular press. According to the medical testimony there are no symptoms of mental aberration at present. Mr. Akiyama graduated from the Imperial University in 1890, with the degree of

bachelor of law, and for a short time served as teacher in the Technical College at Waseda. He filled the post of secretary of legation in Russia and England before becoming a councillor in the Foreign Office.

Mr. Akiyama's condition is reported to be satisfactory. He is able to take milk and soup, and has not had any serious access of fever. If no complications ensue, his recovery is considered certain.

REV. J. M. McCaleb and the PASSPORT.

We do not know whether, in addressing the public through the correspondence columns of this journal, Mr. McCaleb invites an expression of our opinion or of anyone else's opinion with reference to the incident forming the subject of his letter. It must be assumed, however, that when he courts publicity, he is prepared to learn the aspect presented by his case to other people. We venture to say, therefore, that he seems to have placed the United States Minister in a very embarrassing position. His letter alleges merely that he declined to take part in the celebration of Independence Day because he regarded participation in such ceremonies as improper for missionaries. It is certainly within his right to hold such a view. Most people will think it an extravagant view, for it can not reasonably be argued, so far as we can see, that when the people of the United States rejoice over their country's attainment of independence, they either move to resentment the nation of which they once formed a part, or promote among themselves a feeling of strife, and it was explicitly because he regarded the celebration as a "Commemoration of strife between our fellow-men" that Mr. McCaleb declined to participate in it. His letter, indeed, does not say so, but the fuller account given in *The Shepherd's Voice* makes that part of the matter clear. Still Mr. McCaleb is absolutely entitled to view the matter in that light if he pleases. But it appears that he appended a rider to his objection. He added that "his citizenship was in heaven." On that point also his letter is silent, but again *The Shepherd's Voice* enlightens us. Now it was in his capacity as a citizen of the United States that Mr. McCaleb received an invitation to participate in the celebration of Independence Day, and when, in refusing to do so, he put forward as one reason for his refusal the fact that his citizenship was in heaven, it seems indisputable that he denied his American citizenship. There is no alternative inference, in our opinion. He is just as absolutely entitled to deny his American citizenship as he is to denounce celebrations of national independence, but when he approaches the United States Minister and seeks to obtain a privilege unobtainable except on the ground of his American citizenship, he ought not to be surprised if the Minister hesitates. Is Mr. McCaleb an American citizen or is he not? If he is, why did he allege his heavenly citizenship as an obstacle to commemorating an event without which his American citizenship would be an impossibility? The Minister, it seems to us, was bound to take that point into consideration. He offered Mr. McCaleb an easy exit from the difficulty, however: he asked him to prove his American citizenship by taking

the Oath of Allegiance. Mr. McCaleb declined to do so on the ground that he was "opposed to the taking of oaths." Surely Mr. McCaleb must perceive that he thus created an absolute *impasse* for the Minister. He would not join with American citizens in a national fête because his citizenship was in heaven, and he would not take the Oath of Allegiance because he was opposed to taking an oath. What remained for the Minister then?

There are two other points to which we feel bound to direct attention in giving publicity to Mr. McCaleb's letter. The first is his statement that no "American citizen has ever been compelled to take the Oath of Allegiance before being granted a passport to travel in Japan," and that, consequently, when he was asked to take the oath, "a special example was made of him." It is a scarcely imaginable hypothesis, yet Mr. McCaleb apparently fails to perceive that if an exception was made in his case, he himself, not the United States Minister, set the example. Having dissociated himself from American citizens in the matter of the Independence celebration, his dissociation from them in the matter of passports was not a new departure but a consistent result. The second point is the construction placed by him on Mr. Miller's language. We have no information other than that furnished by our correspondent's letter as to what Mr. Miller said, but assuredly the words attributed to him do not warrant the inference which Mr. McCaleb seeks to draw from them. A conciliatory attitude might have shown the Minister that Mr. McCaleb really wished to be regarded as an American citizen and might have tended to modify the apparent significance of his original statement. But Mr. McCaleb seems to have made things as difficult as possible for the Minister. It is altogether a most regrettable business. Mr. McCaleb, we believe, is as good an American citizen as any one else, and he doubtless labours now under the painful conviction that because he has ventured to stand alone in defence of what he regards as the right, he is discriminated against and more or less humiliated. But it does not do to be rigidly unbending in this world of ours, nor does the Bible, which Mr. McCaleb reverences so profoundly, recommend any such attitude.

CURRENT TOPICS.

What on earth the *Japan Gazette* means by saying that we have "come round to the same way of thinking as itself" with reference to the Hakodate affair, we are quite unable to perceive. We have not at all come round to the *Japan Gazette's* way of thinking. We have not changed our own way of thinking in the smallest degree. Our contention from the first has been, and our contention still is, that the Order in Council does not properly bear the construction put upon it by the British Authorities *vis-à-vis* Japan. With the principle that prompts that construction we are entirely at one, where a country like China is concerned. We hold it to be most desirable in the interests of humanity and for the sake of her own dignity that Great Britain should protect all persons in her public service whatever be their station or employment against submission to the jurisdiction of States where criminal procedure is semi-barbarous and

where the punishments of crime are torturous. But no protection of that kind is needed against Japanese jurisdiction, nor can any such protection be exercised in Japan on behalf of persons that are not British subjects, unless Japan is a consenting party to the usage. Japan is not bound by the usage of either China or Turkey.

Our contemporary says that "the Japanese are very ill-advised to raise such issues at the present time." As to that, we have already pointed out that whatever limits Japan succeeds in imposing upon the privilege of extraterritorial jurisdiction at the present time, will soon be binding on herself, and may prove distinctly inconvenient. But in view of the principle underlying the British claim of protection, we do not see how Japan could have failed to withhold her consent nominally. The easiest and most judicious exit from the situation, in our opinion, would have been to surrender the Chinamen to the British Consul, with an understanding between the Tokyo Foreign Office and the British Legation that the affair was not to be regarded as a precedent, so far as Japan was concerned, and that the surrender was made in order not to establish a rule which might prove very embarrassing under other circumstances. We repeat our conviction that the time has come for Japan to cooperate with Western Powers, not to oppose them, in construing extra-territorial privileges so that they shall best inure to civilized and humane purposes.

Charters for the construction of three lines of railway have been granted by the Department of Communications. They are:—(1) The Tobu Railway, from Kita-Senju to Ashikaga; 48 miles 51 chains; capital, 2,650,000 yen. (2) The Obama Railway, from Obama to Yobu *via* Otsu; 55 miles 20 chains; capital, 3,950,000 yen. (3) The Yoshino Railway, from Kuzu to Kitarokuta; 5 miles 70 chains; capital, 500,000 yen. A temporary charter has also been granted for an extension of the Toyokawa Railway from Toyokawa to Goyu; 4 miles 70 chains; capital, 135,000 yen.

The *Keisai Zasshi* says that the question whether foreigners living outside the Settlements are liable to pay local taxes was virtually settled long ago. In 1889, the Prefectural Authorities of Fukuoka addressed an inquiry to the Department of Home Affairs on the subject, and received a reply to the effect that both prefectural taxes (*kensai*) and district taxes, (strictly, "house taxes," or *kosu-wari*) should be levied upon foreigners residing in the interior, and that in the event of failure to pay, the fact should be reported to the Foreign Office. Instructions in a similar sense were sent—our contemporary adds—last July to Kumamoto Prefecture. But of course the *Keisai Zasshi* is well aware that the mere issue of such instructions does not establish their validity. There can be no doubt, we think, that every resident in a locality is properly liable for a share of the expenses connected with police, roads, sanitation, lighting, and such matters. But should a foreign resident be required to contribute to the maintenance of schools for Japanese, for example? Evidently the question does not lend itself to summary solution.

Some one has been questioning Count Okuma on the subject of Administrative Reform, which is now occupying a promi-

nent place in public attention. Count Okuma is President of the Investigation Committee, and nobody's voice carries so much weight as his in this matter. There is a notion among shallow-minded persons that some sweeping measures of reform are contemplated, and it was to that fancy that Count Okuma directed his attention. "I am totally at a loss to understand," he is represented as having said, with a smile, "what is meant by the radical reform of the administration that men talk about. People appear to regard the Government in the light of jugglers, and to be constantly expecting from it some exhibition of legerdemain. If any one imagines that the Administration Investigation Committee is going to perform conjuring tricks, he is egregiously mistaken."

The Communications Department has compiled a return of the number of collisions and derailments that occurred on Japanese railways, state and private, from the date of commencing traffic until the end of last year (1896). The total stands thus:—

NAME OF LINE.	TOTAL NUMBER		COLLI- SIONS.	DERAIL- MENTS.
	OF	MILES RUN.		
State Railways ...	4,806,696	...	60	...
Japan Railway ...	3,254,924	...	2	...
Sanyo " ...	1,498,738	...	4	...
Ryomo " ...	177,039	...	0	...
Iyo " ...	28,017	...	1	...
Osaka " ...	579,135	...	7	...
Kiushu " ...	1,121,738	...	0	...
Kwansei " ...	400,470	...	2	...
Chikuho " ...	389,300	...	24	...
Settsu " ...	87,494	...	0	...
Sano " ...	65,242	...	1	...
Bantan " ...	131,439	...	0	...
Bishu " ...	24,195	...	0	...
Nara " ...	200,987	...	0	...
Boso " ...	69,851	...	0	...
Nanyo " ...	23,977	...	0	...

It is pretty plain from the above figures that the Chikuho Railway ought to be subjected to some official scrutiny. It shows an average of 1 accident for every 4,690 miles traversed. That record, if applied to the Tokyo-Yokohama line, would mean a collision or a derailment about once per month.

THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

It seems to be taken for granted that Reuter's agents are well informed about the United States Representative's alleged communication to the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs. General Woodford, according to Reuter's telegram, has informed the Spanish Minister that unless the Cuban insurrection is crushed by the end of October, the United States will consider itself justified in taking such measures as will secure the independence of Cuba. We do not believe that such a communication has been made. The United States Government is undoubtedly desirous of putting an end to the miserable state of affairs existing in Cuba, and nothing is more probable than that General Woodford repeated, in stronger terms than ever, the intimations already made more than once to Spain. But it is incredible that an ultimatum should have been suddenly presented, above all in such terms. To tell Spain that she is to be allowed six weeks for concluding a rebellion against which she has already struggled without decisive success for nearly two years, would be simply to destroy her chance of subduing the rebellion at all. The effect of such an announcement would be to redouble the capacity of the rebels for re-

sistance, and to paralyse Spain's capacity for attack. It would be in the last degree tactless and arbitrary, and if Spain bowed to the mandate, she would unquestionably have to face civil war at home. The Washington Government sees all that perfectly plainly. We are persuaded that it has not deliberately placed Spain in such an embarrassing predicament. The telegram is misleading.

PRESIDENT DOLE AND ANNEXATION.

The President of the Hawaiian Republic, in his message to the Senate with reference to the signing of the Annexation Treaty by Mr. McKinley, alludes to the fact that when the Provisional Government succeeded the Hawaiian monarchy on January 17th 1893, the fundamental law of the new Republic authorized the President to make a treaty of political or commercial union with the United States and says:—"The grounds for the adoption of this policy on the 17th day of January, A.D. 1893 were, first, the existing local conditions under which the maintenance of stable government was beset with great and increasing difficulties; and the growing menace to the small Hawaiian population, involved in the impending immigration, possibly unlimited, of races whose civilization was not in accord with the established institutions of the country. Second—The rapidly developing interests of the great naval powers in the Pacific ocean which rendered the permanence of the independent government of the Hawaiian Islands extremely uncertain. Third—The importance of securing such permanence of relations with the United States as would render possible the development of the resources of this country; and, fourth—an abiding conviction that it was for the best interests of all of the people of these Islands."

Most persons, we think, will be disposed to think that the third of the above reasons was the most cogent. Annexation means that a sum of about seven millions of gold dollars annually passes into the pockets of the Hawaiian planters.

A special session of the Senate was convoked for the purpose of discussing the Annexation Treaty. The discussion was to take place on Sept. 9th, and our latest advices are of Sept. 8th. A mass meeting of persons opposed to Annexation was held on Sept. 6th, when the following resolution was adopted:—

"Whereas, It has been submitted to the Senate of the United States of America by the President of the United States of America and its Secretary of State, a treaty for the annexation of Hawaii to the United States of America, and which still lies with the said Senate for action thereon to be had at its regular session which shall be in December next, and

"Whereas, A proclamation was issued by S. B. Dole, President of the Republic, calling all of the members of the Senate of this Republic to assemble in a special session of said Senate to be convened at the Executive building, in Honolulu, Island of Oahu, Hawaiian Islands, on the 8th inst., for the consideration of the ratification of the said proposed treaty of annexation of Hawaii to the United States of America, and

"Whereas, The native Hawaiians and a large majority of the people of the Hawaiian Islands have been in direct opposition to the annexation of Hawaii to the United States of America, and

"Whereas, The native Hawaiians and a large majority of the people of these islands have fully believed in the independence and free autonomy of these Islands and to the continuation of the Government of Hawaii as of a free and independent country governed by and under its own laws, therefore, be it

"Resolved, We, who in mass meeting assembled on the 6th day of September, A.D. 1897, at the City of Honolulu aforesaid, for ourselves and for and on behalf of the people of Hawaii, as well as for the large majority of the people of the Hawaiian Islands, earnestly protest against the annexation of Hawaii to the United States of America in any form or shape."

TANGLED NOTIONS.

THE interesting question of the Chinese arrested in Hakodate and punished by a Japanese tribunal, despite the fact that they were employés of a British man-of-war, is discussed by the *Japan Gazette* in an article which must certainly rank as a very remarkable exposition of international law. The *Gazette* sets out by affirming the proposition that a ship-of-war is regarded as part of the State to which she belongs; a proposition which has the advantage of being quite undeniable but the disadvantage of being absolutely irrelevant. Our contemporary then airily passes to the Admiral of a fleet, and contends that, since his ship is part of the State to which it belongs, the Admiral also is entitled to extra-territorial privileges. That, too, has the advantage of being undeniable, so far as it goes, but the disadvantage of being only partially true, and unfortunately its truth stops short precisely at the point where the *Gazette's* case begins. For to say that the extraterritorial privilege attaching to a public ship extends to her commander, is a statement quite valueless for the purposes of the Hakodate problem, unless it can be shown that the privilege covers crimes committed on shore as well as crimes committed on board the vessel. The *Japan Gazette* quietly ignores that essential limitation, and by ignoring it, begs the whole question. Moreover, the *Gazette* does not seem even to understand its own argument. It derives the extraterritorial privileges of the Admiral from the ship, and then proceeds to derive the extraterritorial privileges of the crew from the Admiral. "When a person," it writes, quoting from PHILLIMORE, "is admitted to extra territorial privileges, the persons that form part of his household or suite, are, generally speaking, sheltered under the same immunities." Now in the first place, that is an entirely superfluous process of reasoning. For if any one member of a man-of-war's personnel, be he admiral, midshipman, or blue-jacket, is entitled to claim absolute exemption from local jurisdiction, then all the members are equally entitled to claim the same exemption. One does not derive his title from another, but all alike derive it from the flag. In the second place, the *Japan Gazette* evidently confuses an admiral with an ambassador. The difference between the source of the extraterritorial privileges enjoyed by the suite of an ambassador and the source of the extraterritorial privileges enjoyed by the crew of a public vessel, is precisely that the former is constituted by attachment to the ambassador's person, the latter by attachment to the vessel. If the singular entanglement of the *Japan Gazette's* ideas on this point be due to want of knowledge or attention, it is a display of ignorance or carelessness extremely convenient for the

purposes of our contemporary's argument. An ambassador's suite certainly do enjoy full exemption from local jurisdiction, and they enjoy it by virtue of the ambassador's personality. Hence, by attaching the crew of a public ship extraterritorially to the person of the admiral, the *Japan Gazette* is enabled, with a certain degree of speciousness, to make the ambassadorial rule appear applicable to the crew of a man-of-war. As a controversial device the blunder is too apparent; as an accident, too opportune. If our contemporary really desired to obtain information for itself or to convey information to its readers, it should not have extracted a rule from one branch of international law and interpolated it in the text of another and quite distinct branch; should not have jumbled up rights of intercourse with rights of agents of intercourse. International law is quite clear with respect to the provisions covering the Hakodate case.

WOOLSEY, for example, in the fifth edition of his work, says:—"Ships-of-war are peculiar in this respect, that the vessel is regarded in a certain sense to be part of alien territory moved into the harbours of another State. The crews on board the public vessels are under their native laws, but on shore, if guilty of acts of aggression or hostility, can be opposed by force and arrested. So, also, the vessel itself must pay respect to the port and health laws. Crimes committed on shore expose persons belonging to such vessels not only to complaint before their own Sovereign, but also to arrest and trial." The italicized part of this quotation is certainly clear enough to dispel all doubt. That any member of the crew of a man-of-war who commits a crime while on shore in foreign territory may be tried and punished by the local authorities, is a proposition so universally admitted in theory and recognised in practice that we saw no occasion to prove it when writing previously on the subject. But it would seem that some journalists are still without knowledge of the fact.

THE HAKODATE AFFAIR.

THE *Japan Gazette* having very frankly admitted that an error crept into its recent statement of the provisions of international law bearing upon the Hakodate affair, we are glad to withdraw our imputation that the mistake was too opportune to be accidental. We take this opportunity, also, of referring to an article published by the *Japan Times* on the same subject. The *Japan Times* has shown very conclusively that the crew of a man-of-war are not exempt from local jurisdiction with regard to offences committed by them on shore in a foreign country. That point, however, was never in doubt, until the *Japan Gazette*, by dropping some links in its argument, seemed to contest the principle. Further

reference, therefore, would be unnecessary did not the *Japan Times* appear to be persuaded that by demonstrating the liability of a public vessel's crew to local jurisdiction, the illegality of Great Britain's contention in the Hakodate case is established. We can not, of course, be certain that our contemporary's view is limited to that very partial aspect of the question, but its article suggests that such is the fact, and since the discussion was opened originally in these columns, we are under an obligation to clear away misconceptions as far as possible. The contention of the British Authorities, as we understand it, is based, not upon the extraterritorial privileges attaching to a man-of-war and her crew under the general provisions of international law, but upon the extraterritorial privileges belonging to all British subjects under the special provisions of Great Britain's Treaty with Japan. If Her Majesty's subjects in Japan were judiciable by Japanese tribunals—in other words, had Consular Jurisdiction no existence in Japan—there would not be the smallest doubt about the right of the Japanese local authorities in Hakodate to arrest, try and punish any number of the crew of a British man-of-war detected in the act of committing a crime on shore. But Her Majesty's subjects in Japan are not judiciable by Japanese tribunals, and consequently the crew of a British public vessel when on shore in Japan enjoy exemption from Japanese local jurisdiction. Thus far every one is agreed. But now arises the point in dispute, namely, do the extraterritorial privileges granted to British subjects by Treaty extend to Chinese employés of a British man-of-war: do Chinese employés of a British man-of-war fall legitimately within the definition of "British subjects" as contemplated by Treaty. Her Majesty's Government claims that they do; the Japanese Government denies the claim. International law is silent on the subject. It is one of those peculiar problems which present themselves for solution under Conventionally divided jurisdictions and which have to be solved independently of written codes. The British Government by means of Orders in Council has laid down very clear definitions of what it understands by "British subject" for the purposes of the Treaty. Persons recognised by usage as being under British protection are included in the category, and Chinamen serving as cooks in a British man-of-war are said to be such persons. Thus the point in dispute is still further narrowed: we have only to consider the meaning of the term "usage," and its applicability to the Hakodate case. That has been already done in these columns. Perhaps it may be useful, however, to add here that "usage" is only another name for "precedent," and that all the precedents available for the purposes of this argument must be sought in the intercourse between

Occidental and Oriental States. In other words, Great Britain must go to the records of her relations with Turkey, or China, or some other country still lying outside the comity of civilized nations, in order to obtain examples constituting "usage," as applied to the Hakodate affair. It is problematical whether many examples of the kind can be found. But even if they be found, Japan does not appear to be under any obligation to recognise them. The acts of a man's neighbours have no binding force for him as usages unless his own circumstances are similar to theirs. But the circumstances are not similar in the case we are considering, as will be at once apparent if we look at the principle underlying the protective rights claimed by Great Britain. The principle is that aliens employed in her service and carried hither and thither in her public vessels, shall be guaranteed against risks involved in submitting to the jurisdiction of States where torturous punishments are inflicted and where legal procedure has not yet emerged from a barbarous, or semi-barbarous, condition. By recognising the proposed "usage" Japan would be acknowledging the justice of classing her with such States, and it is natural that she should decline to recognise it. On the other hand, Great Britain's difficulty is that, so long as the old Treaty with Japan remains in force, she has to guard against treating the latter in any manner calculated to create precedents embarrassing for the purposes of her intercourse with other Oriental countries. The indulgence of her inclinations *vis-à-vis* Japan is restricted by regard for the duties that the dictates of humanity and the principles of civilization impose on her elsewhere. Thus the problem has much interest, and we are strongly inclined to think that if Japan took a broad and far-seeing view, she would endorse instead of opposing Great Britain's contention. For though, so far as the letter of the law is concerned, no obligation that we can perceive devolves upon her, it may very well happen by-and-by that in her own intercourse with Oriental States she will find herself confronted by a similar contingency, and it is desirable that the widest possible scope should be given to the protection exercisable by civilized States over every one in their service. The time has come when Japan may cease to regard herself as fighting for admission to the comity of nations, and may consider that, having secured admission, the interpretation or enactment of international law has precisely the same interest for her as for them.

Our chief reason for recurring to this subject is that the article in the *Japan Times* indicates failure to understand the real issues, or to appreciate Great Britain's position.

THE OLD QUESTIONS.

"L'ECHO DE CHINE," in the course of a long article on the Franco-Japanese Revised Treaty, says:—

"We cannot deny to Japan the right of refusing to Europeans the ownership of land in her midst, but we can infer from it that a country which defies the others on the point of ceding a right so natural, and which, for that purpose, entrenches itself behind its traditions as the sole reason for refusing—has a right only to reciprocal treatment in this matter, and is not yet qualified to enter the comity of nations. Moreover, there is strong reason for fearing her partiality when we have given to her judicial rights over the whites towards whom she still manifests so much reserve. I dare say the Codes are perfect, but there are a thousand ways of unjustly applying the most just laws: and if we do not now dread Japanese justice we must still dread Japanese judges. This is why I protest here against the premature abandonment of our extra-territoriality and of our judicial rights in the concessions in Japan. This is why it would have been preferable to have had an intermediate period during which foreigners in the interior might be subjected to the laws of Japan, while retaining our territorial concessions at Kobe and Yokohama, where our nationals might have refuge in case of injustice or arbitrary bearing of native jurisdiction."

The writer of the article uses moderate language and gives evidence that he has studied his subject with some care. When he says that foreigners doubt the competence of Japanese judges to administer the laws lucidly and fairly, he expresses an apprehension very natural, but, at the same time, an apprehension that would be just as strong forty or fifty years hence as it is to-day, unless Japanese judges were given an opportunity of practically demonstrating their competence. We do not, for our own part, pretend to allege that they are competent. There are no materials for forming an intelligent opinion. But precisely the same lack of solid basis disfigures the contention of every foreign critic who declares them incompetent. The fact is that Japanese judges are a comparatively unknown quantity to foreigners, and must remain an unknown quantity until Consular Jurisdiction is abolished. It used to be said that they were partial, and that their bias was strongly exhibited in favour of their own nationals. That fallacy was completely exploded by an analysis of the mixed cases tried in Japanese civil courts during the past ten years. The analysis was made, at our request, from the archives of the Yokohama Local Court and the Tokyo Appellate and Supreme Courts, and was published in these columns. Had it warranted any deduction as to the moral balance of the Japanese judicial mind, the deduction must have been diametrically opposed to ordinary foreign opinion, for the record showed that in an overwhelming majority of cases the verdicts of the Courts had been in favour of Western suitors. *L'Echo de Chine's* essayist appears to be ignorant that such an analysis has been published. "There is strong reason," he says, "for fearing Japan's partiality when we have given to her judicial rights over the whites." On the contrary, there is no such reason. So far as experience goes, foreigners have no grounds for doubting the impartiality of Japanese judges.

That fact can not be too strongly emphasized. It would seem, also, that the French writer's doubts about the equity of the Japanese judicial mind are to some extent based on the question of land ownership. He lays down the proposition that any country which denies to aliens the natural privilege of owning land within its borders "is not yet qualified to enter the comity of nations." That is a most extraordinary proposition. We ourselves have not the smallest sympathy with Japan's conservative attitude towards the land question. We discern no valid grounds for her objection to foreign ownership, and we think that she takes a mistaken view of her own interests. But to say that her reluctance disqualifies her to enter the comity of nations is to speak with strange thoughtlessness. Not thirty years have passed since the ownership of land by aliens was interdicted in the United Kingdom itself, and there are still Occidental States where the veto remains valid. Japan can not be excluded from the comity of nations because she reserves a privilege which some members of the comity themselves reserve. All these questions have been threshed out time and again, and the same may be said of the proposal for an intermediate period during which Consular Jurisdiction would remain within the Settlements and Japanese Jurisdiction would be supreme without them. That solution was advocated by ourselves in these columns just fifteen years ago. It received some attention at the time, but its practical details proved, on examination, quite incapable of adjustment. The day has passed for all such compromises. France and Austria-Hungary may prove obdurate. We do not expect that they will. Indeed, there is every reason to expect the contrary in France's case at all events. But their abstention can not effect the general issue. Japan is pledged to finish a work that she has carried so far towards completion.

FOREIGN SUITORS IN JAPANESE COURTS.

WE have often had occasion to comment on the extreme slowness with which information on Japanese subjects percolates to certain strata of the Yokohama community. There appears to be a thick crust of prejudice, or conservatism, which defies penetration by any ordinary processes of instruction. Of course this remark applies to a small section only of the community, but unfortunately it is a section that thrusts itself into considerable prominence by the aid of a newspaper proverbial for ignorance and intolerance. In minor matters failure to have recourse to perfectly accessible means of obtaining information, and statements recklessly advanced without regard to accuracy and without any preliminary research, may not prove particularly mischievous. But where such

an important question as the civil procedure in Japanese courts is concerned, very serious harm may be done by misrepresenting the facts. There has always been a strong feeling of reluctance on the part of Europeans and Americans to submit to Japanese jurisdiction. Nothing could be more natural. Whatever the Japanese may be morally, there is no concealing that they are geographically an Oriental race, and that nothing in their past history, as known to the ordinary foreigner, justifies their differentiation from the general mass of Orientals. They have certainly by their modern progress and by their enlightenment established an indisputable claim to be so differentiated, but the ordinary Occidental is slow to recognise such a claim, especially where he himself in his own person has to incur all risks involved in the recognition. Therefore, it is perfectly natural that there should hitherto have existed among the foreign residents a strong objection to losing the privilege of Consular Courts and being handed over to Japanese jurisdiction. Equally natural is it that the public exponents of that objection should have sought to establish its validity by demonstrating the unfitness of the Japanese to be entrusted with the care of foreigners' lives and properties. But such a demonstration, made in the midst of the Japanese themselves, could not fail to provoke considerable resentment and indignation. It is not pleasant to have a man perpetually telling you that you are a person of inferior moral calibre and semi-civilized tendencies, and that only a very limited degree of confidence can be placed in your propensity to be upright and fair. The Japanese have had that kind of assertion dinned into their ears for a great many years, and although, on the whole, they have borne it with considerable patience, it has had the inevitable effect of creating a sense of injury and a feeling of soreness. We are almost disposed to think that they have become morbidly sensitive in some respects. Doubtless their attitude towards the Sendai Taxation affair suggests a badly balanced mood. Not that, speaking generally, there has been any preponderating display of unfairness. The leading journals have either left the question severely alone, or treated it with calm impartiality. But the fact that a comparatively insignificant local newspaper like the *Tohoku Shimbun* has been able to foster excitement, and has found a sufficient quantity of inflammable material lying around to make its sparks of invective dangerous, shows that things are not in a normal condition. It appears to us more than probable that if the circumstances of the Sendai affair were reproduced in England, for example, a great many strong expressions of partizan feeling would have been evoked. What we doubt, however, is that a question so petty in itself would have

assumed such magnitude in public consideration. Thus we are forced to conclude that the Japanese have fallen, for the moment, into a kind of *noli-me-tangere* mood. Not one bit surprised are we that such should be the case. We have anticipated it, and have predicted it in the most explicit terms, for many years. To have expected the advent of an evil does not, however, greatly mitigate its unpleasantness when it arrives, and we are persuaded that thoughtful Europeans and Americans will agree with us in deprecating any continuance of the process of exasperating misrepresentation which is chiefly responsible for the present state of affairs. If defects be observed in Japanese legal procedure or police management, let them be temperately pointed out; if any conditions be detected of such a nature as to suggest that submission to Japanese jurisdiction is calculated to cause injustice, let them be fairly represented. But certainly it is time to abandon the antiquated device of trying to prove the Japanese black whatever be their real colour. Our proximate reason for making this remark is that the old question of foreign suitors and Japanese civil tribunals has been again brought forward in a manner indicating strange ignorance of the facts as they actually exist. There are two aspects of this question. One is concerned with the mood of the Japanese tribunals. Do they show partiality or prejudice? Do they indicate a tendency to favour their own nationals as against aliens? These queries were effectually answered by statistics published some time ago in our columns, showing from the official records of the Yokohama Local Court and the Tokyo Courts of Appeal that, in the vast majority of mixed cases coming before those tribunals for adjudication, the foreign suitor won. All doubts of Japanese Judges' impartiality were thus dispelled. The other aspect of the question relates to the practical utility of judgments obtained by foreigners in Japanese Courts of law. Formerly such judgments were of very little value. Owing to defects in the civil procedure, a Japanese defendant could generally contrive to dispose of his property in such a manner, during the long interval between an inferior tribunal's decision and its endorsement by an appellate court, that nothing remained in the end to satisfy the judgment, and the foreigner, though successful at law, remained with his trouble for his pains. In the days when justice used to be thus defeated for want of proper remedies in procedure, the necessity of reform was often urged by the *Japan Mail*. The Japanese themselves, however, were fully sensible of the defect, and on April 21st, 1890, a new "Code of Civil Procedure" was promulgated. It went into operation on January 1st, 1891, and has now been working for nearly seven years with per-

fectly satisfactory results. Compiled in accordance with the best principles of European jurisprudence, it did not fail to provide due securities against the abuse mentioned above. A whole chapter—Chapter IV.—containing 26 sections, was devoted to the subject of "provisional seizure and provisional disposition," and ever since the Code went into operation, it has been possible for every suitor, foreign or Japanese, to take steps effectually guarding against the dispersal or diversion of a defendant's assets pending the delivery of final judgment. We did not conceive it possible that any foreign resident, possessed of the most ordinary intelligence, could have been ignorant of these facts. The *Japan Daily Herald*, however, is ignorant of them, for it declares that to win a suit in a Japanese Court is a wholly useless result, since the successful suitor is balked of his rights either by imperfections in the law, or by its mal-administration, or by the poverty or rascality of the defendants. All these obstacles in the course of justice—excepting the poverty of a defendant, which is a question entirely apart—were removed eight years ago, and to write as though they continued to exist is only another example of the extraordinary ignorance prevailing among a section of the Yokohama residents. It is not at all surprising that Japanese jurisdiction should bear a repellant aspect when to legitimate apprehensions connected with that little known quantity, the competence of Japanese judges, there is added a resolute determination to ignore every improvement in Japanese laws.

FUNERAL OF BISHOP BICKERSTETH.

The funeral of the late Dr. Edward Bickersteth, Bishop of South Tokyo, Japan, eldest son of the Bishop of Exeter, took place on August 9th in the cemetery of the Church of the Holy Cross, Chisleton, near Swindon. The ceremony, though simple, was of a very impressive character. Hymns were sung as the body was borne from Chisleton House through the village to the church, and again as it was carried from the church to the cemetery. The hymn, "Peace, perfect peace," written by the deceased's father, was sung at the graveside. The service was jointly taken by the Bishop of Kiushu, the Bishop of Osaka, Bishop M'Kim (American Bishop of Tokyo), and the Bishop of Salisbury; while the mourners included Mrs. Bickersteth (widow), the Bishop of Exeter and Mrs. Bickersteth, Mrs. Forsyth, Canon Valpy (Winchester), the Rev. Samuel and Mrs. Bickersteth, the Rev. F. K. and Mrs. Aglionby, the Rev. R. L. Ottery, the Rev. H. V. Bickersteth, Mr. Robert Bickersteth, and Mr. Ashley Bickersteth. There were also present Sir Ernest Satow (British Minister to Japan, now on leave of absence), Mr. Yoshida, Archdeacon Warren (C.M.S. Missionary in Japan), and Miss Bullock, representing St. Hilda's Mission in Tokyo. At one o'clock a memorial service was held at Christ Church, Westminster. Bishop Barry and the Bishop of Grahamstown officiated, and Bishop Phillips, of West Africa, the Bishop of Zanzibar, and the Rev. J. A. Reeve (rector of Lambeth) were also present. Bishop Barry delivered an address and paid a high tribute to the self-denying work of the deceased bishop in the missionary field. —*Globe*.

THE SENDAI TAX AFFAIR.

(COMMUNICATED.)

It is unfortunate, to say the least, that the settlement of the Sendai tax question should have been so long delayed. It has been discussed by the local press, and on and off by certain metropolitan papers, since the middle of July. For the past two weeks excitement over the affair has been growing in Sendai, and a public meeting was to have been held on the 18th, the real purpose of which was to extend the area of the agitation. The meeting, however, has been postponed *sine die*. Since so much unnecessary fuss is being made over a comparatively trivial subject, it may be well to state in order the facts of the case dating from its beginning, over a year ago.

In May, 1896, when Mr. Denning was residing in Kimachi-dōri, Sendai, in a house that had been rented by him through the mediation of the school authorities, he was served with a tax notice, showing a total assessment of 9 yen 99 sen 7 rin. The tax was described as *kensei kosuwari* and *shisei kosuwari*. The first step that Mr. Denning took was to show the notice to the Director of the school, Mr. Yoshimura Torataro, and to ask whether he was liable for such a tax. Mr. Yoshimura said that as to Mr. Denning's liability, it was not a question that he could settle, but that no such tax had been paid by former foreign professors in the school, and that he should recommend Mr. Denning to consult his Consul on the subject. Before adopting this advice, Mr. Denning called on most of the foreign residents of Sendai in order to ascertain whether any of them had received similar notices. He found that no attempt had been made to levy a similar tax on other foreign residents. In the representation of the case sent to Mr. Hobart-Hampden, H.B.M.'s Acting Vice-Consul, Mr. Denning drew special attention to the following points:—(1) That the tax is a newly levied tax as far as Sendai is concerned. (2) That, though there are many other foreigners residing here and living in rented houses, they have not been served with a similar tax notice. (3) That the alleged authority for levying the tax is, not an order from the Foreign Office, but a newly passed law of a *Kenkai*, or Provincial Council. (4) That the assessment is based on personal income and not on the size of the house occupied, and hence is to all intents and purposes an income tax. Mr. Denning asked whether a Provincial Council has the right to pass laws affecting foreigners without the permission of the Central Government, and whether in the present instance the action of the Provincial Council had been sustained by the Central Government. In explanation of the above, it is necessary to state that the Director of the School wrote to the *Kencho* to ask for an explanation of the action taken, and in the reply sent the information embodied in Mr. Denning's statement to the Consul was given. The instruction which Mr. Denning received from the British Legation was not to pay the tax, and to communicate with the Legation in case of pressure from the Local authorities. None of the questions given above were solved, as there was no real occasion for their being brought formally before the Foreign Office.

The Sendai tax collector not only neglected to take further steps to collect the tax, but when November came, he omitted to issue the second half-yearly notice. In September, 1896, Mr. Denning changed his residence, taking up his quarters at 29 Tsuchi-dōri. This change was known to the Local authorities, and they also knew that he remained in the employ of the Second Higher School. A whole year having elapsed, another tax notice was served, amounting to 10 yen 68 sen 5 rin, being also a *johanki* or first half-yearly tax. Dr. Seymour, likewise in the employ of the Second Higher School, was served with a similar notice. Mr. Hay, Dr. de Forrest and many other foreigners residing in the town received notices at the same time in which the amount of their assessment was in every case 26 sen 3 rin. Acting on the instructions received

from his Legation the year before, and utterly at a loss to comprehend the nature of the action of the local authorities, Mr. Denning took no notice of the tax and waited to see what would be the upshot of the affair. Though the tax is due in May, it was far on in July, after the school had broken up and Dr. Seymour had left for Tokyo, when the collector called and asked why the tax had not been paid. Mr. Denning said that he was not sure of his liability and that he would have to communicate with his Consul before taking action. "Other foreigners have paid," observed the collector. When asked to what their tax amounted, he replied, only a few sen. The collector came a second time and on this occasion showed Mr. Denning the order that he had received from the *Kencho* to collect the tax. Mr. Denning said that having referred the matter to his Legation, he was not free to take any action without instruction from his Consul, but that if the tax were shown to be legally due, he would of course pay it without further delay. No subsequent attempt to collect the tax was made. No communication has been addressed to Mr. Denning by the local officials on the subject, as is falsely represented in a mischievous Sendai paper. It may be well to add a brief account of the action of the local press, which alone is responsible for the existing state of feeling in Sendai. There are four newspapers in Sendai.

- (1) The *Tohoku Shimbun*, the best supported, but by no means the ablest—conservative and anti-foreign.
- (2) The *Sendai Shimbun*, a Jiyu-to organ—progressive and pro-foreign.
- (3) The *Ooku Nichi Nichi Shimbun*—quiet in tone and non-political.
- (4) The *Kohoku Shimbun* a newly started organ, on which it is too early to pronounce an opinion.

From the very first the *Tohoku Shimbun* has taken a most unreasonable view of the situation. Its account of the affair may be summarised in a very few words. "Our local government has levied a tax on a foreigner, which of course it had a right to do or it would not have done it; the foreigner, after the fashion of Occidentals, treats the matter with contempt and refuses to submit to Japanese authority of any kind." The *Sendai Shimbun* has taken up the cudgels on the other side and in 14 leading articles has defended Mr. Denning's action, contending that from the outset he has acted in the most rational manner possible. In doubt about the legality of the tax, he took the proper steps to test the question, and he is in no sense responsible for the delay that has occurred in the final settlement of the affair. But the *Sendai Shimbun* did not stop there. It commenced an attack on the local officials, published damaging documents of various kinds, and hence in an indirect manner brought about the state of feeling which exists to-day. Mr. Denning has suffered more from his friends than his enemies.

It was foreseen by Mr. Denning and by others that attempts would be made to involve him in a controversy with the school on the question. Baffled on other lines, the *Tohoku Shimbun* tried this plan. Jealous that the *Sendai Shimbun* was scoring by pouring forth interesting details day after day, the editor of the *Tohoku* sent an interviewer to Mr. Denning's house on the 6th inst. Several of the tax notices which the interviewer asked to see, Mr. Denning had forwarded to Tokyo and hence could not show them. Mr. Denning was asked whether foreign newspapers had published anything on the tax question and whether the affair was likely to be heard of out of Japan and so on. He also asked whether Mr. Denning could lend him a copy of the *Japan Mail* containing a recent notice of the affair. This at the moment Mr. Denning was unable to do. In the course of conversation Mr. Denning informed the interviewer that he did not consider that the *Tohoku* had made a fair use of the information with which he had supplied it. Liberties had been taken with his communications which were not allowable in newspaper correspondence, that his words and his views had been habitually and willfully misstated and misrepresented, and that he felt under no kind of obligation to sup-

ply a newspaper whose plain object was the stirring up of anti-foreign feeling with material of any kind. The interviewer left disappointed, and adopted the method of taking vengeance on Mr. Denning commonly practised by such papers. He bespattered him with mud in the columns of the *Tohoku* the following day. Words that had never been uttered by Mr. Denning were given in quotation marks. This, as the *Tohoku* hoped, attracted the attention of the Director and, since much of the language falsely attributed to him was very impolite, Mr. Denning was asked for an explanation. In a long letter Mr. Denning explained to the Director exactly what had occurred and furthermore suggested a method of settling the tax question, at any rate temporarily. But as for reasons which need not be discussed here, the school authorities did not see their way clear to adopting that method, it is unnecessary to give further details on the subject. The Director was satisfied with the explanation, but suggested that a full statement of the facts of the case should be sent to each of the Sendai papers. This was done. The document was printed in full on the 14th by the *Sendai Shimbun*, the *Kohoku Shimbun* and by the *Ooku Nichi Nichi*, the last prefacing the statement with a few sensible remarks to the effect that it had hitherto forbore to give publicity to the tax subject on the ground that it was a legal question that had been referred for settlement to the proper authority and was not one on which ordinary newspaper writers were competent to pronounce an opinion.

The *Tohoku* condescended to acknowledge the receipt of the document and to quote a few words from it, on which it placed its own interpretation. A letter addressed by the Director of the school to the same paper in the 3rd inst., representing that it is most improper to hold a meeting to discuss a question of a purely legal kind, now under the consideration of the Foreign Office, was treated in the same manner except that no quotation even was given, but only the gist of the writer's communication.

Since it was not impossible that one of the results of the projected meeting might be acts of violence committed against the foreigners concerned, the Governor was approached on the subject. But he informed the Director that he had no power to stop the meeting. Presumably he subsequently received the necessary authority from Tokyo, for the meeting has been postponed. Compared with Tokyo there seems to be little supervision of the press in Sendai. There is no room for doubt that the inflammatory writing of the *Tohoku Shimbun* from day to day is likely to lead to a breach of the public peace and on this ground, surely, the authorities might interfere. It seems most unjust that two foreigners who have committed no illegal act, both of whom are well disposed towards the Japanese and both of whom have resided a long time in this country and during that time have always observed laws and regulations of every kind, should be allowed to become the butts of popular hostility as a result of an agitation set on foot and kept going by a couple of insignificant provincial newspapers.

SENDAI LOCAL PRESS ON THE TAX QUESTION.

We have alluded more than once to the agitation fostered by the *Tohoku Shimbun* of Sendai with reference to the question of imposing local taxes on foreigners living outside the settlements. The impression produced upon the foreign residents by the attitude of the Sendai journal can not fail to be disquieting. It must appear to them that there is a disposition on the part of the Japanese to take a morbidly sensitive view of the acts of foreigners in this country, and to import passionate and prejudiced elements into the discussion of delicate problems. For example, the *Tohoku Shimbun*, in its latest article, contends that the foreigners who hesitated to pay the tax have been guilty of contumely toward Japanese officials, because they appealed over the heads of the latter to the

British Consul. The Taxation Regulations lay down the course to be pursued by persons objecting to the legality of a tax, and instead of adopting that course, the foreigners referred the matter to their own Consul. The *Sendai* journal calls that a most reprehensible act. There is little need to point out that such a contention is quite untenable. The question at issue was, "are foreigners that live outside the settlements under an obligation to obey the local taxation laws of Japan or are they not." To observe the procedure laid down in a section of those laws would have been an admission of obligation to observe the whole—a perfectly obvious conclusion, which, however, the *Tohoku Shimbun* is not sufficiently dispassionate to perceive. It is satisfactory, on the other hand, to observe that the *Sendai Shimbun* has treated the question throughout in a most moderate and cosmopolitan spirit. We have no doubt that our readers will be interested in hearing what it has to say, and we therefore proceed to summarize the contents of an article just published.

It is quite beneath the dignity of a government, we read, to issue orders which it has no means of enforcing. If the report published in a number of newspapers be true, the Government has taken an ill-advised step, for it is said to have informed the prefectural authorities that tax notices might be sent to foreign residents but that no steps should be taken to enforce the payment of the taxes. That places the local authorities in a very awkward predicament. If it were the Government's intention to make the payment of all local taxes levied on the Japanese a condition of foreigners' residence outside the Settlements, notice to that effect should have been given to the Foreign Ministers. But no such step has been taken, or the British Minister would not have instructed Mr. Denning to refuse to pay the tax levied on him. The idea that the principle of extra-territoriality does not hold good in the case of foreigners residing in the interior of Japan cannot be entertained for a moment. A policeman has no more right to enter a foreigner's house in Sendai without a consular order than he would have in one of the foreign settlements. In the case of Mr. Denning, he comes to Sendai as an employé of a Government school; that is to say, he has been invited to reside here for the convenience of the school. By accepting the invitation, he does not differentiate himself from other foreigners. He is still governed by his Consul and has to pay the annual Consular tax. He is required to observe only such Japanese laws as affect all foreigners directly or indirectly. The fact of his being an employé of the Japanese Government does not denationalise him in any way. Notwithstanding all the hue and cry that has been raised over this question, Mr. Denning has been guilty of nothing more than showing loyalty to his country. The men who are loudest in their praise of Japanese patriotism see no merit in the patriotism of an Englishman. What other course was open to Mr. Denning when first he doubted the legality of the tax than to apply to his Consul, and having applied and having been instructed not to pay the tax, what could he do but obey? If Japan has her laws, so have other countries, and why should odium attach to the name of a man who has only shown himself to be a law-abider.

Such, in effect, are the views advanced by the *Sendai Shimbun*. They may be traversed. It does not appear to us, for example, that the Government loses dignity by adhering to a principle which it can not enforce by recourse to the ordinary method, distraint. There are indirect means of enforcing the principle under consideration; means quite as effective as any provided in the Taxation Law. Besides, a foreigner living within the Settlements does pay local taxes, and it may be argued with much show of justice that he is at least equally liable when he lives outside the Settlements. But we do not propose to enter into the general question here. Our purpose is merely to show the remarkable fairness and sympathy that has marked the *Sendai Shimbun's* treatment of the subject.

We learn by telegraph from Sendai that Mr. Denning and Dr. Seymour have paid under protest, the local tax which has given rise to so much discussion. The position they are understood to take is that, owing to misrepresentations and misconceptions for which they are in no wise responsible, public agitation has been caused, to the manifest inconvenience of the Authorities; that, from the same cause, they find themselves depicted in the light of obstinately opposing a fiscal demand made by Japanese officials when in reality they have simply been awaiting instructions from their own officials; and that they now take upon themselves to pay the money without prejudice to the question of their legal liability, and with entire confidence that the Japanese Government will deal justly in the matter. We feel persuaded that Messrs. Denning and Seymour have chosen the only wise course. The principle under debate is not affected by their action and the excitement of the public will be allayed. So far as we can gather, the *Tohoku Shimbun* is solely responsible for that excitement. It has exaggerated or distorted the facts throughout, and the meeting which was to have been held on the 17th instant owed its conception and organization to the same journal. Presumably the *Tohoku* aimed solely at increasing its own popularity and circulation, for it must have been pretty well aware that no sufficient reason for such measures existed.

THE KOBE APOLOGY CASE.

Our readers are aware that a somewhat remarkable case was tried a few days ago in H.B.M.'s Consular Court in Kobe. A dispute had arisen between Mr. and Mrs. Rowe, on one side, and the Misses Sower, on the other, with reference to the accounts of a school in which they were all concerned. Being unable to come to an understanding, the questions at issue were submitted to arbitration, and the award of the arbitrator was made an order of the Consular Court. We may add that our readers need not give any further consideration to the monetary part of the complication, since it did not affect the subsequent proceedings, to which alone we apply the epithet "remarkable." The arbitration went almost completely against the Rowes, and they accepted it, to the limit of their somewhat slender resources, so far as the money was concerned. But there was another matter. Mr. Rowe, in a letter to the Misses Sower, insinuated that they had misappropriated certain funds. With regard to that the arbitrator rendered the following decision:—

This charge, or perhaps the proper word to use is insinuation, is contained in a letter addressed by Mr. Rowe to the Misses Sower dated Dec. 23rd, 1896; it eventually practically resolved itself into a charge against Miss E. A. Sower. Fortunately Mr. Rowe withdrew it before the hearing was finished, the question as to whether an apology should be offered by him or not being left to me. I now record it as my opinion after going into matters as carefully as I possibly could, that Mr. Rowe did not take sufficient precautions to assure himself that he had good grounds for a suspicion, and that without doing so he made a very serious charge against a comparatively unprotected woman in a foreign country. The alleged shortages turn out to be, calling them by the worst possible names, "mistakes," mistakes too which I have not found it, in the cases of the cheques at any rate, difficult to trace. Many of them are in the rough fees book, kept by the lady accused, self-evident. The witness Sandford Reich, who was supposed to have paid more than had been accounted for, could not swear to the absolute truth of his statement, and has since informed me that he included in one month's estimate (the only month in dispute) the fees of the other school to which some of his children had been going as well as those of the Kobe High School. I think that after this charge has so completely fallen to the ground I cannot do less than ask Mr. Rowe to make a written apology to Miss A. E. Sower for the part of the letter dated Dec. 23rd, insinuating misappropriation. The definition of the word given by Mr. Rowe in his letter to Mr. Skinner of January 5th, 1897, is no doubt correct but when that meaning is applied to trust money it means "embezzlement" which is a very ugly word. I

feel sure then that even without the order which I must make Mr. Rowe would see his way to make the apology required to the lady who for nearly six months has had this quite unfounded charge hanging over her. I shall go into the refusal of the Sowers to go into and give explanation of the accounts with Mr. Rowe when considering the partnership accounts, and the views I shall express then apply equally to this portion of my award. Costs will be arranged later.

It might be supposed that Mr. Rowe, having withdrawn the insinuation, would have had no hesitation about making an apology. But he declined to apologise unless the arbitrator's award were supplemented by fuller explanations; unless, in short, the monthly lists of school payments were examined as well as the Bank pass-book by which alone the arbitrator seems to have been guided. Plainly in advancing such an objection Mr. Rowe implied that his original insinuation was not unfounded, or, at any rate, that he had not been convinced of its baselessness. Why then did he withdraw it before the hearing? His conduct seems to have been inconsistent and wanting in magnanimity. On the other hand, the arbitrator's action appears incomprehensible. He "ordered" Mr. Rowe to apologise. Did he imagine that such an order could be enforced? It would seem that he did, and what is more, the Consular Court held the same view, for it sent Mr. Rowe to prison because he persisted in his refusal to apologise without being convinced of his error. We have never heard of such a proceeding until now. An apology is the one thing that a Court of Law has no power to exact. It may convict a man of libel, send him to prison, fine him, or condemn him to pay ruinous damages, but it can not order him to apologise, for the simple reason that to enforce such an order is beyond the competence of any tribunal. The Kobe Consular Court has made a record. Mr. Rowe was very speedily released from prison, and to add to the curiosity of the affair, he is apparently ignorant of the reason of his release. Some of the Kobe newspapers alleged that his impaired health rendered imprisonment dangerous, but Mr. Rowe has written a letter which can only be construed as a declaration that he does not know why he was released. We do not sympathise in the least with Mr. Rowe. He is said to be sixty years of age, and the fact is put forward as a reason against imprisoning him. It ought to have been a much more cogent reason against his utterance of slanders, and his refusal to apologise for them when he failed to prove them. But it looks very much as though there had been some erroneous administration of the law in Kobe.

BRITISH NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

The British Squadron left Hakodate on the 7th inst. for Endermo (Muroran), with the exception of the two torpedo-boat destroyers, but returned to harbour again that same evening on account of bad weather. There was a heavy sea running outside. Next morning they moved out again, accompanied by the destroyers, for Endermo. Going slow and carrying out steam tactics on the way, the Squadron arrived at their destination on the evening of the 9th. While there the weather was all that could be desired, with the exception of an occasional heavy swell. The squadron left Endermo Bay on the morning of the 14th for Yamada and Sendai Bays, where they break up and go to their respective stations, with the exception of the *Centurion*, *Immortalite*, and *Rattler* who return to Hakodate for a few days before finally departing for the south. The *Grafton* goes to Singapore and the *Immortalite* will be the senior ship at Yokohama. The *Alacrity*, leaving the squadron at Yamada Bay, arrived at Hakodate with the mails on the 17th, and having distributed them awaited the arrival of the flagship. H.M.S. *Archer* arrived in Yokohama on Wednesday morning, and left on Friday for Nagasaki. On Thursday the *Handy* and *Hart*, torpedo-destroyers, arrived at Yokohama, to be followed next day by the flagship *Grafton* and the *Rainbow*. The weather at Hakodate on the 16th, 17th and 18th was very disagreeable, being wet and squally, but it cleared up bright and fine on Sunday morning.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT JAPANESE LITERATURE.

In an address delivered before the Teikoku Kyōiku-kai a few weeks ago, on the "Revival of Education," Mr. Shimada Saburō expressed the following opinions:—Though a certain amount of progress is noticeable in education during the past ten years, its advance has not corresponded with that of other things in Japan, nor does its present stage of progress compare favourably with the position held by education in Western countries. Though the annual State expenditure has increased from 5 or 6 million to 120 million yen, an inadequate proportion of this money has been devoted to education. From 100,000 tons the Navy has risen to 200,000, and from 250,000 men the army has been increased to 500,000. Can education show anything to compare with this? Is it not stated at the present moment that there is a deficiency of 27,000 in the ranks of elementary school teachers? It seems to be universally admitted that few men of merit are content to pursue the avocation of a school-teacher longer than they can possibly help. There are those who hold that by raising the salaries and the status of teachers the evil would be remedied. But such is not our opinion. What is wanted is a change in the sentiments with which teaching is regarded by the mass of the people. In former days the calling was considered sacred. The respect felt for teachers resembled that felt for parents. But now the relationship has become perfunctory and sordid. A teacher ranks with ordinary hirelings who are paid to work so many hours a day. Then people have no confidence in the Department to which the management of education has been entrusted. There is a lack of feeling of responsibility with the officials of the Mombushō. After the war it was decided by the State that ten million yen of the Indemnity Fund should be devoted to education. What has the Mombushō done in reference to this? The Departments most feared by Provincial officials are, first, the Home Department; secondly, the Military Department; thirdly, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Nobody dreams of asking what the Mombushō thinks or says on any question. Hence the proposal, reiterated on all sides, for the abolition of the Mombushō. In seeking Government employ the best men apply to the Home Office, the Foreign Office, or the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. It is only the men who stand no chance of receiving appointments in these offices that apply to the Mombushō, resulting in an inferior equipment of the latter. This fundamental defect produces results now complained of throughout the educational world.

New magazines appear from month to month, despite the fact that there are already far more organs than men competent to write for them. A new literary periodical called 櫻花園 *Okwa koku* (The Country of the Cherry Blossom), and a political magazine called the 太平洋評論 *Taikeiyō-hyōron* (the Pacific Ocean Critique) have lately appeared. The latter is ultra-conservative and aims at damping the wave of cosmopolitanism which, it is asserted, is about to flood the country. The first number contains articles on "Japan's Relations to Other Countries," "America and the Pacific Ocean," "England and Germany in South Africa," and notes on literary and educational subjects.

In the *Teikoku Bungaku*, Mr. Ueda Bin insists on the importance to Japan of studying French literature. There are not a few signs, writes Mr. Ueda, that Japan's literary explorations are extended over too wide an area, and that the knowledge acquired lacks thoroughness. Russian, Italian, Spanish and even Norwegian literature are made subjects of study by certain Japanese. For the present it is advisable that attention should be concentrated on English, French, and German literature. Hitherto French literature, though ranking ahead of German, has had few admirers in Japan.

The only school where the French language is specially studied is the Hōritsugakkō. The students at the Imperial University who make a specialty of French are few. On the whole the subject has been treated with undeserved neglect.

In the pages of the *Teikoku Bungaku*, commenting on the views advocated by the 明治會雜誌 *Meiji-kai Sōshi* and the *Nihon Shugi*, Mr. Omachi Keigetsu says that, prior to the publication of the *Nihon Shugi*, there were three organs representing the cause of nationalism: the *Nihonjin*, the *Kokkō* (國光), and the *Meiji-kai Sōshi*, the first being perused by students, the second by the upper classes, and the third by the two or three thousand members who belong to the *Meiji-kai*. The principles of the first two magazines are somewhat undefined, but those of the third are declared to be (1) Respect for the gods, (2) Loyalty to the Emperor, (3) Love of country. But these three are one, since love of country involves both loyalty and piety. The *Meiji-kai Sōshi* has been in existence for nearly two years. It was founded by Count Sasaki. The Society whose views it represents is a quiet, unobtrusive body that places little value on noisy discussion, but is well versed in the tendencies of the age and exercises no small influence in favour of nationalism. The latest addition to the ranks of conservatism is the *Nihon Shugi*. To the party whose opinions are stated in this organ Mr. Takayama (of the *Taiyō*), is acting as lantern-bearer. This writer is most clamorous in advocating the abolition of religion, but his arguments exercise little influence on men in general. Mr. Omachi next attacks the *Nihon Shugi* and its supporters in a most vigorous manner, but as the subject dealt with is religious rather than literary we will not pursue it further.

The *Teikoku Bungaku* observes that though the main idea of starting a magazine like the *Gogaku Zasshi* is good, the publication as now conducted has many defects. It serves to excite the curiosity rather than stimulate the perseverance of students. At the rate of four pages of grammar per month it will take a number of years to obtain knowledge by means of the *Gogaku Zasshi*. The scope of the magazine should be narrowed and confined to English, French, and German. The conversational part of the magazine has, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*, received severe handling by the *Japan Gazette*, to which the compiler of the phrases given is not likely to reply.

The organ from which we have just quoted has some very discerning remarks on the cause of the general lack of appreciation of foreign literature in Japan. The following is the gist of what the editor of the *Teikoku Bungaku* has to say on this subject:—The Japanese view of life and things in general is strongly tinged with pensiveness. The pensive element in the Japanese nature, which is one of its most conspicuous constituents, was partly derived from Buddhism and a study of Chinese verses, but to a considerable extent is inherent. The imperfections, weakness, and sorrows that characterise man's existence make a lasting impression on the Japanese mind and give a special type to literary utterances. Japanese poetry all breathes the same spirit. It reflects the conviction produced in the writer's mind by external nature. The pensive sentiment in many cases has been cultivated to the extent of excluding all other feelings. The foreign novels and poems most popular in this country are those which appeal most to this feeling. In foreign literature we find the greatest variety of sentiments appealed to. Authors aim at placing themselves in touch with men and women who are prompted and controlled by a great variety of emotions. To describe life as he finds it the writer needs to master the diverse points of view and sympathies of the various actors. The young and old, the good and bad, the grave and the gay must all in turn excite and absorb the interest of the successful literary artist. Until Japanese students of foreign literature get rid of that

narrow preference for pensive writing which so strongly clings to them at present, they will fail to appreciate the most captivating of the charms of foreign books—their marvellous variety. To describe the many-sidedness of human life requires the highest art. Compared with this achievement, to express in however delicate a manner one's own sense of dissatisfaction is an easy task.

The *Taiyō* purposes collecting and publishing a number of provincial verses and operatic songs. Ordinary songs or ballads are to be arranged under the following heads:—(1) *Nōji-uta*, agricultural songs, used by farmers when at their various occupations. (2) *Kōji-uta*, songs used by labourers when working together, to put energy into their work, such as are heard when building is going on. (3) *Fūdo-uta*, songs founded on provincial sayings or customs, or local events. (4) *Yūgi-uta*, songs used by children in various games and pastimes. (5) *Komori-uta*, songs used by nurses. (6) *Bon-odori-uta*, songs that accompany dancing at the annual Bon festival. (7) *Jinji-uta*, sacred songs, used in worship or in connection with religious festivals. (8) *Shūgi-uta*, congratulatory songs, used at weddings, &c. (9) *Kikori-uta*, wood-choppers' songs. (10) *Funa-uta*, songs used by sailors. (11) *Mago-uta*, songs used by lads in charge of packhorses. Persons acquainted with this class of composition are requested by the *Taiyō* to send in contributions before September 30th. The design is a good one.

No. 15 of the *Taiyō* contains an article from the pen of Mr. Lafcadio Hearn entitled *Nihon Katagaron* (Japanese Painting), of which we give a short summary. At a meeting of the Japan Society held in London last year, Mr. Edward Strange read a paper on Japanese painting in which he spoke in laudatory terms of the peculiarities of Japanese art. This evoked a great deal of opposition and a warm discussion ensued. Among other things, it was said that no such woman as is sketched by the Japanese artist was ever seen. The question caused so much excitement that the Japanese Minister, Mr. Katō, in order to quiet the feelings of the combatants, turned the discussion into another channel. The objections to Mr. Strange's view were evidently founded on want of initiation into the mysteries of Japanese art. This art requires special study. My own experience was that at first Japanese painting seemed anything but attractive, but after two years' study I began to see something charming in it, and from that time it grew on me until it appeared no other than marvellous. A Japanese studying Western art would no doubt undergo a similar experience. The characteristics of Japanese art which have special merit I will now endeavour to indicate:—(1) The relation of individual objects to a given type, the subjection of special characteristics to an all pervading nature are invariably observed. By a few clever strokes of the brush an insect or a flower is made at once to declare its identity and to show its relation to the family to which it belongs. By sketching some characteristic property, or some special form of activity, the Japanese artist enables one to identify the object he represents, without going to the trouble of minutely examining its structure or form. Rather than nature herself he prefers to embody the idea which she suggests. (2) In Japanese portrait painting, in accordance with that strong national trait which makes the suppression and concealment of emotion meritorious, there is no attempt to represent passing states of feeling. From their pictures it is difficult to decide whether a person is old or young, good or bad, much less the state of feeling of the individual represented. The high regard in which an absolutely passionless state is held may be traced to Buddhism. (3) In ordinary foreign painting great minuteness is aimed at, but the Japanese think more of general effect. Both styles have their advantages, though to carry minuteness to an extreme is considered vulgar even in the West. What are called *Ukiyoye* convey to my mind a most vivid impression of passing scenes, but this impression is not caused by the faithfulness of

these sketches to details—by their reproduction of actually existing objects—but by a certain subtle suggestiveness which they possess. All high class art deals with the ideal rather than the real. The finest productions of Greece were founded on religious, or at any rate on transcendental, conceptions. There is a point where the art that is the result of special study and the art that comes from intuition meet, resulting in the creation of beauty of a very high order. Both Greek and Japanese fine art alike remind us of the idea of Herbert Spencer's, that expression is form in the process of creation. But Japanese imitations of nature may perhaps be better described as generalisations of objects, as bringing out prominently some universal properties, rather than embodying form in the process of assuming its permanent shape and character. (4) Greek art and Japanese art have much in common. They both aim at representing objects rather as they should be than as they are. The Greeks expressed their ideas respecting the gods and the aspirations of the human race. The Japanese represent the simple unsophisticated happiness of beings who live in harmony with nature, but portray also the superiority of self-control and observance of the laws that govern society. Modern Western art, which is occupied with present modes of life, with the greed of the money seekers, and kindred subjects, is not only far removed from the sublime idealism of the ancient Greek, but is inferior to the Japanese standard. (5) Much depends on the proclivities of the critic in all art criticism. It takes years to become accustomed to an entirely new style. I have often been amused and instructed by listening to the unvarnished opinions of Japanese children in reference to our Western pictures. Appreciation of anything valuable in the world of art involves years of laborious study. This fact is constantly overlooked by persons who undertake to pronounce an opinion on Oriental art.

The *Taiyō*, writing on the influence exercised by newspapers the world over, says that there are over 50,000 in the world, and furnishes the subjoined table:—

Country.	No. of Papers.
Canada and the United States	20,630
Great Britain.....	8,000
Germany	6,000
France.....	4,300
Japan	2,000
Italy.....	1,500
Austria	1,200
Various Asiatic countries	1,000
Spain	800
Russia.....	800
Australia	800
Greece.....	600
Switzerland	450
Holland	300
Belgium.....	300
Other countries.....	1,000

A series of volumes entitled 新撰百種 *Shinsen-hyakushu*, "New Selection of Various Works" is being issued by the *Kyōikuji-ron* printing office. Vol. I. consists of Questions and Answers on Philosophy. Vol. II. gives a history of Japanese maritime enterprise in former days. Subsequent volumes will discuss education, politics, economy, agriculture and industry and will contain poems. What has appeared is written in an easy style and the work is well suited to the wants of persons of limited education.

Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō has published a small volume entitled *Shaka Shusoku*, which deals with the much disputed question of the race to which Shaka Muni belongs, Dr. Inouye contending that he was not an Aryan, but a Turanian.

A translation of Dr. Ditté's German work on Practical Education has been published by the Hakubunkan under the title of *Jissen Kyōikugaku*. Mr. Fujishiro Teisuke is the translator.

A historical work of some importance, consisting of ten volumes, entitled *Aizu-shi* (History of Aizu) has recently appeared. The compiler is Mr. Ikeuchi Seijirō. It relates the parts played by Aizu, Oshū and Utsunomiya prior to and during the revolution. The volumes are illus-

trated and contain a large amount of material hitherto unpublished. The publisher is a Mr. Ikeuchi Seijirō, Wakamatsu. The price is 30 *sen* per volume.

Numerous as are the translations of works on mental philosophy already in circulation, another is announced, being the work of Prof. Ladd of Yale University, which has been rendered into Japanese by Mr. Oda Nobutada. Reviews speak well of the translation, which has been revised by Dr. Nakajima Rikizō. Prof. Ladd has contributed a special preface for the Translation.

An English book entitled "Cathay: the Way Thither," 2 vols., with two maps, by H. Yule, is, we believe, to be reprinted in Tōkyō. The original work was published in London in 1866. Only 150 copies were issued. The book is much sought after, as is evidenced by the fact that a copy will now fetch about 80 *yen*. The Tokyo publisher is Mr. Takakuwa Komakichi, 15 Yūmichō, Ichōme, Hongō. Only 100 copies will be issued, at 5 *yen* per copy. The subscription list will be open till Sept. 30th.

A writer in the *Waseda Bungaku* expresses the opinion that Kyōto and Osaka are far behind Tōkyō in the matter of literature. The *Osaka Asahi* and the *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun* are inferior to the best Tōkyō Dailies according to this authority. Osaka being a great commercial city, the majority of readers seek diversion and amusement when they take up a newspaper and would not appreciate anything solid. Although Kyōto is a great educational centre, in literature it makes little progress, even falling behind Osaka. The latter city has its Literary Society, its *Bungaku Hyōron*, its *Kiraku*, its *Yoshi Ashi Gusu*, and the like. But with the exception of a column in the *Kyōto Shimbun* devoted to contemporary literature, the western capital has nothing to show in the literary line worthy of comparison with Tōkyō publications. This cannot be regarded as otherwise than a subject of regret, says the *Waseda Bungaku*.

We read in the same magazine that Mr. Hitomi Ichitarō, who has already translated the *Man-yō-shū* into French, is now engaged in rendering the 今古集 *Kokin-Shū* into that language, to be followed by the *Nihon bunmei-shi* (History of Japanese Civilisation). These two translations are to be sent to the Paris Exhibition. Mr. Anezaki Masaharu is engaged in the preparation of a "History of Hindu Philosophy" in Japanese, and Dr. Nakajima Rikizō has in an advanced stage a history of Western Philosophy.

Mr. Owada Kenju, the well-known lexicographer, is about to publish another lengthy work, entitled *Sakubun-Hōten*, designed to meet the wants of advanced students in composition. The art of composing *uta* and of writing what is called *Famato-bun* is taught and illustrated from various sources. The work covers 1700 pages and the subscription price, is 1 *yen* 80 *sen*, up to September 30. The publishers are the Hakubunkan. A somewhat similar work is also being issued by the Hakubunkan entitled 詠歌辞典 *Yōka-jiten*, of which Mr. Sasaki Nobutsuna is the author. In addition to teaching the student the art of composing Japanese poems, the *Yōka-jiten* is designed to enable him to turn *gagen* (classical language) into *sokugo* (colloquial). This book, though 1400 pages in length, is offered for sale at 60 *sen*, subscription price. The list closes September 30th.

The Hakubunkan announces the publication of a History of the China-Japan war by Mr. Kawasaki Samuō. It is the most minute and the best written history of the war that has appeared in Japanese, covering 2,450 pages. It sells at 1 *yen* 90 *sen*, and the reputation of the author, it is said, will insure for it a wide circulation.

The *Jōgaku Zasshi*, writing on the home life of the upper ten thousand, says that the wives of men belonging to this class in many instances are of humble origin and hence are not acquainted with the rules observed by ladies of rank in the

management of their households. The social customs of this strata of society have deteriorated. The bad example set by women of rank is doing much harm among the middle and lower classes.

Another women's magazine, the *Yoshi-no-tomo*, discusses modern female costume, recommending the use of *hakama* and the discontinuance of the heavy, expensive *obi* now in use.

The *Fūsoku-gwahō* institutes a comparison between the women of Tōkyō and the women of Kyōto, according to which the latter are by far the more active and enterprising. In Tōkyō it is customary for women to stay at home and look after the house but in Kyōto they engage in a variety of out-door occupations, competing with men in a number of things. In the Western capital a large percentage of the bill collectors are women. Women frequently negotiate loans and business contracts. The distribution of newspapers, the delivery of milk and similar occupations are to a large extent engaged in by women. In charge of wayside shops and booths they are much more successful than men. In Tōkyō women are being used in various trades, such as tobacco selling. In both cities the women available for domestic service are decreasing from year to year. If women once begin to compete with men, says the *Gwahō*, men are likely to have a hard time of it.

In the *Tōyōtetsugaku* Dr. Katō Hiroyuki, writing on Confucianism, expresses the following opinions:—There is nothing in the world with which to compare Confucianism. Though serving as a religion to thousands, it is not a religion. Though resembling philosophy in many respects, it cannot be called a system of philosophy. In all religions there are dogmas, and Confucianism has no dogma: In all the great religions there are miracles, mysteries, doctrines, concerning the future life. Confucianism discourses not of these. Its teaching is founded on general principles. Though Confucianists of the Sung era (about 1100 A.D.) propounded a number of philosophical theories, it cannot be said that philosophy is the essence of Confucianism, in that the great sage arrived at virtue rather than truth and made efficient government the goal to be reached by means of the principles he laid down. His system, consisting of ethical, political and social elements, disconnected from the superstitions which form a part of the teaching of so many religions, is capable of being utilised in various countries. It has, despite some abuses which have grown out of it, done more to supply to the Japanese a code of morality of a noble type and to develop valuable traits of character than anything that could be named. Though some parts of Confucianism are not applicable in modern times, the system as a whole cannot be discarded without moral loss.

Mr. Fukuzawa has completed his Hundred Short Essays and they have been published in book form. Various literary organs have reviewed the work. Here is the gist of what the *Waseda Bungaku* has to say on the subject:—Though the topics treated are various the author's well known views make themselves felt in every line. The volume may serve as a Bible to the man of the world. Well versed in the history of recent times, and an eminent educationalist, Mr. Fukuzawa may be regarded as the Chief Priest and the Great Teacher of Western Civilisation in Japan, whose temple has been erected in the heads of men. For the past 30 years he has been the most consistent and the most relentless opponent of old customs, old ways and old beliefs that Japan can show. Without minutely inquiring into their comparative merits, he has in turn made use of foreign philosophy, foreign religion, and foreign art as reasons for the enlightenment and transformation of men's minds. In his allegiance to the cause of Western Civilisation he has never swerved for one moment. His definition of loyalty and filial piety differs entirely from that which Japanese are accustomed to hear. In fanning the flame of na-

tional piety he has never borne a part. He has preached the doctrine of perpetual progress and has ever reminded us that our attainments are still those of youth. Though the civilisation that he has striven to advance is mostly of a materialistic type, no one can read through his essays without perceiving that Mr. Fukuzawa, without professing any one religion, is no stranger to the reverence, awe, and sense of mystery inspired in the minds of thoughtful men by a contemplation of the wonders of the universe, as is testified by his use of such terms as 宇宙 *Uchū*, 天工 *Yenkō* and 天道 *Zendō*. The perfections of nature ever excite his admiration, and of the limited nature of man's intelligence he is ever deeply conscious. On the same subject the *Taihoku Bungaku* says, that in the possession of common sense and knowledge of the practical affairs of life Mr. Fukuzawa is unsurpassed. It is a style of writing far removed from the scholarly lines penned by Dr. Kaiō, but nevertheless is fully equal to the task of expressing fully and clearly any thought to which the aged seer may wish to give utterance.

No. 5 of the *Shakai Zasshi* furnishes some interesting statistics bearing on the circulation of magazines in Japan. It goes without saying that with most of them it is a hard struggle to make two ends meet. A large number of copies are given in exchange for other publications or sent to newspaper offices for notice in the dailies. The following magazines are stated to have the largest circulation:—Literature—The *Waseda Bungaku*. Philosophy—The *Tetsugaku Zasshi*. History—The *Kyū-bakufu*. Political Economy—The *Tōkyō Keisai Zasshi* and the *Kokka-gakkai Zasshi*. Education—The *Kyōiku Jiron*. Temperance or Total Abstinence—The *Kunino-hikari*. Buddhism—The *Shūshin*. Shintō, Confucianism and Buddhism combined—The *Daidō Jōshi*. Miscellaneous—The *Nagayo Zasshi*, *Nihonjin Kokumin-no-tomo*, *Far East* and *Sekai-no-Nihon*. A magazine like the *Taiyō* has a small circulation, the demand for a high class organ of this kind being very limited. Among popular magazines those containing fiction or those designed for youthful readers have the largest sale. But the circulation of these does not exceed a thousand. The editors of the magazines mostly do their work in their own houses and, as it is impossible to make a living out of one publication, write for five or six different organs. Hardly any of the magazines have establishments of their own. They are issued by various publishing houses as a rule, though a few literary organs are printed in *nagaya* situated in back streets. These are the publications which aim at pecuniary profit. Many are run at a loss month by month, for the sake of propagating the opinions of their supporters. Some eke out a living by advertisements, and this they are better able to do since the charges for advertising in newspapers have been raised. Five or six pages covered with tobacco advertisements are occasionally to be seen. In such cases the tobaccoist agrees to purchase a number of copies, which he distributes throughout the county. Magazines may be divided into four classes. (1) High class and independent, whose proprietors have no thought of profit. (2) Magazines dependent on help from individuals or some existing body. (3) Magazines started and kept up by five or six writers who share each other's views, each one bearing his portion of the loss involved in their publication. (4) Magazines conducted on purely business principles, whose main object is money-making. Of these the *Taiyō* is said to be the chief. The idea that there is much to be made out of this class of literature is not entertained by discerning men. But, happily, money-making is a very secondary object in the lives of modern educated Japanese.

A writer in the *Shakai Zasshi* contends that most of the foreign articles in use in Japan and the foreign methods that have been adopted owe their popularity to acknowledged merit and superiority, and have not been adopted from mere

love of change. To protest against Occidentalism is vain. Men are not going to be persuaded to give up what they believe to be a good thing for an inferior opinion. The organs of the nationalists and the anti-foreign party for political purposes represent the steady flow of popular opinion in a Westerly direction as an unmitigated evil, but the men of the nation turn a deaf ear to their warning. In this world of ours things must stand or fall on their own merits. In trade the term *hakurai* (imported) is synonymous with genuine, superior, trustworthy. The application of this term alone usually suffices to guarantee the quality of an article.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

In order to carry out the harbour construction scheme at Osaka, it was decided, says the *Shogyō*, to delegate a portion of the municipal Headman's functions to one of the members of the Council, under the following rules drafted on the 13th instant:—

OSAKA MUNICIPAL RULES.

Art. I.—In regard to the affairs relating to the construction of a harbour in this city, the following duties shall be carried out by one of the members of the Municipal Council:—(1) Actual supervision of the work. (2) Appointment, dismissal, reward and punishment, of officials below the rank of Chief Engineer. (3) Contracting for labour and for the supply of necessary articles. (4) The issue of orders for the disbursement of expenses in connection with the harbour construction.

Art. II.—The commissioner specified above shall be appointed by the Governor of Osaka, who discharges the functions of Municipal Headman, and this person will not be permitted to deal, for the time being, with other civil affairs.

The above Rules were evidently framed for Mr. Nishimura, a member of the Osaka Municipal Council, and are to be approved by the Minister of Home Affairs, subject to the Imperial sanction.

With regard to the silk trade of Yokohama, the *Shogyō* remarks that the market is very active, a single firm (No. 221) having taken delivery of 46,400 catties on the afternoon of the 15th instant. This enormous deal was soon followed by a transaction with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. who bought 12,000 catties. Nos. 36, 33, and 225 were not long behind them in purchasing, the total transactions, including the above, amounting to 79,900 catties. In fact, the trade in one day aggregated 97,000 catties. Negotiations are still being carried on with Nos. 1 and 221, though no understanding was arrived at on account of the native dealers persisting in their extravagant demands. Sales, however, were made to these and two other firms to the extent of 17,600 catties on the 16th. It was expected that the total transactions would reach 50,000 catties by the evening of the 16th.

The rate of pay for various artisans is reported by the *Hochi* to have suddenly and extravagantly risen in consequence of the late storm and inundations. The following comparative table shows the more excessive of the increased rates:—

Occupations.	After the storm.	Before the storm.
Carpenter	1.00	75
Rouler (board)	2.50	75
Rouler (tin plates)	1.60	60
Glazier	3.00	75
Gardener	1.20	35
Roofer (tile)	3.00	65

The above are wages paid on works undertaken by special contract, and it is said that no work which fails to realize payment at the rate mentioned is accepted by the artisans. This extravagant scale of pay is due to the workmen's combining to squeeze their employers.

Kumamoto, remarks the *Sekai-no-Nippon*, occupies the most conspicuous position in sericulture among the provinces of Kishu. Silk manufacturers also have made commensurate progress. Last year a silk factory, complete in every respect, was organised by a joint stock corporation, and the weaving industry

having been thus developed to an extent never before known, Messrs. Rosenthal and Co., of Yokohama, specially despatched representatives to the district and stimulated the enterprise in various ways, whereupon a plant of the latest and best description was fitted up to supply the requirements of the business. In Japan, Ashikaga, Hachioji, Nishijin, and Fukui are among the centres of the weaving industry, but if Kumamoto meets with no serious drawback, it will soon, the *Sekai-no-Nippon* asserts, attain an equal footing with its rivals.

According to the *Hochi*, the gist of the Government's reply to Hawaii with regard to the proposed arbitration was as follows:—

- 1.—All matters bearing on facts shall be determined by the respective countries.
- 2.—All the legal points in dispute shall be submitted to the decision of the arbitrator, to whose verdict the two countries are bound to submit.
- 3.—The arbitration shall be entrusted to His Majesty the King of the Belgians.

In reply the Hawaiian Government seems to have intimated that it would consent to submitting the legal points in dispute to the decision of a third Power after the facts bearing on the question had been fully ascertained, and that the arbitrator should be consulted only after the facts regarded as indisputable had been settled by the respective countries concerned. To ascertain the actual facts is of course a matter of paramount importance. If they are amicably settled there will be no reason to expect any complication in carrying on negotiations for the selection of the arbitrator. Now that Hawaii's answer has been received, measures have been taken by the Government to prepare a draft in which all the disputed points are mentioned, so that the same may be forwarded to the Japanese Minister in Hawaii with due instructions.

Owing to the carrying away of river embankments, the district of Kambara, Echigo, was entirely devastated on the 7th instant. The local overseers delayed setting break-down gangs to work, and, in consequence, when the storm of the 9th inst. broke over the district, the inhabitants found their houses again inundated above the floors. The villagers of Kosodo, Komme, and Yukomizu suffered most, and seeking about for a pretext for the ventilation of their grievances, pitched upon the headman of the district as the principal cause of their misfortune. They accordingly resolved to severely censure him. On the 12th instant, the villagers held a meeting, a representative of every household of Kosodo being present, at which it was resolved that the villagers should together proceed to the house of the headman. Early the following morning, a mob numbering some 830, many of whom were armed with formidable weapons, marched out towards the headman's dwelling. On the way thither 30 men from Komme joined the crowd as a delegation from their village. Soon the march of the mob was arrested by the police, who had been hastily summoned from the surrounding district, but the rioters would listen to no words of remonstrance and attempted to pass on. Then a police-inspector drew his sword, intending to frighten the folk. But the action had a contrary effect, for enraged at the sight of the gleaming blade, the villagers broke through the police cordon and hastened towards the headman's house. Upon reaching the place they broke into it, and then, cooling down a bit, proceeded to the District office, where they petitioned for the removal of the obnoxious headman and all his underlings on the ground of their having neglected riparian works and thus brought ruin to the district.

"Hozansei," with the charming *natvete* that distinguishes the class of Japanese political quidnuncs to whom he belongs, advises Count Okuma, in the columns of the *Sekai-no-Nippon*, to refrain from transferring either Mr. Komura or Mr. Nakada from the diplomatic posts they at present occupy in order to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Viscount Aoki from the position of Minister to Germany. In "Hozan-

sei's" opinion, Mr. Komura, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, is the only man in the capital who knows anything at all about foreign affairs, and if Count Okuma sends him abroad, no one will be left in Japan to prevent the Count from blundering ignominiously in a realm that demands the exercise of the nicest discrimination.

The foreign trade of Yokohama and Kobe from January to August this year has been calculated as follows:—

	Yen.
Exports (August)	14,606,931
Exports (January to July) ..	85,707,796
Total	99,314,727
Imports (August)	22,508,279
Imports (January to July) ..	116,581,323
Total	139,089,602
Imports and exports	238,040,329
Excess of imports	39,774,875
Export of bullion (August) ...	307,625
Export of bullion (Jan. to July)	4,700,081
Total	5,007,706
Import of bullion (August) ...	593,651
Import " (Jan. to July) ...	70,054,044
Total	70,647,695
Excess of import	65,636,989
Taxes (August)	834,015
Taxes (Jan. to July)	4,215,896
Total	9,049,911

Who, exclaims the *Kokumin*, will say the amount of silver *yen* transported to Japan from abroad is considerable? Investigations carried up to the 13th September shows that the excess of exports over imports amounted to 1,700,000 *yen*. The following are the figures:—

	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.
Hongkong	1,130,000	1,227,387
Singapore	1,525,000	250,088
Amoy	—	307,500
Other Chinese and Korean Ports	1,525,000	104,333
Total	3,713,590	1,949,308
Excess of exports	1,764,282	

The following table should prove of interest to industrial and commercial men as giving an idea of the present working capacities of Japanese factories:—

	July 1897.	June 1897.	Increase or decrease.
Factories	55	56	—
Average days at work ..	27	27	—
Spindles	686,015	694,094	7,379
Rings	67,666	70,073	2,409
Mules	754,333	764,369	9,448
Totals	1,527,975	1,568,565	40,590
Yarns	2,337,975	2,408,865	70,890
Rings	71,545	90,316	18,771
Mules	1,910,870	2,159,101	248,231
Totals	4,360,478	4,758,047	397,569
Cotton supplied	37,405,767 lbs.	39,238,810 lbs.	1,833,043 lbs.
Artisans employed—			
Men	22,016	22,477	461
Women	38,053	40,087	2,034
Yarns, average price per bale	10,202 yen	9,962 yen +	478 yen

The *Mainichi* fears that quotations for rice will continue to rise as the China crop appears to be below the average. Visible supplies at Yokohama are very small both for domestic and foreign rice.

The annual general meeting of the Rikun Agricultural Society, founded by Mr. Mayeda Masana, was held at Akita on the 10th, under the presidency of M. Iwao, Governor of the Prefecture. Among those present were Mr. Takahashi, engineer, of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, and Mr. Higuchi, of Tokyo. The subjects of debate were as follow:—

On agricultural industry—The necessity for extending the organization of the Agricultural Products' Inspection Offices; establishment of an agricultural college in the north eastern part of the Empire; opening of the 5th National Exhibition in the north-east; the most important preparations to be made by agriculturists in relation

to mixed residence; the process of establishing a council for encouraging a system of tenancy; investigation of the best method of banking savings in town or village.

Cattle breeding—Extension of pastures for stud horses and of offices for the conduct of affairs relating to the same; establishment of special quarters for cows for breeding purposes; encouragement to be given towards sheep rearing.

Lacquer-ware—Methods for increasing the export of lacquer ware; improvements in lacquering. Sericulture—Methods for securing greater uniformity in the method of packing raw silk in the six prefectures in Rikun; schemes for enforcing the same; the forwarding of a memorial to a responsible Minister of State urging the advisability of subjecting silk to microscopic examination; organization of silk institutes at the State's expense.

Weaving—The presentation of a memorial to the Government for organising special offices for the inspection of woven goods.

Forestry—Petitioning the Government to sell all the third class forests, or to make them the property of towns or villages.

According to the *Mainichi*, the first general meeting of the Japanese Weaving Corporation was held on the 15th instant at Kiriu, Joshu, when the accounts for the 1st half of this year were presented. The number of working members was declared to have reached 12,021. The subjects of debate were considered and the propositions passed in their original form. The following are the settled accounts:—

	YEN.
Gross receipts	81,063
Total expenditure	57,791

Balance

Repayment of initiatory expenses	7,276
Balance (net profit)	15,995

It was decided that 1,599 *yen* should be set apart as a reserve; 3,198 *yen* as a special reserve to meet depreciation of property; 1,599 *yen* as reward to officials; and 9,599 *yen* carried to next account.

Information from Shizuoka published in the *Tokyo Asahi*, announces that the number of deaths from the late inundations up to the 16th instant, totalled 72; persons injured were 222; houses entirely wrecked, 3,968; partially demolished, 3,808; damaged 30,428; and vessels swept away or damaged 1,287.

An Imperial Ordinance was issued on the 17th instant, embodying an amendment of the regulations for the promotion of higher naval officers. The changes shorten the period of actual service entitling to promotion, as may be seen from the following table:—

	Revised system. Years.	Old system. Years.
Rear Admiral and equivalent ..	3	3
Captain and equivalent	2	2
Second Captain and equivalent ..	2	—
Post Captain	2	3
Commander	5	5
Lieutenants	2	—
Sub-Lieutenants	1	3

The new scale comes into force from December this year; and for two years from the date of its enforcement, promotion from Lieutenant to Commander will be made at the expiration of the term of three years' actual service, calculated from the date of appointment. In the case of Post Captains, seven years will be the limit for promotion to a higher post, the term being calculated from the date of the former promotion to Commander. Captains and Lieutenant-Commanders are qualified for promotion when they have completed four years' service.

The Tokyo Municipal Council seems to have decided, says the *Chuo*, upon the following scheme for increasing the taxes:—

1. TAXATION OF COMMERCIAL COMPANIES.

The profits of banks and other corporations are to be taxed at the rate of two per cent. when a profit of ten per cent. has been realized on the capital; three per cent. when twenty per cent. is realized; and five per cent. when more than twenty per cent. is made.

2. SPECIAL TAXATION OF COMPANIES.

Tramway, Omnibus, Gas and Electric Light Companies, who make special use of highways or of public property, shall be taxed at the rate

of fifty *sen* per *ken*, the rails, routes, telegraph wires, and gas tubes being taken as a standard of taxation.

3. TAXATION OF CARRIAGES.

Since carriages of all descriptions have a most direct relation to the highways they shall each pay a tax of fifty *sen*.

The present scheme has not been evolved from an absolute necessity for finding new sources of revenue to supply deficiencies in the annual municipal budget. It is simply adopted in view of the steady development of the cost of municipal administration, in consequence of which deficiencies of revenue are likely to occur in the years to come. The new taxes are only provisional, and have to be sanctioned by the Municipal Council every year. At present, 81,000 *yen* are required for public works; 10,000 *yen* will be needed to replace an exhausted reserve; and finally, 120,000 *yen* must be appropriated for repairs rendered necessary by the late storm and inundations. These sums, of course, would be defrayed out of the new taxes, and it is supposed that the new rates of taxation are based on these estimates. All the questions bearing on the subject will be decided at a meeting of the Council to be held on the 24th instant.

According to the *Mainichi*, cases of dysentery since the first outbreak up to the 18th instant total 53,271, of which 10,997 have proved fatal. The following are the prefectures where more than three thousand patients are reported:—

	Patients.	Deaths.
Tokyo	5,554	1,247
Osaka	4,492	229
Saitama	3,861	884
Gumma	4,837	901
Shizuoka	3,982	934
Yamanashi	7,157	1,194

It is reported that about fifty cavalymen of the Imperial Guards were lately attacked by dysentery, and are now under medical treatment.

In Wakayama prefecture the number of families engaged in the rearing of spring cocoons this year, according to the *Hochi*, totalled 10,302, and the out-turn 6,701 *koku*. Perfect and pierced cocoons amounted to 747 and 80 *koku* respectively, while waste cocoons did not fall short of 473 *koku*. These figures show a decrease of 155 families engaged in the industry but an increase of 253 *koku* in cocoons, as compared with last year.

A few days ago the Bank of Japan, says the *Hochi*, received five million *yen* of new gold coins from the Mint. It has now received another five millions, making an aggregate of ten million *yen*. The amount to be supplied to the Bank by the end of this month is estimated at forty-three million *yen*, of which thirty-three millions are to be delivered to the Osaka branch.

The *Shogyo* informs us that the allied steamship owners of Kwansei are resolved, not to further extend the area of their operations nor will they place any further steamers on the various routes until the present ships are damaged or lost. Their scale of freight-charges will for the future be drawn-up, lowered or raised, by a central clearing-house, and all the accounts of the sub-agencies will be dealt with by the same office. Any owner of a newly built steamer who desires to join the alliance will only share in half the dividend declared for the first year after his joining.

The Okinawa islanders are earnestly pressing their petitions on the Government. They desire that a representative of their old kingly family be appointed perpetual Governor of the islands, and that the Sho family be also empowered to administer all the civil powers of the state, subject to the control of the Central authorities. They also wish to have a local parliament in which the affairs and finances of the islands may be discussed and approved.

A meeting has been called at the Nagoya Chamber of Commerce for October 3rd, of the united business corporations in the Prefectures

of Aichi, Miye, Gifu, and Shizuoka, to discuss the following questions.

- 1.—Should a *Saké* brewers' corporation be formed to embrace every brewer in the prefectures of the Tokaido?
- 2.—Can the tax now levied on clear *saké* be properly borne?
- 3.—Should the brewing of *saké* for domestic purposes be strictly prohibited?
- 4.—Should not imported alcohol be placed under stricter control?
- 5.—Are the provisions of the new law relating to the brewing of *saké* at all practicable?
- 6.—The above questions having been discussed, shall a memorial containing the views of the corporations here assembled be presented to the Ministers of State and the Diet?

The *Mainichi* remarks that the Mitsubishi dockyards at Nagasaki have had less repairing work to do this last half-year than in the preceding six months, but greater activity was to be noticed in ship-building. The daily number of mechanics employed was 2,387, an increase of 545 over the preceding term. The number of Japanese and foreign vessels repaired totalled 68 and 71 respectively, while several boilers were made to order. Vessels built or still in course of construction include a steel-clad steamer of 1,592 tons, ordered by the Osaka Mercantile Steam Navigation Company; another steel ship of 6,150 tons, ordered by the Japan Steam Navigation Company; a double-decked steel-clad ship of 1,540 tons, ordered by the Marine Commercial School; and a small wooden steamer ordered by the Nagasaki Customs House.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* is urging the passing of laws for the better control of the merchant marine of Japan. It points out the utter powerlessness of the captains of Japanese ships when their men refuse to obey orders, neglect their duty, or assault officers on the voyage; and further remarks that the provisions of the Penal Code at present do not provide punishment of an adequate nature in any of these cases. It is certainly time that something like the discipline enforced by the Merchant Shipping Act on English vessels should be applied to Japanese ships if the good name of Japan is to be preserved.

From a table that appears in the *Shogyo Shimo* we gather that the value of silk exported from Japan during the month of August amounted to yen 6,695,000, an increase of five millions over the previous month. Below is a table showing the average amount of silk exported from January to August for the past five years:—

Year.	Average value per picul.	Amount, Catties.	Value, Yen.
1893	818	1,635,333	13,378,674
1894	714	3,150,930	22,413,400
1895	804	3,278,742	26,381,171
1896	721	1,798,894	12,990,993
1897	762	3,054,840	27,856,217

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Lancashire is the champion cricket county in England this year.

On August 25th over fifty thousand men were idle in England owing to the engineering dispute.

An American telegram says that the forthcoming Naval promotions will include the raising of Lord Charles Beresford to the rank of Rear Admiral.

Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., Her Majesty's Minister at Tokyo, arrived at Osborne on 11th Aug., and had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal Family. He left Osborne on the 12th.

A new first class cricket record, 379, has been established by Abel and Brockwell, playing for Surrey against Hampshire. This beats Brown and Tunncliffe's (for Yorkshire against Sussex) by one run.

The *Financial News* says the French Cabinet is considering the floating of a loan of £60,000,000 in 2½ per cent. bonds, partly for the redemption of the floating debt and partly for the reconstruction of the French navy.

The *Glengyle*, it seems, was run into by the British steamer *Coronet* in the Straits of Gibralt.

ter. The *Coronet* rescued the *Glengyle's* passengers and then ran into Gibraltar, where she found her fore peak to be full of water.

The *Times* learns that the Tokyo Hotel has been appropriated for the Brazilian Legation, and consequently the hotel is to be closed shortly. Mr. Lisboa and his family, who are now staying at the Imperial Hotel, will remove to the new Legation on the 1st of next month.

Admiral E. H. Seymour is talked of as a probable successor to Admiral Buller, in the China squadron. Admiral Seymour was on the China Station as a sub-lieutenant in the *Callista*, 74-gun ship, when Sir Michael Seymour was commanding the China squadron.

The Queen has been pleased to confer a Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George upon Mr. R. F. Syngé, of the Foreign Office, in recognition of his services during the Jubilee festivities. Amongst other duties Mr. Syngé was attached to the Japanese Special Embassy.

Fortune comes to those who wait long enough. The new incumbent of the post of Provincial Treasurer at Foochow is said to be 73 years of age. A Chinaman at that age ought to have shaken off most of the follies of youth anyhow. But how much vitality is left?—*Echo*.

President McKinley receives on an average sixty begging letters a day. People in all parts of the United States write soliciting his aid to get them temporarily out of trouble. The other day, says an exchange, the total amount requested of the President in this manner footed up to \$25,000.

The war in Greece has been the indirect means of bringing to light a valuable example of antique architecture. A party of engineers at work on fortifications on the hill of Hokomata in the chain of the Oeta mountains, unearthed the ruins of a Doric temple bearing a close resemblance to the temple of victory on the Acropolis.

It is a pretty well known fact that most of the deaths that occur on the field of battle result from bleeding to death before surgical aid arrives. The French Government has under consideration a scheme of tattooing the soldiers of the French army with a certain mark over each artery, so that a wounded man would be able to stanch the flow of blood himself and thus increase his chance of living.

The Board of Trade, after taking the opinions of the leading shipping companies, appears to have decided at last to obtain powers for the erection of a lighthouse on Socotra. It is not surprising that this work has been long delayed, for even with the loss of the *Aden* for object lesson, experts are still very uncertain whether a light on the island will diminish or increase the dangers of navigation.

On Monday afternoon, about 2.30 o'clock, a carriage belonging to Messrs. Durand & Co., driven by a hetto, but with no other occupant, coming from the direction of Mayeda-bashi into Main Street, collided, at the corner opposite Clausen's Hotel, with a jinrikisha and a bullock cart. The shafts of the jinrikisha were smashed, and the hetto, falling from his seat, received rather severe injuries.

Nelson's *Foudroyant* dies like an old sea lion, still spreading havoc and destruction around her. A few weeks ago the *Anna* was wrecked in the operations connected with the dismantling of the old ship, and on August 17th the *Aurora*, a Clyde salvage boat, was battered to pieces by the sea at Blackpool, with 20 large cannon from the *Foudroyant* in her hold. Thus the old battleship imitates the end of the *Revenge*, which, in her last moments, sent off the Spanish vessels one after the other with something inside them that wrought their ruin.

The *China Mail* wrote on the Sept. 9th—“By a private letter from Manila we learn that Spanish troops (Spaniards from the Peninsula)

are going over to the Philippine rebel army. We are assured that the rebel forces are stronger to-day than ever they were, and that the prospect of the rebellion being suppressed is very remote.” Stories of this kind have been so often circulated and so often contradicted by events that every one must now hesitate to place any credence in them.

The liquidation of the late Johannes Brahms' estate has made a great step forward. It will be remembered that the composer died some months ago intestate and that both Germany and Austria claimed him as a citizen. The Hamburg authorities have now decreed that the old master had lost his German nationality by his long residence in Vienna. It is believed that Brahms' valuable collection of autographs, his manuscripts, and his fortune will go to the Viennese musical society to which he had verbally signified his intention of leaving them.

Newspapers in Italy persist in stating that, in his old age, Giuseppe Verdi has foresworn opera and is turning all his attention to the composition of sacred music. *Il Resto del Carlino*, a Bologna paper, says:—“A few days ago the glorious master was at Montecatini, looking strong, happy and lively. The few fortunate friends who can claim intimacy with him, state that he has already finished a *Te Deum*, and is now working on a mass for his own funeral.” Another newspaper commenting on this news says:—“As for the mass, O master, we want to hear it this century, and not wait till you die.”

The papers brought from San Francisco by O. & O. steamer *Coptic* contain very long accounts of M. Faure's visit to Russia, no opportunity for word-spinning being neglected. The same remark applies, we think, to the reports of the fighting on the Indian frontier, columns upon columns of picturesque detail appearing in the American papers, and all “telegraphed” from the seat of war. The “artist in head lines” has also been let loose among the war-dispatches and such breezy captions as “Afridis sweep the British away like chaff”; “British Forces in India compelled to fall back”; “British forces are fighting against overwhelming odds in India”; and so on and so forth abound.

The old proverb—one must go abroad to learn news of home—still holds good. A San Francisco paper publishes the following telegram from Victoria, dated August 28th—“The story of the wealth of the Klondike has reached the Orient, for on the new steamer *Columbia* of the Northern Pacific line, which arrived this morning, were four miners from Yokohama, who will outfit here for the gold fields.” We knew that Capt. Tipple had started for Klondike, and that a party is being arranged to leave Yokohama in the spring for the new Eldorado, but that Yokohama had already despatched a team of Argonauts comes somewhat as a surprise.

Messrs. Bandinel and Co., writing from Newchwang on 10th September, remark:—“The crops are magnificent and we hope to see a good demand for tonnage next month. New beans should begin to arrive about 25th inst.; and be in good supply by 10th October. Grain is very cheap, which may increase the consumption of imports. Meantime the old beans are decreasing in quantity and advancing in price, and shippers to Japan are losing heavily despite the favourable exchange and low freights. Arrivals to date:—14 ships and 262 steamers against 5 ships and 270 steamers last year.

The subject of “coincidences” has been discussed in the *Spectator* of late, and Mr. F. H. Balfour sends the following letter to that paper:—“The following statement of what I take to be a genuine coincidence may possibly interest your readers. A few weeks ago, being at Milan, I had a dream which—when I awoke—brought to my recollection a former friend of mine in Peking, whom I will call Vicars. I had not seen Vicars for several years, and for a few minutes I lay wondering what had become of him, how his schemes had prospered, and

whereabouts he was living. In a short time I got up, dressed, and went downstairs. On the hotel table lay the *Daily Telegraph*. I opened it, and the first thing I saw was the announcement of Vicars' death.

Advices received at Portsmouth from Portland on August 14th state that while the Channel Squadron was being exercised at general quarters at Portland the previous day, a 12-pounder quick-firing gun on the *Prince George* was inadvertently loaded with live cartridge instead of dummy, and when the gun was fired the projectile passed between the funnels of the Japanese battleship *Fuji*. Fortunately no one was injured, but considerable consternation was naturally caused. Apologies and explanations were sent from the flagship *Majestic*, and an official inquiry has been ordered into the matter.

The decision of the Italian Government to purchase, for the sum of £240,000, the famous Borghese collection, fortunately averts the danger, which was at one time imminent, of this splendid array of art treasures being dispersed; and the acquisition by the City of Rome of the palace in which the collection is housed ensures the preservation of the building and its contents without any alteration. Since among the pictures there are such notable works as Raphael's "Entombment," Titian's "Sacred and Profane Love," Correggio's "Dance," and many others by the greatest Italian artists, collected with admirable judgment, the loss to the Italian nation which would have resulted from an open sale would have been lamentable.

With regard to "sniping" in the Tochi Valley, an Indian official explains its meaning thus in the *Daily News*:—Three natives set out, two in one direction, one in another. The single man, when he believes he is in the neighbourhood of a sentry, lets off his rifle, no matter in what direction, and thus draws the fire of the sentry, whereupon the two other stalkers fire into the space lit up by the sentry's fire. This goes on all round the camp, and the result is constant alarm at night time. It is impossible to see the snipers, who generally stalk the sentries from behind stones. The soldiers have been told over and over again not to reply to a sniper, but they always fancy they see the enemy in the darkness, and the temptation to fire is irresistible.

The French armored cruiser *D'Entrecasteux*, contracted for in November, 1893, is nearly ready for her steam trials at Toulon. She is planned after the American armored cruiser *New York*, and is of 8,114 tons displacement, with 13,500 horse-power. A speed of 19 knots is expected. The battery of the *D'Entrecasteux* is composed of two 9.4-inch rifles in barbettes and twelve 5½-inch quick-firing guns in casemates. The battery of the *New York* consists of six 8-inch rifles in barbettes and twelve 4-inch quick-firers. The gun protection of the two ships is of the same thickness. As a long-distance cruising ship the French vessel has the advantage over the *New York* in being wood-sheathed and coppered.

A small gale has been raging in the musical papers of England regarding the alleged influx of foreign musicians, but it seems that there is very little in the cry. As the *Daily Mail* puts it, the fact of the matter is, British modesty is at fault. The folks at home will not believe that Britishers can blow brass instruments with the skill of foreigners, so to attract public favour, Smith of Whitechapel has to label him-Smitoffski, and become a "White Watsaw" bandsman; then the connoisseurs, Brown, Jones and Robinson, assemble in public concert-rooms to admire his exotic skill. *Propos* of this, a story is told of a hunt ball in the shires last winter, for which a "Pink Magyar Band" was engaged, but for some reason the bandmen were discontented with the treatment they received. As a consequence, they played their programme of dances quickly through, and declined to give any of the usual "extras," with the result that the programme was finished before midnight, when the men proceeded to pack up

their instruments. Just as the band were leaving, one of the "Pink Magyars" was heard to say that "he was blowed if they were going to play any more bally music if they didn't get any more bally beer."

The *Hogo News* says that its readers will doubtless remember the account given of a very pleasant gathering at Suwayama of the congregation and workers in Mr. Foss's Church on the hill, when, on their own initiative, an Address was voted to H.M. Queen Victoria on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee. This was duly forwarded through the proper channels, and the following happy answer has just been received from Sir Arthur Bigge, the Queen's Private Secretary:—

Osborne, 31st July, 1897.

Dear Sir,—I have laid before The Queen the Address of congratulation to Her Majesty on the completion of the sixtieth year of her reign which you were good enough to forward to me from the congregation of Japanese Christians, and I am commanded to beg that you will convey to those who associated themselves in the communication the sincere thanks of the Queen for the kindly sentiments toward the Empire and Her Majesty which are contained in the Address.—I am, dear Sir, Yours very faithfully,

ARTHUR BIGGE.

Rev. HUGH JAMES FOSS,
The First, Kobe, Japan.

Socialistic legislation is making rapid strides in England, and a brief glance at the new Employers' Liability Bill will satisfy the most sceptical that there is truth in Mr. Labouchere's sneer that it is only a Conservative Government that can pass a Radical measure. The new act in regard to members of the printers' trade gives the workman compensation for any accident in consequence of which he is unable to follow his trade for two weeks. After the second week he is to have half his weekly wages at the time of the accident, provided that the payment is not to exceed £1 per week. Where death ensues in consequence of the accident, an amount equal to his previous three years' earnings or £150, which ever is the greater, with a limit of £300, is to be paid to his dependants. If he has none, his medical attendance and funeral expenses up to £10 are to be paid by the employer. These provisions are sufficiently drastic, as a London contemporary observes, but they will no doubt do much to increase the care already taken to make accidents preventable in every possible line of work.

The Hon. Auberon Herbert, in some descriptive notes on life in Constantinople, now appearing in the *Daily News*, says:—"A preternatural jealousy exists as regards the Sultan's successor. An official Turk will ride some miles out of his way rather than pass the Palace where the Heir-Apparent lives. A Minister who passed the Palace twice on his way on important business to the Bosphorus, where the Ambassadors were staying, found the most imperious messages waiting for him on his return, requiring his presence at the Palace to explain his conduct. Another had to explain because at the moment he was returning the salute of the guard the Heir-Apparent happened to pass in his carriage, and therefore his salute was supposed to be for the Heir-Apparent. Ministers get out of the way, and hide abjectly, in order not to meet and salute the Heir-Apparent. The most extraordinary precautions exist also as regards the troops. The troops are never drilled together. The officers of the same regiment do not know each other. A foreign officer told a friend that he knew his colonel, but not his brothers. They did not mess together, and never met."

During the night of the 21st-22nd, the house of Mr. P. M. Skinner, on the Hill, at Kobe, was broken into by a burglar, or burglars, and two clocks, three table cloths, and a purse containing some small money were made away with. Mr. Skinner was aroused during the night by a slight noise and got up and looked into the dining room, but observing nothing out of the way, retired to rest again. His appearance evidently frightened the unwelcome in-

truder, who was probably hiding at the time, and who made his escape with a limited amount of loot, leaving untouched some valuable ornaments and silver. Entrance to the house was evidently obtained by wrenching open one of the venetian shutters.

A rumour was current in Shanghai that Li Ching-yi, second son of H.E. Li Hung-chang, may get the much-covered appointment to Washington, to succeed Wu Ting-fong as Chinese Minister. In this case the latter gentleman will be transferred to Tokyo. This is given by the *Mercury* for what it is worth.

Rear-Admiral Alexieff, Commander-in-chief of the Russian Pacific Squadron, left for Europe on Thursday by the P. M. steamer *China*. As the mail-steamer passed the *Rurik*, she blew her syren and the *Rurik* answered with a hoot of her foghorn; the Russian sailors then lustily cheered the departing Admiral. The cheer was followed by a salute, and then the *Rurik* weighed anchor and left for Vladivostok.

The *Asahi Shimbun* reports that early on the morning of the 9th instant, the day of the typhoon at Yokohama, a three-masted sailing vessel was seen by some fishermen off Soya, Hokkaido, apparently water-logged. The weather was so rough that the fishermen could do nothing to assist the vessel, which was drifting apparently at the mercy of the winds and waves. In the morning, after daylight, information was sent to the port of Wakanai of what had been seen, and the steamer *Nisshin Maru*, which was in port at the time, went out to see if any assistance was required by the distressed vessel, but was unable to find any traces of her, and it is feared that the sailing vessel had foundered. No information is given as to the nationality of the vessel seen.

Joseph Marcaux, the Hermit of Versailles, has just died at the age of eighty-five. Although quite a celebrity, he appears to have been a hermit but a short time. It was only in 1894 that he made his appearance at Versailles, and built himself a little dwelling on the ground belonging to the Military Engineers. No one interfered with him, so he added a tiny garden to his property, and on the produce of this and the gifts of visitors he subsisted. He never asked for charity, and was a vegetarian, always refusing gifts of meat. He only left his small estate when it was necessary to procure some rags to replace those which were almost dropping off him. His dignified bearing and persistent silence interested many and caused considerable curiosity as to his antecedents; but though inquiries have been made, nothing has been learned either during his life or since his death.

The collision in Kobe harbour on Wednesday is thus described by the *Chronicle*:—"About seven o'clock this morning a collision occurred in the harbour between the O. & O. steamer *Coptic* and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Minatogawa Maru*. It affords another illustration of the danger of allowing the Osaka steamers to run at full speed in the harbour. The *Coptic* was coming in from Yokohama, while the smaller steamer was going at the usual rapid rate in the direction of Osaka. At the time of the collision the *Coptic* was coming around the *Riojun Maru*. The *Coptic's* whistle was repeatedly blown, but no notice appeared to be taken of the warning by the *Minatogawa* until the steamers were close upon each other. Both then went full speed astern, but the Osaka steamer in dropping an anchor slackened off enough chain to allow her to run into the *Coptic*. The latter had two or three plates broken near the bow, while the Osaka steamer also sustained some injury."—The *Hogo News* adds:—"Almost at the same time the steam-launch which had put off to meet the Pacific liner ran down a sampan off the *hatoba* and sank it."

Slowly but surely the old notion that husband and wife are one is dying, says a home paper. It has just received a severe blow from the

hand of Mr. Justice Kennedy, who decided, at the Liverpool Assizes, that a married woman who has obtained an order for judicial separation can maintain an action against her husband for libel. The lady in question, who had obtained a separation decree under the Summary Jurisdiction (Married Women) Act, 1895, had received from her husband a series of most disgusting and libellous postcards. The common law, giving its full authority to the fiction that husband and wife are one, disables a married woman from suing her spouse, and the Married Women's Property Act, while enabling a wife to adopt every measure for the protection of her property, declares that, "except as aforesaid, no husband or wife shall be entitled to sue the other for a tort"; but the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1887, provides that a separated wife shall "be considered as a femme sole for the purposes of contract, and wrongs and injuries, and suing or being sued in any civil proceeding." The terms of this provision were held by Mr. Justice Kennedy, whose decision on the question is the first ever delivered, to confer on a separated wife a right to sue her husband for libel. Nobody will be inclined to quarrel with this decision. Perhaps the only regrettable thing about it is that it leaves a wife who has not obtained a separation order without any remedy for the libellous statements of her husband.

Sir W. H. White, writing in the marine number of *Cassell's Magazine* on the cost of war ships, says that the growth in dimensions, speeds, protection and armament has necessarily been accomplished by increase in cost. In 1637 the *Sovereign of the Seas* cost £41,000, half of which was for labour. This was quite an exceptional outlay, and, no doubt, other than legitimate expenses were charged against that vessel. At the beginning of this century a 100-gun line of battleship cost from £65,000 to £70,000, exclusive of armament. The 121-gun sailing three-decker of 1837 cost nearly £120,000, and the screw three-decker of 1857, about £220,000. The use of armour added greatly to the cost, and the *Warrior* of 1859, figured up nearly £380,000. The *Dreadnought* of 1873 cost £620,000, and the *Inflexible* which followed her, cost £810,000. These large amounts were partly due to the introduction of costly mechanisms required for mounting and working the heavy guns, and partly to large increase in the outlay on armour. Then came the reaction in favour of less costly ships, and vessels were produced for £600,000 to £650,000, between 1875 and 1885. The inevitable tendency reasserted itself in 1885, the *Nile* and *Trafalgar* each costing about £850,000. The *Royal Sovereign* class of 1889 cost about £775,000 and the *Majestic* about £840,000. All these figures are for ships built in the Royal dockyards, and exclude incidental charges as well as cost of armaments. They include gun mountings with their costly mechanisms and torpedo gear.

A correspondent of *Merch's Report* says that, to judge from indications, Florida bids fair to become a most important centre for the production of camphor in the near future. Supplies of camphor have heretofore come from China, Japan and Formosa, but of the vast camphor forests that once existed in these countries but a small portion remains, a direct result of the wanton waste in the process practised there for obtaining the gum from the tree. Camphor is usually obtained by boiling the chips of the wood and roots and bark in great kettles with water, and condensing the volatilized gum on rushes suspended over the kettle. In this process the entire tree is cut down, and even the roots dug up, but in Florida it was found that the gum could be commercially produced from the leaves and twigs, 77 pounds of which yield 1 pound of gum. Hence the bearing tree need not be disturbed nor injured in any way, as the foliage it bears is very dense, and may be thinned down one half without scarcely being noticed. The tree, beside, bears a great amount of pruning without injury. It is an evergreen, and makes three growths a year—

in April, June, and October. According to H. G. Hubbard, special agent of the United States Department of Agriculture, the tree removes nothing from the soil, the gum being formed entirely from the gases of the atmosphere, and hence the leaves, when deprived of their camphor and returned to the soil, constantly enrich the soil, which, in time, requires no fertilization whatever.

It is interesting to know that H.M.S. *Blake* cost some £440,000, or about twice as much as the unarmoured *Inconstant* laid down in 1866. The *Powerful* will cost about £680,000. She carries a considerable weight of expensive armour, and gun-mountings costing over £50,000. A French first-class battleship costs about £1,000,000, and so do the corresponding ships in the Russian and Italian fleets. The American battleship *Indiana* cost over £600,000 exclusive of armour, which involved an expenditure of nearly £340,000. For the German battleships now building, of 11,000 tons, the estimated cost is about £700,000. British battleships are, in proportion to their dimensions, less costly than battleships of other navies, and actually less costly than most foreign battleships of about the same date. The same thing may be said of cruisers. The French *Jeanne d'Arc* is estimated to cost about £800,000; a German first-class cruiser, about £650,000, and the American *New York* cost, exclusive of armour, &c., about £600,000. The actual costs of the great Russian cruisers are not known, but must reach high figures. As compared with the costs of the biggest passenger steamers the foregoing figures, no doubt, will appear very large. But if deductions are made for the expenses incurred on armour, gun-mounting, and mechanisms, torpedo gear and special fittings, representing together, say, £350,000 to £400,000 in a first-class battleship, the comparison is made fairer, and the warship approximates in cost very closely to the largest passenger steamers.

The Head-master of Harrow, one of England's foremost public schools, has been questioned on the subject of bullying among school boys. He said:—"I think you ought to distinguish carefully between bullying or physical cruelty and teasing or 'ragging,' as it is called. As to physical cruelty, I deny that it is practised nowadays to any extent. I have never had in all my experience a case of physical cruelty, of the kind, say, that is depicted in 'Tom Brown's School Days.' But that a system of petty annoyances, which may be described as teasing or 'ragging,' prevails in public schools, I will not deny. Why should I? My object is not to declare Harrow already perfect, but to endeavour to make it as perfect as possible, and to welcome the publicity of the Press on this subject as helping me in my endeavours. The great difficulty, and it is the main difficulty with which masters of public schools have to contend, is how to protect sensitive boys from such treatment. I can assure you it is a source of much anxious thought to me and my fellow-masters. The fact is, there is a class of boys who, I frankly confess, are hardly fitted for public school life at all. They are highly sensitive, prone to exaggerate, and ready to put a sinister meaning upon everything that is said to them. But the tendency nowadays is to send all boys to public schools, whether they are fitted for the life or not. Sometimes it answers well, so that a sensitive lad has his angularities rubbed off by contact in a big school, but sometimes it does not. You know that English public school life is based upon the principle of liberty. The boys are not subject to any clandestine espionage, but are more or less self-governed. The object, then, of a school-master must be to establish such a bond of sympathy between himself and his boys, and especially between himself and his leading boys, that what he disapproves of they shall disapprove of. That is the secret of school-mastering in a nutshell. You must make the boys hate what is hateful, by attaching yourself to them as their friend. There has been a great change of late years in the relation

of master to boys. A greater nearness has been established, and nearness, you know, promotes confidence."

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN OLD FRIEND WITH A NEW FACE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The story of Archbishop Longley and the vanished coat-tails, quoted to-day by *The Mail* from the *Church Family Newspaper*, is as amusing now as it always has been and always will be, in whatever age, or under whatever guise we may encounter it. Since the time of the reputed inventor, it has undergone many changes, which, though they have not added to its humour, have undoubtedly made it more presentable to the eyes of advancing civilization. It must be confessed that, as originally set forth in the Decameron, it could hardly have found its way into a journal bearing so chaste a title as the *Church Family Newspaper*. *Autres temps, autres mœurs*.

Mediævally yours,
Tokio, Sept. 18th, 1897.

E. H. H.

WHY I WAS REFUSED A PASSPORT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As there seems to be some confusion of thought and a good deal of unwholesome misrepresentation about my being refused a passport lately, for the benefit of those who might really like to know just how it is, I hope, by your permission, to state the matter briefly through your columns.

On being invited to take part in a Fourth of July celebration, I declined and spoke against it as not the proper thing for missionaries to do. My card was presented to the Minister of the United States. He held that I had denied my citizenship. To this I protested and said that it was only meant against carnality and worldliness and the encouragement of the spirit of strife, nor could my language by any proper construction be made so to mean. The Minister, however, failed to see it in this light and demanded that I take the Oath of Allegiance. I declined on the ground that I was opposed to oath-taking, that it would be admitting I had denied my citizenship, that it was making a special example of me since no American citizen had ever been compelled to take the Oath of Allegiance before being granted a passport to travel in Japan. The Minister felt that he must insist on the demand; I could not comply so the passport was not granted.

Mr. Miller, Interpreter to the Legation, thinks if I had been more conciliatory the matter might have been adjusted at the outset. Whatever this may say for my misfortune in not at all times possessing a more conciliatory temperament, it is a virtual admission that the refusal of a passport was not for a lawful reason, since no amount of conciliatoriness could enable the Minister to waive a lawful reason for refusing a passport.

Yours,

J. M. McCALB.

CANADIAN MAILS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A few months ago a correspondent called attention to the unnecessarily slow transit of mails to England by Canada. I can add a few instances from my own observation. By the *Empress of India*, sailing on the 9th of last July, I sent a letter to my home in England, which arrived on August 11th. By the same mail I sent another under cover to my sister in Connecticut, U.S.A., which, re-addressed by her, reached England on August 5th,—six days earlier than the letter I sent direct! Nor is this an isolated experience. In every case in which I have been informed of the dates of arrival, the letters re-addressed by my sister have reached England at least a day earlier than those sent direct. Here are some examples:—C. P. R. mail of January 3rd, 1896: direct, February 5th; by U.S.A., February 3rd. U.S.A., April 17th: May 20th, May 14th. U.S.A., May 8th; June 11th, June 4th. U.S.A., February 26th, 1897: March 31st, March 28th—respectively, two, six, seven, and three days earlier.

I recommend all my fellow-countrymen to have a sister in the U.S.A.!

Yours, etc.,

A. E. WEBB.

Tokyo, Sept. 21st, 1897.

THE SENDAI AFFAIR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It has been already stated in your columns that Mr. Seymour and I on the 20th instant

brought the Sendai tax affair to a temporary conclusion by paying the money alleged to be due, under protest. When this news reaches the ears of our many friends, Japanese and foreign, they will naturally ask why this step was not taken earlier, and you yourself will doubtless exclaim "is not this the course we advised Mr. Denning to follow a month ago?" There are weighty reasons, sir, for my not following your advice earlier; I leave Dr. Seymour to speak for himself, should he think it necessary. You were not in possession of all the facts, stated in your columns on Saturday last, which statement I beg herewith to formally endorse as absolutely correct. I will draw your attention and the attention of your numerous readers to the following points. (1) Sir Ernest Satow's instructions to me were of the most explicit kind and were conveyed to me by the Tokyo acting Vice-Consul at the time, Mr. Hobert-Hampden, in language that could only bear one interpretation. I was told not to pay the tax and further ordered that in the event of local pressure being brought to bear on me, I was at once to communicate this fact to the Minister and leave him to take what action he deemed fit. There has been a good deal said in your columns on the nature of the tax levied, you yourself at first maintaining that it was an ordinary house-tax, as the Japanese term used to describe it would seem to imply. I wish to point out that, as regards the action I have taken all along, this is entirely an irrelevant question. The tax notices (not copies) were forwarded to Sir Ernest Satow and his instructions were issued after a careful examination of these documents. As you are aware, Sir Ernest Satow is one of the best Japanese scholars we have and, more, is well acquainted with the whole history of taxation in this country. I admit, however, that he may have taken a wrong view as to the nature of the tax, but this is beside the question. The important fact to bear in mind is, that his instructions were issued after examining the tax notices and were couched in language that could only have one meaning.

(2) You are now aware that in 1896 no local pressure of any kind was brought to bear on me. Hence the situation which Sir Ernest Satow contemplated as possible when he issued his orders did not arise during last year, nor during this year till after Sir Ernest Satow's departure for Europe. In May last, another notice was served; not a repetition of the old one, but the first half-yearly notice for this year, the local authorities having omitted to serve the second half-yearly notice of last year. Late in July, the pressure for payment anticipated by Sir Ernest Satow commenced. This fact was communicated to the Legation and early in August I was told that the matter was under the consideration of the Foreign Office. From day to day and week to week I lived in expectation of the question being finally settled. I informed the Director of the school and the tax-collector that I regretted the delay, but that after receiving explicit instructions from my Legation, which had neither been modified nor withdrawn, I was placed in the unenviable position of having to choose between obeying my own Government and obeying the local representatives of the Government in whose employ I am. They perceived my difficulty and showed great consideration. Nothing further was said to me about the tax by the officials whose duty it is to collect it, who have throughout acted in a thoroughly kind and dignified manner. The course of events subsequent to this is solely attributable to newspaper interference and comment.

You must now see how extremely delicate was the situation in which I was placed. To write and ask H.M.'s *Chargé d'Affaires* to rescind, explain, or qualify the orders issued by Sir Ernest Satow would have been useless, as you must admit. I still lived in hopes that the problem would be solved by the central Government's openly declaring that the payment of all local taxes, of whatever kind, was henceforth to be made a condition of residence out of the settlements. Such a decision would have been intelligible, final, and, from my point of view in every way satisfactory. But, so far as I know, the central Government has not adopted this policy. Many of my friends, both Japanese and foreign, having suggested to me that, under the existing peculiar circumstances, I am justified in disobeying the letter of Sir Ernest Satow's instructions, and I myself being largely influenced by the knowledge of a fact the nature of which I am not at liberty to disclose, I have paid the tax under protest. With those who think that this is a conclusion that a person situated as I have been could reach in a hurry, I do not wish to argue. It is quite plain that such people have no capacity for seeing delicate situations. There was no doubt but those who will ask why Dr. Seymour and myself did not obtain legal advice from the outset. I for one cannot see that this

would have helped matters in any way. However this may be, numerous Japanese lawyers having expressed opinions on the case, when it is no longer *sub judice*, it would be interesting to hear what foreign lawyers have to say thereon. It is my conviction that any less deliberate method of taking upon myself the responsibility of paying, even under protest, a tax which I was ordered not to pay, would have shown more folly than wisdom. There are two things that I wish to render very plain. (1) That the payment which has been made is not the result of the irrational and unseemly agitation against me that has been going on in Sendai for weeks past, which has done infinitely more harm to its authors than it can ever do to me, but is solely the consequence of an altered view of the liberty allowed to me by Sir Ernest Satow's original orders, this change of view being brought about by information which only reached me last night. (2) I wish it to be distinctly understood that my action in the step taken to-day has not been caused by pressure from the school, by threats of dismissal, or anything of the kind. Nothing could be more magnanimous and impartial than the manner in which the whole affair has been treated by the Director of the School, Mr. Sawanagaki Masataro. He saw from the outset that it was not a matter for interference on behalf of the school. Valuable advice he has given all along, but always in a most deferential manner. The students have kept quiet and have shown no hostility to me of any kind. Not one of them has asked me a single question about the tax. They have no doubt watched the conflict with considerable interest, but have shown no sympathy with unscrupulous low-class agitators. A school as large as this is a little world by itself and has just much in common with the inhabitants of the town.

There is one point connected with this tax question on which, so far as I am aware, no one has commented, and yet which it seems to me may have had great weight in Sir Ernest Satow's mind, when he issued his orders. I refer to the fact that a portion of the tax levied is a Prefectural tax. Now whatever may be said in favour of foreigners bearing their share of town taxes, there is no conceivable reason why foreigners should be asked to contribute to the maintenance of Japanese Prefectural Government, towards paying the salaries of Prefectural officials and the like. I shall be very much surprised if the levying of any such tax on foreigners is sanctioned by the Central Government. In the case of Sendai the scale of the Municipal taxes is based on Prefectural taxes. What will become of the superstructure (municipal taxes) if the foundation (the Prefectural tax) as far as foreigners are concerned, is destroyed?

Apologising for the length of this letter,

I am, yours, etc., WALTER DENING.
29, Tsuchi-dori, Sendai, Sept. 20th, 1897.

A BRITISH SAILOR KILLED IN YOKOHAMA.

Early on the morning of the 17th instant a fracas occurred in Isezakicho, in the native town of Yokohama, between some seamen belonging to the British barge *Glenrich*, then in the Yokohama Dock, and some Japanese, in which one of the seamen, Thomas Kennedy, received injuries from which he died the same afternoon, on board the ship, to which he had been taken in a dying condition. An inquest was opened on the body at the General Hospital on the 18th instant, and continued at H.B.M.'s Court room on the 21st and 22nd instant, by the Acting Coroner and a jury. Evidence was given by Dr. Tripler, who was called to the ship to attend the wounded man, Dr. Monro and Dr. Rokkaku—who, in conjunction with Dr. Tripler, made a post mortem examination—to the effect that the man died from fracture of the base of the skull caused by a very violent blow from some blunt weapon. The evidence of the police as regards the disturbance and that of the other sailors concerned was rather conflicting, but it could be generally gathered that four men, Kennedy, Owens, Davies, and Parry went ashore on the evening of the 16th and went into a grogshop in Isezakicho and had a drink each, afterwards taking a walk and then returning to the grogshop, where they had more liquor and all got more or less drunk. Owens and Davies then went out and appear to have got into a quarrel with some of the crowd in the street, and were taken to the police station, one of them, Davies, being considerably knocked about. Kennedy and Parry remained for a time in the grogshop, when a policeman came in and Parry tried to make him understand that he wanted him to get the crowd away from the doorway so that he

could get Kennedy off to his ship. Parry then went out into the street and thinking that the policeman would follow with Kennedy, made his way back to his ship. There was no evidence to show what happened to Kennedy from that time till he was found by the police in a side street off Isezakicho lying on the ground unconscious, and bleeding from mouth, nose and ears. He was placed on a stretcher and taken to the Isezakicho police station, where, after a little while, he was examined by Dr. Rokkaku, who expressed the opinion that the man could not live, and the police inspector persisted in his being removed and taken on board ship in spite of the protests of the second mate of the ship, who had been sent to the station by the mate as soon as the police reported the matter to him. Evidence was also given by a bath housekeeper at No. 13, Sngatamicho Ichome, close to where the wounded man was found, that at about 12.30 that morning he had seen a foreigner running down the street pursued by a Japanese, who overtook him and struck the foreigner with a stick. The foreigner continued his flight after the blow, but the witness believed was struck a second time; though it was too dark for him to see the second blow struck. Evidence was also produced showing that two weeks or so before Kennedy had had a quarrel with a *jirikishaman* and had his ear cut, and also with a sampan man who had threatened him that he would be killed next time he went ashore. On Wednesday the inquest was adjourned for a week to see if the Japanese police could obtain any further evidence.

CRICKET.

A match was played on Saturday afternoon by teams under the respective captaincy of Mr. Edwards and Mr. White. The original composition of the teams was broken up to a considerable extent by several of the members enrolled failing to put in an appearance and the result was a scratch game in which Mr. Edwards' eleven, which went in first, scored an easy win, the Captain of the team retiring after putting together the very neat score of 52, and with young Kingdon, who was in fine form, not out for 48. For the other side Mr. White played a very fine innings for 62, carrying out his bat; his score including 8 fours, 3 threes, etc. In bowling for his own team, Mr. White took seven wickets for 75 runs and H. S. Goddard rolled three maiden overs in succession—a very fair achievement. On the other side Philip's trundling proved the most telling, and he took five wickets for 33 runs. The scores were as follow:—

MR. EDWARDS' TEAM.

Mr. C. B. Joy, c. Duff, b. White	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. W. J. Kenny, b. White	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. W. J. White, b. Goddard	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. H. Pinckney, b. White	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. D. Tyng, c. Mason, b. Jackson	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. A. Kingdon, not out	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. E. S. Edwards, (retired in play)	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. E. van Smith, c. Duff, b. White	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. Blake, b. White	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. Geo. Philip, c. Duff, b. White	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. W. Goddard, c. H. S. Goddard, b. White	...	...	...	...	...
Extras	...	...	...	...	...

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Bla.	Runs.	Mds.	Wkts.
Mr. F. E. White	...	108	75	4
Mr. H. S. Goddard	...	90	47	4
Mr. H. Bugbird	...	25	48	—
Mr. C. B. Joy	...	21	25	—
Mr. H. Mason	...	5	6	—
Mr. C. Duff	...	95	74	—

MR. WHITE'S TEAM.

Mr. C. Owen, c. Shower, b. Joy	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. W. J. Kenny, run out	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. C. M. Duff, b. Joy	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. T. S. Tyng, b. Philip	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. F. E. White, not out	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. H. S. Goddard, b. Philip	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. J. Steven, b. Philip	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. H. Mason, c. Tyng, b. Philip	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. H. Bugbird, b. Philip	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. H. Bent, b. Edwards	...	...	...	...	...
Mr. F. C. Jackson, (did not bat)	...	...	...	...	...
Extras	...	...	...	...	...

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Bla.	Runs.	Mds.	Wkts.
Mr. C. B. Joy	...	55	33	4
Mr. G. Philip	...	20	33	3
Mr. E. S. Edwards	...	39	28	2
Mr. A. Kingdon	...	30	21	—

The crew, eleven in all, belonging to No. 14 Torpedo Boat, under the command of Lieut. Matsunaga and Sub-Lieutenant Yuasa, have been awarded presents of money ranging from *yen 50 to yen 10*, in recognition of their praiseworthy conduct.

Count Itagaki, leader of the Liberals, left the capital on Thursday morning for Kiarazu, Chiba Prefecture, to attend the meeting of the Liberal Party there.

TREATY OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE NETHERLANDS.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands and in Her name Her Majesty the Queen-Regent of the Kingdom, being equally desirous of maintaining the relations of good understanding which happily exist between Them, by extending and increasing the intercourse between Their respective States, and being convinced that this object cannot better be accomplished than by revising the Treaties hitherto existing between the two countries, have resolved to complete such a revision, based upon principles of equity and mutual benefit, and, for that purpose, have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan: Akahane Shiro, Shogei, fifth class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, His Majesty's Minister Resident at the Court of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands;

And Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands and in Her name Her Majesty the Queen-Regent of the Kingdom:

Jonkheer J. Röell, knight of the Royal Order of the Netherlands Lion, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ph. W. van der Sleyden, Minister of Waterstaat, Commerce and Industry, J. P. Sprenger van Eyk, knight of the Royal Order of the Netherlands Lion, Minister of Finance, J. H. Bergsma, Commander of the Royal Order of the Netherlands Lion, Minister for the Colonies, and W. van der Kaay, knight of the Royal Order of the Netherlands Lion, Minister of Justice;

Who, after having communicated to each other their full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles:

Art. I.—The subjects of each of the two High Contracting Parties shall have full liberty to enter, travel or reside in any part of the dominions and possessions of the other Contracting Party, and shall enjoy full and perfect protection for their persons and property.

They shall have free and easy access to the Courts of Justice in pursuit and defence of their rights, and they shall be at liberty equally with native subjects, to choose and employ lawyers, advocates and representatives to pursue and defend their rights before such Courts.

In whatever relates to rights of residence and travel; to the possession of goods and effects of any kind; to the succession to personal estate by will or otherwise, and the disposal of property of any sort in any manner whatsoever which they may lawfully acquire, the subjects of each Contracting Party shall enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other the same privileges, liberties and rights, and shall be subject to no higher imposts or charges in these respects than native subjects, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured foreign nation.

The subjects of each of the Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other entire liberty of conscience, and, subject to the laws, ordinances and regulations, shall enjoy the right of private or public exercise of their worship, and also the right of burying their respective countrymen according to their religious customs, in such suitable and convenient places as may be established and maintained for that purpose.

They shall not be compelled, under any pretext whatsoever, to pay any charges or taxes other or higher than those that are, or may be, paid by native subjects, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured foreign nation.

The subjects of either of the Contracting Parties residing in the dominions and possessions of the other shall be exempted from all compulsory military service whatsoever, whether in the army, navy, national guard, or militia; from all contributions imposed in lieu of personal service; and from all forced loans or military exactions or contributions.

Art. II.—There shall be reciprocal freedom of commerce and navigation between the dominions and possessions of the two High Contracting Parties.

The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties may trade in any part of the dominions and possessions of the other by wholesale or retail in all kinds of produce, manufactures, and merchandise of lawful commerce, either in person or by agents, singly, or in partnership with foreigners or native subjects; and they may there own or hire and occupy houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops and premises which may be necessary for them, and lease land for residential and commercial purposes, conforming themselves to the laws,

police and customs regulations of the country like native subjects.

They shall have liberty freely to come with their ships and cargoes to all places, ports and rivers in the dominions and possessions of the other which are or may be opened to foreign commerce, and shall enjoy, respectively, the same treatment in matters of commerce and navigation as native subjects, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured foreign nation, without having to pay taxes, imposts, or duties, of whatever nature or under whatever denomination, levied in the name or for the profit of the Government, public corporations or functionaries, private individuals, corporations, or establishments of any kind, other or greater than those paid by native subjects, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured foreign nation.

It is, however, understood that the stipulations contained in this and the preceding Article do not in any way affect the special laws, ordinances and regulations with regard to trade, police and public security in force or which may hereafter be enacted in each of the two countries and applicable to all foreigners in general.

Art. III.—The dwellings, manufactories, warehouses and shops of the subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties in the dominions and possessions of the other, and all premises appertaining thereto destined for purposes of residence or commerce, shall be respected.

It shall not be allowable to proceed to make a search of, or a domiciliary visit to such dwellings and premises, or to examine or inspect books, papers, or accounts, except under the conditions and with the forms prescribed by the laws, ordinances and regulations for subjects of the country.

Art. IV.—No other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importation into the dominions and possessions of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands of any article, the produce or manufacture of the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, from whatever place arriving; and no other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importation into the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan of any article, the produce or manufacture of the dominions and possessions of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands, from whatever place arriving, than on the like article produced or manufactured in any other foreign country; nor shall any prohibition be maintained or imposed on the importation of any article, the produce or manufacture of the dominions and possessions of either of the High Contracting Parties, into the dominions and possessions of the other, from whatever place arriving, which shall not equally extend to the importation of the like article, being the produce or manufacture of any other foreign country.

This last provision is not applicable to the sanitary and other prohibitions occasioned by the necessity of protecting the safety of persons, or of cattle, or of plants useful to agriculture.

Art. V.—No other or higher duties or charges shall be imposed in the dominions and possessions of either of the High Contracting Parties on the exportation of any article to the dominions and possessions of the other than such as are, or may be, payable on the exportation of the like article to any other foreign country; nor shall any prohibition be imposed on the exportation of any article from the dominions and possessions of either of the two Contracting Parties to the dominions and possessions of the other, which shall not equally extend to the exportation of the like article to any other foreign country.

Art. VI.—The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other exemption from all transit duties, and a perfect equality of treatment with native subjects in all that relates to warehousing, bounties, facilities and drawbacks.

Art. VII.—All articles which are or may be legally imported into the ports of the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan in Japanese vessels may likewise be imported into those ports in Netherlands vessels, without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such articles were imported in Japanese vessels, and reciprocally, all articles which are or may be legally imported into the ports of the dominions and possessions of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands in Netherlands vessels may likewise be imported into those ports in Japanese vessels, without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such articles were imported in Netherlands vessels. Such reciprocal equality of treatment shall take effect without distinction, whether such articles come directly from the place of origin or from any other place.

In the same manner there shall be perfect equal-

ity of treatment in regard to exportation, so that the same export duties shall be paid and the same bounties and drawbacks allowed in the dominions and possessions of either of the High Contracting Parties on the exportation of any article which is or may be legally exported therefrom, whether such exportation shall take place in Japanese or in Netherlands vessels, and whatever may be the place of destination, whether a port of either of the Contracting Parties or of any third Power.

Art. VIII.—No duties of tonnage, harbour, pilotage, light-house, quarantine or other similar or corresponding duties of whatever nature or under whatever denomination, levied in the name or for the profit of the Government, public corporations, functionaries, private individuals, corporations or establishments of any kind, shall be imposed in the ports of the dominions and possessions of either country upon the vessels of the other country, which shall not equally and under the same conditions be imposed in the like cases on national vessels in general or vessels of the most favoured foreign nation. Such equality of treatment shall apply reciprocally to the respective vessels, from whatever port or place they may arrive, and whatever may be their place of destination.

Art. IX.—In all that regards the stationing, loading and unloading of vessels in the ports, basins, docks, roadsteads, harbours, or rivers of the dominions and possessions of the two countries, no privilege shall be granted to national vessels which shall not be equally granted to vessels of the other country: the intention of the High Contracting Parties being that in this respect also the respective vessels shall be treated on the footing of perfect equality.

Art. X.—The coasting trade of both the High Contracting Parties is excepted from the provisions of the present Treaty, and shall be regulated according to the laws, ordinances, and regulations of Japan and of the Netherlands respectively. It is, however, understood that Japanese subjects in the dominions and possessions of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands, and Netherlands subjects in the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, shall enjoy in this respect the rights which are or may be granted under such laws, ordinances and regulations to the subjects or citizens of any other foreign country.

A Japanese vessel laden in a foreign country with cargo destined for two or more ports in the dominions of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands, and a Netherlands vessel laden in a foreign country with cargo destined for two or more ports in the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, may discharge a portion of her cargo at one port, and continue her voyage to the other port or ports of destination where foreign trade is permitted, for the purpose of landing the remainder of her original cargo there, subject always to the laws and custom-house regulations of the two countries.

The Japanese Government, however, agree to allow Netherlands vessels to continue, as heretofore, for the period of the duration of the present Treaty, to carry cargo between the existing open ports of the Empire, excepting to or from the ports of Osaka, Niigata and Ebiu-minato.

Art. XI.—Any ship-of-war or merchant-vessel of either of the High Contracting Parties which may be compelled by stress of weather, or by reason of any other distress, to take shelter in a port of the other, shall be at liberty to refit therein, to procure all necessary supplies, and to put to sea again, without paying any dues other than such as would be payable by national vessels. In case, however, the master of a merchant-vessel should be under the necessity of disposing of a part of his cargo in order to defray the expenses, he shall be bound to conform to the regulations and tariffs of the place to which he may have come.

If any ship-of-war or merchant-vessel of one of the Contracting Parties should run aground or be wrecked upon the coasts of the other, the local authorities shall inform the Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul or Consular-Agent of the district of the occurrence, or if there be no such Consular officer, they shall inform the Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul or Consular-Agent of the nearest district.

All proceedings relative to the salvage of Japanese vessels wrecked or cast on shore in the territorial waters of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands shall take place in accordance with the laws, ordinances and regulations of the Netherlands, and reciprocally all measures of salvage relative to Netherlands vessels wrecked or cast on shore in the territorial waters of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, shall take place in accordance with the laws, ordinance and regulations of Japan.

Such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, and all parts thereof, and all furniture and appurtenances belonging thereunto, and all goods and

merchandise salvaged therefrom, including those which may have been cast into the sea, or the proceeds thereof, if sold, as well as all papers found on board such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, shall be given up to the owners, master or their agents, when claimed by them. If such owners, master or agents are not on the spot, the same shall be delivered to the respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls or Consular-Agents upon being claimed by them within the period fixed by the laws of the country, and such Consular officers, owners, master or agents shall pay only the expenses incurred in the preservation of the property, together with the salvage or other expenses which would have been payable in the case of a wreck of a national vessel.

The goods and merchandise saved from the wreck shall be exempt from all the duties of the customs unless cleared for consumption, in which case they shall pay the ordinary duties.

When a ship or vessel belonging to the subjects of one of the Contracting Parties is stranded or wrecked in the dominions and possessions of the other, the respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular-Agents shall be authorized, in case the owner or master, or other agent of him is not present, to lend their official assistance in order to afford the necessary assistance to the subjects of the respective States. The same rule shall apply in case the owner, master, or other agent is present, but requires such assistance to be given.

Art. XII.—All vessels which, according to Japanese law, are deemed to be Japanese vessels, and all vessels which, according to Netherlands law, are to be deemed Netherlands vessels, shall for the purposes of this Treaty, be deemed Japanese and Netherlands vessels respectively.

Art. XIII.—The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular-Agents of each of the Contracting Parties, residing in the dominions and possessions of the other, shall receive from the local authorities such assistance as can by law be given to them for the recovery of deserters from the vessels of their respective countries.

It is understood that this stipulation shall not apply to the subjects of the country where the desertion takes place.

Art. XIV.—The High Contracting Parties agree that, in all that concerns commerce, industry and navigation, any privilege, favour or immunity which either Contracting Party has actually granted, or may hereafter grant, to the Government, subjects, citizens, ships or merchandise of any other State shall be extended immediately and unconditionally to the Government, subjects, ships or merchandise of the other Contracting Party; it being their intention that the trade, industry and navigation of each country shall be placed, in all respects, by the other on the footing of the most favoured foreign nation.

Art. XV.—Each of the High Contracting Parties may appoint Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular-Agents, in all the ports, cities and places of the other, except in those where it may not be convenient to recognize such officers.

This exception, however, shall not be made in regard to one of the Contracting Parties without being made likewise in regard to every other Power.

The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular-Agents may exercise all functions, and shall under the same conditions, enjoy all privileges, exemptions and immunities which are, or may hereafter be, granted to Consular officers of the most favoured foreign nation.

Art. XVI.—The subjects of the High Contracting Parties shall under the same conditions enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other the protection accorded to native subjects or subjects or citizens of the most favoured foreign nation in regard to patents, trade-marks and designs, upon fulfilment of the formalities prescribed by law.

Art. XVII.—The stipulations of the present Treaty shall be applicable, so far as the laws permit, to all the colonies and foreign possessions of Her Majesty.

The subjects of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan will enjoy, however, in the above mentioned Netherlands colonies and possessions concerning their commerce, ships, merchandise and custom duties, import as well as export, the same rights, privileges, immunities, favours and exemptions, which are, or will hereafter be granted to the most favoured foreign nation, with the exception of the special favours accorded or to be accorded to the native states of the Eastern Archipelago for their navigation and the importation of their products into the Netherlands East Indian Colonies.

Art. XVIII.—The present Treaty shall, from the date it comes into force, be substituted in place of the Treaties respectively of the 23rd day of the 12th month of the 3rd year of Ansei, corresponding to the 30th day of January 1856, of the 29th

day of the 8th month of the 4th year of Ansei, corresponding to the 16th day of October 1857, and of the 10th day of the 7th month of the year of Ansei, corresponding to the 18th day of August 1858, the Convention of the 13th day of the 5th month of the 2nd year of Keio, corresponding to the 25th day of June 1866, and all Agreements subsidiary thereto concluded or existing between the High Contracting Parties; and from the same date such Treaties, Conventions, Arrangements and Agreements shall cease to be binding, and, in consequence, the jurisdiction then exercised by Netherlands Courts in Japan, and all the exceptional privileges, exemptions and immunities then enjoyed by Netherlands subjects as a part of or appurtenant to such jurisdiction, shall absolutely and without notice cease and determine, and thereafter all such jurisdiction shall be assumed and exercised by Japanese Courts.

Art. XIX.—The present Treaty shall not take effect until the sixteenth day of the seventh month of the thirty-second year of Meiji, corresponding to the sixteenth July one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine.

It shall come into force one year after His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government shall have given notice to the Government of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands of its wish to have the same brought into operation. Such notice may be given at any time after the sixteenth day of the seventh month of the thirty-first year of Meiji, corresponding to the sixteenth July one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight. The Treaty shall remain in force for the period of twelve years from the date it goes into operation.

Either High Contracting Party shall have the right, at any time after eleven years shall have elapsed from the date this Treaty takes effect, to give notice to the other of its intention to terminate the same, and at the expiration of twelve months after such notice is given, this Treaty shall wholly cease and determine.

Art. XX.—The present Treaty shall be ratified by the High Contracting Parties and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Tokio within twelve months after its signature, as soon as the formalities required in each country shall have been fulfilled.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at the Hague, in duplicate, this eighth day of the ninth month of the twenty-ninth year of Meiji, corresponding to the eighth day of September of the eighteen hundred and ninety-sixth year of the Christian era.

(Signed)	AKABANE SHIRO.
"	J. RÖELL.
"	VAN DER SLEYDEN.
"	SPRENGER VAN EYE.
"	BERGSMAN.
"	VAN DEL KAAJ.

PROTOCOL.

The Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and the Government of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands, deeming it advisable in the interests of both countries to regulate certain special matters of mutual concern, apart from the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, have, through their respective Plenipotentiaries, agreed upon the following stipulations:—

1.—It is agreed by the Contracting Parties, that one month after the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, the import-tariff now in operation in Japan in respect of goods and merchandise imported into Japan by the subjects of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands, shall cease to be binding. From the same date the general statutory tariff of Japan for the time being in force shall, subject to the provisions of article IX. of the Treaty of the 10th of the 5th year of Ansei, corresponding to the 18th August, 1858 at present subsisting between the Contracting Parties, as long as the said Treaty remains in force, and thereafter, subject to the provisions of articles IV. and XIV. of the Treaty signed this day, be applicable to the goods and merchandise, being the growth, produce or manufacture of the dominions and possessions of Her Royal Netherlands Majesty upon importation into Japan. But nothing contained in this Protocol shall be held to limit or qualify the right of the Japanese Government to restrict or to prohibit the importation of adulterated drugs, medicines, food or beverages; indecent or obscene prints, paintings, books, cards, lithographic or other engraving, photographs, or any other indecent or obscene articles; articles in violation of patent, trade-mark or copyright laws of Japan; or any other article which for sanitary reasons or in view of public security or morals might offer any danger.

In all other respects the stipulations of the existing Treaties and Conventions shall be maintained unconditionally until the time when the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day comes into force.

2.—The Japanese Government, pending the opening of the country to Netherlands subjects, agrees to extend the existing passport system in such a manner as to allow Netherlands subjects, on the production of a certificate of recommendation from the Netherlands Representative in Tokio, or from any of Her Majesty's Consuls at the open ports in Japan, to obtain upon application passports available for any part of the country, and for any period not exceeding twelve months, from the Imperial Japanese Foreign Office in Tokio, or from the chief authorities in the Prefecture in which an open port is situated; it being understood that the existing rules and regulations governing Netherlands subjects who visit the interior of the Empire are to be maintained.

3.—The Netherlands Government, so far as they are concerned, give their consent to the following arrangements: The several foreign settlements in Japan shall be incorporated with the respective Japanese communes, and shall thenceforth form part of the general system of Japan.

The competent Japanese authorities shall thereupon assume all municipal obligations and duties in respect thereof, and the common funds and property, if any, belonging to such Settlements, shall at the same time be transferred to the said Japanese authorities.

When such incorporation takes place, the existing leases in perpetuity, under which property is now held in the said Settlements, shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property. It is, however, understood that the Consular authorities, mentioned in the same, are in all cases to be replaced by the Japanese authorities.

All lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the said settlements shall, subject to the right of eminent domain, be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart.

It is, however, understood that if on any of these points more favourable conditions are granted to any other foreign nation, those conditions shall without further stipulation be equally applicable to Netherlands subjects.

4.—It is understood, that although with the entering into full operation of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day the jurisdiction now exercised by Netherlands judicial authorities in Japan comes to an end, still in respect of all those affairs, that are actually pending at the time the treaty takes full effect, the said jurisdiction shall continue to be exercised until the final decision of such affairs.

5.—The undersigned Plenipotentiaries have agreed that this Protocol shall be submitted to the two High Contracting Parties at the same time as the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, and that when the said Treaty is ratified, the agreements contained in the Protocol shall also equally be considered as approved, without the necessity of a further formal ratification.

It is also agreed that this Protocol shall terminate at the same time the said Treaty ceases to be binding.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms, etc., etc.

Done at the Hague, in duplicate, this eighth day of the ninth month of the 29th year of Meiji corresponding to the eighth day of September of the eighteen hundred and ninety sixth year of the Christian era.

(Signed)	AKABANE SHIRO.
(Signed)	J. RÖELL.
"	VAN DER SLEYDEN.
"	SPRENGER VAN EYE.
"	BERGSMAN.
"	VAN DEL KAAJ.

The undersigned, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister Resident at the Hague, in virtue of special authorisation from His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government, has the honour to announce to Her Royal Netherlands Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the Imperial Japanese Government, recognizing the advantage of having the Codes of the Empire which have already been promulgated in actual operation when the Treaty stipulations at present subsisting between the Government of Japan and that of the Netherlands cease to be binding, engage not to give the notice provided for by the second paragraph of article XIX. of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, signed this day, until those por-

tions of said Codes which are now in abeyance, are brought into actual force.

The undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to renew to His Excellency the assurance of his high consideration.

Japanese Legation,

the Hague, the eighth Sept., 1896.

AKABANE SHIRO.

YOKOHAMA CONSULAR TRADE REPORT.

The British Foreign Office received on June 30th a Report on the Trade and Navigation of Yokohama for the year 1896, which had been drawn up by Mr. Troup, Her Majesty's Consul here: it runs as follows:—

REPORT ON THE TRADE AND NAVIGATION OF YOKOHAMA FOR THE YEAR 1896.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The returns of imports and exports, and of British trade, forwarded with this report, are compiled as in previous years from the revised customs returns.

The *yen*, or silver dollar, of the customs returns is, for imports from gold countries and from India, converted into sterling at the rate of 2s. 2½d. per *yen*, being the average for the year of the quarterly rates used by the customs in converting gold into silver values. In the valuation of imports from silver countries, except India, and of all exports, the *yen* is taken as equal to 2s. 2d., being the average bank demand drawing rate for the year.

The returns thus converted into gold values show the total trade of the port for the year to have been worth 14,632,382*l.*, being 7,948,637*l.* value of imports, and 6,683,745*l.* value of exports.

If there is added, as has been done in some previous reports, to the figures for imports deduced from the customs returns, a correction of 15 per cent. to cover approximately the amount of freight and other charges paid on those goods between the place of production and this port, we arrive at a sum of 9,140,933*l.* as representing the actual value on the spot of the import trade, and of 15,824,678*l.* as representing the total foreign trade of the port.

In 1895, the corresponding figures for imports were 6,780,448*l.*, and for the total trade, 15,666,208*l.* The figures for exports were 9,185,760*l.*

Last year, therefore, was an increase of nearly 35 per cent. in the import trade over that in 1895, a decrease of 27 per cent. in the export trade, and a decrease of about 1 per cent. in the total trade of the port.

The following is the silver valuation of the trade, as given in the customs statistics, but with the above correction of 15 per cent. on the valuation of imports:—

	1896. Yen.	1895. Yen.
Imports	83,724,368	64,510,204
Exports	61,696,108	84,791,633
Total	145,420,476	149,301,837

SPECIES AND BULLION.

Gold coin has been imported to the value of 670*l.*, and exported to the value of 124,918*l.*; silver coin imported to the value of 169,600*l.*, and exported to the value of 335,593*l.* There have been during the year considerable shipments of silver *yen* from Japan to the Straits, where this coinage has still found favour, notwithstanding the introduction of the British dollar. Customs dues and duties levied amounted to 424,905*l.*

DIRECT TRADE.

As an indication of the extent of the growth of what is known as direct trade between Japan and foreign countries—that is of the trade which is done by Japanese merchants with other countries without the mediation of merchants here of other nationalities—it may be of interest to note that of the total imports at this port last year nearly 23 per cent. in value were brought in by Japanese merchants or for Government use, mainly by the former. Of the total exports 17½ per cent. were similarly sent abroad, and of the trade of the port 20½ per cent. stands to the same account.

BOUNTIES.

At various periods efforts have been made to foster trade of this character by means of Government assistance; and the most recent manifestation of this principle is exhibited in the passing by the Diet, at the close of its last session, of a Bill providing for a bounty to be given on raw silk exported by Japanese merchants, the amount of the bounty to be determined by imperial ordinance, and in accordance with a method of classification of the silk. The further development of this mea-

sure will be watched with interest. It would appear to be intended to divert from the hands of the British and other foreign silk merchants established here the most important branch of the export trade of Japan.

FEATURES OF THE YEAR'S TRADE.

The main characteristics of the year's trade are an excess of imports, and a decrease in exports. A scarcity of money and contraction of credit existed amongst Japanese merchants in the latter part of the year, the result, no doubt, of several causes, among which may be enumerated an indifferent harvest, the rice crop showing a deficit of some 9 per cent. on a good average crop; natural calamities, in the form of a tidal wave and floods, and excessive activity in the direction of the promotion of companies. The effect of this on the import business will be noted further on. The decrease in exports will be seen mainly under the headings of raw silk, tea, and silk manufactures; and this decrease naturally also acted unfavourably on the import trade, by accentuating the stringency of the money market.

RICE CROP.

The rice crop, as has been said, was short; and prices have never been so high as they were towards the end of the year, unless during a time of famine. This is probably not due, however, merely to the shortness of the crop.

RISE IN COST OF LIVING.

A general rise has been observable for some years past in the cost of living in this country, as estimated in the currency of the country, which is silver, or paper representing silver. This rise commenced from about the year 1889, and taking the principal articles of food and fuel used by the Japanese, amounts now to as much as 90 per cent. in the case of rice, and 100 per cent. in that of fish and vegetables; while the cost of articles of ordinary Japanese wearing apparel has risen variously from 30 per cent. to over 100 per cent. Wages have undergone a similar rise. It may be further noticed that more recently, say since the war, the ratio of rise in the cost of living has exceeded that of the fall in the gold price of silver.

PROTECTION OF FOREIGN PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS.

The stipulations for the registration and protection of foreign patents and trade marks, made under the British and German Treaties having come into force, numerous applications have already been made under these provisions to the Japanese Patent and Trade Marks Bureau.

NEW CUSTOMS TARIFF.

It is understood that the new General or Statutory Customs Tariff will not come into force before the commencement of next year, and that the Conventional Tariff appended to some of the new treaties concluded between Japan and Foreign Powers will be brought into operation at the same time as the General Tariff.

BRITISH TRADE.

The return of the trade between this port and the various portions of the British Empire shows an increase, both in imports and in exports, over that in 1895. Adding to the total of imports as given in that return the correction of 15 per cent., which has been applied above to the total of the general table of imports, it would appear that the value of imports brought into Yokohama in 1896 from the British dominions amounted to £5,185,980. The value of exports amounted to £1,307,490, and thus the value of the total trade to £6,493,470. The increase hereby shown on the previous year's trade amounts to 25 per cent. and occurs in the trade with the United Kingdom, which consists mainly of imports, and in that with British India and with Hongkong. The trade with Canada and that with Austria do not gain ground.

British trade with this port last year amounted in value to 41 per cent. of the total trade of the port. The import trade from the United Kingdom constituted over 44 per cent. of the total import trade of the port; and that from all the British dominions over 56 per cent.

IMPORTS.

The following estimates of the deliveries of cotton, woollens, and other manufactures are taken from the statistics of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce:—

Articles.	Deliveries.	1896.	1895.
Cotton yarns	Lbs.	14,337,200	9,521,200
Grey shirtings	Pieces	759,400	597,420
T-cloths	"	51,570	81,990
Indigo shirtings, &c. ..	"	164,985	41,260
Prints	"	223,900	102,160
Cotton Italians	"	78,500	41,670
Turkey-reds	"	77,050	88,800
Velvets	"	48,240	28,970
Victoria lawns	"	124,850	81,320

Silk-faced satins.....	"	1,940	2,632
Flannel	"	104,900	55,400
Italian cloth	"	129,000	76,330
Mousselines.....	"	471,450	349,870
Cloth.....	"	6,450	4,340
Blankets	Pairs	528,600	551,800

COTTON YARNS.

The deliveries of the finer classes of yarns are now included in these returns. The chief increase last year has been in gassed and other fine yarns; but 2/42's, 2/32's, 16/24's, and 28/32's have also increased. The import of the first-named was somewhat excessive, and some quantity had to be carried over to the new year.

SHIRTINGS.

A large increase appears in grey shirtings; but, in general, owing to increase in cost, these did not prove remunerative to importers during the latter part of the year.

In fancies the trade in the early part of the year was fairly good; but during the last six months arrivals were in excess of requirements, and difficulties were experienced in clearing goods. The competition of Japanese home-dyed cloths is apparently affecting unfavourably the trade in Turkey-reds. Black velvets show an increase, but stocks carried over to this year were also heavy, owing largely to the liability of Japanese dealers not to clear what they had contracted for. A somewhat similar remark applies to flannels.

BLANKETS.

The usual autumn trade in blankets was hardly good; the competition of the Japanese manufacture of striped blankets and rugs seems to be affecting this trade. In cotton Italians, mousselines, and Victoria lawns the stocks carried were heavy; and, indeed, in all classes of cottons and woollens stocks had increased at the end of the year.

The importation of iron and steel shows an increase last year under nearly every heading, and comprises bar and rod, galvanised sheet, nails, pipes and tubes, plate and sheet, rails, roofing and miscellaneous.

PIG IRON.

Pig shows a decrease; and this is to be accounted for by the large import in the two previous years. A steady demand is, however, anticipated for this class of iron in the future.

DELIVERIES.

According to the Chamber of Commerce statistics, deliveries of iron of all denominations amounted to 50,008 tons, as against 49,784 tons in 1895; wire nails to 9,047 tons, as against 7,210 tons in 1895; and tinued plates to 27,727 boxes, as against 37,073 boxes.

In the supply of bar and rod Belgium takes the lead; in that of the other classes of iron and steel for merchant business Great Britain, as a rule, stands first.

An important feature which has recently appeared in the iron trade is the development of the importation of that metal from the United States. Wire nails are imported from there at lower prices than from the Continent of Europe; and although the quantity imported last year was small in comparison with that brought from Germany, it about equalled that imported from Great Britain and Belgium together. Orders have also gone there last year for pig-iron and for rails.

LOCOMOTIVES. RAILWAY PLANT.

Locomotives, while largely ordered from England, have also been so from the United States.

For other railway material Great Britain shares with Germany and Belgium the custom of Japan. Naval requirements are obtained most largely from British makers, gun material partly from France.

There are some things which those acquainted with the import business in metal manufactures often find it hard to get the English manufacturer to understand. One of these is that the Japanese buyer has now reached the stage where he knows, or at least believes he knows, what he requires when he orders an article. In making tenders the English maker is too apt to act on the principle that he knows what the purchaser requires better than the latter himself does; and, acting accordingly, offers an article in another style, or of another design than that which is asked for. The result is that the order is placed, say, with some Continental firm who are more alive to the situation.

The Consul is often liberally supplied with circulars, with the request that these may be exhibited in his office. There, however, no one looks at them. The use of circulars is for distribution to possible buyers, and this can undoubtedly best be effected through business houses on the spot who are in immediate touch with purchasers. Catalogues, to be of any use, should be priced.

Allusion has been made, in a previous report

from this Consulate, to the necessity for British manufacturers of machinery paying due attention to packing. They have still to learn from their Continental rivals in this respect.

SUGAR.

The import of sugar, both white and brown, last year shows an increase in quantity, and an increase in the total value. Browns by themselves show a decrease in value. The value of the import of white sugar, by itself, amounts to 556,343*l.*, as against 386,227*l.* in 1895. Prices were higher last year than in 1895, and the trade in white sugar from the Hongkong refineries promises to continue to grow. The importation of German beet sugar, although not large, has continued.

According to the Chamber of Commerce figures, deliveries of sugar of all kinds amounted to 102,594 tons, as against 83,305 tons in 1895.

KEROSENE.

Of the kerosene imported last year, 13,280,000 gallons were American oil and 10,570,000 gallons Russian. This shows an increase in American and a decrease in Russian. Total deliveries have amounted to 22,760,000 gallons, a decrease of nearly 1,000,000 gallons on those of 1895, the decrease being mainly in American oil.

Of late years the petroleum industry in Echigo has been receiving fresh attention and the increase of refined petroleum in Japan may, to a small extent, account for the decrease in deliveries of imported oil. The latest figures to hand—those, namely, of 1892 and 1893, show that the total production of refined petroleum in Japan had reached 1,086 tons in the former year, and 1,612 tons in the latter.

EXPORTS—SILK.

The export business in raw silk has been characterised by considerable stagnation, relieved in February and April, and again in August and towards the end of the year, by periods of activity. The decrease observable in the year's export is largely due to the shortness of the crop. In the early summer the weather was unfavourable for hatching and for the rearing of the worms, and the result was a shortness of cocoons. Suspicions even existed that the disease known as "pebrine" had affected the worms. The uncertainty of the financial prospect in the United States during the Presidential election had also an unfavourable effect on the export to that country. The total export for the year amounted to 5,225,179 lbs., valued at 3,123,220*l.*, as against 7,746,723 lbs., valued at 5,185,511*l.*, in 1895. The total supplies for the season 1895-96 amounted to 8,433,000 lbs., as against 6,998,700 lbs. for the season 1894-95. Stocks at the end of the year amounted to 2,487,333 lbs., making, together with the export from the opening of the season in July to the end of the year, the total available supplies for that period 5,619,333 lbs., as against 8,064,000 lbs. for the same period in 1895. This reduction is mainly, no doubt, attributable to the shortness in the crop; but, in part, it may be accounted for by the activity in home manufactures.

Attention has been repeatedly called to the want of care in the reeling of Japan silk. The quality of the silk is good, but through carelessness in reeling the interests of the reellers themselves are sacrificed, and constant anxiety is caused to buyers at the port. The silks of Shinshui are stated to be those which give most trouble to inspectors from the above cause.

To endeavour to remedy this and other faults in the preparation of the silk for export, it was remarked in last year's report that a conditioning-house was being erected here for the inspection of silk. It would appear, however, that this has not superseded the old methods of inspection in the exporters' warehouses.

The export of waste shows but little reduction on that 1895. Price was in favour of the exporter in this case.

A separate place has been assigned in the table of exports annexed to this report to silk manufactures, which have hitherto found a place among miscellaneous exports. The importance of this trade calls for such special attention being given to it, but the actual figures of the export, whether in handkerchiefs, "habutae," or other silk manufactures during last year fall considerably short of those for the year previous. Various causes are assigned for this—Excessive export in previous years, inferiority of the goods, and the uncertain position in the United States, which has been the chief customer of Japan for these goods.

TEA.

The tea export amounted to 26,315,528 lbs., valued at 441,082*l.*, being a decrease of over 3,000,000 lbs. in quantity, and of over 126,000*l.* sterling in value on that of 1895. Prices paid to producers were fully 15 per cent. less than in the

previous year, although the crop was superior, as also the make of the leaf. The producers appear to have come to realise that it is necessary to devote care to the preparation of the leaf if they desire that their teas retain favour. A large decrease has taken place in basket-fired teas. This is due to a rise in the price of this preparation in the United States.

During the opening months of the season business in the home markets was dull, but an impetus was given to it by the probability of an increased tariff in the United States, and a large and remunerative business was done, with results satisfactory to exporters.

The cost of the preparation of tea has largely increased in this country, owing to the rise in the price of labour, charcoal, and other elements in this cost. It would seem to follow from this—seeing that the price of tea has been decreasing—that the prime cost of the raw teas must be less. Statistics show that over 50 per cent. more tea is produced in the country than there was ten years ago. This, accompanied as it would appear to have been, generally, with a tendency towards the production of second-rate and cheap quality, may be sufficient to account for the decline in price.

COPPER.

The export of copper calls for little remark, being almost on a level with that of the previous year. The value is rather higher.

COTTON.

Cotton manufacturers have, like silk manufacturers, been assigned a separate place in the export table. A considerable increase appears under the heading of cotton yarn. The main destination of this export is China, but a portion of the export of cotton flannel and cotton crepe finds its way to India.

EXCHANGE AND CURRENCY.

Rates of exchange have shown less fluctuation during last year than at any time since the commencement of the rapid fall of silver as against gold. The bank demand drawing rate on London opened in January at 2*s.* 13*d.* The highest point reached was in March, when it touched 2*s.* 3*d.*; the lowest in September, when it reached 2*s.* 0*d.* The closing quotation of the year was 2*s.* 1*d.* The average for the year was nearly 2*s.* 2*d.*; for convenience in calculations in this report it has been taken at 2*s.* 2*d.* The fluctuations have thus been about 44 per cent. above and 33 per cent. below the mean; or just over a range of 8 per cent. in all. Owing to the cheapness of money in London during the first half of the year, and longer, the banks granted telegraphic transfers in sterling at their quotations for demand bills.

Money was plentiful with the foreign banks in the first part of the year, less so in the last three months. Amongst Japanese, money has been dear, some of the principal Japanese banks having for some time been offering 54 and 6 per cent. interest on 12 months' fixed deposits.

GOLD STANDARD.

Public attention has already been called to the fact of the passing of a Bill, during the last session of the Diet, for the introduction of a gold standard in Japan. The unit of value is to be a gold dollar of the value of slightly more than 2*s.* 0*d.* For a time the silver *yen* or dollar remains a legal tender side by side with the new gold coinage. Meantime the Mint is closed to the coinage of silver *yen*, and open to gold. The new coinage is to come into use from October 1 next. As a preparation, no doubt, for this change, movements have been for some time observable in the direction of the increase of the gold deposit in the Bank of Japan.

A principal object of the measure is probably to facilitate the financial operations of the Government in connection with the West. A result of it must be greatly to steady exchange as between Japan and other gold countries. An argument raised against the measure has been that it would do away with the advantage which Japan has reaped in the development of her manufactures, by the possession of a silver standard. No doubt such an advantage was very great while silver continued to fall in its relation to gold, and the silver prices of the necessities of life and of labour had not yet appreciably risen; but it can hardly be doubted that the effect of this fall has now exhausted itself; and, so, what Japan has already gained was to be gained by her from the fall of silver—whether as affecting the development of her manufactures, or in stimulating her export trade. What the further effects to her and to her foreign trade, may be of the adoption of a gold standard it would probably be premature to attempt to discuss.

SHIPPING.

Last year there entered this port 2,085 merchant

ships, of an aggregate of 2,757,335 tons, as against 1,658 vessels, of 1,953,081 tons in 1895, 2,031 vessels, of 2,002,248 tons, in 1894, and 2,159 vessels, of 2,063,932 tons, in 1893. It is necessary to go thus far back in time in order to institute a proper comparison with previous years, because from the year 1894 the ordinary course of entries became disturbed by the war between this country and China. Comparing the entries of last year with those of 1893, it appears that there has been a decrease during the former-named year as compared with the latter, of 74 vessels, but an increase of 693,404 tons in the tonnage. This shows that a larger class of vessels has now come to be employed in the trade of the port.

BRITISH SHIPPING.

To obtain a fair estimate of the relative increase of the shipping trade of the port under different years, it becomes necessary, in the same way, to go back to the year 1893. The number of British vessels which entered the port last year amounted to 435, of an aggregate of 894,681 tons. This is less than the number and tonnage in 1895, and the number is less than that in 1894; while the tonnage is somewhat greater than in that year. The relative decrease last year is to be accounted for by the fact that in 1894 and 1895 a considerable number of British steamers were employed on coast charters, to supply the places of the Japanese steamers which had been taken up by the Government to serve as transports during the war. The number and tonnage of British steamers entering the port in those years thus became abnormally high. On going back to the year 1893 it is found that there entered in that year 337 vessels, of 631,629 tons. The increase in last year's British shipping over that in 1893 thus amounts to 29 per cent. in the number, and nearly 42 per cent. in the tonnage.

JAPANESE SHIPPING.

Under the Japanese flag there entered last year 1,461 vessels, of a total tonnage of 1,541,245 tons. In 1893 the number of vessels was 1,677, and the tonnage 1,172,140 tons. The increase in size of the vessels flying the Japanese flag is very noticeable from these figures. A great expansion has been taking place of late in Japanese steam navigation to foreign countries, and further extensions are proposed. Only the lines taking their departure from this port are here enumerated.

A monthly service to London and Antwerp, calling at intermediate ports, was inaugurated last year by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Six new steamers, of 6,000 tons gross register, were ordered for this line in England. Three of these have now been put on the line, the others are under construction. A monthly service by the same company to Seattle, State of Washington, via Honolulu, was inaugurated in August last, to run in connection with the Great Northern Railroad. This service is to be extended to a fortnightly one, and steamers placed on the line. A monthly service to Australia also was commenced in October. On this service several large new steamers are to be employed. A four-weekly service is maintained by this company between Yokohama and Bombay; and the old established weekly service to Shanghai continues. A single steamer keeps up communication with Manila, via the China Coast and Formosa.

SUBSIDY TO NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Towards the end of the last session of the Diet, a Bill was introduced by the Government for the granting of a special subsidy to this company to enable it to carry out its extended programme. The session ended without the Bill having passed the Diet, and what the result will be on the proposed operations of the company is not yet apparent.

The Toyo Kaisha (Oriental Company) have contracted for three steamers to be used in the Pacific trade. They are to be 17 to 18-knot steamers of about 5,000 tons, and to have good passenger accommodation. The steamers will probably connect with Portland, Oregon, or with San Francisco, and the first is to be ready about the end of this year. Additions to the service will probably take place later.

During the year, three British vessels were sold and transferred at this port to the Japanese flag, for a total sum of 79,700*l.*

FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Under the German flag there entered last year 80 vessels, of 140,621 tons, as against 53 vessels, of 92,249 tons, in 1893.

Under the United States and French flags the entries and tonnage remain almost stationary. Last year, 18 entries, of 20,015 tons appear under the Norwegian flag, as against 32 entries of 22,463 tons, in 1895.

ANALYSIS OF BRITISH SHIPPING.

Under the British flag there entered, steamers from the United Kingdom, 133; from New York,

14; from Hamburg and Antwerp, 13; from San Francisco, 33; from Vancouver, 15; from Batoum, 9; from Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, 17; from Portland, Oregon, 14; and from other ports, mainly from Hongkong and the China and Japan coasts, 169; and, sailing vessels from the United Kingdom, 4; from New York, 8; from Victoria, B.C., 11 (sealers); from South America, 1; from Guam, 3; and from sealing cruise, 1.

FRIGHTS.

Silk freights to European ports by the regular mail steamship lines stood at 8 dol. during the year; to New York, by Pacific steamers and rail, at 4 and 3 c. per lb. gross. Tea freights to eastern cities of the United States and Canada, by Pacific steamers and rail, varied from 1 to 2, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$ c. throughout the year. To ports on the Pacific Coast of North America, the steamer rate was 8 dol. per ton; and, by Suez Canal route, to New York, the rate from January to April was 21. 15s. For general merchandise the rates to London were, by Peninsular and Oriental steamers, 11. 15s.; by Messageries Maritimes steamers, 21. 5s.; by Nord-Deutscher-Lloyd steamers, 21. 2s. 6d.; by Ocean Steamship Company's steamers, 11. 15s.; by Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamers, 11. 10s. 9d.; and by other Suez Canal steamers, from 11. 15s. to 21.

To New York, general freights, by Pacific steamers and rail, ranged from 11 to 16 dol. per ton measurement; by Suez Canal steamers the rate was 21. 5s. To San Francisco and Vancouver the rates were 10 and 11 dol. To Bombay, general freights, by Peninsular and Oriental and Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamers stood at 7 dol. 50 c.; for silk goods the rate by Peninsular and Oriental steamers was 20 dol.

HARBOUR WORKS AND DOCKS.

Active operations on the harbour works which, on account the money to complete the works not having been voted, had been suspended from July, 1894, were resumed in February, 1895; and, at the end of May of last year, the breakwater was completed.

The project for the construction of graving docks at this place, which has been alluded to in previous reports, has now taken shape, and the work of their construction is going on. The Dock Company propose to build four docks in all, but of these only two have been commenced. The one known as "No. 2 Dock" was begun in January, 1895, and has now been completed and opened for the reception of vessels. "No. 1 Dock" was commenced in July of last year, and will likely be finished in December, 1898.

The capital already subscribed by the company is 1,500,000 dol.

The dimensions of No. 2 dock are as follows:—Length on blocks 351 feet; outside caisson to top of dock 400 feet. Width of entrance at top 60 feet, at bottom 45 feet. Whole depth of dock, inside, 35 feet; on sill 31 feet. Depth of water on sill and blocks at springs 27 feet, at low water 19 feet 8 inches.

The dimensions of No. 1 dock are to be as follows:—Length on blocks 478 feet; outside caisson to top of dock 518 feet. Width of entrance at top 93 feet; at bottom 75 feet. Whole depth of dock, inside, 38 feet; on sill 34 feet. Depth of water on sill and blocks, 30 feet at springs, at low water 22 feet 7 inches.

ENGINEERING WORKSHOPS.

The same company has purchased the engineering works here hitherto owned by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. The machinery of these works will be transferred to the vicinity of the new docks; and it is intended, in time, to have workshops in connection with the docks fully equipped with all appliances necessary for the repair of marine machinery and ships.

URAGA DOCKS.

There are also being constructed by private enterprise, at the Port of Uraga, near the entrance to the Bay of Tokyo, two docks—the first of which is being built by the Ishikawajima Dock Company, of Tokyo, and is to be of the following dimensions:—Length on blocks, 410 feet; outside caisson to top of dock, 435 feet. Width of entrance at top 66 feet, at bottom 54 feet; width inside 85 feet. Depth on sill at high-water springs, 26 feet; mean depth on sill 23 feet, when dredging is completed. This dock was commenced in March, 1896, and is expected to be completed in March, 1898, at a cost of 500,000 dol. Workshops at a cost of 300,000 dol. are to be erected in connection with this dock also, and are to be furnished with all the requisite appliances. The second dock is being built by a new company, and is to be of dimensions similar to those of the first. The subscribed capital is 1,000,000 dol. This dock was commenced in April, 1896, and is to be finished about April, 1898.

POPULATION.

The Japanese population of the town of Yokohama, on December 31, amounted, to 179,484 persons; and of the town of Kanagawa to 17,125, or 196,609 persons in all, an increase of 9,409 persons in all, an increase of 9,409 persons during the year 1896.

The foreign population of Yokohama, exclusive of Chinese, amounted, on the same date, to 1,827 persons, of whom 868 were British. This shows an increase during the 12 months of 82 persons in the general foreign population, and of 62 in the British by itself.

The Chinese population is returned at 2,298, which is still more than 1,000 less than the number before the war.

RAILWAYS.

The Report for 1896 of the Railway Bureau is not yet procurable; but, according to that for 1895, there were, at the end of that year, in the whole of the Empire 2,290 miles of railway open to traffic, and 1,368 miles under construction. During the same year the passenger traffic on the State railways showed an increase of 26 per cent., and the goods traffic an increase of 88 per cent.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")
THE AFRIDI WAR.

London, Sept. 17.

The defence of Fort Gulistan, on the Afghan frontier, before that place was relieved by General Biggs, was a most heroic affair lasting thirty hours, the ladies in the fort tending the wounded under a continuous fire.

The Afridis who attacked all the British posts on the Samana range in great force kept up the fight for three days, during which the British lost thirty killed and fifty-nine wounded.

One of General Blood's brigades, after entering the Mohmand country, was attacked at night by a force of Mohmands armed with Martini-Henry rifles, who kept up the firing for several hours. In this affair Lieutenants Tomkins and Bailey, of the Indian Army, were killed, and there were eight other casualties.

London, Sept. 20.

Colonel Jeffreys, with the Second Brigade, attacked the Mohmands on Thursday last, but after severe fighting was forced to retire to camp, with the loss of nine officers and 129 men killed and wounded.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

London, Sept. 17.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Bank of England, the Governor of the Bank said that he had written in July last to Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, saying that the Bank was prepared to carry out what was permissible under the charter, namely, to hold one-fifth of the Bank's reserve in silver, provided always that the French Mint resumes the free coinage of silver and prices whereat silver is procurable and saleable are satisfactory. The Governor further added that the Bank had had no communication with the American Commissioners at present in England endeavouring to arrange a bimetallic conference, nor had the Bank purchased any silver.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

The treaty of peace between Turkey and Greece, which has finally been initialled, provides that the evacuation of Thessaly shall take place one month after the financial control of the Greek revenues assigned for the payment of the indemnity shall have been established.

London, Sept. 20.

The treaty of peace between Turkey and Greece has been signed at Pera.

THE CHINESE RAILWAY LOAN.

The contract for the Chinese Railway Loan with the Hooley-Jameson Syndicate has been signed, the issue price being ninety-four. The syndicate advances two millions for the Shanghai-Nanking line, and engages to advance three millions at a future date for the extension through Honan.

THE INDEPENDENCE OF CUBA.

London, Sept. 21.

General Stewart Woodford, the new American Minister to the Court of Spain, has had a long interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Madrid, when it is understood that General Woodford informed him, courteously but firmly, that if the war in Cuba was not finished by the end of October next, the United States Government would consider itself justified in taking such measures as would secure the independence of Cuba.

ATTACK ON THE MEXICAN PRESIDENT.

Mr. Murota, our Minister Resident to Mexico, has sent the following telegram to the Foreign Office:—

City of Mexico, Sept. 16.

The President went to Alameda to-day in order to attend the celebration of Independence Day, to be held there. Upon arriving at that place he was struck in the back by a man in the crowd, but received no injury. The man was put under arrest at once. The people gave cheers for President Diaz.

A LEAGUE OF THE POWERS.

London, Sept. 22.

The *Daily News'* correspondent at Rome says that an understanding exists between Russia, Germany, France, and Austria in regard to the Levant, in view of an eventual division of spoils, and that efforts are being made to induce Italy to join the league.

(FROM L'INDO-CHINE FRANCAISE.)

STRENGTHENING THE FRENCH NAVY.

Paris, Sept. 3.

The Admiralty has decided to construct several large cruisers capable of steaming 21 knots per hour.

ANOTHER ANARCHIST OUTRAGE.

Paris, Sept. 4.

In Barcelona, an anarchist named Sampan, 27 years of age, fired several revolver shots, about midnight, at the Chief of the Police as he was leaving the Théâtre Puyas. The Chief was seriously wounded in the breast. The anarchist was arrested.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

ANOTHER CRUISER FOR THE CHINA STATION.

Hongkong, Sept. 11.

The first-class British cruiser *Endymion* has been ordered to join the China Squadron.

ENGINEERS STRIKE AT SINGAPORE.

The Straits engineers struck work, demanding increase of pay, and the steamers were laid up for two days, when the owners came to terms. The crisis is now over.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PRESS.)

THE KOREAN DRILL QUESTION.

Seoul, Sept. 23.

The Minister of War has withdrawn the order announcing the stoppage of the selection of some Korean soldiers from the Body-guard, for drill by Russian instructors, and has issued another order to select two hundred soldiers, which are intended to form two companies of the King's Body-guard, but the order has not yet been acted upon.

THE KOREAN MINISTRY.

Seoul, Sept. 23.

There are signs indicating radical changes among the Ministers of State shortly.

CHESS.

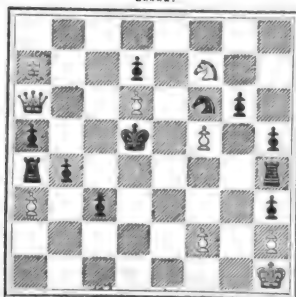
All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club reopens on Monday, 4th October.
The Tokyo Chess Club reopens on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem No. 337:—

WHITE.
1—Kt to K B 4
2—Q to K 4, ch
3—Kt takes P, mate
BLACK.
1—Kt takes Kt
2—K to Kt 4
1—P to K 7
2—K takes Kt (Q 3)
if 2—K takes Kt (B 5)
1—K to Q 5 [B 5]
2—Kt takes P, or—
if 2—Any other
1—Moves B
2—K takes Kt
if 2—K to B 3
3—Kt to K 8, mate
Correct solutions received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., and D.D.

PROBLEM No. 339.
By NEMO.



White to play and mate in three moves.

OVER THE CHESS BOARD.

The programme of the Berlin Chess Congress has come to hand at last. The International Masters' Tournament began on September 13, first prize £100, &c. There was also to be a minor tournament, with prizes of £20, £12, &c., in which English amateurs who are not masters might compete. We have every reason to believe that England was well represented, Messrs. Blackburne and Burn having signified their intention in August of competing, and Messrs. Mason, Lee, and Bird were also desirous of being in the fray.

The match Bird v. Lee has been finished. Lee, by winning the thirteenth game, won the match with a score of 7 to 4, and 2 drawn games.

Owing to some misunderstanding between the contending parties, no game for the possession of the *Staats Zeitung's* cup was played as arranged between Steinitz and Lipschutz, the representative of the Staten Island and Manhattan chess clubs, respectively. The Manhattans claim the cup on a technicality, and the matter cannot be settled until the board of managers of the New York State Association meets. It is generally understood, however, that the board, when it does meet, which may not be until late this month, will settle this most unfortunate dispute and order a new schedule of dates, on the basis that the best score in three games will secure the cup. Relative to the Manhattans claiming the cup, Mr. Steinitz said that he did not understand on what ground the club did so, when he was quite prepared to play with Lipschutz under protest, in case they insisted upon it. This they did not do. Furthermore, Lipschutz never sat down to a board; did not start the game, nor set his clock in motion when he (Steinitz), failed to appear to play the game in question, and consequently had no legal right to claim a win. The veteran player further stated that so far as he was personally concerned he was ready to waive all claims in order to reach a satisfactory result; provided, that a speedy arrangement is brought about and that the games are played off at the rate of two a week.

The *Wochensach* is authority for the information that there are 9 Chess Clubs in Prussia, 581 in the British Empire, 206 in Germany, 111 in the United States, and 30 in Austria.

STEINITZ AND NAPIER.

Comments by *Reichelm* in *The Times*, Philadelphia.
"For the *Staats Zeitung* Cup 'twixen Steinitz, the grand old man, and Napier, the wonder-boy:"

GAME No. 339
White—Steinitz.
1 P Q 4 P Q 4
2 P Q B 3 P K 3
3 Q Kt B 3 K Kt B 3
4 Kt B 3 B K 2
9 P K R 3 B x P
10 P x B P K 4
11 Kt x K P Kt x Kt
12 B K 2 Q K 2
13 Q Q 4 K Kt K 2
18 P K 4 Kt B 5
19 Q Q 4 Kt K 3
22 Q x Q P x Q
23 Kt K 5 R Q 1
24 Kt B 7 R K 1
25 Kt x P R R 1
26 K x P ch K K 2
27 Kt R 5 ch K B 1
Black—Napier.
5 B B 4 Castles
6 P B 5 P B 3
7 P K 3 Q Kt Q 2
8 B Q 3 R K s q
14 Castles Q x P [3]
15 Q Q 2 Kt (K 4)—Kt
16 B K 3 Kt (Q 2) K
17 Q R Bt Q K 2 [4]
20 P x P P x P
21 K R Kt Q B 3
28 B B 3 Kt Q 4
29 B x Kt K x B
30 Kt B 6 R K 4
31 B checks K Kt 2
32 Kt K 8 ch and wins.
"A trap into which the G.O.M. immediately falls."
"Approaching deep water. Kt to B 5 is simpler."
"Missing his last chance for safety. B to K 3."
The following game was played in the late Women's International Tournament:—
GAME No. 340
White—Miss Rudger.
1 P K 4 P K 4
2 K Kt B 3 Q Kt B 3
3 B B 4 B B 4
7 Q Kt Q 2 K x B
8 K x Kt B K 3
9 Q Kt Q 2 P Q B 3
10 Q K 2 Kt B 3
11 Q Kt K R Q K 3
12 P Q Kt 3 Ch. Q R
13 K R 1 P K R 4
14 Kt K 5 Q R K 1
15 Kt B 7 R x Kt
16 Q R Kt Q B 2
17 Kt B 3 P Q 4
18 Kt K 5 R K 2
19 P x P K x P
20 Q B 3 P B 3
21 Q R 3 ch Q Q 2
22 Q Q ch R Q 2
23 Kt K 4 Kt Kt 5
24 R B 2 R x P
Black's last two moves are inferior. She should now play Kt to B 2.
Hallucination. After this Miss Rudger easily wins.
We hardly know what to say about the play of the two ladies, except this, that they both appear to have the talent for becoming good exponents of the modern school of play. Mr. Steinitz himself could not say more.—Notes by *Reichelm*, in *The Times*, Philadelphia.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNAMENT.
The following moves have been received:—

Game	Move.	White.	M. ve.	Black.
3	25	P-K5	25	R x Kt
4	14	Kt (B3)-Kt5	14	Kt-B3
8	17	P-QB3	17	Q-K4
10	12	R x Kt	11	R x P

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	Axtec 1	Tu. Sept. 28
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 1	M. Sept. 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Belgic 3	Th. Sept. 30
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 4	Su. Oct. 10
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Sept. 29
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Sa. Oct. 2
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Oct. 7
Europe	M. M. Co.	—	W. Oct. 6

- 1 Left San Francisco on the 12th inst.
 - 2 Left Vancouver on the 13th inst.
 - 3 Left Hongkong on the 21st inst.
 - 4 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 22nd inst.
- The English mail is on board the steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, which left Hongkong on the 20th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of China	M. Sept. 27
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Oct. 1
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Fri. Oct. 8
America	O. & O. Co.	Belgic	Sa. Oct. 3
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Sydney	Su. Oct. 3
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Clymphia	Sa. Oct. 9
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Su. Oct. 10
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	Tu. Sept. 28

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 17th Sept.—Hongkong via ports, 7th Sept., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Dardanus, British steamer, 2,507, Gregory, 18th Sept.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 17th Sept., General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, A. W. S. Thomson, 19th Sept.—London via ports, and Kobe 18th Sept., General.—Comes & Co.
Cowrie, British steamer, 3,155, S. Parsons, 19th Sept.—Batonn via ports, and Kobe 18th Sept., Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Anberts, 19th Sept.—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 18th Sept., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 20th Sept.—San Francisco 2nd Sept., and Honolulu 9th Sept., Mails and General.—O & O. S.S. Co.
China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 21st Sept.—Hongkong via ports, 11th Sept., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Archer (6), British cruiser, 1,770, Com. C. E. Kingsmill, 22nd Sept.—North Coast.
Handy (6), British torpedo-boat-destroyer, 260, Lieut. Com. A. Gillespie, 23rd Sept.—North Coast.
Hart (6), British torpedo-boat-destroyer, 260, Lieut. Com. H. F. Shakespear, 23rd Sept.—North Coast.
Grafton (12), British cruiser, 7,350, Capt. E. P. Jones, 23rd Sept.—Mororan, 21st Sept.
Rainbow (8), British cruiser, 3,600, Capt. V. A. Tisdall, 24th Sept.—Hakodate, 22nd Sept.
Alacrity (4), British despatch boat, Com. De Lisle, 22nd Sept.—Hakodate.
Columbia, British steamer, 2,608, Hill, 24th Sept.—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 5th Sept., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Linnet (2), British gunboat, 756, Captain R. C. Sparks, 24th Sept.—Hakodate.
Narcissus (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Captain W. C. C. Forsyth, 24th Sept.—Hakodate.
Redpole (6), British gunboat, 805, Lieut.-Com. E. H. Garton, 24th Sept.—Hakodate.
Pique (8), British cruiser, 3,600, Capt. A. C. Coity, 24th Sept.—Hakodate.
MacMillan, British ship, 1,450, R. Guthrie, 24th Sept.—Middlesbrough, 29th Aug., Pig Iron and Coke.—Sale & Co.
Saint Jerome, British steamer, 1,844, R. F. Reid, 25th Sept.—Cardiff via Nagasaki and Muji, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Donar, German steamer, 1,201, B. Grundman, 18th September,—Kobe, Ballast.—Langfeldt & Co.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 19th Sept.—Tacoma, Wash. and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Arcona (18), German cruiser, 3,200, Capt. Becker, 19th Sept.—Kobe.
Farra, French steamer, 2,084, Le Coispeillier, 19th Sept.—Shanghai and Kobe, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Hertha, German steamer, 2,199, Jaeger, 19th Sept.—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, R.N.R., 21st Sept.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O & O. S.S. Co.
Glenfarg, British steamer, 2,350, F. Selby, 21st Sept.—Tacoma, Wash., via Kuchino, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 23rd Sept.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Ravenna, British steamer, 1,915, C. T. Denny, 23rd Sept.—Hongkong via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Rurik, Russian cruiser, 10,900, Capt. Rowonoff, 23rd September.—Vladivostok.
Archer (6), British cruiser, 1,770, Com. C. E. Kingsmill, 24th Sept.—Nagasaki.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. A. E. Burns, in cabin; 114 in steerage.
Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Randall, Mrs. Chas. McCreary, Miss Martha Aldrich, Mr. Paravicini, Miss Mabel Chess, Mr. Paul Jordan, Miss M. C. Clark, Mr. Uboldi, Miss Etta Birdall, Mr. O. D. Richardson, Mr. Chas. N. Niblett, Mr. Theophil Wyss, Mr. Bruno Mencke, Miss Willma

Ross, Miss Irene Fuller, Miss Grace H. Webb, Miss Harriet Miller, Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Jackson, Mr. W. H. Hamilton, Miss Margaret Scott, Miss Georgiana Baucus, Miss Emma E. Dickinson, and Mr. Kobayashi and child, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. Wm. H. Gill, and Miss E. Wainwright, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Dr. R. I. Bowie, and Miss Anna K. Stuyker, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Hunter, Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Price and child, Mr. D. Nesbitt, Dr. & Mrs. O. T. Logan, and Rev. J. B. Thompson, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Taylor and 3 children, Miss Isabel Griffin, Miss Jane Hall, and Rev. Hugh Taylor, Sr., in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai and Kobe:—Miss Pycroft, Mrs. Smithers, Mrs. A. Hansell, infant and amah, Mr. Geo. W. Twiss, Mr. Braess, Mr. W. Styles, Mr. B. A. Hale, Mr. Kerr, Mr. E. L. Palmer, Pere Hende, Mr. F. Domball, Mr. E. J. Collins, Mr. Dussand, Mr. V. L. Savage, Mr. S. Janssey, Mr. E. Wagner, Mr. W. Edelmaier, Mr. J. L. Esdale, Mr. Rannier, Mrs. M. Berry, Mr. H. Jessopp, Mr. A. H. Cheke, Mr. M. Samuel, Mr. S. Fioravanti, Mr. den Arend, Mr. Notter, Mr. Maisan, and Mr. Le Brigner, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mrs. Masaki Oota, Mrs. Okito, Mr. Ota, Mr. Kelly Raeburn, Mr. Tsubuki, Mr. Sing Chang, Mr. Opedelin, Mr. Aikawa, Mr. Okura, Mr. Colonin, Miss Benne Heuve, Mr. Eleman, Mr. Mizutani, Mr. and Mrs. Servia and 3 children, Mr. Mikkers, Mr. Futaki, Mr. Shimizu, Mr. Sgras, Mr. B. Harlay, and Mr. Cousin, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C.:—Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Leigh Hunt, Mrs. J. H. Rogers, Jr., Messrs. A. J. Corlea, R. G. Davidson, Jos. Ennis, H. Lea, R. Noel, W. H. Ponath, Jno. Rehtold, A. B. Townsend, and Y. Vezoye, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Henry Ryder, Mrs. I. W. Dudgeon, Mrs. C. Kerr, Mr. L. C. Do Rosario, Mrs. S. Milton, Consul-General and Mrs. S. Schumacher, Mrs. M. C. Brooks, Mrs. Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Gardner and 2 children, Miss Youngson, Messrs. J. W. Ord, T. Chisholm, James McWilliams, J. R. Barrington, C. Pietroni, J. B. Maxwell, A. W. Schumacher, W. Ferguson, Henry Riggs, F. G. Riggs, S. L. Moore, Webb Vincent, H. E. Pollock, A. J. Holbrook, Miss M. Aldrich, and Rev. H. Loomis and daughter, in cabin.

Per Hawaiian steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—H.E. Vice-Admiral E. I. Alexieff, I.R.N., Lieut. N. Bakmeteff, I.R.N., Lieut. H. H. Barrell, U.S.N., Mr. A. H. Butler, Mr. & Mrs. I. V. Brokaw, Mr. H. C. Brokaw, Mr. G. T. Brokaw, Mr. A. E. Cramer, Mrs. J. J. Cunningham, Mr. Frank Deardorf, Mr. W. B. Dunning, two children and maid, Mr. S. Fujita, Rev. W. L. Guthens, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Mr. C. S. Hamilton, Hon. and Mrs. Wm. E. Hunt, Mr. J. Allen Hunt, Miss S. Hunt, Mrs. Hutton, Mr. Jos. Hellemans, Mr. J. H. Inouye, Mr. John W. Lovell, Prof. K. Mitukuri, Mr. Victor Marsh, Capt. M. Molas, I.R.N., Mrs. J. Ray, Mrs. J. K. Robison, Mr. R. Shimidzu, Mr. S. Sugiyama, Miss E. Stone, Mrs. Stickney, Mrs. F. H. Sherman and daughter, Mr. S. Shikata, Mrs. Jos. Stern and two children, Mr. Henry J. Tilley, Mr. Alfred Wohler, Mr. and Mrs. S. Werschagin, and Mr. Cant Yen, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Smith, Mr. L. Hunter, Dr. T. J. Edwards, Mr. H. T. Edwards, Mr. Steven's Indian man servant, Mr. R. H. Woolfall, Mr. T. B. Pocklington, and Mrs. Elton, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe 862 bales; Waste Silk for Europe 6 bales.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:—

	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	683	55	319
Hongkong	1,810	990	476	3,276
Yokohama	813	4,318	2,581	8,107
Foochow	4,490	710	—	5,200
Colombo	—	—	—	58
Calcutta	—	—	—	71
Total	7,113	6,643	3,111	17,783

	SILK.	NEW YORK	SAN FRANCISCO	TOTAL
Shanghai	145	—	—	145
Hongkong	30	—	—	30
Yokohama	686	—	—	686
Total	861	—	—	861

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The import market so far as regards cotton piece goods, fancies and woollens, is still utterly stagnant, scarcely a single transaction having been recorded, prices being nominally the same. In yarns a little better feeling is to be noted, but dealers appear disinclined to commit themselves to any future business and only buy what may be required for immediate demands, and this only at generally lower quotations.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—48 yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
P. Cloth—7 yds, 21 yards, 32 inches	1.50 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—52 yards, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Salteens Black, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32
Medium	0.25 to 0.27
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27
Common	0.15 to 0.22
Monsieur de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scotch and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$3.00 to 4.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Singles	4.00 to 4.50
Nos. 36 to 42, Singles	4.50 to 4.80
Nos. 48, Doubles	4.50 to 4.80
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 51.50
Nos. 36, Plain	61.00 to 61.00
Nos. 28, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 24, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 20, Gassed	73.00 to 79.00
Nos. 28, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 24, Gassed	110.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$28 to 29
Indian Broach	24 to 25
Chinese	25 to 26

METALS.

Very little doing; dealers are waiting for a fall in home quotations and will only buy for immediate requirements.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.10 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 1/2 to 1 3/4 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

KEROSENE.

The market firmer, with prices rising; not much business has been done, but another week or two should see a change for the better.

	PER POUND.
American	\$2.00 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.10
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

A good business has been done in Brown. Arrivals of Manila amount to about 5,900 piculs, and of China about 3,842 piculs, while sales of Manila amount to 50,000 piculs and of China 11,700 piculs. Prices are from 5 to 20 cents higher, a report that Spain is about to impose an export duty on sugar from Manila having had something to do with the rise. Of Formosa some 2,500 piculs have been sold at an advance of 15 cents. White refined is unchanged and a fair business has been done.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$3.90 to 4.00
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.80
Brown Daitong	3.30 to 3.35
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The excitement in the market noted last week has to a great extent subsided, but nevertheless a considerable business was done in the early part of the week, both for America and Europe, at gradually advancing rates. The stock of Shinshu Filatures has for the moment been cleared out, but fresh arrivals are anticipated. Stocks of all kinds amounted on the 21st to 5,500 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Katra 9/15, 10/12 den.	\$900 to 920
Filatures—Katra 13/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 21, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/30 deniers	—
Kakadas—Extra	840 to 850
Kakadas—No. 1	820 to 830
Kakadas—No. 14	790 to 800
Kakadas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakadas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

A fair business has been transacted owing to better news from home markets. Dealers are firm and ask for higher prices. Settlements from the 11th to the 21st were 425 piculs, and the total stock at the latter date was estimated at 7,600 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 67 1/2
Noshi—Bushu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 57 1/2
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 22 1/2

TEA.

A small business only has been done and the market is quiet. Stocks are still large but most of it is of too poor a quality for the American market. Quotations remain unaltered. The *Victoria*, sailing on the 19th, took 541,060 lbs. for the States and Canada.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$31 to 33
Finest	30 to 32
Fine	29 to 30
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Silver easier and quotations on China advanced with the decline in sterling rates there, other rates all unchanged.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
— Bill on demand	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
— 4 months' sight	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
— Private 4 months' sight	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
— 6 months' sight	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
On Paris—Bank sight	2.53 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.57 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	7 1/2 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	9 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	80
— Private 10 days' sight	82
On India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	156
On America—Bank Bills on demand	48 1/2 to 49
— Private 4 months' sight	50 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.05 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.09
Bat Silver (London)	26 1/2

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bisset & Ure's List.]

Yokohama, September 24th.	
Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50	800 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100	420 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100	320 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100	120 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Yokohama), \$100	440 S.
North and Sea, Ltd., \$100	185 S.
Brett & Co., Ltd., \$100	8 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100	225 S.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd., \$100	185 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb., \$100	100 N.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100	110 S.
Yokohama United Club Deb., \$100	100 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100	104 S.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo, September 24th.


Five per Cent. Capitalized Fushion Bonds	94 90
Redemption Loan Bonds	96 85
War Loan Bonds	97 90

New Public Loan Bonds.....	97.50
Old Public Loan Bonds.....	95.00
Naval Loan Bonds.....	98.30
Tokyo City Loan Bonds.....	99.50
Japan Railway Company—paid up.....	97.50
Sango Railway Company—paid up.....	90.00
Kyomo Railway Company—paid up.....	88.00
Kansai Railway Company—paid up.....	59.50
Kobe Railway Company—paid up.....	115.00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up.....	59.00
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up.....	35.00
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up.....	9.50
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up.....	56.00
Sango Railway Company—paid up.....	87.00
Kawagoe Railway Company—paid up.....	51.50
Chikuo Railway Company—paid up.....	72.00
Hantan Railway Company—paid up.....	40.00
Boso Railway Company—paid up.....	43.00
Sobu Railway Company—paid up.....	103.00
Narita Railway Company—paid up.....	77.00
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up.....	60.00
Toyokawa Railway Company—paid up.....	30.00
Hokuryetsu Railway Company—paid up.....	31.00
Ota Railway Company—paid up.....	30.00
Seiwa Railway Company—paid up.....	1.00
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up.....	7.50
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up.....	15.70
Kozuke Railway Company—paid up.....	30.00
Nanso Railway Company—paid up.....	35.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up.....	58.50
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up.....	30.00
Domestic Transport Company—paid up.....	50.00
Japan Transport Company—paid up.....	5.50
Specie Bank—paid up.....	193.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up.....	83.00
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up.....	27.70
Kanegatschi Cotton Spinning Co., paid up.....	34.00
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up.....	58.00
Miyu Cotton Spinning Company—paid up.....	50.00
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up.....	38.00
Japan Weaving Company—paid up.....	18.00
Tokyo Tramway Company—paid up.....	810.00
Japan Beer Company—paid up.....	70.00

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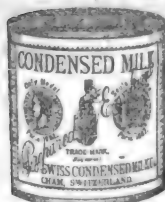
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7ins.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 14.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCT. 2ND, 1897.

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可配者信通日三十

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same, and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 2ND, 1897.

DEATHS.

At Negishi on the evening of Sept. 26th, ALFRED, infant son of Mr. C. BRETSCHNEIDER, aged one year.
On the 13th Sept., at 108, Orchard Road, Singapore, the Wife of Dr. DR. STURLER, of a Daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 27th ultimo at Christ Church by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., in the presence of Geo. H. Scidmore, Esq., Deputy-Consul-General of the United States, ISABELL BURSON, daughter of the late James Nelson Burson, Merchant, of San Francisco, to HORACE FRANK ARTHUR, of Yokohama.

On the 23rd September, by special license, HARRY SAMUEL BICKERTON-BRINDLEY, of Awoicho, Tokyo, to ADA BAGSHAW, of Leeds.—By cable.

On the 14th Sept., at the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, Singapore, by the Very Revd. C. Masey, V.G., JOHN EASTMAN, Master Mariner, R.N.W., of Appleford, Devon, England, to PHELOE, widow of the late Norman Maher Symons, of Pahang Civil Service.

DEATHS.

At 72-B Bluff, Yokohama, on the night of the 28th ultimo, in the 51st year of his age, JOHN SAMUEL ROBINSON, a native of Shrewsbury, England, Out-side Supt.-Engineer, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

On the 19th September, at Naoda, Island of Hainan, of dysentery and chronic gastric catarrh, Rev. JOHN C. MELROSE, of the American Presbyterian Mission, in the seventh year of his service and thirty-eighth year of age.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE new gold currency came into force on Friday.

THE yacht-racing season in Yokohama closes to-day.

STORMS and floods have played sad havoc during the past week in many parts of Japan.

DYSENTERY is still rife in Yamaguchi Prefecture. Over 7,000 cases have occurred and 2,000 deaths.

MR. AKIYAMA, a Councillor of the Foreign Office, who attempted suicide a few days ago, is recovering.

THE British authorities are grappling firmly with the Afghan frontier rising and the Mad Mullah's forces are demoralised.

GREAT BRITAIN objects to Japan and Russia appearing at the Behring Sea Conference at Washington, urging that they have no *status quo*.

H.M. the Emperor gave his sanction to the promulgation of the amendment for Naval Uniforms and Naval Inspection regulations on the 16th inst.

OWING to the heavy rain of Thursday morning the Totsuka railway tunnel on the Tokaido line caved in. A luggage train was derailed in consequence.

DURING the severe rain storm on Thursday four houses standing under the cliff at Jizōzaka, Yokohama, were crushed in and one poor woman was killed.

OWING to the great rise in the price of *saké*, big imports of *samsu* are taking place at Yokohama, the business being in the hands of Chinese merchants.

SURGEON-GENERAL BARON ISHIGURO, who sent in his resignation a few days ago, has been released from his post and Surgeon-General Ishizaka is appointed in his stead.

THE telegraph wires leading south to Kobe and beyond have been thrown out of work in order by the gales, but it was possible to get a telegram through to Kobe late on Friday.

MR. HAYAKAWA, Director of the London branch of the Bank of Japan, who has been in London for a long time, is expected at Yokohama about the 8th of October, having left Marseilles on the 18th inst.

THE catch of herrings in the waters of the Hokkaido this year amounted to 1,006,000 *koku*, showing an increase of about 100,000 *koku* on last year's production, the Province of Oshima being the centre of the fishing.

MR. MAYEDA MASANA, one of the chief business men in Japan, who went to America and Europe for the inspection of Western markets, left Marseilles on the 26th inst. for Japan; so he may be expected early in November.

THE steamer *Tonegawa Maru*, constructed at the Osaka Iron Works to order of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, was launched on the 24th inst. The vessel is said to be able to carry 500 passengers, her gross tonnage being 635 tons; she is to be placed on the China line.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL NOGI issued an order imposing a tax on camphor oil, which was to

come into force from the 1st of September. But the communication not being general some merchants were without knowledge of the order and have petitioned the authorities to postpone its operation.

FIGURED *kaihi*, which was once exported largely to the United States, but stopped on account of rough manufacture, has again come into vogue and many orders have been received in Japan since September last year. Home manufacturers are now busily engaged in the export of the goods.

ACCORDING to statistics made by the Treasury, the exports and imports by foreign and Japanese merchants during the month of August were as follow:—By Japanese merchants—Exports, yen 3,968,194, and imports, yen 10,454,090. By foreign merchants—Exports, yen 10,361,027 and imports, yen 11,978,244.

THE Japanese battle-ship *Fuji*, which was to leave Colombo on the 1st of October for home, is expected to arrive at Yokosuka about the 20th of October, after calling at Singapore and Hongkong. The new battle ship *Yashima*, which is now in the Mediterranean, is expected to arrive in Japan about the 20th of November next.

THE departure of Vice Admiral Baron Ito, chief of the Naval Command Bureau, for Formosa, is accounted for by the fact that, though many military officers have gone to Formosa for inspection tours, very few officers in the Navy know anything about the real condition of the Island; hence his departure.

THE disturbances in Formosa seem to be far from suppressed. Intelligence under date of the 16th Sept. reports that three companies under the command of Major Ishi met about six hundred insurgents on the 11th and after some firing, dispersed the rebels, while another company under the command of Lieutenant Kitaoka shot 19 rioters with a loss of three wounded on the Japanese side.

THE Import market generally during the past week has been dull and stagnant. Heavy rains and storms in various parts of the country, resulting in interruptions of railway traffic on various lines, and also of telegraphic communication, have seriously militated against business, just when some improvement in trade might have been anticipated. Some business, it is true, has been done in yarns, but in cotton piece goods, fancies and woollens, next to nothing. The same may be said regarding metals, the stock of which is increasing—particularly of pig iron—but dealers still hold back for a fall in prices. Some transactions have been effected in kerosene, at hardening prices, and the tone of the market has improved. In sugar, the stocks of brown, of various sorts, is decreasing, owing to next to no new arrivals, while a fair amount of sales have been effected at slightly advanced prices. In white refined a steady moderate business has been done. The export market has been fairly brisk. A good business has been transacted in silk, for the American market, at rising prices. Holders of fine-sized filatures are standing out for still higher rates, and will probably get them eventually. The waste silk market has also been active and some considerable transactions have taken place at higher quotations. The business in tea is gradually decreasing but is still steady and satisfactory to dealers, who anticipate clearing the whole of the season's production before the close of the year, instead of, as usual, having a million pounds or so left over. In rice export nothing is doing and prices are abnormally high. Exchange remains weak.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* devotes no less than six long articles to the discussion of administrative reform. The interest of its observations would be heightened if we knew exactly what section of the political world it represents. But Mr. Shimada Saburo, the editor and proprietor of the *Mainichi*, though nominally one of the leaders of the Progressionists (*Shimpo-tō*), that is to say, of the party that supports the Okuma Cabinet, is understood to be the head of a semi-independent section of the party, a kind of *imperium in imperis*. It can not be assumed therefore, that the views put forward in the columns of the *Mainichi* are the views of the majority of the Progressionists, but it may be assumed that their resolute advocacy by the section of which Mr. Shimada is the able mouth-piece would greatly influence the attitude of the whole party, or, if confined to that section, might involve a fatal disruption of the *Shimpo-tō's* organization. We do not for an instant contemplate subjecting our readers' patience to the trial of following the *Mainichi's* arguments through half a dozen columns, but will confine ourselves to indicating the broad outlines of its contention. It will be remembered that, a few days ago, the Committee nominated last year for conducting investigations preliminary to administrative reform, was completely reconstructed, several of its original members being removed and their places given to new men—the men chosen, within the past twelve months, from the ranks of the *Shimpo-tō* and appointed to the posts of *Choku-nin* Councillors of Department, Heads of Bureaux, and so forth. It will also be remembered that a remarkable feature of the Committee's reconstruction was the extrusion of all members representing the Departments of the Army and of the Navy; from which extrusion the public, with evident justice, inferred that whatever reforms were contemplated, their scope was to be limited to the civil sections of the Administration, and was not to be carried into the sphere of the Army or the Navy. Finally, we may add to this retrospect the fact that Count Okuma, in an interview published by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* during the past week, ridiculed the idea that the Government was about to undertake reforms of such a drastic character as to astonish the nation, and declared his inability to understand what people meant when they talked of "radical reform" (*Kōron teki Kaikaku*). That much premised, our readers will be better able to appreciate the fact that the whole series of editorials to which the *Mainichi* has devoted its columns for six consecutive days, are intended to advocate "radical reform." What, then, does our contemporary mean by "radical reform," which Count Okuma, President of the Administrative Reform Committee, has described as incomprehensible therefore, presumably, impracticable? It means, briefly, speaking, that the programme of post-bellum measures should be recast in the sense of bringing into equilibrium the schemes for the increase of the Army and Navy. The *Mainichi* holds that the schemes, as originally mapped out by the Ito Cabinet and tamely endorsed by the Matsukata Cabinet, never stood to each other in a proper ratio; that they were dictated by a feverish military impulse comparable with that which precipitated the Crimean war, and that the effort of carrying them out in their integrity is embarrassing the national finance without conferring any proportional national advantage. Against naval increase as projected in the programme, our contemporary has nothing to say. But it considers that the country has no need of an army of over half a million men, and it insists that unless capacity to utilize such an army be developed *pari passu* with its growth the force must prove a comparatively worthless and very costly superfluity. Following the policy advocated in Great Britain's case by Sir Charles Dilke, the *Mainichi* urges that the ratio of naval to military increment should be as 7 to 3, and that, in order to make good the genuinely defensive character of the scheme, greater

attention should be paid, and larger sums devoted, to coast defence and naval stations, the army being relegated to the rank of an auxiliary. This part of the subject is discussed at great length, but the arguments may be reduced to the following points:—first, that in a small insular country like Japan, an army of over half a million men can have no logical *raison d'être* except for offensive purposes; secondly, that to employ a large military force effectively beyond the sea, there must be not only an ample supply of transports, or vessels available for transport purposes, but also good means of internal communication; and thirdly, that over-sea enterprise is out of the question unless the security of the country itself be assumed. Summing up the situation, the *Mainichi* holds that administrative reform, if it is to be anything but a mere name, must have for its basis the recasting of the Army and Navy Expansion programmes, and that, instead of being confined to a few changes of bureaux or reconstructions of Departments, it should aim at bringing the finances of the State in comfortable accord with the expenditures. All those objects, however, are evidently eliminated by the Cabinet, since the representatives of the Army and Navy Departments have been removed from the Administrative Reform Committee, and it consequently follows that the position assumed by the *Mainichi Shimbun* is diametrically opposed to the position taken by the Cabinet. It is difficult to foresee what dimensions this difference of opinion may assume, but there are strong reasons for thinking that the nation, as a whole, will not consent to any reduction of the programme of Army expansion.

* * *

Without any apparently proximate reason, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes a long and very pregnant article on the subject of Japanese officials in China. The Middle Kingdom has now become the cynosure of Western eyes. Since the war of 1894-5, European attention has been concentrated on the Far East to an extent hitherto unprecedented. The Great Powers vie with one another to lend China money, and since it must be assumed that their action is not purely philanthropic, the question arises, what do they contemplate and how do they expect to repay themselves. The *Nichi Nichi* does not attempt to answer these queries. It merely propounds them for the sake of calling attention to the importance that Chinese affairs have assumed. On the other hand, the policy of the Matsukata Cabinet, as expounded by Count Okuma, is based on the principle that Japan ought to play the part of an adviser and mentor to China, leading her into the paths of progress which this country has been following for the past thirty years. There are as yet no evidences that China recognises the propriety of Japan's playing such a part, or that Japan has begun to play it in practice. But the policy is clearly enough mapped out. It becomes evident, therefore, that the staff of the Legation in Peking should be chosen with the utmost possible care, and that its members should possess qualifications adapted to the difficult duties devolving on them *vis-à-vis* European designs, on the one hand, and the policy of the home Government, on the other. The *Nichi Nichi* evidently thinks that such care is not exercised, but it refrains from formulating any definite charges, though it hints, plainly enough, that the talk now heard about increasing the number of diplomatic and Consular officials in China, means nothing more than an extension of the happy hunting ground where the Government's political *protégés* are now finding fine game. (A common expression now a days is *ryokwan*, a word which, in the short compass of two syllables, conveys the significance of an official, useless so far as public functions are concerned, but supported by the State in the same way as pet birds or beasts are nurtured by private individuals.)

* * *

The *Yiji Shimo*, with unwearied patience, advocates unity of action on the part of the leading *Meiji* statesmen. There was a time, it

admits, when such unity could scarcely be reconciled with the state of public opinion. But that time is past, and the condition of the country's affairs is now altogether favourable to a coalition among politicians of all parties. Children may allow their personal disputes to hold them asunder when no peril threatens the head of the household, but if their parent be attacked by a dangerous disease, they must lay aside their petty causes of quarrel and join together for the purpose of nourishing and succouring the sick man. That is, virtually, the condition of affairs now in Japan. The interests of the country imperatively demand that its leading statesmen should waive their minor differences of opinion and conflicts of ambition, and should combine their abilities for the promotion of patriotic purposes. Our contemporary's article points explicitly to Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki. It advocates their return to the Cabinet, or, if that be impossible for the moment, at all events their active association in the councils of the State. There have been abundant proofs in the past that when national duty calls, the *Meiji* statesmen know how to subordinate personal considerations to public responsibilities. Their integrity and disinterestedness are beyond doubt, and the occasion has come for another display of those qualities.

* * *

In the *Yomiuri Shimbun* we find an article complaining that the unification of the Japanese nation is not accomplished. Two sections of the people, namely, the inhabitants of Okinawa (Loochoo) and Formosa, remain practically without the pale. Their language, costume, and customs differ from those of the Japanese proper, and so do the administrative and fiscal methods pursued there. In Okinawa the system of taxation is essentially different from that adopted in the mainland, and the inhabitants complain, with apparent reason, that they are the victims of unfair discrimination. There appear to be two parties in the islands: a conservative party, the leaders of which still turn their eyes to China and would fain restore Chinese supremacy; and a so-called progressive party which advocates the restoration of the old monarchical family to administrative control. It would seem that there is no party in favour of complete amalgamation with Japan proper. That is simply because the people have not been taught to appreciate the advantages of being Japanese subjects. They have no experience of the content and prosperity that mark the lives of their neighbours on the mainland. Turning to Formosa, the *Yomiuri* reiterates the often-formulated charges that the Central Government lacks earnestness and resolution in dealing with the affairs of the new territory; that crying official abuses have been suffered to pass almost unchallenged, and that, owing to the failure of the authorities to establish law and order, it has been impossible to carry out the works of improvement for which money was voted by the Diet. Our contemporary's indictment is accusatory; it contains no definite suggestions as to the course to be pursued in the case of either Okinawa or Formosa.

* * *

In order to put the Revised Treaties into operation from July 1899, it will be necessary for the Japanese Government to give notice of that intention in July of next year at the latest. The recovery of her judicial and tariff autonomy by means of Treaty Revision has been Japan's cherished object for the past thirty years, and may be said to have occupied the practical attention of her statesmen since 1871. Moreover, not the national honour alone is concerned, but also the national purse, for under the new tariff the country's revenue will receive an addition of from 4½ to 6 million *yen*. Unfortunately two States block the way to achievement, France and Austro-Hungary. The former, owing to parliamentary complications, the latter because of delays due to the duality of the monarchy, have not yet concluded the necessary steps. Thus the Minister for Foreign Affairs, says the *Seikai-no Nippon*, has now to consider seriously what course should be pursued towards those

two countries. Is there a reasonable hope that the negotiations for Treaty Revision will be completed with them and that ratifications will be exchanged in time for Japan to give the requisite notice next July? If there is not such a hope, then evidently the operation of the new Treaties will have to be postponed until 1900. A year's delay would not be a consideration of overwhelming importance, but there is always the possibility that, before 1900, the wheel of fortune may bring round some international complication which would have the effect of practically invalidating the Treaties already revised. Is Japan, then, to run the risk of throwing away all her long labour and failing to assert her national rights, as well as to incur the certainty of losing a considerable sum of revenue, simply because two Powers out of sixteen or seventeen hesitate to revise their Treaties with her? Surely not. It becomes necessary for Count Okuma to consider seriously whether the time has not arrived for telling France and Austria-Hungary that unless they can conclude the revision of the Treaties by the end of the current year, Japan will be reluctantly compelled to denounce the existing Treaties. Such are the views of the *Seikai-no-Nippon*.

COUNT OKUMA'S ESSAY IN "THE FAR EAST."

In the last number of *The Far East* there appeared an essay from the pen of Count Okuma. Briefly speaking, its purpose was to combat the idea that Japan is living beyond her means, and that her resources are overtaxed by the large undertakings upon which she has launched in the sequel of the War with China. Count Okuma admits that victory came to her more easily than was, perhaps, altogether wholesome, and that it created an industrial and commercial stimulus stronger than the circumstances actually warranted, but he is persuaded that the situation contains no really disquieting elements, and that the country's future may be regarded with hope and confidence. The line of argument leading to that conclusion is that the development of the material resources during the past twenty years more than justifies the bold course now pursued, in support of which assertion the Count marshals some striking statistics. Thus:—

	Acres.
Area of rice land under cultivation in 1880.....	6,408,630
Do. 1895.....	6,948,067
Area of wheat and barley under cultivation in 1880.....	3,580,860
Do. 1895.....	4,428,057
Quantity of silk cocoons in 1880.....	595,923
Do. 1895.....	2,258,173
Quantity of tea produced in 1880.....	3,206,361
Do. 1895.....	8,615,074
Number of factories using steam or water power in 1883.....	84
Do. 1893.....	2,758
Number of steamships in 1872.....	96
Tonnage.....	23,364
Number of steamships in 1895.....	827
Tonnage.....	213,221
Mileage of railways open in 1872.....	18
Do. 1897.....	2,637
Value of Foreign Trade in 1872.....	Yen. 43,201,461
Do. 1896.....	289,517,230

These figures are very striking. They indicate a vigour of development that justifies Count Okuma's optimism.

Count Okuma further declares that Japan has no desire to expand her territory. We are somewhat surprised to observe that the Count's views on that point are regarded by the *Kobe Chronicle* as likely to displease the "strong-foreign-policy" party, whose leaders, according to that journal, look forward to the extension of Japan's territorial limits, and whose nominee Count Okuma is supposed to be. We ourselves have never understood that territorial aggrandisement is a plank in the platform of the advocates of a strong foreign policy. The two fields in which the activity of those politicians has always mani-

festated itself are Korea and Treaty Revision. As to Korea, they have persistently held that Japan ought to make the independence of the peninsula a paramount object, and should shrink from no danger involved in the pursuit of that aim. As to Treaty Revision, they used to insist that foreigners should be granted no privileges other than those actually secured to them by the text of the existing Treaties, and that if Japan's reasonable proposals, urged with due patience and courtesy, failed to commend themselves to foreign States, she should not shrink from denouncing the old Treaties. But territorial aggrandisement has never, so far as we know, been advocated by exponents of the *Kyōko shugi*, and we venture to predict that Count Okuma's enunciation of policy, so far as that point is concerned, will be received with perfect equanimity by his party.

With reference to this essay of Count Okuma's, our *Kobe* contemporary makes a singular comment:—"As we understand that Count Okuma is not sufficiently versed in English to write in that language, it would be interesting to learn how far the translation published in *The Far East* follows the original. It is, indeed, curious to observe how closely the opinions expressed by Count Okuma—opinions which, judging from his speeches in the vernacular, he would scarcely be credited with holding—coincide with those held by the editor of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, who is also, we believe, the editor of *The Far East*." There is only one inference to be drawn from the *Kobe Chronicle's* words, namely, that it suspects the editor of *The Far East* of having "Englished" the Minister's essay so as to make it correspond with the views of the editor himself. We doubt, indeed, whether our contemporary can have intended to convey that impression, but certainly the words quoted convey it very distinctly. It is a strange idea. Count Okuma has at his command some of the ablest English scholars to be found in Japan, and, moreover, he himself reads English with the greatest ease and the most critical understanding. The *Kobe Chronicle* may rest assured that the essay in *The Far East* is a perfectly accurate translation of Count Okuma's original.

CONCERT IN TOKYO.

On Monday evening, a concert was given in Tokyo by Mr. Sydney H. Morse. The building chosen was a missionary lecture hall, opposite Trinity Cathedral in Tsukiji; a place of bare and uninviting aspect and very defective acoustic properties. Professor Von Koeber had been announced for two pianoforte solos, but to the great disappointment of the public, he failed to appear. Where an amateur is concerned, it seems ungracious to complain of neglect of engagements, but if Professor Von Koeber realized how much pleasure his playing gives and how earnestly the fulfilment of his promises is looked forward to, he would probably be more careful about committing himself to pledges which he has no certainty of redeeming. In such a room as that of the Tsukiji Parish Building, and on such an instrument as did duty last night for a piano, we should have regretted, for our own part, to see Professor Von Koeber perform, but impediments of that nature are capable of being anticipated and ought to be taken into due account before public announcements are made. Owing partly to very inclement weather, and partly also, to very insufficient advertising, a scanty audience assembled. It was, however, a highly appreciative audience, as well it might be, for Mr. Morse's singing can scarcely be too much praised. His voice is of delightful quality, his elocution admirably distinct, and his method, artistic. Neither Tokyo nor Yokohama has ever heard such a tenor, and it appears to us very astonishing that so many of the foreign residents of the capital should have failed to avail themselves of an occasion not likely to occur again. The gem of the evening was "Echo," which beautiful song Mr. Morse sung with exquisite feeling. Coun-

less Von Schlutterbach played two cornet solos and sang thrice, a display of good nature for which the fullest thanks are due, and a young lady—whose name, not being inserted in the programme, we refrain from mentioning—delighted the audience with a recitation which alone would have sufficiently repaid a visit to the hall. We append the programme:—

1. Song—"Wait her Angels"—Handel. Mr. Sydney H. Morse.
2. Cornet Solo—"Werner's Parting Song"—Nesster. Countess Von Schlutterbach.
3. Song—"The Beggar Maid"—Barby. Mr. Sydney H. Morse.
4. Recitation. Pucinello.
5. Song. Countess Von Schlutterbach.
6. Song—"Echo"—Lord H. Somerset. Mr. Sydney H. Morse.
7. Cornet Solo—"O thou sublime, sweet evening, star"—Wagner. Countess Von Schlutterbach.
8. Song—"Annette"—Grieg. Mr. Sydney H. Morse.
9. Song. Countess Von Schlutterbach.
10. Duet—"Excelsior"—Balle. Mr. Sydney H. Morse and Mr. T. V. Twinning.
11. Song. Countess Von Schlutterbach.

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for August, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1896. SILVER YEN.	1897. SILVER YEN.
Exports.....	7,928,959.080	14,606,931.750
Imports.....	17,375,241.150	22,508,279.770
Total exports and imports.....		37,115,211.520
Excess of imports.....		7,901,348.020
Exports.....		278,109.740
Imports.....		533,681.999
Miscellaneous.....		22,223.368
Total.....		834,015.107

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
British India.....	575,016.790	4,435,124.081	5,010,140.871
Hongkong.....	1,009,235.110	1,746,854.710	2,756,089.820
China.....	3,855,808.310	1,740,616.170	5,596,424.480
Korea.....	351,362.800	498,844.370	850,207.170
Russian Asia.....	159,864.700	317,334.470	477,199.170
Annam & other French India.....	1,354.600	387,059.330	388,413.930
Philippine Islands.....	13,830.200	204,417.400	218,247.600
Siam.....	334.000	74,715.010	75,049.010
Great Britain.....	699,078.150	8,748,123.070	9,447,201.220
France.....	3,555,808.310	1,900,319.200	5,456,127.510
Germany.....	76,616.150	1,209,867.310	1,286,483.460
Italy.....	363,083.930	4,410.000	367,493.930
Austria.....	1,343.800	302,877.800	304,221.600
Belgium.....	93,709.700	146,107.000	239,816.700
Holland.....	4,594.750	9,237.150	13,831.900
Sweden and Norway.....	4,406.700	8,813.900	13,220.600
Portugal.....	4,354.910	4,410.000	8,764.910
Russia.....	3,169.940	3,894.000	7,063.940
Spain.....	348.350	3,218.400	3,566.750
Denmark.....	726.000	411.380	1,137.380
Turkey.....	2,222.780	—	2,222.780
United States of America.....	1,143,340.510	3,278,634.190	4,421,974.700
Canada and other British America.....	234,057.410	8,276.120	242,333.530
Peru.....	88.000	—	88.000
Australia.....	109,883.000	36,943.300	146,826.300
Hawaii.....	39,906.120	71.000	39,977.120
Other Countries.....	27,744.710	84,881.680	112,626.390
Total.....	14,329,222.450	21,502,279.770	35,831,502.220

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
Yokohama.....	9,123,134.540	9,911,990.510	19,035,125.050
Kobe.....	3,368,100.370	10,150,599.370	13,518,699.740
Osaka.....	203,118.340	4,803,850.550	5,006,968.890
Nagasaki.....	344,083.310	1,300,319.010	1,644,402.320
Hakodate.....	844,727.410	97,519.612	942,247.022
Niigata.....	1,100.000	9,148.200	10,248.200
Shimonoseki.....	254,636.370	303,346.300	557,982.670
Mojri.....	280,085.000	—	280,085.000
Hakata.....	—	1,180.600	1,180.600
Karatsu.....	18,608.970	—	18,608.970
Kuchinotsu.....	181,397.050	23,790.200	205,187.250
Idegahara.....	5,115.040	27,726.800	32,841.840
Shiobaru.....	607.900	5,940.900	6,548.800
Sauna.....	1,459.500	917.400	2,376.900
Hamada.....	558.710	736.400	1,295.110
Sakai.....	555.820	2,195.050	2,750.870
Muroran.....	80,774.000	—	80,774.000
Ofaru.....	80,390.000	1,588.000	81,978.000
Specie and Bullion { Exports.....		307,625.520	
{ Imports.....		593,651.770	
Total.....		901,277.290	

Excess of imports.....	286,026.250
By Japanese Merchants { Exports.....	3,668,194.460
{ Imports.....	10,454,090.700
Imported by Government.....	75,944.440

VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED AND IMPORTED EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
January.....	12,848,712.030	23,321,282.780	36,169,994.810
February.....	11,587,703.220	23,518,858.490	35,106,561.710
March.....	14,461,463.770	17,100,093.800	31,561,557.570
April.....	13,555,452.430	18,103,544.910	31,658,997.340
May.....	14,528,343.800	17,354,455.120	31,882,798.920
June.....	12,088,913.650	16,498,909.310	28,587,822.960
July.....	10,519,211.210	17,140,099.350	27,659,310.560
August.....	14,606,931.750	22,508,279.770	37,115,211.520
Total.....	100,324,718.310	139,089,631.500	239,414,349.810

THE HAKODATE AFFAIR.

That very ancient bit of extraterritorial history, the Ross case, has been brought once more upon the *tapis* for the purpose of proving that even where two Occidental Powers are concerned, a claim such as that advanced by Great Britain with respect to the Hakodate Chinese is recognised in practice. Our contention is that such a claim has no *raison d'être* unless the jurisdiction against which it is set up is of a semi-civilized or barbarous character. If, for example, a foreigner serving in a British public vessel, commits a crime on shore in China, it is a point of humanity that Great Britain should assert her right of jurisdiction over him as a protected subject, rather than suffer him to be judged by Chinese tribunals. That principle, indeed, is the sole and only intelligible explanation of "protection" exercised in the manner under consideration; the sole and only ground for departing from the general tenet of international law which declares that every member of the crew of a foreign public ship is subject to local jurisdiction in respect of offences committed on shore. Such is our contention. We are now answered by reference to the Ross case. The Ross case is a very old friend of ours. We had the pleasure and the pain of writing several articles about it in the year 1881, by which time it had assumed the dimensions of quite a pretty international problem. Our articles were intended to demonstrate the soundness of the position assumed by Great Britain on that occasion, and we remain to this day unshaken in our conviction that England was right, though we had at the time, and have still, a very thorough appreciation of the arguments on the other side. When, therefore, we are accused of suffering from a "convenient memory" because we ignore the Ross case in our discussion of the Hakodate incident, we can only smile. Our candid advice to our opponents is to let the Ross case alone. We tender that counsel on two grounds: first, that if the Ross case is relevant, the position that Great Britain then took is precisely the opposite of the position taken by her with regard to the Hakodate affair; secondly, that the Ross case is irrelevant. What was the Ross case? Simply this:—John Martin Ross, a seaman of the U.S. merchant ship *Bullion*, was charged before the U.S. Consular-General Court of Yokohama with the murder of Robert Kelly, another member of the same crew, on board the vessel as she lay in the port of Yokohama. Ross objected to the jurisdiction of the Court, claiming to be a British subject. The Court over-ruled the objection, and the British Consul at once demanded the surrender of Ross for trial by a British Court. Thus, supposing the Ross case to be relevant to the Hakodate discussion, it would follow that, in 1881, Great Britain refused to recognise, as belonging to American vessels, the very privilege that she claims for her own vessels in 1897. That is the first feature which renders the Ross case worse than useless for the purposes of our opponents' argument. They will doubtless say, however, that Great Britain's contention was over-ruled and that the Ross case has become a precedent in the opposite sense. We are not aware that Great Britain has ever formally abandoned the position taken by her on that occasion. But even assuming that she has, the fact remains that the Ross

case is not relevant to the Hakodate incident. We shall not weary our readers by entering into a detailed discussion of that point unless the necessity arises. It will be sufficient to note here that the United States did not rest its case on any such untenable ground as that Ross was "protected" against British jurisdiction by the fact of his serving in an American private vessel. The question at issue related to the mutual scope of the two Powers' acquired jurisdictions. In the Hakodate incident, the question is whether a Chinese *employé* of a British public vessel possesses the status of a British subject for purposes of jurisdiction. We have already gone into that point pretty thoroughly, and will now confine ourselves to appending the views expressed by Hall, who is admittedly one of the highest, as he is also the most recent, authority on this subject. He says:—"It may be worth while to note the limitations upon an outlying instance of protection temporarily accorded to persons, not on their own account, but because of their association with British property. Persons forming part of the crew of a British vessel, whatever may be their nationality, are protected while in an Oriental port, not merely to the point up to which the customs of Europe allow members of a crew to be subjected to British jurisdiction, but to the full range, whether with respect to acts done on the vessel or on shore, that merely protective jurisdiction stretches in an Eastern State. *Punitive jurisdiction does not, however, go with protective jurisdiction in this instance. British Courts can only exercise criminal jurisdiction over British subjects and persons to whom the privileges of British subjects have been regularly extended; they consequently have no power to try a foreign seaman belonging to a British ship for any offence committed within or without the territorial jurisdiction. He must be handed over to the Consular authority of the nation of which he is a subject.*" The passages which we have here italicised are sufficiently explicit. The Chinese arrested by the Japanese police in Hakodate would have been judicable by a Chinese Consular Court if China possessed extraterritorial jurisdiction in this country. But she does not, and they consequently became judicable by Japanese tribunals.

YOKOHAMA JINRIKISHA COOLIES.

It is to be regretted that some one does not take the trouble to invoke the assistance of the law when a Yokohama *jinrikisha* coolie attempts to practise extortion. An instance has just come to our notice of a young lady who, having ridden from a distant part of the Settlement to the railway station, gave 40 *sen* to the two men drawing the *jinrikisha*. They at once insisted on having 50 *sen* each, a monstrous demand. The young lady declined to be so grossly victimized, but her situation was decidedly unpleasant, for the two extortioners seemed disposed to make things so hot that the additional sixty *sen* would be paid in self-defence. She asked the men to accompany her to a police man, but they declined to do anything of the kind, and became still more peremptory in their demand. Fortunately a gentleman observed the trouble and came to ask whether he could render any assistance. At the lady's request he went in search of a policeman, who soon

dealt with the truculent extortioners, telling them 15 *sen* was an ample fare for the work they had done. The policeman would have taken back 10 *sen* and restored it to the lady, but she preferred to abide by her original intention. So many instances of these unwarrantable demands now occur, that the necessity of making an example seems imperative. Possibly our readers do not know that to demand an excessive fare is criminally punishable in Japan. It seems to have escaped notice that a *jinrikisha* coolie in Kobe received 10 days' minor confinement for that very offence a short time ago. It was the coolie by whom a charge of assault and battery was preferred against an American naval officer, and who was himself the object of a similar prosecution by the officer. Both charges were dismissed, but the fact of attempting to extort an excessive fare having been proved against the man, he was tried independently for that offence and corrected. There can be little doubt that if a few similar convictions were procured in Yokohama, the *jinrikisha* man would learn prudence. Of course there is always the difficulty of evidence. If a foreigner goes into court with only his own unsupported testimony to tender, it is easy for the other side to produce such a preponderance of witnesses that the judge's hand is forced. But when application has been made to a policeman, and the facts have been ascertained by the latter, nothing remains except to take the *jinrikisha*'s number and then prefer a formal complaint. The policeman might prosecute, but he can hardly be expected to do so, it seems to us, unless the foreigner shows a disposition to come forward. So soon as an "incident" with a *jinrikisha* drawer is over, one's natural disposition is to dismiss the thing from one's thoughts and not take any more trouble about it; but a little public spirit might be of great public service.

TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS IN JAPANESE PRISONS.

One of the questions that have occupied the attention of the Committee appointed last year for the purpose of considering the measures advisable in connexion with the operation of the Revised Treaties, has been that of prisons. Ought foreigners imprisoned in Japanese jails to be treated differently from Japanese prisoners, or should the same treatment be extended to both? It is an interesting and important problem, and we can easily foresee that a good deal of discussion will be provoked by it. When the matter was discussed recently in the Department for Home Affairs, it is understood that the balance of opinion was in favour of adopting for foreign prisoners a system different from that pursued in the case of Japanese. The food, the dress, the manner of sitting and sleeping, and many other matters vary so greatly as between foreigners and Japanese, that to treat them alike would be harsh, and since to differentiate them within the same jail would be embarrassing, the plan most feasible in the eyes of the committee was that a separate prison should be built for the accommodation of foreign criminals. The *Nippon* has an article traversing that view. While admitting that the most civilized principles are in favour of treating prisoners leniently, it thinks that to make a distinction between foreign-

ers and Japanese would create discontent among the latter and would encourage the former. After all, when foreigners come under Japanese jurisdiction, it must appear to the public that they ought also to be placed under the Japanese prison system, and that to make an exception in their favour would be injurious to Japan's dignity. Doubtless foreigners are accustomed to live differently from Japanese, but if sentiment be excluded from the question, there is nothing to prevent a foreigner from faring very well on Japanese diet, dressing very comfortably in Japanese garments, and living very healthily in Japanese rooms.

Such is the view of the *Nippon*. It is a view that would naturally present itself to a Japanese, especially to a Japanese of the type made familiar to us by the *Nippon*. We are disposed to think, however, that despite our contemporary's desire to eliminate every factor except strict justice from its statement of the problem, a very palpable violation of justice is involved in the proposed solution. The *Nippon* will unquestionably agree that when Japan recovers her judicial autonomy, any foreigners convicted of an offence against her laws ought to be subjected to exactly the same penalty as a Japanese offender under like circumstances. There must be neither a more nor a less about the matter: absolute equality of treatment within the limits of reasonable possibility, is necessitated by strict justice. That being so, we invite the *Nippon* to answer this question:—Suppose that a Japanese and a European or an American are condemned to a year's imprisonment, and suppose that the European or American, during the whole term of confinement, has to eat Japanese food, wear Japanese costume, and sleep in Japanese fashion, either with no pillow at all or with a wooden one, is the severity of the punishment the same to the foreigner and to the Japanese? Does not the foreigner's punishment, on the contrary, extend to matters which the law had no intention of including in the penalty, and does not the punishment of the Japanese stop short of such matters? An exactly corresponding injustice, so far as we can see, would be committed if two Englishmen having been convicted of the same offence before a British tribunal, the one was sentenced to a year's imprisonment on ordinary prison fare, and the other to a year's imprisonment on bread and water with deprivation of his mattress at night. None of us makes the smallest pretence of claiming for a foreign culprit any better treatment than that extended to a Japanese undergoing punishment for the same offence. Different treatment does not necessarily mean better treatment. Nor does different treatment necessarily involve any assertion of the foreigner's superiority. On both of those points the *Nippon* seems to labour under a misapprehension. A European fed on oatmeal porridge, boiled beef, tea, bread and vegetables may appear to fare more sumptuously than a Japanese fed on barley, rice, pickled *daikon* and other simple relishes, yet each probably finds his diet equally distasteful, and each would consider his punishment greatly aggravated by having to exchange food with the other. There are other things to be included in the account, but since this fundamental principle appears to have escaped the *Nippon's* notice, we need not carry the discussion any farther.

METHOD OF EXCHANGING SILVER YEN.

According to instructions issued by the Finance Department, foreigners desirous of changing silver yen for gold on and after the 1st of October, will be able to do so by carrying the silver pieces to the Specie Bank or its agencies in Yokohama and Kobe. The Treasury does not pledge itself, however, to effect the exchange at once across the counter. That will be done so long as a sufficiency of gold coins is in possession of the Specie Bank and its agencies, and since a plentiful supply will be placed in their hands, immediate exchange will probably be always possible. But should it happen that the stock of gold in the vaults of the Yokohama or Kobe bank is temporarily exhausted, then the foreigner will be given a note, stating the amount he is entitled to receive, which will be cashed so soon as the silver presented by him has been forwarded to the Bank of Japan in Tokyo, and so soon as the amount of gold required has been sent from Tokyo to the place of exchange. In the latter case, the foreigner will of course lose the interest on his money during the period of transmission to and from Tokyo, but the expenses of transmission will be borne by the Government. With regard to Japanese in the interior desiring to exchange silver for gold, the Government, deeming that their motive in nearly all cases will be the mere novelty of the thing, has decided that they will have to hand in their silver and await the advent of gold coins from Tokyo. Of course bank-notes will be always procurable, and residents of Tokyo, being able to apply direct to the head office of the Nippon Ginko, will never experience any delay.

THROUGH FROM TOKYO TO NAGASAKI.

The Sanyo Railway has now been carried as far as Tokuyama, the distance of which place from Moji, across the Suwo Nada, is only 40 miles. On the 23rd ultimo, traffic was opened as far as Tokuyama, and a line of steamers having been established between Tokuyama and Moji, it may almost be said that through railway communication overland exists between Tokyo and Nagasaki, or Tokyo and Yatsushiro. Thus, leaving Tokyo by the 6 a.m. train on Monday, suppose, one reaches Kobe at 11.20 p.m. the same day, and can catch the 11.55 train on the Sanyo Railway, which arrives in Tokuyama at 7 o'clock on the following evening (Tuesday). A steamer from Tokuyama takes one to Moji, in time for the train starting thence at 10 a.m. Eight o'clock on the following morning (Wednesday) sees one at Hayaki. Hence a steamer carries one to Tokitsu by 11.20 a.m., and entering the train again at Tokitsu, one arrives in Nagasaki at 1 p.m. the same day (Wednesday), the whole journey thus occupying 55 hours. It is exceedingly problematical, we imagine, whether all these connexions could be made successfully, but the schedule is as we have here set it down.

Mr. Rider Haggard's sister, the Baroness d'Anethan, has written a novel relating to Brazil, where the Baroness lived for some time. It is a tale of diplomatic life. The volume will be published by Messrs. Chapman.

JAPANESE SMOKELESS POWDER.

Vernacular journals assert very confidently that Major Shinagawa, of the Infantry, Superintendent of the Itabashi Powder Factory, working in conjunction with Mr. Matsuoka, an expert of the same factory, whose chemical knowledge is said to be of a high order, has invented a smokeless powder better and cheaper than that obtainable from abroad. Major Shinagawa, having been engaged as a workman in European powder factories for years, has an accurate practical acquaintance with the details of powder making. A long time has elapsed since he first devoted himself to the question of smokeless powder, but his success is said to be now quite assured. Half a charge of his powder gives at least twice as great penetrating power as twice the weight of ordinary powder. Experiments recently conducted at Itabashi, showed that whereas a ball fired with 5 grammes of ordinary Japanese powder penetrated only one-fifth of an inch into a pine board at a distance of 40 yards, the same ball, with 2 grammes of the new powder, passed clean through a board nine-tenths of an inch thick at the same range. It is also claimed that the great difficulty connected with smokeless powder in Europe, namely, its very hygroscopic qualities, has been completely overcome in the Japanese powder, and that the latter can be produced at one half of the former's cost.

THE DRILL INSTRUCTOR PROBLEM.

It appears to savour somewhat of the comical that Japanese newspapers should continue to discuss that worn-out subject, the engagement of Russian military men for the purpose of drilling Korean troops. They talk of an agreement, or convention, or something of that kind between Russia and Japan, and discuss the probabilities of its being concluded. The *Nippon*, for example, has an article in its issue of the 29th instant, forecasting the policy of Mr. de Speyer, explaining that he seems bent upon managing everything in the quietest manner possible, opining that he will make no departure from the lines followed by his predecessor, Mr. Waeber, and concluding with the query, what will be the issue of the drill-instructors' problem under these circumstances? To us it seems that the query is a little belated. The Russian drill instructors are actually at work in Seoul. There is no longer any room for speculation. They are a small number, it is true, but the originally circulated report that they were mere tourists who, taking advantage of a spell of leave, had planned a casual kind of trip to Korea, is completely exploded. The vernacular journals might as well recognise the accomplished fact, and give up speculating about contingencies which no longer admit of question.

NEW SHIPS.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that the despatch boat *Miyako*, the keel of which was laid down at the Kure dockyard in March, 1896, is now nearly completed and will shortly be launched. She has a displacement of 1,800 tons and a speed of 20 knots. The cruiser *Akashi*, which has been under construction for some time at Yokosuka, is also nearly finished, and her launch is expected to take place in the middle of October. Our contemporary adds that the ceremony of launching will be according to British custom.

BLUE-FUNNEL BOAT IN COLLISION.

TWENTY SEVEN PERSONS DROWNED.

A telegram in a paper brought over by the *Empress of China* from Canada on Monday morning says:—Port Said, Sept. 11.—The British steamer *Polyphemus*, from Yokohama to London, was damaged in a collision near Jebel Tar, an island in the Red Sea, according to a dispatch just received from the Island of Perim, and 27 of the crew were drowned.

THE HAKODATE AFFAIR.

IT is not to be supposed that a question of international law involving no serious issues, can have much interest for the general public, and we feel, consequently, some reluctance in reverting to the discussion provoked by the Hakodate affair. A very few words, however, will suffice to dispel the singular propositions advanced by the *Japan Gazette*, which journal, unfortunately for the cause it espouses, has endeavoured very industriously to prove that the Chinese servants of a British man-of-war are exempt from Japanese jurisdiction with regard to offences committed by them in Japanese territory. In the first place, there is an emphatic dictum by HALL, one of the latest and best authorities on international law, to the effect that Chinese servants—it will be understood, of course, that in speaking thus we are fitting the special facts of the Hakodate Affair to the terms of HALL'S general proposition—that Chinese servants, under the given circumstances, are protected to the full range that merely protective jurisdiction stretches in an Eastern State, but that punitive jurisdiction does not go with protective jurisdiction in such a case, and that for all purposes of punitive jurisdiction, the Chinamen must be handed over to their own Consular Authorities, in other words, to the Japanese Authorities, since Chinese Consuls do not exercise criminal jurisdiction in Japan. Nothing would be clearer or more explicit than HALL'S verdict on the subject. The *Japan Gazette*, however, maintains that since the act committed by the Chinese is not an offence according to British law, the British Government is entitled to protect them against the punishment prescribed for their act by Japanese law. It is very difficult to treat such a proposition seriously, nor are we at all surprised to find that it is accompanied by some of the invectives invariably indicative of a weak case. What Great Britain claims with regard to the Hakodate Chinese is jurisdiction for herself, not their exemption from punishment. If any one thing could tend, more than another, to discredit her claim in her own eyes and to deter her from advancing it, it is the unfortunate accident that in this particular case she can not herself exercise the jurisdiction of which she seeks to deprive the Japanese, and that the consequence of her claim's immediate recognition would have been to defeat the ends of justice by averting from the Chinese the punishment to which their offence properly exposed them. Great Britain does not constitute herself in this instance a protector of Chinese gamblers. It has been reserved for the *Japan Gazette* to represent her in that disgraceful light. If she does not find it necessary to employ for the suppression of gambling in the United King-

dom measures so strict as those considered essential by the Japanese Government in Japan, it is not to be supposed that she condemns such measures as superfluous in Japan, or that she debases the flag of her war-ships by employing it to secure for her Chinese employes the privilege of defying the gambling laws of Japan in Japan. In point of fact, she has enacted and she enforces similar laws for the preservation of good order among her own Chinese subjects in the neighbouring colony of Hongkong. Her claim in the Hakodate affair is a positive claim of jurisdiction over foreigners serving on board of her public vessels with respect to all crimes committed by them in Japanese territory, and when the *Japan Gazette* perverts that broad claim into the petty issue of protecting such foreigners against the just consequences of one particular offence, it not only insults England but makes her case farcical. The question lies between Japanese jurisdiction and British jurisdiction, not between the criminality or innocence of a particular act.

We pass now to the ROSS case. It has been a matter of some amusement to us to watch the *Japan Gazette* plunge deeper and deeper into the ROSS case, and to observe, at the same time, that our courageous contemporary had never read the records of the case, and was splendidly ignorant of the facts on which it undertook to base a provision of international law. The position assumed by Great Britain in the ROSS case was a position in exact accord with the dictum of HALL, alluded to above, but a position diametrically opposed to that taken by her in the Hakodate case, supposing the cases to be cognate. In the ROSS case she claimed that a British subject serving on board an American vessel should be handed over to the British Consular Authorities if he committed an offence in Japanese territory, whereas in the Hakodate case she denied that a Chinese subject serving on board a British vessel should be handed over to the Chinese Consular Authorities if he committed a crime in Japanese territory. But, says the *Japan Gazette*, England abandoned that position ultimately. "The British and United States Government," writes our contemporary, "after a year's deliberation, decided that a crime committed ashore by a British subject serving on an American ship was judiciable by an American Consular Court, and that constitutes a precedent." There is just one difficulty about admitting the *Japan Gazette*'s statement as evidence, namely, that it is a falsehood. The British Government never decided anything of the kind. The British Government fought the question unwaveringly for two years, and concluded by renewing, in 1882, its emphatic protest against the legality of America's action. The last phase of the discussion was a proposal from the United States Govern-

ment that Great Britain, in the character of appellant, should submit the case to the judgment of the American Supreme Court. Great Britain declined. Her reasons must be too obvious to need recapitulation here. One, however, may be noted. She said that, whereas diplomatic reversal of the United States' position need not affect ROSS' punishment, legal reversal by the Supreme Court would invalidate the sentence pronounced against him in Yokohama, and might thus lead to the escape of a heinous murderer, since evidence to convict him at a fresh trial must be almost unprocureable after the lapse of two years. HER MAJESTY'S Government nevertheless explicitly repeated its original protest, and there the matter rested. Now we do not assert that the ROSS case is relevant to the Hakodate question. On the contrary, there are features that differentiate them. But the *Japan Gazette* has chosen the ROSS case as the sheet anchor of its assertions, unfortunately ignorant that, in so doing, it is ascribing British sanction to a provision of international law against which Great Britain remains to this day an emphatic protester. It is in truth, very diverting to find the *Japan Gazette* charging a great jurisconsult like HALL with "ignorance of a most important decision" which has no existence outside the *Gazette*'s imagination, and with "undertaking to instruct others on what he himself is lacking in knowledge" (*sic*) when the lack of knowledge is entirely on the side of the *Gazette* itself.

THE PASSPORT AND INDEPENDENCE DAY.

IN commenting on the incident of the Revd. J. M. MCCAULEY'S passport, the *Kobe Chronicle*, after unfavourably criticizing the conduct of Mr. MCCAULEY, makes the following remarks:—

Nevertheless, even if the difficulty in which Mr. McCaleb is placed has been brought about by his own act, we at the same time cannot but think it would have been more dignified if the United States Legation had taken no notice of his vagaries of expression, and had granted him the passport for which he asked. It is to be feared that not a little of the feeling aroused against Mr. McCaleb was because of his refusal to make any subscription to the Fourth of July celebration, but it surely cannot be asserted that an objection to such a commemoration necessarily places a man outside the pale of citizenship. It is just as if a British subject were to be denied the rights of his nationality because he refused to contribute to the Diamond Jubilee celebration. Indeed, we may go so far as to say it is possible to have some sympathy with Mr. McCaleb's avowed objection to the commemoration of bloodthirsty conflicts, and to agree with him that men, whether English, American, German, French or what not, might devote their energies to better causes than perpetration of national differences. That Mr. McCaleb's methods are unpleasant and impudic does not come into the question, and he may fairly argue that if he is more emphatic than others in the enunciation of religious commonplaces about his citizenship being elsewhere, this affords no valid ground for a discrimination by his Legation against him.

These remarks appear to us to be in great part justified by the facts as they presented themselves to our Kobe contemporary. But in order to form a correct judgment, it is necessary to supplement the particu-

lars hitherto published, and inasmuch as the case was originally laid before the public in these columns, it seems right that we should approach the subject again for the purpose of furnishing information which we have now been able to obtain. As a matter of fact, the United States Legation did not take any notice whatever of Mr. MCCALED'S expression of views about the celebrations of Independence Day. Towards such celebrations a United States citizen is at liberty to assume any attitude that pleases him: his officials are not at all concerned with his ideas. But although Mr. MCCALED may be unaware of the fact, the question of his citizenship had been mooted for some years, and when he applied for a passport to travel outside Treaty limits, fresh prominence had been given to the query by his manner of dissociating himself from his nationals on Independence Day. He had, in fact, placed himself by his own public statements in a position which compelled the United States Legation to examine whether he had complied with the regulations clearly laid down by the Department of State. Those regulations emphatically direct that before endorsing an application for a Japanese travelling permit, the Legation in Tokyo must have proof of the applicant's citizenship. Such proof is generally furnished by taking out an American passport, which can be done either at the State Department in Washington, at the United States Legation in Tokyo, or at one of the United States Consulates in the foreign settlements. In order to obtain the passport certain statements under oath or affirmation are necessary, including a declaration of allegiance, so that the possession of the passport constitutes valid evidence of citizenship. We are correct, we believe, in saying that all persons receiving the protection of the American Legation in Japan, or obtaining its endorsement for any purpose, are provided with passports. Mr. MCCALED, however, had never taken out an American passport in Japan. Thus, so far from being discriminated against when he was asked either to take out a passport in Tokyo or to show that he had done so in Washington, the truth is that he was simply invited to correct an omission which discriminated him from his alleged fellow-nationals. Information that we have been able to obtain shows that every facility was furnished for him to repair his long-standing oversight, and that the utmost courtesy and consideration were shown towards him, travelling permits being sent for his family pending his own act of qualification, and the declaration of allegiance being couched in special terms to suit his conscientious scruples. But he appears to have found insuperable difficulty in disabusing his mind of the erroneous impression that exceptional

conditions were imposed in his individual case, and in appreciating the fact that the exception consisted solely in his own previous failure to furnish evidence of a citizen's due allegiance to the Government whose protection he claimed. We desire to avoid all harsh expressions in referring to such a subject, but practical men can not fail to see that the case reduces itself to this: for five years Mr. MCCALED had been violating the regulations of the United States Government, which all other American citizens observe, and he then complained of being discriminated against because the United States Minister declined to be a party to his continued violation of them. With conscientious scruples all should sympathize, but some times the field of a man's moral vision is occupied by a mote to the exclusion of the beam lying beyond. That appears to us to be Mr. MCCALED'S condition when he girds at the imaginary grievance of being discriminated against, but would be content to disobey, and to force the United States Minister into disobeying, laws which every conscientious citizen is bound to observe.

THE STATURE OF THE JAPANESE.

The information furnished by medieval armour in Europe is that the men of the present day are physically much finer than the men that wore the armour. And indeed if we look at the athletic records of the past and the present, there can be no doubt that, so far as Englishmen, at any rate, are concerned, the race shows a steady improvement. But the opposite is said to be the case in Japan. Few men are to be found now-a-days capable of filling the armour worn by the Japanese six or seven hundred years ago. We read in a Japanese journal that, even during the Meiji era, there has been distinct deterioration of physique. In 1871, when the conscription system was introduced, fifty per cent. of the youths liable to serve were found to be physically qualified, whereas the number does not now exceed thirty to thirty-five per cent. In other words, two-thirds of the men of twenty years of age are not qualified for military service. The *Military Magazine (Heiji Zasshi)* referring to this fact, says that the three most valuable attributes are generally set down as talent, virtue and strength, but it is inclined to place the last first, for the old adage wisely says *mens sana in corpore sano* (*kenzen naru shiso wa kyōken naru tai ni yadoru.*)

THE CARVER CASE.

It has already been recorded that the charge of battery and assault preferred against an employé in the Matsumoto store, Kobe, on behalf of Mrs. Carver, was dismissed by the first tribunal before which it came, and that the Public Prosecutor appealed against the verdict. We now learn from the *Kobe Herald* that the upper court has reversed the judgment of the lower, and sentenced the employé to five days' imprisonment, from which finding a further appeal has been made. Apparently the case went before a district court (*Ku-Saibansho*) in the first place, and was carried on appeal to the Kobe Local Court (*Chiho-Saibansho*), but as our contemporary reverses these terms it is difficult to be quite sure of the facts. At all events, the higher tribunal was satisfied that the assault had taken place, and we have now to await the decision of the court of appeal in Osaka. The case being so interesting and so singular, we are surprised that none of the Kobe local journals has succeeded in procuring a copy of the proceedings.

THE HAKODATE CASE.

Experience has taught us to be prepared for novel and interesting displays of logic on the part of the *Japan Gazette* when that journal undertakes to discuss public questions, but we have now to congratulate it on quite a superlative effort of reasoning power. The point is of sufficient importance to warrant two brief quotations:—

"JAPAN MAIL."
Hall says:—"It may be worth while to note the limitations upon an outlying instance of protection temporarily accorded to persons, not on their own account, but because of their association with British property. Persons forming part of the crew of a British vessel, whatever may be their nationality, are protected while in an Oriental port, not merely to the point up to which the customs of Europe allow members of a crew to be subjected to British jurisdiction, but to the full range, whether with respect to acts done on the vessel or on shore, that merely protective jurisdiction stretches in an Eastern State. Punitive jurisdiction does not, however, go with protective jurisdiction in this instance. British Courts can only exercise criminal jurisdiction over British subjects and persons to whom the privileges of British subjects have been regularly extended; they consequently have no power to try a foreign seaman belonging to a British ship for any offence committed within or without the territorial jurisdiction. He must be handed over to the Consular authority of the nation of which he is a subject." The passages which we have here italicized are sufficiently explicit. The Chinese arrested by the Japanese police in Hakodate would have been judiciable by a Chinese Consular Court if China possessed extraterritorial jurisdiction in this country. But she does not, and they consequently became judiciable by Japanese tribunals.

"JAPAN GAZETTE."
The *Mail* has the audacity to quote Hall on the matter. With the quotation we do not quarrel, but it has italicized the wrong portion. Hall says, according to the *Mail*, that "persons forming part of the crew of a British vessel, whatever may be their nationality, are protected while in an Oriental port, not merely to the point up to which the customs of Europe allow members of a crew to be subjected to British jurisdiction, but to the full range, whether with respect to acts done on the vessel or on shore, that merely protective jurisdiction stretches in an Eastern State." That is the portion the *Mail* should have underlined, because if the acts done by the Chinese had been done by English subjects, they would not have committed any offence, and thus on Hall's own showing if the Chinese had been properly protected they could not have been punished.

Our readers will observe that it is against us that a charge of "audacity" is preferred, and that it is preferred by a newspaper which quietly cuts a quotation in two, and omits the second half altogether though it contains provisions explicitly limiting the meaning of the first half. Hall emphatically declares that the "protective jurisdiction" possessed by the British Authorities over foreigners serving in their vessels does not include "punitive jurisdiction" in respect of offences committed by such foreigners in a country like Japan, and that for purposes of "punitive jurisdiction" the foreigner must be handed over to his own Consul. The *Japan Gazette* coolly eliminates all that, and then has the charming assurance to quote Hall as an authority for its own contention that "protective jurisdiction" does extend to "punitive jurisdiction."

THE RAILWAY ARTISANS' STRIKE.

The Shimbashi workshop belonging to the Railway Bureau, contains about 1,300 artisans engaged in lacquering, painting, carpentry, casting metals, and turning lathes. On the 23rd ultimo, about ten workmen, representing the lacquering and painting section, suddenly applied to the Director of the Transport and Car Department for an increase of wages. This class of artisans now numbers 130, receiving pay from 18 to 90 *sen* per day (boys being paid from 18 to 20 *sen*). Their wages are therefore comparatively higher than those paid to other classes of workmen. For this reason the Director refused at once to make any further increase of their wages, whereupon they tendered their resignation and stopped work from the following day. So much we have gathered from the *Yomiuri*.

The rest of the artisans, however, appear to have taken a similar attitude, if the *Chuo* is rightly informed. They have held meetings at Shiba and resolved on bringing to light all the abuses connected with bribery, and also threaten to kill any of their companions attending the workshop before their application is accepted. Three or four of them, armed with swords or clubs, kept watch near the Railway Bureau. In short every sign of disquietude manifests itself to the no small apprehension of the railway officials. It is said that the Bureau incurs a loss of 12,000 yen per day in consequence of the strike.

JAPANESE JURISDICTION.

One of the troubles connected with much of the criticism penned by local foreign journals on the subject of Japanese Jurisdiction, is not merely their ignorance of Japanese laws and Japanese Jurisdiction, but their ignorance of European and American laws and jurisdiction also. An instance is before us. After adducing the *Kimura-Cornes* case—which, it may be observed *en passant*, had nothing whatever to do with Japanese laws or their administration—the *Japan Gazette* writes:—

Even worse is the case of the Portuguese, S. M. Severin, who was imprisoned, but given right to appeal. The whole of his sentence was eight months, and of this three and a half have elapsed. His appeal comes on next Monday! Now supposing the man to be innocent—and the granting of the appeal suggests he may be—what about the time he has spent in prison? Can we in the face of facts such as these feel confidence in coming under Japanese jurisdiction?

That looks plausible at first sight, but is, in truth, the most undiluted silliness. The *Japan Gazette* appears to labour under the impression that matters should be so arranged as to insure the hearing of an appeal immediately after the pronouncing of the judgment against which it is lodged. That would be an ideal state of affairs, no doubt, but unfortunately it can not be attained in practice. If the *Japan Gazette* had any acquaintance with the records of legal procedure in Occidental countries where appeals are permitted in criminal cases, it would know that a delay of 33 months is a mere trifle compared with the delays that commonly occur there. But the truth is that to be Japanese amply suffices to discredit any judicial act in the eyes of some foreign critics.

YOKOHAMA STEAM-LAUNCH BUILDING.

The Yokohama Engine and Iron Works have just finished a handsome steam-launch for the P. & O. Company for use in Kobe harbour. On Thursday a trial run was made that was attended by most satisfactory results. With a pressure of 85 lbs. per square inch, she attained a speed of 10½ knots, this pressure being 30 lbs. per square inch less than is expected at her official trial. This trip is expected to take place on Tuesday next, the 28th inst. The new launch's dimensions are:—

Length between perpendiculars. 50 ft.
Beam, moulded 10 ft.
Depth 6 ft.

She has compound surface condensing engines of the following dimensions:—

High pressure cylinder—7".
Low pressure cylinder—14".
Length of stroke—9".

The new launch is to proceed, under her own steam, to Kobe in a few days' time.

We hear that another launch is being built by the Engine Works for their own use, which is expected to be completed next month. She will probably be one of the fastest launches in the harbour, as, though slightly smaller than the new P. & O. launch, she is fitted with similar engines, and has the same boiler power.

THE NEW CURRENCY.

The Bank of Japan's Weekly Report, published in the *Hochi*, shows the average amount of gold and silver reserves for the past week to have been 54,291,971 yen and 42,452,011 yen respectively, making a total of 96,743,982 yen, of which 15,867,478 yen, is to be liquidated by the end of this month. Deducting this figure from the gold reserve we have a balance of 38,414,393 yen only. Supposing for a moment that the silver to be exchanged for gold on Oct. 1st amounts to 20 million yen, the gold reserve will then be reduced to 18,414,493 yen, and the silver reserve will be no less than 62,852,011 yen. The supply of present reserves therefore, unless it is increased by special means, is short by 20 million yen. An issue of convertible notes beyond the legal limit must necessarily follow. Such is the *Hochi's* verdict, but the figures upon which it is based are not in accord with the figures previously published by semi-official journals. Our contemporary seems to have confused the reserves held by the Bank itself as security for its issues of convertible notes with the reserves available for the purposes of the non-metallic system. The subject being of importance, we repeat the table recently published in these columns:—

	YEN.
Stock of gold now in the Treasury ...	76,468,670
do. do. Bank of Japan	39,530,173
do. do. lying in London	43,000,000
Total	158,998,843
Silver now in the Treasury	29,680,000
do. do. Bank of Japan	27,000,000
Total	56,680,000

Apparently the *Hochi Shimbu*n falls into the error of supposing that any drain caused by exchanging silver for gold will fall upon the Bank's reserves alone. Perhaps we may take this opportunity of noting that no indications are visible of the much-talked-of inundation of silver yen. Only very small quantities have, thus far, been carried to Japan from abroad, and we hear nothing of accumulations being made either in the great cities or at provincial centres. Indeed, on this morning of the day when the new system goes into operation, we do not hesitate to repeat our often expressed conviction that the Treasury will not be subjected to any inconvenience in the matter of exchange. Little by little any silver yen circulating abroad will certainly find their way to Japan, and be presented for exchange, but there will not be anything in the nature of a violent operation. As to the silver yen in the interior, the Government estimates them at 37 millions, in round numbers, and expects that two-thirds will be presented for exchange. Where are they, these 37 millions? The notes in circulation do not exceed 200 millions yen, so that if there are 37 millions of silver yen, there ought to be more than one silver yen for every six paper yen. But we never see such a thing as a silver yen. Is it conceivable that they are all lying in the strong rooms of banks or hidden away by hoarders? At any rate, whatever quantity of them have to be ultimately exchanged before they descend to the rank of bullion, we believe that the holders will generally prefer the new gold-notes to gold coins.

STORM AND DEATH IN YOKOHAMA.

The rainy, tempestuous weather of the past few days culminated on Thursday morning in a violent downpour of rain that did a tremendous amount of damage in Yokohama. On the Bluff landslips were general, more especially along the cliffs facing the sea, drains were washed up, and storm culverts wrecked. The lower parts of the Settlement were flooded, China-town suffering the most, while from 2 o'clock till well past three, Main Street bore the aspect of a fast flowing river. The wooden coverings of the main drain that runs through the centre of this street were washed away and many narrow escapes from falling down

the yawning pits thus left have to be recorded this morning. The surface of all the roads in Yokohama have been badly washed and in some case destroyed.

But it is in the Japanese part of the town that the worst has to be told. About 2 a.m. the hill-side at 6-chome, Ishikawa naka-machi broke away and a bath-house known as the Yanagiya, that stands just below the slope was wrecked. A sad fatality occurred here, the wife of the house-holder being crushed to death. Several other houses collapsed in other parts of the town, but the greatest havoc was caused at Ishikawa-nakamura, where the hill-side fell bodily upon a long row of houses built beneath and half buried them. All the inmates are said to have fled in due time and thus escaped certain death, though a little child is thought to be missing from one household. This morning the weather has cleared, the sun shining from the bluest of blue skies.

Messrs. Favre-Brandt have kindly placed the following figures at our disposal. During the typhoon of the 9th inst., the lowest barometrical record was 29.016. On Wednesday at 6 p.m. the barometer stood at 29.725. By midnight it had fallen to 29.489. Then at 2 a.m., when the storm was at its height, it fell to 29.213. After this it gradually rose, indicating 29.449 at 8 o'clock this morning.

The Home Department has been notified that the tunnel between Hodogaya and Totauka and a tunnel on the Yokosuka line fell in during Wednesday night. It is further reported that a goods train which left Tokyo at 10.50 p.m. on Wednesday, almost directly after entering the Totauka tunnel ran into the pile of fallen earth. The train was thrown off the line and several of the cars smashed to pieces. One man, a stoker, is said to have been seriously injured.

JAPANESE WAR-SHIPS IN FOREIGN SEAS.

It is certainly a fact, as the *Mainichi Shimbu*n observes, that the flag of Japan is very little seen in foreign seas. All Occidental Powers send squadrons, large or small, to distant countries, but so strange is Japan to the habit that when she ventures to despatch even one solitary vessel to Hawaii, people talk as if the act were full of significance. Apparently a feeling of dissatisfaction is growing up on the subject. It is said that the public begin to ask why she refrains from doing what other States deem necessary, despite the fact that many of her subjects have settled abroad, and are presumably in as much need of protection as are the subjects or citizens of any Occidental Power. Hawaii, America, Australia, Korea and China are spoken of as countries to which Japanese ships of war should be sent, from time to time, and it is alleged that the funds required for the purpose will be asked for by the Government in the next session of the Diet. We can not be surprised at the dissemination of such ideas, but it is to be observed that many of the Western States whose example Japan seem anxious to copy, would gladly be relieved of the necessity of despatching war-vessels to distant seas, and would feel themselves much stronger did circumstances allow them to concentrate their strength in home waters.

MILITARY MANŒUVRES IN IBARAKI PREFECTURE.

The First Division, whose headquarters are at Tokyo, has sent its Third Regiment of Infantry, its First Brigade of field artillery, and its First Brigade of Sappers, to engage in military manœuvres in Mushino plain in Ibaraki Prefecture. The force numbers between two and three thousand, and is under the command of Major-General Shiroya. The 25th, 26th and 27th are to be devoted to the manœuvres, the particulars of which are given in the vernacular press, but would scarcely interest our readers.

JAPANESE FACT AND COMMENTS.

The Finance Department has just issued a notification (No. 60), revising Notification No. 27 of the 30th year of Meiji, with regard to the receipt or delivery of bullion at the Mint. The principal alterations are in Arts. II. and III. They now read:—

Art. II.—With regard to freight and insurance "9.5 sen" in section 1, shall be changed to "4.7 sen"; and "19 sen," in section 2, to "9.5 sen."

Art. III.—With regard to the fineness of bullion for which a certificate of refinement or analysis is required, "5,000 yen" in clause (1), shall be altered to "10,000 yen"; "10,000 yen" in (2) to "20,000 yen"; "30,000 yen" in (3) to "60,000 yen"; "70,000 yen" in (4) to "140,000 yen"; and "70,000 yen" in (5) to "140,000 yen."

It is very strange, remarks the *Sekai no Nippon*, that the ancient system of poll-tax should still be in existence in the present enlightened era of Meiji. Okinawa became a dependency of Japan in the Keicho epoch, and its feudal system was abolished in the 12th year of Meiji, a prefecture being established in its stead. The Government, however, fearing public sentiment, hesitated to make any radical changes in the administration, and suffered the old customs and manners to continue. This unwise course has led to serious misery. It seems that taxes are paid in kind, and in the three districts of the main island, sugar, rice, millet, and woven goods are accepted at the inland revenue offices. Until these tithes, or tribute, are paid in, no sales of commodities are allowed in the islands. The officials fix the quantity of goods that will be received in lieu of hard cash, and accordingly they alone reap the profits that may arise through the appreciation in value of any of the goods or articles so paid in, the islanders not getting any share at all. That universal discontent should prevail among tax-payers in consequence, is therefore not surprising. The system of taxation is also peculiar, being a kind of poll-tax, without regard to poverty or wealth, and falls on man and woman alike. Persons above fifteen and below fifty years of age, and in some places, those above sixteen and below fifty-one, are divided into four classes and subject to different rates of taxation. Nor is the process of collection less irksome. Among commodities received as tribute are woven goods. They have to be prepared by the tax-payers at a workshop in front of the government office. Moreover, the inhabitants are required to furnish such goods as the officials may think proper to demand at any time and at their own discretion. Illness, adversity, or any other circumstance does not absolve the people from the duty of paying tribute. Thus it frequently happens that the poorer classes are compelled to perform hard labour for life by entering into bondage with some rich family, in order to pay their taxes. The inhabitants are prohibited from migrating or transferring their domiciliary registration beyond the limits of the island. Their misery, laments the *Sekai no Nippon*, is therefore almost indistinguishable.

The *Shogyo*, discussing the apparent lack of subsidiary coinage in the Japanese currency system, says that the deficiency ought to be supplied as soon as possible, the growing prosperity of the nation making such a step imperative.

The *Shogyo* alleges that great irregularities can be brought home to the Treasury officials who have charge of the Indemnity. It publishes various tables showing the amounts received and the sums disbursed, and then alleges that great carelessness is noticeable in the manner of bringing the money from England and its subsequent disposal.

The *Yomiuri* enters at length into the question of the removal of the present Governor-General of Formosa to a more subordinate post, and the placing in his stead of a well-known Satsuma statesman. Our contemporary says that Count Matsukata was of opinion that his shoulders were already sufficiently loaded with the burdens placed on them by the Treasury and

the Premiership, yet when the Colonial Department was abolished, the practical control of Formosa devolved upon him. He finds the duties more than he can conveniently discharge, and would welcome a change in the Governor-Generalship of the island. Viscount Takashima, says the *Yomiuri*, conveniently forgetful of the blunders he made as Colonial Minister, is willing to become Governor-General of Formosa.

According to the *Tokyo Shimbun* the one-yen silver piece will circulate only until March 31st, 1898, according to the most recent decision of the Cabinet.

The production of Japanese coal, remarks the *Nippon*, has considerably increased in consequence of the growing demand for it in the interior and in foreign countries. In the 24th year of Meiji, the amount produced did not exceed 3,175,000 tons, of which 2,239,000 tons were exported, realizing a value of 4,749,000 yen only. In the 29th year, however, the figure was raised to 5,200,000 tons, of which two million tons, valued at 8,000,000 yen, were exported. Coal now enjoys the third rank among the staples of export. The value of the export from January to August this year amounted to 7,150,000 yen. Below is a comparative table for the seven years:—

Year.	Produce. Tons.	Export. Tons.	Value of export. Tons.
1891	3,175,844	1,239,821	4,749,734
1892	3,175,671	1,299,352	4,571,988
1893	3,319,601	1,505,413	4,817,912
1894	4,268,135	1,701,130	6,578,462
1895	4,772,654	1,844,815	7,604,788
1896	5,249,919	2,194,412	8,879,265
1897, up to Aug. —	—	1,396,966	7,173,209

The internal consumption is also steadily increasing. In 1891 the amount was limited to a little less than 2 million tons, but it increased to 3 millions last year.

Some time ago, a few of the Government organs asserted, remarks the *Yoroku*, that when the new Russian Minister arrived in Japan the supplementary protocol or stipulation of the two countries regarding Korea would be concluded without any difficulty. The assertion, however, has now proved entirely illusive. That the Russian Government is disposed to undertake the drilling of Korean troops is now proved to be a fact. Despite the transfer of Mr. de Speyer to Korea, the drill question has rapidly progressed, and steps have actually been taken to commence the work of instruction in Seoul. What has become of the negotiations between Count Okuma and Baron Rosen? As the latter was found not to possess the plenipotentiary authority anticipated, the proceedings of the Russians in Korea with regard to the drilling of the native troops could in no way be checked or suspended through his agency. Thus it became necessary for the Count to settle the affair by opening direct negotiations with the Russian Government. That, too, is not so easy a matter as might be imagined, and the Count seems, the *Yoroku* alleges, to be in a state of deep despondency. We (*Japan Mail*) may add that all the above is to be taken with a large grain of salt.

The riot at Iida had scarcely been suppressed, remarks the *Yoroku*, before another broke out in Kanazawa. Reports of disturbances are coming to hand from various localities. In Niigata the poorer classes of the people, in spite of the steady rise in the price of rice since the spring, have managed to earn a subsistence by hard work. But the recent depression of trade having considerably decreased the demand for labour, while the damage from inundations and the spread of noxious insects became almost universal, they are now at the depth of misery. On the 20th ultimo, a representative of the poor people applied to the Town Hall, urging that the means of living having been lost through the extravagant rise in the value of rice, assistance might be afforded them by the supply of cheaper rice, and threatening that should their petition be refused they

would destroy the dwellings of the wealthy citizens and of the dealers in grain. To make matters worse, about two hundred fishermen in Shitamachi are on the verge of starvation on account of the entire failure of their industry. These too threaten to join in the violent movement now about to be carried out. The police are on the alert to prevent the trouble, but the spirit of disturbance seems to have spread to several villages in Hokuyetsu, which were lately devastated by locusts and inundations. Women, old and young, are fast deserting their villages to seek employment elsewhere. Saga, Takamatsu, Nagano, and Toyohashi, are scarcely less prominent in point of popular disturbance. In Yamagata prefecture a body of wretched men, numbering over one thousand, attacked the house of Mr. Yokoo, member of the House of Peers, on the 16th ultimo, and slightly wounded him. It is surprising, our contemporary adds, that under these circumstances a socialist party has not yet sprung up in Japan.

The number of prisoners in the three principal prisons in the capital on the 21st ultimo, according to the *Chuo*, was as follows:—

KAJIBASHI PRISON.

Criminal defendants awaiting trial—	
Men	776
Women	33
Convicts—	
Men	50
Women	—
Offenders under police supervision—	
Men	25
Women	—
Total	982

ICHIGAYA PRISON.

Offenders not convicted but under police surveillance—	
Men	57
Women	3
Convicts—	
Men	867
Women	158
In Penitentiary—	
Men	2
Women	—
Total	1,082

SUGAMO PRISON.

Under police supervision—	
Men	29
Women	—
Convicts—	
Men	1,738
Women	—
Total	1,767

According to the *Chuo*, a deficiency of twenty-three million yen in next year's estimates of revenue will exist even after public loans have been raised to the amount of 40,223,322 yen, together with appropriation of a portion of the indemnity to the amount of 34,934,120 yen into the accounts, as presented by the Cabinet in the 10th session of the Diet. That is the information obtained from a certain Government official. Of the installments of indemnity received, the amount of thirty-three millions still remains undisposed of and may legitimately be conveyed to the account for next year; but as for the raising of a loan of forty million yen, could the scheme be successfully carried out? So far as the programme of undertakings is concerned, there is an absolute necessity for raising the loan. Nevertheless the present condition of the financial market shows no prospect of success, and so the item of the loan must be regarded as a vague and unreliable estimate. The real deficit of revenue therefore does not fall short of fifty-three millions of yen. Even granting that the deficiency of 23 millions can be supplied by increase of taxes, the whole financial administration can not be adjusted so long as the huge sum of 40 million yen remains unsettled.

The High Education Council, says the *Chuo*, is now discussing the following three memorials to be forwarded to the Government:—(1) The necessity of improving the general system of learning in the Imperial University, and foster-

ing virtuous behaviour on the part of the Minister of Education and all other Ministers of State, including the Premier. (2) Increase of aids from the Treasury for practical education. (3) Conferring decorations on educationists.

The conference between the Bank of Japan and the Finance Department regarding notes exchangeable for gold having been concluded, says the *Hochi*, steps are now being taken to manufacture five yen notes in the Printing Bureau of the Department, in order that the same may be put into circulation within two or three months. The size of the paper is to be the same as that of the present one yen note, with slight alterations in the design. The latest reports place the amount of convertible notes hitherto in circulation at 108,500,000 yen, of which 65 millions are of 1 yen denomination, 60 millions of 5 and 10 yen value, and the rest of 100 yen. Although no serious changes have occurred in the amount of notes of 1 yen, 5 yen, and 10 yen denominations, the volume of 100-yen paper has been frequently expanded or diminished in proportion to the requirements of the currency.

The second examination of female candidates for university education in the United States is to be held in Tokyo in December next under the superintendence of Miss Tsuda Ume, Chairwoman of the Committee. The funds for carrying out the scheme were originally supplied by American ladies, at the instance of Miss Tsuda when she was sojourning abroad. Miss Tsuda is now able to send Japanese women to America for university education by appropriation of the interest of the capital. The first candidate, Miss Matsuda Michi, was sent to America in the 25th year of *Meiji* (1892), and has since been receiving instruction at the Brenmore University. As to the qualifications of candidates it may be noted that they must be above seventeen and below thirty years of age, unmarried, and in good health. The candidate, is examined in Japanese and Chinese literature, Japanese history, mathematics, one branch of science, and some English essays.

In consequence of the amalgamation of the Kiushiu and Chikuho Railway Companies, a meeting of the principal officers of each company was held, according to the *Tokyo Asahi*, on the 15th and 16th ultimo, when the following provisions were decided upon:—(1) The ordinary and a special meeting of shareholders shall be held on the 25th October next. (2) At the special meeting, a question respecting the increase of capital by five million yen, apart from the sum of thirty millions owned by the Kiushiu Railway Company, shall be presented, with a view to making various improvements and extensions. (3) The scale of freights shall be maintained as before until the formal sanction of the authorities is obtained to the proposed change. (4) The Chikuho Railway Company shall be dissolved on the 1st October. (5) Negotiations shall be carried on for the purchase of three other smaller railways in Tsukushi, Kurate, and Kokura.

According to the *Shogyo*, a competitive exhibition of cocoons, silk and woven goods is to be held in Ashikaga, Shimotsuke, from the 1st October to the 15th November, by the United efforts of one city and six prefectures. The new buildings were lately completed, and a special committee is now busily engaged in making the necessary arrangements. The expense to be incurred for the exhibition is estimated at 8,666 yen, of which a little over 2,000 yen will be defrayed out of the local taxes and the rest from voluntary contributions.

From the *Yoroku* we learn that the aborigines of Hokkaido having perished at the average rate of 100 per annum, there are now only 30,000 Ainos throughout the territory. Special protection therefore became necessary. Investigations were made by the Hokkaido Office, and it was eventually decided that two *cho* (5 acres) of land, under prohibition of sale, transfer, or cession, should be bestowed upon

each native now living, and that a tract of land formerly granted by the Imperial Household or Colonial Office, which to this day is held by the natives as their common property, should be placed under the direct control of the local Governor for protection. The scheme is to be presented in the forthcoming session of the Diet.

The *Shogyo* publishes the following estimates of the rice crop for this year in various parts of the empire:—

Prefecture.	Estimates at the time of sowing. koku.	Damages from the late inundations and insects. koku.	Estimates for this year. koku.
Yamanashi...	1,335,200	2,208	1,318,473
Tochigi	773,629	—	895,000
Yamaguchi ..	1,300,000	200,000	1,100,000
Kanagawa ...	360,000	45,000	315,000
Miye	1,262,070	85,000	1,177,000
Hiego	1,771,600	113,908	1,647,692
Ishikawa	1,000,000	300,000	697,600
Aichi	1,500,000	80,282	1,416,840
Ehime	605,380	30,750	641,451

The decrease of the crop is calculated to be 38 per cent. in Ishikawa, 15 per cent. in Kanagawa and Aichi, and 6 per cent. in Yamaguchi, as compared with the amount of average years.

According to the *Chuo*, the Budget for the 31st year was lately reinvestigated by each Government Department on the basis determined by the Finance Department. Yet many of the former items having been restored, the excess over the amount fixed by the Treasury seems to have reached 8,975,929 yen. If this figure is approved by the Cabinet, the total deficit will not fall short of 32,297,171 yen. It is scarcely necessary to remark that there is a serious difficulty in making up such an enormous deficiency. The scheme of increasing certain taxes would not cover even the deficit of twenty-three millions in the Finance Department's estimate of expenditures. The following shows the amounts of the original estimates of each Department, of the reductions made by the Treasury, as well as the figures restored:—

Department.	Original estimate. Yen.	Reductions. Yen.	Restored. Yen.
Foreign	943,509	332,795	1,650
Home	3,470,184	852,967	1,731,585
Finance	2,458,784	885,019	603,575
War	8,631,604	3,449,044	794,336
Navy	3,361,399	1,588,848	848,470
Judicial	1,095,466	533,081	61,850
Educational	4,166,607	362,339	1,140,655
Agricultural and Commercial ...	1,672,222	549,920	283,800
Communications ..	15,281,877	6,118,572	2,390,000

The restored figures divided into ordinary and extraordinary expenditures are:—

	Ordinary Expenditure. Yen.	Extraordinary Expenditure. Yen.
Fixed by Treasury	127,387,041	102,838,625
Restored	3,678,890	5,287,039
Total	131,065,931	108,125,664

The *Fiji Shimpō* states that the Government contemplates raising a sum of fifteen million yen within five years by increasing the rates of postage, in order that the money may be appropriated for the extension of postal and telegraphic institutions. Sales of post cards and stamps for this year are estimated to amount to twelve million yen, while letters and telegrams are increasing year by year, next year's receipts being expected to exceed fourteen million yen. The use of post cards doubles every year, their total number having reached 220 or 230 millions, valued at 2 or 3 million yen. If the Government's project is to be put into operation, it will be necessary to increase postages of all descriptions by twenty per cent. on the average. The process will require not only a different classification of mails, but also a revision of the scale of weights. The matter is attended with considerable trouble, nor is it improbable that public opposition will be raised.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce recently engaged in the discussion of problems concerning the revision of taxation. The conclusions arrived at are epitomized by the *Hochi*, to the effect that the taxes on land, *saké*, and tobacco, together with customs duties,

should be taken as the fundamental source of revenue for the administration of the country, and that all other forms of taxation, such as the Business tax, Income tax, Revenue Stamp duty, Hokkaido Marine Products duty, and Mining tax, should be entirely abolished, the Government being merely entitled to receive a certain amount of fees and other miscellaneous payments besides the four great sources of revenue referred to. With regard to the land tax, it is alleged that this tax should be levied on the actual value of land on the basis of a report from its owner, which may be revised in case of changes occurring in the value of land of more than one-fourth, and that the correctness of the report should be ascertained by a special investigation committee, and the rate of taxation fixed at 100%.

Should the above schemes be enforced, the revenue from the land tax could be increased by 21 million yen, and then the entire receipts of the Treasury, as estimated by the Chamber of Commerce, would be as follows:—

	Yen.
Land tax	59,600,297
Customs duties	15,000,000
<i>Saké</i> tax	30,000,000
Tobacco tax	10,000,000
Fees and other miscellaneous receipts	35,000,000
Total	149,600,297

The *Hochi Shimbun* relates a remarkable story from the North. It bears that, on the 2nd instant, a fisherman named Yamada, of Kan-zaki-mura, Kitami Province, Hokkaido, with a crew of six men, was returning to port in a junk with a quantity of game and sea-animals—presumably seals—on board, when they were overhauled off Kaiba island by a foreign sealing schooner, the crew of which boarded the junk, and threatening to fire on the Japanese if they resisted, seized all their game and carried it on board their vessel. The Japanese being unprepared for fighting, could do nothing but submit, and returned to their homes in the junk. They decided, however, to have revenge on the schooner, and a number of fishermen armed with swords and fire-arms are reported to have started in search of the schooner.

It may be of interest to know, remarks the *Shogyo*, what amount of gold and silver is held by the Government and by the Bank of Japan when Japan passes from a silver to a gold standard country in October next. The following are the figures obtained by the latest investigations:—

	Yen.
1. Gold bullion purchased by Government with indemnity	76,607,021
2. Gold received by Government by the sale of War Bonds	43,520,085
3. Reserve in gold coin and bullion held by the Bank of Japan	38,271,600
4. Gold coin in circulation in the interior at current value	9,680,179
Total	168,078,885

1. Silver bullion in the hands of Government, purchased with indemnity	1,214,777
2. Silver bullion held by the Bank of Japan	26,801,292
3. Silver coin held as a specie reserve by the Bank of Japan	12,225,307
4. Amount of silver circulating in the interior in July this year	36,791,415
Total	77,032,791

According to investigations made at Mr. Moki's Commercial Office, as published in the *Chuo*, silk received in Yokohama from the various producing districts and sold to foreign firms, or exported direct to the West, from June 1st to September 21st this year, was as follows:—

	1897. Bales.	1896. Bales.	1895. Bales.
Arrivals	43,704	28,582	63,604
Sales	29,008	8,497	35,399
Direct export	6,161	1,456	6,509
Returned	3,739	7,784	2,526

The Government intends in the next session of the Diet to introduce certain laws that will conduce to the better regulation and improvement of the artisan class. The Japan Spinning

Guild has accordingly appointed a committee representing the seventy-seven companies in the association, to guard the mill-owners' privileges.

During the first half of September, an increase of 3,000,000 *yen* was noticeable in the import returns of Kobe and Yokohama. This excess will be averaged up towards the end of the month, however, by the very large exports of silk now being made.

Mr. Sone Arasuke, ex-Minister to France, is showing much zeal in the establishment of a bank in Japan by the aid of foreign capital. He desires the bank to be of such a scope as to control Far Eastern finance and to this end would amalgamate the Bank of Japan and the Specie Bank, and open branches all over the East. He estimates the capital required at 25 millions of *yen*.

According to the *Yomiuri*, a general meeting of the Imperial Education Council is to be held at Aioicho, Kobe, for three days commencing on the 2nd October. Mr. Tazuki, Vice Minister for Education, and more than five hundred members will be present. The subjects of debate are as follow:—(1) School age should run for seven years, from the age of seven to the age of fourteen; but the obligatory term for attendance at school should be limited to five years. (2) Any person employing children who have not yet completed the prescribed educational term, is required to send such children to school for instruction five hours per week. (3) The law should prohibit drinking and smoking on the part of youths below twenty years of age. (4) Admittance to ordinary middle schools should be made only after the completion of a course of study in the 3rd year course of a higher preliminary school.

Hokkaido, asserts the *Yomiuri*, possesses over 5,600,000 *cho* of Government forests, of which 1,700,000 *cho* were originally set aside for the Crown. But in the 28th year of *Meiji*, that idea was abandoned and the forests were made State property. Forests owned by private individuals in Hokkaido do not fall short of 20,000 *cho*. The forestry affairs of the island need revision, and plans are already drawn-up whereby one-third of their present area will be turned into agricultural plantations.

Commenting upon the number of unnatural deaths contained in the latest police statistics to hand, the *Sakai-no-Nippon* says that suicide from mere cowardice has increased of late, while suicides undertaken from mortification arising from a stern sense of responsibility have considerably decreased.

The following are the figures for the three years:—

	Mental derangement.	Poverty.	Illness.	Love.	Disgrace.
1893	3,602	1,115	921	407	285
1894	3,470	1,327	878	251	313
1895	3,231	1,703	801	385	291

What do these figures mean—social progress or retrogression?

Information from Hokkaido, published in the *Tokyo Asahi*, states that the catch of herrings in that territory this year exceeded 1,006,000 *koku*, showing an increase of over 100,000 *koku* as compared with last year. Hiyama and six other districts in Oshima were the most successful, having secured more than double the quantity caught in the previous year. Kitami seems to have suffered considerably from floating ice, and the recent heavy rains caused decay among stored fish. In spite of the scarcity of fish manure from the above causes, prices have fallen, and the owners of stock appear to have resolved to hold their goods until a more favourable opportunity.

A report is published by the *Nichi Nichi* that the immediate cause of the attempted suicide of Mr. Akiyama, Councillor of the Foreign Department, was as follows:—On the day of his suicide he entered into a somewhat vehement conversation with Count Okuma, in regard to the claim to be made against the Hawaiian Government. Mr. Akiyama seems to have regarded the present as the best opportunity for

making the claim, while the Count preferred to transfer the negotiations to America, on account of the projected annexation of Hawaii by the United States. Thus a collision took place between the two, each insisting upon his own opinions. The dispute was with difficulty brought to an end by the intercession of Mr. Komura, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs. We (*Japan Mail*) regard this story as wholly chimerical. It carries its refutation on its face. No open question exists at present with regard to Japan's claim against Hawaii. It has been definitely decided that the matter shall be submitted to arbitration, and the two Powers are now engaged preparing a statement of facts, which both may subscribe, for the information of the arbitrator. It is inconceivable, therefore, that any discussion of the nature indicated by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbum* can have taken place between Count Okuma and Mr. Akiyama. Very different rumours have reached our ears as to the cause of the attempted suicide, but we do not consider it any part of a newspaper's functions to disclose the private affairs of anyone.

The Cabinet, remarks the *Osaka Asahi*, seems to have resolved upon increasing taxes on house lots with the intention of supplying the deficit in the revenue. The following table shows the steady rise in the value of house lots in the principal cities and towns throughout the country, 100 being taken as the standard of value for the 20th year of *Meiji* (1887):—

	1887. 1896.		1887. 1896.
Tokyo.....	100 170	Shimonoseki	100 124
Kyoto.....	100 162	Hakodate...	100 625
Osaka.....	100 222	Mayebashi..	100 173
Yokohama ..	100 167	Otau.....	100 429
Kobe	100		167

Cases of dysentery in the capital since the first outbreak up to the 27th September, according to the *Hochi*, totalled 6,170, of which 1,595 proved fatal. The following are the details:—

District.	Cases.	Deaths.
Kojimachi ..	84	20
Kanda	347	100
Nihon-bashi ..	76	25
Kyobashi	146	50
Shiba	202	69
Azabu	19	12
Akasaka	29	10
Yotsuya	42	16
Ushigome	57	16
Koishikawa	83	23
Hongo	78	27
Shitaya	96	26
Asakusa	126	43
Honjo	54	19
Fukagawa	45	20
Aibara	191	65
Toyotama	146	37
Kita Toshima ..	162	37
Minami Adachi ..	15	9
Minami Kasushika ..	27	8
Nishi Tama	1,119	203
Minami Tama	1,978	483
Kita Tama	1,057	277

LITERARY NOTES.

Mrs. Brightwen, F.E.S., has three times given to the world a book in which her intimacy with "Wild Nature" has found genial expression and met with popular approval. She has now essayed something more designedly instructive in a book entitled "Glimpses into Plant Life," which Mr. T. Fisher Unwin will publish in the autumn. It is, in fact, an easy guide to the study of botany, and with its numerous illustrations by the author and Mr. Theo. Carreras, at least makes for that end. It was the author's belief that the many botany-books which preceded hers might as well have been written in Sanskrit, considering the nature of their appeal to the average intellect. It has been her intention to produce a work that should not bristle with Latinisms naked and unashamed. These terrible scientific weeds cannot wholly be uprooted, but she has deprived them of their thorns by the aid of a copious glossary.

Children are among the most fascinating products of real life, but invented children are not

often a success. Between the fibberty gibbets of the immortal Helen and the impeccable aristocrat known as Little Lord Fauntleroy, lies the great army of unrecorded average children. Two of these have turned up in a literary sense to the surprise of a not altogether hardened publisher, and have produced a book "by themselves." "Those Dreadful Twins, Bosun and Middy" is the title, and the pictures thereof are real photographs of two real boys in sleep, in war; and in mischief. It is a fact that they live in Kensington and patronise the Round Pond, that they go to school, and that they spend their holidays with a retired seaman with glistening white braces. They are devoted to one another, and in the long run, and taking one day with another, a good many people, including their relatives and even a trade-engrossed merchant or two, are devoted to them. Mr. Unwin will publish the book in the autumn.

It is not generally known that the famous historian Hippolyte Adolphe Taine left a posthumous work behind him which has just appeared in France under the title of "Carnets de Voyage." Mr. Fisher Unwin has been fortunate enough to procure the English rights, and he will issue an illustrated translation in the autumn under the more precise title of "Journeys Through France: Being Impressions of the Provinces." The notes date from August, 1863, and were written in three successive years, during the journeys which Taine made as Examiner for admission to the military school of Saint-Cyr. The volume may be compared with his "Notes sur l'Angleterre," etc. Mr. Unwin has had his translation "got up" in a form similar to that in which he produced his "Riviera," and "Rome and Pompei," volumes which were also translations.

POSTAL RATES.

In the *Official Gazette* of the 25th ultimo is published a Notification (No. 270) of the Communications Department, showing the revised values of Japanese and French coins mentioned in the comparative table of currency of various nations, subjoined to Article IV. of the By-laws of the International Postal Regulations. Thus: French coin...25 centimes 10 centimes 5 centimes Japanese equivalent coin. 10 *sen* 4 *sen* 2 *sen*

Other notifications (Nos. 271 and 272) state that mail matter addressed to the Japanese postal districts in Korea, viz., Fusan, Inchhon (including Söul), and Wonsan, shall be dealt with in accordance with the rates of postage adopted for the interior, whereas matter directed to the Japanese postal districts in China, viz., Shanghai, Tientsin, Chefoo, Soochow, Hangchow, and Shashi, will be charged postage at the rate of 5 *sen* for every 15 grams, a *sen* for each post card, and 1 *sen* for every 50 grams of printed matter, commercial samples, and legal and commercial papers. Postages to countries in the Postal Union, to the various ports of China, and to all other countries not included in the Union (viz., those to which means of exchanging mails have been opened) are revised as follows:

	<i>Sen</i> .
Correspondence.....	10 for 15 grams.
Ordinary post card	4 each.
Return post card	8 each.
Printed matter	2 for 50 grams.
Commercial samples ...	4 for less than 100grams.
do do	2 for every 50 grams.
Legal and commercial papers	above 100.
do	10 for less than 250 grams.
do do	2 for every 50 grams.
Fee for registration	10 above the limit.
Fee for certificate of delivery	5
Special delivery.....	12

Singapore papers announce the death of Senor Minguez, of the Singapore branch, Campana Transatlantica Spanish mail line of steamers. Deceased, who had been suffering from some slight mental aberration, was on his way home by the M.M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, and he is supposed to have committed suicide by jumping overboard.

FUNERAL OF MR. J. S. ROBINSON.

The funeral of the late Mr. John Samuel Robinson, acting Superintendent-Engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, took place on Thursday afternoon at the General Cemetery. A number of friends of the deceased assembled at his late residence, No. 72 Bluff, where the first part of the service for the dead was performed by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, after which the funeral cortege formed and proceeded to the cemetery, the pall bearers being Messrs. T. Suda, Beattie, Fox, Clarke, Cleveland and Pitts. At the Cemetery a large and representative gathering had assembled to pay their last respects to the deceased. The congregation included almost all the Nippon Yusen Kaisha employes in port, representatives of many of the mercantile firms of Yokohama, of the Engine and Iron Works, and other engineering establishments, a strong contingent of Freemasons, of which Fraternity the deceased had been an esteemed member, and many Bluff residents, including a number of ladies. After reading the concluding portion of the burial service at the graveside, Mr. Irwine, in brief but telling words, referred to the manly, amiable and sterling qualities of the deceased, the high esteem and affection in which he had been held by those who had known him in his business and domestic relations, as well as in those of the great Brotherhood to which he belonged, and the loss they had all sustained by his demise. A wealth of beautiful floral offerings were sent by loving friends, the long list of the donors including Mr. Thos. E. Beatty, Mr. and Mrs. Bowden, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hamilton Boag, Mr. Emil Gulbrand Bergersen, Mr. W. Thompson, Mr. R. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Manley, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Borthwick, Mr. Edmund P. Pallister, Mr. and Mrs. G. Blundell, Mr. Rich. Abbey, Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Eford, Mr. and Mrs. G. Booth, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Owen Eustace, Mrs. A. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Macarthur, Mrs. Bartin H. Pratt, Captain Carsi and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. Annal, Mr. P. J. Hellaendal, Mr. and Mrs. B. Roth, Mr. and Miss Scott; Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of "O Tentosama Lodge," 1263 E.C., Mr. O. Keil, Mrs. Kenderdine, Mr. Jas. Hood, Mrs. W. Thompson, Mr. John W. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Moss, Mr. A. R. G. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Walter K. Tresize, Mr. and Mrs. Ellerton (Kobe), Mr. and Mrs. P. E. F. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weaver, Mr. J. W. Eckstrand, Mr. W. H. Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Howe, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred H. Dare, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pollak, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Eddale, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Gibbs, Mr. G. Charlesworth, Mrs. Cain, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Cain, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Noble, Mr. James Johnstone, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Swain, Mr. and Mrs. James Martin, Mr. and Mrs. E. Eagling, Mrs. C. B. Clausen, Mrs. Frances C. S. Cameron, Officers and Members of "Star in the East," No. 640, S.C., Mr. S. Otani, Mr. Tamio Hayashi, Mr. T. Suda, Mr. C. Iehizawa, Mr. T. Okochi, Mr. I. Wada, Mr. Y. Iwato, Mr. K. Moteji, Mr. P. Kagawa, Mr. S. Ninagawa, Members of the late Nippon Yusen Kaisha Engineering Works, and Mr. Ah Sung.

Mr. Robinson came out to Japan, we believe, in 1868 and was originally in the employ of the Mitsui Bishi Co. before that company was merged in the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, in whose service he has since been employed as one of their most valued officers. He had been suffering from a severe cold for some time, which turned to bronchitis, and latterly pneumonia supervened, but he had been confined to his bed only some ten days before his death. Mr. Robinson was married about ten years ago, and the sincerest sympathy of the community will be felt for the widow—who is most highly esteemed and loved by a large circle of friends—in her sad bereavement.

BANKING PROFITS IN JAPAN.

The following table is published by the *Ma-nichi*, showing the rate of profits made on their capital by the various national and private banks throughout the empire for the first half of this year:—

Districts.	National Banks.	Private Banks.	Per cent. per annum.
Huogo	65th	.....	95.4
Kumamoto	91th	.....	78.1
Nagasaki	18th	.....	75.7
Ehime	5and	.....	73.3
Hakodate	113th	.....	58.5
Osaka	130th	.....	53.1
Aichi	—	Kiyosu	50.5
Nagasaki	102nd	.....	49.9
Miye	105th	.....	48.2
Tokyo	84th	.....	47.8
Aichi	—	Nagayo	44.9
Tokyo	—	Mitsui	42.9
Tokyo	100th	.....	42.9
Shizuoka	—	Shisan	41.6
Shizuoka	35th	.....	41.2
Tokyo	—	Ito	40.5
Osaka	32nd	Mitsubishi	36.9
Osaka	34th	.....	36.2
Tokushima	—	Awa Commercial	35.5
Hiogo	38th	.....	35.4
Tokyo	—	Yasuda	35.2
Kanagawa	74th	.....	34.1
Fukushima	17th	.....	33.0
Osaka	121st	.....	32.3
Osaka	136th	.....	31.0
Chiba	98th	.....	30.6
Kagawa	114th	.....	30.4
Kagoshima	147th	.....	30.1
Gifu	129th	.....	29.2
Aomori	59th	.....	29.0
Osaka	42nd	.....	28.4
Hiroshima	66th	.....	28.3
Tokyo	—	Nippon Ginko	28.2
Shiga	21st	.....	26.8
Tokyo	20th	.....	26.3
Kagawa	24th	.....	26.3
Shizuoka	—	Shimada	26.2
Saitama	85th	.....	25.6
Shizuoka	—	Horinouchi	25.2
Osaka	148th	.....	25
Aichi	11th	.....	24.6
Osaka	—	Sumitomo	24.6
Aichi	—	Ichinomiya	24.5
Miyagi	77th	.....	24.5
Tokyo	—	Nakai	24
Toyama	—	Takusaki	23.9
Tokyo	—	Tokai	23.6
Shizuoka	—	Saiyen	23.3
Nagano	—	Uyeda	22.8
Niigata	71st	.....	22.5
Fukui	92nd	.....	22.3
Aichi	—	Atsuta	22.2
Shizuoka	—	Mishima	22.2
Kagawa	—	Sakaide	22.1
Fukui	25th	.....	22.1
Hiogo	94th	.....	22
Kyoto	137th	.....	21.9
Kyoto	—	Commercial & Industrial	21.6
Fokyo	—	Hirobe	21.6
Nagasaki	—	Nerihaya	21.5
Tokyo	27th	.....	21.5
Miye	—	Iga	21.4
Ishikawa	—	Kashin	21.3
Niigata	69th	.....	21.2
Osaka	—	Industrial	21.2
Hiogo	—	Himeji	21
Nagasaki	—	Kushima	21
Aichi	—	Sekito	21
Ehime	29th	.....	21
Kumamoto	151st	.....	21
Hiogo	56th	.....	21
Wakayama	43rd	.....	20.8
Tochigi	41st	.....	20.6
Tokyo	—	Kawasaki	20.4
Shizuoka	91st	.....	20.4
Nara	—	Yagi	20.3
Fukui	—	Tsuruga	20.1
Miye	—	Kitayama	20
			20

BIRTH OF AN IMPERIAL PRINCESS.

An extra of the *Official Gazette* announces that Madame Sono gave birth to an Imperial Princess at 11.05 a.m. on the 24th ultimo. This is the Emperor's thirteenth child, and Madame Sono's fifth. Nine have died, and the four living are the Prince Imperial, born August 31st, 1879; Princess Tsune, born Sept. 30th, 1888; Princess Kane, born Jan. 29th 1890, and the little Princess just born. Of the four Imperial children now alive, Madame Sono is the mother of three.

KOREAN NOTES.

It is an old experience that accession to official power has the effect of bringing out a man's conservative views. Mr. Kim Kachin, Governor of Whanghai, is acting in accordance with precedent. For many years he has been a prominent figure in Korean politics and a progressionist of the progressionists. But the air of Whanghai is bad for progress. A magistrate in one of the districts fraudulently squeezed ten thousand *yen* out of the people. Governor Kim, getting information of the fraud, sent another magistrate who compelled the guilty man to disgorge. Progressive principles would have dictated the restoration of the money to the defrauded people. But Governor Kim ordered that it should be sent to himself, and on reaching him, it "remained." The Governor has also issued a proclamation denouncing the abolition of the caste system as "the crime of the age," and declaring, further, that the adoption of a foreign religion by Korea would lead to the destruction of the country.

Mr. H. N. Allen has presented his credentials as the new United States Minister in Seoul.

When we read that, in accordance with a recently issued royal ordinance, no less than seventy-two gold mines in Korea have been transferred to the Royal Household Department, we are impressed with the idea that the peninsular Kingdom must be a Clondyke in disguise. Seventy-two mines, all designated by name, and thirty of them in Pyengyang province! Either they are burlesques of mines or the manner of working them is a parody.

A Washington engraver, who was employed in the preparation of Korean postage stamps, claims that he is owed \$322 by the Korean Legation in the city. The Legation having no money for such a purpose, has applied to the Bureau of Communications in Seoul. The Bureau denies that it owes a cent. Probably the money stuck *en route* somewhere to the engraver.

The Fusan Chamber of Commerce (Korean) has addressed to the Soul *Independent* a letter containing some curious complaints. The signatories say that, in the first place, the tax-collectors have called upon them to pay twenty per cent. of their gross receipts for the purposes of a "royal kitchen supply fund"; secondly, the local officials require them to insure their property at the rate of 33½ per cent. Thirdly, they have already had to contribute \$2,000 for purposes of street repairing, and no repairs have been done. They conclude their letter with a very pointed menace:—"Under such circumstances we, the feeble tradesmen, cannot exist and much less become prosperous. To whom shall we complain? Who will deliver us from this constant oppression? We are patient and obedient, but we are afraid that we may be driven into a desperate movement by these 'blood suckers' who call themselves agents, secret inspectors and tax collectors. We appeal to our rulers for their mercy and justice, and pray they may spare us from taking a rash step which will be an injury to both the Government and the people."

The discussions periodically held by the Debating Society of the Soul Independence Club must be an interesting novelty to the citizens. The subject of the last discussion (Sept. 12th) was whether "a nation's prosperity depends entirely on the increase of commercial enterprises." There were four speakers, one Mr. Hyen and three Messrs. Yo, and the "ayes" had a majority of four.

That remarkably veracious and observant person the Korean correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* is beginning to be appreciated in Korea as he has long been appreciated elsewhere. Referring to a letter of his in which he says that the Independence Club was founded by Kim Kachin "of illegitimate birth," and by An Kyungsu "of no birth at all," the editor of the *Independent* remarks that Kim "has ab-

solutely nothing to do with the founding of the Club"; that An is "of a good country family of the upper class," and that "the meanness of saying such a thing, the utter lack of the milk of human kindness, is so appalling, that I, for one, would rather be Kim Kachin than the thing that penned the contemptible statement." The "thing," as the *Independent* calls him, has been penning "contemptible statements" for such a long time that he is not likely to heed any new *exposé* of his habit.

Mr. Kato, Japanese Representative in Sōul, is now Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique in that city.

"Patriotic" Koreans are again beginning to seat themselves at the entrance to Legation Street in Sōul, with petitions recommending the death of the "traitors who have run away to Japan."

Of the seven administrative departments in Sōul only three are furnished with active Ministers at present. The Departments of War and Education have neither Ministers nor Vice-Ministers, and the Ministers of Finance and Home Affairs are sick.

Nothing can be quainter than some of the incidents that mark financial operations in Korea. A shortage of \$1,800 was recently discovered in the accounts of the disbursing office in the Law Department. The Chief of the Office declared that the guilt rested entirely with a subordinate. Presently it appeared that certain persons had borrowed part of the money from the Chief. They paid back \$400, and, at the same time, the Supreme Court sent in an equal sum, the proceeds of fines. The Chief wrapped up the money carefully, took it home and disappeared. Another case is this:—The War Office keeps back 50 cents monthly from each soldier's pay to form a fund for the man when he leaves the service. The Agricultural Department borrowed \$2,000 from that fund and sent it to the Korean Minister in Tokyo to purchase lithographic apparatus. The Minister closed on the money, declaring that his Government owed him several times the amount.

It appears that there is a very pretty mixture of languages in the words of command used in the Korean army—Chinese, German, English, Japanese and Russian.

A speech delivered by Dr. Jaisohn, the editor of the *Independent*, on Founders' Day at the Independence Club, bore very practical fruit. One of the audience was so impressed by the Doctor's remarks on the evils of slavery, that he went home and freed 32 slaves belonging to himself and his relatives.

We take the following paragraph from the *Independent* of the 18th instant:—"The War Office has ordered the first and second regiments to select one hundred men from each regiment to be sent to the front of the Kyengbok Palace every morning at seven o'clock. They will be drilled by the new Russian officers recently arrived. The Department has further ordered the fourth and fifth regiments to send one hundred men from each to the same place every afternoon at 3 o'clock for the same purpose. Two hundred will be selected from the third regiment and will be drilled by Lieut. Sa Chaiheup, of the Royal Body Guards, at their barracks inside the East gate.

"The recently arrived Russian officers, three lieutenants and ten non-commissioned officers, commenced their work last Thursday by drilling the selected four hundred men from the different regiments."

A cargo boat owned by Mr. Suyama of Haneda, Ebara-gun, which was despatched from Hachiman-zuka, Boshu, for Yokohama with a load of gravel ballast, foundered just outside Yokohama harbour in the choppy sea on Sunday last. The crew of three men were rescued by a fishing boat.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. E. J. Plaza, Second Secretary of the Mexican Legation in Tokyo, has been recognised by the Government as Consul-General for Mexico at Yokohama.

During the visit of H.M.S. *Pigmy* to Bangkok, Commander Dormer had his gold watch stolen. It was recovered in a pawnshop, where it had been pawned for Ticals 60. Three natives were concerned in the theft.

Brother Louis, visitor of the Christian Brothers at Saigon, has been appointed Chevalier of the Legion of Honour as a reward for his services in the Far East. Brother Louis was for several years Director of St. Joseph's College in Hongkong.

The *Times* Simla correspondent says that opinion generally inclines to the belief that the Ameer is not directly concerned in the frontier risings. His desire to answer the Viceroy's letter is proven by his sending duplicate letters by different routes.

The Duke of Cambridge attended the German Army manoeuvres at Coblenz, and, on the 30th August, led his regiment past the Emperor, who, at a banquet in the evening, heartily thanked the former Commander-in-Chief of "the brave British Army" for honouring the manoeuvres with his presence.

It is reported that seven more Achinese, who took part in the piratical outrage on the British steamer *Pegu*, are now in the hands of Tungku Di Buah, about three miles from Kerti, and that Chut Nyak, of Kerti, has insisted upon Tungku Di Buah handing over the men promptly to the Dutch authorities.

On Tuesday morning, about 9 o'clock, a piece of the hill side at the back of No. 26 Bluff, fell in, owing to the heavy rainfall, and a servant girl of about 15 years of age, who was in the kitchen of the house occupied by Mr. Kurokawa, received some injuries while attempting to escape.

Fire broke out in one of the workshops in the Osaka Iron Works and Shipbuilding Yard on Friday morning. The damage was fortunately confined to the Carpenters' Shop, and the loss is understood by the *Kobe Herald* to be about \$1,500 or \$2,000.

According to a vernacular paper, the Yokohama Electric Light Company will raise its rates by 10 *sen* or 20 *sen* from the 1st of Oct. As though the charges for a very poor and unreliable light were not already high enough in all conscience!

Mrs. Bishop has nearly finished the book in which she describes her travels in Korea and other parts of the Far East. Most of the illustrations from the photographs are also ready. Mrs. Bishop discusses some of the political problems of the Far East.

It is said that the proprietors of the London *Daily Mail*, which was established a little more than a year ago and took an immediate hold on the British public, because it was conducted on the most modern methods, find that although the paper has a circulation of 350,000 per day, they cannot make the venture pay at a half-penny, so from January 1st it will come out as a penny daily.

The members of the British Trades Union Congress have formally agreed to financially support the engineers whose strike is paralyzing the iron, steel and hardware trades at home. Mr. Benjamin Pickard, M.P., president of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, in supporting the motion, said that all the trade unionists should tender eight hour notices and "sink or swim" with the engineers.

Latest news from Clondyke is to the effect that all the good claims are now staked. The condition of the people at Dyea and Dawson City who have as yet failed to get across the mountains to the land of promise, is said to be

very terrible and steamers are returning south laden with disappointed folk. Many of them, however, will make another attempt in the spring, when conditions will be more favourable.

The *Kobe Chronicle* learns from the Osaka *Asahi* that in the Osaka District Court, on the 22nd inst., Mr. Kato Masahiro, the editor, and Muneta Maoru, the publisher, of the *Hatahara Shimbu*, an Osaka journal, were each condemned to imprisonment for eight months and ordered to pay a fine of 30 *yen*, for having libelled a certain official or officials. These are all the particulars the *Asahi* gives of the case.

Says the *China Mail*:—The numerous friends of Commodore Swinton C. Holland, R.N., will be pleased to learn that Her Majesty the Queen has conferred upon him the special medal issued to commemorate the sixtieth year of her reign. Commodore Holland is one of the most popular officers in the service, and is as much beloved by his subordinates as he is popular outside naval circles. He did good service on the China Station some years ago in H.M.S. *Sylvia*, and surveyed the Korean and Japanese coasts. Commodore Holland is an A.D.C. to Her Majesty.

The latest disease of the hour is "Clondycitis," and, according to *Vanity Fair*, Her Majesty Queen Victoria is one of the victims. Not that the Queen wishes to pack up her trunks and make tracks for the frozen north. No, the royal lady is only very greatly interested in the rush to the Clondyke gold mining region, and has asked many questions regarding the protection afforded there to her subjects. Her Majesty knows a great deal about British Columbia, where a vast estate was purchased for the Crown a few years back.

According to a despatch to the *Standard* from Moscow, a fanatical monk has given another curious illustration of a form of religious delusion now raging in many parts of Russia. The priest had himself buried to the arm-pits in a cave near the town of Urals, the capital of the Government of the same name on the Ural. He hoped to find salvation by mortifying the flesh and asked his friends to return to him in a week, when he expected to have found the object of his desire. They consented to the arrangement, but on returning found him dead.

A new engine ought to be a simple thing to hit, even for a woman, when the missile is a champagne bottle and the range is two yards. Yet women are full of surprises! The other day, in West Australia, as the wife of a mine manager was attempting to christen a new engine under these circumstances, she took aim, hurled the bottle, missed the engine by a handsome margin, and hit her husband full in the place where Abner Dean of Angel's received the old red sandstone, the blow forcing him back into a cistern full of water. This should be a christening record, remarks a home paper.

If you ask the man in the street where the typewriter was invented, he is pretty sure to tell you in America. It seems, however, that the first patent for a typewriting machine was taken out by an Englishman, one Henry Mills, so long ago as 1714. Rather more than fifty years since, another patent was granted at Frankfurt, to a blind mechanic, Pierre Foucault, and his machine was largely used on the Continent. The type-bar principle was first adopted in 1856, by one A. H. Beach. The Remington typewriter, however, which claims to be the first machine to come into really practical use, was invented in 1867 by an American, C. L. Sholes, who in 1873 transferred his patent to Messrs. Remington & Sons, the well-known gun-makers of New York, by whom it was successfully placed upon the market, under the name which it now bears.

An extraordinary meeting of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club was convened at Keil's building on Thursday evening for the purpose of electing a Vice-President and Captain of Cricket in the room of Mr. C. M.

Duff, resigned. Only ten members put in an appearance, however, and after waiting the usual half hour, the President, Mr. J. P. Mollison, adjourned the meeting until Saturday next at 5 p.m., when members will meet at the Pavilion at the close of the cricket or base-ball match.

There lives a gentleman at Worcester, Cape Colony, who might without offence, be described as a pluralist. Here is a list of what a Colonial paper describes as "a few of his offices":—"Legal adviser to the Municipality, part printer and advertiser to the Municipality, printer and advertiser, notary to the A.B.C. Bank, director of the Worcester Gold Exploration Company, Justice of the Peace, auditor to the Colonial Brandy Company, secretary to the Municipal Council, secretary to the Divisional Council, inspector of roads to the Divisional Council, Deputy Sheriff and Civil Messenger to the Resident Magistrate's Court." In addition, he is an attorney, a notary, and conveyancer, and a newspaper proprietor and editor. *Pook-Bah*, by comparison, would be regarded as quite an idle person at Worcester, Cape Colony.

It may be said of Prince Hugo zu Hohenlohe-Oehringen, Duke of Ujest, who died at his castle in Silesia in the latter days of August, remarks a home paper, that he was one of the keenest sportsmen in Germany. He kept a large stable, and had twice won the German Derby. Latterly, however, he was not such a constant visitor to the principal races in Germany. Prince Hugo, who received the title of Duke of Ujest at the coronation of William I., was senior of the united house of Hohenlohe. He was an active soldier, and during the Austrian campaign acted as personal aide-de camp to William I. His services to the Army were pleasantly recognised last year. On the occasion of the celebrations in honour of the foundation of the Empire, the Empress herself singled him out for special recognition.

The *Whiting*, t.b.d., Lieut. I. P. Barton, which, at her commissioning trial on 13th Aug., maintained a speed of 29½ knots, left Portsmouth on 14th ult. for Portland. The *Whiting*, which has been commissioned for service on the China Station, will be conveyed to Gibraltar by the Channel Squadron. During a steam trial off Plymouth on 18th ult. the torpedo boat destroyer *Shark* broke down badly, having cracked the casing of her high-pressure cylinder. Instead of proceeding to the China Station, for which she was commissioned, she will be paid off and her crew turned over possibly to the *Sparrowhawk* as soon as the damage she received in collision with the staging of the dock is repaired. This latter boat, whilst being moved into dock at Devonport on the 17th Aug. to have her underwater fittings examined, came into collision with the pontoon at the dock entrance, part of which was carried away as the vessel backed out. The forepart of the *Sparrowhawk* was considerably damaged, all the plates on both sides of the bows for a distance of 8 ft. from the stem being strained and indented.

The *Daily Telegraph's* autumnal correspondence—to call it silly season gup would be unkind—got off with a magnificent start. In a couple of days there were columns of letters from "A Citizen of the World," "The Modern Adam" and other illustrious personages who hid strawberry leaves and K.C.M.G.'s under what Mr. Sala would have called names of the quill. It is all about Broadstairs and bathing and more or less about bloomers. Will "False Modesty" develop the splendid staying powers of "Is marriage a failure?" We are not sure; it is a sad but undeniable truth that more people are addicted to matrimony than to washing. The correspondence, at any rate, is booming at present like a 100-ton gun when they have not forgotten the powder. Walt Whitman, the Mahrattas, and the Garden of Eden have already been pressed into service, while "A Friend of Facts" takes a trick by a quotation from St. Paul. We seem to detect in his letter the hand—not of a duke—but of a D.D.—Dr. Parker, to wit. The story about his

meeting a Mahratta woman at a ford, and her goings-on with her simple garb of *choli* and *sari*, would bring down the roof of the City Temple. "I only salaamed to her in deep respect."

The steamer *Flintshire* landed eighteen Maxim guns at Singapore in the first week of Sept. They are all .303 bore, to be used with cordite. These will be variously used for flank defence of forts, and of the harbour entrances, as well as for general land work with infantry. Some will be on fixed cone mountings and others on light wheeled carriages. From a practical point of view (says the *Singapore Free Press*) that is, fire efficacy, these eighteen,—reckoning one Maxim as equal to 75 infantry, deployed and in action—are about equal to 1,340 additional infantry, as a reinforcement to the garrison. And as we have before remarked, they draw no pay, rations or clothing, they need no extra barracks, they don't require to be sent home in troopships at intervals, nor do they go into hospital. With the four of the S.V.A., which is the Senior Maxim battery in the British service, there are now twenty-two of these valuable weapons available for use in the Singapore defences.

The conceit of a Melbourne man in regard to the advantages of his town has passed into a proverb throughout Australia. It is therefore not surprising to find that the Premier of Victoria, Sir George Turner, appears to have found only one thing better in London than in Melbourne—the police. They were most tactful and accommodating. The shops were no better than Melbourne, the streets were much worse, the public buildings were dirty; even the slums were disappointing—they were not "so bad as I had been led to expect." The people were most friendly towards the colonies, and most ignorant regarding them. The House of Commons was no better than the Melbourne Assembly, which has proportionately as many able men and good speakers, and when the Melbourne Knight was entertained by the nobility he advised them to cultivate their "unused land"—the vaulted parks of England. There was no theatre in England as good as the Princess's, and Melbourne papers were better than the London dailies. After this it is consoling to find that, though Sir George could not express an opinion of Lord Salisbury, he liked Mr. Chamberlain so much that he wanted to go and help him get his bills through the House, and he found the Prince of Wales very kind, and that her Majesty had much charm of manner and a beautiful voice; but he omits to mention whether they had not a better Queen somewhere in Melbourne.

The following is Sir Walter Besant's character sketch of the average Englishman:—"He is, to begin with, more readily attracted by things practical than by things theoretical; he prefers a feat of arms to any intellectual achievement: he would rather hear of things done than of things attempted; he worships success in everything, because success means battle and victory; he is combative and aggressive; he likes fighting as much as his ancestors. Whenever there is fighting to be had, whenever the army is creditably engaged, the recruits flock in by thousands. He is subject to restlessness; he cannot be always sitting still; he will throw up his situation and go roaming about the world; he likes trade, especially trade across the seas, because it demands enterprise and courage—it is a great mistake to suppose that the love of trade denotes a mean and money-grubbing spirit. He is profoundly religious, but he will not endure the dominion of priests; he is tender and even chivalrous towards women; he loves children; he sits at home with his wife and children, and desires no other society. To the kings who have from time to time attempted to extend the royal prerogative, and to curtail his own liberties, he has always opposed a steady, stubborn resistance—in the long run it has been the worse for that king—and he demands freedom of speech, freedom of thought, freedom of faith. He insists on self-government as his

inheritance, he enters into combinations and associations with readiness, and understands what is meant by give and take. He is not the most courteous person in the civilised world: he is well satisfied with himself; he seldom troubles himself much about the position and the views of other people. Add to all these points that he is a strong, big, and healthy animal; that he is greatly led by his animal instincts; and that his views on all subjects are influenced by sentiment rather than reason.

Under the title of "The English and their Army," the *Petit Parisien* publishes an article which, although it contains some unpleasant truths, is none the less deserving of notice. After alluding to the opinion expressed by Sir James Fergusson, that the military forces of England were no longer in harmony with the existing state of things, the writer proceeds:—"Great Britain, in spite of her ambition to take part in the affairs of the Continent, was absorbed during a whole century in the exploitation and extension of her colonies, which to-day cover over twenty-one millions of square kilometres, and include over two hundred and twenty millions of inhabitants. But nobody knows better than England how fictitious this greatness is. The incomparable spectacle of the Jubilee was imposing at least in one respect—it turned public attention from foreign affairs. For several weeks the people gave themselves up to all kinds of imagination, but England soon recovered from the excess of her enthusiasm. She asked herself if her power was as firm as it was brilliant, and capable of resisting all attacks. A redoubtable rival rose before her—Germany—who now disputes the commercial and industrial preponderance of the world. She was stopped by Germany at the very moment when she was about to lay hands on the Transvaal, in the same way as she was stopped by Russia when she intended to confiscate Afghanistan. In Africa, Germany keeps her in check. In Asia it is Russia who holds her back. In India the position is delicate, and West Africa is no better off. She keeps Egypt, but she feels that Europe will one day call on her to evacuate it." After giving a detailed account of the military forces of England, and showing the necessity of adopting the system of conscription in the place of voluntary service, the writer concludes:—"All these forces exist more or less only on paper. No doubt, in the hour of national danger, England would call them out, and they would not shrink from their sacred duty, but of what weight would the riflemen, suddenly turned into soldiers, be in a campaign against a regular army? In addition to this, the attitude of colonial affairs would force the Government to provide for fresh necessities, and the resources of the active army would be thereby considerably diminished. The situation, therefore, can only be remedied by the adoption of a new system of recruiting which shall not leave England exposed to peril on all sides."

EARTHQUAKES.

That grotesque imagination is not quite extinct in England, remarks the *Globe*, is proved by Professor Milne in the lecture upon earthquakes which he delivered before the British Association. After the earthquake in the Severn Valley at the end of last year, he said, among other curious communications which he received was one attributing the commotion to a huge serpent which until recently had been buried beneath London, but latterly had escaped to the air above, and was occasionally to be seen hovering over Trafalgar-square. In what precise way the serpent so incommoded the dwellers in the Severn Valley we cannot say, but it is pleasing to find still a capacity for fantastic theorising on the subject. [We wonder whose leg was being pulled? The Professor's or the Professor's audience: "Honest John" was rather an adept at that kind of thing. At any rate we in Japan constantly hear the dragon theory solemnly propounded over the luncheon table for the benefit of the newly landed griffin.] Science has destroyed for us, continues the *Globe*, so

much of the picturesque. The old earthquake theories were infinitely more interesting and fanciful. Compare with them the prosaic theory of the present day: that earthquakes are the result of rocky strata being bent—as in the process of mountain formation—beyond the limits of their elasticity; or, in simpler language, that they are “accelerations and announcements of orogenic and bradyseismical processes, which tell us that adjustments have taken place in the elastic or gravitational isostasy of the earth's crust.” Such was the limp explanation offered by Professor Milne to the devout at Toronto; but most persons, while admitting the value of Professor Milne's researches, will prefer to think of the Poseidon of their schooldays “humping himself,” as the Americans say, down below.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE OKAYAMA ORPHANAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “JAPAN MAIL.”
SIR,—On Sept. 22nd this well known Asylum passed its tenth year line. I have no thought of attempting here a review of its wonderful life and varied service during these years. Any who care to read the story are referred to the institution's own journal, *Asylum Record*, or other publications. To have helped 500 needy people up into a larger and better life, to have served as an inspiring example to scores of similar institutions, to have awakened a world-wide sympathy and response, to have stood the test alike of desperate need and of a rapid development, keeping true to the old faith and the old humility amid the rush and enterprise of a dazzling success, is an achievement worthy of high praise and a feeling of profound gratitude to him in whose name the institution was founded and by whose grace alone it has been and can be sustained.

On Wednesday evening last a delightful service was held in Buxton cottage. This building, by the way, will henceforth be known as Buxton Chapel and will serve as the general assembly hall now that the old temple has been relinquished by order of the Buddhist priests, who would no longer permit a Christian orphanage to rent their unused temple. This service was private, being confined to the workers and children. Two practical features of the meeting may be mentioned. A thanksgiving collection of several dollars was taken up to be divided between home and foreign charities, and a strong plea was made for a building and endowment for the Asylum school. The development of the educational side of the institution will be especially pushed in the near future.

The public service was postponed till the January holidays in order to allow more time for completion of unfinished buildings and the settlement of unpaid bills.

The past summer has been a very trying one, but thanks to larger buildings and a special gift of \$1,000 (gold) from a young lady in New York city, the institution has pulled through the hot season and all the industries are under full headway once more. Just at present, Mr. Ishii is in Hyuga, whither some thirty of the youngest children have been sent by junk to play and work on the upland farm, strung up in physical health for hard work later in shop and school room.

Mr. Ishii must have hundreds of friends and admirers throughout the country who will be glad to learn that his asylum, not satisfied with its achievements in the past, is pressing on in hope and faith and love to yet larger service for the needy poor of Japan. The institution knows no line of sex or class or nation. Its aim is to befriend the unfortunate and to change thieving beggars into Christian bread winners. Could there be a better time for the general public to express by generous contributions its admiration for the pluck and patience and prayerful devotion with which this man of earnest faith and tireless activity has carried on his work during ten hard years of struggle—and its firm belief that the next ten years will see a yet grander advance in the telling service of his marvellous institution? One strong rally altogether and the greatly needed buildings could be erected and furnished, outstanding bills paid, and the industries placed on a better paying basis. Then what rejoicing there would be next January when friends from far and near are formally called together to review the past and plan for the future. Okayama Orphan Asylum is certainly worth this much attention and assistance at the present crisis in its history. Let us all do something and the deed will be accomplished.

J. H. PETTEE.

Okayama, Sept. 24th, 1897.

A SAD CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “JAPAN MAIL.”

SIR,—Reliable information has come to me recently of a matter which I decide to share with your readers, not alone in the hope of securing assistance for one unfortunate woman but of stirring up the public conscience to put an end to the vile traffic in flesh and blood of which this is only a representative case.

A woman forced by one of those terrors of Japanese social life, a cruel, covetous, evil-minded mother-in-law, has been sold into the service of shame for a short term of years. She loathes the business and is anxious to be freed from her legal bondage. There is strong reason to believe that if she could be released and removed from her former surroundings, she would become an honour instead of a disgrace to the name of womanhood. It does not seem wise to give further details, though I will add that the woman is not a resident of Okayama and is enslaved at present in one of the three largest cities of the empire. I have no desire to persecute individuals however abominable their trade and despicable their character, or to run the risk of causing further distress to their long suffering victims. Moreover, the details would be quite too shocking for publication, but I am anxious if possible to save this one unfortunate and to brand the infamy of a system and a state of society that permit such things in the name and under the sanction of law and order. Any one who knows ought of the under-side of Japanese society is well aware of the fact that hundreds of women are sold every year against their wishes. They dare not refuse to go where they are bidden, to say what they are told, to sign what they are ordered. If the license system must be tolerated for a while longer, it should be kept under a stricter watch than at present. The protection of the law and the sympathy of its executors should be plainly and positively on the side of the weaker, more defenseless portion of society and not that of its brutal domineering devilish “masters.” It is hard to be temperate in one's language about such matters in these evil days, when the bottom seem to have dropped out of Japanese morality and one gets a glimpse so frequently into the awful sink of corruption that still exists in this fair land.

But the immediate question is, can this one woman be saved and in such a way as not to further encourage similar sales? Unfortunately I am not in a condition at present to handle the case alone financially. If there are those who are willing to help me in the matter so that seventy dollars can be raised, the attempt will be made. The plan would be to discharge the legal claim at the lowest possible figure and set the woman at work supporting herself under new and helpful surroundings, with the clear understanding that all earnings above the bare cost of living—for at least the same number of years as her present engagement—should go toward refunding the payment made on her behalf or for the rescue of similar women.

If for any reason it should prove unwise or impossible to rescue the woman, all contributions received for this purpose will be returned to the donors, unless such givers are kind enough to allow me the option of devoting the money to some other charity—say Mr. Ishii's Orphanage, whose treasury is in great straits just now.

Seventy pieces of silver is not a large amount in these times. Its giving may mean the reclamation of a life on earth and the cause of lasting melody in Heaven. Can there be a better investment?

J. H. PETTEE.

Okayama, Sept. 24, 1897.

[If any of our readers are disposed to contribute to either excellent works mentioned in Mr. Pettee's letters, we shall be glad to receive subscriptions, acknowledge and forward them, should our intervention seem to facilitate matters.—Ed. J. M.]

YOKOHAMA CHORAL SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Yokohama Choral Society, to receive the report of the committee and elect officers for the ensuing season was announced for Thursday evening at 5.30, at the Van Schaick Hall, but as there were not sufficient members present to form a quorum, after waiting till 6 p.m. the President Mr. J. T. Griffin adjourned the meeting till Monday afternoon, the 11th October, at the same hour.

THE LADIES INTERNATIONAL READING ROOM.

The first annual meeting of the subscribers to the Ladies International reading-room, will be held at the Public Hall on Thursday, Oct. 14th, at 3 p.m. It is generally known that the King's Daughters undertook to supply the reading-room with funds for the first year only. From the beginning of 1898, therefore, they have no further connection with it, and it must pay its own way, if it is to exist at all. This meeting will accordingly decide whether the ladies of Yokohama consider that the experiment has been successful, and wish the reading-room to become a permanent institution.

The following is the Directors' Report:—

Your Directors are pleased to report the successful working of the Reading Room, which was started in October, 1896, by the King's Daughters' Circle, with little more foundation than faith and energy.

The following Rules will be considered at the Meeting:—

Rule XI.—Winding Up.—“In the event of the Society being wound up at the end of 1897, all the property shall revert to the Yokohama Order of King's Daughters.”

The following resolution will be proposed:—

“That a Committee be elected to carry on the L.I.R.R., and in addition to a Board of Directors a working Committee of young ladies be elected to arrange for a Monthly Social Afternoon.”

It will further be proposed “that the Directors be empowered to raise a sum of money to pay for 500 books as a nucleus for a Circulating Library.”

Rule III.—Members.—“The Subscription, payable in advance, shall be \$1.00 for the first year.”

The following resolution will be proposed:—

“That the yearly subscription be \$3.00 for one person, or \$5.00 for a family of not more than three.”

It is earnestly hoped that all subscribers will attend the annual meeting, and that the undertaking will not be crippled for lack of funds.

L. B. MORRIS,
President.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1897.

RECEIPTS.	
Subscriptions	\$55.00
Donations	16 00
King's Daughters	831.90
Social Afternoon	20.00
Interest from Bank	3.72
Income from Circulating Magazines	19.97
	\$ 1,156.09
To Balance	\$ 845.57

PAYMENTS.	
Magazines	\$ 369.54
BOOKS.	
Encyc. Brit.	70.00
4 Books	18.00
	88.00

GENERAL EXPENSES.	
P. O. Box	2.00
Stamps	8.53
Fire Insurance	6.00
Printing Rules	5.00
Rugs	34.89
Fuel	38.60
Librarian's salary	185.00
Rent for Room	126.00
	\$ 484.98
Balance in hand	910.58
	\$ 425.57
	\$ 1,156.09

MARY WHEELER, Hon. Treas.

The Secretary reports:—The Ladies' International Reading Room was opened on January 4th, 1897, with 216 members, and the number has now increased to 265. Up to September 15th, 1,108 members had visited the Reading Room.

Next follows a list of the Magazines and books. A Librarian was engaged at a salary of \$20 a month, which has since been raised to \$25.

A Circulating Library was started in June in connection with the Reading Room.

During the Summer months, from July 1st to September 15th, the Reading Room was closed except for 2 hours on three days of the week, when it was open for members to take out magazines. The total number of magazines taken out from June 1st to September 15th was: Monthly, 438; Weekly, 236.

G. STEDMAN,
Hon. Secretary.

ORDINANCE NO. 17 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

It is hereby notified that By-laws for the operation of Regulations embodied in Law No. 47 of the 30th year of *Meiji*, with regard to the corporation of dealers in staples of export, have been established as follows:—

September 17 of the 30th year of *Meiji*.

(Signed) Count OKUMA SHIGENOBU,
Minister for Agriculture and Commerce.

BY-LAWS FOR THE OPERATION OF REGULATIONS REGARDING THE CORPORATION OF DEALERS IN STAPLES OF EXPORT.

Art. I.—The name of the corporation shall necessarily consist of terms signifying "Corporation of persons of similar occupation."

Art. II.—The local limits of the corporation shall in all cases exceed those of a City or District (*Shi or gun*).

Art. III.—All initiatory affairs relating to the organisation of a corporation shall be conducted by more than five promoters approved by the Local Governor.

When instructions are issued for the establishment of a corporation in accordance with Art. XIV. of the Regulations regarding the corporation of dealers in staples of export, the organization committee shall be appointed by the local Governor.

When the local Governor has approved of the promoters or appointed the organization committee, notice shall be issued throughout his jurisdiction stating the names and residences of the persons so approved or appointed, the local limits of the corporation, as well as the classification of the business for which it is to be organized.

Art. IV.—The promoters of a corporation are required to hold a general meeting of organisation within six months from the date of the local Governor's sanction, for the purpose of deciding upon the rules of the corporation, the appointment of officials, and the presentation of an application for final sanction, with the following documents enclosed:—

1. A statement of the reasons for the establishment of the corporation.
2. The names of commodities with which the corporation is chiefly to deal; the amount, quality or value of their production, manufacture or sale within the limits of the corporation during the past five years.
3. A paper testifying to the consent of more than four-fifths of the persons of similar occupation in the district.
4. Estimates of expenditure and profits.

Art. V.—In the case of instructions being issued to organise a corporation, the organization committee must at once hold a general meeting in order to discuss the regulations of the corporation, to appoint officers, and to apply for official sanction.

Art. VI.—In the case of a general meeting's being held, the organization committee is required to fix the date of meeting, and notify the fact to dealers of similar occupation throughout the district, and also to present a report thereof to the local governor, at least fourteen days previous to the meeting.

At the general meeting so convened for the organisation of a corporation, more than two-thirds of the members shall form a quorum.

Note.—Votes by proxy are permitted.

Art. VII.—All matters relating to the establishment of a union of corporations shall be dealt with by a committee selected from each corporation.

Art. VIII.—The following points shall necessarily be provided for in the regulations for a corporation or a union of corporations.

1. The name of the corporation and the location of its office.
2. The district, as well as the classification of occupations for the organisation of the corporation, or the names of the corporations for the formation of the union.
3. Object and occupation.
4. Rules for membership and retirement.
5. Rules in regard to the qualifications, privileges, and election of officials.
6. Meeting regulations.
7. Financial rules.
8. Rules for dealing with breaches of contract.
9. Rules for amendment of the laws of the Corporation.
10. Rules for dissolution.
11. Rules to be framed in the case of merchandise being subjected to inspection.

Art. IX.—The application for obtaining sanction to the officials appointed by a corporation or

by a union of corporations must be accompanied by a history of their past career.

The following persons are not allowed to apply for sanction as officials of a corporation:—

1. Any person who has not been engaged for one year in the occupation for which the corporation is to be formed in the district where he resides.

2. Those who have been sentenced to major imprisonment for more than one year, or convicted of obstructing commercial, agricultural, or industrial occupations, or of offences relating to property, corruption of public morals, or impairment of credit, and who have not passed full two years after the expiration of the term of punishment or acquittal for the offences mentioned.

3. Those who have been deprived of, or suspended from, the exercise of civil rights.

4. Bankrupts and insolvents prior to rehabilitation.

Art. X.—The application for obtaining official approval in regard to the estimates of expenditure and the process of collection for a corporation or a union of corporations, except in the case of initiatory institution, shall be presented two months prior to the commencement of each fiscal year, and all reports containing the settled account of expenses, comparative table of loans and credits, and the result of transactions, shall be forwarded within two months after each fiscal year.

Art. XI.—All documents requiring the sanction of the Minister for Agriculture and Commerce shall be presented through the local Governor.

TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP & GENERAL INTERCOURSE BETWEEN JAPAN AND SPAIN.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, and His Majesty the King of Spain, and in His Royal Name Her Majesty the Queen Regent of the Realm, being equally desirous of maintaining the relations of good understanding which happily exist between them, by extending and increasing the intercourse between their respective States, and being convinced that this object cannot be better accomplished than by revising the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation hitherto existing between the two countries, have resolved to complete such a revision based upon principles of equity and mutual benefit, and for that purpose have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Shinichiro Kurino, Shoshii, Second Class of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun, &c., &c., His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of His Majesty the King of Italy.

And His Majesty the King of Spain and in His Royal Name Her Majesty the Queen Regent of the Realm, Don Carlos O'Donnell y Abreu, Duke of Tetuan, Marquis of Altamira, Count of Lucena, Grandee of Spain, Senator of the Realm, Brigadier General, His Most Catholic Majesty's Chamberlain, decorated with the Collar of the Royal and distinguished Order of Charles III., Knight Grand Cross of the Military Order of St. Hermenegild, decorated with the Collar of the Order of the Tower and Sword of Portugal, Knight Grand Cross of the Orders of St. Stephen of Hungary, of S.S. Maurice and Lazarus of Italy, of Leopold of Belgium, of the Osmanieh, &c., &c., His Minister of State,

Who having communicated to each other their Full Powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:

Art. I.—The subjects of each of the two High Contracting Parties shall have full liberty to enter, travel or reside in any part of the territories of the other Contracting Party, and shall enjoy full and perfect protection for their persons and property.

They shall have free and easy access to the Courts of Justice in pursuit and defence of their rights: they shall be at liberty equally with native subjects to choose and employ lawyers, advocates, and representatives to pursue and defend their rights before such Courts, and in all other matters connected with the administration of justice they shall enjoy all the rights and privileges enjoyed by native subjects.

In whatever relates to rights of residence and travel; to the possession of goods and effects of any kind; to the succession to personal estate, by will or otherwise, and the disposal of property of any sort in any manner whatsoever which they may lawfully acquire, the subjects of each Contracting Party shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same privileges, liberties and rights, and shall be subject to no higher imposts or charges in this respect than the subjects or citizens of the

most favoured nation. The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other the right to exercise their worship, subject to the Laws, Ordinances and Regulations of the respective countries, and also the right of burying their respective countymen, under the same condition, according to their religious customs, in such suitable and convenient places as may be established and maintained for that purpose.

They shall not be compelled under any pretext whatsoever to pay any charges or taxes other or higher than those that are or may be paid by native subjects or subjects and citizens of the most favoured nation.

Art. II.—The subjects of either of the Contracting Parties residing in the territories of the other shall be exempted from all compulsory military service whatsoever, whether in the army, navy, National Guard, or militia; from all contributions imposed in lieu of personal service; and from all forced loans or military exactions or contributions.

Art. III.—There shall be reciprocal freedom of commerce and navigation between the territories of the two High Contracting Parties.

The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties may trade in any part of the territories of the other by wholesale or retail in all kinds of produce, manufactures and merchandise of lawful commerce, either in person or by agents, singly or in partnership with foreigners or native subjects; and they may there own or hire and occupy the houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops and premises, which may be necessary for them, and lease land for residential and commercial purposes, conforming themselves to the Laws, Police and Customs Regulations of the country like native subjects.

They shall have liberty freely to come with their ships and cargoes to all places, ports and rivers in the territories of the other, which are or may be opened to foreign commerce, and shall enjoy respectively, the same treatment in matters of commerce and navigation as native subjects, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation, without having to pay taxes, imposts, or duties, of whatever nature or under whatever denomination levied in the name or for the profit of the Government, public functionaries, private individuals, Corporations or establishments of any kind, other or greater than those paid by native subjects, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

It is, however, understood that the provisions of the present and the two preceding articles in no way annul the Laws, Ordinances, and special Regulations respecting Commerce, Police and Public Security in force in the respective countries applying to foreigners in general.

Art. IV.—The dwellings, manufactories, warehouses and shops of the subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties in the territory of the other and all premises appertaining thereto, destined for purposes of residence or commerce, shall be respected.

It shall not be allowable to proceed to make a search of, or a domiciliary visit to, such dwellings and premises, or to examine or inspect books, papers or accounts, except under the conditions and with the forms prescribed by the Law, Ordinances and Regulations for subjects of the country.

Art. V.—The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other exemption from all transit duties, and a perfect equality of treatment with native subjects in all that relates to warehousing, bounties, facilities and drawbacks.

No merchandise of the territories of either of the Contracting Parties imported into the territory of the other, shall be liable to pay higher excise or "octroi" dues, whether national or local, than those imposed upon the similar merchandise of native production.

Import duties on any particular goods or merchandise may be increased in either country in proportion to the burden imposed upon the similar goods or merchandise by the system of internal duties.

Art. VI.—All articles which are or may be legally imported into the ports of the territories of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan in Japanese vessels may likewise be imported into those ports in Spanish vessels, without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such articles were imported in Japanese vessels; and, reciprocally, all articles which are or may be legally imported into the ports of the territories of His Majesty the King of Spain in Spanish vessels may likewise be imported into those ports in Japanese vessels, without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such articles were imported in Spanish vessels.

In the same manner, there shall be perfect equality of treatment in regard to exportation, so

that the same export duties shall be paid, and the same bounties and drawbacks allowed, in the territories of either of the High Contracting Parties on the exportation of any article which is or may be legally exported therefrom, whether such exportation shall take place in Japanese or in Spanish vessels, and whatever may be the place of destination, whether a port of either of the Contracting Parties or of any third Power.

Art. VII.—No duties of tonnage, harbour, pilotage, lighthouse, quarantine or other similar or corresponding duties of whatever nature or under whatever denomination levied in the name or for the profit of the Government, public functionaries, private individuals, Corporations, or establishments of any kind, shall be imposed in the ports of the territories of either country upon the vessels of the other country, which shall not equally and under the same conditions be imposed in the like cases on national vessels in general or vessels of the most favoured nation. Such equality of treatment shall apply, reciprocally, to the respective vessels, from whatever port or place they may arrive, and whatever may be their place of destination.

Art. VIII.—In all that regards the stationing, loading and unloading of vessels in the ports, basins, docks, roadsteads, harbours, or rivers of the territories of the two countries, no privilege shall be granted to national vessels, which shall not be equally granted to vessels of the other country; the intention of the High Contracting Parties being that in this respect also the respective vessels shall be treated on the footing of perfect equality.

Art. IX.—The coasting trade of both the High Contracting Parties is excepted from the provisions of the present Treaty, and shall be regulated according to the Laws, Ordinances and Regulations of Japan and Spain respectively.

It is, however, understood that Japanese subjects in the territories of His Majesty the King of Spain and Spanish subjects in the territories of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, shall enjoy in this respect the rights which are or may be granted under such Laws, Ordinances and Regulations to the subjects or citizens of any other country.

A Japanese vessel laden in a foreign country with cargo destined for two or more ports in the territories of His Majesty the King of Spain, and a Spanish vessel laden in a foreign country, with cargo destined for two or more ports in the territories of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, may discharge a portion of her cargo at one port and continue her voyage to the other port or ports of destination where foreign trade is permitted, for the purpose of landing the remainder of her original cargo there, subject always to the Laws and Customs-house regulations of the two countries.

The Japanese Government, however, agrees to allow Spanish vessels, for the period of the duration of the present Treaty, to carry cargo between the existing open ports of the Empire, excepting to or from the ports of Osaka, Niigata and Ebisu-minato.

Art. X.—Any ship of war or merchant vessel of either of the High Contracting Parties which may be compelled by stress of weather, or by reason of any other distress, to take shelter in a port of the other, shall be at liberty to refit therein, to procure all necessary supplies, and to put to sea again, without paying any dues other than such as would be payable by national vessels. In case, however, the master of a merchant vessel should be under the necessity of disposing of his cargo in order to defray the expenses, he shall be bound to conform to the Regulations and Tariffs of the place to which he may have come.

If any ship of war or merchant vessel of one of the Contracting Parties should run aground or be wrecked upon the coasts of the other, the local authorities shall inform the Consul General, Consul, Vice Consul or Consular Agent of the district of the occurrence, or if there be no such Consular officer they shall inform the Consular officer of the nearest district.

All proceedings relative to the salvage of Japanese vessels wrecked or cast on shore in the territorial waters of His Majesty the King of Spain shall take place in accordance with the Laws, Ordinances and Regulations of Spain; and, reciprocally, all measures of salvage relative to Spanish vessels wrecked or cast on shore in the territorial waters of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan shall take place in accordance with the Laws, Ordinances and Regulations of Japan.

Such stranded or shipwrecked vessels, and all parts thereof, and all furniture and appurtenances belonging thereto, and all goods and merchandise saved therefrom, including those which may have been cast into the sea, or the proceeds thereof, if sold, as well as all papers found on board such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, shall be

given up to the owners or their agents when claimed by them. If such owners or agents are not on the spot, the same shall be delivered to the respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls or Consular Agents, upon being claimed by them within the period fixed by the laws of the country, and such Consular officers, owners or agents shall pay only the expenses incurred in the preservation of the property, together with the salvage or other expenses which would have been payable in the case of a wreck of a national vessel.

The goods and merchandise saved from the wreck shall be exempt from all the duties of the Customs, unless cleared for consumption, in which case they shall pay the ordinary duties.

When a ship or vessel belonging to the subjects of one of the Contracting Parties is stranded or wrecked in the territories of the other, the respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents shall be authorized, in case the owner or master, or other agent of the owner, is not present, to lend their official assistance in order to afford necessary assistance to the subjects of the respective States. The same rule shall apply in case the owner, master, or other agent is present, but requires such assistance to be given.

Art. XI.—All vessels which, according to Japanese law are to be deemed Japanese vessels, and all vessels which according to Spanish law are to be deemed Spanish vessels, shall for the purposes of this Treaty be deemed Japanese and Spanish vessels respectively.

Art. XII.—The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents of each of the Contracting Parties, residing in the territories of the other, shall receive from the local authorities such assistance as can by law be given to them for the recovery of deserters from the vessels of their respective countries.

It is understood that this stipulation shall not apply to the subjects of the country where the desertion takes place.

Art. XIII.—The commercial travellers of either of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same rights and privileges in respect of Patents or Permits as are granted or may hereafter be granted to commercial travellers of the most favoured nation.

If such commercial travellers shall have paid any Customs duties or deposited money on importation of sample goods into either country, they shall be entitled, at the time of re-exportation or re-entry into warehouse, to repayment of such duties paid or money deposited, provided the necessary formalities shall have been complied with in accordance with the Customs Laws, Ordinances and Regulations of the respective countries.

Art. XIV.—The High Contracting Parties agree that, in all that concerns commerce and navigation, any privilege, favour or immunity which either Contracting Party has actually granted, or may hereafter grant, to the Government, ships, subjects or citizens of any other State, shall be extended immediately and unconditionally to the Government, ships or subjects of the other Contracting Party; it being their intention, that the trade and navigation of each country shall be placed, in all respects, by the other on the footing of the most favoured nation.

It is, however, understood that the stipulations of this Article shall not apply to arrangements regarding Customs Tariffs, that are or may hereafter be made respectively with any other countries, nor to the special treatment reserved by Spain to Portugal or to the Spanish-American Republics, provided that such special treatment should only be extended to the said countries.

Art. XV.—Each of the High Contracting Parties may appoint Consuls, Vice-Consuls and Consular Agents in all the ports, cities and places of the other, except in those where it may not be convenient to recognize such officers.

This exception, however shall not be made in regard to one of the Contracting Parties without being made likewise in regard to every other Power.

The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice Consuls and Consular Agents may exercise all functions, and shall enjoy all privileges, exemptions and immunities which are or may hereafter be, granted to Consular Officers of the most favoured nation.

Art. XVI.—The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same protection as native subjects in regard to patents, trade marks and designs, upon fulfilment of the formalities prescribed by law.

Art. XVII.—The High Contracting Parties agree to the following arrangement:

The several foreign Settlements in Japan shall be incorporated with the respective Japanese Communes, and shall thenceforth form part of the general municipal system of Japan.

The competent Japanese authorities shall thereupon assume all municipal obligations and duties

in respect thereof, and the common funds and property, if any, belonging to such Settlements, shall at the same time be transferred to the said Japanese authorities.

When such incorporation takes place the existing leases in perpetuity under which property is now held in the said Settlements shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property. It is, however, understood that the Consular authorities mentioned in the same are in all cases to be replaced by the Japanese authority.

All lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the said Settlements shall, subject to the right of eminent domain, be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart.

Art. XVIII.—The stipulations of the present Treaty shall be applicable, as far as the laws permit, to the Spanish Provinces and possessions beyond the seas.

Art. XIX.—The present Treaty shall, from the date it comes into force, be substituted in place of the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation concluded on the 28th day of the 9th month of the 1st year of Meiji, corresponding to the 12th of November 1868, and the additional Article of the same date, and all Arrangements and Agreements subsidiary thereto concluded or existing between the High Contracting Parties; and from the same date such Convention, Treaty, Arrangements and Agreements shall cease to be binding, and, in consequence the jurisdiction then exercised by Spanish Courts in Japan and all the exceptional privileges, exemptions and immunities then enjoyed by Spanish subjects as a part of or appurtenant to such jurisdiction, shall absolutely and without notice cease and determine, and thereafter all such jurisdiction shall be assumed and exercised by Japanese Courts.

Art. XX.—The present Treaty shall not take effect until the 17th day of the 7th month of the 32nd year of Meiji, corresponding to the 17th day of July, 1899. It shall come into force one year after His Imperial Majesty's Government shall have given notice to His Most Catholic Majesty's Government of its wish to have the same brought into operation.

Such notice may be given at any time after the 16th day of the 7th month of the 31st year of Meiji, corresponding to the 16th day of July 1898. This Treaty shall remain in force for the period of twelve years from the date it goes into operation.

Either High Contracting Party shall have the right, at any time after eleven years shall have elapsed from the date this Treaty takes effect, to give notice to the other of its intention to terminate the same, and at the expiration of twelve months after such notice is given this Treaty shall wholly cease and determine.

Art. XXI.—The present Treaty shall be ratified and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Tokio as soon as possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Madrid, in duplicate, this second day of the first month of the 30th year of Meiji, corresponding to the second day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seventh year of the Christian era.

(L.S.) S. KURINO (L.S.) EL DUQUE DE TETUAN.

PROTOCOL.

The Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and the Government of His Most Catholic Majesty the King of Spain, deeming it advisable in the interests of both countries to regulate certain special matters of mutual concern apart from the Treaty of Friendship and General Inter-course signed this day, have through their respective Plenipotentiaries agreed upon the following stipulations.

1. The High Contracting Parties agree to conclude hereafter a special Commercial Convention based upon the principle of reciprocity for the adjustment of the import duties to be levied upon the goods and merchandise of either of the two Contracting Parties upon importation into the other.

2. It is agreed by the High Contracting Parties that one month after the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty signed this day, the Import Tariff now in operation in Japan in respect of goods and merchandise imported into Japan by the subjects of His Most Catholic Majesty the King of Spain shall cease to be binding. From the same date the General Statutory Tariff of Japan, for the time being in force, shall, subject to the provisions of Article 23rd of the Treaty of November 12th 1868, at present subsisting between the Contracting Parties, as long as the said Treaty remains in force, be applicable to the goods

and merchandize of the territories of Spain and her Provinces and possessions beyond the seas, upon importation into Japan.

But nothing contained in this Protocol, shall be held to limit or qualify the right of the Japanese Government to restrict or to prohibit the importation of adulterated drugs, medicines, food or beverages; indecent or obscene prints, paintings, books, cards, lithographic or other engravings, photographs, or any other indecent or obscene articles; articles in violation of patent, trade-mark or copyright laws of Japan; or any other article which for sanitary reasons, or in view of public security or morals might offer any danger.

3. The Japanese Government, pending the opening of the country to Spanish subjects, agrees to extend the existing passport system in such a manner as to allow Spanish subjects, on the production of a certificate from the Spanish Representative in Tokio, or from any of His Most Catholic Majesty's Consuls at the open ports in Japan, to obtain upon application passports available for any part of the country, and for any period not exceeding twelve months, from the Imperial Japanese Foreign Office in Tokyo, or from the chief authorities in the Prefecture in which an open port is situated; it being understood that the existing Rules and Regulations governing Spanish subjects who visit the interior of the Empire are to be maintained.

4. The Japanese Government undertakes, before the cessation of Spanish Consular Jurisdiction in Japan, to join the International Conventions for the Protection of Industrial Property and Copyright.

5. It is understood that all cases pending in the Spanish Consular Courts in Japan at the time of the cessation of the latter shall continue to be subject to the same until finally adjudicated.

6. The High Contracting Parties agree to conclude a special Convention for the mutual surrender of fugitive criminals. Until such Convention shall have been concluded each Contracting Party shall extend to the other the same rights and privileges in the matter, as well as in the execution of requisitions concerning civil and criminal cases, as have been granted or may hereafter be granted to the most favoured Nation.

7. The High Contracting Parties agree to notify to each other all cases in which either shall have granted its nationality to a subject of the other in accordance with the laws of the country. All such cases of naturalization shall be considered null and void as regards the country to which such naturalized subjects originally belonged, unless the above mentioned condition of notification shall have been previously complied with. Should such naturalized subjects go back to the country of origin without intention of returning to that of naturalization, they shall "ipso facto" be bound by all the duties and obligations incumbent upon them as the subjects of their native country, and shall be held to have tacitly renounced the acquired nationality.

A residence exceeding one year shall be held as "prima facie" evidence of such renunciation.

8. The undersigned Plenipotentiaries have agreed that this Protocol shall be submitted to the two High Contracting Parties at the same time as the Treaty of Friendship and General Intercourse signed this day, and that when the said Treaty is ratified the agreements contained in the Protocol shall also equally be considered as approved without the necessity of a further formal ratification.

It is also agreed that this Protocol shall terminate at the same time the said Treaty ceases to be binding.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at Madrid, in duplicate, this second day of the 1st month of the 30th year of Meiji, corresponding to the second day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven of the Christian Era.

(L.S.) S. KURINO. (L.S.) EL DUQUE DE TETUAN.

Royal Palace, January 2nd, 1897.

Your Excellency:—I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that in accordance with Article 2nd of the Protocol signed this day, one month after the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Friendship and General Intercourse to which the said Protocol is attached, and as long as the favourable treatment is granted by Japan to all articles or merchandize, produced or manufactured in Spain and her Provinces and possessions beyond the seas, the second column of the respective Import Tariffs of the Peninsula and the Islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico will be applied to the produce and manufactures of Japan, proceeding directly therefrom, and in the Philippine Islands the General Tariff in force for other Nations.

I avail myself, &c., &c.,

Signed: EL DUQUE DE TETUAN,

To the Japanese Plenipotentiary ad hoc, &c.

CRICKET.

The match played on Tuesday afternoon, between a team of the Y. C. and A. C. and the Fleet, can scarcely be taken as any criterion. The weather in the morning was simply wretched and it was not generally expected that the game would be played, consequently there were practically no spectators on the ground. Of course the game was played on a matting pitch as the turf was completely sodden and unfit to play upon. Yokohama went in first and after scoring 143, to which Duff contributed 50 and Edwards 40, not out—the innings was declared closed with three men to bat. The representatives of the Fleet failed to make any stand after Mr. Dalrymple had been disposed of for 19, and the innings closed for 38. The scores were as follows:—

Y. C. & A. C.

Mr. C. M. Duff, b. Bowden Smith...	...	...	50	...	...
Mr. A. Kingston, c. Hickley, b. Gillett...	...	...	9	...	...
Mr. F. E. White, b. Gascayne...	...	...	12	...	...
Rev. T. S. Tyng, c. McNeill, b. Gillett...	...	...	15	...	...
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, not out...	...	...	40	...	...
Mr. W. Y. Shewler, c. Chetwynd, b. Gascayne...	...	...	6	...	...
Mr. E. Owen, b. Gillett...	...	...	8	...	...
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. Gillett...	...	...	1	...	...
Mr. E. Edisson, not out...	...	...	1	...	...
Mr. H. S. Goddard, did not bat...	...	...	—	...	...
Mr. A. Tyng, did not bat...	...	...	—	...	...
Extras...	...	...	8	...	...

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Bls.	Runs.	Mds.	Wkts.
Mr. Gillett...	115	45	9	4
Mr. Bennett...	40	27	8	0
Mr. Gascayne...	75	38	8	8
Mr. Dalrymple...	20	9	1	1

THE FLEET.

Mr. Dalrymple, c. Edisson, b. White...	...	...	19	...	...
Mr. Gillett, b. H. S. Goddard...	...	...	0	...	...
Mr. Hickley, b. Duff, b. White...	...	...	1	...	...
Mr. Chetwynd, White...	...	...	0	...	...
Mr. Gascayne, b. H. S. Goddard...	...	...	4	...	...
Mr. Kennedy, b. Edwards...	...	...	8	...	...
Mr. Howden, Smith, b. Edwards...	...	...	0	...	...
Mr. McNeill, not out...	...	...	4	...	...
Mr. Bennett, b. Edwards...	...	...	0	...	...
Mr. Jones, b. Edwards...	...	...	0	...	...
Mr. Pritchards, b. Edwards...	...	...	3	...	...

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Bls.	Runs.	Mds.	Wkts.
Mr. F. E. White...	45	22	4	3
Mr. H. S. Goddard...	35	20	1	2
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards...	20	6	0	5

SUICIDE OF A MARINE OFFICER.

An Inquest was held at the U.S. Consulate on Thursday afternoon, by J. F. Gwney, Esq., Consul-General, as Coroner, and Messrs. N. F. Smith and L. Brower as Associates, to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of R. A. Crocker, second mate of the American ship *Commodore T. H. Allen*, who was found dead, with his throat cut, on Thursday morning in a dormitory at the Seamen's Mission, No. 82, Settlement.

Mr. G. H. Scidmore, U.S. Deputy Consul-General, deposed that at a little after 9.30 on Thursday morning he went to No. 82 and saw a body which he recognised as that of R. A. Crocker, lying on the floor of an upstairs room surrounded by a pool of blood. Deceased appeared to have been dead an hour or so. Witness examined the room and saw nothing to indicate any violence or struggle. The blood stains were only on the floor. Deceased had come there from Shanghai, where he was discharged from the ship *S. D. Carleton*, and arrived on the 26th inst. He had received \$82.71 from witness, the balance of wages due him from his last employment. He had at the same time signed the articles as second mate of the *Commander T. H. Allen*. He stated himself to be a citizen of New York, aged 49 years.

Dr. Stuart Eldridge deposed that at 9.20 that morning he saw in the upper front room in the Seamen's Mission the body of a man lying in a pool of blood. Upon examination he found an incision on the left side of neck, severing the great vessels, and quite sufficient to cause immediate death. Close by the man's right hand witness found an ordinary jack knife (produced) with which the wound was probably inflicted; there were no other injuries, but on the left leg just above the ankle, which was bandaged and showed signs of a recent sprain. All the indications were of suicide, probably effected from an hour to an hour and half before witness saw the body. The wound in the throat and neck had been made from left to right. Witness had made a more minute examination of the body at the mortuary, but had no reason to alter his original decision.

Captain Meriman, master of the ship *Commodore T. H. Allen*, deposed that he was acquainted with the deceased for about 7 years. He shipped him on Saturday last. Witness saw him on Tuesday night last. He was too drunk to get up the

ladder, and witness advised him to go ashore again.

Rev. W. T. Austin deposed that he first saw the deceased on Tuesday evening the 28th inst. He was then in the reading room at the Mission. He applied to witness to be allowed to sleep at the Mission. He said he was the mate of the *Commodore T. H. Allen*, and that he had no money, but that he had sprained his ankle by falling out of a jinrikisha. Witness had a boy show him into the dormitory, where he had his ankle bandaged. The next time witness saw him was on the evening of the 29th. It appeared that without witness' knowledge he had remained in the dormitory all that day. Witness went up to question him as to why he had not gone on board, as he said he had intended doing. He asked if he might remain there another night as he wished to get properly sobered up. Witness asked him if he had had any food, or needed any. He said no, he did not want any; he had had a glass of water and that was enough. Witness proposed to send him some food, but he said he could not eat any. That morning, a little before 9 witness' son came to him and told him the big man upstairs had committed suicide. Witness went up and examined deceased and found his forehead quite cold and no signs of life. Witness sent for Dr. Eldridge and the police and sent a note to the U. S. Consulate, asking for the marshal to come and make investigations. The last man came down from the room where deceased was at about a quarter to eight. On the night of the 29th deceased appeared quite rational and in full command of his intellect. Two men left the dormitory at a little after 7, and went to Tokyo. Witness did not think the act could have been committed until after the last man left the dormitory.

Ito Mitsuzumi, a boy employed at the Seamen's Mission, gave evidence as to going into the room where deceased was sleeping, at about 9 that morning, and found him dead.

Kojiri, another boy employed at the Mission, deposed that he first saw deceased that morning at 7.05. He was then alive and witness attended to him, covered him up with a blanket and brought him some water. There were no other persons in the room or in the adjoining room at that time, and he did not know whether any one entered the room afterwards. He had seen a knife on the chair where deceased had kept his glass of water, from 9 o'clock on the previous morning; the knife produced resembled the one he had seen. He first saw the body about 9.14 this morning; he went into the room to clean up and change the sheets, and saw deceased lying on the floor near the bed and a pool of blood round him.

Dr. Eldridge, recalled, said when he saw deceased he was lying on his right side, the right hand lying on the body and the knife within six inches. Witness was under the impression that deceased had inflicted the wound in a standing or sitting position, and had then fallen forward. The pool of blood was nearer the feet than the head.

The Court returned a verdict that deceased died at No. 82, Settlement, on the 30th Sept., and that the cause of death was a knife wound in the throat, self-inflicted, with suicidal intent.

LIGHTHOUSE ILLUMINATION IN JAPAN.

The Japanese Government, which pays great attention to the light of its coasts, not long ago commissioned Messrs. Sautter, Harlé & Co., of Paris, to supply the optical apparatus for a new lighthouse erected in the recently acquired Island of Formosa. With characteristic foresight and intelligence, the Japanese lighthouse authorities resolved to adopt the lightning flash (Feux-Éclairs) system, which has proved so successful on the French coasts that it is fast supplanting all the older lights, whether the illuminant be electricity, incandescent gas, or mineral oil.

The new Japanese light is installed in one of those high iron towers, not unlike that of Roches Douvres lighthouse in the Channel. These towers are erected on the Japanese coasts in a remarkable manner—namely, without cranes or lifting machinery of any kind, but simply by bamboo scaffolding and inclined planes. The optical apparatus of the Formosa light is of first order—i.e., 920 millimetres or 36.2 in. in focal length, the illuminant being petroleum, having the specific gravity of 0.8, and its flashing point at 35° Cent. The lamp is a six-wick burner, having a luminous intensity of about 500 standard candles, and consuming about 1.35 kilogrammes (3lb.) of mineral oil per hour, or 5.4 tons per annum of 4,000 lighting hours. In accordance with the fundamental principle of the lightning flash system the duration of the flashes emitted by

the apparatus is only one-tenth of a second—that is, the time strictly necessary for a complete impression on the retina of the observer. The flashes are emitted at the rate of one group of three flashes in each complete revolution of the apparatus, the interval or eclipse between two consecutive flashes being two seconds, and that between two consecutive groups, corresponding to the "dead" angle of 144°, being six seconds. To give this characteristic the apparatus has to perform one complete revolution in the short space of $2+2+6=10$ seconds, whereas first-order apparatus of the older type requires in some cases as much as 1-6 minutes, or ten times more. So great a rotary speed as ten seconds per revolution can, of course, only be obtained by means of the other essential principle of the lightning flash system—namely, by the apparatus rotating, not on the antiquated travelling carriage with conical or spherical rollers, which would cause excessive friction, but by means of a floating drum which carries the table and panels of the apparatus, and is plunged in a mercury bath, the energy absorbed by the friction of the liquid surface being practically nil. A further advantage of this mode of suspension is the ease with which the parts subjected to friction can be inspected; whereas in the case of a shaft revolving in bearings, inspection is necessarily much more troublesome. The system of the apparatus rotating by means of a floating drum in a mercury bath admits further of governing the rotary speed by means of clockwork with counterpoise instead of using more powerful but less suitable motors.

The photometrically tested intensity of the flashes of the Formosa first-order lightning flash oil light is equal to 154,000 standard candles, the luminous range being as much as seventy miles in clear, thirty-two in average, and fourteen miles in hazy weather. The range of seventy miles exceeds, of course, considerably the geographical range or direct visibility of the light, and applies, therefore, only to the glare or "sky illumination" produced by the flashes, and visible beyond the horizon. The luminous range in hazy weather refers to a state of the atmosphere in which, in Japanese waters, the unit test light of one-tenth of a standard candle (1-tenth of a *bec carcel*) is visible at a distance of three nautical miles, which practically corresponds to "hazy weather" in the Bay of Biscay, the atmospheric conditions of the two seas being therefore, similar.

A first-order apparatus of the old type, with slow rotation and long duration flashes, is composed of no less than sixteen panels instead of three or four, and while burning the same amount of petroleum the luminous power of its flashes is only 32,000 candles as against 154,000. The lightning flash system has, therefore, made it possible to reduce the number of panels to one-fifth of that of the old type, and to give, at the same time a five and six fold intensity of beam. Equally conspicuous is the advantage of a first-order lightning flash light like that of Formosa or Hourtin, or even of a third-order light of the same system like that of Porquierolles (Riviera) over hyper-radiant apparatus—e.g., that of Cape d'Antifer (between Iécamp and Havre).

The weight of the Formosa apparatus is as follows:—Revolving parts—viz., panels, table reflector, floating drum and pivot, 2.8 tons; fixed parts—viz., mercury tank, support, clockwork, &c., 3.3 tons; mercury, 0.23 tons—total, 6.33 tons. The total cost of the apparatus, including all accessories and lamps, was 47,000 francs or £1,680.

From the comparisons made above, it is abundantly clear that in giving preference to the lightning flash system the Japanese lighthouse authorities took a step in the right direction. They are, indeed, to be congratulated upon having decided to adopt, for the atmospheric conditions of their coasts, that scientifically beautiful mechanically perfect, and remarkably economical system of which the French coasts already possess so many brilliant and monumental examples in the optical apparatus supplied by Messrs. Sautter, Harlé, and Co. for the most powerful electric lights in existence, emitting short-duration (1-tenth of a second) flashes up to 25,000,000 and even 38,000,000 candle-power.—MR. C. S. Du Riche Prieller, M.A., in *Engineering*.

THE MAKING OF OATHS.

Oaths have played a prominent part in the administration of justice from the earliest times. In "the twilight of English law," when Trial by Ordeal was in vogue, they were even more plentiful in the courts than they are in the present age. A man who accused another of theft swore on the holy relics, "By the Lord I accuse not this man either for hatred, or for envy, or for unlawful lust of gain." This accusation was immediately fol-

lowed by a solemn oath on the part of the prisoner, who exclaimed, "By the Lord I am guiltless, both in deed and in counsel of this charge." If the twelve compurgators, who were summoned to testify to his character, then swore "By the Lord the oath is clean and unperjured which this man hath sworn," the prisoner was set free. If the compurgators, who were forefathers of our jurymen, were unable to express so favourable an opinion of the accused, the Creator was called upon to prove his guilt or innocence, and, if immersion was chosen as the ordeal, he was thrown into the water, to float if he were guilty, to sink if he were not. When "kissing the book" became a part of the ceremony of oath-taking has never been determined, though the final words of the present form of English oath, "So help me God," which are uttered as the witness raises the sacred volume to his lips, are known to have been in use since the days of Henry IV. There is reason for believing, however, that the practice did not prevail in courts of justice before the seventeenth century. Coke, in dealing with the administration of the oath, makes no reference to kissing the book. "It is called a corporal oath," he writes, "because the witness toucheth with his hand some part of the Holy Scriptures." Now, the kiss is regarded as the seal of the oath, and witnesses of the moral calibre of Rogue Riderhood deem themselves unsworn if they contrive to kiss their thumb instead of the book, and hold themselves free to tell anything but "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."

"Thousands, careless of the damning sin,
Kiss the book's outside, who ne'er looked within."
How firm is the hold which this part of the ceremony has obtained upon the conscience of the community is shown by the fact that section 5 of the Oaths Act, 1888, remains almost a dead letter in the courts. This is the section by which kissing the book ceased to be an essential part of the ceremony of oath-taking. It runs:—"If any person to whom an oath is administered desires to swear with the uplifted hand, in the form and manner in which an oath is usually administered in Scotland he shall be permitted so to do, and the oath shall be administered to him in such form and manner without further question." It may be that the Scottish formula is too solemn even for the witnesses who hesitate to kiss the book on sanitary grounds. "I swear by Almighty God, and as I shall answer to God at the Great Day of Judgment, that I will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." This is the oath that is supposed to be binding on the other side of the Tweed.

In the most Continental countries the practice of kissing the book is unknown, the ceremony of oath-taking being more akin to the Scottish than to the English form. A French witness has a very simple ordeal to pass through before unfolding his tale. The judge, seated beneath a crucifix, says, "You swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," and the witness lifting up his right hand, answers, "I swear it." In Austria a Christian witness is sworn before a crucifix between two lighted candles, and, holding up his right hand, says, "I swear by God the Almighty and All Wise that I will speak the pure and full truth, and nothing but the truth in answer to anything I may be asked by the Court." Jewish witnesses, while using the same words, add to their solemnity by placing their hands on the page of a Bible on which is printed the Third Commandment. A Belgian witness swears to be veracious in these words, "I will speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God and all the saints." In Italy the form is much the same, but the use of the Bible imparts a greater degree of seriousness to it. "I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," exclaims the Italian witness, resting his hand upon an open Bible. The Spanish oath is more elaborate. The witness, kneeling on his right knee, places his hand on the sacred book, and, being asked by the judge, "Will you swear by God and by these holy Gospels to speak the truth to all you may be asked?" answers, "Yes, I swear." Thereupon the judge says, "Then, if thus you do, God will reward you, and if not, will require it of you." In some parts of the country the ceremony is different. The witness forms a cross by placing the middle of his thumb on the middle of his fore-finger, and kissing his thumb—a practice which would probably be familiar to some English witnesses—exclaims, "By this cross I swear." The most curious European oath is administered in Norway. The witness raises his thumb, his fore-finger, and his middle finger. These signify the Trinity, while the larger of the uplifted fingers is supposed to represent the soul of the witness, and the smaller to indicate his body. Before the oath is taken, a long

exhortation is delivered, the most material parts of which are as follows:—"Whatever person is so ungodly, corrupt, or hostile to himself as to swear a false oath, or not to keep the oath sworn, sins in such a manner as if he were to say, 'If I swear falsely, then may God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost punish me, so that God the Father, who created me and all mankind in His image, and His fatherly goodness, grace, and mercy, may not profit me; but that I, as a perverse and obstinate transgressor and sinner, may be punished eternally in hell. . . . If I swear falsely, then may all I have and own in this world be cursed; cursed be my land, field, and meadow, so that I may never enjoy any fruit or yield from them; cursed be my cattle, my beasts, my sheep, so that after this day they may never thrive or benefit me, yea, cursed may I be and everything I possess.'" If the law's delay is among the grievances of the Norwegians, it would not be difficult to trace it to the "good mouthfilling oaths" that precede the real business of their courts.

For real picturesqueness in oath-taking, the courts of less civilised countries must be visited. Like the soldier in Jacques' familiar speech, they are "full of strange oaths." The people who have shown themselves to be most resourceful in the making of oaths are the Chinese. Slicing off a cock's head is one mode of impressing a Chinaman with the importance of telling the truth; breaking a saucer is another; blowing out a lighted candle is a third. The beheading of the cock is supposed to represent the fate of the liar; the cracking of the saucer and the extinguishing of the candle indicate what will happen to the soul of the witness who does not tell the truth. In Mahomedan countries every witness holds the Koran in front of him, and bends down until his forehead touches the sacred volume. The position of the body is of the utmost importance in most countries, but in none has superstition left the supreme conscientiousness that distinguished the Irish witness in the days of the Brehons. He took three separate oaths, the first standing, the second sitting, and the third lying, as these were the positions in which his life was spent. Many Indians are sworn on tigers' skins, in the belief that if they defile their lips with lies their bodies will become food for tigers, while others stand upon a lizard's skin, and ask that their bodies shall be covered with the scales of the lizards if they forswear themselves. The Burmese witness, who requests to be destroyed in no fewer than five different ways if he is guilty of perjury, is not content that the punishment should fall upon himself alone. He includes his relations. "Let us be subject," he prays, "to all the calamities that are within the body, and all that are without the body. May we be seized with madness, dumbness, deafness, leprosy, and hydrophobia. May we be struck with thunderbolts and lightning, and come to sudden death."—*The Globe*.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

London, Sept. 23.

Haddah Mullah, at the head of 5,000 men, attacked General Blood's force in camp, and continued the fighting for five hours. The British loss was two killed and nineteen wounded, Brigadier-General Wodehouse severely.

London, Sept. 28.

General Westmacott's brigade has destroyed Jorobe, the head-quarters of Haddah Mullah, whose forces are now disorganised.

It has been proposed in Sydney to despatch to India a detachment, one hundred strong, of the New South Wales Lancers. The scheme is approved by General French (Major-General G. M. French, C.M.G., R.A., Commanding the Military Forces in New South Wales), who also favours sending a body of the New South Wales Mounted Rifles, many of whom are volunteering for India.

THE TREATY OF PEACE.

London, Sept. 23.

The Sultan has ratified the preliminaries of peace.

The Greek Press, on learning the con-

ditions of peace, is furious, and demands the rejection of the scheme.

London, Sept. 24.
The popular excitement against the terms of peace is on the increase in Athens. Count Muravieff, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, has declared to the Greek Minister at St. Petersburg that the European concert considers its mission ended, and that any step taken by Greece against peace will be at its own risk.

London, Sept. 27.
The excitement in Greece, caused by the publication of the conditions of the treaty of peace with Turkey, is subsiding.
PRESIDENT KRUGER'S HEALTH.

London, Sept. 23.
The *Chronicle* states that President Kruger is suffering from Bright's disease, and that the malady is so far advanced that his physician opines that he can scarcely live more than eighteen months.

STONING BRITISH TROOPS.
A party of British soldiers have been stoned in the Egyptian village of Qualioub. Twenty-two arrests were made.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.
London, Sept. 24.
A meeting of the banks belonging to the Clearing-house has discussed the Bank of England's policy, and decided to communicate with the Bank thereanent. It is understood that all the banks objected to the new policy of the Bank of England.

In its money article, the *Standard* regrets the mistaken expectations prevailing in the Bombay silver market owing to the Bank's action.

LOSS OF A GERMAN TORPEDO-BOAT.

A German torpedo-boat has foundered, and its Commander, Duke Frederick of Mecklenburg, with seven men, were drowned.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.
London, Sept. 25.
A resolution was passed at a meeting of the Clearing-house bankers, and forwarded to the Bank of England, entirely disapproving of the proposed silver reserve.

A ROYAL CRUISE.
The *Times* announces that the Duke of York will hoist the broad pennant on board the first-class cruiser *Terrible* in April next, as Commodore of a squadron of three cruisers, for a cruise that will last twelve months, to visit the principal colonies.

London, Sept. 27.
The announcement by *The Times* that the Duke of York would take the *Terrible* and two other cruisers on a twelve months' cruise visiting the colonies is officially denied.

THE BEHRING SEA CONFERENCE.
It is stated that the British Government has notified the United States that England objects to participate in the Behring Sea Conference if Russia and Japan be represented thereat, on the ground that they have no *locus standi*.

London, Sept. 28.
England's objection to join the Behring Sea Conference if Russia and Japan are represented is confirmed.

ANOTHER DUEL.
A duel has taken place between the Austrian Premier (Count Badeni) and a German Nationalist Deputy. The Premier was wounded.

A DISPUTED TARIFF POINT SETTLED.

Washington, Sept. 24.
It has been decided that duty-free goods imported to the United States by way of Canada need not pay an additional tariff of 10 per cent. on crossing the frontier. Such goods shall be examined and certified at the American Consulate at Vancouver.

THE "FUJI."

Colombo, Sept. 25.
The *Fuji* arrived here to-day. She will leave for Singapore on the 2nd prox.

CHOLERA IN SINGAPORE.

Mr. Fujita, Japanese Consul at Singapore, has sent the following telegram to the Department of Foreign Affairs:—

Singapore, Sept. 25.
A cholera epidemic has broken out at this place, and there are about four new cases every day. The epidemic, however, shows no signs of spreading.

SILK PROSPECTS.

Japanese Consulate, Lyons, Sept. 25.
The silk market has become fairly brisk, and quotations have again advanced. The current prices of No. 1 Japanese filature range from 42½ to 43 francs, and there is a tendency to rise still higher.

BRITISH NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)
Hakodate, Sept. 29, 7 a.m.
H.M.S. *Rattler* left here on the 27th, the *Alacrity* on the 28th, and the flagship *Centurion* and *Immortalité* this morning. The first three go to Port Lazareff; the *Immortalité* proceeds to Garabovitch Bay.

THE BRITISH NORTH BORNEO BRIGAD.

Singapore, Sept. 17, 11.30 a.m.
H.M.S. *Iphigenia* is leaving Singapore for Labuan, British North Borneo.

It is reported that a portion of her crew will join the punitive expedition being organised by the Government of British North Borneo against the Dyak chief Mat Salih, who raided Gaya some time ago and looted the Government treasury.

THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

Paris, Sept. 5.
At Hamburg, the Emperor William and King Humbert toasted each other, and spoke of the reality of the Triple Alliance and their earnest desire to maintain peace.

GENERAL LOCKHART.

General Sir W. Lockhart, who has been holidaying in Germany, has been suddenly recalled to India.

ANARCHISM.

Paris, Sept. 7.
The Spanish Council of War has condemned the anarchist Simpan, who fired at and wounded the Chief of Police at Barcelona, to forty years' hard labour. Simpan is only 27 years of age.

EGYPT.

Paris, Sept. 8.
The Arab tribes friendly to England have taken Berber.

SANGUINARY BATTLE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Paris, Sept. 9.
It is reported from Manila that a sanguinary battle took place on Monday last at Alaga, which the Spanish troops captured. The rebel loss was very heavy. On the Spanish side only 1 officer and 9 men were killed.

THE KING OF SIAM IN FRANCE.

Paris, Sept. 13.
M. Méline has paid a visit to the King of Siam,

who has given him the assurance of friendly feeling towards France. The King visits the Fort of Vincennes to-day. He is an object of public curiosity wherever he appears.

Paris, Sept. 14.
M. Faure entertained the King of Siam to dinner in the Elysée. Cordial toasts were exchanged. M. Faure and the King will be present to-day at the review at St. Quentin which concludes the manoeuvres of the north.

FATAL EXPLOSION.

From Madras it is reported that about forty workmen were killed in an explosion at the mines on the Champion Reef.

BISMARCK'S OPINION ON THE FRANCO-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE.

London, Sept. 6.
Prince Bismarck in an interview says that he does not attach too much importance to the Franco-Russian alliance, but that now the French pot is moved nearer to the fire it will the more easily boil over.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

LATE U.S. MINISTER TO KOREA.

Soul, Sept. 23.
Mr. Sill, ex-United States Minister to Korea left here to-day for Japan.

RAILWAY TUNNEL FALLS IN.

Shizuoka, Sept. 28.
The heavy rainfall of last night caused the Satta Tunnel to fall in and railway traffic between Okitsu and Kambara is interrupted.
SAILING VESSEL SUNK IN COLLISION.

Mito, Sept. 27.
The sailing vessel *Hanyei Maru*, owned by Mr. Wakae of Nihonbashi, Tokyo, sank in collision with a steamer off the coast of Kashima about 2.30 a.m. on the 23rd inst. The crew, four in all, were saved by a fishing boat.

JUNK RUN DOWN BY A STEAMER.

Hiroshima, Sept. 28.
The night before last the steamer *Hokumon Maru* collided with a junk near Takane island, Toyoda gun, and the junk sank, but all the crew were saved.

THE "YEN" IN KOREA.

Soul, Sept. 28.
A contract has been arranged between the First Bank (Japanese) and the Korean Finance Bureau to the effect that the Japanese one yen silver piece now in circulation in Korea shall be accepted in payment of customs duties upon a stamp being imprinted on its face.

THE "KING-EMPEROR" OF KOREA.

Soul, Sept. 28.
To-morrow the Korean people will offer the title of "Emperor" to the King of Korea, all the people taking a holiday in honour of the event.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
America	P. M. Co.	Aztec	Mon. Oct. 4
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Belgic	Fri. Oct. 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sat. Oct. 10
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenstaufen	Fri. Oct. 7
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Sat. Oct. 8
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	Th. Oct. 9
Europe	P. M. Co.	Caledonian	W. Oct. 6
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of India	Mon. Oct. 25

- 1 Left San Francisco on the 12th Sept.
2 Left Kobe on the 30th Sept.
3 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 1st Sept.
4 Left Hongkong on the 25th Sept.
5 Left Hongkong on the 28th Sept.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	Fri. Oct. 8
America	O. & O. Co.	Belgic	Sat. Oct. 10
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Sydney	Sun. Oct. 3
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Clytemia	Sat. Oct. 9
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Sun. Oct. 10
America	P. M. Co.	Peru	Tu. Oct. 12
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of India	Mon. Oct. 25
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Nagato Maru	Tu. Oct. 8

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club reopens on Monday, 4th October, the annual meeting for the election of officers being held at Keil's building at 5.30 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club reopened on Friday, 1st October.

The following is the solution of Problem No. 338:—

WHITE.
1—P to B 4
2—Q to Q 4, ch
3—Kt to K 3, mate
2—Q to K 4, ch
3—B to B 6, mate
2—Q takes P (K 5), ch
3—B to Kt 5, mate
2—Q takes P (B 4)
3—Kt to Q B 3, mate
3—Kt to K 3, mate
3—Q to Q 4, mate
2—Q to K 4, ch
3—Kt to Q 2, mate
2—B takes R, ch
3—Q takes P (Kt 6), mate
2—Q takes P (K 5), ch
3—Q or Kt, mates

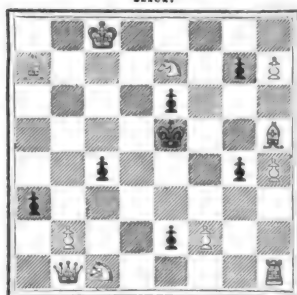
BLACK.
1—P to K 5
2—Kt takes Q
1—R takes P
2—K takes Q
1—B, or P, takes Kt
2—K to B 5
1—P takes P
2—R to K 3
if 2—B, or P, takes Kt
if 2—Kt to B 4
1—K to B 5
2—Kt to Q 5
1—R to K 3
2—K to B 3
1—R to B 2
2—K B 5

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., D.D., and P.E.F.S.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G.M. (No. 2).—Thanks, have written.
J.H.T.—White could have won by losing a move and thereby gaining the "opposition."

PROBLEM NO. 340.
By Mrs. W. J. BAIRD.



White to play and mate in three moves.

THE QUEEN OF CHESS.

Mrs. W. J. Baird (Edith Helen Winter-Wood), was born in the year 1850, at Hareston, the family seat of the Woods, in Devonshire. She is, says L. Hoffer in the *Chess Monthly*, the only surviving daughter of T. Winter-Wood, lineal descendant of the Woods who possessed the Manor of Hareston from the reign of Edward III.

In 1880, Miss Winter-Wood married Deputy Inspector-General W. J. Baird M.D., R.N., and has an only daughter, Lilian, who has, from eight years of age, added a charm to many a leading chess column by means of her graceful little problems. Mrs. Baird was nurtured in a chess atmosphere, the whole of the Winter-Wood family being well versed in the mysteries of the royal game. In the year 1888, she was induced to try her hand at problem composing, with the result that a simple two-move composition with some attractive features was published in the *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News* of the 28th of January of that year.

Since that date we hardly need tell our readers that she has been a most prolific composer, having published upwards of 400 problems in 2, 3, 4, and 5 moves, in both direct and self-mates; only three of which have been found to contain second solutions. This is a feat which, we believe, has no parallel in the history of Chess problem composition; and is a quality which many a Chess editor will know how to appreciate, and welcome her name when attached to a problem.

Mrs. Baird has not frequently competed in problem tournaments; but when doing so, upwards of

twenty of her compositions have attained prizes or received distinctive notice in the leading competitions of the day. In the early part of her career she also competed in solution tournaments and came off with clean scores.

In the matter of difficulty, Mrs. Baird certainly ranks high; having several times come out as the composer of the most ingenious problem in the periodical list of the *Morning Post*.

Outside the sphere of Chess, Mrs. Baird has many accomplishments. At an early age she displayed great talent for pen and ink drawings, flower-painting, &c., and was no mean performer with the billiard cue. The last hobby she has taken up seems to be Archery, in which graceful pastime she has already made great progress.

In the midst of her achievements, however, she looks upon her volume of illuminations as the greatest. This she accomplished some years ago and it exists as an example of patience, skill and perseverance not, we believe, to be excelled in any boudoir of the United Kingdom.

The above problem has proved to be the most difficult three move that has appeared in the *Morning Post* since the records in the column were commenced in 1887.

Recently at the Scottish Chess Association meeting a game opened as follows:—White 1—P to K 4, P to Q 4; 2—P takes P, Q takes P. At this point White intended to play the usual 3—Q Kt to Q B 3, but inadvertently he played the Q Kt to Q Kt 3. This being an illegal move White was obliged to replace his Kt, and move his King; as his only move was K to K 2, Black mated by 3—Q to K 5!

The expenses of the match by cable between the legislators of the United States and Great Britain were over £450, exclusive of the £100 trophy.

Only three games remain to be decided No. 8 having been won by "Nemo," whose opponent resigned the game on the 19th move. The score stands now as follows:—

PLAYER.	WON.	LOST.
Pakela	2	—
Olymp	1	3½
Shepherd	1	3
Nemo	2	—
Fardel	1½	½

Very slow progress is being made in the two Telegraph Games (Nos. 4 and 10) owing to the continual break-down of the telegraph wires. Below we give the moves to date:—

GAME NO. 4.

White—Fardel.	Black—Pakela.	White—Fardel.	Black—Pakela.
1 P K4	P K4	9 Q K2 ch	B K3
2 P KB4	PxP	10 P Q4	Castles
3 B B4	P Q4	11 Kt K4	P QKt4
4 BxP	Kt KB3	12 Q KB2	B B5
5 Kt KB3	KtxB	13 R Kxq	B Q4
6 PxKt	QxP	14 Kt(B3)Kt Kt B3	
7 Castles	B Q3	15 KtxB [5 QxKt	
8 Kt B3	Q QR4	16 KtxKt's P BxKt's P	

GAME NO. 10.

White—Nemo.	Black—Fardel.	White—Nemo.	Black—Fardel.
1 P K4	P K4	8 B Kt3	Kt(B3)Kt5
2 P Q4	PxP	9 B KB4	P Q3
3 B QB3	PxP	10 P KR3	P KR4
4 B QB4	Kt QB3	11 Kt R4	KtxP
5 KtxP	Kt B3	12 R Kt	BxR ch
6 Kt K2	B B4	13 KxB	Q B3
7 Castles	Kt K4	14 Kt B3	

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 27th Sept.,—Vancouver, B.C., 13th Sept., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Silver Fleece, American schooner, 58, T. R. Thompson, 27th Sept.,—North Pacific Ocean, 142 Seal Skins & Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.
Yorktown (6), American gunboat, 1,710, Com. C. H. Stockton, 28th Sept.,—Chefoo.
McDuff, British steamer, 1,881, N. S. Thomson, 29th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Ceres, German steamer, 2,663, Foerck, 29th Sept.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 22nd Sept., General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Valos, German steamer, 636, 27th Sept.,—Kobe, Sugar.—H. Grauert.
Hohenollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker, 1st Oct.,—Hongkong, 25th Sept., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nacfil.
Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 1st Oct.,—Hongkong 21st Sept., Shanghai 25th,

Nagasaki 27th, and Kobe 30th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Dardanus, British steamer, 2,507, Gregory, 26th Sept.,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, Hill, 26th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Princess Wilhelm (22), German cruiser, 4,400, Captain Thiel, 27th Sept.,—Chefoo.
Melpomene, Austrian steamer, 1,848, Martinolich, 27th Sept.,—Hongkong, via Kobe, General.—Blowne & Co.
Cromartysire, British ship, 1,462, Henderson, 27th September,—Portland, Or., Ballast.—Captain.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 27th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Kaiser (15), German flagship, 7,600, Capt. Zeye, 29th Sept.,—Kobe.
Irene (22), German cruiser, 4,400, Capt. Du Bois, 29th Sept.,—Kobe.
Cowrie, British steamer, 3,155, S. Parsons, 30th Sept.,—Marseilles and London via Hongkong and Manila, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Grafton (12), British cruiser, 7,350, Capt. E. P. Jones, 30th Sept.,—Nagasaki.
Handy (6), British torpedo boat destroyer, 260, Capt. A. Gillespie, 30th Sept.,—Nagasaki.
Hart (6), British torpedo boat destroyer, 260, Capt. H. F. Shakespear, 30th Sept.,—Nagasaki.
Saint Mary, British steamer, 1,860, Perill, 30th Sept.,—Mojito, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Lonsdale, British ship, 1,685, John Fraser, 2nd Oct.,—Vancouver, B.C., Ballast.—Captain.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Columbia*, from Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C.:—Mrs. Maynard, Mr. and Mrs. M. Rae. Messrs. J. C. Arlington, J. J. Gargan, F. M. Griffin, N. J. Sargent, W. F. Carey, and C. M. Sandford, in cabin; 4 Europeans in 2nd class; 36 Chinese and 77 Japanese in steerage.
Per British steamer *Sumatra*, from London and ports:—Mr. H. Chope, and Mr. Davis, in cabin; 31 Europeans and 83 Natives in steerage.
Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver:—Mr. E. G. Adams, Col. A. F. Bacon, Mrs. Bevis and child, Miss Brunell, Miss L. N. Burnham, Miss A. Bates, Mrs. Broadhurst, Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Bowen, Mr. Bethen, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Cook, Mr. J. Campbell, Mrs. S. C. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Caverhill, Miss Ella Campbell, Miss Cazad, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Case and two Misses Case, Mr. P. Chamilland, Dr. Louisa Cook, Mr. and Mrs. F. Clayton, Rev. and Mrs. Curtis and children, Mr. and Mrs. G. Dennison, Jr., Prof. and Mrs. Garret Droppers, Dr. & Mrs. F. Pritchard Davis, Mr. John Evans, Dr. Eva H. Field, Mr. T. S. Forrest, Miss Froste, Mrs. Gribble, Dr. Mary Gale, Mr. J. Gavetzki, Rev. W. B. Hunt, Mrs. E. G. Houghton, Rev. H. B. Johnson, Miss Jewell, Mr. A. Kahn, Mr. E. Kahn, Mr. L. Kahn, Mr. Kink, Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Lacy and 5 children, Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Luce, Miss M. Lebeus, Mr. J. Matsumoto, Dr. and Mrs. Munro, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Moore and child, Mr. I. McDowell, Miss McKay, Mr. McHardy, Miss McHardy, Mr. R. B. McKerrrow, Rev. D. Norman, R.v. and Mrs. B. Newell, children and servant, Mr. Oshima, Mr. W. B. Oelbermann, Miss Proctor, Miss Pinckney, Miss Josephine Pease, Mr. A. Pye-Smith, Mr. H. Riedemann, Miss Rankin, Mr. H. J. Reckett and valet, Rev. and Mrs. Cyril Ross, Mr. Robins, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. L. Eaton Smith, Miss E. I. Shields, Dr. and Mrs. C. C. Selden, Mr. A. P. Stokes, Mr. and Mrs. Till, Master Till and nurse, Miss Trew, Mr. and Mrs. Takahashi and child, Mrs. L. O. Thomas, Mr. D. Ushioda, Mr. Watanabe, Mr. and Mrs. P. Wilkes, Mr. H. M. Wood, Miss Wilkin, Miss Wilson, Dr. and Mrs. Wilson, Miss M. Young, Mr. Richardson and 2 daughters, Miss Crane, Mr. Jullazar, Mrs. Vaughan and 2 sons, and Mr. J. Mori, in cabin; 13 in 2nd class; 318 in steerage.
Per British steamer *Belgie*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. Stoop, Lieut. W. D. Rose, U.S.N., Miss M. R. Reckitt and maid, Mr. W. T. Payne, Mr. J. W. Copman, Captain W. H. Crawford, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mrs. Adams, Mr. T. Kershaw, Mr. G. Stoop, Mrs. W. D. Rose, Mrs. A. R. Reckitt, Mr. H. Cremer, Mr. F. I. Gause, Mrs. Flood, infant and amah, Mr. J. S. Happer, and Miss Adams, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. A. Kana, and Mr. Yin Qiong, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. W. D. Happer, Mr. J. C.

Hixson, Mrs. L. Young, Mrs. Bourne, Mr. M. Sergey Friede, Lieut. Com. F. L. Delano, U.S.N., Mr. H. Schroeter and child, Miss A. S. Kugler, and Miss Hope Conrad, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenollern*, from Hongkong—Capt. Miyabara, Dr. E. O. A. Travers, Mrs. E. Travers, children and servants, Mr. A. H. Bagnall, Mr. E. Dumb, and Mr. H. Marcus, in cabin; Mrs. Tuyi Telku Komya, Mrs. Takao Masano, and Mrs. T. Potstosang, in 2nd class; 26 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Usher, Miss E. Cavershill Jones, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Nicholson, Dr. and Mrs. D. D. Main, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Lord, Mr. & Mrs. K. Imanishi, Mrs. C. M. Chalmers and infant, Mrs. Gordon, Miss Gordon, Captain & Mrs. Long, infant and maid, Mrs. Bruce Robertson and infant, Mrs. W. A. C. Platt and infant, Mr. and Mrs. F. Parrott, Mr. Poulter, Mr. J. A. Anderson, Mrs. W. Church, Sir N. J. Hannen, Mr. A. W. Brewin, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. C. Overbeck, Mr. E. Lay, Rev. & Mrs. Ashmore, Mr. A. B. Everest, Miss Esther Everest, Mr. A. W. Hoyt, Mr. G. G. Peters, Rev. A. Innocent, Mr. Delbourgo, Capt. Crawford, Lieut. C. W. Gordon, Mrs. H. B. Price, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. W. T. Payne, Mr. Denys Larrieu, Mr. M. Raspe, Mr. Th. Bunge, Dr. Kempe, Mr. H. B. Haskell, Mr. S. Komor, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Mr. Chan Poichi, Mrs. Yue Ping and child, Mr. Ah Gan, Mr. A. L. Koch, and Dr. L. Lohholm, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the past week a fair amount of business has been done in yarns, but shirtings, fancy cottons, and woollens remain quite neglected. Quotations are nominally unchanged.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8 1/2, 38 1/2 yds. 39 inches	2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2, 38 1/2 yds. 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
F. Cloth—7 1/2, 2 1/2 yds. 39 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—2 1/2 yds. 41 inches	1.95 to 2.00
Prints—Assorted, 2 1/2 yds. 39 inches	2.00 to 2.75
Cotton—Italian and Salteen Black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawn, 12 yards, 12 1/2 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2, 2 1/2 yds. 39 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2, 2 1/2 yds. 39 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 1/2, 2 1/2 yds. 39 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 1/2, 2 1/2 yds. 39 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLENS.

Flannel—Common	0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.34
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27
Mousseline de Laine—Crane, 2 1/2 yds. 39 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 5 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 5 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 5 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 5 to 5 1/2, per lb.	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16 24, Singles	41.00 to 41.50
Nos. 28 32, Singles	41.00 to 41.00
Nos. 38 42, Singles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 2 60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	116.00 to 127.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	28 to 29
Indian Broach	24 to 25
Chinese	25 to 26

METALS.

Nothing doing. Transport on most of the railways has been interrupted by damage to the lines from the heavy rains which have prevailed. Stocks are accumulating and dealers will do nothing till the block is removed.

Round and square 1/2 inch, and upward.	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.40 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	6.20 to 6.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	10.00 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Fin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.10 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1/2 to 1 1/2 inch)	4.80 to 5.00

IRONWORK.

The tone of the market continues to improve

and a fair number of transactions have taken place at a slight advance in prices.

American	2.00 to 2.15
Russian	2.00 to 2.15
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

The market is quiet and stocks are gradually reducing, arrivals of all sorts of Brown having been only about 1,000 piculs, while sales amount to 14,600 piculs for the week. Prices generally have advanced about 10 cents per picul. In White refined a steady business has been done at former quotations.

Brown Takao	43.90 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.90
Brown Daitong	3.20 to 3.35
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.80
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A good daily business has been done during the week, mostly for America, at an increase in prices of from \$10 to \$20 per picul. Quotations for fine-sized Filatures are too high to tempt buyers for Europe. Settlements for the week amount to 2,155 piculs, more than half of which consisted of Filatures. Stock is estimated at 6,800 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/15, 10/12 den.	890 to 920
Filatures—Extra 11/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 10/12 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 11/15, 14/16 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 14, 11/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 11/16 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 11/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 14, 11/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 11/16 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/16 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/16 deniers	—
Kakadas—Extra	840 to 850
Kakadas—No. 1	820 to 830
Kakadas—No. 14	790 to 800
Kakadas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakadas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

The market has been fairly active at rising prices. Dealers hold out for still higher rates. Settlements for the week amount to 1,350 piculs; stock 7,900 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	115 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 67 1/2
Noshi—Bushu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 57 1/2
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	85 to 90
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	25 to 30

TEA.

A small but steady business has been done during the past week, mostly in the lower grades. Sales amount to 186,000 catties, and stocks to about 6,000 piculs. It is anticipated by dealers that the total supply will be cleared off by the end of the year. Total settlements for the season to date amount to 198,600 piculs against 193,170 piculs at same time last year. Shipments since

last report have been 174,493 lbs. per China, and 479,440 lbs. per *Kinshiu Maru*, both on the 23rd September. Prices close firm.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	31 to 38
Finest	30 to 32
Fine	29 to 30
Good Medium	27 to 28
Medium	25 to 26
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Rates advanced 1/2 on the inauguration of the gold standard. Silver is fluctuating and China quotations are slightly higher.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.54
— Private 4 months' sight	2.58
On Hongkong—Bank sight	8 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	10
On Shanghai—Bank sight	81
— Private 10 days' sight	83
On India—Bank sight	154
— Private 30 days' sight	157
On America—Bank Bills on demand	40
— Private 4 months' sight	50 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.06
— Private 4 months' sight	2.09 1/2
Re. Silver (London) (28th inst.)	25 1/2

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHINBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.	
SHINBASHI—4.40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.	

YOKOHAMA AND NIKKO.

From Yokohama	7.10	8.47	9.57	12.45
From Shinagawa	8.15	9.45	11.10	2.00
From Akabane	9.27	11.27	1.27	3.27
Arrive Utsunomiya	12.30	2.30	4.40	6.30
Arrive Nikko	2.15	4.25	6.15	7.15

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Yokohama	6.48 a.m.	Kobe	11.22 p.m.
Yokohama	1.26 p.m.	Kobe	9.00 a.m.
Yokohama	7.20 p.m.	Kobe	3.05 p.m.
Yokohama	10.55 p.m.	Kobe	7.00 p.m.
Kobe	6.00 a.m.	Yokohama	10.25 p.m.
Kobe	12.30 p.m.	Yokohama	8.08 a.m.
Kobe	10.00 p.m.	Yokohama	7.06 p.m.

YOKOHAMA AND KARUZAWA.

From Yokohama	5.20	9.57	12.45
From Shinagawa	6.40	11.10	2.00
From Akabane	8.27	12.24	3.06
Arrive Takasaki	11.33	3.15	6.25
From Takasaki	12.30	3.30	—
Arrive Karuzawa	3.30	6.30	9.05



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Yokohama, October 1st.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50	320 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100	420 S.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100	132.50 H.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100	110 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100	130 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdr.), \$12	440 Sa
North and Rae, Ltd., \$100	185 Sa
Hett & Co., Ltd., \$10	8 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100	225 Sa.
Hongo Gas Co., Ltd., \$100	185 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb., \$100	100 N.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100	110 Sa.
Yokohama United Club Deb., \$100	100 H.
Hett & Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100	101 S.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo October 1st

Five per Cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds	94.50
Redemption Loan Bonds	96.65
War Loan Bonds	96.82
New Public Loan Bonds	97.30
Old Public Loan Bonds	97.00
Naval Loan Bonds	96.30
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.50
Yamanashi Railway Company—paid up yen 50	48.20
Yamanashi Railway Company—paid up yen 25	49.10
Yamanashi Railway Company—paid up yen 10	88.00
Kobu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	114.50
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 10	57.40
Kyushu Railway Company—new—paid up yen 25	35.70
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 10	9.50
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 25	56.80
Saigai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	83.00
Kawagoe Railway Company—paid up yen 50	51.50
Chokun Railway Company—paid up yen 50	72.00
Hantan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	45.00
Boso Railway Company—paid up yen 50	43.00
Sobu Railway Company—paid up yen 50	103.00
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50	70.00
Kishinami Railway Company—paid up yen 44	61.00
Toyokawa Railway Company—paid up yen 35	39.80
Hokuryu Railway Company—paid up yen 33	33.00
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47.50	30.00
Seiwa Railway Company—paid up yen 5	1.80
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 12.50	7.50
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 20	15.70
Kozuke Railway Company—paid up yen 50	30.00
Nanao Railway Company—paid up yen 37.50	33.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	59.00
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up yen 25	30.00
Domestic Transport Company—paid up yen 40	80.00
Japan Transport Company—paid up yen 15	5.50
Specie Bank—paid up yen 100	193.00
Specie Bank, new—paid up yen 25	83.00
Imperial Merchant Bank—paid up yen 25	27.70
Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 50	53.50
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	68.00
Miyagi Cotton Spinning Company—paid up yen 50	00.00
Shanghai Cotton Spinning Co.—paid up yen 15	32.00
Japan Weaving Company—paid up yen 50	18.00
Tokyo Tricel Company—paid up yen 50	210.00
Yokohama Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 42	48.00
Shimogawa Electric Light Co.—paid up yen 31	4.00
Tokyo Electric Light Company—paid up yen 45	57.50
Tokyo Gas Company—paid up yen 50	8.00
Doshin Kaisha—paid up yen 20	15.00
Tokyo Marine Insurance Co.—paid up yen 102	70.00
Tokyo Suihwa Exchange—paid up yen 50	180.00
Tokyo Rice Exchange—paid up yen 50	157.00
Nippon Shinko—paid up yen 50	370.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 50	53.00
First National Bank—paid up yen 5	57.00
Japan Beer Company—paid up yen 40	70.00
Japan Cement Company—paid up yen 45	34.00
Tone Canal Company—paid up yen 4	11.00



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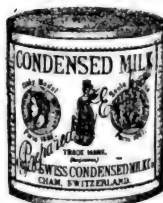
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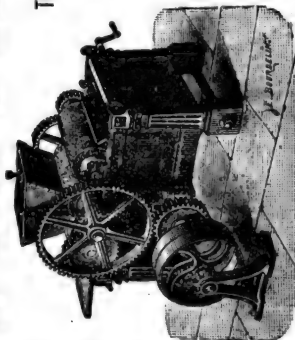
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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No. 15.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCT. 9TH, 1897.

月三十五年二拾四 Vol. XXVIII.
西曆九月三十日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 9TH, 1897.

BIRTHS.

On the 30th ult., at 17, Nakayamate-dori, 4-chome, Kobe, the wife of I. A. CHRISTENSEN, of a son.

At Shanghai, on the 20th September, the wife of A. NEUBOURG, of a daughter.

On the 25th Sept., at Shanghai, the wife of ARTHUR R. LEAKE, of a daughter.

At Shanghai, on the 24th Sept., the wife of J. W. H. BURGON, of a son.

On the steamer *Columbia* at sea between Kobe and Moji, Mrs. HUDSON of a daughter.

At Bahar Lodge, The Peak, Hongkong, on the 27th inst., the wife of Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN, Attorney-General, of a daughter.

At Kiukiang, on the 29th of September, 1897, the wife of JACOB K. KOFON LIND, of a son.

At Tientsin, on the 30th of September, Mrs. G. BAUR, of a son.

At Canton, on the 19th September, the wife of JAMES HOLLIDAY, of a son.

At the Hotel des Colonies, Shanghai, the wife of A. SEISSON, of a daughter.

At Matsumoto, Shinshu, on the 4th inst., the wife of the Reverend FRANCIS W. KENNEDY, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 22nd September, at Shanghai, HARRY H. LUSTON of San Francisco, U.S.A., to HARRIET ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late W. R. FULLER of Chefoo, N.C.

On the 18th of August, at St. Stephen's Church, East Twickenham (England), CHARLES FURSMAN EFFORD (L.D.S.) Eng. (Dental Surgeon) only son of Capt. J. J. Efford, Yokohama, to LILLIAN ROSA, only daughter of the late Clarence M. Edenborough, Esq. (No Cards.) New York papers please copy.

DEATHS.

On the 20th September, Mr. EDMUND SHARP, late Crown Solicitor of Hongkong. (By telegram from England).

On the 20th September, at No. 39, Kerbau Road, Singapore, ANDINIA VIRGINIA, the beloved wife of A. G. DOUGLAS, of Hongkong.

At Canton, on the 30th of September, 1897, suddenly, WILLIAM, eldest son of the late Rev. William DE ST. CROIX, Vicar of Glynde, Sussex, aged 50 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A NEW Cabinet has been formed at Athens by M. Zaimis.

YELLOW fever is reported to be raging at New Orleans.

THE commencement of work on the new Osaka harbour has been fixed for the 17th inst.

COUNT MATSUKATA, Premier, is confined to his residence at Mita, Shiba, with rheumatism.

THE King of Korea has accepted the title of Emperor and is to be crowned on the 12th inst.

THE revised Treaty between Chili and Japan was signed at Washington on the 25th of September.

THE Spanish Cabinet has resigned and Senor Sagasta has been summoned to form a new Ministry.

By the explosion of a steam pipe on H.B.M. torpedo catcher *Thrasher* near Falmouth, four stokers were killed.

News from the Soudan expedition is to the effect that the whole of the Eastern tribes have renounced Mahdism.

A Fine Arts Exhibition will be opened from the 10th inst. at the exhibition building of the Japan Fine Arts Society at Ueno.

LT. GENERAL YAMAJI, Commander-in-Chief of the Western District, died on the 3rd inst. from the bursting of a blood vessel on the brain.

THE King of Siam has paid a visit to Paris and it is stated that the results, in connection with the relations between France and Siam, are very satisfactory.

A JUNK was sunk in collision with the N.Y.K. steamer *Shiganoura Maru* on the 2nd instant, and it is believed that several of the crew of the junk were drowned.

AN explosion of oxygen gas occurred at a photographer's studio in Yokohama on the 4th inst. by which seven persons, mostly children, were more or less severely injured.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha recently established a branch at Mokpo, Korea, and on the 4th inst. the Company's steamer *Chikugoyama Maru* left on her first trip there.

THE members of the Go-Ni Kai (a commercial association) in Tokyo, has under consideration the establishment of a Merchandise Museum in the capital at a cost yen 200,000.

AN accident occurred to a service train near Oyama on the Tokaido Railway on the 3rd instant by which five coolies and railway employes were killed on the spot and fourteen more badly injured.

THE total amount of Japanese silver yen and paper notes imported to Yokohama from the Straits Settlements and Shanghai, etc., to be

exchanged for gold, up to the 4th inst. was yen 2,015,000, of which yen 1,815,000 were silver and yen 200,000 notes.

FOREIGN postage rates from Japan have been doubled, and it is under consideration by the Government to raise domestic postal and telegraph rates 50 per cent., in order to obtain funds for extending telegraphic communications.

THE Captain and eight men of the sealing schooner *Golden Fleete*, owned in Yokohama, were lost from the schooner a few days ago near Commander Islands and were picked up by H.M.S. *Daphne* and taken to Hakodate.

OUT of 430 emigrants raised by the Hiroshima Kaigai Tokyo Kaisha (Hiroshima Emigration Company); 217 left Yokohama for Hawaii by the steamer *Belgie* on the 3rd inst. The remaining 212 will leave for Hawaii at the end of this month, together with another company of 500 emigrants.

THE 1st of October having been the first day for the exchange of silver yen into gold, the Bank of Japan at Tokyo is stated to have exchanged over yen 103,000 during the day, of which sum silver amounted to yen 3,000 only, all the rest being notes. The amount of exchange at the Yokohama Specie Bank on the 1st inst. reached yen 175,350.

THE establishment of the Komu-Sho (Industrial Department) seems to have been decided on, and will shortly be officially sanctioned. The Department when established will consist of the following sectional bureaux:—Civil Engineering Bureau in the Home Department; the Industrial Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department; the Railway Bureau in the Communications Department and the Marine Bureau, etc.

THE Import market generally during the past week can scarcely be described as brisk, but still business is beginning to look up a little after several months of depression. Manchester has only participated in the improvement to a limited extent. Shirts are a drug on the market and fancy cottons and woollens are in little better favour, though a small business has been done. Yarns have looked up considerably, partly, no doubt, owing to the temporary suspension of work by several of the Japanese spinning companies due to the high price of raw material and labour. A good business has been done at slightly reduced quotations, but the market is firmer at the close. In metals there has been a little bit of a boom, consequent, to some extent doubtless, to the firm if not rising tone of the home markets. Bar and galvanized iron have been the principal lines dealt in, and in these some very considerable transactions have occurred. In kerosene the market is firm, in spite of rather heavy arrivals, and a fair business has been done at a slight rise in prices. The sugar market has been fairly brisk, and sales have slightly exceeded arrivals, rates being well maintained. In the Export market a good business has continued in raw silk, and there has been quite a boom in waste. Holders are firm in their demands and are probably justified in their position by the report as to the European crop, and it is generally allowed that for growers and native dealers in Japan this season will be the best on record; not for the amount of the crop, but for the profits made. The sales of tea are gradually decreasing; but so also is the stock, and producers and dealers have nothing to complain of. The principal demand at present is for medium and good medium grades at from \$23 to \$25 per picul. Exchange closes firm at 28.07½ demand.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Year by year, as the time for the assembly of the Diet approaches, rumour busies itself with exaggerated statements about the Budget and speculations about the policy that the Cabinet will adopt to make the revenue suffice for the expenditures. In former days, no such questions troubled men's mind. On the contrary, the great problem that presented itself for solution in each session of the Diet was how to spend the surplus revenue lying in the Treasury's vaults, and how to contrive such a reduction of official salaries and administrative outlays as would warrant a substantial decrease of the Land Tax. But the war with China changed all that. The extensive programme of post-bellum measures to which the nation pledged itself effectually dispelled any hope of cutting down the Land Tax, and the question of the day thenceforth became, how to find money. Never before did the public show so much anxiety on the subject as it shows now. Not that the difficulty of establishing equilibrium between the revenue and the expenditure has assumed alarming proportions, but the people begin to doubt whether there is to be any finality in the series of leaps and bounds by which the outlays of the State are growing. The scheme mapped out by the Ito Cabinet and presented to the Diet in its ninth session (1895-6) showed an extraordinary development of expenditure, but was endorsed by the country as an exceptional and finite measure undertaken for a special purpose. People imagined, in short, that they were then in a position to gauge the limits of their post-bellum liabilities and that, the great programme of *Sengo Keiyi* once disposed of, the nation would revert to its wonted condition of financial ease. But that expectation has been rudely disappointed. On the top of the big increases of expenditure shown by the Budgets of the past two years, comes an unlooked-for addition of from 20 to 30 million yen for the fiscal year 1898-9. No one can be surprised that the intelligence has given rise to much discussion. It seems, however, that the impatience of the Government's critics is greatly augmented by the impossibility of discovering what plan the Cabinet contemplates for raising the required revenue. Possibly the Ministers of State are themselves undecided. There is no reason, indeed, for any precipitate decision. But it may be that they are purposely keeping their own counsel so as to avert the hostile and inconvenient discussion that would inevitably follow any declaration of policy. A long article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is evidently inspired by a sense of exasperation at the Cabinet's "aloofness" and nonchalance. It is true that no distinct charge of that nature is formulated, but our contemporary takes for its text a statement attributed by rumour to Count Matsukata that if the revenue now accruing is not sufficient, the responsibility of providing a larger revenue will devolve on the people, and endeavours to show that a financial Minister guided by such a doctrine is not likely to observe the degree of discretion demanded by the occasion. No wonder that, where a magnificent mood of that kind exists, the sometime loud talk about cutting down administrative expenditures and reforming the Administration has proved to be mere talk. The administrative Reform Commission, after sitting for a year, has effected absolutely nothing, and now its personnel has undergone a radical alteration. People not unreasonably ask why the original members were appointed if they were not fit for the task, and why, if they were not fit, it took a year to discover their unfitness. People further ask what is meant by reconstructing the Commission with materials such as those recently drafted into it—parly politicians without any knowledge of administrative affairs or any experience of the working of officialdom. Is it to outsiders of that kind that recourse must be had for a scheme of administrative reform? If so, the incompetence of those hitherto entrusted with the management of the country's affairs must be indeed hopeless. Another matter of surprise is

the exclusion of Army and Navy representatives from the Commission. Many critics think that the reform of the military and naval sections of the Government ought to precede the reform of all the other sections, and every one concludes that when the Commission was originally organized the inclusion of Army and Navy representatives among its members demonstrated the Cabinet's belief that reforms were needed in these departments. But now, the Cabinet's views seem to have undergone a radical change, for the representatives of the Army and Navy have been excluded. It is an undeniable fact that the Commission has proved a fiasco, and yet the one person primarily responsible for its failure, namely, the President, Count Okuma, retains his old position of President. There is no hope that the Diet will condemn the strange vacillations or properly scrutinize the financial policy of the Cabinet. The majority in the Lower House are mere creatures of the Government—deaf and blind mutes so far as any effective criticism is concerned. Thus, on the whole, the *Nichi Nichi* finds the situation very disquieting.

* * *
A similar feeling of impatience is displayed by the *Fiji Shimpō*, but on broader grounds. That journal declares that the nation is weary of the trimming and temporizing of the Cabinet. In every-day life a man must not cling closely to the same routine. If he wishes to be sound in mind and in body, he must from time to time, seek change of air, of scenery and of pastimes. The effort may involve some sacrifices but its results are amply compensatory. The same rule applies to the career of a Government. It may truly be said of Japanese statesmen that during the past twenty years they have been treading uniformly in the same groove. Whatever changes they have made, find their parallel in the conduct of a householder who, from week to week, makes some slight alteration in the alcove ornaments of his guest chamber or some fresh arrangement of the chairs and tables, but leaves the room itself exactly as it was. When the present Cabinet came into power, the air was full of large promises. There was to be radical administrative reform; there was to be complete freedom of speech; the people at large were to be invited to assist in the management of State affairs. It can not be denied that some portion of the great expectations founded on those promises have been realized. Freedom of speech has been immensely extended by abolishing the Administration's power of arbitrarily suspending a newspaper, and a certain effort has been made to infuse new blood into the veins of officialdom. But there is no sign of any radical administrative reform. Evidently the nation is to be again put off with a mere shifting of the old scenes and re-shuffling of the familiar cards. The *Fiji* writes at considerable length upon this subject, and concludes by calling on the Government not to be hampered by petty considerations but to strike out a bold and thorough programme; to undertake a radical clearing away of the dust and cobwebs that have accumulated during the lapse of time, and to let the new year's sun dawn upon a genuinely purified and properly garnished house.

* * *
The *Nippon* takes virtually the same line. It contends that the object of reform at present should be destructive rather than constructive; that to demolish existing evils is the prime need of the hour, rather than to build up new systems. From whatever direction the doings of the Administration are viewed, the prospect is most unsatisfactory. Even in Tokyo, the capital of the empire and the seat of the Government, abuses abound; yet the administration seems powerless to correct them. The state of the streets is disgraceful; the completion of the water works is unaccountably delayed; the work of harbour construction is not even commenced; the means of communication show no signs of progress; the special system of local administration works most unsatisfactorily; the police are political instruments rather than guardians of public peace; the governor

is always a Choshu man; the chief of Police, a native of Satsuma. If the Cabinet has not the ability or the courage to amend abuses flagrantly apparent in Tokyo, may not still greater incompetence be inferred in provincial localities? The Ito Cabinet mapped out an extensive programme of *post bellum* reforms. It was an excellent programme on paper, and the country readily consented to supply funds for carrying it into practice. What are the actual results? Where are the barracks that should have been built; the docks that should have been constructed; the forts that should have been erected? Instead of material achievement on the desired lines, the nation sees larger sums of money accumulating in the Treasury—the money that should have been devoted to these various enterprises, but has simply been withdrawn from circulation and rendered temporarily useless. The plan is not in fault: the blame rests on the men entrusted with the duty of carrying it out. Again, the Ito Cabinet drew up an administrative scheme for Formosa, establishing a civil government, placing a Governor-General at the head of everything, and appropriating a considerable sum for purposes of improvements such as should develop the island's resources. But in practice the military worked on their own account; the Colonization Department interfered in civil affairs; the Governor-General was reduced to a figure-head; the improvements could not be undertaken on account of the unsettled state of the people, and the appropriations had to be spent, for the most part, in reporting or quelling local disturbances. Further, the Matsukata Cabinet itself went to work as if it contemplated thorough administrative reforms; appointed an imposing Commission for purposes of preliminary investigation. But, after a year's labour, the Commission proved a complete fiasco. It has now been reconstructed, and set to its task once more, but who will venture to predict that, twelve months hence, its labours will not be found as abortive as those of its predecessor? A certain measure of progress has been attained in *post-bellum* undertakings, but have steps been taken to develop the machinery of communication—railways, posts and telegraphs—so that it shall not fall behind the advance made in other directions? The truth is that everything is choked with the weeds of evil habits. Schemes of reform are useless unless the men engaged to carry them out are themselves imbued with the spirit of reform; and appropriations for this or that programme of development can only be wasted or left unapplied so long as the officials that have to use them see in them nothing but new opportunities for practising old abuses. The upshot of it all is that what the country wants most urgently is to have the weeds pulled up rather than new trees planted.

* * *
In the *Mainichi Shimbun* we find an article signed "Iakashi" which embodies a violent attack upon Marquis Ito's followers. The writer says that these men do not concern themselves at all about the interests of the country, but think only of securing the emoluments and honours of office for themselves. When Marquis Ito resigned the premiership, they were constrained to follow him into private life, but they have ever since been scheming to recover the sweets of office. Their present plan is to agitate for a coalition Cabinet. The country has had enough of coalition Cabinets. It does not look back with any marked satisfaction to the Okubo Kido-Itagaki Cabinet of 1872, or to the Ito-Okuma-Goto Cabinet of 1880. It recognises that the so-called *Meiji* statesmen merit the veneration belonging to antiquaries, but that to make any new combination of them would be mere romance. Such a proceeding could have no issue except the restoration of clan power, the establishment of the Sat-Chō clique, a result that the public can scarcely be expected to consider useful or desirable.

* * *
The *Yomiuri Shimbun* devotes two long articles to demonstrating that Japan is entitled to take part in the Washington conference for the preservation of marine animals. It will be

remembered that a recent telegram represents the British Government as having objected to the admission of either Russia and Japan to the conference, on the ground that they have no *locus standi*. The telegram is probably a mistake. When Mr. Foster was despatched by the United States Government to secure the cooperation of Great Britain and Russia, he visited St. Petersburg first, and went on to London after having obtained Russia's promise to take part in the conference. England was, therefore, well acquainted with the fact that an invitation had been extended to Russia and accepted by her, so that the idea of an objection's being raised now on the very eve of the conference is impossible to comprehend. The *Yomiuri*, however, has sufficient faith in the telegram to consider Great Britain's alleged attitude worthy of detailed refutation. We seem to detect, indeed, on perusing the articles, that they are addressed to Japanese objectors as much as to Great Britain's supposed protest, but their avowed text is Reuter's telegram. Considering that fur seals have a breeding ground on three of the Kurile islands—Mushiru, Raikoma and Suretoneba—and considering that the Behring Sea seals visit Japan's coasts, coming as far south as Kinkazan, it appears quite unnecessary to discuss the untenable assertion that she is not directly interested in the question which the Conference has to consider. If pelagic sealing threatens to exterminate the Behring Sea seals it must be equally fatal to the seals frequenting Japan's coasts and having rookeries on her islands. At present, she is powerless to restrain the pelagic sealing carried on by American, British and Russian vessels in the neighbouring seas, but if the Conference comes to an understanding, she will acquire the necessary competence. With regard to the contention that, owing to the fact of only four Powers taking part in the Conference, the results may prove practically abortive, since vessels flying the flags of other Powers will not be bound by any agreement formulated at the Conference, the *Yomiuri* alleges that the only persons engaged in pelagic sealing are Englishmen, Russians and Americans, so that, if their operations can be subjected to control, the desired object will be attained.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

Japan having become a gold standard country on the 1st October, it becomes necessary, remarks the *Shogyo*, that information should be published regarding the amount of specie reserves held by the Bank of Japan. These consist of gold coins and bullion, deposits of the Indemnity from the Government, and new gold coins obtained by exchange for the silver in its possession. Below is a table showing details:—

1.—Coins and bullion held on 29th September.	
Gold coins	35,311,600
Gold bullion	295,693
Chinese gold bullion	190,000
American gold coins	1,046,200
English gold coins	77,800
Broken old gold coins	205,000
Miscellaneous gold	294,400

Total 37,423,693

It may therefore be perceived that gold coins and bullion actually held by the Bank of Japan amounts to 37,400,000 *yen* approximately. This figure, however, is to be increased by a further exchange of silver for gold and by the settlement of the indemnity accounts.

2.—Gold to be obtained by liquidation of Government deposits:—Fifty millions of *yen* deposited by the Government on account of the indemnity having been reduced on the 18th ult. to 34,133,522 *yen*, while 1,262,929 *yen* was paid to the Government by the 29th, a balance not exceeding 14,594,549 *yen* was left, which amount was included in the specie reserves of the Bank, thus aggregating 52,018,242 *yen*. Gold coins to that amount, therefore, are shortly to be taken into the Bank's vaults.

3.—New gold coins procurable by exchange for silver in the Bank's possession:—Silver coins and bullion actually in the hands of the Bank are:—

	Yen.
Coins	18,993,203
Bullion	26,130,285

Total 45,123,438

Thus the Bank holding 18,993,203 *yen* in silver, has another resource besides gold. The gold reserve of the Bank then will be as follows:—

	Yen.
(1)	37,423,693
(2)	14,594,549
(3)	18,993,203

Total 71,011,445

As the Bank of Japan is entitled to hold silver to the extent of one-third of the gold coins in its possession, the total specie reserve will be:—

	Yen.
Gold	71,011,445
Silver ($\frac{1}{3}$ of gold)	23,670,482

Total 94,682,927

Moreover, the Bank lately applied to the Government that the silver bullion in its vaults, amounting to 26 millions of *yen*, should be received in place of *yen* pieces for conversion into gold. If this request is granted, the Bank's reserve will stand thus:—

	Yen.
(1)	37,423,693
(2)	14,594,549
(3)	26,130,235

Total 78,148,477

Silver ($\frac{1}{3}$ of above) 26,049,492

Grand total 104,197,969

It is said that gold bullion in the Government's possession amounted originally to 55,600,000 *yen* (deposits excepted), of which 48 millions were sent to the Osaka Mint, where 43 millions were appropriated for the manufacture of 20 *yen* and 10 *yen* gold pieces, the remaining 5 million *yen* having still to be coined. The balance on the whole—7,600,000 *yen*—is actually held by the Government in the shape of bullion. If this figure is added to the various amounts mentioned above the account really stands thus:—

	Yen.
Coins actually held by the Bank of Japan	37,423,693
Amount receivable on account of indemnity	14,594,549
New gold coins struck	43,000,000
Gold bullion under coinage	5,000,000
Bullion	7,600,000

Total 107,611,242

The gold reserve is thus more than sufficient.

As shown above, 43 million *yen* out of the 48 millions of bullion forwarded to the Osaka Mint having already been coined, and 10 millions of new coins were lately sent to the central Treasury, while 5 or 6 millions were transported to Yokohama, Kobe, Shimonoseki, Hakodate, and Nagoya. Another 5 millions are at present being coined, and there still remain 7,600,000 *yen* in bullion, which, together with other bullion, is expected to be coined to the amount of 27 million *yen* by March next. The total output therefore at that time will aggregate about 70 millions of *yen*.

According to the *Shogyo*, the issue of convertible notes above the legal limit on the 29th ult. shows a considerable increase over the previous week. The following are the figures:—

	Sept. 29th.	Sept. 25th.
Convertible notes	195,026,435	189,515,113
Excess of issue	20,366,334	13,634,261

Thus the actual issue on the 29th September shows an increase of 5,551,322 *yen* in convertible notes and of 6,733,073 *yen* in excess, as compared with the previous week. That the legal limit was exceeded to such an enormous amount

during the past week might be ascribed to the increased demand for capital. But the direct cause seems to have been the repayment of Government deposits to the amount of 7,500,000 *yen*.

The delivery of shares in September amounted, says the *Mainichi*, to 18,000 in number, valued at 980,000 *yen*. This is the most insignificant amount that changed hands this year. The principal stocks were as follow:—

	Number.	Value.	Per share.
		Yen.	Yen.
Railway shares	9,840	541,850	55.065
Miscellaneous shares..	9,103	438,393	48.19
Totals	18,940	980,243	av. 51.74

The *Tokyo Asahi* publishes a comparative table showing the quantity of mail matter dealt with during the past two years:—

Classification.	29th Year.		28th Year.
	Ordinary.	Regist'd.	
Letters	292,351,532	4,510,854	296,839,485
Post cards	268,803,315	0 448	268,807,761
Newspapers and magazines	86,801,875	1,465	86,803,337
Books	5,617,114	14,521	6,431,735
Samples	727,351	23,200	710,452
Agricultural seeds ..	370,839	1,879	379,728
Containing money ..	408	408	297
Postage free	18,605,357	665,630	20,700,980
Total	498,135,721	5,223,801	503,359,688
N'ber of deliveries ..	481,999,916	5,360,600	487,200,516

GOLD EXCHANGES ON THE 1ST AND 2ND INST.

The quantity of gold paid out by the Bank of Japan on the 2nd inst. to persons presenting silver *yen* or convertible notes was as follows:—

	Yen.
Convertible notes	63,740
Silver <i>yen</i>	4,840

68,580

It must be remembered that the 2nd inst. was Saturday, and that the Bank closed at noon. The payments made on the 1st inst. at the Bank and its various agencies were as follow:—

	YEN.
Tokyo	103,290
Osaka	311,700
Yokohama	175,340
Kobe	340,000
Nagoya	6,965
Baku	2,120
Hokkaido	3,250

Total 942,665

Total on both days.....1,011,245

These figures certainly do not suggest any very formidable demand for gold. It is, of course, too soon to form any definite opinion, but thus far the expected inflow of silver *yen* from China and elsewhere gives no sign of becoming a reality.

DISASTROUS EXPLOSION OF GAS.

On Monday evening, while a son of Mr. Kusakabe, a photographer of Honcho-dori, Yokohama, and an assistant named Tsuruoka Hatsuzo were making some oxygen gas, for a magic lantern show in one of the rooms of the studio, the gas suddenly exploded with terrific violence. A number of young people were in the room at the time, waiting for the lantern display and nearly all of them were more or less seriously injured. The wife of Taro, Mr. Kusakabe's son, was badly wounded in the lower part of the face. A girl of nine, Miss Ogawa Tana, and her brother Yoshio, seven years old, had their arms almost blown off. Nakagome Masashige, an employé of the studio, was injured in the head, Miss Akao Tei, aged 13, and her brother, in the legs. Taro and Tsuruoka, the two young men who were making the gas, escaped without injury, excepting the loss of their hearing, probably temporary. The injured persons were promptly sent to hospital or in some cases to the nearest doctor's. The furniture, ceiling and walls of the room were badly shattered.

THE GOLD CURRENCY.

The proceedings of the Bank of Japan at the present juncture are watched with considerable interest. When the gold system went into operation, the Bank held 18 million *yen* in silver coin and 26 millions in silver bullion. Many people imagined that it would at once take steps to convert the whole into gold, and that by so doing would cause some embarrassment to the Treasury. We do not clearly perceive why such an apprehension should have been entertained; for, in the first place, it seems most unlikely that the Bank would adopt any programme of the kind without the Treasury's endorsement, and, in the second, the Treasury is under no obligation to give gold in exchange for silver bullion. It has pledged itself to change silver *yen* pieces for gold, but of course it need not buy silver ingots unless it pleases. However, the *Fiji Shimpō*, which certainly ought to be trustworthy, alleges that, since the Treasury would have been inconvenienced had the Bank applied for gold to the full extent of its silver reserves, the Bank has adopted a medium course, and has changed into gold coins 10 million silver *yen* pieces and 16 million *yen* worth of bullion only, making 26 million *yen* in all. Our contemporary goes on to say that as the Bank already possessed gold reserves to the amount of 37½ million *yen*, and 14½ millions on the system of mutual deposit, its total stock of gold is now 78 million *yen*. The law allows it to hold silver to the extent of one-fourth of its note-redeeming reserves, but the strong probability is that, like the Bank of England—which, though legally entitled to have one-fifth of its reserves in silver, keeps no silver at all—the Bank of Japan will convert all its silver into gold with the utmost expedition. We do not, for our own part, perceive that much interest attaches to any transactions of the above nature between the Treasury and the Bank. In whatever proportions they divide between them the stock of available gold and silver, the stability of the new currency is not practically affected. If the Bank contemplated the sale of 20 or 30 million *yen* worth of its silver reserve in the open market, the matter would deserve the attention of all persons interested in the gold-price of silver, but for the rest it matters little whether the country's reserves of hard metal are lying at the Treasury or in the Bank's strong room.

The *Fiji Shimpō* thinks it possible, if not probable, that the Government may ask the Diet to change, from five years to three months, the period originally fixed for the withdrawal of silver *yen* and their conversion into gold. The three months would, of course, be reckoned from the day when silver *yen* cease to be legal tender, namely, April 1st, 1898. If that plan were adopted, it would be necessary that all holders of silver *yen* pieces should present them for exchange before July 1st 1898, since, after the latter date, they would possess bullion value only. Arguing on that assumption, the *Fiji* predicts that the Bank of Japan will take steps to convert all its silver bullion into gold before next July. We venture to doubt that any such precipitate action will be taken. It will pay the Bank better to hold its silver on the chance of a rise and with the certainty that, sooner or later, it

can be sold to the Treasury for purposes of subsidiary coinage.

With reference to the question of silver *yen*, we observe that one of our local contemporaries has fallen into an error too serious to be left unnoticed. In connexion with the Imperial Ordinance issued on the 1st instant, the paper in question says:—"In terms of the Coinage Law passed by the Diet last session the *yen* will be exchangeable for gold until April 2nd 1898." The Coinage Law fixes no date of the kind. It merely says that, pending exchange, silver *yen* shall circulate as hitherto; that six months' notice must be given before suspending their circulation, and that, during a period of five years, commencing from the suspension of circulation, the coins shall be exchanged for gold if presented for that purpose. The Imperial Ordinance issued on the 1st instant has given the six months notice required by law: that is all. Hence, the situation now is that up to April 1st, 1898, silver *yen* are legal tender in Japan to an unlimited amount, and that, up to April 1st, 1903, they are exchangeable for gold if presented at the Bank of Japan, its branches, or other agents appointed for the purpose.

FINALLY THE HAKODATE CASE.

All the arguments advanced by our opponents in the Hakodate case have now been effectually disposed of. We do not mean simply that, in our opinion, they have been disposed of. We mean that the bases upon which the most important of them rested have been admitted by our opponents themselves to be either blunders or wrong suppositions. There, then, the matter ends. The invective stage has been reached by the discomfited controversialists, and we leave them in undisturbed possession of it. One point, however, must be made clear "for purposes of future reference" as statisticians say. The *Japan Gazette*, with agreeable ingenuity, sums up the case thus:—"We contended that the Japanese had no jurisdiction over the crew of a British warship ashore; the *Mail* contended that they had." That is not without adroitness, but it will not pass. The *Mail* made no such contention. The *Mail*'s contention is strictly limited to such members of the crew as are not British subjects. The *Mail* says that the Conventional jurisdiction possessed by Great Britain in Japan extends to her own subjects only, and that in order to make it valid as regards the *Centurion*'s Chinese cooks, the latter must be shown to be British subjects. We do not propose to have our position so very flagrantly perverted as the *Japan Gazette* perverts it.

To sum up the matter simply and succinctly:—Great Britain's claim of jurisdiction over the Chinese cooks can be justified in one of three ways only, namely, by the provisions of the Treaty, by the sanction of usage, or by the right of superior civilization. The Treaty fails: it refers to British subjects alone. Usage fails, for Japan has never admitted any such usage. There remains only superior civilization, and, in truth, such claims of jurisdiction have but one logical and intelligible basis, superior civilization. Now we fully agree that where a country like China is concerned, the right of superior civilization should be exercised.

The *Esaki* precedent falls under that principle. We also agree that the right of superior civilization in matters of criminal jurisdiction would have been properly exercised against Japan twenty-five years ago. But we deny that it can be properly exercised any longer. That is our position in the shortest compass.

THE SILVER YEN.

The following Imperial Rescript was issued on the morning of the 1st inst.:—

We hereby authorize the suspension of the circulation of the silver *yen*, and direct that the same be promulgated.

[Imperial Sign Manual.]
&c., &c.

IMPERIAL NOTIFICATION No. 338.

The circulation of the one-*yen* coin hitherto issued shall be suspended from the 1st day of the 4th month of the 31st year of *Meiji* (1st April, 1898).

(Signed) Minister of State for Finance.
&c., &c.

The issue of the above Ordinance does not indicate any change in the programme fixed by the Coinage Law passed in the last session of the Diet. The 16th Article of that Law says:—

The silver one-*yen* coins already issued shall be gradually exchanged for gold coins, according to the convenience of the Government, at the rate of one gold *yen* for one silver *yen*.

Pending the completion of the exchange referred to in the last paragraph, silver one-*yen* coins shall be legal tender to an unlimited extent, at the rate of one silver *yen* for one gold *yen*; and the suspension of their circulation shall be notified six months in advance by Imperial Ordinance. Any of these coins not presented for exchange within a period of five full years reckoned from the day after that on which their circulation is suspended, shall be regarded thenceforth as bullion.

Combining the Ordinance issued yesterday with the clause here quoted, it is seen that silver *yen* remain legal tender until April 1st, 1898, but that they will be exchangeable for gold, *yen* for *yen*, until April 2nd, 1903.

We may here allude to a point which has always seemed very perplexing, though its practical importance may not be great; namely, the singularly careless drafting of the second clause of the 16th article of the Coinage Law, as quoted above. The clause sets out by declaring that the silver *yen* piece shall remain legal tender to an unlimited extent until its exchange for gold is completed, and then goes on to say that the exchange shall not be considered to have been completed until five years after the coin has lost its legal-tender quality. This obvious contradiction appears to have escaped the attention of the drafters of the Law.

In practice, the circulation of silver *yen* is tolerably sure to cease at once. For though the coin is legal tender, there is a distinct risk connected with receiving it, inasmuch as any defacement will justify the Treasury in refusing to exchange it for a gold coin of corresponding denomination. So far as we know, no exact definition of defacement for purposes of exchange has been published. The 13th article of the Coinage Law says:—

If the design upon a coin has become difficult to distinguish, or if it has been privately restamped, or otherwise defaced, it shall be regarded as unfit for circulation.

What constitutes "otherwise defaced"?

We can not tell. Our assumption is that the Bank of Japan will be disposed to take a liberal view of the matter, but people are not likely to rely upon assumptions where a loss of 12 or 15 per cent. is involved in assuming wrongly. It is at all events certain that no one can be safe in receiving any large quantity of silver *yen* without most careful shroffing, and as private individuals and tradesmen in general have no means of shroffing, we anticipate that silver *yen* will find much difficulty in circulating, even during the six months of legal life that remain to them.

MILITARY AND NAVAL.

The *Fiji Shimpō* says that the line-of-battleship ordered by the Japanese Government from the Clyde yard will be completed by November of next year, and that her displacement will be 15,040 tons. The latter fact was, of course, already known, but we were not aware that so much celebrity could be hoped for.

The navigation of these big vessels is undoubtedly a very severe test of Japanese seamanship. We have not seen any comment made on the subject, but, after all, when a man who has never been in charge of anything larger than a 4,000 ton vessel, is suddenly required to command a fifteen-thousand tonner, he must be a remarkably capable officer or disaster is inevitable. In the British Navy the captain of a big iron-clad, the commander, the navigating officers, all the superior officers, in fact, have become thoroughly familiar with the management of these monsters before they are called on to perform responsible duties in connexion with them. But it is not so in the Japanese Navy. Four or five officers in the whole service may have had some practical experience of line-of-battle ships while completing their studies in Europe, but, on the whole, we may say that the Japanese are now obliged to undertake a task of absolutely unprecedented difficulty so far as the handling of big ships is concerned. We wonder how they will acquit themselves. If they succeed, it will be a great feather in their cap.

It used to be asserted, writes the *Hochs Shimbun*, that the General officers of the Army were all of either Choshu or Satsuma extraction. But since the post-bellum programme of military expansion began to be carried out, that state of affairs has gradually undergone alteration. The numbers of Generals—Generals, Lieut.-Generals and Major-Generals—divided according to prefectures, stand as follow:—

Yamaguchi (Choshu)	20
Kagoshima (Satsuma)	11
Shizuoka	5
Ishikawa	4
Wakayama	3
Other Prefectures	17

MR. McCABLE'S LETTER.

Concerning Mr. McCaleb's criticism of our recent remarks, it does not appear to us that any lengthy rejoinder is required. Mr. McCaleb departs from the most elementary rule of fair discussion. It is not permissible that he should separate his original assertion of heavenly citizenship from the context in which it was made, and thus transform it into a mere abstract proposition. We are not so curiously illogical as to pretend that any man claiming to be a

citizen of heaven renounces, by implication, all citizenship upon earth. But we do say that when a man refuses to take part in an essentially national celebration which all his fellow-citizens, the world over, make a patriotic point of observing, and when he assigns, as one reason for his refusal, the fact that his citizenship is in heaven, a reasonable doubt is suggested as to the light in which he regards his earthly citizenship. It is unnecessary, we are persuaded, to do more than remind Mr. McCaleb that unless the texts quoted by him on his post-card were intended to be entirely irrelevant to their context, they can not afterwards be discussed independently of that context. To one other point, a most important point, we are constrained to allude. Mr. McCaleb says that when the United States Minister asked him to furnish "some affirmation or other evidence of citizenship," he "complied with the request and removed every doubt." Unfortunately that statement is irreconcilable with the facts as ascertained by us. The United States Minister prepared for Mr. McCaleb's signature a form of affirmation entirely free from any semblance of oath, since Mr. McCaleb objected to swear. Mr. McCaleb signed the affirmation on the 1st of July, but, on August 2nd, cancelled his signature, declaring in the most emphatic terms that, in the interval, he had become convinced of the impropriety of signing. Had we not, by personal inquiry, assured ourselves of these facts, we should not have ventured to pronounce any opinion on the question. Being assured of them, however, we are at a loss to understand how Mr. McCaleb can now allege that he "complied with the Minister's request and removed every doubt." Such a conflict between facts and statements must be attributed, we presume, to Mr. McCaleb's having completely forgotten the most memorable incident of the whole affair. Appreciating, as we think that we appreciate, the difficulty which presents itself to Mr. McCaleb's mind, and honouring a man that thinks he is consulting his conscience rather than his convenience, we find this discussion very distasteful. Still, we are constrained to ask Mr. McCaleb whether he respects the laws of his country and whether he thinks that the United States Minister is under any obligation to respect them. The law lays down that proof of citizenship is a preliminary essential to claiming the protection of the United States Legation in a foreign country, and that proof of citizenship must take the form of a declaration of allegiance, sworn or affirmed. The United States Minister has absolutely no discretion in the matter: he must be furnished with the prescribed proof or he may not extend the desired protection. But Mr. McCaleb will not furnish the proof and yet claims the protection. Why? Because others have obtained the protection without giving the proof. That, in truth, is not the case. We are assured that other American citizens in Japan have complied with the necessary forms. But even supposing that they had not; even supposing that they had been allowed to evade the law, what then? Does Mr. McCaleb seriously intend to assert that because others have been suffered to violate the law, he is aggrieved by not being suffered to violate it also? We should have supposed that the finger of conscience pointed in a different direction.

LIEUT.-GENERAL VISCOUNT YAMAJI.

On the 3rd instant Lieut.-General Viscount Yamaji died at Mitajiri at the early age of fifty-six. He was one of the most prominent figures in the war of 1894-5, having been second in command under Field-Marshal Marquis Oyama at the taking of Port Arthur and throughout the operations in the Liaotung Peninsula. He enjoyed the reputation of being a man of extraordinary courage even among a people habitually brave. It is related of him that, when a mere lad, living in Tosa, his native province, he fell from a tree, and injured his right eye so severely that it was forced from the socket, and he carried it in his hand to show to his mother. The evidence that he thus gave of indifference to physical suffering was not belied by his subsequent career. Entering the Army, he attained the rank of Major at the age of 35, and served as chief of staff in the Fourth Division during the Satsuma insurrection. A bullet in the thigh momentarily disabled him at the assault of Atotishi, but he struggled to his feet, and pushed on, sword in hand, his straw-sandal soaked with blood. Promoted to be Major-General, he received the command of the Kumamoto Division, and ultimately attaining the rank of Lieut.-General, became commander of the First Division, whose head-quarters are Tokyo. He led the Division to Liaotung, and directed the campaign against Port Arthur, his services on that occasion being rewarded with a peerage, the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun, and the Command-in-Chief of the Western District. He was engaged inspecting the Fifth Division, and had set out from Mitajiri for Yamaguchi on the 2nd instant, when the bursting of a blood-vessel on the brain compelled his return to the former place, where he expired the following day. It is generally believed that the incidents which occurred at Port Arthur materially lessened the reward bestowed upon Lieut.-General Yamaji by his Sovereign, and deprived him of the honour of leading his Division in the Shantung campaign. He was undoubtedly a commander of great capacity, sound judgment, and inflexible resolution, but his ideas of warfare with enemies so inhuman as the Chinese were not up to the high standard indicated by the general orders of Marshals Yamagata and Oyama, and under the pressure of extreme provocation he judged retaliation in kind to be a justifiable method.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH RATES.

The recent increase of postal rates to foreign countries is not surprising. It is in one sense a necessary sequel to the adoption of gold monometallism. The rates fixed ten years ago in silver are now from forty to fifty per cent. less in sterling than they were then, and since the portion taken by the gold-using partner in the transport business has remained always constant, the whole loss resulting from the depreciation of silver fell on Japan. So long as her metallic currency was in silver, she doubtless accepted the risks of fluctuation. The white metal might have appreciated, in which event some part of her losses would have been recouped. But now that she has placed her finances on a gold basis, the exact sterling value of her subsidiary coins is known,

and it seems reasonable that she should amend her rates so as to bring them to something like the original figures. That, however, is a matter quite distinct from an increase of domestic rates for postal matter and telegrams, which is said to be now contemplated. The programme according to rumour, is to raise the rates by 50 per cent., making the one-*sen* post card cost one-*sen* and a half, and the two-*sen* stamp cost three-*sen*. The idea appears to have been mooted some time ago, but being strongly opposed in official circles, it was abandoned. It has again been revived, however, chiefly on the ground that the mechanism of communications must be largely added to, and that funds for the purpose can not be obtained except by recourse to higher rates. It appears that the greatest difficulty is now experienced in dealing with telegraphic business. The number of messages is so great that they can not possibly be forwarded with any degree of expedition, and it is not uncommon for a telegram to be delayed a whole day in transmission. To double the lines is essential, but the outlay required would be fifteen million *yen*. Application in that sense was made in the estimates submitted by the Department of Communications for the fiscal year 1898-9, but the Treasury eliminated the item, on the ground that funds are not at present available, there being already an excess of twenty-three million *yen* on the expenditure side of the 1898-9 Budget. Thus, unless the deplorable state of affairs now existing is to be left without remedy, it becomes necessary either that a loan be floated by the Communications Department or that the charges be increased. A loan is out of the question in the present state of the money market, and so, finally, augmented rates become the sole resource. It is thought that if the increased rates were levied for a term of five years, sufficient money would be obtained, and the original charges might then be reverted to. Such are the statements made by vernacular newspapers, but the arithmetic of the programme requires elucidation. The gross revenue from posts and telegraphs at present is 12½ million *yen* approximately. Hence, if the rates were raised by fifty per cent., the sum collected in five years would be over 30 million *yen*, not 15 millions. That, too, is on the assumption that the earnings of the posts and telegraphs remain stationary. But so far from remaining stationary, they have nearly doubled during the past five years. Thus, whereas the gross revenue in 1893-4 was 6½ million *yen*, it is estimated at 12½ millions for 1897-8. Altogether it seems plain that to increase the rates by 50 per cent. for the purpose of obtaining funds to carry out a work costing only 15 millions would be an extravagant process. The whole affair is strongly suggestive of the embarrassments that Japan is beginning to feel for lack of capital. No wonder, indeed. Just thirteen years have elapsed since the certainty that such embarrassments must overtake her became apparent to her foreign friends, and was predicted in these columns. In truth no one anticipated that she would be able to go on for such a long time, building railways, buying ships, starting manufacturing enterprises and carrying out various public works without recourse to foreign capital. For our own part, we looked to see her in difficulties long ago. But it would seem that only now does she feel the pressure seriously. She can not find means at home

to carry out a work absolutely essential to her industrial and commercial development, yet if the European money market were open to her, she could obtain not 15 but 30 or 40 million *yen* by merely setting aside the natural increment of her revenue from posts and telegraphs as interest and sinking fund. In other words, without increasing the rates or imposing any burden whatever on the Treasury, she could carry out this work and many another scarcely less useful undertaking. From that point of view it must be confessed that her adoption of gold monometallism was a far-seeing measure. Her material development is out of the question without foreign capital, and whatever may be otherwise the effects of demonetizing silver, the step will assuredly open to her the money markets of the West in the end.

THE NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

The *Sekai-no-Nippon* writes in very severe terms of the new political association, the *Kodo-kai*. The gist of its criticism is that the new party owes its origin to two causes; first, resentment because no members belonging to the three sections of which it is formed have been rewarded by official appointment; and secondly, the conviction that these sections will be simply swallowed up by the *Shimpo-to* in the general election next year unless they appeal independently to the constituencies. It will be remembered that two of the sections which have now coalesced to form the *Kodo-kai* consist of seceders from the ranks of the Liberals and the National Unionists; men who left their parties for the purposes of voting with the Government last session, but who nevertheless refrained from enrolling themselves in the party (*Shimpo-to*) which openly supported the Government. These men, according to the *Sekai no Nippon* think that they ought to have been rewarded with some of the plums that have fallen to the *Shimpo-to*, in the shape of Departmental Counsellorships, headships of bureaux and governorships of prefectures. They also think that, if, in their present nondescript character, neither open friends nor avowed enemies of the Cabinet, they appeal to the constituencies next year, the result will not be satisfactory. So they are setting up on their own account. Doubtless that is the least favorable explanation that can be furnished of the *Kodo-kai's* organization. It is the explanation of an enemy.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

An accident occurred on the Tokaido Railway on the 3rd inst., that involved the overturning of an engine and trucks, engaged in the work of repairing the injuries suffered by the line between Yamakita and Oyama, and the loss of many lives. The trucks had discharged their load of stones and earth, carried from Oyama when, owing to some unexplained error, the engine-driver went forward, instead of reversing. The guard, finding the train moving in the wrong direction, applied all available brake-power, but owing to the steepness of the gradient, his efforts to arrest the train proved unavailing. It held on its course with increasing velocity, until a part of the line was reached where the road had been washed away. There the engine and trucks were precipitated into the bed of the river Aigawa, a fall of twenty-five feet. The driver, a guard, a fireman and five workmen were killed instantaneously, and thirteen or fourteen others were badly hurt. It is said that the accident will considerably

impede the work of repairing the line, from which we infer that the rolling stock available in the locality where the rains proved most disastrous is limited in quantity.

With reference to this sad affair we have received the following letter from the traffic office of the Imperial Government Railways.—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me to correct the account given in your issue of to-day under this heading by giving the actual facts of the occurrence.

In the first place no passenger train or passenger has suffered. The deplorable affair happened to a train engaged in the transport of materials at a point about one mile on the Yamakita side of the Oyama Station where the high embankment had been washed away by the Aigawa breaking its bounds and flowing with great force against it on the night of the recent storm.

The train in question had brought material to a distance of some two chains from the breach. After being unloaded the driver was instructed to back his train towards Oyama, but instead of doing so he moved ahead and the train and the six vehicles following fell over into the opening caused by the wash-out. The Driver, Fireman and Guard who were on the engine together with five coolies who were in the waggons were unfortunately killed and some 13 or 14 other coolies sustained injuries of a more or less serious nature. Why the driver neglected to carry out the instructions he received will, I fear, ever remain a mystery.

I may mention that between the break in the line and where the material train came to a stand, a temporary buffer stop had been erected, upon which a danger (red light signal) was exhibited at the time of the accident.

I remain sir, yours obedient servant,

S. HIRAI.

October 4th, 1897.

A passenger who left Kobe by rail on the evening of the 29th ultimo, at which time, according to the information possessed by the Kobe officials, the line was open right through, found that he could not be carried farther north than Ejiri, the first station on the Tokyo side of Shizuoka. The whole section between Ejiri and Kozu, a distance of 65 miles, was then considered unsafe. Here and there, of course, engines and trucks were able to pass, but the through traffic was entirely suspended. The passenger of whom we have spoken, made his way along the line, chiefly on foot, and was able to form a tolerably clear idea of the amount of damage caused by the rain. Between Ejiri and Kambara, a distance of 10 miles, the buttresses of a bridge had been forced out of position by the floods, and the embankments at the entrance of a tunnel had been precipitated on the bed of the road. Thence to Numazu the line, which has been engineered so as to lie below the level of the surrounding country, was here and there covered with water, not so deeply, however, as to prevent the slow passage of trains. From Numazu to Kozu, that is to say, throughout the mountain section of the railway, very great injury had been done. The cuttings immediately outside several tunnels had fallen, the debris being heaped high on the line, and in two places the scarps forming the bed of the road had been completely washed away, so that the rails and sleepers hung suspended in space.

JAPANESE MERCHANT STEAMERS.

Captain J. J. Efford, Marine Surveyor at this port, has published a volume setting forth the names of all the steamers over 100 tons that belong to the Japanese mercantile marine, with their original names (if any), their tonnage, the nationality of their officers and engineers, the place and time of building, the class, the date of last surveys, the names of owners and the port of registry. So far as we can judge the list is wonderfully complete, and of its utility we need say nothing. The printing and general get up do much credit to the *Japan Gazette* office, where the book was brought out. On the last page is an ominous list showing that 24 steamers and 7 sailing vessels belonging to the Japanese mercantile marine, have been wrecked since 1896.

COUNT OKUMA'S FOREIGN POLICY.

OUR readers doubtless remember the essay recently published in the *Far East* over Count OKUMA's signature, and remember, also, that it contained an expression of very moderate views, and an emphatic disclaimer of any policy of territorial aggression. Commenting on the essay, the *Kobe Chronicle* expressed doubts whether Count OKUMA—who does not himself write English—had been accurately "taken down," inasmuch as both the Count and the party headed by him were understood to be pledged to the very policy which he had now disavowed in the pages of the *Far East*. We, in turn, commented on our Kobe contemporary's comments, and said that we had always interpreted Count OKUMA's foreign policy in the sense indicated by the essay. The matter being one of contemporary history, we are somewhat surprised to find the *Kobe Chronicle* refer to it again in these words:—

Our contemporary has surely forgotten that the proximate cause of Count Okuma's accession to power was the hostility aroused against Marquis Ito and Count Mutsu by the retrocession of Liaotung, the opponents of which may surely be described as advocates of territorial extension. The views as to Treaty Revision which the *Mail* restricts to the "strong-foreign-policy" party, were those common at one time to almost all the Japanese political parties. What differentiated the "strong-foreign-policy" party from others was the advocacy of Japanese control over Korea, the acquisition of Formosa, and, for a brief time, though we do not hear much about this point of the programme at present, the expansion of Japan's armaments until she was strong enough to recover the territory retroceded in deference to the "advice" of the three Powers. There is little doubt that it was because Count Okuma was credited with holding these or similar views that his appointment was received by this party with so much satisfaction. It is surprising in face of utterances by members of this party, both in and out of the Diet, to find the *Japan Mail* crediting it with such extremely moderate opinions as those outlined in the sentences we have quoted. True, those who strenuously advocated "southward extension" at one time—by which we presume was meant the addition of the Philippines to Japan's possessions—have not been so active since the difficulties inseparable from Colonial government were proved by the experience of Formosa, but so far as we have observed, there has been no public hint of any radical conversion to moderate views in these matters.

It appears to us that our contemporary is very egregiously misinformed as to the subjects discussed above. Indeed, we could not have suspected the prevalence of such views had they not been advanced so unequivocally, and as they constitute an interesting page of recent history, we shall discuss them seriatim.

As to the term "strong foreign policy" (*Kyōkōshugi*), it had its origin in 1893, when a movement in favour of "strict treaty enforcement," attained sufficient dimensions to become a topic of public discussion. The movement had its embryo in an anti-mixed-residence agitation, started a year previously, by Mr. OI KENTARO, the *Soshi* leader. No one attached much importance to Mr. OI's doings at the time, but, by-and-by, he modified his platform, so that its principal plank became, not the prevention of mixed residence, but the revocation of all privileges

enjoyed by foreigners over and above the privileges distinctly enumerated in the Treaties. The avowed object of a policy apparently so retrogressive and illiberal was to render the situation intolerable to the foreign residents, and thus force them into advocacy of Treaty Revision. In that form the project received considerable support, being taken up in the House of Representatives not only by the Progressionists (*Kaishin-to*), but also by the other sections of the Opposition. It was then that Count OKUMA, in his supposed capacity of leader of the *Kaishin-to*, became associated in the public mind with the strict-enforcement policy, though he never openly endorsed it, and though his attitude towards Treaty Revision in 1889, when he held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, had been conspicuously liberal. The phrase "strong foreign policy" came into use in 1893, and was employed to designate the platform of the "strict-enforcement" advocates. But the *Kobe Chronicle* is singularly mistaken when it alleges that the views of the "strong-foreign-policy" party with regard to Treaty Revision were "common at one time to almost all the Japanese political parties." On the contrary, those views were openly denounced by the most powerful and influential of all the parties, the Liberals (*Jiyū-to*), and the fact constituted a noteworthy landmark in Japan's modern history.

Passing now to the assertion that "what differentiated the strong-foreign policy party from others was the advocacy of Japanese control over Korea," we have only to say that we have never known such a doctrine to be advocated by any party in Japan. The elimination of Chinese suzerainty and the establishment of Korean independence were openly preached, but when we recall the fact that their most prominent advocate in the Lower House was Mr. INOUE KAKU-GORO, who certainly had no connexion whatever with the strong-foreign-policy party, our Kobe contemporary's misapprehension becomes apparent. We do not by any means desire to suggest that Count OKUMA has not always been regarded as an exponent of the strong foreign policy. There we entirely agree with the *Kobe Chronicle*. What we deny is that the strong foreign policy of Count OKUMA has ever been connected with territorial expansion, and that it ever included the idea of Japanese control over Korea. Still more erroneous is the allegation that "the proximate cause of Count OKUMA's accession to power was the hostility aroused against Marquis ITO and Count MUTSU by the retrocession of Liaotung." The *Kobe Chronicle* is apparently ignorant of a fact perfectly familiar to all close observers of current events, namely, that Count MATSUKATA, the present Premier, was opposed to the acquisition of Liaotung, and

strongly argued against the insertion of any such provision in the demands formulated by Japan at Shimonoseki. How then can the MATSUKATA Cabinet be supposed to have displaced the ITO Cabinet because the latter had retroceded Liaotung? In point of fact, the Liaotung question had long passed out of the field of practical politics when the last change of Cabinet took place. The proximate cause of the MATSUKATA Cabinet's accession to power was Count ITAGAKI's refusal to hold office with Counts MATSUKATA and OKUMA. Marquis ITO's plan was to give the portfolio of Finance to Count MATSUKATA and the portfolio of Foreign Affairs to Count OKUMA, leaving the other holders of portfolios undisturbed. But Count ITAGAKI preferred resignation to that plan and Marquis ITO decided that, if he could not retain the Liberal leader's coöperation, complete reconstruction of the Cabinet would be the wiser course. These things ought to be very fresh in the memory of our readers, who will probably be as much surprised as we are to learn that the retrocession of Liaotung, which took place in April, 1895, was "the proximate cause" of a change of Cabinet which occurred in September, 1896. Indeed, at every point the *Kobe Chronicle's* history astonishes us. It ascribes even "the expansion of Japan's armaments" to the "strong-foreign-policy" party whose principal leader it recognises in Count OKUMA. But it was by the ITO Cabinet that the expansion programme was mapped out, and the only murmurs ever raised against the programme have come from the political supporters of the present Cabinet. Probably something of our contemporary's perplexity is due to the difficulty of distinguishing between the vapourings of irresponsible "patriots," who ventilate their views in newspapers or magazines, and the views really held by political parties. But, after all, we have no business to travel beyond the four corners of a manifesto in search of its subscribers' principles. We affirm that in no document professing to be an authoritative exposition of the policy advocated by either the *Kaishin-to* or *Shimpō-to* can there be found any declaration in favour of territorial aggrandisement, and when Count OKUMA, in the pages of the *Far East*, pronounces against territorial aggrandisement, he does not make any new departure from the lines hitherto pursued by himself and his party. The essay did not strike us, when we first perused it, as containing anything at all novel or unexpected. In fact, our impression was that its uses would be small. But we now see that it may help to dispel some serious misapprehensions.

A NEW POLITICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE organization and dissolution of political parties in Japan have ceased to greatly interest foreign observers. It is now recognised that these events do not possess the significance attaching to them in the West. When men are linked together by a chain of principles the strength of their union can generally be estimated by the nature of the principles in question. But when their coalition depends upon personal considerations, incalculable influences may, at any moment, dissolve the cohesion. There are no principles available at present for the construction of political platforms in Japan. If we recall the course of events during the past twenty years, we perceive that representative institutions originally constituted the main line of cleavage between the "ins" and the "outs." The *Shisoku*—not the *Heimin*; not the bulk of the nation—that found themselves outside the pale of officialdom, agitated in favour of a national assembly, and the *Shisoku* that held the reins of power, though pledged to the principle of a parliament, sought to defer the event, partly because they doubted the nation's readiness, partly because they found their own account in preserving the *status quo*. The time, however, gradually ripened for the desired consummation, and it came. That great question having been disposed of, the agitators—we do not use the term disparagingly—had to seek some new ground of intelligible opposition to the Government. They found it in the problem of Party Cabinets. The Diet had become an accomplished fact. The "outs" had at length acquired the right of scrutinizing the acts of the Administration and controlling its legislative functions. They had also obtained a rostrum from which they might criticise, attack and condemn the conduct of officialdom. But so long as the Cabinet remained independent of the Diet, just so long did the sweets of office lie beyond the reach of the majority in the Lower House. Party Cabinets, therefore, became the second shibboleth of the Opposition.

Now here are two broad and perfectly plain issues: first parliamentary institutions; secondly, party cabinets. Are any other main lines of cleavage discernible in the political world of Japan? We can not discern any. There have been minor questions, it is true. There has been the question of Korea—a question that broke up the Cabinet in 1873; that nearly broke it up five years later; that involved collateral complications, such as the organization of the Kyodo Unyu Kaisha and its ultimate amalgamation with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; that plunged the country into war with China; that led to the Liaotung embarrassment, and that finally necessitated the programme of military and naval expansion which the

nation is now devoting its energies to carry out. It was always conceivable that the general problem of Korea, or some one of its numerous corollaries, might have furnished a platform for a political party. But it did not. The attitude of an ITO Cabinet towards Korea may appear to differ from the attitude of a MATSUKATA Cabinet, but there is no real difference. The nation has only one mind in the matter, and every coterie of statesmen or combination of politicians reflects that mind. Then, again, there has been the question of the Land Tax; there has been the question of freedom of speech; and there has been the question of official salaries. These, however, are dead issues, nor can it be said that they ever sufficed to differentiate parties. They were chiefly means to an end; sticks for beating the Government into acceptance of the Party-Cabinet System. Thus we revert to the conclusion that only two great issues have been before the country for the past twenty years—Constitutional Government and Party Cabinets. Moreover, the two issues are really one: Party Cabinets are the inevitable sequel of parliamentary institutions. Under such circumstances there appears to be now a *raison d'être* for only two political parties in the country: a party advocating immediate recourse to responsible cabinets, and a party advocating the postponement of that consummation. So, too, before the proclamation of the Constitution, there should have been room for only two parties: a party advocating the speedy inauguration of a parliament and a party advocating delay. But the state of affairs indicated by reason has never been attained. When all the "outs" were ostensibly fighting for the same end, constitutional government, they divided their forces into *Kaishin-to* and *Yiyu-to*, and fought even more bitterly against each other than against their common foe. When nearly all the members of the Lower House were nominally struggling to overthrow the clan combination and introduce party cabinets, they struggled in half a dozen sections against each other more violently than against the *Sat-cho* statesmen. There is now a *Yiyu-to*; there is a *Shimpo-to*; there is a *Kokumin Kyo-kai*; there are "caves" of seceders; there is a Business Men's Party, and there are Independents, but no man has ever yet been found capable of defining the theoretical differences that hold them all asunder. Nothing emerges clearly except the personal element. We have no choice but to conclude that persons, not principles, are the bases of political associations in Japan. On the whole, perhaps, no other result could reasonably be expected. Differences of principle can not be established where uniformity of principles prevails. The whole country may be said to be liberal and progressive, and its advance along liberal and progressive lines has been so

rapid—not to say precipitate—that no body of politicians with any sense of responsibility could venture to advocate a higher rate of speed. Conservatives calling for greater deliberation would seem to be a natural outcome of the situation, but they have not yet raised their heads in any appreciable numbers.

In such a state of affairs a new political association has been born. It calls itself the *Kodō-Kai*, or "public unionist party." Probably our readers remember that when the Diet met last December, the members of the Lower House were supposed to be divided into nine sections, thus:—

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS.

Progressionists (<i>Shimpo-to</i>)	99
Parliamentary Club (<i>Gin-kai</i>)	25
Business Men	13
Independents	10

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GOVERNMENT OPPONENTS.

Liberals (<i>Yiyu-to</i>)	100
National Unionists (<i>Kokumin Kyo-kai</i>) ..	30
Kishu Section	8
Independents	5

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Unclassed Independents 7

The Government had not a working majority; indeed, there were doubts whether it commanded a majority at all. But the first important division showed unexpected results. Several of the Liberals had seceded from their Party and formed an independent cave; several of the National Unionists had adopted the same course, and formed a National Club, and both groups voted with the Government though they refrained from enrolling themselves in the ranks of the latter's acknowledged supporters, the *Shimpo-to*. These seceders, together with the Parliamentary Club, making a total of about 50, have now coalesced to form the *Kodō-Kai*, under the leadership of Viscount TAKASHIMA, Minister of State for War. It is rumoured that they will be strengthened by another draft from the Liberal Party, bringing their number up to 70, but even though they receive no further access of strength, they will be in the position of holding the balance of power. As for their principles, we look in vain for anything to differentiate them from existing parties. They aim at securing the advantages of responsible cabinets; they intend to improve the country's foreign policy; they propose to adjust the finances and to develop the resources of the nation so that the prestige which ought to accrue to the State after its victorious war may be realized, and they declare themselves independent, free to support the right and condemn the wrong whatever its source. It is the usual string of vague platitudes. Every party might adopt the same platform. Interpreted by the light of the past, this movement seems to mean that Japanese politics have entered what may be called the fifth stage of their history. First, the affairs of the country were absolutely directed

by the band of statesmen who planned and achieved the Restoration. Secondly, some of those statesmen falling away from the majority of their colleagues, gathered about them a number of disaffected politicians, who, though working in separate parties under rival leaders, were guided by a common purpose, namely the establishment of representative institutions. Thirdly, that purpose attained, the parties still found it necessary to continue their joint campaign, with the object of compelling their official opponents to bow to the mandates of the Diet. Fourthly, the nation's leading statesman, Marquis ITO, identified himself with the most powerful party (the *Fiyu-to*), thus tacitly acknowledging the principle for which it fought, and destroying the platform upon which the various sections of the Opposition had hitherto stood together; and now, fifthly, the parties having no longer any common purpose to compass, or any general principles to assert, are lending themselves to be moulded by individual statesmen for purely political ends. After all, parliamentary institutions seem destined everywhere to develop some such mechanism.

FINANCIAL PERPLEXITIES.

THE introduction of the gold monometallic system has given rise to sundry doubts and perplexities. A somewhat quaint example is described by the *Jiji Shimpō*. The old one-yen gold piece has been declared to be equal to two gold yen for the purposes of the new currency. Observing that change, an economist of Niigata addressed to the Bank of Japan an inquiry as to the value of notes issued simultaneously with the old gold piece. Would they, too, pass for twice the number of yen indicated by their denomination? An essay on finance from that gentleman's pen would be entertaining, we imagine. His difficulty reminds us, however, of one point which, strange to say, does not appear to have attracted public attention. We refer to the conduct of the foreign banks in the settlements. For many years, ever since their establishment in Japan, indeed, these banks kept their accounts in dollars. The sums standing to the credit of their depositors or to the debit of their borrowers were invariably quoted in dollars. Sometimes the words "local currency" were added; sometimes they were omitted. But their presence or absence did not affect the meaning. Mexican dollars and Mexican dollars only were in question. From the 1st of the present month, however, the banks have changed their unit to the gold yen. They have followed the example of Japan and substituted gold monometallism for silver monometallism. This sudden change affects different people differently. Depositors may be glad to find that each unit of their deposit is worth 24½ pence

instead of 22½ pence only; in other words, that the sterling amount standing to their credit is from 7 to 8 per cent. larger than it would have been had the unit continued to be a Mexican dollar. On the other hand, there may be some depositors to whom the change is not at all welcome. There may be men who, retaining their faith in the future of silver hope to see the dollar rise to two and sixpence or even three shillings, and who, consequently are not at all pleased to be arbitrarily excluded from the eventualities connected with the remonetization of the white metal. As for the debtor class, little doubt can be entertained about their sentiments. Their sterling liabilities have been made seven or eight per cent. heavier than they would have been had the old system remained in force. They borrowed dollars, which are now worth only 22½ pence, and they are written down as owing yen, which are worth 24½ pence. It may indeed be urged that when the debt was contracted, the dollars were worth more than 24½ pence. That may or may not have been the case, but, at any rate, it does not effect the question involved, namely, whether any bank, having lent certain silver coins of fluctuating gold value, and having invariably stated its debtors' liabilities in terms of those coins, is entitled, by an independent resolution of its own, to re-write the debt in terms of different coins having a fixed gold value. Possibly it may occur to some of our readers that the banks have no option: that since the country in which their business is conducted has adopted gold monometallism and fixed the sterling value of the coin hitherto circulating at par with the Mexican, they must bow to the change. From a practical point of view that is doubtless true. It might be extremely difficult and it certainly would be wholly irrational for the banks to conduct their local operations in terms of a coin which has ceased to be current, and which is linked to the coins of the country by a constantly changing ratio. But we must here observe that the foreign banks have hitherto asserted their complete independence of Japanese financial measures. They have exercised note-issuing power without the permission of the Japanese Government. They never recognised the *riyo*, which was the unit of Japanese currency in the early days. They never recognised the yen during any of the vicissitudes of its career. They have from first to last kept their accounts in a coin legislatively unknown to Japan. If, then, they now suddenly adapt themselves to the Japanese financial system, and convert their debts and credits into gold yen, they do so of their own free choice. They might just as legitimately decide to adopt some unit of their own and assign to it an invariable and arbitrarily chosen sterling value. We are sensible that the problem bristles with difficulties and offers a wide field for discussion, but the considerations set down here seem to constitute its general outlines.

THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE JUDICIARY.

The vernacular press reports another collision between the Administration and the Judiciary. Recently Judge Takano, the chief judicial official in Formosa, was summoned to Tokyo, to report upon some proceedings the nature of which does not appear to be understood by the public. Evidently the Administration was not satisfied with the Judge's account, for the *Official Gazette* soon contained an announcement that he had been placed upon the Retired List. Now the Constitution provides that "no judge shall be deprived of his position unless by way of criminal sentence or disciplinary punishment." The object of the provision is to secure the independence of the Judiciary, and its effect should be to guarantee the judge against removal from office except by the decision of a court of law, whether criminal or disciplinary. If, then, it be assumed that the Constitution extends to Formosa, the action of the Administration in placing Judge Takano on the Retired List without recourse to a law court is distinctly unconstitutional. So Judge Takano also thinks, and he has adopted a very practical method of protesting. He has gone back to Formosa with the avowed intention of resuming the discharge of his functions and resisting to the death any attempt to remove him. The affair is inexplicable at the present stage. It appears that Judge Mizuno, also a Formosan official, was placed on the Retired List some time ago, but public attention was not attracted by the incident, the Judge making no attempt to resist. We are informed by vernacular newspapers that both Judges incurred the displeasure of the Administration in the same way, namely, by adopting too severe measures against the official corruption prevalent in Formosa. It is even stated that they thus brought upon their heads the displeasure of the Governor-General, Viscount Nogai, and the former Colonization Minister, Viscount Takashima. Such tales are obviously quite incredible. Unfortunately party considerations seem to weigh much more strongly with some Japanese journals than the duty of telling the truth. In this case there is special difficulty in ascertaining the facts, for the Minister of Justice being unpopular even with the newspapers that habitually support the Cabinet, they do not hesitate to give publicity to the above extravagant explanation. For our own part, we fail to see how the removal of two judges by an Administrative order can be reconciled with the provisions of the Constitution, unless, indeed, the fact that a special system of Government exists in Formosa be regarded as placing it beyond the range of the Constitution's operation.

FORMOSA.

The *Seikai no Nippon* confidently repeats the rumour recently current that, so soon as the amended administrative organization for Formosa is promulgated, Viscount Takashima will become Governor-General, in succession to Viscount Nogai. The portfolio of War will then be given to Viscount Katsura, whose present office—Inspector-General of the Defences of Tokyo Bay—will be filled by Viscount Nogai. There is a possibility, says the same authority, that Viscount Kawakami may compete for the portfolio of War, but Viscount Katsura is supposed to be strongly supported by Marquis Yamagata.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the pages of Christian journals a warm discussion is going on respecting the Dōshisha and its new President, Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo, whose recent address, summarised by us last month, seems to have caused great dissatisfaction. The conflict may be described as one between the orthodox and the heterodox as to how the Dōshisha should be conducted. Its founder, Mr. Nijima, being dead, there is a dispute over the nature of his intentions in calling the Dōshisha into existence. As our readers will remember, the notion that the Dōshisha was no longer fulfilling the object for which it was founded led the American Board of Foreign Missions to withdraw its support last year. Left to his own resources, the Japanese Christian manager tried to make the institution a success by running it on somewhat new lines, under the presidency of Mr. Kosaki, who may be said to represent the orthodox party. But the school ceased to prosper. Some months ago, Mr. Kosaki resigned, and the leading man of the heterodox party was appointed President. The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*, the *Fukuin Shimpō* and other journals have articles on Mr. Yokoi's views, and criticise the statements made by him in the address alluded to above as wanting in Christian ring. Here is what a former professor in the School, Mr. Kashiwagi Giyen, has to say on the subject. Mr. Yokoi's public declaration of the principles by which he is guided can not be regarded in other than a serious light. The absence of any allusion to those doctrines, the belief of which led to the establishment of the institution, is very marked. There is no allusion to Christ or the love of God. The principles to which Mr. Yokoi refers have nothing distinctively Christian about them. Is this the kind of Christianity that permeated the Dōshisha in its prosperous days? There can be no doubt that under Messrs. Nijima and Kosaki, Christian piety was exalted above everything else. The development of the "Individualism, universal brotherhood and Ethical Nationality" to which Mr. Yokoi alludes was a result of Christian faith and feeling. Mr. Yokoi refers to the effect, but not to the cause. Will those who have undertaken the management of the institution be satisfied with this meagre statement of the principles to which it owes its existence? Does this accord with the intentions of the Committee which informed the Commissioners of the American Board that the school would remain Christian?

A writer signing himself "Kyokugai" replies in the following terms to the above remarks:—Mr. Yokoi's address to the students as President of the institution was never intended to be an enunciation of faith. The principles on which the institution is founded were taken for granted, and attention was called to the needs of the time—more individualism, more universal brotherhood and more ethical nationality. Mr. Yokoi did not address the students as a Christian preacher, but as the President of a School. Mr. Kashiwagi praises the orthodoxy of Mr. Kosaki, but was it not when he was president that the American Board Commissioners arrived in this country and, after conferring with the school authorities under Mr. Kosaki, came to the conclusion that the institution was not sufficiently Christian to warrant the continuance of the Mission's support. The charge brought against Mr. Yokoi has no foundation in fact.

Another writer expresses extreme regret that so many differences should arise among the Christians who are managing the Dōshisha. If they realised more that they have a number of common enemies to overcome, they would disagree less among themselves. Mr. Yokoi's remarks on the reduced condition of the school were by no means complimentary to its former Director. When so much is at stake it is a pity that Christians cannot treat each other with more deference. The above comments appear in the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*.

The *Fukuin Shimpō* says that, for the last few years, the Dōshisha has given cause for great anxiety among those interested in its suc-

cess. Is the remodelled Dōshisha Christian or not? On this point many have their doubts. As a scholar Mr. Yokoi has the confidence of the Christian public, but the same cannot be said of his religious belief. There are those connected with the school who incline to Unitarianism rather than orthodox Christianity. It is reported that owing to the colourlessness of the Christianity professed by the present Dōshisha, Mr. Miyagawa and others contemplate disconnecting themselves from it. Notwithstanding the fact that the confidence of the public is being lost, expenditure is increasing at an alarming pace. In President Kosaki's time, it was estimated that, in addition to the funds available for supporting the institution, 3,000 yen per annum were required, but under Mr. Yokoi the figure has risen to 6,000 yen. Some of the students are dissatisfied, the Kumiai Churches have little sympathy with the way the school is being conducted, and as for foreign missionaries, as was shown at the Kōbe meeting a short time ago, they have no wish to identify themselves with the institution any longer.

In another note on the same topic the *Fukuin Shimpō* contends that the present trouble is to be traced to the action of Mr. Nijima and others in the early days of the institution. Mr. Nijima played at running will the hare and hunting with the hounds in turn. To Christians he insisted that the institution should be made thoroughly Christian and obtained their support on this understanding. But before non-Christians he placed the educational advantages which the institution offered, and led them to think that considerable freedom of belief would be allowed, and on this understanding obtained their pecuniary support. By adopting this course he combined two elements that never could blend, he called into existence two antagonistic influences whose power has been felt ever since. Mr. Kosaki for some time followed the same course. This is the real reason of the institution's turning out so unsatisfactory from a Christian standpoint. We may note, in passing, that this weak spot in the original Dōshisha was pointed out in the columns of the *Mail* many years ago, and it was predicted that sooner or later it would lead to trouble. The *Fukuin Shimpō* goes on to show that the severance of the connection of the American Board with the institution and the recent appointment of an extremely heterodox President, who will gradually fill the professorial chairs with men as broad in belief or still broader than himself, is all the result of trying to effect a union that was quite impossible. It is not to be expected that in future the Dōshisha will be more Christian than the *Rikugō sasshi*, for which Mr. Yokoi has written so much. Henceforth it may be described as having Christian elements in it, but the title to be called a Christian School it has lost. Whether even the Christian elements it now has will be retained long is open to question.

A meeting convened for the purpose of discussing the future of the Dōshisha was held in the Seinen Kan, Kanda, Tōkyō on August 20th, when Messrs. Yokoi, Tokutomi, Yebina, Miyoshi, Onishi and others delivered addresses. It was decided that steps should be taken to make the institution a high class college of the type of some of the best of the American Colleges, and that with this in view departments for the study of Politics, Law, Physics, Chemistry and Literature should be created.

Japanese Christians, says the *Fukuin Shimpō*, are of three classes. (1) There are those who are fully persuaded that the Churches must give up using foreign money. The poverty of many members should not be allowed to prevent the attainment of independence. By uniting in their efforts, sinking all minor differences, appealing to the patriotic instincts of their friends and supporters, and by relying on industry and commerce, and even on politics for pecuniary help, a great deal may be accomplished, say the leaders of this party. (2) Then there is a large class of Christians who are in favour of clinging to the foreign missionary. Sooner or later this combination will give rise to trouble. Al-

ready in various parts of the country there is friction between native and foreign Christians. In many instances relations are very strained and agitation may be expected at any time. (3) There is another class, which, in the matter of activity, bear no comparison with the converts mentioned above, but who are steadfast to the last degree. Though without sufficient spirit to attack the enemy, they would rather die than surrender the fortress in which they have taken refuge. Weakly and patiently they take up their cross and follow Christ. Unobserved by the world, they drink the waters of life and are refreshed thereby. The future of the church does not concern them. To the pro-foreign and anti-foreign spirit they are alike indifferent. The organ we have just quoted, in commenting on the distinctive characteristics of various bodies of Christians, says that the Japanese Methodist Christians resemble a regiment of soldiers in the matter of uniformity. In speech and action they are alike. Dependence on foreigners is an established principle among them. There is no doubt something very imposing in the march of men who have acquired the habit of acting together in obedience to orders. The tone which these men adopt is one of humility. They are the great opponents of what is called *yasigaman*, endurance beyond one's strength. Opposed to all this are the utterances of the Kumiai Churches and the Nihon Kirisuto Kyō Kai, whose watchwords are independence and freedom from foreign interference,—in Christianity as in other things Japan for the Japanese. How far the two elements will blend in the future remains to be seen.

According to the opinion of Mr. Yebina Danjō as expressed in the *Fukuin Shimpō*, the future success of Japanese Christianity depends entirely on the creation of a deeper spirit of union. For some years past, says Mr. Yebina, the joining of forces between sects has been regarded with suspicion and displeasure by a number of Christians. And yet it is only by combination that the full force of our religion can be shown to the world. What we need to do is to impress our fellow countrymen with the conviction that the Christianity which we believe and teach was received direct from God. In the present age there is a great rage for translating foreign Christian works and thus attempting to perpetuate here the foreign dress which Christianity has assumed. This is undesirable. What is required is for us to imbibe the essentials of Christianity, to make them a part of our inmost life and then to allow the manifestations of our devotion to be such as accord with native taste and proclivity.

Mr. Buckle, the well-known missionary, has been delivering addresses in various places in Japan giving an account of his labours in Formosa during the past 23 years. His audiences have been immensely interested in his vivid accounts of the dangers encountered and the difficulties overcome in the course of his long career. In commencing work among strangers Mr. Buckle practiced medicine, thus removing much of the native antipathy to foreigners. Teaching is carried on in the Chinese tongue. There are a large number of native pastors working with Mr. Buckle and another veteran missionary, Dr. MacKay. The combined missions show a membership of 1,300, divided into 40 churches, and employ 30 evangelists. Educational work has also been pushed ahead amid great drawbacks; and various benevolent organizations exist for helping and teaching the blind, the deaf and other afflicted members of the community. Speaking of the state of Formosa since it has fallen into Japanese hands, Mr. Buckle observed that great lawlessness has existed and still exists in many parts, so that it is by no means safe for a missionary to travel. The order forbidding the natives to carry arms was, in Mr. Buckle's opinion, a mistaken order, since honest natives are now left unprotected from the ravages of the hordes of robbers infesting the island. Formosan Christians do not smoke opium, but Mr. Buckle thinks that in

the case of natives that have been in the habit of taking it, they should leave it off by degrees, and that if the drug were heavily taxed, a gradual discontinuance of its use without involving injury to health would be the result.

A writer in the *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church) in an article entitled *Kuni Jiman* (National Pride) says that among Eastern countries in the matter of self-exaltation China leads the way, and Japan follows at no great distance. Even at the present day, there is a class of men who are never tired of speaking of Japan as *Shin-koku*, a country specially favoured by the gods, as *Kumshi koku*, *Oinaru Nippon*, *Sekai no Bi-koku*, *Seigi-koku*, *Sekai no heitwa no ijisha*, "preserver of the peace of the world." This is the result of ignorance. Though of late years we have made rapid progress, it is not very long ago since we were an unenlightened people. As regards the war with China, how far we can congratulate ourselves is a question difficult to answer, since we went to war to establish the independence of Korea and that end has not been attained. On certain Japanese minds the war has had the effect of increasing their self-consciousness (自覺), and a spurious kind of patriotism, results which are by no means desirable.

The organ we are quoting expresses the opinion that Christianity has passed through three stages in this country. At first it was largely welcomed, then bitterly opposed and now it is treated with indifference, men's thoughts being absorbed by other things. The Christian ship appears to this writer to be at present stuck fast on a rock, unable to move forward or back.

The *Kyōrin* (Shintō) continues to urge the importance of Shintoists' preparing for the changes incidental to the operation of the new treaties. The importance of deepening national feeling is acknowledged even by Christians, says this organ, who are making strenuous efforts to remove foreign elements from their creed. With a view to be ready for the altered situation, the Ecclesiastical Bureau (社寺局 *Shōjikyoku*) attached to the Home Office, has commenced to compile a set of laws. The Buddhists are busy in the same direction. We Shintoists must not be behind. In competing with other religions, a defect in our organisation reveals itself. Shintoists consist of two separate bodies: *Shinkwan*, priests, whose special duty it is to keep up the worship of the nation's gods, and the *kyōkai*, the society of believers whose duty it is to teach Shintoism and make its power felt in the world. Our *Shinkwan* are not expected to preach. Their office is superior to that of the ordinary propagandist. But under the new rules to be promulgated by the *Shōjikyoku* no such distinctions will be observed. The 200,000 priests in charge of temples or shrines and the 100,000 preachers and teachers of Shintō will come under the same rules. So that the superiority of rank which the sacredness of their calling has hitherto given to the conductors of public worship will no longer be retained. This and other changes, the *Kyōrin* says, demand careful consideration at the hands of all interested in the future of Shintō.

In the opinion of a writer in the *Teikokubungaku*, the Protestants of Japan have of late, specially in the matter of education, shown a tendency to secularise their schools for the sake of increasing the number of their pupils. No such trimming is to be seen among the Roman Catholics or the Greek Christians, says the authority we quote. That a creed which in other countries has made history, has taken the lead in great movements, moulding men and institutions to its own shape, should in Japan be squaring its sails in order to catch every passing breeze, is a subject for deep regret. Pushed by the nationalists among their converts, troubled by the sight of an ever decreasing roll, the foreign managers of many schools have of late altered their courses and adopted the curriculum prescribed by the Mombushō for *Chūgakkō* (Middle Schools).

Religion has been consigned to a subordinate place in order to obtain a better attendance at the school. The men who have made these changes can no longer say with St. Paul, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." It would have been far better, says the *Teikokubungaku*, had they stuck to their colours, and been content with a small number of superior lads with piety and strength of character.

In the pages of the *Rikugō Zasshi* Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo contributes a philosophical article on what has been called "Europeanism and Nipponism," of which we give the gist. The pro-foreign and anti-foreign cries are alike hysterical and yet there is no denying that the agitation for and against foreign influence of all kinds extends over a great part of Japan. It is not a little significant that two very well-known men should have recently presented themselves in the world's arena as champions of the two conflicting theories. In the columns of the *Yiji*, Mr. Fukuzawa advocates unqualified Europeanism. In the columns of the *Asahi Shimbun*, Mr. Sugiura Jūgō figures as a special pleader for Nipponism. There is nothing particularly new in what either writer has to say, but their articles are worthy of attention as indicative of the prominence in men's thoughts which the future policy of the nation is assuming.* Notwithstanding the fact that we were successful in the late war, that we have obtained treaty revision, and that we are regarded as possessed of great power among Eastern States, it must be evident to every discerning person that we cannot afford to put on an air of superiority. There is more pretended opposition than real in the two principles. There is no such thing as Europeanism that takes no account of nationality, and no such thing, except among very ignorant people, as Nipponism that refuses to acknowledge the need of foreign aid. Anti-foreign sentiment in not a few cases is caused by the fear that we may be no match for foreigners when brought into competition with them. The stage through which Japan is passing now resembles that through which Germany passed a hundred years ago. We are now in the midst of what the Germans call *Die Sturm und Drang epoche*. This will result in the evolution of a nationality of a new and lasting type. Mr. Fukuzawa has been a real benefactor of the nation, but he belongs to the past rather than to the future, and his teaching has a strong leaning towards materialism. As for Mr. Sugiura, though the master of a polished style, and as such attracting considerable attention, he is lacking in power to perceive the spirit of the times, and his writing lends itself to the defence of conservatism. The study of the past should have as its object progress in the present and the future, as the saying has it, *furuki wo tasunete ararashiki wo shiru* (to learn something new by studying what is old). My advice to my fellow-countrymen is "Forget Nipponism and forget Europeanism and study truth as exhibited in nature and the actions of mankind." That is the surest way of increasing our energy as a nation.

A writer in the *Sekai no Nihon* furnishes an analysis of the views and principles of certain Protestant sects. Some of its comparisons are far fetched and evidently not founded on minute knowledge, but others are in the main correct. Three of the leading Protestant sects may be compared, observes the authority we quote, to three great political parties. The Nihon Kirisutō (formerly called Itchi Kyōkai, Presbyterian), which corresponds to the *Shimpō*; the Kumiai-ha (Congregational) to the *Jijū*, and the Methodist to the *Kokumin Kyōkai*. In government

* Mr. Fukuzawa's articles are summarised in the "Spirit of the Vernacular Press," (*Weekly Mail*, Aug. 1st). They are a reply to Mr. Sugiura's articles *Yōheki sharyū wo heikai su*, (Reproof of the Prevailing pro-foreign Bias). Mr. Sugiura simply reiterates the familiar arguments respecting the alleged superiority of Japanese to foreigners in filial piety, patriotism and the like, and expresses the conviction that the Japanese are in danger of losing these virtues by a slavish adoption of foreign ways.

the Methodist is monarchical and the other two are representative. The remarks which follow we understand to refer to other Christian sects as well as those mentioned above. There are sects whose leading principle is union, others whose one object is to preserve intact traditional doctrines and beliefs. There are again those whose watchword is liberty, and a fourth class consists of professed eclectics. Classified according to their prevailing tendencies, Japanese Christians have been divided into 3 classes by the *Fukui Shimō* (1) There are those who are in favour of prompt rejection of foreign aid and the immediate assumption of power by the Japanese Churches (2) There is a set of moderate quiet-going Christians who are quite content with things as they are, who see no objection to receiving whatever foreign aid may be extended to them. (3) There is a party in favour of gradual movement in the direction of independence. Among the leaders of the 1st class are Messrs. Oshikawa Masayoshi, Yebina Danjō, Iwamoto Zenuji, Yokoi Tokiwo and Miyoshi Taizō; among the second Messrs. Honda Yōichi and Hiraiwa Kempo; and among the third, Messrs. Kosaki Hiromichi, Uyemura Masahisa and Ibuka Kajinosuke. Each party complains of want of funds. The *Sekai no Nihon* gives the following figures showing the number of Protestant Christians at the close of last year. The Nihon Kirisutō-ha, 14,584; the Kumiai Church, 12,699; the Methodists 7,350 and Episcopalians 6,896.

No. 44 of Dr. Katō Hiroyuki's Hundred Short Essays, in discussing the significance of the term rational (合理的 *goriteki*), touches on religion incidentally. He says that the word "rational" has borne different meanings in different ages and that at one time the will of God alone was supposed to be the standard of right. Hence to act in accordance with it was considered equivalent to acting in a rational manner. But the world no longer takes that narrow view of things. In China and Japan the character *ri* 理 is applied to the principles and laws that govern nature. It is unscientific to imagine that ethical and religious doctrines can be logically deduced from these laws. To apply the terms as *IE Sei* (just) and *Kō* (impartial) to such laws is quite out of place. These epithets only express our own opinions about the laws and are not to be considered as describing the inherent characteristics or qualities of the laws themselves. Nature pure and simple is indifferent alike to what we call virtue and vice, right and wrong.

Successive numbers of the *Taiyō*, we observe, contain articles on "Nipponism," as explained by the *Nippon Shugi* party, of which Mr. Takayama, the present editor, has become an ardent member.

The idea that Christianity is incompatible with patriotism seems to have obtained a deep hold on the Japanese mind, judging by the number of articles devoted to the discussion of this subject in the pages of Christian magazines. In the last number of the *Shinri*, the Rev. A. Wendt goes thoroughly into the subject, quoting Germany as an instance of a country that has retained its Christianity and its patriotism.

In the same magazine the Rev. R. Minami publishes an article entitled "Ideal School of Divinity," in which he says that many of the existing theological seminaries impart no breadth of view to their students. They are made acquainted with the teaching of one special sect, but are left in ignorance of the general history of Christian thought and speculation. It is not to be expected that men with such narrow views should make successful evangelists. It is well known that Christianity gained immense power by coming into contact with Greek philosophy, that she embodied much of its teaching, and that for hundreds of years she was immensely influenced by the progress of European science and learning. Japanese Christianity cannot afford to ignore its surroundings. It will do well to allow itself to be moulded by them. The influence of Buddhism, Confucianism, and Shintō in this country is very

great. In many respects this influence can be utilised by Christianity. Science and philosophy, too, are progressing here as elsewhere and the intelligent Christian will do well to allow his views to be modified and corrected by these agencies. To shut oneself off from modern life and thought and rely on inspiration, miracles and dogma is not the way to win converts to Christianity. Even Protestant Christianity in Japan is assuming the Roman Catholic type in the matter of abstraction from the busy world in which it finds itself. Only men unacquainted with the history of thought in the outside world will be content with the reiteration of worn-out dogmas such as are drummed into the ears of the theological students from month to month. I am in favour, continues Mr. Minami, of not requiring theological students to accept any special set of doctrines, but of allowing them to explore the whole area of theology and adopt such teaching as may commend itself to their minds. It is not desirable that separate institutions for teaching theology should exist. The plan adopted in Europe and America of imparting instruction in theology at the Universities is much preferable. Theological students in Japan would be immensely benefited by breathing the free air of a University. But if this cannot be effected here, then it is advisable that instead of the sectarian seminaries that now exist there should be established one great school of divinity where instruction in all branches of theology should be given, not by the advocates of any special set of doctrines, but by learned and enlightened men of all Protestant sects. There should be no distinction made between orthodox and heterodox teaching. The aim should be to place the students in possession of what has been thought and written on all sides, and they should be allowed to form their own conclusions and eventually to adopt what form of belief they please. There are those who will object to such an institution on the ground that it would too much resemble a theological exhibition, where a variety of articles are displayed in order to attract the fancy of visitors. But the same objection applies to other branches of education. What are the majority of existing schools and colleges but exhibitions of the thoughts of learned men. The idea of having a school whose design it is to perpetrate one narrow set of doctrines to the exclusion of wider teaching can never be defended. The Dōshisha is endeavouring to combine the teaching of divinity with secular teaching. If the scope of the institution could be widened, so as no longer to be controlled by the Kumiai churches exclusively, but be thoroughly representative in character, it would answer the purpose I have in view.

THE "POLYHEMUS."

At last some information is to hand regarding the accident to the Blue-funnel steamer *Polyhemus*. Messrs. Holt's Agents in Singapore write thus to the local Press:—"Referring to the reports which have recently appeared in your paper respecting the alleged loss of the *Polyhemus*, we are indebted to the agent of the Messageries Maritimes here for the following particulars:—"It appears that the outward mail steamer *Caledonien* passed the *Polyhemus* anchored 27 miles W.N.W. of Djebel Tir, executing repairs to her shaft, and in no danger whatever. As the *Caledonien* was calling at Djibouti, where she was not likely to fall in with any other steamers, she signalled to the *Gulf of Venice*, which was bound for Perim, indicating the situation of the *Polyhemus*. The *Gulf of Venice* seems to have entirely misunderstood the signals made by the *Caledonien*, apparently having read "27 men" instead of "27 miles" etc., hence the London telegram of 11th September which appeared in the *Times of Ceylon*. The report of the loss of the *Polyhemus* is therefore quite unfounded, and she passed through the Canal between the 15th and 17th September.

PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS LOAN.

The *Shogyo* has been publishing of late several notes on the state of the public finances, and among the various items discussed is one relating to the Public Undertakings Loan, of which so much was heard last autumn. Our contemporary re-states the reasons for this loan, and says that it was to take the form of public bonds, receipts from the sale of which were to be supplied towards paying the expenses incurred in the improvement of Government railways already established; in the construction of railways in Hokkaido; in establishing iron works; extending the telephone system; inaugurating the tobacco monopoly; carrying out coast defence, &c., in accordance with Law No. 59 of the 29th year of *Meiji*. The amount was limited to 135 millions of yen, and this was to be raised during seven years from 1896 to 1902, the bonds not to bear more than 5 per cent interest. With the exception of 3,000,000 yen placed on the market in March, the loan has not been raised in the proportions mentioned in the bill. Nor does there seem to be any possibility of the money being subscribed in Japan, capitalists preferring to put their money into speculations that give a larger return on the outlay, while smaller people hesitate to support a scheme that lacks assistance from financial circles. Yet if the money is not raised, the projects mentioned above can not be carried out. It is therefore necessary for the Government to offer the bonds for sale abroad. By so doing they could raise all the money they want at 3 to 4 per cent., for now that Japan has a gold standard of currency, her stocks are on a parity with those of gold-using countries. The day is coming when Japan must accept the aid of foreign capital and the sooner it arrives, says the *Shogyo*, the better. By getting the money from abroad, the rates of interest will be appreciably lowered, the economic and industrial activity of the country will be stimulated, and Japan will enter upon an era of substantial prosperity.

ALLEGED LOSS OF THE "GOLDEN FLEECE."

With reference to the telegram from our correspondent in Hakodate published in another column, announcing the total wreck of the sealing schooner *Golden Fleece*, we learn that other telegrams have been received, from which it would appear that the reported loss of the vessel is incorrect. Mr. J. Kernan, the owner of the *Golden Fleece*, on Wednesday evening received a wire dated Hakodate, Oct. 6th, 5.25 p.m., which ran as follows:—"Funke and eight men lost from schooner; will be here in five days." On receipt of this Mr. Kernan wired to his agent at Hakodate, who had sent the message, enquiring where the schooner was, to which he received the following reply, dated 7 a.m. on the 7th instant:—"Schooner don't know, nine men now on board *Daphne* lost, will be here in a few days." We understand that Mrs. Funke, Captain Funke's wife, also received a telegram from her husband on Wednesday night stating "all well," and that he would be in Hakodate by the 15th and asking for a passport to be sent to him. From these telegrams the owner of the *Golden Fleece* concludes that Captain Funke and the eight men referred to as being on board the *Daphne*, had been out in a boat and lost the schooner—a very easy matter in the foggy waters of the north—but not that any casualty has occurred to the latter. The *Golden Fleece*, when she left Yokohama in March last, had a crew of 28 all told, principally Kanakas, and she afterwards shipped several more men at Hakodate.

RETURN OF THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.

The Prince Imperial left Hayama at 12.20 p.m. on the 4th instant, and starting for Zushi by the 1 o'clock train, reached Shimbashi at 3.04 p.m. His Imperial Highness is said to be greatly restored in health, though he can scarcely be called robust as yet.

THE RICE HARVEST.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce publishes statistics relating to the prospects of the rice harvest this year. They are as follow:—

Osaka—Not inferior to average.
Ibaraki Prefecture—Not inferior to average.
Nara Prefecture—Not inferior to average.
Miye Prefecture—Good.
Yamanashi Prefecture—About 1½ per cent, below average.
Shiga Prefecture—More or less below average.
Miyagi Prefecture—Not inferior to last year's crop.
Iwate Prefecture—Fully 20 per cent. below average.
Toyama Prefecture—More or less below average.
Shimane Prefecture—Twenty per cent. below average.
Okayama Prefecture—Not below average.
Tokushima Prefecture—Fully 20 per cent. above average.
Kagawa Prefecture—Twenty per cent. below average.
Fukuoka Prefecture—From 10 to 20 per cent. below average.
Kumamoto Prefecture—Fully 20 per cent. above average.
Miyagi Prefecture—From 30 to 40 per cent. above average.
Kagoshima Prefecture—Ten per cent. above average.

Summing up the table, the result is that out of 16 prefectures and one city district, the prospects are equal to or above the average in the case of ten, and below the average in the case of seven.

NAVAL RANKS.

A correspondent asks us to give authoritative renderings for the Japanese names of Army and Navy ranks from *Shōshō* downwards. If the matter of distinguishing badges has to be taken into account, no exact equivalents can be found for the Japanese terms. But inasmuch as Japan has adopted the rational method of employing the same terminology in both services, so that the difficulties of relative rank are avoided, there seems to be no reason why the following table should not be accepted as the closest possible approximation:—

	NAVY.	ARMY.
<i>Shōshō</i> ...	Real-Admiral	Major-General.
<i>Taiza</i> {	Commodore, or Post-Captain with service entitling him to rank with full Colonel.....	Colonel.
<i>Chusa</i> ...	Post-Captain	Lieut.-Colonel.
<i>Shōsa</i> ...	Commander.....	Major.
<i>Taii</i> ...	Lieutenant, with service entitling him to rank with military Captain.....	Captain.
<i>Chui</i> ...	Second-Lieutenant.....	Lieutenant.
<i>Shōi</i> ...	Third-Lieutenant	Second-Lieut. or Ensign.

JUNK SUNK IN COLLISION.

A telegram was received at the office of this paper on Tuesday afternoon to the effect that it was rumoured in Kobe that two foreign steamers had been in collision and sunk off Oshima. Upon making enquiries we were unable to discover any ground for the report, but we now learn from the *Yomiuri* that the N.Y.K. steamer *Shiganoura Maru*, Captain Y. Mura, which left Kobe on the 1st and arrived in Yokohama on the 4th instant, when nearing Cape Urakashi, Wakayama Prefecture, at about 3 o'clock on the morning of the 2nd, ran into a Japanese junk, which was not seen until she was right under the steamer's bows. The mast of the junk was carried away, and after the collision the two vessels separated. The Captain of the *Shiganoura Maru* turned his ship round and searched for the junk, but could see nothing of her, and consequently steamed on to Yokohama. Other information received from Kobe states that the junk went down and that several of the crew were drowned and others injured. It seems probable that this collision formed the ground of the rumour circulated in Kobe on Tuesday.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The total eclipse of the sun, which takes place next January, will not be visible in Japan, but can be observed to advantage from Bombay. The Japanese Government has decided to send a party of astronomers to observe the phenomenon. A grant of about ten thousand *yen* has been made for the purpose, and it is said that Mr. Terao and Professor Hirayama will be in charge of the expedition. The *Mainichi Shimbun* observes that this will be the first occasion of a regularly organized expedition's being sent by Japan to observe a total eclipse. Mr. Terao went to America in 1884 in connexion with the annular eclipse of that year, but that was a comparatively unimportant affair.

The Imperial Princess whose birth was announced a few days ago, has been named Taki-ko Sada-no-Miya.

There has undoubtedly been a great increase in the number of crimes of violence committed in Japan during recent years, and the present year is said to have been specially remarkable. From January to August, there were 15 completed crimes, and 9 uncompleted, of murder and manslaughter, and the number of persons committed for trial on the charge of murder was 33, namely, 26 men and 7 women; the number committed for manslaughter being 5, namely, 4 men and 1 woman.

On the 29th ultimo, the Tokyo Local Court reversed the judgment of the District Court in the Virgin Cigarette case, and condemned the Murai Brothers to pay a fine of 1 *yen*. The verdict was appealed against.

At no time has the municipal administration of Tokyo been so badly conducted as at present, alleges the *Tokyo Shimbun*. The condition of the roads and bridges alone is a disgrace to the capital. Vehement remonstrances have been constantly made by the press and by the public at large in regard to them, and the Municipal Council seems to have consequently felt a certain degree of apprehension. Steps are now being taken to enlist Viscount Yoshikawa among its members, so as to effect a speedy change in the administration. To that end the Viscount was consulted on the 12th and 26th September when the general meeting of the Council was held in Hoshigakoa, and as a result of the conference it was decided that a new office should be established by which affairs relating to municipal reform will be exclusively conducted.

An Imperial Ordinance (No. 333) has been issued revising the scale of travelling expenses for Government officials as follows:—

Class of expenses.	Official grades.	For railways per mile.	For ships per nautical mile.	For carriages per horse per day.
1st	Shinnin	6	7	35
2nd	Chokunin	5	6	30
3rd	Sonin	4	5	20
4th	Hannin	3	4	15
Lodging expenses.	Official grade.	Per night.	Daily allowance.	Boarding per day.
1st	Shinnin	3	2.50	1.70
2nd	Chokunin	2	1.50	1.50
3rd	Sonin	1.50	1	1.20
4th	Hannin	1	.50	.90

Travelling expenses in foreign countries are:—

Official grades.	Lodging.	Boarding.	Daily allowance.	Expenses for outfit.
Shinnin	12	1.70	6	700
Chokunin	10.50	1.50	4.50	450
Sonin	9	1.20	3.50	350
Hannin	7.50	.90	2	200
Employé	6	.60	1	100

The expenses for travelling to China and Korea are fixed at 7 *yen* per diem for *Shinnin*, 6 *yen* for *Chokunin*, 5 *yen* for *Sonin*, 4 *yen* for *Hannin*, and 3 *yen* for employés.

The approach of mixed residence, remarks the *Nippon*, has led to almost a mania for the study of foreign languages. The foreign language school established within the Higher Commercial College having been opened from the 1st September, students are constantly

pouring in from all directions. Among the applicants it seems that those for tuition in the English, German, French, and Russian languages are greatest in number, while the fewest are noticeable in Chinese and Korean. The *Kokumin Eigogakko* is reported to have already secured more than 1,000 students for principal and preparatory courses in the day and night schools.

According to investigations of the Finance Department published in the *Mainichi*, coinage in circulation at the end of August was 84,729,065 *yen*, being 699,535 *yen* increase as compared with the previous month. The following are the details:—

Coin.	End of August.	Increase or decrease compared with the previous month.
Gold	5,427,922	+ 50,045
Yen pieces	37,177,002	+ 386,186
Silver	Below 50 <i>sen</i> denomination	26,146,184 + 263,993
Total	63,323,786	+ 650,090
Nickel	6,626,303	—
Copper	9,351,052	— 600
Grand total	84,729,063	699,534

The government and bank paper in circulation on the 1st September amounted to 14,761,159 *yen*, showing a decrease of 16,113 *yen* in Government paper and of 440,412 *yen* in bank notes as compared with the previous month.

Mokpho, remarks the *Tokyo Asahi*, is to be opened to foreign commerce in a few days. It may therefore be of interest to know the classes and prices of merchandise generally in demand there. They are as follow:—

	COST P'CE.	SALE P'CE.	PROFIT.
	Yen.	Yen.	Sen.
Shirtings	4.70	4.80	10.0
" (other kind)	4.36	4.80	44.0
Turkey reds (superior)	2.50	2.90	40.0
" (inferior)	2.35	2.35	18.3
Gauze	1.17	1.19	2.2
White silk gauze	3.20	3.22	2.8
" (other kinds)	3.40	3.41	1.4
Cotton stuff, white	1.32	1.32	—
Hattan	0.39	0.56	17.0
Taffeta, red	0.34	0.44	10.3

There is a considerable demand for cotton fabrics, but as large quantities were formerly brought into the market by dealers in rice, their price is extremely low at present. Turkey reds find a good sale, first class goods in particular being most popular.

From the *Yiji* we learn that the Governor of Osaka recently summoned some influential merchants of the city to Sakai with the view of ascertaining their opinions in regard to the raising of a public loan for harbour construction. It seems that they advocate the policy of securing subscriptions from foreigners, as it is unlikely that the money can be raised by Japanese. To this end the various banks of the country are requested to act as agencies, while loan certificates of 100 *yen* face value are to be sold for 95 *yen*, so as to secure speedy subscription. The matter was submitted to the Municipal Council for discussion, and it was decided that the Public Loan Regulations should be revised so as to adapt them to the scheme now under consideration.

A special committee appointed by the Corporation of *saké* brewers throughout the empire lately held a meeting in Tokyo to discuss problems concerning the proposed increase of taxation on *saké*, the additional collection of the *saké* brewing tax, articles for security, illicit import of spirits and the business tax. The committee, according to the *Kokumin*, has petitioned the Finance Department that the term fixed for furnishing security, as well as the form of application adopted for granting a license, may be rescinded, as these restrictions have not only proved seriously disadvantageous to dealers themselves, but have also become a source of considerable trouble to Government. October is the season for brewers to purchase rice for *saké*. Nevertheless, owing to the extravagant rise in the price of grain this year, many not provided with large capital are

reported to have resolved upon suspending business until the fall of next year when they trust to be able to buy cheaper rice.

The tea trade for this year, remarks the *Nichi Nichi*, has been fairly successful. The stock in Yokohama now does not exceed 608,000 catties, while the quantity which still remains in various parts of the empire is supposed to be below 1,500,000 catties. These figures together aggregate 2,100,000 catties only. The daily sales at present amount to from 20,000 to 50,000 catties, and it may consequently be inferred that the remaining stock will be taken delivery of long before the opening of the new season next spring. Although the foreign firms in Yokohama appear to be buying at present such quantities only as will supply their immediate requirements, the stock of teas throughout the country may be cleared by the end of the year. In ordinary years, however, the market finds itself glutted with at least a million catties at the end of the season.

The abundance of timber in Hokkaido lately attracted the notice of both natives and foreigners. Lumber for railways, matches, and buildings is despatched every year to various localities in considerable quantities. The amount transported from Otaru and Mororan for the first half of this year was as follows:—

	VALUE YEN.
Otaru—For railways	355,000 logs. 124,250
" For building	37,000 koku 55,500
Mororan—For railway & building	9,979 koku 13,745

The Formosans are a hard-working people, remarks the *Yomiuri*, yet they spend all that they earn. Their most pernicious luxury is opium-smoking. Below is a table showing the quantity of opium consumed by each smoker per day:—

SOCIAL ORDER.	MAXIMUM.	MEDIUM.	MINIMUM.
	momme.	momme.	momme.
Highest	30	10	3
Intermediate	10	5	2
Lowest	5	2	1

First class opium paste costs 12 *yen* per pound; 2nd-class 9 *yen*; and 3rd-class 7 *yen*. In respect of value therefore the account stands thus:—

SOCIAL ORDER.	MAXIMUM.	MEDIUM.	MINIMUM.
	Yen.	Yen.	Sen.
Highest	300	100	30
Intermediate	75	37.5	15
Lowest	29.5	11.8	9.5

The *Mainichi* states that about 1,000 artisans employed in the kind of dyeing known as the *Fusenome* process, in Osaka, went on strike on the 27th ultimo, and are now holding secret meetings. It seems that in May these men had their wages increased by 10.17 per cent. on the plea of the rise in the price of commodities. Nevertheless, the prices of daily necessities having continued to appreciate, the men pressed their employers to raise their pay by another 25 per cent. but were totally refused. This was the immediate cause of the strike. The appreciation of commodities remarks our contemporary, has led to an unusual increase in strikes throughout the empire. A prominent company in Honjo, as well as the Nippon Railway Company, were perhaps the first to suffer the consequences of workmen's combinations now so much in vogue all over the country. Strikes are the last resource of workmen seeking redress. But they have great disadvantages, as the Occident long since learnt. Japanese workmen and their employers are learning the lesson also.

The *Yorodou* urges that that means of communication should be developed so as to facilitate the progress of the country. But no reason exists that such a step should be forwarded by means of raising the rates of postage. The Communications Department, should, before doing such a thing direct attention to the following points:—(1) The present postal machinery is full of abuses, and no expense is needed to remove them so as to set the machinery in better working order. (2) High postage rates

create serious inconveniences, and are a serious drawback. Our contemporary further alleges that the safest way of increasing the postal revenue would be to decrease the rates of postage so as to lead to an increase in the amount of correspondence.

The sale of silk has been brisk this year remarks the *Shogyo*, to a degree without parallel in the past history of the business. According to investigations recently made, arrivals and sales of silk in Yokohama this year as compared with the figures for the past five years were as follow:—

Year	ARRIVALS.		Totals.
	September.	August.	
1897	15,666	16,840	32,506
1896	11,846	12,230	24,076
1895	22,941	24,817	47,758
1894	16,987	16,485	33,472
1893	14,780	15,627	30,407
1892	17,952	15,691	33,643

Year	EXPORT.		Totals.
	September.	August.	
1897—Europe	2,505	3,372	5,877
America	2,216	4,732	6,948
1896—Europe	895	450	1,345
America	1,080	1,109	2,189
1895—Europe	4,328	4,060	8,388
America	2,276	658	2,934
1894—Europe	2,861	2,573	5,434
America	3,322	2,019	5,341
1893—Europe	862	391	1,253
America	3,336	2,372	5,708
1892—Europe	5,368	3,143	8,511
America	2,580	1,531	3,911

STOCK.	
September 27th.	September 27th.
1897..... 10,645 bales	1896..... 23,408 bales
1895..... 16,499 "	1894..... 24,286 "
1893..... 21,142 "	1892..... 9,558 "

Thus the market has been prosperous in spite of stocks being smaller. The amount now remaining in the market is believed to be the smallest known since 1892. The brisk sale of silk this year is ascribed to the following causes:—(1) The failure of crops in Italy and France. (2) Agricultural success in America and the revival of trade. (3) Scarcity of stock in the hands of American merchants, who contracted for time small quantities only in view of the apparent standstill of the silk trade at the of the Presidential election. Fluctuations in the rates of exchange appear to have also contributed to the spurt to a certain extent.

On the 30th ult., says the *Shogyo*, Chinese rice to the amount of 6,599 bags was imported to Yokohama from Hongkong. Owing to the scarcity of stock at present, the grain was immediately sold at the rate of 3.80 yen for Tonking rice and 3.85 yen for Shanghai rice. Sales for the interior are unusually brisk, 15,000 bags having been taken to Hokkaido a few days ago by the steamers *Nagoya Maru* and *Sagami Maru* alone. The steamer *Moji Maru* is also reported to have carried a considerable quantity. The stock having thus suddenly decreased, fresh arrivals are anxiously awaited from China.

It has hitherto been supposed, alleges the *Chuo*, that the area of Hokkaido is nearly equal to that of Kiushiu and Shikoku combined, or double the area of the former. The latest investigation, however, shows that the northern territory really contains an area of 6,094 square *ri*, while the area of Kiushiu and Shikoku together does not exceed 3,797 square *ri*. This latter figure, together with 2,359 square *ri* in the newly acquired territory, Formosa, is still smaller by 78 *ri* than Hokkaido. It is therefore much nearer the truth to say that the dimensions of Hokkaido are equal to the total area of Kiushiu, Shikoku, and Formosa.

According to the *Yiji*, the Governor of Nagasaki lately issued the following notification with regard to the improvement of the harbour:—Art. I.—When the work of surveying is under taken preparatory to the improvement of the harbour, no vessel shall be allowed to lie at anchor within the limits under survey. When the dredging of the channel is commenced, ships are forbidden to sail or anchor within the

limits so specified. Art. II.—The limits and period of survey or dredging shall be notified on each occasion that the work is undertaken, while the boundaries of the portion being dredged shall be indicated by buoys.

Time and again the Opposition in the Lower House have passed a bill repealing the special municipal system now applied in the cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka, but the Upper House has always rejected the measure. It now appears that Count Kabayama has approved a scheme having the same object in view, which will be presented in the next session of the Diet. This bill will allow each municipality to elect its own Mayor.

The tale of storm damages for the month of September increases in amplitude as news filters in from outlying districts. The ravages of floods are very serious in Hiogo Prefecture and many lives have been lost through landslips as well as by broken river embankments. Along the banks of the river Kiso, in Aichi Prefecture, the water rose to such a height that houses were immersed to their eaves: about 12,000 houses suffered this calamity.

The following comparative table is published in the *Kokumin* showing the amount of tea sold from the beginning of the season up to the 30th Sept. in the last two years:—

Firms.	1897. Piculs.	1896. Piculs.
Messrs. Mouriyan, Heimann & Co.	22,558	25,318
Messrs. Cornes & Co.	22,034	16,115
Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.	17,095	22,864
Messrs. Middleton & Smith	14,326	9,533
Messrs. Averill & Co.	8,451	11,302
Messrs. Mollison & Co.	424	674
Messrs. Bernard & Co.	4,958	—
Messrs. Brandenstein & Co.	9,701	7,270
Messrs. Smith, Baker & Co.	26,503	30,278
Messrs. Reimers & Co.	81	—
Messrs. Fraser, Farley and Varnum	6,621	7,270
Messrs. Hunt & Co.	22,472	23,942
Eastern Japan Trading Co.	12,542	11,186
Messrs. Hellyer & Co.	16,076	15,855
Tea Manufacturing Company	8,162	8,620
Japan and Oriental Company	8,737	5,979
Other firms	448	2,067
Total	201,189	198,096

Mr. Miura, says the *Tokyo Asahi*, lately published a second volume of his "National Defence," in which he asserts in most emphatic terms his opinions regarding the incompetence of the President of the Bank of Japan, as well as the propriety of investing exclusively in the Government the right of issuing convertible notes. According to Mr. Miura, the report published by the Bank last year was as follows:—

	Yen.
Reserve security.....	85,000,000
Loans to Government	22,000,000
Notes issuable by withdrawal of bank-paper	19,616,274
Foreign exchange bills discounted	10,000,000
Balance applicable to issue of ordinary loans and discounts	33,383,726
Average amount unused in the vaults	16,137,260
Balance	22,770,000
Interest at 6 per cent. per annum	1,366,200
Profit on discounted bills of Specie Bank (7 million yen being taken as average)	140,000
Total of last two items	1,506,200
From this is to be deducted—Loss resulting from dealing with Treasury accounts	200,000
Expenses in dealing with convertible notes	200,000
Loss in connection with public loan bonds	1,077,880
Balance (net profit)	29,112

Thus, though the profits of the Bank of Japan do not exceed thirty thousand yen, it has to bear the responsibility of adjusting the accounts of the Treasury, and Public Loan Bonds, and matters connected with the conversion of paper, with the withdrawal of bank notes, and with the deposits

of the Finance Department. It is easy to perceive that transactions of such a nature and of so great a variety can in no way be conducted at a profit. The Bank of Japan itself recognises the difficulty: Turning his attention to another point, the writer finds that, of 26 millions of yen in its possession and of one million yen held as a reserve for making discounts on foreign bills, 3 millions, together with 16 million yen which ought to be preserved in the vaults, are actually being appropriated for purposes other than those legally prescribed, and that a profit in the form of interest is, on this account, realized to the amount of at least 1,200,000 or 1,300,000 yen. For these reasons the Government ought, by granting a subsidy of 30,000 yen to the Nippon Ginko, to take from it the right of issuing convertible notes, and to establish instead a special office for the issue of notes under the same responsibility as that which was imposed on the Bank, so that loans to various banks may be directly negotiated and the circulation of money facilitated.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce, according to the *Tokyo Asahi*, sanctioned the applications received from Saitama and other prefectures by which the shooting season is prolonged from October 1st to April 30th. This adds twenty-nine days to the season.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* publishes the following paragraph under the heading "Intrigue of Count Okuma's Party:—Count Kabayama seems to have been entirely duped or ensnared by Mr. Tokutomi. The Count is now a different person from what he formerly was, having completely lost his rustic simplicity. He is but a buffoon in the political world, and is considered as no match for Count Okuma, by whom Viscount Takashima alone is regarded as a "wen above the eye." The leading members of the Progressionist Party recently held a meeting and resolved upon presenting, at the outset of the 11th session of the Diet, a question regarding Formosa, by which they may be enabled to bring disgrace upon the Viscount. Should the scheme be successful, no one in the Government can offer any effectual resistance to Count Okuma, who may thus be enabled to occupy the post of Premier, to the exclusion of all the elements of Satsuma. Viscounts Tani and Soga will of course join a Cabinet so composed. Such an intrigue, alleges the *Tokyo Shimbun*, is now being carried on. We (*Japan Mail*) need scarcely remind our readers that the *Tokyo Shimbun* is an Opposition journal,

New gold coins to the amount of 940,000 yen having been paid out from the Treasuries throughout the empire, on the 1st instant, and 68,000 yen from the Bank of Japan on the 2nd, the whole amount exchanged for silver and notes may be estimated to have reached 1,500,000 yen during the two days. In Yokohama and Kobe, however, several millions of yen in lump sums have been presented by foreigners for exchange, and it may confidently be supposed, remarks the *Mainichi*, that the aggregate amount of coins exchanged up to the 4th instant was not less than 15 million yen, of which a large proportion, paid to foreigners, was undoubtedly shipped abroad, while the amount in the hands of natives is not likely to be brought into the market for some time. From these facts it may be inferred that the volume of currency has been diminished by at least ten millions of yen. Whether the prices of commodities will fall or rise hereafter is a question which requires the fullest consideration of economists. We (*Japan Mail*) give these figures for what they may be worth.

It is universally supposed that the enforcement of gold monometallism will have the effect of injuring the spinning industry. Such a supposition, however, is incompatible with our own views, asserts the *Kokumin*. Spinning, far from being crippled by the alteration of the monetary standard, is likely to grow more prosperous. The reasons are obvious. In the first place, it may be remarked that this industry having not yet reached perfect development in

Japan in regard to the use of machinery and materials, steps towards improvement may secure an additional profit of five or eight per cent. on the total manufacture. Secondly, ample experience has been acquired in the purchase of cotton, and it may be applied for practical purposes in future with greater facility. Thirdly, the manufacture of fine yarns may be undertaken for export to China, which is now chiefly supplied by England. The import of fine yarns from England into Japan amounted in 1895 to 13,247,216 catties, valued at 6,688,066 yen, and in 1896 to 19,157,711 catties, valued at 11,093,486 yen. Such being the case, ample prospects of success exist for this industry if efforts be made for its improvement.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

It would seem that there has been a complete re-shuffling of the political cards in Sōul, but what influences have directed the deal must remain for the moment a mystery. Some critics interpret the situation to mean an anti-Russian movement. We can not see that there are sufficient grounds for such a supposition. The Koreans are not likely to remain constant to Russia longer than they have remained constant to any of their friends in the past. Constancy, indeed, does not suit them at all. They find their account in change and commotion. That there have recently been symptoms of a growing repugnance to the supremacy of Russia's influence appears beyond question, and it is not impossible to conceive that such symptoms should have culminated in one of the familiar epidemics of intrigue and even disturbance. But had there been any momentous change in the political situation, official telegrams would doubtless have reached Tokyo. The fact that they have not been sent, is significant. We may remark, here, that any one inferring the state of affairs in Sōul from the tone of the Japanese press, would picture to himself a greatly perturbed Cabinet, and a long stormy discussion over the question of Russian drill instructors. Such an impression does not accord with our own idea of the situation. Japan would doubtless have preferred that Russian drill instructors should not be employed by the Koreans, but if Japanese statesmen attached very grave importance to such an issue, they must be more romantic than practical. A dozen or two of Russian drill instructors—we do not, of course, speak in any disparaging sense, the question of nationality being merely incidental—count for little as a body of men, and the results likely to be achieved by them in training Korean troops need not disturb Asia in the smallest degree. We do not imagine that the sober section of Japanese politicians have been tearing their hair over this matter, or that notable pressure has been exerted in Korea to prevent the employment of the Russians; neither do we think that the journalistic talk of Tokyo has been at all an accurate echo of political discussions in Sōul. In fact, it is difficult to detect any grains of truth in the assertion that the employment of the Russian drill instructors remained for a long time in abeyance. Their engagement was an accomplished fact before the signature of the Lobanow-Yamagata Convention, and when they arrived in Sōul a few months ago, not the slightest doubt can have existed that their services would be utilized in the manner originally agreed upon. If we speak of the Lobanow-Yamagata Convention in this context it is not because we ascribe to that singular document any validity for the purposes of such a discussion. The Lobanow-Yamagata Convention does not seem to us to be worth much more than the paper on which it is inscribed. Either Japan or Russia could drive a coach and four through it without disturbing its provisions perceptibly. But Japanese journalists have been pleased to attach much value to its spirit at any rate, if not to its letter, and have been content to think that a special conference with the present Russian Representative in Tokyo must precede the employment of Russian drill instructors by Korea. That misconception is now pretty thoroughly dis-

pelled. From the moment that Russian officers and non-commissioned officers arrived in Sōul, there was not the remotest chance of their going home again, *re infecta*. But Japan may regard their doings with equanimity. The Koreans will tire of them as they have tired of everything that makes for public order and the discouragement of intrigue and corruption.

Consul-General Jordan's report of Korean trade shows the following figures for the total trade of each year during the past five:—

Year.	Dollars.
1892	9,669,400
1893	7,986,840
1894	11,057,891
1895	12,884,232
1896	12,842,509

Speaking of Exports, the Consul-General says:—

It is barely ten years since the Korean farmer first realized that his surplus stock of beans, instead of being allowed to decompose, could be shipped with profit to a foreign country, and as there is still no lack of waste land suitable for the cultivation of the plant, the only limit to the supply will be the demand in Japan, where the land formerly devoted to bean cultivation is, it is said, being gradually utilized for more profitable crops. Contrasted with Chinese husbandry, Korean tillage is carried on in a careless and haphazard fashion, and hill sides which in China would be terraced with cultivation, are in Korea allowed to run waste. Beans flourish on poor soil, but the question of transport naturally militates against their extended cultivation in parts remote from waterways. It is, however, as a rice growing country that Korea is taking rank amongst the grain producing nations of the East, and becoming to a large extent the granary of Japan. Last year's export of the article was considerably over 250,000 sterling, and represented more than half of the total export trade of the country. In addition to the abnormal Japanese demand, there are other and more permanent causes which contributed to this expansion. One of the salutary changes recently introduced is that the land tax is to be paid in money and no longer in kind, and, as a result, the grain which was formerly diverted from the ordinary channels of trade by being conveyed to Sōul, is now released for export abroad. Another impetus to the trade is the establishment, under American and Japanese auspices, of steam mills with machinery and appliances for cleaning and hulling the rice.

A professed teacher of Christianity in Chemulpo, named Kang Dosa, was found eloping with another's man's wife a short time ago. He received a flogging at the police court.

Steps are being taken to organize the customs at Mokpo. Mr. W. Armour, who has been for several years in the customs service in China and Korea, will be in charge of the Mokpo office.

A Fusan correspondent of the *Independent* confirms the statement that the Russians have established a coaling station on Deer Island. He says that a Russian gunboat arrived there at the beginning of September, and "took as much land as they wanted," but how it was taken the correspondent does not explain.

In ante-bellum days one of the curious institutions in Korea was a "Peddlers' Guild," consisting of some 30,000 members, whose chief occupations are understood to have been the robbing of farmers and the stirring up of rebellion. One of the first reform measures adopted, when reform derived some vitality from Japanese influence, was the abolition of the Guild. It has now been resuscitated by order of the Home Department. However, there seems to be a difference of opinion in official circles, for on the very same day that the Home Department notified Governors of provinces to re-organise the Guild, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce notified them to prevent anything of the kind.

Concerning the drill operations of the Russian instructors, this is the latest:—"The War Office ordered the five regiments last Tuesday (Sept 25th) to select two hundred men from each regiment, making in all one thousand men, and send them to the drill ground before the

Kyengbok Palace every day to be drilled. The men will be selected in a few days and it is reported that this new regiment will ultimately be made the 2nd regiment of the Royal Body Guards."

CHINESE NOTES.

It is reported that a German mining engineer has found a rich mineral deposit—the name of the mineral is not mentioned—at Paimio in Tientsin prefecture; that a considerable sum of capital has been subscribed to develop the mine, and that the finder has proceeded to Germany to buy machinery.

Hunan, generally spoken of as the most conservative part of China, is now distinguished by having an electric light company in its capital, Changsha. The Governor's *yamen* has incandescent lamps, and there is a 2,000 candle "moon" at the gate. The charges are high, however. They vary from 750 to 25,000 cash per month for all night lamps.

Heavy rains at the beginning of September injured a large portion of the foundations of the Shihmên bridge on the Tientsin-Shanhaikuan Railway, but Mr. Kinder, with a big force of navies repaired the damage in 24 hours.

For purposes of future reference it may be well to note that the Tientsin-Peking Railway is called the Tsin-lu line, in China; the Tientsin-Shanhaikuan Railway, the Tsin-Yü; and the Railway to be made beyond the Great Wall into Manchuria, the Kuan-Wai.

Mr. Wellesly Parker, the gentleman who recently visited this settlement with his scheme of an "Artistic Yokohama," is now in Shanghai, where he has had the fine assurance to announce that he received in Japan "the special assistance of the Japanese Government and the gentlemen representing Great Britain, the United States, France and Germany." It is a dangerous thing to give an inch to a gentleman of Mr. Wellesly Parker's methods. The Shanghai residents may be interested to learn that Mr. Wellesly Parker did not receive the special assistance of the Japanese Government or of any of the Representatives referred to.

We take the following from the *N.-C. Dai'y News* of Sept. 20th:—

On Saturday (Sept. 18th) Mr. Frosell, the agent of the Jameson-Hooley syndicate, absolutely settled with H.K. Sheng the loan for £16,000,000 on the conditions previously arranged in Peking, except that the discount is to be £94 instead of £95. The contract as drawn up by Mr. Platt, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, is business-like and satisfactory for both sides, and the security given is considered ample. The sum of £9,000,000 is all ready in London to be handed over to the representative of the Chinese Government, and the balance will be paid before the 20th of December next. Mr. Frosell has secured the construction and financing of the railway that is to run from Shanghai through Soochow to Nanking, and the ultimate extension to Honan, besides the line from Soochow to Hangchow, and there are prospects that this will include, conjointly with the Chinese Government, the exploitation and development of coal deposits which are known to exist in Honan. It is expected that Major J. Eustace Jameson, M.P., will arrive in China early next year accompanied by a staff of English engineers to survey the country, and arrange all the details for properly carrying out the whole scheme in which the syndicate is interested. Mr. Frosell and his Secretary, Mr. T. Arnold, with Mr. Platt, leave for Peking tonight in the steamer *Amping*, which has been placed at their disposal by H.E. Sheng. They will be accompanied by Mr. Chu Pao-fay, the Chief Secretary of Railways, who has been closely connected with the negotiations throughout, and who proceeds to Peking at the special request of Li Hung-chang and Weng Tung-ho, for the final ratification and the Imperial edict approving of the loan. When at Peking Mr. Frosell will at once deposit the sum of £100,000 with the Government as a guarantee for the observance of the various payments as agreed at the due dates. Mr. Frosell, and all concerned with him in negotiating this loan, may be sincerely congratulated on com-

pleting a most important business transaction with the Chinese High Authorities with a celerity that is perfectly marvellous considering the usual methods of this country.

"According to a letter received from a correspondent at Kirin," says the *N.-C. Daily News*, "a telegram had been received by the Governor-General from Vladivostok under date of the 1st instant, advising that the construction of the Chinese Eastern Railway, section 761, was officially commenced on the 28th of August in Chinese territory near Poltava, to the westward of Vladivostok, in the presence of the Russian Governor-General Soubtasch and Chinese Mandarin Tai, and other Russian and Chinese officials. According to the latest plans the railway will not touch Kirin, as apparently it is not the object of the Russians to open up Manchuria, but to find a convenient terminus for their line. The name given to the line—the Chinese Eastern Railway—means nothing at all, and to all intents and purposes it is the Russian Manchuria Railway, and will probably be generally known by that denomination."

The magistrates of Hengchon in Hunan, at the instance of a Chinese evangelist, Mr. Peng, have issued another proclamation calling upon the people to welcome foreigners. The document dwells strongly on the fact that any display of rudeness or violence towards foreigners is in reality a display of disloyalty towards the Emperor, who has ordered that they shall be treated hospitably and kindly. There is one clause in the proclamation that would be very useful in Japan also:—"Young boys and children also should be taught and kept within bounds by their parents and elder brothers, for the former have often been the cause of many riots. Boys and children are in future to be prohibited from collecting in crowds and following at the tail of the foreigners, making great noise and displaying unruly antics as they have hitherto done."

The Empress of China has again refused the Emperor's proposal for a grand celebration of her 63rd birthday, but has consented to a partial decoration of Eho Park next November. Her Majesty's ground for refusing is that the State is not sufficiently prosperous to allow such expenditures.

In spite of official denials recently made, it appears certain that a lad of eleven years of age is held prisoner in Soochow for accidentally killing his mother, and that he will probably be beheaded.

"A sad accident," writes the Nanking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, "occurred in the fort on the Mofushan hill, east of the steamer-landing on the 21st of September. Gunner Schneitz, who has been the Instructor in this fort for more than two years, was attempting to use the large forty-pound cannon in rainy weather as a drill for his men. The electric fuse for some reason held fire and Mr. Schneitz opened the breach to examine the cause. He attempted to rub the end of the shell to brighten it so as to allow the electric current to pass freely, when suddenly the cannon exploded. It is thought that in some way he must have formed a complete circuit for the electric current through his body and thus have set the cannon off. The poor man's body was fearfully mangled, one side being completely torn away and the neck broken by the shock. Dr. Beebe was called by the official in charge, Captain Fung Kuo-ze, and prepared the body for burial. Mr. Schneitz had lived alone on the hill, which is quite a distance from the city, so that he was rarely seen by the residents here. It is not known that he has any living relatives, but a friend of his from Chinkiang has been telegraphed for to attend his burial. Mr. Schneitz was a German by birth but had served his time in the American Navy, so that it is not yet known in which country he claimed his nationality."

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We have received a cheque for *yen* 10 from Mrs. J. Gooderham, which she wishes us to transmit to the Rev. James Petee to be applied to the rescue of the woman of whom he wrote to us last month.

Mr. Sloan, son of Dr. Sloan, of Shanghai, is reported by the Canadian Press to have made a haul of \$50,000 gold dollars at Klondyke. Mr. Craig, brother of Mr. H. J. Craig, of the Sun Life Insurance Company of Canada, at Shanghai, has sold one-half of his land in Klondyke, for \$80,000.

The steamer *Tokai Maru* of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha presented a report to the Yokohama Water-Police on the 4th inst. to the effect that while she was on the way from Yokkaichi to Yokohama on the 30th ult. about 3 p.m. she sighted the wreck of a schooner drifting about off Oshima near Izu Peninsula.

Training is proceeding in a most business-like way at the race-course, and considering the bad weather experienced throughout last month, the ponies are looking fit. Some good racing may be anticipated. Two ladies were among the company that rode up to the course this morning to view the proceedings.

A coolie at Kandal, India, whose wife gave birth to triplets the other day, went to the Municipal Office in tears to give information of the fact, stating that he was at a loss to know how to feed them on Rs. 5 a month. A day or two later, he announced, with a smile, the glad tidings that all the three children had died.

The Solicitor General of Ceylon sent in a very short annual report, pleading Jubilee duties for its brevity. The Government has given him another month to complete it, seconding him for that purpose. A Ceylon contemporary says "the seconding of an officer for the purpose of writing his own report—that is of doing his duty—is a new procedure. But what about the salary?"

The natural operation of the law of supply and demand has wrecked one market in India. The Government placed a price on snakes, and the untutored Indian forthwith set himself to meet the demand by breeding snakes in earthen pots and producing them when they reached marketable size. The Government has now withdrawn the reward, and a promising Indian industry is ruined.

On the 9th Sept. an American gentleman named Mr. Carroll, who had arrived from Japan and Hongkong by the *Kaiser-I-Hind* on the previous day, fell over a balcony in the Grand Oriental Hotel at Colombo, and fractured his right leg in several places. The limb was amputated at the knee. Mr. Carroll, who is only 25 years of age, was on a pleasure trip round the world. It is believed he was walking in his sleep when the accident occurred.

Between 11 and 12 o'clock last night fire broke out on board a lighter owned by Messrs. Helm Bros., which was lying outside the English hatoba, loaded with cases of alcohol. A gang of *sendoes* and coolies very soon got the burning craft into an isolated position just inside the entrance of the hatoba, where a plentiful supply of water soon extinguished the flames. The lighter itself, a craft of 30 or 40 tons, received little damage, but most of the cargo was destroyed or damaged.

We are informed by the local Agent of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China that he has received telegraphic advice from the Head Office of the Bank in London to the effect that at the approaching meeting of shareholders of this Bank, the Directors will recommend a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum free of income tax.

The N.P. steamer *Columbia* left Kobe last Wednesday for Nagasaki, says the *Higo News*, and encountered the storm that reached Kobe the

same night. In the midst of the heavy gale the interesting event of a birth occurred on board—the new arrival being a girl. Dr. Field paid mother and daughter assiduous attention, and both are doing remarkably well. In honour of the unusual occurrence and in memory of the kindness shown to her the lady has promised to bestow the name of Columbia upon the baby.

The German colony at St. Petersburg has decided to erect a home for aged people as a memorial of the recent visit of the Kaiser in that city. The Home is to provide comfortable rooms for forty persons.

The German commercial Commission lately touring through China have reported at home that there are now 99 German firms engaged in commerce in the Middle Kingdom, who have 870 men from the Fatherland in their service. German merchants are steadily pushing their interests in the big empire.

News comes from Lombok, says the *Strait Times*, that Mr. Van der Hout, the Dutch Controller at the village of Sisela, has been murdered by insurgents. Another Controller was wounded. The Resident called troops out, and summoned the insurgents to surrender. On their refusal, the village was stormed and burned. Twenty-five of the insurgents fell. The Dutch loss came to one killed and three wounded. The cause of the rising is not known.

In the United States Consular Court, on Tuesday, John MacDonald was charged by the Japanese police, before J. F. Gowey Esq., Consul-General and Judge, with being drunk and disorderly in the public streets on the 1st inst. Accused, who, it was reported was a deserter from the U.S.S. *Boston*, was convicted and sentenced to 30 days' imprisonment and a fine of \$5 and costs, and an order was made by the Court that the U.S. Naval Authorities be informed of the fact of the prisoner's desertion.

The body of a *sendo* named Matsumoto Rinzo was picked out of the water near the English hatoba early on Monday morning. Upon enquiries being instituted by the police it was discovered that the deceased had been employed on the lighter belonging to Messrs. Helm Bros. on which the fire occurred on Friday night. It appeared that the man had been drinking freely from one of the tins of alcohol on board the lighter and had in some way set fire to the cargo, whereupon he had taken to the water and been drowned.

The efforts of the Rev. T. H. Le Bœuf, rector of Croyland, near Peterborough, in connection with the preservation of Croyland Abbey, familiar to readers of Charles Kingsley, are meeting with deserved success. The new east end of the Abbey Church is well-nigh completed, and Holy Communion has been administered therein. In an appeal which the rector makes on behalf of the ancient Abbey Church, the fact is recalled that it was on St. Bartholomew's Day, 699 A.D., that St. Guthlac landed on Croyland Isle, nearly 1,200 years ago.

The *China Mail* is sorry to hear that a considerable amount of sickness has occurred amongst the crew of H.M.S. *Undaunted* during the past month or more, and that at present the number of fever cases is abnormal. It was unfortunate that a new crew should have been brought out to endure a Hongkong summer during the re-fitting for the new commission, and it would be astonishing if the men escaped fever after going between the *Tamar* and the *Undaunted* in an open boat without an awning every day at tiffin time. The *Undaunted* will not be sorry when their ship is ready for sea.

The Kobe Eleven that is to meet Yokohama next week in the Annual Interport Match will probably consist of Messrs. W. D. S. Edwards, J. Scrymgeour, F. E. Barto, M. B. Godrij, S. E. Lucas, W. Braess, G. Braess, Matt. Smith, R. E. Gill, G. C. Pakenham, and A. L. Robinson (or Buckley). The names of at least three well-known players, the *Kobe Herald* says, will be missed from this list, but their absence is unavoidable owing to business engagements,

etc. Most of the team will probably go up by the *Peru* on Friday, and the remainder by train on Sunday morning.

It is stated in German papers just to hand that Prince Bismarck, when asked by visitors for his autograph, presents them with a chip of wood fashioned like a visiting card upon which is written, "Zur Erinnerung an den 5th August, 1897, von Bismarck." The wood comes from the Prince's forest, the Sachsenwald.

Mr. Samuel Bryant Rowe, architect and surveyor of Kobe, having been declared bankrupt by the official receiver, Mr. Hobart Hampden, appeared in the British Consular Court at Kobe on the 4th inst., to undergo his public examination before Mr. J. C. Hall, sitting as Registrar. The official receiver stated that practically Mr. Rowe appeared to be a cypher in his family, Mrs. Rowe accepting liability for his debts. In the course of his examination the debtor stated that he had no creditors before the award in the recent arbitration case was made. He said he had neither sold nor given away any of his property in order to defraud creditors; he had handed everything over to the Official Receiver. His assets he set down as \$107.87. He attributed his insolvency solely to the arbitration award, which charged him with certain debts of which he had had no previous knowledge. The items having reference to the award in the list of debts were arrears of salary due to Miss A. E. Sowter and Miss E. Sowter; sundry items expended in Melbourne and the voyage to Japan; \$800 charged for his board and lodging at the Kobe High School; \$1,140 for the board and lodging of his children for twenty months; and the costs of Mr. Skinner and Mr. Crosse. The debtor stated his liabilities to be \$2,700. He had no property in Japan and had only acquired \$125 since his arrival in March 1895, as payment for drawings for the German Club premises. He did not own any of the furniture in the Kobe High School, and was not a partner in the school. The rent and outgoings of his own office were paid by Mrs. Rowe. He was now living in a house which was taken in his daughter's name. She was a few months under age, but though he was her natural guardian, he would not think of enforcing any control over her. She was running the school on a small capital which she brought from England with her. The examination was eventually adjourned until the public examination of Mrs. Rowe.

A BOMB ON THE TOKYO TRAMWAY.

At 7 o'clock on the evening of the 3rd inst., as a tram-car was proceeding towards Ueno from Hirokoji, the wheels passed over a small object in Nakacho, and a violent explosion immediately occurred. The car was filled with smoke, and for a moment much alarm was felt, but it was found that happily no one had been injured. Investigation showed that three little tin cylinders had been placed on the line, and on being submitted to an expert, they were pronounced to be signal detonators, for use on a railway to warn the driver of a train that danger was ahead. No such detonators have ever been employed in Japan, but it seems a reasonable supposition that they must have been in the possession of some one connected with railways. As yet no clue to the perpetrator of such a mischievous practical joke has been discovered.

MR. AKIYAMA.

Mr. Akiyama, Counsellor of the Foreign Office, who recently attempted to take his life, is now declared to be out of danger. The cause of the rash act remains a mystery. It is known that Mr. Akiyama wrote a short statement of his reasons, and that the document is now in the possession of his family, but its contents are kept secret. The general impression is that some comparatively trifling incident presented itself in an exaggerated aspect to Mr. Akiyama's mind.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND ROMAN CATHOLICISM."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—It is through no discourtesy to Mr. Pettier that my reply to his letter of the 13th has been so long delayed. I did not see the paper in which it appears till this moment. He is inclined to think that I am "of a kind of upside-down turn of mind." Very well. I am now with the down side up. I have said in my tract that the ingenious interpretations Romans give (in pressing circumstances) to the dogmatical tenets of their church often blind the mind to the true inwardness of their meaning. Mr. Pettier's letter is an illustration in point; but I shall show that when his perambulations are ended and their gauze of sophistry is removed, he appears at the very point where he don't like just now to appear.

I should remark right here that not a single quotation I have made, not a single argument or reasoning I have presented in my tract, has been set forth by him and denied. Then what has he been writing for? I have called on him, as well as on the invincible *A. Wac*, to state if he believed the quotation I made from Pope Pius. But instead of meeting the issue briefly and fairly, as he should have done, he has chosen to write two columns of Brevier. But he says he does assent to it, "in the sense meant by the Catholic Church."

The question of the Pope's supremacy over the civil law in case of conflict ("mixed questions"), is based on the doctrines of the Pope's infallibility. This is the clear import of Mr. Pettier's contention. It is the clear teaching of Cardinal Manning. Upon the discussion of this utterly unscriptural dogma I will not now enter,—except to refer to Mr. Pettier's statement which involves a point in regard to it. In referring to the other gentleman's question, "Is the Pope supreme?" under another form, and his reference to the "Syllabus of Errors," Mr. Pettier says he assents to it "in the sense meant by the Catholic Church." Now what is that sense? The Pope, the only infallible teacher on earth (!), has never said what it means. For example:—

"In the case of conflicting laws between the two powers (State and Hierarchy), the civil law ought to prevail."

Now this, according to Pius IX, is an error. Papists must not believe such a thing. I say that the statement would cover the civil decree for the demolishing of a Roman Cathedral for the purpose of erecting a Government school. It might not be the wish of the congregation to move out of the building. The Pope's voice must be heard in the matter, just as it was heard a few years ago in France on a similar matter. Suppose Mr. Pettier denies that my case is covered by the "Syllabus." He is fallible: so am I. But the "Syllabus" is an infallible utterance. Mr. Pettier says he accepts in the sense the Pope intended; and further says that my case is not relevant to the "Syllabus." But as the infallible Pope has not revealed the sense or scope of the error, and Mr. Pettier is just as fallible as I am, who on earth can decide between us? And suppose we leave the matter to the infallible Pope. We are no better off; for his second infallible dogma may be just as incapable of comprehension as the first.

Surely Mr. Pettier must see that in any case the final action of the individual is made to rest on how *he himself* understands the Pope's utterances. And as every communication to the human mind must filter in through the weakness and corruption of mental faculties, the infallible Pope's utterances are rendered exceedingly fallible by the time they reach the citadel of human responsibility. I close this reference with a quotation from my pamphlet:—

"This is one dogma which is declared in unequivocal language. The Pope, when speaking *ex cathedra*, on faith and morals [75 per cent. of our actions, according to the Matthew Arnold, belongs to morals] is incapable of error; and his teachings are irreformable; and should any presume to deny this dogma, he is cursed."

"What does this *ex cathedra* mean? No accepted definition has ever been given; and until it is decided by the Pope what it is, no one can ever know exactly; for there are several theories knocked about among Romish theologians. But the Pope's definition of it can only be infallible and accepted when he speaks *ex cathedra*. So he is left to his fallible and reformable private decision in defining when he shall speak infallibly. But it has been decided that no document the Pope issues shall be valid without his seal; hence, herein, in the Pope's person, must rest the secret of *ex cathedra*. The seal remains under his lock and key."

If this absurd doctrine (absurd because *infallible* Pope has contradicted *infallible* Pope) and utterly unscriptural, is not a prostitution of the human mind, what is it? But enough for the present.

Let us look now at Mr. Pettier's interpretation of the scripture, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's." Reasoning upon this, he concludes that the spheres of the civil and religious authority are distinct, and that they have no right to trespass upon each other. "Each of these two powers is, in its own sphere, equally independent, equally supreme. No one can interfere with the other's affairs." Correct if you mean the church we read about in the New Testament; but not according to the highest Papal authority, if you mean by "church" the Roman Hierarchy. This I will now show. Mr. Pettier here makes a clear issue, but quotes only two and rather obscure, Papal authors,—Cardinal Tarquini and Pope S. Gelase. The point which he wishes to establish by these authorities is that the Church (the Hierarchy mark you: there is no other church!) has absolutely nothing to do in merely temporal affairs. He prefaces this point with the above quotation of Scripture, and concludes:—"It is not true, therefore, that the Church is antagonistic to the State and shows a tendency to encroach on the civil power."

Here I join issue with Mr. Pettier, and take him likewise to a passage of Scripture and the Papal interpretation thereof. The proof text on which Papists base the claim to civil authority is not the one quoted by Mr. Pettier, but the following: "And they said, Lord, behold, here are two swords" (Luke XXII. 38). A later infallible (?) Pope, Boniface VIII., 1295, in his famous Bull to Philip of France interprets that text as follows:—

"The apostles said: 'Here are two swords,' and the Lord did not answer: 'There are too many,' but 'It is enough.' He who denies that the civic sword (civil authority: the Pope at that time was head of a civil government in reality) is in the hand of Peter, disregards the word of the Lord: 'Put away thy sword.' Both swords are given to the Church, the spiritual and the civic. One is drawn for the Church, the other by the Church. The one is in the hands of the Priests, the other in the hands of the Kings and warriors; but the latter may use it only according to the will of the priests and only as long as the priests permit it."

March up Mr. Pettier, and tell us if this is infallible. What does it mean? Please attribute to your opponents intelligence enough to understand plain language. Show us wherein the above is not encroachment upon civil power? It appears that in the Hierarchy there are two sets of priests, one to affirm a Papal dogma, the other to deny it when circumstances compel. In fact in this way lying is permitted by the Romish Church. Does not Mr. Pettier know that the Popes have time and again encroached upon the civil power by depositions and absolutions. For example, Robert II, of France, the two Napoleons, Victor Emmanuel, and others. And look, sir, at Papal Ecuador to-day, where a Protestant, simply because of his religion, is not considered a citizen. And now, here in the light of the civilization of this century, if Rome never changes, the Emperor of Japan would be deposed and his subjects absolved from their allegiance, if the Papacy had the ascendancy in this country.

Mr. Pettier's statement that the Papacy is not antagonistic to the civil government is untrue, judged by the highest Papal dogma and by the world's history in which Rome has figured. Further, in what he calls "mixed questions," where the State and Church conflict, he comes squarely out and says that the civil power must yield. These "mixed questions" pertain to "temporal matters." In sustaining this point he quotes Acts. VI. 29, "we must obey God rather than man," and applies it to a conflict between civil authority and one's religious duty. The text does not refer to civil authority at all. His interpretation is a Papal perversion of a plain text. The conflict existed between religious duty of the Christians on one side and the religious traditions of the Jews embodied in the Sanhedrim before whom the disciples were brought. Is Mr. Pettier so ignorant as not to know that the civil government was in the hands of the Roman rulers? The Imperial Government relegated the jurisdiction of religious questions to the Jewish Sanhedrim. In the case of Gallio, Acts XVIII. 15. And when the disciples said, "we must obey God rather than men," they meant that they must obey the divine, infallible word of God rather than the religious traditions and perversions and dogmas of man of sin. (see Thesis). Another author called in to bear up Mr. Pettier's sinking craft is the "great American philosopher

Brownson" (Catholic?). The gist of this "great American philosopher's" argument is, that in case a civil law is thought to be unjust, as the presumption is in favour of the law and as the individual citizen cannot on his own private authority disobey, and as neither he nor the State can decide the matter, it must be decided by an authority higher than either the individual subject or the State. The Scriptures cannot decide if interpreted by the individual. Therefore the Romish Hierarchy must be superior and decide. This is the exact meaning of the "great American philosopher's" profound logic, and the keystone to it is that the individual has no right to think for himself ("Private judgment, which gives everyone the right to think for himself.") A baser, more dangerous principle, was never formulated; but such is Rome. Look at the "great American philosopher" again. "Who is to determine whether the law is just or unjust," says the "philosopher?" Who even at first suspected that it was unjust? It was the individual in the God-given right to exercise his reason and judgment (1 Cor. i: 10, 1 Pet. iii: 15, addressed to the individual disciple. See the whole N.T.) And even when the Pope decides a matter, it is still an individual decision, supplemented by a non-scriptural presumption that he is infallible.

Again, since this is a "mixed question" in which the powers are at variance, part pertains to the State and part to the Church. And since, according to Mr. Pettier's bold and popular declaration, one power cannot trespass upon the other, it would turn out that in a "mixed question" neither the State nor the Church could decide! Then who on earth can decide? When the devious paths of the Papacy are followed out they lead to self-annihilation.

In closing, I wish to state that when Mr. Pettier says that "the Church (has) absolutely nothing to do in the merely temporal affairs," he endorses the following error condemned by Pius IX: "The Church has not the power of availing herself of force, or any direct or indirect temporal power." And this dogma of the right to temporal power is in direct violation of the Saviour's words not to resist evil.

In submitting to the Church of Rome, you submit to a despotism which is condemned by the word of God, which has dyed the pages of history with the blood of our fellowmen, which has ever stood in the way of the advance of civilization, and is a constant menace to the peace and safety of civil society.

Very truly,
E. SNODGRASS.
Kanazawa, Sept. 24, 1897.

P.S.—Those German Protestants who have spoken so grandly in behalf of Romanism—will Mr. Pettier please tell us who they are, and quote a little more of the context? This quoting of Protestants in defence of the most absurd dogmas of Romanism reminds me of a similar feat a few years ago in which a Papal priest quoted Macaulay in defence of the Hierarchy. He thought nobody was acquainted with Macaulay; but when the context was presented by his opponent the priest was never more heard from. Now I do not believe that any German Protestant has ever said what Mr. Pettier represents him as saying. This is not charging Mr. Pettier with wilful falsifying. In some way he is simply mistaken. I emphatically dissent from the teaching of these German Protestants; but reserve what I have to say to another time.—E.S.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me to select of the materials at hand a few pieces—which, being all official documents, may serve to illustrate the principal position of the Roman Catholic Church as against the authority of the State.

Pope Urban II. (1099), states, that to kill a man who is excommunicated by the Church, is not to be considered as murder.—This principle, which I can not call otherwise than horrid, was embodied in the canonical law: Decret. Grat. c. 4. f. C. XXIII. 9, 5.—Innocentius IV. declared in the *Bulla ad extirpanda* (May 15th, 1243), that everybody may take possession of the whole property of a heretic, and that the sons and grandsons of heretics can not serve in a public office. I challenge my opponent to give a clear answer to the following question:—Is it also in such cases, that the secular government has to yield to the decisions of the Church, as given by the infallible popes? And in order that he may not escape by saying that I refer to things 800 or 600 years old, I shall quote a few sayings of Popes of the 19th century, which absolutely forbid every public tolerance of heretics. Pope Pius VII., in a note to his nuncio in Vienna, 1805, repeats the commandments of Innocentius III., that the property of heretics must be sold by public auction, and says: "To-day the

circumstances are so humiliating for the Roman Catholic Church, that she cannot apply those most sacred principles against the rebellious enemies of the true faith." Pope Pius IX. writes in a Breve to the Archbishop of Toledo, March 4th, 1876:—"Once more we protest against the tolerance of non-catholic worship becoming legal. We protest against it as against a violation of the truth and the right of the Roman Catholic Church." In the *Allocutions Aderbissimum*, Sept. 28th, 1852, and *Nemo vestrum*, July 26th, 1855, he solemnly declared "the Roman Catholic Religion is solely entitled to be the religion of State."—I ask what becomes of the religious liberty, as granted in the constitutions of civilized states, if in this question the Roman Pope has absolute authority to decide what is right and what is not?

The *Inquisition*—This tribunal, through the decisions of which thousands and ten thousands of heretics have been burned to death, was instituted in its present form by Pope Sixtus V. (1590). And when Martin Luther in his 34th thesis wrote:—"To burn these heretics is against the will of the Holy Ghost," this proposition, which will appeal to everyone, except a fanatic Roman Catholic, the most natural expression of the spirit of the religion of love, was condemned by Pope Leo X. in his *Bulla Exsurge Domine*, May 16th, 1520, as heretical, i.e. as unchristian. What can this mean, except that an infallible pope has declared:—"To burn heretics alive is a practice fully in harmony with Christian principle!" And it is a bishop of the Roman Catholic Church himself, a better test than the four protestants, quoted by my opponent, who will appear a little strange to most readers—Bishop Neefe of Rottenburg, who after having opposed the promulgation of the dogma of infallibility, afterwards *landabiler se subject*, but nevertheless writes in a letter of 3d Dec. 1870: "It is surely not the will of the hierarchy, which is wanting, if in our 19th century the burning stakes are not raised again" (see v. Schulte, *Der Altkatholicismus*, p. 225).

And what does my opponent say against the claims of the popes to interfere in the whole constitution of the States, claims which are so frequent in history? That Pope Pius IX. declared "null and void" such legitimately made laws as the *Maisgesse* in Prussia, 1875, and the *Staatsgrundgesse* in Austria, 1867, caused a most difficult position for every conscientious Roman Catholic citizen in these countries, for the very question was vexing them:—"Shall we obey our own constitution, law and emperor, or the Roman pope?" And the bold saying, that the world owes all liberty it possesses to the Roman Catholic Church, is it not excellently illustrated by the fact that the *magna charta*, to which Englishmen look as the origin of their freedom, was formally condemned by the Roman Pope? And more significant than everything else is the *Bulla Regnans in excelsis* of February 25th, 1570, in which Pope Pius V. solemnly declared the deposition of the Protestant Queen Elizabeth of England. His words are extremely characteristic. He says:—"Based upon the authority of God we declare, by apostolic power, that the heretic Elizabeth is deprived of the right which she has usurped over the country of England, deprived also of every possession, every dignity, every prerogative. And we also release for ever all her subjects of every duty of homage and obedience and we depose said Elizabeth of her usurped kingdom." Now this was said three hundred years ago; but how true the words of the Syllabus are, that the Roman Pope shall never be reconciled with the modern ideas, is clearly shown by a speech, made by Pius IX. on the 20th July, 1871, when he says: "The right to dethrone Kings and to release their subjects of their duty as subjects, though it does not spring from the infallibility of the Pope, springs from his authority." Hereby he repeated only what his predecessor Pius VII. has declared in a note to the meeting in Vienna, 1805: "The right of dethroning princes belongs to the most sacred rights of the Popes." The judgment on these declarations of the Popes, and the necessary consequence of them, I shall state in the words of the Roman Catholic Bishop Hepele, who says in his History of Synods (VI., 299):—"He who has the right to order things in a country, to destroy and to build, and to take care of its good administration, he is the real lord of that country."

These quotations will suffice to prove that the Popes claim for themselves the supreme authority not only in matters directly religious, but also in secular matters, like liberty of religion and right of a prince to his throne. I await the explanation of my opponent.

I remain, dear Sir, your obedient servant,
DR. MAX CHRISTLIEB.
Tokyo, Sept. 30th, 1897.

ANOTHER WORD ABOUT THE SYLLABUS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—How right I was to translate the syllabus from the negative into the affirmative form, i.e. to give, instead of the heretical doctrines, the orthodox doctrines, which it intends to teach, I must once more conclude from the criticism of "A Roman Catholic." Every reader of his "Word about the Syllabus" will most probably translate the Latin quotation as follows:—"The immunity of the church and of the clergy has its origin in the civil law," and wonder, what can be found of evil ideas in these harmless words. And if my "translation" is placed side by side with this original, it must appear as the work of either an ignorant or a wilful falsifier. But we must not forget that the "Syllabus" is a "Syllabus errorum prohibitorum," i.e. an "enumeration of the chief erroneous doctrines of the present time," as the official declaration of the Pope styles it. Thus the doctrine, that "the immunity of the church and of the clergy has its origin in the civil law," is declared to be erroneous and prohibited by the authority of the infallible Pope. "Immunity" means "exemption from the secular law." Now if this exemption had its origin in the civil law, i.e. if it were granted by the authority of the State only, it might legally be abolished again by another civil law, i.e. by the State, without the consent of the church. This origin from the civil law is denied in the Syllabus. But besides the civil law there is, according to the view of the Roman Catholic Church, no other law than the law of the church, i.e. the divine law. Therefore the meaning of the Pope can only be, that "the exemption of the clergy from the civil law," (which was the actual custom for a long time) "has its origin in the divine law," which is exactly what I gave as the meaning of the section in question. That my explanation is right, follows from section 31, which runs, literally translated, as follows: "The ecclesiastical tribunal for the secular litigation of the clergymen, whether civil or criminal, is to be abolished without asking the apostolic See and even against its protest." In my form of translation, as used in my former contribution, it would run: "All secular litigations of the clergy, whether civil or criminal, are to be dealt with not by the civil courts of law, but by special ecclesiastical ones," the meaning of which is again: "The church and its clergy are exempted from the secular law." I can only hope that my Roman Catholic opponent does not give a different explanation of the words of the Syllabus, for in this case he would be a heretic, and what punishments were prescribed for him he may read in my last contribution. I do not believe that "the interpretation of the Syllabus" is, for an orthodox Roman Catholic, "a matter of opinion." Let my opponent, however, give his explanation of section 30.

I remain, dear Sir, your obedient servant,
DR. M. CHRISTLIEB.
Tokyo, October 2nd, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With reference to the recent correspondence on the subject of Roman Catholicism and civil power, I desire to point out that the method of changing the negative expressions of the Syllabus into positive affirmations does not appear to be right. Accuracy of discussion does not sanction any departure from the text of a document quoted in evidence. If a quotation is made as such, it must be an exact quotation. The Syllabus may, of course, be translated, but its language should not be altered. Its interpretation may be a matter of opinion, but its terms may not be re-cast. That, in my opinion, is the only rule of loyal quotation.

If, instead of quoting accurately, you undertake to deduce the doctrines of Roman Catholicism from the doctrines that it denounces, your task is not performed merely by changing negatives into affirmatives or vice versa. Such a method is quite illogical and might lead to great mistakes.

Let me further appeal to scholars in the following instance among others:—The Syllabus says:—"Ecclesia et personarum ecclesiasticarum immunitas a jure civili ortum habuit." A Protestant Minister translates this:—"The Church and its Clergy are, by divine right, exempted from the secular law!"

The Syllabus is a weighty and succinct document, for the explanation of which superficial information does not suffice. The true Catholic doctrine about the civil power may easily be learned from either the authorized catechisms used in every country or from the Encyclic Letter of the Pope (*Immortale Dei*, Dec. 1885) which

treats precisely of this matter. I venture to ask why these clear documents are not quoted. Your readers can answer and judge for themselves.

Your obed. servant,

A ROMAN CATHOLIC.

(We are not acquainted with the Syllabus. But the most rudimentary knowledge of Latin suffices to show that the phrase quoted does not bear any such construction as that said to have been put upon it by a Protestant Minister. —E. J. M.)

JAPANESE NAVAL PROMOTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a note in your issue of the 25th ult. on the period of service entitling to promotion in the Japanese navy the English equivalents of the Japanese titles are given as Rear-Admiral; Captain, Second Captain, Post Captain; Commander, Lieutenant, and Sub-Lieutenant. The Japanese titles are not given but they probably are *Shojo*; *Taika*, *Chusa*, *Shosa*; *Taii*, *Chui*, and *Shoi*.

In a book published in 1890 by a Lieutenant in the English navy the ranks are given in the order Rear-Admiral, Commodore, Captain, Commander, Lieutenant (of 8 years seniority, distinguished by two broad stripes and one narrow stripe on the sleeve) Lieutenant, Sub-Lieutenant.

It seems to me that the rank of Commander must be omitted as having no equivalent in the Japanese navy. In the stripes on the sleeve ordered in the *Official Gazette* to be used when the new ranks of *Chusa* and *Chui* are established, there are none to correspond to the one broad stripe worn by the British Commodore. The new *Chusa* is to wear three broad stripes and one narrow stripe. To this there is no equivalent in the British navy, while the two stripes and a half worn by the British Lieutenant of 8 years seniority have no equivalent in the Japanese navy. The new *Chui* is to wear one stripe and a half, and this mark also has no equivalent in the British navy.

The Japanese *Taika* and *Shosa* have heretofore, in duties and in distinguishing marks, corresponded to the British Captain and Commander, and the new regulations make no changes in these respects. The same is true of *Taii* and *Shoi*, and Lieutenant and Sub-Lieutenant. The new *Chui* is nearer to *Shoi* than to *Taii*, he being the senior officer in the gun room. In a similar way the *Chusa* is rather a senior Commander than a Second Captain.

Requesting you to give some authoritative renderings of the nine ranks in the Japanese navy and also of the corresponding ranks in the army, I am, faithfully yours,
T.
October 2nd, 1897.

MY CITIZENSHIP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It was not my purpose to elicit comment nor "court publicity." It seems that "publicity" has rather "courted" me. My affair has been an open secret ever since my card was displayed before the public with a sneer. It has long since travelled all the way to the United States and China and has been talked of generally independent of my assistance. As is usually true in such cases, the story has not always been told correctly. It occurred to me that a brief statement through the *Mail*, leaving each to draw his own conclusion, might not be out of place. Since your editorial comments, however, I hope to be heard some further.

I have been surprised no little at the criticisms passed on my quotation from the scriptures. Some have impressed me as not even recognizing it as scripture at all. The Editor's reasoning on this point also is no little remarkable. He admits I had a perfect right to even oppose the Fourth of July celebration in question without its touching on my citizenship had not I appended the "rider," "our citizenship is in heaven," by which "it seems indisputable that I denied my American citizenship." I used the passage in the exact sense of the scriptures; if thereby I have denied my "American citizenship" it follows that millions of the American people, including Presidents, are not American citizens since they claim "our citizenship is in heaven." If the Editor's reasoning be correct, then every man who prays "Our Father who art in heaven" renounces his earthly father. Every Christian who calls a fellow Christian brother renounces his brothers in the flesh. There are six brothers of us born of a common mother. Suppose I should be asked by them to take part in what I considered would work evil against my Christian brothers. I could very properly offer as an objection that I belonged to a brotherhood of a more extended and spiritual kind, which relationship I could not imperil. But none could justly accuse me of renouncing connection with

my brothers in the flesh. Now there are a number of brother citizens in Japan born of a common mother country who have asked one of their number to engage in that which he conceives to be detrimental to another citizenship he holds of a more extended and spiritual kind. His contention is that he cannot imperil the spiritual relationship he sustains for the sake of gratifying that of the fleshly. But he who accuses him of thereby renouncing his American citizenship does him an injustice.

The only "embarrassing position" in which the Minister could have been placed was to have some possible doubt as to my citizenship. But I hastened in person to give the Minister a full, unsophisticated explanation "that no proper construction of my card can be made to mean that I have practically or otherwise renounced my citizenship." The Minister was convinced to the same affect and has so expressed himself more than once. What the Minister requested was that "you furnish some affirmation or some other evidence of your citizenship." I complied with the request and removed every doubt. Even in the mind of the Minister then, using the Editor's language, I am "as good an American citizen as any body else." The Oath of Allegiance therefore cannot be required of me without a violation of the law of equity. When all other citizens are marched up and are compelled to take the Oath before being granted a passport I shall not complain at being put to the same test, but so long as such is not the case I can but consider it as biased treatment.

Although some may not take my view of this particular case I am persuaded that few acquainted with the scriptures will accept the Editor's statement, that the Bible does not teach we should be "rigidly unbending" when it comes to a matter of conscience.

Most respectfully Yours,

J. M. MCALEB.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Yokohama Chess Club was held on Monday afternoon at Keit's Building. There were present Messrs. J. T. Griffin, in the chair, Fox, Thomas, Mendelson, Friedlander, Tennant, Unite and Ackmann.

The minutes of the last extraordinary meeting, and the report of the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer were taken as read, confirmed, and passed unanimously.

Two new members, Messrs. Ackmann and Richardson, proposed by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Griffin, were unanimously elected.

Mr. Griffin expressed his desire for a year's rest from the post of President of the Club, but on Mr. Fox expressing the great regret of the members at his resolution and persuading him to reconsider it, Mr. Griffin agreed to withdraw his resignation, and was unanimously re-elected to the Presidency.

On the proposal of Mr. Mendelson, seconded by Mr. Fox, Mr. Friedlander was elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and Messrs. Fox, Unite and Pollock were elected on the Committee.

It was stated that it was proposed to make arrangements with the new Oriental Hotel when finished, for a Club room, but for the present year unless better quarters offered, it was decided to avail themselves of the accommodation provided at Clausen's Hotel, where play would commence on Thursday next, the 7th inst.

The report was as follows:—

SEVENTH YEAR 1896-1897.—REPORT.

The session which ended 30th April, 1897 has not been satisfactory: and the lack of interest shown by the members has been lamentable. As in former years when we had no fighting to do, the Club seems to doff its armour and take its ease. The Committee earnestly hope that the coming session will show an improvement in this respect: that the members will attend regularly at the practice-meetings, so that when occasion arises to do battle for the honour of our Club we may not be found wanting.

The number of Members on the roll was 43, but from that figure must now be deducted some half dozen removals and resignations. We experienced a great loss in February by the departure of our energetic and enthusiastic Secretary (Mr. Davieson) who left Yokohama for Bakan during that month. Messrs. Batavus, Mowat and Wolheim have also removed to other scenes:—their places will be hard to fill.

The Treasurer's account is annexed—showing Balance in hand of \$154.09 with which to start the new season. The Club gear is sufficient for all purposes according to the present outlook.

The incoming Committee will have to consider the subject of a meeting place for the Club. In January we had to remove from the Club Hotel into temporary quarters at Clausen's Hotel, No. 66, Main Street. Some good and definite location should be found for the season 1897/1898.

An Extraordinary General Meeting was called by the President (at the request of 5 members as per Bye-laws) on 25th March: but the summons issued failed to draw a *quorum*. The meeting was therefore adjourned to 1st April when 11 members attended. The business on the summons was:— "To reorganise the Yokohama Chess Club. To elect fresh officers, and draw up new Rules." Some discussion took place, but the proposals found scant support: and finally, it was unanimously agreed to postpone all changes, until the opening of the present season.

The outgoing Officers and Committee accordingly place their resignations in the hands of the Members: with their best wishes for the future welfare of the Club.

JOHN GRIFFIN, (President.)

Secretary ad interim.

Yokohama, 30th September, 1897.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

1896.			
Oct. 1st,	To Balance in hand	...	\$139.81
1897.			
Jan. 31st,	Entrance fees (5)	...	9.00
" 31st,	Subscriptions (23)	...	138.00
Feb. 28th,	Sale of Chessmen	...	3.50
			\$180.71
1897.			
Feb. 28th,	By Rent Club Hotel	...	\$12.90
April 30th,	" Clausen Hotel	...	30.00
" 30th,	" Fire Insurance, (24 Dec.)	...	3.78
" 30th,	Subscriptions B.C.M.	...	6.00
" 30th,	Woodruff's fee	...	3.00
Sept. 30th,	Printing, etc.	...	40.60
" 30th,	Balance in hand	...	154.09
			\$180.71

JOHN GRIFFIN, (President.)

Treasurer ad interim.

Yokohama, Sept. 30th, 1897.

WILLIAM TO FELIX, GREETING.

Mon brave, my thoughts embrace you where you
wend,
Transfigured by a fine Imperial halo!
I, too, was lately with our mutual friend
At Krasnoe Selo.

And all the while my heart was full of you!
I felt your martial presence when reviewing;
It penetrated that superb tattoo
They kept tattooing.

The buoyant hunting (with designs, or plain),
The masts, the festive mottoes, breathed of Félix;
So did those paper garlands which in vain
The artless bee licks.

As I was riding down the bandsmen's line
In Russian uniform—a rather gay gear
The trumpets played that little thing of mine,
"The Song of Aegir."

The music seemed to melt me to the core,
So wild its beauty, I could hardly bear it;
"Ach, Gott!" I said, "if my beloved Faure
Were here to share it!"

The people as I passed them in the street
Gave to their rapture such a stangely glad vent;
I feared no voices would be left to greet
Your promised advent.

I bounded under many a banneret,
By columns brave with triple-coloured plaster,
Of you I still was thinking when I met
The Burgomaster.

He served me salt and bread—a happy thought;
And, as the evening papers rightly stated,
Of solid silver was the charger wrought;
Not simply plated.

I understood this excellent *menu*—
Ample, of course, for me, a modest eater—
Had been originally meant for you,
Which made it sweeter!

You speak the Russ? *Ich auch!* I used it there
For toasts, or when I overhauled a battery;
You, see, I initiated you, *mon cher*—
The truest flattery!

And when I told them what a peaceful joy
An armed alliance in these perilous days is,
I honestly endeavoured to employ
Your very phrases!

I would not take the wind from out your sail,
Nor wipe your eye (in vulgar sporting diction);
With you, such scandal never could avail
To work conviction!

No, no, *mein lieber Félix!* you and I
Are twins in worship of a common nation!
Might not a brother taste your pleasure by
Anticipation?

For me, apart from this, the treat was nil;
I know my Europe, long have been a ranger;
You never leave the only land that still
Counts me a stranger.
I search my travelling log, but fail to trace
That I have ever visited your city;
Our Friend the Czar informed me that the place
Is rather pretty.
No doubt your genial Paris much resents
A coolness that I mean to rectify, sir;
Kindly convey to her the compliments
Of William, Kaiser.
I'll shortly look you up, indeed I will;
You'll find I've got a most engaging temper;
Meanwhile, my honoured fellow Russophil,
Sis Felix semper!
—Morning Post.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

ANNEXATION.

London, Sept. 29.
A Canadian Government expedition has formally annexed Cumberland Sound in Baffin Land, to forestall its eventual seizure by the United States.

(The message in reference to the annexation of Cumberland Sound for fear of its ultimate seizure by the United States, is not clear. The Sound in question lies between the Cumberland and Hall peninsulas, on the south-east part of Baffin Land, British North America.)—Ed. J.T.

THE MOHMANDS.

The Mohmand campaign is over, the tribes having been thoroughly cowed, and General Elles is withdrawing his troops from the Mohmand country towards Peshawar.

October 2.

General Jeffrey's brigade has had a severe encounter with the Mohmands, who, in great force, stubbornly opposed his advance. General Jeffrey's brigade ultimately retired in good order. The casualties included Colonel O'Brien and Lieutenant Brown-Clayton killed, and Lieutenants Peacock and Isache severely wounded. In the British force three men were killed and fifteen wounded, and in the native seven killed and twenty-three wounded.

ATTEMPT ON THE CZAR'S LIFE.

London, Sept. 30.

It has transpired that the police frustrated a plot upon the Czar's life on his recent visit to Warsaw. It appears that a number of Socialists, of German nationality, had mined the principal street in Warsaw, but, fearing that a collapse of the roadway might follow before they could effect their object, engaged masons to erect supports. The masons informed the police of the circumstances, and 120 arrests speedily followed.

THE SPANISH CABINET.

London, Oct. 1.

The Spanish Cabinet has resigned, and Señor Sagasta has been summoned by the Queen-Regent to form a new Ministry.

NAVAL CASUALTY.

Two British torpedo-destroyers, the *Thrasher* and the *Lynx*, while under steam in a fog in the chops of the Channel, grounded near Falmouth. The steam-pipe of the *Thrasher* exploded after she got on shore, killing four stokers and injuring another. Both vessels were subsequently brought into harbour.

THE GERMAN NAVAL PROGRAMME.

The new German Naval Secretary has submitted the proposed naval programme covering the period to 1905, which for building new ships will involve an expenditure of twenty-one millions sterling, and this sum it is proposed to obtain by fresh taxation.

HOUSEHOLD TROOPS ON FOREIGN SERVICE.

A battalion of the Grenadier Guards has sailed for Gibraltar.

RESIGNATION OF M. RALLI.

October 2.

After a debate in the Chamber at Athens on the Treaty of Peace with Turkey, the Greek Government was defeated and M. Ralli has resigned.

THE UGANDA RAILWAY.

One hundred miles of the Uganda Railway have been completed.

[This railway, which is intended to connect Uganda with Mombas, a distance of about 600 miles, was only commenced in December, 1895. It was expected that the first section of 100 miles would have been ready for opening to traffic in June or July last, but considering the difficulties that have been reported from time to time, the chief engineer and his staff have done exceedingly well with the work so far as it at present goes. The gauge is one metre. A telegraph line is also in course of construction over the route selected for the railway.]

BRITISH REVENUE RETURNS.

The revenue returns for the quarter just closed show an increase of £688,000.

NEW GREEK CABINET.

London, Oct. 4.

A new Cabinet has been formed at Athens by M. Zaimis.

THE SOUDAN.

Kitchener Pasha (Major-General Sir Herbert Horatio Kitchener, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., A.D.C., Sirdar of the Egyptian Army), telegraphs that letters have arrived safely at Berber from Suakim which state that the whole of the Eastern Soudan tribes have renounced Mahdism.

YELLOW FEVER.

Yellow fever is raging at New Orleans DEFEAT OF KING MWANGA.

Advices have been received from Uganda of the defeat, after one hour and a half's fighting, of King Mwanga, with heavy loss on both sides. The rebellion is stated to be distinctly anti-European, and much alarm was felt at Mengo, which was left denuded of its defenders during the operations against Mwanga.

(It was generally supposed that Mwanga would give no further trouble, as so recently as August last when he headed an anti-British rebellion, he was defeated by a force under Major Tennant, the rebels scattered, and Mwanga himself fled into German territory, where it was said he would be detained. After that the British proclaimed Mwanga's son King under a regency.)

AN INDIAN ASSASSIN ARRESTED.

London, Oct. 5.

The murderer of (Mr. Commissioner) Rand and (Lieut.) Ayerst at Poona (on Jubilee Day) has been arrested, and has confessed to the crime.

ITALY IN AFRICA.

It has been semi-officially declared in Rome that, under any circumstances, the Italians will leave Kassala in December next.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

The Greek Government is sending Prince Navrocordato to Constantinople as delegate to negotiate the definitive peace arrangements.

MR. HOSHI'S RETURN.

Mr. Hoshi, our Minister at Washington, has sent the following telegram to the Foreign Office:—

Washington, Sept. 29.

Will leave for home on board the *Empress of India*, sailing from Vancouver on October 11th.

KOREAN TELEGRAMS.

Söul, Oct. 2.

All the Cabinet Ministers having tendered their resignations, the following

appointments are to be announced shortly:—Min Yöng-kyu, to be Minister of the Royal Household; Pak Chöng-yang, to be Minister of Finance; Cho Pyöng-chick, to be Minister of Education; and Min Chhông-mök, to be Minister of Foreign Affairs. The nominations of the other Ministers have not yet been settled. It is rumoured that the present Cabinet changes, being due entirely to the King's own will, are subject to the opposition of the Russian Minister.

Later.

Ye Chong-kön and Chöng Pak-yong have been appointed Ministers of War and of Agriculture and Commerce respectively, while Nan Chöng-Chhöl has been ordered to retain the portfolio of Home Affairs. Shin Sang-hun and Yi Yan-yung have been appointed Councillors of the Cabinet, and Han Chu-sul a Member of the Privy Council.

[The report of contemplated ministerial changes in the above telegram has been confirmed by official intelligence.—Ed. J.T.]

Söul, Oct. 2.

Sin Sun-tak, the Premier, accompanied by his subordinate officials, had an audience with the King yesterday, and presented a memorial with respect to the offering of the title of "Emperor" to the Sovereign. The same proceeding is also to be repeated to-day and to-morrow.

Söul, Oct. 2.

It is stated that M. de Speyer, the Russian Minister, was received in audience by the King yesterday, when some representations were made to His Majesty.

Söul, Oct. 3.

Mr. Li Koshun (?) has been appointed President of the Privy Council.

ENGLAND AND BIMETALLISM.

London, Oct. 5.

The *Times* says that the American Bimetallic Commissioners have again arrived in London, and intend to request the British Government to give a final and immediate reply to their proposals in regard to a Bimetallic Conference. The *Times* questions the wisdom of entering into negotiations at all on this subject, and asks is bimetallicism wise, seeing that it lies at the root of all these entanglements. It has been decided on behalf of Great Britain to answer in the negative, but if an affirmative answer be given in regard to the Indian Mints we shall place ourselves in a contradictory position, as the keys of both the British and Indian Mints are in the custody of Downing Street.

Sir William Barbour in a letter to *The Times*, attributes the maintenance of the present rate of exchange to exceptional circumstances, including the borrowing of large sums from England by the Indian Council and Indian railways. He states that before many years have passed a disastrous collapse is inevitable, and strongly urges that an international bimetallic agreement would be preferable to the continuation of the present situation.

RUMOURED WRECK OF THE "GOLDEN FLEECE."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hakodate, Oct. 7, 8.15 a.m.

The Russian gunboat *Koreets* arrived here yesterday from the Commander Islands, and brings news of the total wreck of the schooner *Golden Fleece*. The Captain and seven men are coming up in H.M.S. *Daphne*.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is meeting for the present at Clausen's Hotel, Main Street.

The Tokyo Chess Club now holds its meetings at No. 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Ichome (next to the Tokyo Club).

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. S. (N.Z.) Thanks, will return after perusal.

W. H. S.—Correctly reprinted, but will examine.

P. E. F. S.—Many thanks for problem. Re solution of No. 340 see above correspondent.

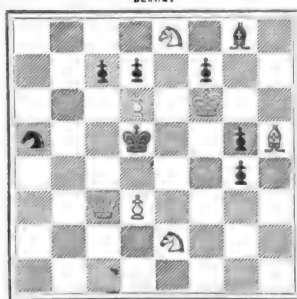
The following is the solution of Problem No. 339:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to B 4	1—R takes B P
2—Q to Kt 5, ch	2—K to K 5
3—Kt to Kt 5, mate	
1—P to B 4	1—K to K 5
2—Q to B 4, ch	2—K takes P
3—Kt to R 6, mate	
1—P to B 4	1—P takes P
2—Q to Kt 7, ch	2—K to B 5
3—Kt to K 5, mate, &c.	

Correct solutions received from W. H. S., P. E. F. S. and D. D.

PROBLEM NO. 341.

By EUSTACE KING, Christchurch, N. Z.



White to play and mate in two moves.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The annual meeting for the election of officers was held last Monday evening and passed off in the happy manner characteristic of all meetings presided over by Mr. J. T. Griffin. The President wished to be relieved of the cares of office this year, but the members would not hear of it, so to the satisfaction of all, Mr. Griffin remains at the head of affairs. He gave the Club some good advice when he urged members to get to work and have done with the dilatory methods of the last two years. Unless they kept a sharp look-out, he said, they would be caught napping and somebody would be giving them a good licking. He also informed the meeting that he had been trying to get up a contest with the Tokyo Club, on the latter's own terms, but so far without success.

The post of Secretary and Treasurer was given to Mr. Friedlander, while a new committee was elected consisting of Messrs. Fox, Pollak, and Unite.

On Thursday evening, members met for the first time this season to do battle over the chequered board and although not many turned up, owing to the exigencies of the outgoing mail, the few that were present enjoyed the play thoroughly. We were pleased to notice that no skittle games took place, on the contrary some remarkably good Chess was produced. Mr. Ackman, one of the new members, showed up well in two stubbornly fought games with Mr. Thomas, the result being one win each. Another good piece of work was the game between Mr. Pollak and Mr. Hodges, which, being unfinished at half past 7 o'clock, will be continued at the next meeting.

Mr. Griffin has resigned the Championship of the Club, which he has held for two years, in order to arouse a spirit of emulation among members by giving them something substantial to fight for. We understand that a general tourney will be arranged shortly which will afford members ample practice for the subsequent championship tourney. We think that this encounter should not be open to all and sundry as has been the case hitherto. A position in the ranks of the contestants for the Championship Cup should be regarded as a special

honour only to be gained by those qualified to challenge the champion. Would Lasker or Steinitz, or for the matter of that, any master who played in the Hastings Tourney, have entered, had the Match Committee accepted entries from all comers without distinction? We think not. There is no doubt that the reason why so many young players have come to the front of late is the system of competition in minor tourneys gradually leading up to the greatest of all—a Masters' Match. The spirit of emulation is thus aroused and men try their best to achieve good work. We think that this will be the case with the Y.C.C., and therefore look forward to a capital winter's work.

TOKYO CHESS CLUB.

The Metropolitan Club has changed its habitat. For the future meetings will be held at No. 3, Uchi-saiwai-cho, Ichome, next to the Tokyo Club. The following are the office-bearers for the current year:—President, Archdeacon Shaw; Secretary, Mr. W. B. Mason; Committee, Mr. T. J. Harrington and Rev. W. F. Madley.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNEY.

The following are the last moves received:—

Game	Move	White.	Move	Black.
4	19	R-K2	19	QR-Ksq
10	16	R-Bsq	15	B Q2

Since our last issue "Pakeha" has scored a win from "Nemo" in Game No. 3, which we publish below. The score is now as follows:—

PLAYER.	WON.	LOST.
Pakeha	3	.....
Olymp .....	.....	3½
Shepherd	1	.....
Nemo	2	.....
Fardel	1½	.....

"Pakeha" is leading with 3 wins out of a possible 4, and should win the prize unless "Fardel" comes off victor in both his games versus "Pakeha" and "Nemo" (No. 4 and 10). Another few days should decide the Tourney.

GAME NO. 3.

GIUOCO PIANO.

White—Pakeha.		Black—Nemo.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	17 Kt B3	Kt QB4
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	18 Kt xP	Kt (B4) xP (-)
3 B B4	B B4	19 P xKt	Q B4 ch
4 P QB3	Kt B3	20 Q Q4	Castles
5 P Q3(a)	P Q3	21 Q xQ	P xQ
6 B K3(b)	B Kt3	22 Kt xB	Kt xKt
7 Kt Q2	B Q2	23 Kt Q6	Kt Kt3
8 Kt B q	Q K2	24 B Kt3	R Q q
9 Kt Kt3	P KR3	25 P K5	R xKt
10 Kt Q2	Kt Q q(c)	26 P xR	P B3
11 Castles	Kt K3	27 B B2	Kt Q2
12 Kt B5	Q B q	28 Q R Q q	P Kt K3
13 B xB	B P xB	29 B R4	Kt Kt3
14 P KR3	Kt Kt4	30 B Q7	R Q q
15 P KB4	Kt K3(d)	31 KR Ksq	Resigns
16 P xP	P xP		

NOTES.

- (a) Not considered so strong as P to Q 4.
 (b) P to Q Kt 4 is a better mode of continuing the attack.
 (c) With the object of moving Kt to K 3 tempting White to exchange his K B for it, but overlooking White's attack of Kt to B 4.
 (d) Preferably P takes P, 16—R takes P &c. as subsequent events show.
 (e) Miscalculating that by Q to B 4 ch White replies with Q to Q 4, protecting his Kt; thus Black loses a piece and the game.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Helene Rickmers, German steamer, 1,961, Brandstetter, 2nd Oct.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 22nd Sept., General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nisei, 2nd Oct.—Shanghai via ports, 25th Sept., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 3rd Oct.—Hongkong via ports, 24th Sept., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, Dwyer, 3rd Oct.—London via port, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, 4th Oct.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.

Saint Mary, British steamer, 1,939, Perrie, 4th Oct.—Sea (broken down), Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Vigilant, American ship, 1,675, Bailey, 4th Oct.—New York 26th April, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

I. F. Chapman, American ship, 2,014, Thomson, 4th Oct.—New York, 6th May, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, A. E. Moses, 4th Oct.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Astec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, Catarama, 5th Oct.—San Francisco, 11th Sept., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 7th October.—Hongkong via ports, Mails & General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Chow Fa, British steamer, 1,055, 7th October.—Hongkong 29th Sept., Sugar.—Butterfield and Swire.

Caledonien, French steamer, 3,400, Darraud, 8th Oct.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Olympia, British steamer, 1,691, Truebridge, 8th Oct.—Hongkong via port, and Kobe 6th Oct., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,500, Thomson, 2nd Oct.—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pique (8), British cruiser, 3,600, Captain A. C. Corry, 2nd October.—Kobe and Nagasaki.

Belgie, British steamer, 1,827, J. H. Rinder, 3rd Oct.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O & O S.S. Co.

Hohenollern, German steamer, 1,376, H. Bleeker, 3rd Oct.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Aubert, 3rd Oct.—Shanghai, via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Yorktown (6), American gunboat, 1,710, Captain C. H. Stockton, 3rd Oct.—San Francisco via Honolulu.

Sumatra, British steamer, 2,976, J. Cowie, 3rd Oct.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Howard D. Troup, British ship, 2,080, D. W. Corning, 4th Oct.—Tacoma, Wash., Ballast.—Captain.

MacMillan, British ship, 1,450, R. Guthrie, 4th Oct.—Kobe, Pig Iron.—Sale & Co.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, 5th Oct.—Portland, Oregon, General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, A. W. S. Thomson, 6th Oct.—Moji, Ballast.—Corney & Co.

Ceres, German steamer, 2,653, Foerck, 6th Oct.—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, James Jones, 7th Oct.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, 9th October.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Velox, British steamer, 636, Goutard, 8th Oct.—Newchwang, Ballast.—Captain.

Glenrich, British ship, 2,216, E. H. Davies, 9th Oct.—Tacoma, Wash., Ballast.—Captain.

Narcissus (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Captain Forsyth, 9th Oct.—Kobe and Nagasaki.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Capt. and Mrs. Kawamura and son, Messrs. P. N. Howard, T. S. Crowley, K. Yamazaki, Y. Hoashi, Mr. C. Matsuo, K. Koshino, Mr. J. Hameda, K. Nakashima, and Mr. S. Miura, in cabin; 32 Japanese and 3 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Choppe, Mr. Evans, Mr. H. Berrill, Mr. Pickering, Mr. Lee-Chuck Sam, Mr. A. R. Koch, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Captain Storer, Dr. Roulhine, and 1 Chinese in cabin.

Per French steamer *Caledonien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Marquis Saionji, Mr. Alinyio Azeveda, Mr. Yokokawa, Mr. Z. Hotta, Mr. Hayashi, Mr. Jules Sacks, Mr. Alph Scandel, Mr. and Mrs. Bagnall and infant, Mr. Van den Brock, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Stem, Mr. Schutz, Mr. Massonier, Mr. Nivert, Mr. Babon and servant, Mr. Estade, Mr. Paul Schaler, Mr. M. D. MacNeil, Mr. V. Tanjima, Mr. S. Nakajima, Mr. Gaston Galy, Mr. B. W. Harben, Mr. S. Yoshimatsu, Mr. Y. M. N. la Costa, Mr. T. Iwasawa,

Mr. M. B. Moore, Mr. Y. Y. Crosbie, Mr. Ch. Esdale, Mr. V. Callers, and Mr. V. de Nembardi, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kawachi Maru*, for London via ports:—Messrs. J. W. Webb, G. Rodust, Toh. Moller, J. Hisajima, H. Ishida, K. Chiyoda, B. Hamada, K. Kamada, S. Isawa, Edm. Troeltsch, T. Yasukawa, Capt. Kawara, Com. Yoshimatsu, Col. Iku, Rev. & Mrs. S. F. Moore, Miss E. H. Field, Miss E. L. Shield, Mr. H. Okada, Mr. Wm. E. White, Mr. and Mrs. Sonoda and 4 children, in cabin; Messrs. Y. Majima, T. Takagi, K. Shobala, S. Kawai, T. Kiyoda, J. Kawai, Y. Ohbayashi, T. Niki, K. Inouye, G. Tsurumi, K. Muramatsu, K. Uemura, I. Nakasa, Y. Gordon, J. Kirkpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. Shinohara, T. Kitano, Misses T. Naito and N. Naito, in cabin; 71 Japanese and 19 Europeans in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Rincke, Mr. Marcus, Mr. M. Schanz, Mr. F. Weidlich, Miss Ardess, Mrs. L. Fiessler, Mr. J. B. M. Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hecker, Mr. and Mrs. E. Popp, Mr. K. Naito, Mr. J. Miyazaki, Dr. Haberer and servant, Mr. G. Corti, Mr. R. Nakanishi, Mr. T. Kitashima, Mr. H. Ho, Mrs. Tittle and 3 children, Capt. Witt, Mr. Behrens, Mr. Hoffmann, Mr. G. Galy, Prof. J. L. Janson, Miss Anna Boelmer, Mr. C. Yang Nan, and 1 Chinese, in cabin; 2 Europeans and 1 Chinese in steerage; 45 Chinese, on deck.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. Burne, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Cole and maid, Miss Hope Conard, Lieut. Com. Delano, U.S.N., Mr. M. Sergey Friede, Mrs. M. D. Happer, Mr. Ed. Hardness, Mr. W. A. Harper, Mr. J. C. Hixson, Mr. M. Isobe, Mr. A. Kana, Mr. L. L. Kountze, Mr. H. D. Kountze, Miss A. S. Kugler, Mr. Y. Kwong, Prof. Jules Legras, Mr. Y. Motono, Mr. H. Schroeter and child, and Mrs. Lucien Young, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Sumatra*, for London via ports:—Mr. B. C. Scott, Lieut. Molyneux, Mr. Joseph Jackson, Mr. Edwin Venthum, Mr. Walter Woodcock, Mr. James Warfield, Mr. W. A. Heggis, Mr. Arthur T. Long, Mr. Geo. Philpott, Rich. G. S. Reed, Mr. W. H. Hodgson, Mr. Albert Clogg, Mr. Ricketts, Mrs. Crowley, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Ross, Mr. H. I. Chope, Mr. N. B. Reid, and Mr. M. Z. Martin and native servant, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Melbourne via ports:—Professor B. Moriya, Professor Kawahara, Mr. G. R. Mikkers, Mr. G. H. Ebersole, Mr. C. Chosley, Miss Twitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe, Mr. J. Shimada, Colonel T. Yamane, Miss K. Yamane, Mr. R. Hara, Mr. S. Imamura, Mr. J. A. Thomas, Mr. S. Mizuno, Mr. T. Shidachi, Mr. R. Tsumagi, C.E., Barrister R. Masujima, Mr. A. J. S. Lefroy, and Mr. C. Yamakawa, in cabin; Mr. N. Suyehiro, Mr. K. Sugimoto, Mr. and Mrs. Sewaki, Mr. S. Sudzuki, Mr. H. Ishii, Mr. K. Akiyoshi, Mr. N. Mononoi, Mr. S. Oioe, Mr. M. Kimura, Mr. D. Sawara, Mr. G. Hosaka, Lieut. R. Miyazawa, Mr. Y. Shimada, Mr. T. Takeguchi, and Mr. J. D. McKenzie, in 2nd class; 50 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver:—Mr. Geo. Anderson, Col. W. J. Anderson, Miss E. M. Cappon, Miss Dalton, Miss Dalton, Mr. and Mrs. Denby, child and servant, Mr. P. S. Dudley, Mrs. Sydney Haywood, Miss Kekewich, Mr. H. Komada, Mrs. Jones Vaughan, Mr. Hugh Vaughan, Mr. Evan Vaughan, Mr. L. H. Fullagar, Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm, Mr. G. Rodust, Mr. Edward Rogers, Mr. & Mrs. Speer, Rev. and Mrs. E. H. Thomson, Miss Told, Miss F. S. Wetmore, and Miss A. Williams, in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver:—

	T.B.A.				TOTAL
	CANADA, AND WEST.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	
Hongkong	—	23	91	20	137
Calcutta	—	—	873	—	873
Poochow	3,726	—	—	—	3,726
Shanghai	3,924	1,295	—	—	5,219
Colombo	695	—	—	—	695
Kobe	1,073	359	—	—	1,432
Yokohama	3,783	902	2,014	10	6,709

Total 12,290 2,556 2,047 1,452 20 18,365

	SILK.		TOTAL
	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	
Hongkong and Canton	181	—	181
Shanghai	312	—	312
Yokohama	692	—	692

Total 1,185 — — 1,185

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—

Treasure \$42,000

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Peru	Sa. Oct. 9
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Su. Oct. 10
Tacoma, Wash. via Victoria, B.C.	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	W. Oct. 13
Europe	M. M. Co.	—	Tu. Oct. 19
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th. Oct. 21
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of India	M. Oct. 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	Fri. Oct. 27
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Nov. 4

- 1 Left Nagasaki on the 6th inst.
2 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 21st Sept.
3 Left Victoria on the 26th.
4 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 2nd inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Victoria, B.C. via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Clypina	Sa. Oct. 9
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Su. Oct. 10
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Tu. Oct. 11
America	P. M. Co.	Peru	Tu. Oct. 13
Europe	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Oct. 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of India	M. Oct. 25
Europe, via Shanghai	M. M. Co.	Caledonian	Su. Oct. 27
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Oct. 27
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Fri. Nov. 4

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Nothing has yet been done in shirtings, and very little during the week in fancy cottons and woollens, but a very considerable business has been transacted in yarns, at gradually dropping prices. At closing, however, the market is steadier in tone.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—6 1/2 yds. 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 44 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 38 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Cotton—Italians and Sateen Black, 36 inches	2.00 to 3.75
	0.18 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 41 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 32 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.37 1/2
Common	0.15 to 0.22
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 55 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 55 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 to 55 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Wanlike—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds. per lb.	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles	\$38.50 to 39.50
Nos. 28, 32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38, 42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 2, 60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2, 80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00

Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

American Middling	PER POUND. \$21 to 22
Indian Broach	21 to 22
Chinese	20 to 21

METALS.

A fair business has been done during the past week, news of the upward tendency of the home market having had some effect on buyers. Several large transactions have been effected in bar and galvanized iron.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.10 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized iron sheets	0.70 to 1.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Pin Plates, per box	5.50 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.05 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.25

KEROSENE.

Arrivals of American have been very considerable during the past week or ten days and the market has become firmer. Business for the interior has, however, been affected by the block of goods at the railway stations owing to the interruption of traffic by floods.

American	\$2.00 to 2.15
Russian	2.00 to 2.15
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Arrivals of Brown since the beginning of the month are 18,071 piculs Manila, and 2,140 piculs China and Formosa. Sales include 18,071 piculs Manila, 2,000 piculs Formosa, and 1,300 piculs China, at former prices. White refined is quiet at unchanged rates.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$3.50 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.90
Brown Daitong	3.20 to 3.35
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

During the week there has been a fair demand both for America and Europe, but there is a rather heavy stock of coarse-sized filatures on the market which buyers have hitherto somewhat neglected. If holders will make some concession these would probably, however, soon be disposed of. Reels have advanced slightly. Total settlements from July 1st to Oct. 6th are 21,685 piculs, and stock in Yokohama amounts to 6,900 piculs, against 16,390 piculs at same date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$30 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	840 to 850
Kakadas—Extra	810 to 830
Kakadas—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakadas—No. 1	760 to 770
Kakadas—No. 2	—
Kakadas—No. 2	—



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This EXTRACT is INVALUABLE to LADIES, as it restores the Colour close to the Skin.

WASTE SILK.

The market has been in an excited state during the week, settlements amounting to 2,500 piculs, with holders very firm at current quotations. The present stock is estimated at 9,400 piculs, mostly poorly assorted.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 103
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 67½
Noshi—Bushi, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushi, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 57½
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 22½

TEA.

Only a small business has been transacted since the beginning of the month, mostly in medium and good medium grades; total sales from 1st to 7th inst. amount to 1,828 piculs. Shipments in the period include 75,556 lbs. per *Belgic*, Oct. 3rd, 433,920 lbs. per *Braemar* for the U.S. Canada, on the 5th, and 170,713 lbs. per *Macduff* on the 6th. Prices have slightly fallen all along the line.

QUOTATIONS.

Choice	Nominal.
Choice	\$31 to 32
Finest	31 to 32
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Rates remain steady without any change, though silver is slightly higher, and sterling quotations have advanced in China.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0½
— — Bills on demand	2/0½
— — 4 months' sight	2/0½
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/0½
— — 6 months' sight	2/0½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.54
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.53
On Hongkong—Bank sight	6 9/10 d
— — Private 10 days' sight	8 9/10 d
On Shanghai—Bank sight	79
— — Private 10 days' sight	81
On India—Bank sight	154½
— — Private 30 days' sight	158
On America—Bank Bills on demand ..	49
— — Private 4 months' sight	50½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.06
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.10
Bar Silver (London)	26

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—4.40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.



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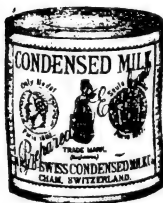


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37

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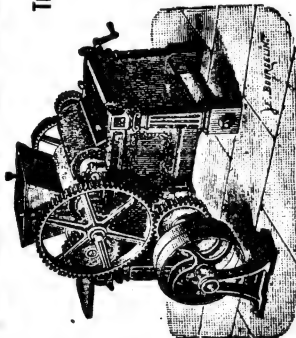
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 16.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCT. 16TH, 1897.

月三年五十二拾明 Vol. XXVIII.
期星會信週日三十

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 16TH, 1897.

BIRTHS.

At Hongkong, on the 30th September, 1897, the wife of F. M. RICHARDSON, of a daughter.

At 33-B, Nanking Road, Shanghai, the wife of WALTER SCHARFF, of a son.

On the 4th inst., at No. 4, Mohawk Road, Shanghai, the wife FRANK GOVE, of a daughter.

At Kiukiang Road, Shanghai, on 5th instant, the wife J. L. DUFF, of a daughter.

At 2, Kungping Road, Shanghai, the wife of Captain R. G. PANAMORE, of a daughter.

At Chungking, on the 16th September, the wife of the Rev. J. WALLACE WILSON, of the London Missionary Society, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 20th September, 1897, at the Registrar General's Office, Hongkong, FREDERICK, the eldest son of Samuel Ezra Bishop, of Radipole, near Weymouth, England, to CAROLINE LAURA, only daughter of Mary Florence and the late Allison Scott Clinton, of New Haven, Connecticut, U.S.A.

At Shanghai, on October 5th, 1897, at the Cathedral, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., Captain OWEN DIRS MERTENS, C.M.S.N. Co., to ROSA EMILY DEATH.

DEATHS.

In London, on the 9th instant, Mr. ROBERT NEWELL ST. JOHN, of Yokohama, aged 47 years. (By telegram)

At the Marine Hotel, Coleman Street, Singapore, on the 21st September, Mr. GEORGE SIM (of Renfrew), late Second Engineer of the S.S. *Calypso*; aged 39 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE engineers' strike in England is assuming serious dimensions.

M. JULES HARMAND, French Minister to Japan, is about to return home on leave of absence.

THE members of the local St. Andrew's Society have decided not to give the usual ball this year.

THE steamer *Nemuro Maru* foundered near Etarup on the 13th inst. All the crew were saved.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR presented yen 2,500 to the family of the late Lieut.-General Yamaji, towards the funeral expenses.

MR. HOSHI, Japanese Minister to the United States, will arrive at Yokohama about the 26th inst. by the *Empress of India*.

LORD SALISBURY has definitely refused to participate in the Sealing Conference if Russia and Japan are represented thereat.

THE Japanese despatch boat *Miyako*, which has been constructed at the Kure Shipbuilding Yard, is to be launched on the 28th inst.

THE Porte has proposed to the Powers the total disarmament of the inhabitants of Crete and the appointment of a Christian governor.

ALTHOUGH the port of Mokpho, Korea, has been opened to foreign trade since the 1st of October, no trade preparations have been made as yet.

VISCOUNT OKABE CHOSHOKU has been appointed Governor of Tokyo. Marquis Kuga, the late Governor, was released from the post at his own request.

ON the 11th inst., the Shimbashi Railway Bureau called for tenders for Portland Cement amounting to 25,000 casks. The home-made article secured the contract.

MR. MIZUNO, Secretary to the Home Minister, has been ordered to Europe to inspect political affairs. He will leave Japan for the United States on the 21st inst.

IT is stated that the Russians are now suggesting to the Korean Authorities the opening of the port of Yuki, located near the boundary of Russia, to foreign trade.

COUNT KABAYAMA, Home Minister, will attend the ceremony of formally commencing the construction of the harbour of Osaka, which will take place on the 17th inst.

THE Treasury has issued Railway Loan Bonds to the amount of yen 5,000,000 and Public Undertaking Loan Bonds to the value of yen 10,000,000, purchasing them itself.

KATO Tetsugoro, aged 55 years, a workman employed at Shimbashi Station, while working on a chimney at the smithy, slipped and fell to the ground, meeting immediate death.

A TELEGRAM received by the Yokohama Specie Bank on the 11th inst. says that the Republic of Peru adopted the gold standard by a majority of only one vote in the Lower House.

THE Spanish Government is about to despatch 20,000 more troops to Cuba and also reinforcements to the Philippines. It also proposes to grant autonomy to Cuba under the suzerainty of Spain.

FROM wreckage found near Oshima it is considered almost certain that the steamer *Sesshu*

Maru, which has been missing since leaving Kobe on the 28th ult., has foundered with all hands—64 crew and passengers.

THE sealing schooner *Pointer*, late *Arctic*, owned by Mr. H. J. Snow, has been totally wrecked at Shikotan, Hokkaido. The crew and some, if not all, of the skins aboard were saved.

IT is reported that at the special Cabinet Council held on Monday it was decided to appoint Marshal Count Nozu Governor-General of Formosa, Governor-General Nogi being transferred to another post.

THE draft of the amended Formosa Administrative Regulations, which the Government has been discussing for many weeks, was submitted by Count Matsukata, Premier, on the 11th inst. to the Emperor.

THE funeral of the late Lieut.-General Yamaji took place on the 14th inst. The cortege left the residence at Koyama-cho, Mita, Shiha, Tokyo, at 1 p.m. for Aoyama cemetery, escorted by two battalions of soldiers.

A SPECIAL Cabinet Council was convened on Monday morning. It was attended by all the Ministers of State and Count Kuroda, President of the Privy Council. The discussion related to the amendment of the Formosan Administration, the resignation of Mr. Komuchi, President of the Legislative Bureau, and other topics.

REAR-ADMIRAL SHIBAYAMA has been promoted to the rank of Vice-Admiral and appointed Commander of the Japanese Standing Squadron. Vice Admiral Baron Aizra, former Commander of the Standing Squadron, has been appointed Commander of the Sasebo Port Admiralty. Rear-Admiral Samejima has also been promoted to the rank of Vice-Admiral.

THE foreign trade of Yokohama and Kobe from January to August last and during the month of September, was as follows:—Exports from January to August yen 100,314,728 and during September yen 11,321,497, a total of 111,363,225. Imports from January to August amounted to yen 139,089,603 and during Sept. to yen 16,867,591, a total of yen 155,957,194.

THE Import market generally still remains very dull, though in certain lines some business is being transacted. Cotton piece goods are entirely disregarded, with the exception of some fancy goods, such as Turkey reds. Woollens are also very lifeless. Yarns must be bought to keep the weavers at work and consequently a fair business has been kept going, at prices fully up to last quotations. The metal trade is looking up a little and a fair amount of transactions have place place in pig, bar and galvanized iron. The kerosene market is improving in tone [as the winter approaches; arrivals have been considerable and sales steady. A fair business has been done in sugar, principally Brown, at former rates. One or two large shipments of Rangoon and Saigon rice have been received and readily placed at remunerative prices, the native product having risen abnormally in value. In the Export market, large transactions have taken place during the week in raw silk, and some business has also been done in waste; but holders of the latter are very firm and the value at present quotations is not good, which stops much business for a time. The silk season in Japan for producers and native dealers promises to be the most profitable on record. Exchange is unchanged though silver is quoted in London $\frac{1}{2}$ higher than at date of our last report.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The *Fiji Shimpō* reverts to its old argument against the growth of conservative ideas in Japan. Evidently such ideas must be coming into vogue or the *Fiji* would not devote so much space to their discussion. It asks what the conservatives understand by the "nationality" which they are so desirous of preserving. What is their definition of nationality? The *Fiji's* definition is that a country should be a distinct integer and should enjoy full sovereign rights. Nothing else seems necessary. How is it conceivable that Japan should lose either of those characteristics by adopting the systems and customs of the West? No one can deny that all her modern progress is due to liberal assimilation of Occidental sciences, philosophies, methods of Government and material civilization. Thus far she has not hesitated to draw freely upon these sources of improvement; so freely, indeed, that in many respects she may be said to have undergone metamorphosis. But she has lost nothing of her nationality. To change her policy now and refrain from further drafts upon Western fountains of civilization would be nothing more or less than to adopt towards the nations of Europe and America an attitude of estrangement. In the eyes of the Occident Japan is a small insular Power. Whatever attitude she might assume would be to them a matter of almost complete indifference. But it is certain that if she showed them the cold shoulder, they would behave similarly towards her, and whether she could afford that is a question that the conservatives have to ask themselves seriously. If they look back, too, at the history of Japan they will see the groundlessness of their apprehensions. For during many centuries she borrowed wholesale from China. Her literature, her calligraphy, her system of ranks, her philosophy, her administrative methods, her religion, her art, her folk-lore, her superstitions, her festivals—all these things were taken from her neighbour. When Kyoto was founded its streets were laid out according to Chinese models of the Tang dynasty and it was called by a Chinese name. To say that a thing was Chinese amounted to declaring its superiority. Yet Japan lost nothing of her national spirit. The slightest attempt to encroach upon her sovereignty was always indignantly resented. That record should suffice to re-assure the conservatives, and, at the same time, they ought to remember that when they declare the necessity of safeguarding the patriotism of their countrymen by recourse to artificial restrictions, they insult that patriotism by implication, and offer an indirect proof of want of confidence in themselves and their fellow-nationals.

That the Cabinet should be attacked for its failure to effect Treaty Revision with France and Austria-Hungary was a foregone conclusion. The *Nichi Nichi* takes up the question with considerable vigour. It claims that the task of Revision was practically completed by the Ito Cabinet, only a very small part being left for the Matsukata Cabinet to accomplish. Yet that small part remains unaccomplished. The consequence is that the fruits of the last Cabinet's labours can not be reaped, and that the financial programme of the State is dislocated owing to the impossibility of putting the New Tariff into force. From another point of view, it may be said that the work of Revision was done by the Ito Cabinet, and that there devolved upon the Matsukata Cabinet only the duty of making preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties. Even that duty, however, does not appear to have been satisfactorily discharged. Doubtless the Committee of Preparation (*Tsishi Yumbi-In Kai*) has not been idle, but no evidences of its useful labour are yet apparent, and assuredly no steps have been taken to make the necessary preparation in Formosa, although the conditions that Japan found there when she obtained possession of the island were eminently in need of modification before mixed residence could be allowed. It may, indeed, be argued that until preparations are completed at home, the Government

has no leisure to turn its attention to an outlying territory. But the reply is that there ought not to be, and that in fact there is not, so much to do at home. These considerations cause considerable uneasiness and, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, constitute grounds for accusing the Cabinet of palpable incompetence.

What is meant by "preparing for the operation of the Revised Treaties," asks the *Nippon*. Foreigners coming to Japan are generally ignorant of the language of the country and unacquainted with its facilities. If a Japanese travelling by rail observes that a foreign fellow-traveller labours under those disadvantages, it is his duty to make room for him; to take care that he does not miss his station; to assist him in finding a hotel or obtaining food; to restrain any vulgar Japanese who may be disposed to employ opprobrious epithets towards him or to take advantage of his inexperience. That is the duty of every true Japanese, and to inculcate it as widely as possible is an important preparation for the day when all restrictions upon the coming of foreigners will have been removed. The Japanese have never been wanting in appreciation of the dictates of humanity. The history of their intercourse with their neighbours establishes that fact. If, thirty-five years ago, they were influenced by a desire to expel foreigners from the country, it was simply because they believed that not otherwise could the integrity of the empire and the premanence of the Throne be secured. It was not because they had made any radical departure from the path of humanity. They have only to be true to their instincts and traditions when mixed residence is permitted. To inculcate that fact, supposing that any such teaching be necessary, might be a useful preliminary to the operation of the Revised Treaties. But there is a wide distinction between humane civility and humiliating servility. If the Japanese passenger by rail, spoken of above, bows and scrapes to his foreign fellow-passenger, and treats him like a superior being whose convenience alone is to be consulted, the chances are that the foreigner, accepting the implied estimate that the Japanese gives of himself, will behave in an arbitrary and masterful manner, and treat the Japanese as a species of slave. So it is with this much talked-of question of "preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties." Manners and customs differ more or less in different countries. It may happen that what is in accordance with convention and innocent of offensive significance among one nation, would be a gross solecism or an insult in the eyes of another people. Such contingencies should be provided against if intercourse between several races is to be conducted smoothly and comfortably, and there might be much advantage in conveying information on those points to provincial Japanese before the Treaties go into operation. That, however, is not the impression gathered by the public about the preparations contemplated by officialdom. What we hear is that such and such a law must be modified to please the Russians, perhaps; or that such and such a privilege, though quite right and proper in itself, can not be enjoyed by the Japanese, lest Englishmen and Americans should be offended; or—to quote an extreme case—that the treatment extended to criminals in Japanese jails may be all very well for Japanese, but is by no means good enough for foreign offenders against the law. With "preparations" dictated by such a spirit, the *Nippon* has no sort of sympathy. The interest of forty millions of Japanese must not be subserved to those of four or five thousand, or even ten times four or five thousand, foreigners. Japan is for the Japanese. If foreigners can not be conciliated without a display of servility and undue self-effacement on the part of the Japanese, better make no attempt to conciliate them.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* protests vehemently against the Government's rumoured intention of raising postal, telegraphic and railway rates—a measure which it denounces as retrogressive. One of the principal reasons assigned

for the change is that the prices of labour and of commodities have appreciated so greatly during recent years as to render it impossible to conduct these services of communication on the former bases of outlay. Such an argument has no validity. The expense involved in running posts and telegraphs is a mere bagatelle compared with the impulse that can be given to their earnings by cheap rates and improved facilities. Evidence of that fact can be found without going far afield. During the early years of postal and telegraphic communications in Japan, when labour and commodities cost about one-third of their present prices, the income of the services did not balance the outgoings: they were a constant drain on the Treasury. But gradually as material civilization progressed and as the services themselves were improved, people began to avail themselves so largely of post and telegraph alike that their earnings not only sufficed to cover the expenditures but even left a solid and steadily growing surplus. An illustration of the same nature is furnished by newspapers. A journal used to be one of the least profitable of properties. Labour was cheap; yet a proprietor who could make ends meet counted himself exceptionally fortunate. By degrees, however, in the face of an outlay that assumed larger dimensions year by year, the newspapers found readers and advertisers, so that now they are a paying enterprise, although their selling price is actually one half of what it used to be and their expenses are three times as great. So far from raising postal and telegraph rates, the Government should aim at lowering them. There has been no progress in these departments of late. At the outset, great zeal was shown in organizing them, and the public had reason to be satisfied with the rapid development of means of communication. But now-a-days complaints are constantly heard of late delivery, delays *en route*, miscarriages, and so on. With deteriorating services there is talk of augmented rates. The question of railway charges is similarly discussed at tedious length and with an abundance of platitudes, and finally the *Mainichi* cursorily deals with the real reason of the alleged project of increased rates. Our readers are acquainted with the reason—namely, the necessity of finding 15 million *yen* to double the present lines of telegraph and extend them to localities not yet provided with such facilities. The *Mainichi* dismisses that programme very curtly, by declaring that the proper way to obtain funds for such a purpose is to impose additional taxes, which the Diet will doubtless be prepared to sanction and the people to pay. We have here epitomised three long articles, and we may add with reference to them that whatever be the value of their contents, they at least show unbounded confidence in the patience of the newspaper-reading public.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* strongly advocates the conclusion of a special convention with the United States in order to obtain a reduction of the immense duties imposed by the Dingley Tariff on silk fabrics, cotton carpets, matting, straw-braid, and so forth. These minor products of Japanese industry promised to assume large dimensions when the Dingley duties suddenly checked their development. It is true that the volume of the trade has not been affected by the new tariff, but the only warrantable inference to be drawn from that fact is that a great expansion would have taken place had not these crippling duties been enforced. It becomes, then, a matter of prime importance for Japan to obtain relaxation of the harsh conditions now existing. She rebelled strenuously against these conditions when they were only *in posse*, and endeavoured by diplomatic representation and popular agitation to turn America from her purpose. But her success was practically *nil*. The Dingley Bill contains a clause, however, which offers a last hope—a clause providing that, in return for special concessions made by a foreign country, the United States Government shall be entitled to reduce the Tariff rates in

favour of products or manufactures of that country coming to America. Already the Argentine Republic has taken advantage of the clause to conclude a special convention, and France is understood to be contemplating similar action. Japan could make tariff concessions with respect to American kerosene, flour, machinery, hardware, and so forth, in consideration of corresponding concessions for her own silk fabrics, carpets, matting, straw-braid, and porcelain. Where competition is keen, a slight advantage often suffices to turn the scale. America might find it well worth her while to be able to get her goods into Japan on better terms than those extended to the same class of goods coming from other countries.

THE RIGHTS OF THE SUBJECT.

The patience of the Japanese is a prominent trait. They quietly endure inconveniences that would provoke an outburst of indignant protest among other people. It is undoubtedly a pretty characteristic, but it has one great drawback. Progress is much more likely to be rapid in a community each unit of which feels himself personally aggrieved by official laches or administrative abuses, than in a community where every one resigns himself placidly to things as he finds them. At an important railway station, for example, the Japanese consent unmurmuringly to be ranged in a long queue curving from the ticket-seller's wicket to a point sometimes fifteen or twenty yards distant, and in that order they will placidly stand until the slow process of distributing tickets brings each unit of the queue, in due sequence, to the place of purchase. It never seems to occur to them that the conservative uniformity of the railway authorities' arrangements is a public outrage. They do not observe, or, if they observe, they take no practical note of, the fact that to make precisely the same provision for selling tickets at an out-of-the-way provincial station as at a metropolitan terminus, is to ignore the convenience of the travelling public altogether, and that instead of keeping two or three score of passengers wearily waiting to buy tickets while the selling clerk sits idly twiddling his thumbs, the wicket ought to be opened half an hour earlier, or even supplemented by two or three additional wickets according to the pressure of traffic. Naturally, under such circumstances, the railway authorities are not shaken out of their groove of false economy and discourteous perfectoriness. The same tolerance closes the mouth of protest against the slow, inconvenient methods of water-works' engineers in Tokyo. During long weeks, traffic is impeded by lines of big pipes ranged along the streets, as if the authorities were under no sort of obligation to dispose of these obstacles as quickly as possible; and after the pipes are laid, the street remains almost impassable, as though the achievement of burying the pipes deserved to be commemorated by a monument of mud and ruts. No one formulates any complaint, however. But, in truth, we need not look beyond the general state of the streets of Tokyo to find evidence of the people's long-suffering propensities. Men have silently submitted for years, and do still submit, to be tortured by the most uneconomical and inconvenient system of road-making that was ever conceived. It is true that public opinion seems to have awakened of late to the disgrace of such streets as those of the capital, and at last there is apparently earnest talk of recourse to civilized methods. But in the meanwhile the municipal authorities continue calmly indifferent to their public responsibilities. They grant a charter to a tram-way company without imposing any conditions as to the repair of the roads along which the lines are laid, and the result is that while the centre of a once passably good road is occupied by the tram, the narrow spaces on either side assume the character of ploughed lands. The Japanese do not appear to recognise that every citizen agitating against these abuses is a factor of progress, and that patient endurance is a sign of want of civilized sensibility.

"THE COMING RELIGION OF JAPAN."

We reproduce elsewhere an essay from the pen of Mr. W.E. Griffis on "The coming religion of Japan." It is, in our opinion, a remarkable example of the errors into which a clever man may be betrayed by imperfect investigation. As to Mr. Griffis' idea that belief in a personal God is absolutely essential, and as to his statements about a want of religious feeling among the Japanese, we need not say anything. These are matters of opinion. But against the extraordinary blundering of some of his allegations, we can not choose but protest. For example, he says that "polygamy and private harems with children born in a herd instead of a home"—whatever that may mean—"are the general custom from the court noble to the betto;" that Confucianism "teaches only etiquette and ceremony, extinguishing all faith in personality, divine or human;" and that "Buddhism ignores and ridicules the idea of a creator, teaches flat atheism, * * * and finds the whole basis of its philosophy in a succession of cause and effect, even while ignoring the first cause." Every one of these assertions is as wrong as it well could be. We have not space here to enter on such large questions, but we desire to place on record an emphatic denial of Mr. Griffis' propositions. He says that he has been for thirty years before the public as a writer on Japan, and on the strength of that fact he claims exemption from any accusation of lack of appreciation. It is very true that Mr. Griffis has written much about Japan and written it well, but we are bound to say that his latest conceptions, wherever he obtained them, are egregiously false; so false that his qualifications for challenging the integrity of the Japanese may fairly be doubted. "Their books and newspapers," he says, "are painfully, even disgustingly, full of boasting and national vanity." Well, we will undertake to show Mr. Griffis more "boasting and national vanity" in the columns of his own country's journals during a single twelvemonth than he can collect from the columns of the Japanese press since it came into existence. Mr. Griffis is a man of profound prejudices. We do not quarrel with him for that. Many noble folks have been steeped to the lips in bigotry. But if he allows his prejudices to run away with him, he can not expect that others will follow along the same route.

SPAIN AND CUBA.

When Reuter telegraphed, on the 20th of September, that the United States Government, through its Representative in Madrid, had conveyed an ultimatum to Spain, warning her that unless the war in Cuba was terminated by the end of October, the United States would feel justified in taking measures to secure the independence of the island, most of our readers probably agreed with us in thinking that the intelligence could not be credited. News from America now shows that the United States Representative presented no ultimatum of any kind, but merely conveyed an expression of his Government's deep interest in seeing the contest terminated. We are further informed by a telegram apparently despatched from London on the 8th instant, that Spain has decided to grant autonomy to Cuba, retaining only her suzerainty over the island. In all probability that decision will put an end to the conflict. The Cuban insurgents, though their subjugation does not seem imminent, can not entertain much hope of conclusive success. Spain has shown a degree of tenacity and dogged resolution that have won the plaudits of the world, and the general opinion in Europe a month ago was that order would quickly be restored in the island were not the rebels constantly supplied with arms, ammunition, and money by American speculators. Thus the wise concession now made by Spain can scarcely fail to terminate the trouble.

EXCHANGE OPERATIONS.

The total demand for gold from the 1st to the 6th was:—

	Yen.
One-yen pieces.....	832,797
Notes	2,604,016

Total 3,436,813

The returns of silver yen and notes presented for exchange against gold on the 7th instant are as follow:—

	TOKYO.	YOKOHAMA.
	Yen.	Yen.
One-yen pieces.....	3,720.....	318
Notes	23,430.....	10,262

Totals..... 27,150..... 10,580

During August, and especially September, rumours constantly reached Japan to the effect that large purchases of silver yen had been made in Hongkong, Shanghai and Singapore by speculators who intended to send them here for exchange. Millions were spoken of as having been already accumulated for that purpose. They do not appear, however, to have found their way to Japan yet. Of course it is still early in the day, but evidently the utmost expedition would be used in managing an operation of that kind. It is inconceivable that silver pieces collected solely for the purpose of realizing profit on their exchange should be kept unexchanged an hour longer than necessary. We are inclined, therefore, to conclude that events are justifying the doubts often expressed in these columns about the magnitude of the exchange transactions likely to follow the adoption of gold monometallism.

Exchange operations continue insignificant. The figures for the 8th and 9th were:—

	Silver.	Notes.
	Yen.	Yen.
Tokyo and Yokohama, 9th.	5,392	11,663
Various localities, 8th	10,035	26,020
Totals	15,427	37,683

The total from the 1st to the 9th was 3,603,829 yen, consisting of 887,370 yen in silver coins and 2,716,459 yen in notes. The first exchange of old gold coins for new took place at Bakan (Shimonoseki) on the 8th instant, when 452 yen were exchanged for 904 yen.

On the 11th instant, the amount of silver yen presented for exchange in Tokyo and Yokohama was 5,015 yen and the amount of notes 25,855 yen. From the first to the 8th instant, the total quantity of silver yen presented for exchange throughout the country was 902,212 yen, and the total of notes, 2,741,762 yen, making an aggregate of 3,643,974 yen.

The silver coins and notes presented for exchange in Tokyo and Yokohama on the 13th instant totalled 26,480 yen, and the aggregate exchanges from the 1st to the 13th throughout the empire were 3,801,844 yen; namely, silver yen to the amount of 976,655 yen, and notes to the amount of 2,825,189 yen.

THE VOYAGE OF THE "GLADYS."

Towards the end of last week, some anxiety was felt in Yokohama about the *Gladys*, the trim little steam launch built for the P. & O. Company by the Yokohama Engine and Works, Ltd., which left for Kobe on Monday under command of Captain George Hay. No advice had been received of her since Mr. Trezise left the little vessel at Sagami; the weather was very stormy then, and it got steadily worse as the week wore along. The directors and officers of the Y. E. & I. W. were therefore much relieved when a telegram reached them on Saturday afternoon from Captain Hay, dispatched from Yokkaichi at 1.30 p.m. It ran:—"Arrived here this morning for stores after very bad weather: if fine will sail to-night." It is thought that the message really came from Matoya, the post town being Yokkaichi. The *Gladys* arrived in Kobe on Monday.

THE NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

It is stated that the parliamentary members of the new political association—the *Kōdō-kai*—now in Tokyo number twenty-five, and that the names actually borne on the roll aggregate forty-nine. Possibly some reductions or accessions of strength may take place before the opening of the next session of the Diet, but, at any rate, the association is expected to command from forty to fifty votes in the Lower House. That is the estimate of one authority. Another alleges that the union is likely to receive several recruits, not only from the Liberal seceders of last session, but even from the ranks of the Progressionists (*Shimpo-to*) themselves. The *Shimpo-to* are the Cabinet's supporters, and any defections from their number would be a serious matter, since they do not now aggregate more than a hundred in a House of three hundred. But we speak here upon the assumption that the new association is hostile to the Cabinet; an assumption by no means to be accepted confidently as yet. The *Fiji Shimpo*, indeed, alleges unhesitatingly that the three sections forming the *Kōdō-kai* have come together on a basis of opposition to the Government. It explains their alleged attitude to be that, whereas the Minister President promised the Diet last spring that the *post-bellum* measures should become a practical reality and that Administrative reform should be achieved without fail, on which promises the three sections have hitherto relied, it has now become evident that administrative reform can not possibly be carried out by the opening of the next session of the Diet, and consequently the three sections find themselves unable any longer to support the Cabinet. They will, therefore, attack the Ministry, with whatever politicians the proceeding may bring them into line. But while that is their ostensible position, there are said to be other considerations influencing them. Thus, while they acted during and subsequently to the last session as supporters of the Cabinet pure and simple, they were not treated as such, but were always differentiated from the Government's other allies, the *Shimpo-to*, the latter being taken into the Ministry's confidence and consulted about official measures, whereas the three sections received no such mark of trust. Against that distinction they are said to have chafed in secret. Then again, when it came to a question of selecting "men of talent" for special official appointments, the three sections were completely overlooked, though they naturally thought that in point of moral endowments and proved competence, they possessed some title to share the rewards. Finally, they have always been more or less offended by the treatment extended to them by the *Shimpo-to*. Hence their resolve is to stand up against the Cabinet next session, above all against Count Okuma, and to direct their attacks notably against the Departments of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture and Commerce. In the columns of the *Yorossu Chōko* we find it stated, however, that the members of the *Kōdō-kai* have not yet definitely decided to range themselves on the side of the Opposition. They purpose making preliminary investigations of certain problems—as, the increase of taxation, the new appropriations sought in the next Budget, the conduct of the Hawaiian complication, the policy towards Korea and the affair of

Judge Takano—and they will be guided by the result of their inquiries. We do not credit the version of the *Yorossu*. The three sections must have been thoroughly familiar with their own opinions concerning those various problems before they united to form the *Kōdō-kai*. The only perplexing element in the situation is the alleged position of Viscount Takashima. He is said to be the leader of the *Kōdō-kai*, and yet he is a Cabinet Minister. As for Count Okuma and the old *Kaishin-to*, now the back-bone of the *Shimpo-to*, it is impossible to be blind to the fact that they alone among political parties have held together, through good report and evil report, from 1881 to 1897. Every other association of politicians, not even excluding the *Fiji-to*, has suffered more or less disintegration. It is true that a section of the *Kaishin-to*, under the leadership of Mr. Shimada Saburo, seems to be joined to the body of the Party by very slender links. Could any hard and fast inference be drawn from the *Mainichi Shimbun*, Mr. Shimada's newspaper, his hostility to the present Cabinet, of which Count Okuma is a prominent member, would admit of no question. But hostility to the Cabinet because its programme of administrative reform remains still in the region of hypothesis, need not certainly imply hostility to Count Okuma. So we remain in doubt. With politicians like the *Kōdō-kai*, however, it is hard to sympathise—or, at any rate, with the sections consisting of seceders from the Liberals and National Unionists. They deserted their colours last session in the face of the enemy, and, unless they are unjustly judged, they are about to desert their new flag because their former perfidy has brought no material recompense. The query that presents itself to every foreign reader of Japan's parliamentary records is, when will her politicians learn the absolute necessity of party discipline?

A COALITION CABINET.

Since Marquis Ito's return, since, indeed, the fact that his absence would be unexpectedly shortened became known, there has been much talk of a coalition Cabinet. We have not, for our own part, attached much importance to the rumour. Nothing appears less likely than that Marquis Ito should be willing to resume office on the eve of the Diet's session and at a time when the present Cabinet is grappling with, and has not yet solved, the problem of balancing next year's Budget. However, it is our business to keep our readers informed of what is passing in the political world, and we accordingly call attention to an essay in the *Taiyo* which deals with this question. The idea, of course, is that Marquis Ito, Count Okuma, Count Matsukata and Count Itagaki should combine to form a Ministry so that all the leading statesmen and political parties in the empire might unite their strength to carry out successfully the various measures required in the sequel of the War. An excellent project in the abstract, but impracticable according to the *Taiyo's* view. At a great crisis of the State, the combination of all politicians and the sinking of all minor differences are natural and possible steps, but in ordinary seasons such combinations can not work smoothly unless there is some commanding genius to mould them to a common end. Otherwise friction and confusion are their inevitable outcome.

Japan is not without experience. In 1871, there was a coalition Cabinet seemingly very powerful, headed by Okubo, Saigo, Kido and Itagaki. It lasted only two years. Again, in 1875, after the Osaka Conference, another coalition Cabinet, lead by Okubo, Kido and Itagaki, was organized, but it fell to pieces rapidly. In later days, namely, 1888, the Kuroda Cabinet was a coalition: it included Ito, Inouye, Okuma, and Matsukata. The circumstances of its fall are fresh in every one's memory. The upshot of the matter is that until principles not persons become the motive of coalitions, united action is practically impossible. The unions now proposed are mere temporary expedients. You can not tie men together for administrative purposes if their administrative policies are different. Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki have one policy, Count Okuma and Count Matsukata have another. The two former can pull together in harness and so can the two latter, but yoke the whole four to the coach of State and they will certainly kick over the traces. Such is the *Taiyo's* opinion. It declares that Baron Iwasaki and Mr. Fukuzawa are conspicuous supporters of the coalition idea, and that they are hardly worth laughing at for their pains. That is all very sapient, no doubt, and sounds very plausible, but so far as foreigners are concerned, they have a difficulty in appreciating the *Taiyo's* argument, seeing that the main link in the chain of reasoning is omitted, namely, an exposition of the alleged differences of policy that divide Marquis Ito and Count Okuma, Count Itagaki and Count Matsukata. We ourselves have never been able to discover what those differences are, and we have devoted some attention to the subject. Indeed, our conclusion is diametrically opposed to that of the *Taiyo*; for it appears to us that personal considerations, not distinctions of political principles, hold the Meiji statesmen asunder, and that there is nothing whatever in their administrative ideas to prevent them from working together with perfect smoothness and unanimity.

MR. FUKUZAWA AND THE GOVERNMENT.

It has been remarked by readers of the vernacular press, and, indeed, has been shown by our weekly summaries of the Tokyo newspapers, that of late the *Fiji Shimpo* shows a disposition to depart from the neutral attitude hitherto maintained by it in politics and to criticise the doings of the present Cabinet in very severe terms. Recently it contained a long article, of which we gave an epitome, charging the Government with many and serious sins of omission, and thereby delighting the Opposition, who naturally welcome the assistance of such a distinguished addition. The *Fiji's* change of tone is turned to curious account by the *Chuo Shimbun*, the organ of the National Unionists. In order to emphasise the thoroughness of the new departure, that journal publishes a note headed "The venerable Mr. Fukuzawa's Talk." It says that for many years Mr. Fukuzawa has been revolving a plan for the re-organization of the Mita College, and that a friend recently suggested to him the advisability of asking the Household Department to purchase the land attached to the present school buildings at Mita, which is now so

valuable that the money thus obtained would suffice not only to procure another site in the suburbs and erect suitable buildings there, but also to support the institution for ten years, during which time a scheme for its permanent endowment could be elaborated. Mr. Fukuzawa's reply—wherein, of course, lies the whole gist of the story—is said to have been this:—"Your idea is good, but I can not adopt it. With administrative affairs conducted in such a disorderly manner as they are by the present Government, there is no knowing what phenomenon we may not see. Have not strikes of operatives become common and does not victory always rest with folks that take the law into their own hands? Republican principles may grow out of it all for aught we can see to the contrary. It is impossible for me, under such circumstances, to stand aloof from politics, as I have done hitherto. I am resolved to spare no effort that may promote the spread of enlightened and loyal principles. To ask the Household Department to buy land from me at such a time would interfere with the prosecution of my purpose. I am sorry to say that I can not entertain the idea." The story may be made out of whole cloth, or it may be an adroit exaggeration. But it has interest as indicating, however remotely, the growth of a conservative element in Japanese politics. We have often wondered how long the nation would continue its course of almost radical progress without developing some conservative tendencies.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF FORMOSA.

We read in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that the Government has decided to appoint Vice-Admiral Count Kawamura to be Governor-General of Formosa in place of Lieut.-General Viscount Nogi, in which case Lieut.-General Kurogi, now commanding the Guards, will be gazetted commander-in-chief of the Western District, in succession to the late Lieut.-General Viscount Yamaji; Lieut.-General Oku, now commanding the First Division, will become Commander of the Guards; and Lieut.-General Viscount Nogi will succeed to the command of the First Division.

The re-appearance of Count Kawamura on the stage of active administration would be a most interesting event. The Count must be now over sixty years of age, a time of life when statesmen begin to be really useful in the West, though in Japan a strange notion exists that a sexagenarian in harness is more or less unseemly. In 1867, when Colonel Kawamura marched from Kyoto in the Emperor's suite, he had not yet attained very high distinction, but the campaign against Aizu which followed immediately afterwards, gave him an opportunity of displaying the remarkable daring in action and strategical insight which he showed even more conspicuously, ten years later, during the Satsuma rebellion. In 1870 he was Vice-Minister of the *Hyobusho*, a Department which, at that time, combined the functions of the present War Office and Admiralty. A year later, the affairs of the Navy were placed under the control of a separate Department, and Mr. Kawamura became the first Naval Minister, which office he held, if we remember rightly, until 1882. It was under him that the British Naval Mission served

from 1873 to 1879, its first head being Commander Douglas, its second Commander Jones, and its third, Lieut. Bailey. Few Japanese officials have ever succeeded in winning such a large measure of respect and liking from the foreigners that served under them as did Count Kawamura, and we can not doubt that he would be a universal favorite in Formosa. Nevertheless, we question the truth of this rumour about his appointment, for we have always understood that he entertained no desire to resume active duties. He is now a Privy Councillor.

It is stated that the new Administrative system for Formosa has been definitely fixed, and now awaits only the Emperor's sanction. According to brief notices given in the vernacular press, there is to be no change in the Governor-General's office, and the Governor-General himself is to be an officer of the rank of either full General or Lieut.-General. The Bureau of Civil Government is to be divided into two, namely, the Civil Government Bureau and the Administrative Bureau, and these will have under their control Sections of Home Affairs, of Foreign Affairs, of Law, of Education, of Communications, and of Agriculture and Commerce. The present Military Bureau is to be divided into Military and Naval Staff Offices. So far as organization is concerned, no other changes are mentioned. It is further stated that Major-General Tachimi, of Manchurian reputation, is to be chief of the Military Staff, and Rear-Admiral Tsunoda, Chief of the Naval. Mr. Sone will be Chief of the Civil Government Bureau, assuming, at the same time, temporary control of the Administrative Bureau. These changes, thus stated, convey little meaning. Doubtless they represent an improved organization, but what Formosa wants is not good administrative machinery so much as good men to run it. If a complete recasting of the *personnel* of Formosan officialdom were announced, we should have more confidence in the prospect. However, if rumour be right as to the appointment of Count Kawamura, the needful changes will probably be made.

THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE JUDICIARY.

The vernacular press reports another collision between the Administration and the Judiciary. Recently Judge Takano, the chief judicial official in Formosa, was summoned to Tokyo, to report upon some proceedings the nature of which does not appear to be understood by the public. Evidently the Administration was not satisfied with the Judge's account, for the *Official Gazette* soon contained an announcement that he had been placed upon the Retired List. Now the Constitution provides that "no judge shall be deprived of his position unless by way of criminal sentence or disciplinary punishment." The object of the provision is to secure the independence of the Judiciary, and its effect should be to guarantee the judge against removal from office except by the decision of a court of law, whether criminal or disciplinary. If, then, it be assumed that the Constitution extends to Formosa, the action of the Administration in placing Judge Takano on the Retired List without recourse to a law court is distinctly unconstitutional. So Judge Takano also

thinks, and he has adopted a very practical method of protesting. He has gone back to Formosa with the avowed intention of resuming the discharge of his functions and resisting to the death any attempt to remove him. The affair is inexplicable at the present stage. It appears that Judge Mizuno, also a Formosan official, was placed on the Retired List some time ago, but public attention was not attracted by the incident, the Judge making no attempt to resist. We are informed by vernacular newspapers that both Judges incurred the displeasure of the Administration in the same way, namely, by adopting too severe measures against the official corruption prevalent in Formosa. It is even stated that they thus brought upon their heads the displeasure of the Governor-General, Viscount Nogi, and the former Colonization Minister, Viscount Takashima. Such tales are obviously quite incredible. Unfortunately party considerations seem to weigh much more strongly with some Japanese journals than the duty of telling the truth. In this case there is special difficulty in ascertaining the facts, for the Minister of Justice being unpopular even with the newspapers that habitually support the Cabinet, they do not hesitate to give publicity to the above extravagant explanation. For our own part, we fail to see how the removal of two judges by an Administrative order can be reconciled with the provisions of the Constitution, unless, indeed, the fact that a special system of Government exists in Formosa be regarded as placing it beyond the range of the Constitution's operation.

The course adopted by the Chief Judge in Formosa, Mr. Takano, in returning the notice of retirement sent to him by the Department of Justice on the ground of its unconstitutionality, attracts much attention. The Opposition press gladly seizes upon the incident as an opportunity to attack the Government, not scrupling to assert, first, that Judge Takano's removal is necessary in the interests of officials who have been practising corruption; and secondly that the complication now caused is likely to show even Cabinet Ministers in an ugly light. Meanwhile, the *Fiji Shimpō* has sought information direct from the Minister of State for Justice, and publishes an explanation said to come direct from him. Stripped of technicalities, the explanation amounts to this:—That although the Constitution guarantees judges against removal from office except by the verdict of a Disciplinary Court—we omit the question of criminal court as irrelevant in this particular instance—the guarantee can not have practical validity in the absence of such a court; that, as a matter of fact, the Law of Organization of the Law Courts is not operative in Formosa, and that, consequently, a Disciplinary Court can not be convened there; that the authority belonging to a Disciplinary Court in Japan proper is, under the special circumstances of the new dominion, vested in the Governor-General's Office; that the High Court over which Judge Takano presides was called into existence by the Governor-General in virtue of the exceptional powers entrusted to him; that, in short, Formosa has not yet been brought fully within the pale of the laws operative in Japan proper; that the Minister of State for Justice is not competent to enforce the Constitution in the absence of the necessary machinery; and that, finally, Judge Takano

is entirely wrong when he appeals to the protection of a law which is not in force. It cannot be denied, we think, that the Minister's explanation is sufficient, so far as the actual circumstances are concerned. But the question arises, why do such circumstances exist. More than two years have passed since Formosa became a Japanese possession. Surely that time should have sufficed for the organization of proper law courts, at any rate. Due provision for the administration of justice ought to have been one of the first cares of the Government. Formosa is a fair possession, but it threatens to cost Japan very dear.

Viscount Tani, in an interview with a representative of the *Yushin Nippo*, has ventured to denounce the "absurdity" of saying that the Constitution is not in force in Formosa, his contention being that the island is Japanese territory, and that the Constitution necessarily extends to every part of the empire. That is an example of the difficulties with which a Japanese Ministry has to contend. Viscount Tani is a prominent figure among Japanese politicians. He leads the Opposition in the House of Peers and he himself held a portfolio ten years ago. Yet he labours under the extraordinary hallucination that the Constitution of a country becomes necessarily and immediately operative in any territory accruing to the country by conquest. It must always be embarrassing to carry on the business of government when the Ministry's prominent critics have so little knowledge of the subjects they undertake to criticise. If Viscount Tani paused a moment and looked abroad before committing himself to hard and fast statements, he would see that the constitution of a Western State never extends, *ipso facto*, to newly acquired territory, and if he reflected on what has taken place in Formosa itself, he would at once perceive that the island has hitherto been governed by methods which could not have been applied to any part of Japan proper without the previous consent of the Diet. Laws have been enacted and promulgated and districts have been placed under martial law by the sole authority of the Governor-General, facts which conclusively prove, if any proof were necessary, that the island still lies outside the pale of the Constitution. It appears to us that Judge Takano's case lies in a nutshell. The Government's competence to remove him without recourse to the verdict of a disciplinary court cannot be doubted. But the public want to know the cause of his removal. Serving in Formosa as a "judicial official," not as a "judge" in the terminology of the Constitution, he was unquestionably a unit of the general body of officials whose appointment and removal belong to the Imperial Prerogative. Hence the question turns entirely on the justice of the treatment he has received, and for some reason which we fail to understand, materials for forming a judgment on that point are not furnished. The Government naturally resents the idea of being required to account for acts which lie entirely within its competence, but as a matter of tact and prudence a little more frankness would appear to be advisable in this instance.

It is impossible to deny some measure of applause to Judge Takano. We believe him to be wrong. Unfortunately he can not claim the protection of the Con-

stitution, and he would recognise the fact if he devoted some study to constitutional history. But the sturdiness of the man is admirable. We read in the vernacular press that he has returned, for the second time, the order placing him on the Retired List, and has addressed the following letter, apparently to the Minister President of State:—

I have the honour to state that since I was officially summoned to Tokyo more than a month ago only one question has been addressed to me by the Minister President, and without further communication, I suddenly received, on the 1st inst., a Departmental instruction placing me on the Retired List. But inasmuch as the matter is distinctly provided for in the Constitution, I could not possibly accept the instruction. I therefore returned it as an invalid order, accompanying it with a statement of objections. A second time it was sent to me, and a second time I declined to receive it. I have not been favoured with any intimation of your business with me, and as it is my intention to proceed to Formosa on the 15th instant, I have the honour to request that if you have any need of my continued presence in Tokyo, you will let me know by noon on the 14th instant.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that Mr. Takano will set out on the 16th instant, and that nothing short of force will prevent him from taking his seat as presiding judge of the chief court there. If he is expelled from the Court by gendarmes, police or soldiers, he will appeal to the Diet. Meanwhile, the strange point is that not one of the vernacular newspapers offers any explicit statement as to the reasons of Mr. Takano's removal from office. The *Fiji Shimpō*, indeed, hints that he showed a want of discretion in dealing with the Japanese in the island, and that he failed to recognise the inevitable character of some of the irregularities existing there. That is a poor kind of explanation. The *Fiji*, too, does not pretend to think it sufficient, but in temperate though forcible language criticises the Government's action as harsh and ill-judged. Of course the *Fiji* is much too level-headed to endorse the monstrous charge that the Government, in removing Mr. Takano, desired to shield corrupt officials. It rightly says that no level-headed person could entertain such a notion. Still it evidently thinks that a blunder has been made. Outsiders must reserve their opinion until they know something definite as to the cause of the removal.

THE KODŌ-KAI.

The *Chuo Shimbun* describes the programme of the new political association (the *Kodō-kai*) in terms evidently designed to discredit that body as much as possible. It says that the object of the association is to bring about the formation of a purely Satsuma Cabinet, by removing all the Choshu elements from the Ministry—namely, the Ministers of Communications, Justice and Education—and replacing them by Satsuma men. If that be done, and if reforms be undertaken in the Department of Communications and the Hokkaido Administration, the association undertakes to support the Cabinet in increasing the Land Tax 3½ per cent., in the Audit Bureau affair, in the Takano trouble, and in the Budgetary expenditures. But there is another condition. Like a lady's postscript it is the most important part of all. It is that ten members of the association shall receive good official appointments. We don't believe the story.

JAPANESE SIEGE ARTILLERY.

Our readers probably remember that after the capture of the Talien forts, a considerable delay took place before the Japanese troops moved to the attack of Port Arthur, and it was subsequently learned that the Commander-in-Chief of the expeditionary force had resolved not to deliver the assault until a battery of siege guns was available. Up to that time, the Japanese had used field guns only; and had found them sufficient for the purposes of a campaign which did not involve the capture of any permanent fortifications. But Port Arthur was a fortress of the first order, and had the Chinese brought any resolution to its defence, heavy artillery would have been indispensable to the assailants. We believe that we are right in saying that no regularly organized corps of siege artillery then existed in the Japanese service. At all events, some difficulty was experienced in complying with General Yamaji's requisition, and when the siege guns were finally landed at Talien, a coolie corps had to be formed for their transport to the front. They never went into action, so far as we know, but the Japanese did not fail to take the experience to heart, and they are now engaged in a series of experiments having for their object the settlement of preliminaries to the organization of a brigade of heavy artillery. A force of gunners has been taken from the Uraga Forts, and four twelve-inch guns have been sent from Yokosuka to Gotemba by train, whence they have been drawn by horses to the Suso-no plains, the journey furnishing data for guidance in organizing a transport service. Firing practice is now going on, for purposes of both attack and defence. It is not necessary, of course, to go all the way to Suso-no in order to practise garrison gunnery, but the special kind of defensive fire carried on in the plains beyond Gotemba is "masked fire;" that is to say, firing at an invisible enemy.

THE FORMOSA RAILWAY.

The projectors of the Formosa Railway are bestirring themselves. They held a meeting in the Imperial Hotel on the afternoon of the 7th instant, and were encouraged by the presence of Count Okuma, Viscount Takashima, Marquis Hachisuka, Prince Konoye and Baron Yasuba. Among the projectors are many prominent men of business—as Messrs. Shibusawa, Yasuda, Yonekura, Tanaka, &c.,—whose names alone constitute a guarantee that the project is receiving practical and serious consideration. Mr. Shibusawa, who was one of the speakers, told his audience very plainly that their reputation as practical merchants was concerned in carrying that programme to completion. He also employed an argument which used to have much potency in this country, though we suspect that it has now lost some of its old force, namely, that foreigners were watching Japan's proceedings in Formosa, and that any failure to push an enterprise so essential to material progress as railways are, would certainly be construed greatly to her discredit. It seems probable that this meeting will prove the prelude of active steps to build the long talked of line, but we can not forget that a great part of the responsibility for the delay rests with the Government's failure to establish order

in the island. Folks can scarcely be expected to devote their funds to railway construction in a country where insurgents may at any moment set themselves to destroy life and property on a wholesale scale.

RESIGNATIONS.

Note has already been taken of the fact that Mr. Takahashi, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, resigned his post on the 4th instant. Mr. Takahashi has long been in delicate health, and had his resignation stood alone, the reason assigned—recent aggravation of his malady, that too common trouble in Japan, lung disease—would probably have been accepted without question. But the event was followed by the resignation, on the 5th instant, of Mr. Komura, chief of the Legislative Bureau in the Cabinet, and it is now alleged that the action of these two officials is connected with the revision of the administrative system in Formosa. No explanation is given as to the nature of their objection, but since the statement that ill-health is not the real cause of their retirement comes from the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which has special sources of information at present, we must assume it to be correct. There is much that perplexes foreign observers of Japanese affairs. If officials in the position of Messrs. Takahashi and Komura think it necessary to resign because they can not endorse a project of law contemplated by the Cabinet, their independence of opinion is certainly commendable, but does not seem conducive to the discipline, without which public business is apt to get into difficulties.

ARREST OF A LOCAL OFFICIAL.

Mr. Kamoike, Headman of the Hongo District in Tokyo, was arrested on the 12th instant at the suit of his sister-in-law, who charged him with fraud. The case, as stated in the vernacular press, is this:—The sister of Mr. Kamoike's wife married a Mr. Hanai, who died last May, leaving property valued at about twenty thousand *yen*. Mr. Kamoike became a species of self-constituted guardian of the widow, and, without her consent, pledged house and land property of hers to a bank, raising on it eight thousand *yen*, which he spent on his own account. It was a vulgar kind of crime, not at all interesting, but the social position of the delinquent gives the incident some prominence.

THE NEW ISSUE OF BONDS.

With regard to the recently announced issue of five million *yen* worth of Railway Bonds and ten million *yen* worth of Public Undertakings Bonds, the *Fiji Shimpō* says that it understands the whole amount to have been taken up by the Bank of Japan with funds accruing from the sale of War Bonds. Our contemporary describes these funds as a Government deposit, from which we infer that reference is made to the money obtained by selling War Bonds to a British syndicate last summer, but we confess that the true bearings of the operation escape us. The proceeds of that transaction meet us at so many turns, now as a gold reserve, now as a fund for building railways or carrying out public

works, that we find ourselves bewildered. Doubtless the facts will soon be plain. Meanwhile, it is interesting to note that the Railway Loan and the Public Undertakings Loan stand thus, at present:—

RAILWAY LOAN.		
	Amount issued.	Issue price.
	<i>yen</i> .	<i>yen</i> .
First Issue.....	100,000	100 00
Second „	1,000,000	100.00
Third „	2,000,000	96.36
Fourth „	1,000,000	99.25
Fifth „	1,000,000	100.20
Sixth „	4,000,000	99.20
Seventh „	5,000,000	95.53

Total 15,000,000

Remaining to be issued..... 3,897,333 *yen*.

PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS LOAN.

	Amount issued.	Issue price.
	<i>yen</i> .	<i>yen</i> .
First Issue.....	3,000,000	99 22
Second „	10,000,000	95 53

Total 13,000,000

Remaining to be issued this fiscal year..... 55,704,100 *yen*.

HONGKONG AND GOLD.

The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce recently decided that, in consideration of the Colony's close commercial relations with China, it would not be advisable to place the currency on a gold basis. We observe, nevertheless, that the *Hongkong Daily Press* continues to advocate the adoption of the gold standard. The *Daily Press* has always been a staunch supporter of bimetalism, and its present attitude is one of despair, not of changed conviction. It thinks that if no hope of the international rehabilitation of silver can be entertained, and if country after country is resolved to turn its back on the white metal, things will fare badly with a community that refuses to follow the general lead. We can appreciate such an apprehension. If the demonetization of silver proceeds much farther, its fitness to discharge the duties of a medium of exchange will become very doubtful. Another strong point made by our Colonial contemporary is that China, since she has pledged her customs revenue as security for a large gold loan, will soon find herself under the imperative necessity of fixing the sterling value of that revenue. She counts upon it to pay off the interest and principal of her foreign debt, which it certainly will not do if she collects it in coins that threaten to become mere tokens. The French in Indo-China have just recognised that they are confronted by a similar source of embarrassment, and have converted their customs dues into sterling by assessing them in francs. It would not be by any means so easy for China to adopt a similar course with her customs revenue. She is perfectly competent to demonetize silver and resort to a gold currency, as Japan has done, but to make such a change in the domain of her foreign trade only, would be a discrimination against which the Treaty Powers might justly protest. Besides, it is easy to speak of collecting the duties in gold, but when we come to consider the details of such a measure, grave difficulties present themselves at once. The unit would have to be a Chinese gold coin. By no possibility could all the subjects and citizens of the various Treaty Powers be required to adopt the currency of any one of their number for duty-paying purposes in China, neither is it conceivable that China should consent to collect her revenue in half a dozen different kinds of coin. Her only course, failing a gold currency of her own, would be to fix the sterling value of the Mexican dollar once and for all, and we do not believe that she could ever induce Western countries to agree to anything of the kind. Even assuming that she could, the fact would not add materially to the embarrassments attending the circulation of silver dollars in Hongkong. None the less it appears to us very improbable that any community of merchants should be able to work successfully with a silver currency if the demonetization of the white metal by so many nations is to remain permanent. But will it remain permanent?

We can not think so. England is the chief—may we not say the sole?—obstacle to an international agreement for the rehabilitation of silver. Now if England had to consider her interests as the world's creditor only, she would assuredly hold firmly to her gold conservatism. But she has to consider something else. She has to consider the interests of a section of her subjects numbering no less than 300 millions. What is to be done about India? The rupee now has a fictitious sterling value which has destroyed its use as a measure of the country's hoarded wealth, and, moreover, the Government stands in the extraordinary position of offering to buy the people's gold at a price for which it declines to sell its own gold. We doubt whether the history of the world offers any precedent for the singularly anomalous financial system now existing in India, and it is impossible to conceive that a nation possessed of so much economical wisdom as the English have proved themselves to possess, should suffer such a system to remain long in force.

THE EMPEROR OF KOREA.

On the 2nd instant, the Korean *Official Gazette* published a memorial by the whole body of Korean Officials to their sovereign, urging him to assume the title of "Emperor." The *Forosū Choho* gives a Japanese translation of the document. It sets out by asserting the truisms that every independent sovereign has a right to choose his own title and require his own subjects to recognise it; that recognition having been obtained at home, recognition abroad follows in natural sequence, and that the assent or dissent of foreign Powers need not be awaited in such a matter. "Now," the document proceeds, "the virtues of Your Majesty are as those of Heaven and Your Majesty's subjects must necessarily look up to You as their Emperor. We therefore pray that Your Majesty will assume the title of Emperor without regard to the acquiescence of foreign States." The Tokyo journal says that the ceremony of crowning the "Emperor" was expected to take place on the 14th instant, and the appropriate worship of heaven and earth at the palace on the 17th.

It is doubtless fresh in the recollection of our readers that this idea of changing the King's title was mooted when Japanese influence was supposed to be paramount at the Korean Court, and the critics had not the slightest hesitation in attributing the initiative to Japan. They probably see their mistake now, though they obstinately refused to admit the truth of our denial at the time. There is an element of comicality, it must be admitted, in the assumption of such a title, especially at a time when the shadow of a foreign Power is supposed to be cast over the whole of the peninsula. But we sympathise with the Koreans. Their action in this matter can only be construed as an assertion of national independence. It is not a very substantial kind of assertion. Whether Korea be called an empire or a kingdom will matter little if its absorption by a foreign aggressor becomes essential to the latter. Still, the great trouble about the Koreans hitherto has been their apparent indifference about their country's status. They never seemed to have the heart to strike a blow on their own account, and until they began to help themselves, heaven was not likely to help them. This imperial aspiration may mean the advent of a more wholesome mood.

A FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

On Wednesday, Mr. H. Kessler, the representative in Japan of Messrs. Siemens and Halske of Berlin, gave an entertainment at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, to a large number of patrons and friends of the Firm, in honour of the fiftieth anniversary of the Company's office in Berlin. We believe that this is the first celebration of the kind ever held by a foreign firm in Japan.

THE FORMOSAN JUDICIAL CASE.

WE did not suppose it possible that the case of the Formosan judicial official who has been placed on the Retired List by an Administrative Order, would lend itself to interpretations such as have been formulated by one of our local contemporaries. Mr. TAKANO is said by that journal to be "a second martyr for the Constitution," and it is declared to be "a happy omen for Japan that she should produce such men." In one sense it certainly is a happy omen. Men that make a stout fight for what they believe to be the right are always a fine element in any nation. But in another sense it is by no means a happy omen. For when an official reaches a position of such eminence as that lately occupied by Mr. TAKANO, he may reasonably be expected to have some knowledge of constitutional law or, at least, in the absence of such knowledge, to be endowed with prudence which shall guarantee him against becoming the central figure in a discreditable scandal. The public, in appraising the qualities essential to a judge, would certainly place discrimination and circumspection high in the list, but Mr. TAKANO does not appear either to discriminate or to be circumspect. He has taken his stand on a certain provision of the Constitution which guarantees judges against removal from office except by sentence of a disciplinary or criminal court, and on the strength of that provision he has assumed an openly defiant attitude towards the Government, refusing to obey its orders and declaring his intention of setting its authority at naught. But it does not appear to have occurred to him that before appealing to the Constitution he ought to have ascertained whether the Constitution applies to his case. Of all men a judge should be the last to have recourse to a law without considering whether its scope extends to the matter in question. Formosa has not yet been brought within the range of the Japanese Constitution. Nothing is more certain than that. The *Japan Gazette*, indeed, from which we have quoted above, dismisses as "a very trivial argument," the contention that the Constitution does not apply to Formosa, and says:—"Is Formosa a part of Japan or is it not? Certainly no regulation has been effected prohibiting any such application, and in the absence of any expressed provisions the Constitution must be held to prevail?" We presume that the singular ignorance displayed in that statement will be at once apparent. Few readers of English history—not to travel beyond the annals of our own country—have studied the subject so superficially as to be unaware that the Constitution has no operative force outside the confines of England, unless special measures have been taken to render it operative. In the case of territory acquired by conquest the right

of the Crown to institute a system of local government, wholly apart from parliamentary interference, has been universally recognised and everywhere illustrated in practice. It has been well said by one of the greatest of modern authorities on this subject that "the constitutional history of British dependencies may be compendiously described as that of a gradual transfer of the functions of Government from the Crown, in the exercise of a well recognised prerogative, to Parliament"; and inasmuch as the paramount authority of the Crown still continues unassailed in the case of many British dependencies—as Gibraltar, Malta, Hongkong, &c.—, it is almost incredible that an English journalist should fall into a blunder so egregious as to imagine that constitutional privileges extend, *ipso facto*, to conquered territory in the absence of restrictive legislation. One of the fundamental principles of the Japanese Constitution is that all laws require the consent of the Diet, but the Governor-General of Formosa is invested with power to make laws for the inhabitants of that dominion without any reference to the Diet. That one vital fact should have sufficed to indicate to Mr. TAKANO that Formosa still lies beyond the purview of the Constitution, even supposing him unacquainted with constitutional law as applied by Occidental countries. Besides, he had an object lesson lying still closer to his eyes. Before his appointment to Formosa he sat on the bench in Niigata. His title then was *hanis* (judge). When he was nominated to Formosa he became a *hanguan* (judicial official). In other words, he received a title no longer used in Japan proper; a title abolished on the reorganization of the Judiciary. Moreover, the name of the tribunal over which he presided, the term applied to himself as president, and the constitution of the law courts generally, plainly differentiated the whole judicial system of the island from that of Japan proper. Those facts should have suggested the possibility which in his ignorance of constitutional history, he seems to have altogether overlooked, namely, that the authority of the Crown, not that of the Constitution, was paramount in Formosa. We do not know the reason of Mr. TAKANO'S removal from active duty. Journals opposed to the Government hint that he displayed too much severity in dealing with corrupt officials. Such an explanation is obviously incredible. It is nevertheless accepted without query by the *Japan Gazette*; nay more, it is re-stated by that journal on its own authority in the most explicit terms. Local criticisms of Japanese administrative acts would carry more weight were they not disfigured by constant displays of injustice and recklessness. The cause of Mr. TAKANO'S misfortune can not be discussed, since it is

not known, but we are bound to say that sober folks will find difficulty in reconciling his present conduct with any theory of fitness to discharge judicial functions. Whether the Government is blameworthy for not having yet brought the Formosan Judiciary within the purview of the Constitution, is a question inviting discussion, but so long as the island remains outside the operation of the Constitution, there can be no manner of doubt of the Crown's power to remove or suspend the members of the Judiciary.

SECTION XXII.

It is fortunate for Japan that the United States Government has decided not to enforce the additional duties provided for in Section 22 of the Dingley Tariff. The Section attracted attention originally because it seemed likely to interfere seriously with the business of the Canadian Pacific steamers. These vessels carry considerable quantities of goods destined for the United States *via* Canada, and the 22nd Section of the Tariff provided that goods coming to the United States from Canada should pay a tax of 10 per cent. *ad valorem* in addition to the duties leviable upon them under the general provisions of the law. It appeared, therefore, that the Canadian route would be effectually closed. But there are good reasons to doubt whether the Section could have been construed in that sense. It speaks, not of goods coming *through* Canada, but of goods coming *from* Canada, and the natural interpretation of such language is that the *provenance* of the goods referred to Canada—in other words, that they are Canadian products or manufactures. Apart from that question, however, the Section would have discriminated fatally against the Japanese maritime carrying trade, for it provided that an additional duty should be levied upon goods coming to the States in vessels not owned by American citizens or not specially protected by treaty, and since Japanese vessels are not thus protected, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Seattle line would have been penalized.

Section 22 of the Dingley Tariff Law runs as follows:—

That a discriminating duty of ten per centum *ad valorem*, in addition to the duties imposed by law, shall be levied, collected, and paid on all goods, wares, or merchandise which shall be imported in vessels not of the United States, or which, being the production or manufacture of any foreign country not contiguous to the United States, shall come into the United States from such contiguous country; but this discriminating duty shall not apply to goods, wares, or merchandise which shall be imported in vessels not of the United States, entitled at the time of such importation by treaty or convention to be entered in the ports of the United States on payment of the same duties as shall then be payable on goods, wares, and merchandise imported in vessels of the United States, nor to such foreign products or manufactures as shall be imported from such contiguous countries in the usual course of strictly retail trade.

A JAPANESE CRUISER BUILDING IN GERMANY.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that an order has been given to the Vulcan Yard at Stettin for the construction of a protected cruiser of ten thousand tons displacement; that she will take three years to build, and that two Japanese experts, Messrs. Takayama and Uyeno, have proceeded to Stettin to superintend the work. We presume that our contemporary refers to one of the 9,600 ton first-class cruisers included in the Naval Expansion Programme. If so there seems to have been a good deal of delay in placing the order.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE BEHRING SEA CONFERENCE.

There is no longer any doubt that Great Britain has refused to take part in the proposed Conference with regard to pelagic sealing in the Behring Sea, if Russia and Japan are to be parties to the discussion. Details of the reasons assigned by Her Majesty's Government have not been received, but the general outlines of the objection are understood to be that as the subject to be considered is pelagic sealing with reference solely to its effects on the life of the Pribyloff rookeries, in which the United States alone are interested, neither Japan nor Russia has any *locus standi* in the discussion. That is evidently a question on which it would be extremely rash to pronounce an opinion. Moreover, we are disposed to think that it does not cover the whole ground of Great Britain's contention. For it must have been known in London months ago that Russia had already been invited by the United States to join the Conference, and that Japan was about to be invited. Mr. Foster, the American delegate, visited St. Petersburg in the first instance, and having obtained a promise of coöperation from Russia, proceeded to London to seek a similar promise from England. No secret whatever was made of the fact that Russia had agreed to send a representative to the Conference, yet England consented to take part in it. We must assume, too, that the scope of the Conference's deliberations was known from the outset. On those hypotheses, the reason now assigned for Great Britain's abstention does not seem sufficient, and will probably be supplemented when fuller intelligence arrives. Meanwhile, we confess to a sentiment of satisfaction that things have taken this new course. It has always been our expressed conviction that States should exhibit a neighbourly interest in the conservation of their mutual interests, but the extremely rude treatment that England has received at American hands in this instance awakens feelings of a less philosophical character than those of universal brotherhood, and we should be glad to see Mr. Sherman's undignified and insolent methods of diplomacy visited by the retribution they deserve. As for the Conference itself, we have already exhibited reasons indicating that whatever agreement the four Powers might come to, a very simple device on the part of the pelagic sealers would enable them to evade all restrictions. Thus, since no really practical result could be obtained, England's abstention becomes desirable from that point of view also.

GOLD MINING IN CHINA.

The N.-C. Daily News says:—"A few months ago attention was called in these columns to the discovery of gold in Kueihien, in Kuangsi province, and the fact that a syndicate of returned Californians and Australians (Chinese) had obtained permission of the Governor of the province to erect machinery, etc., on the spot. News has now reached us that the syndicate recently received one out of eight crushing mills that had been ordered from the United States, which was at once erected, and that crushing was commenced on a quantity of ore with results that were quite beyond the most sanguine expectations. Machinery for coal mining has also been ordered for coal deposits in the neighbourhood of the gold mining district, so that a supply of fuel can be relied upon for the crushing mills, etc. The other seven mills are already on their way overland to Kueihien from Canton and are expected to be ready for work by the end of October next. There are also said to be rich galena deposits not far from Kueihien, which the members of the syndicate intend to petition Governor Shih of the province to permit them also to work, in conjunction with another native company composed of the local gentry and men of wealth and influence."

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

Some changes have been effected in the field of Japanese education. Additional importance has been given to technical education by establishing in the Educational Department a special bureau for dealing with the affairs of technical schools, including those for training merchants, mechanics, agriculturists, and apprentices. The much vexed problem of text books has also received attention. A bureau has been organized for their selection or compilation. To the same office—called the bureau of archives—is entrusted the duty of providing for the preservation of books of reference and the inspection of libraries. School hygiene also will hereafter be more carefully supervised, a school sanitary committee having been appointed. This last point is one of great importance, and the Authorities are to be congratulated upon having taken it up. We note, further, that the number of normal schools is to be increased, doubtless in consideration of the fact that a serious deficiency exists in the ranks of available teachers.

FRENCH DUELS.

One result of the duel between Prince Henry and the Count of Turin has been to cause the publication of information which completely upsets the ideas commonly entertained of duelling in France. It has been generally supposed in England and America that French duels were veritable farces, mere theatrical displays, in which no one is hurt, and no intention of hurting anybody is entertained. *The Times*, however, prints the following communication on the subject:—

"Most Englishmen regard French duels in the light of Mark Twain's amusing story in 'A Tramp Abroad,' because they never get an insight unless they have a long tenure of some really important official position in France, or are married to a French woman. Duels are occasionally fought for advertisement by such people as journalists and politicians, but the average Frenchman is very reticent with regard to encounters."

"The real French duel often proves fatal, if not immediately, at least after a few days or weeks. It is not uncommon to hear it said of a dead person:—'*Il est mort à la suite d'un duel.*' The combatants practically never escape with no injuries at all. In spite of all this the real French duel seldom, if ever, gets into the papers. . . . The true French duel, which is generally fought with rapiers and not with pistols, is sedulously kept secret, and it is a mark of very bad breeding to question a Frenchman about any of his encounters. A challenge is not lightly sent, but when it has once been accepted the seconds do not attempt to prevent a meeting. Any second who gossiped about a forthcoming duel would be thought to have behaved most dishonourably. It is a curious fact that the seconds are often absolutely ignorant of the cause of quarrel, especially when it concerns the honour of a family. There is extreme unwillingness to bring a lady's name into a quarrel, and many duels are fought on some pretext in order to prevent this. . . . In one case within my own acquaintance death ensued the same day, and the knowledge that a duel had been fought was absolutely confined to the two families concerned. A man I know well, who has fought altogether four duels, so seriously wounded one of his opponents that the latter never got up from his bed and died within three months. In conclusion, I would ask any one who doubts the reality of the French duel why Frenchmen are so careful never to get out of practise in fencing."

THE "TAIYO" AND THE "NIPPON SHUGI" MOVEMENT.

In the Monthly Summary of the Religious Press published in the *Weekly Mail* of July 31st, we gave a very full epitome of the comments of leading magazines on the *Nihon Shugi* party and the views of its chief promoters. At the end of the epitome these words occur:—"The *Taiyō* writes in a cautious tone. The early professions of the sect lack discrimination and are altogether too one-sided, but whether the views of its leaders will gain in breadth as time goes on and embody the results of religious thought and inquiry carried on in other sects, remains to be seen." Now No. 17 of the *Taiyō* contains a note headed, "The *Japan Mail's* gross fabrication," in which this journal is accused of misrepresenting the *Taiyō's*

views in the most flagrant manner when commenting on the *Nihon Shugi* movement, and is charged with displaying, throughout the Knapp controversy, narrow-minded pro-Christian bias, and what not. In regard to what was published in the Religious Summary, we shall place our readers in a position to judge for themselves how far we have misrepresented the opinions of Mr. Takayama Rinjiō, the editor of the *Taiyō*, who, according to his own statement, is alone responsible for what the *Taiyō* has published on the *Nippon Shugi* Controversy. It must be premised that the alleged misrepresentations appeared immediately after the publication of Nos. 9 and 13 of the *Taiyō*, and that it was on the contents of these two numbers, and these two only, that our observations were based. We could not possibly foresee that, after playing the rôle of a lukewarm, if not indifferent, critic, Mr. Takayama would become an ardent partisan of the new movement. He is at liberty to change his opinions as often as he pleases, but it is unreasonable of him to expect that readers of the *Taiyō* should know six weeks ahead the course he is going to follow.

After acknowledging that the summary given in the *Mail* is impartial as regards other journals (*kōkei ni tsumamande shiruseri*), he goes on to say that, as respects the *Taiyō*, it is an entire misrepresentation of facts. "We alone have written on the *Nihon Shugi* in the *Taiyō*," says Mr. Takayama, "and there has been no manner of obscurity or indistinctness about the attitude we have assumed. We are ardent advocates of the new movement. Our views on this subject have been expressed in the clearest manner." Exactly. But when? Has Mr. Takayama forgotten what he wrote in Nos. 9 and 13 of the magazine which he edits? If so, we take leave to refresh his memory. In No. 9, in a note entitled *Nihon Shugi no dotoku to jibutsu no haiseki*, the following remarks occur:—"While coming into direct conflict with the weaknesses and deficiencies of Buddhism and Confucianism, the *Nihon Shugi* movement does not escape the charge of ignoring history in that it fails to appreciate what these systems have done for our people." The *Taiyō* goes on to ask whether it is possible to get rid of Buddhism and Shintoism, and accuses the *Nihon Shugi* party of failure to appreciate the value of the two creeds under discussion. It is all very well to denounce the idleness and proud satisfaction of the Buddhist recluse who has turned his back on the world, or the heteronomy of the Confucianist, continues the *Taiyō*, "but what we particularly wish to know is what the *Nihon Shugi* party has of sufficient merit to take the place of Buddhism and Confucianism. *Ika naru iishitsu* (實績) *wo motte kore ni kayen to suru ka kore warera no mottomo min to hossuru tokoro nari*." Do these remarks sound like the utterances of an ardent admirer of the *Nihon Shugi* principles?

Turning to No. 13 of the magazine, we find still more adverse criticism of the movement. The following observations occur in an article entitled *Nihon Shugi*. "The advocates of the *Nihon Shugi* movement are closely connected with *shintō*. They are for getting rid of both Buddhism and Christianity. They are great sticklers for antiquity and hence associate themselves with *shintō*. This connection may, of course, be merely superficial and deep down there may be a searching for new truths. If, beneath the ancient dress which it has assumed, there beats a heart that is intent on finding out something new, we should like its existence to be made quite plain. If the spirit that actuates the movement be new, what course will it take, what fruits will it produce—these are questions that we earnestly desire to have answered." After observing that there are not only strong conservatives—extreme Shintoists—connected with the movement, but also among its leaders some of Japan's most enlightened scholars, the *Taiyō* concludes with the following expressions:—"Nihon Shugi ippa no shōsen sei wa hatsurete warera no nosomi ni kanau ya ina ya me wo nugute sono shinshu (通取) no seishinteki undō wo min. "When

ther the various scholars belonging to the *Nihon Shugi* party, in the matter of showing that the movement is progressive in spirit, will fulfil our expectations or not, is something that we wait anxiously to see."

If that is not writing in "a cautious tone" words have no meaning. The *Taiyō* accuses us of giving special prominence to anti-*Nihon Shugi* criticism in our quotations from magazines. Will the *Taiyō* kindly furnish us with a list of the magazines that have published articles favourable to the movement? We quoted opinions from no less than ten separate magazines besides the *Taiyō*, all of which had devoted considerable attention to the subject, and many of which are entirely free from the pro-Christian bias which, in Mr. Takayama's opinion, so disfigures the utterances of the *Japan Mail*. These periodicals we take to represent the opinions of a very large section of the Japanese religious public. If the line they have adopted towards the *Nihon Shugi* movement displeases Mr. Takayama, that is no business of ours. What we set out to prove has, we think, been proved conclusively, namely that the July summary published in these columns represented correctly the views of the *Taiyō* as expressed in the numbers of the magazine on which our observations were based.

We take this occasion to remind Mr. Takayama that we are doing our best to keep pace with his changes of opinion. Even in the summary from which he quotes, there is proof of this. Just as the summary was going to press, and after the first notice of the *Taiyō's* views had been penned, a later number of that periodical appeared, and we at once observed that Mr. Takayama was veering towards the new party. We therefore wrote:—"We are very much surprised to find that even Mr. Takayama Rinjiro has expressed sympathy with the new Shintō movement," etc. We did not then know that Mr. Takayama had become the editor of the *Taiyō* and that he was responsible for the statements in previous numbers of the magazine. In our August summary, there is another reference to his attitude towards the new movement. We fail to see what other course is open to us but to represent Mr. Takayama's views from month to month as expressed in his latest articles. As quoted in the August summary, the *Sekai no Nihon* observes of Mr. Takayama:—"The rapidity with which his convictions change is a cause for wonder." That remark, though intended to be disparaging, need not be so, as the same thing has been said of some of our greatest men. But it furnishes an explanation of the apparent tardiness of which we are said to be guilty in recording Mr. Takayama's very latest opinions. As for Mr. Takayama's dictum that the editor of the *Japan Mail* is narrow-minded and not worthy of a position among persons qualified to discuss Japanese ethical subject, that is a matter of opinion which we are not concerned to discuss.

THE QUICK AND THE DEAD.

A very sad case was brought to light by the Bluff police on Wednesday. A policeman noticing the peculiarly dejected aspect of a beggar woman, accosted her, asking her name and abode. She replied that she was called Muraoka Hana, and, as far as she knew, was 25 years old, but had no recollection of her parents, her native place, or connections. She had been homeless so long that her name was not even on the census roll. On the woman's back was strapped a one-year old boy-baby. Looking at it narrowly the constable noticed that the child was dead. It then transpired that the infant had succumbed to hooping cough some days before, but the mother had carried it around ever since, not knowing what to do with it. The beggar woman, herself, was wretchedly ill. The case was at once referred to the Town Office, where the officials took charge of the woman and her dead baby. Truly it is well for our peace of mind that we know little of the awful sufferings of those around us.

HONGKONG AND THE INDIAN CONSTABLES.

It is a serious matter for the Hongkong Government to find that the integrity of the Sikh police has not survived the efforts of the gambling house-keepers to undermine it. The original object of substituting Sikh constables for Chinese lukongs was precisely to overcome the difficulty of preserving order in the face of the corrupting influence of the gambling dens. The change was made thirty-one years ago. At that time, piracy was rife in the seas adjoining Hongkong, and the pirates made the Colony a basis of operations, helping, at the same time, to swell the list of local crimes. The Chinese police proved useless for the apprehension of these rascals, for no constable would cross the threshold of a gambling house. He found it much more profitable to give the place a wide berth, and the gambling houses thus became asylums for all kinds of bad characters. The then Governor of the Colony had recourse to two drastic measures: he licensed the gambling houses and imported a force of Sikh policemen. Apparently the latter have now shown themselves little better than their Chinese predecessors.

"THE ASYLUM RECORD."

The first number of the second volume of the *Asylum Record* is devoted entirely to the affairs of the Asylum—that is to say, the Okayama Orphan Asylum, of which our readers have heard from time to time. The Asylum having completed the tenth year of its existence, the editor of the *Record* is certainly justified in writing at some length about an institution which, from very small beginnings, has grown to noble proportions, and which, by the high courage and unflagging energy of Mr. and Mrs. Ishii and Mr. and Mrs. Pettie, has survived embarrassments that must speedily have overcome less resolute philanthropists. Mr. Pettie's brief record of what the Asylum has achieved in its life of ten years runs thus:—

We would sum up the results accomplished as follows. Over 500 needy people—mostly children—befriended and let into a larger and better life, a spirit of self-help and large-hearted benevolence planted in many young hearts, an inspiring example set to scores of similar institutions, Christian, Buddhist and secular, a world-wide interest aroused in this one work and the principles on which it was founded. These principles may be defined as faith voicing itself in intense prayer; Biblical teaching as the only true basis of a correct and useful life; an earnest spirit of self-help developed in the face of stern trial, and a love for others that is the highest socialism.

The Asylum has done all this and is still true to the faith of its earlier years, still believes in prayer and realized answers to prayer, the simple gospel of a crucified Redeemer, a high spiritual life and tireless activity in labours of love.

For all that it has done through suffering and success it gives to God the glory, and in a spirit of joyous praise, of humble devotion and of renewed courage it starts out for the next great goal a half score years ahead.

AN ILLUSTRATIVE QUOTATION.

A Japanese writer suggests that the best way to administer Formosa might be to adopt the English method of placing it in the hands of a commercial corporation. The suggestion evokes comment from a local English Editor. "There is a sign of healthiness," he says, "coming over the country. The blatant and self-assertive spirit of the pre-war times is getting to be a thing of the past. The Japanese think of imitating England." Then he pushes his comment a little farther. The Japanese diffidently prefaces his suggestion by the remark, "You may laugh at my plan as impracticable." "Laugh! We should just think so," cries the English Editor. "When we consider the vast differences between those merchant-warriors that England sends out by thousands every year and the *akindo* of Japan." Well, we too have a comment to make in the form of a question. We would ask on which side is "the blatant and self-assertive spirit."

DEATH OF MR. R. N. ST. JOHN.

A well-known and widely respected resident of Yokohama passed away in England on Saturday in the person of Mr. Robert Newell St. John, senior partner in the firm of St. John and Daniel, bill and bullion brokers. A banker by profession, Mr. St. John came out to Japan in the service of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, which he left to take up the profession of a broker. This he followed with great success, his geniality of temperament and thorough grasp of the details of his business combining in attracting and retaining clients. An affection of the throat that had troubled him for about a year and a half, induced Mr. St. John to visit the old country in the spring of this year to obtain the advice of eminent specialists, but unfortunately the malignant disease had gained too great a headway, and no hope of relief, much less cure, was held out. The end was therefore expected and Mr. St. John awaited it calmly. At the time of his death he was Master of the Yokohama Lodge, No. 1092, E.C., a position he had held three times before. He had served in the high office of Senior Grand Warden of the District Grand Lodge of Japan, and was in office as Scribe N. of the Yokohama Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Senior Warden of the Orient Mark Lodge of Japan. His removal leaves a big gap in the ranks of the local fraternity, but his brethren will long cherish the memory of a brilliant worker and excellent exponent of all that was good and great in a noble craft. In the inner circle of family life he was a loving father and affectionate husband: the outside world will remember him as a loyal friend and an honourable gentleman ever ready to attend to the cry for help, comfort, or sympathy. The cutting off of such a life at the early age of 47 is very sad.

GIRL ELECTROCUTED IN TOKYO.

A sad electric light accident is reported from Tokyo. On Thursday night a young servant girl, 15 years of age, named Ikoma Hana, employed at the Echikatsu butcher's shop in Nishikicho, Kanda, grasped the cord, or wire, with which an electric light was suspended and received the full force of the electric current, her fingers being terribly burned, and the shock received so violent that in spite of immediate medical aid the poor girl expired within a few minutes. The Electric Light Company is charged with gross neglect in the matter of the un-insulated cord, but it would appear that the insulating cover had been burned or worn away at the place where the girl grasped it. The lamp, when lighted, used to hang in the inner court of the house, and during the day it was hooked to a pillar within the shop so as to leave the court free. The servant girl, following her ordinary routine, unhooked the burner, turned on the current, and was about to descend into the court with the lamp in her hand when death overtook her. The accident is suggestive. Hundreds of houses are furnished with precisely similar lamps, which are removed from place to place in a room, raised or lowered, by grasping the wire. Evidently there is a serious danger in this custom, and it would be well that householders should have their lamps carefully examined from time to time.

FRANCE AND JAPAN.

The *Official Gazette* of the 12th instant contains an announcement of the Foreign Office to effect that the French Republic and the Empire of Japan have entered into an agreement providing that the subjects or citizens of either shall enjoy, within the territories of the other, national treatment in the matter of the protection of rights of property in industries, and that, in consequence of that agreement, Japanese subjects shall, from the date of the announcement, receive in the French Republic protection for rights of property in the same manner as French citizens.

HOW TO LIVE LONG AND KEEP YOUNG.

[SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

In a paper contributed to these columns some time ago it was shown that civilization tends to the lengthening of human life. The subject of longevity, which in the time of Cicero had an importance in the eyes of many, is coming more and more to the fore as a theme of absorbing interest. Our instinctive love of life prompts us to look forward to old age as very desirable, even in the face of continuous and severe suffering. But it is a question with some whether Solomon, who is called the wisest of men, did not best prove his wisdom by not asking for long life, when the Almighty promised him whatever he should desire. There is in Holy Scripture a commandment coupled with a promise of long life, as if it were a thing desirable; but the infirmities, weaknesses, and disabilities of old age are so great that there are not a few who regard its gift as of very doubtful value, and many in times of intense suffering, utter the plaint of the man of Uz, "I would not live away." Sir Thomas Browne, whose life was one of singular freedom from trial, and who was in spirit unruffled and calm as a summer lake, once expressed himself as thinking it unbecoming to desire to surpass the days of our Saviour on earth, or wish to outlive that age wherein He thought fittest to die; but probably he did not greatly grieve that he was permitted to live to the ripe age of 77. Benjamin Franklin, attacked simultaneously by gout, stone, and old age, comforted himself with the reflection that "only three incurable diseases had fallen to his share, and that these had not deprived him at the age of 81 of his natural cheerfulness, his delight in books, and enjoyment of civil conversation," and wished that the final advance had been made in medical science that we might be able to avoid diseases and live as long as the Patriarchs. Certainly the value of later years is greater than that of earlier years. Many die at the time when they are best qualified to enjoy life and to be of use to others and the world at large. It is when one has come to the mellow years of old age with temper refined and wisdom clarified that one can most beautifully and happily influence others. Yet it must be confessed that one sometimes sees a man of 50 who has done better, and more wholesome, work for humanity than many an octogenarian. The legend of Tithonus portrays vividly the evils of a physical immortality, and we know that many very old people are very infirm both in mind and body. Yet Gorgias of Leontium, who lived 107 years, and continued his pursuits to the very last, as Cicero tells us, when he was asked why he was content to live so long, replied:—"I have no charge to bring against old age." But how will an old man of vigour and wisdom feel if his contemporaries, the busy men of the third and fourth generations after him, discount his wisdom, and refuse to follow his advice?

There are conditions of longevity. To have the prospect of taking rank among the *makrobiotes*, it is very desirable, if not necessary, to be well-started hereditarily. All qualities and tendencies are more or less hereditary, and longevity is well known to be so in a marked degree. The great grandson of old Parr died in Cork about 1860 at the age of 103, and the son of old Jenkins in his father's life-time reached a hundred. The Costello family in Co. Kilkenny showed that old age was hereditary. Mary Costello, who died in 1824, lived to be 103, and her brother upwards of 100; their mother attained the age of 112, their grandmother a similar age, and their great grandmother's life was lengthened to 125 years. Says the *Lancet*:—"Sir Moses Montefiore had one parent die at the age of 79 years, and the other at 83; his grandfather at 87, his grandmother at 93, a brother at 73, another at 69, a sister at 84, another at 79, another at 82."

The next thing is a full development of physical power. The Egyptians supposed life could be lengthened by the free use of sudorifics and

emetics. The alchemists sought some *elixir vite*, which should preserve youth and energy for ever. Men have learned that the human being is tripartite. The lowest stratum is the body, which demands the first attention. Proper care of the infant and child lays the foundation of a vigorous manhood and long life. The bodily machine is constructed to run, let us say, a hundred years. Just so much life-power is given, which one may husband with care to a green old age, or waste by excessive drafts, and find oneself a bankrupt in middle years. It is true that cases occur of great longevity even in violation of the physical laws which govern the human body. But the exception proves the rule. The drunkard, the glutton, and the epicure are slowly killing themselves. The story of Luigi Cornaro, who died at Padua in 1566, more than 100 years old, is most instructive as showing how life may be prolonged and health preserved by strict observance of nature's laws. He began life with a bad constitution, and a long course of excesses had by the time he reached the age of 35 years, reduced him to a state of extreme misery. His physicians gave him to understand that unless he reformed his life, miseries would increase, and death must ensue. Some time elapsed before he could bring himself to follow their advice. But only a year of strict observance sufficed for his cure. He then concluded that the regimen which had overcome the effects of dissipation and repaired the natural weakness of his constitution would keep him permanently in good health; and from that time upwards for 60 years, with rare exceptions and then always to his injury, he unwaveringly adhered to it. He regarded debauchery as "a cruel monster of human life," which destroyed the health of the body. His method was very simple: that each man should find out for himself what is the suitable quantity of food and drink for himself and live accordingly. His regimen consisted of eggs, soup, bread, pancakes and similar things. He never ate or drank to the extent of his appetite. Dr. Mark Trafton affirms, and is supported by learned physicians, that more people kill themselves by over-eating than by intoxicants. While the growth of the body goes on, the material must be furnished in quality and quantity to meet the demands of growth and the natural waste of the body. One who is engaged in severe manual labour throws off more of the material of his body and requires a larger amount of nutritive material; while one engaged in brain-work will require less to maintain the normal condition. All food taken beyond just enough to supply the waste of one's system is a violation of natural laws, and the penalty will be sure to come. Many, perhaps most, eat too much. Dr. Trafton says it is surprising how small a quantity of food will keep one in health and spirits. He tells of a coloured student who passed a year in school on six cents a day, and came out healthy and strong, and says that he himself does not consume food above the cost of 10 or 12 cents a day, and on his 78th birthday pulled his canoe 4 miles on the lake. Not only is too much eaten; it is eaten too hastily. The digestive organs are in no condition to receive this mass of unmassticated matter. And yet the one indispensable condition of old age is a good digestion. The perfect action of the stomach is of the first importance. "A proportion," says Sir Henry Thompson in the *Nineteenth Century*, "amounting at least to more than one-half of the disease which embitters the middle and latter part of life among the middle and upper classes of the population is due to avoidable errors in diet." While sympathizing to a large extent with the practice of what is called "vegetarianism" in diet, he objects strongly to a dogmatic assertion that such limitation of their food is desirable for any class or body of persons whatever. No broad rule or principle of diet can be laid down which shall be applicable to different classes of people. No prescription for any man is possible without knowledge of his constitution and habits. But everyone may with considerable ease find out the food which will be best adapted for himself, and less costly by half than the conventional meals which custom prescribes to all classes of man in varied conditions of life. For people of sedentary habits, cereal foods including fruits

should form a great part of the diet consumed, with a fair addition of eggs and milk, if no meat is taken and little of other animal food than fish. Dr. Trafton, now in the enjoyment of perfect health, physical and mental, having suffered greatly in earlier years from the horrors of dyspepsia, tells us how he attained this vigorous health. "I take for my morning meal—it is my principal meal—a small saucer of thoroughly-cooked oat-meal porridge with a little milk and sugar. When I can procure them I eat one or two fresh eggs, which have stood in hot water just ten minutes; they are then soft yet cooked through. A baked potato, a slice of wheat-meal bread, and one cup of coffee are added. At night a small bowl of boiled milk. My milk is from one cow, and is corked closely in a bottle until used. Fruit of all kinds having seeds in themselves I use freely. This is my uniform diet. Now in addition to this simple dietary, I have always taken special care of my body, keeping the skin clean by sponge baths and friction, especially taking pains to expand the lungs by the use of a small tube, carried about in my pocket. So simple is this mode of life that I do not find it necessary to make changes with the passing of the seasons. The only change is in my clothing. Summer and winter I am careful to guard the most important parts of the human system against cold, the chest, the back between the shoulders, and the feet." He is a vegetarian, and believes that a vegetable diet is the key to health and a long and enjoyable life. He thinks that to adopt his style of living may cost some self-denial at first, but that it will be a safe and paying investment.

There is another consideration which must not be overlooked: the man who is built so that he is equally strong in all his parts, if his life is not cut short by accident or contagious disease, is likely to live out his allotted period of life. But as Doctor H. C. Wood of Philadelphia says, "Excessive strength in one part is an inevitable source of danger. The athlete perishes because his over-developed muscular system perpetually strains and finally wears out a heart or a lung that was originally constructed for a muscular apparatus of half the power of that he has artificially built up." Care must be taken, therefore, to have the several parts of the body grow harmoniously. The multitude die early because of an inherent feebleness in some organ or other. It is not a desirable thing to have some organ overtopping in strength all other organs. And of course it is not wise to develop some part of the physical system till it is stronger than any other part. Hence, he who is built upon the principle of the "One-Horse Shay," has by far the best chance for old age. As long as we are in the ascending development—from birth to maturity—there is a perpetual increase of material, of activity and of strength. But there comes a time in the lives of men, who live long enough, when they begin to have a consciousness that they are failing, when their feet grow heavier, and their senses are not so keen. The meridian has been reached, the summer solstice is past; the sun has begun to descend; and the shadows are lengthening. The tissues are less flexible, and less easily nourished. The organs are more or less impaired. The safety is in recognizing the fact and acting accordingly. Experts tell us that "the system often bears up under the partial disability of one organ, if there is adaptation to its weakness and some compensation therefor. In a state of inability each organ tends to give to some other a helping hand. The enlarged heart freed from excitements and fatigues lasts a score of years. The weak stomach accepts the substituted digestion of the rest of the alimentary canal, or the outside digestion which chemistry offers." As the heart becomes weaker and the arteries lose their elasticity, and the powers of digestion are diminished, the appetite must be regulated so as "to feed and not choke the slowing fires." It is certainly safe to say that if our desire be to attain a green old age, care must be taken to preserve a balance among the various organs of the human frame not only during early and middle years, but also during the declining period of life.

Another condition of longevity is *exercise*. Sir Morell Mackenzie said that the secret of perpetual youth lies mostly in regular exercise whether in felling trees, or in the humbler form of the daily "constitutional." Perhaps the question is not yet settled whether on the whole the bicycle is favourable to health. Of course with advancing years speed must be slackened, and pressure reduced. It will not do for the belated passenger to attempt to catch moving cars, which may be at the expense of the stoppage of the heart. It was Matthew Arnold (was it not?) who came to his death from indiscreetly leaping over a stile. Sir Morell thinks if a man has ridden all his life he may continue to do so as long as he can sit on horseback, otherwise it is too violent for the aged. The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table had no intention of giving up because he was burning less carbon than in earlier years; and in his own water-sulky he was wont to glide up and down the river, taking advantage of the tide, nor did he object to pull against it for a quarter of an hour. Professor Schrödt recommends pedestrianism as a cure for all possible diseases, since the German landboten—mail-carriers afoot—generally attain to an extreme old age, and appeals to several Grecian writers who make a similar remark in regard to the Spartan *hemero-dromes*. There is no doubt that for old age the "constitutional" is the sheet-anchor. Every day ought to be so apportioned as to permit of the constitutional, or whatever else is the form of exercise. Cato is made to say in *De Senectute*: "We must pay due regard to our health, avail ourselves of moderate exercise, and take just so much food as will build up and not clog our energies." Dr. Rush, in his "Causes and Indications of Longevity," insists upon exercise, including moderate exercise of the understanding. Cyrus loved to plant trees; Gladstone loves to cut them down.

Longevity depends upon a *due amount of labour* through the years. More die from underwork than from overwork. Because they have not the energy of earlier life many retire from business to private life and soon pass away. This is suicidal. One will be happier for employment. That life is sometimes shortened by overwork is plain enough from the case of miners and factory-hands. But life will not be shortened by ordinary work unless the whole waste of the system is in excess of the powers of repair. The premature dotage of many distinguished men has arisen from their thinking that they were too old to work. John Adams, when 90 years of age, said that he kept his powers of action by constantly using them, the mind of an old man being like an old horse; if you can get any work out of it, you must work it all the time. Of course one must know when to stop, how far the measure of one's capacity extends, and must rest there, for all overwork is a draft on the future, which will have to be paid with heavy interest. They who seek to amass a fortune in a few years by crowding into a day what ought to be spread over a week are preparing for themselves a fearful retribution. "Make haste slowly" is a wise motto. But one can never put too much good thought into one's business. Some think that too much study is suicidal and the case of Kirk White is cited to prove it. On the contrary, the best students do not suffer from dry rot at 60. Wordsworth, Bryant, Longfellow, Tennyson, died octogenarians. The very best work that man has achieved has been accomplished after he has reached 60 years of age. Palmerston and Lyndhurst, led public opinion till they were in the eighties. Plato in the midst of literary work died in his 81st year. Isocrates wrote a great discourse in his 91st year. Scipio, the elder, was full of labour when verging on his 90th year. Fresh in our memories are the old men—Emperor William of Germany, Van Moltke, Thiers, Guizot, Carlyle, marvellous illustrations till the last of men who kept themselves in sympathy with their times, active and fruitful, militant and triumphant. It is good to keep in touch with old friends, and the places that have known us long. Only we should never forget to graduate our labour to our strength, and be careful not to go

beyond it. "Just as every mile of speed added to the locomotive after it has attained a high rate adds ten-fold to the wear and tear, so in the human race it is the stress and strain beyond a certain mark that puts the whole frame-work into a state of tension."

The question of sleep must not be overlooked. Rest should be taken with great regularity. It is good to retire, if possible, at one hour, say 10 o'clock, and get all the rest that action requires to build up exhausted nerves and muscles. The faculty of good sleeping is one that should be cultivated in order to secure opportunity for nutrition to do its restorative work. Complete rest one day in seven and an annual holiday are of great value in promoting health and long life.

To have old age, and to be fresh and young in old age, one must have the spirit of cheerfulness and contentment. Says Dr. Hufeland:—"There is one disease unknown in scientific classifications of physicians, which in the present day kills more patients than any other. That disease is worry. There is no case on record of a man with a violent temper, or afflicted with the disease of worry, who attained extreme age." The wise speculator will consider his case carefully, if he launches upon one that may take months before it is known whether it will be prosperous or not, he will in the meanwhile dismiss it from his mind. The unwise speculator will in the meantime become anxious till dyspepsia and wakefulness show the mischief that is being wrought by the withdrawal of nervous force from the processes of nutrition. Good luck tends to prolong life. Discontent and despair are a fatal disease. To have enough of creature-comforts to be saved from worry helps one to live long and keep young. The Director of the Bureau of Statistics at Budapest divided the people of his city into 4 classes according to their worldly possessions, from the very poor to the very rich. He ascertained that the rich class averages 52 years of age; the middle class 46; and the very poor 41½ years of life. Elsewhere it has been found that the mortality of the very poor is 50 per cent. more than that of the very rich. But if one cannot have good luck and an abundance of worldly goods, it is a grand thing to have the temper of Mark Tapley who thought it was not creditable to be jolly when everything went well, but much to one's credit to be exultant in trying circumstances, like the eagle which soars highest in the most tempestuous skies. It was the saying of a sage old lady that sociability keeps people well and makes them live long. It is certainly a great antidote to worry. If one keeps on loving what one loved when an innocent and joyous youth, one can never grow old? Is not one likely thus to be as Macaulay said of the Greek Spirit, "Fresh in immortal youth, exempt from mutability and decay?" "As I am pleased," says Cato in *De Senectute*, "with a young man in whom there is something of age, so I am delighted with an old man in whom I find something of youth; and he who follows this course—he has been speaking of keeping the mind buoyant by exercise—will possibly be in body an old man, but in spirit he will never be old." Then he proceeds to tell what he has on hand—no small tasks: the 7th Book of the "Origines," touching up his orations, working up the early annals of his country, studying Greek Literature, and exercising his memory by diligently going each evening over all that has transpired during the day. How pleasant to meet with an old man who at 80 is the youngest man in the company, bright, genial, cheerful, enjoying the present, making no complaint of the past, looking hopefully toward the future, whose smiles awaken responsive smiles all around him; or a well-preserved old lady in whom sweetness and grace meet and mingle, who forgets herself in her solicitude for others, thinks ill of no one, and whose bright looks and kind words fall on all around her like sunshine! The numbers of these genial old people will increase as the laws of health are more widely known and observed, culture becomes more widespread, and religion moves onward to its proper ascendancy over our race.

Many look upon old age as a descent into deepest shade, but Wordsworth, who died at the age of 84, spoke of it as the crown and summit of human existence:

"Yet have I thought that we might also speak
And not presumptuously, I trust, of age
As of a final Eminence, though bare
In aspect and forbidding, yet a Point
On which 'tis not impossible to sit
In awful sovereignty—a place of power."

A WHIST QUESTION.

The following singular statement has been addressed to a Hongkong journal:—

"A B and Y Z are playing whist, the score being A B two, Y Z love. In the next game A makes a revoke. At the end of the game A B have eight tricks, Y Z five. Y Z now claim that A B mark up their two tricks, making four in all, and from these four deduct three, leaving A B scoring one point only. This I maintain Y Z have no right to do, rule 5 in Cavendish distinctly saying:—'The penalty for a revoke takes precedence of all other scores. Tricks score next.' Whereas Y Z by their action forced A B to score their tricks first, Y and Z argue that one of the penalties they have a right to exact from A B is to take three points from their score, the word 'Score' meaning all they possess, both what they made on the hand in which the revoke was made, and what they had scored previously." Answering this query, another correspondent says:—"A and B are no doubt right in their contention, and as the penalty for the revoke takes precedence of all other scores they might further claim that Y and Z, in making them score their tricks first, have lost their right to claim any penalty for the revoke."

As a matter of fact, what Y Z did is done perpetually at whist. In the given position it was optional with Y Z to adopt one of three courses. They might have taken three of the adversaries' tricks and added them to their own, when the score would have stood at two all; or they might have marked themselves three, and allowed A B to mark four; or they might have taken three from A B's total score, when the result would have been A B one, Y Z love. The only restriction in penalizing a revoke is that the penalty must not be divided. Either three of the adversaries' tricks must be appropriated; or three must be scored against them, or three must be deducted from their score. What may not be done is to deduct, say, one from the revoking side's score and add two to the opposite score. We have always understood that the precedence given to a revoke over all other scores refers solely to the question of points. For example, A B, their score standing at love, make four by tricks and are found to have revoked. Y Z, whose score stands at two, decide to declare game. How many points does the game count? It would be only a single if A B were allowed to mark their four tricks. But it is in reality a treble, because the penal points take precedence of the tricks, and consequently Y Z are game before A B can begin to count. The objecting players in Hongkong appear to us to have quite misunderstood the motive of the law. One simple consideration suffices to demonstrate their error. Suppose that A B's score stands at love, and that, revoking, they make four by tricks. Can there be any question of Y Z's competence to say, "we take three off your score, and leave you to mark one"? That is exactly the same under the circumstances, as removing three of A B's tricks. Assuredly X Y's latitude in exacting the penalty is not impaired by the fact that A B's marker had been raised before the revoke hand was played.

LOSS OF THE "POINTER."

A telegram was received in Yokohama from Hakodate on Tuesday afternoon, announcing the total wreck on the 27th September of the sealing schooner *Pointer*, so long sailed by Mr. H. J. Snow. She went ashore at Shikotan, south of Saghalien. The crew, including the skipper, Mr. Bardeley, are safe.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

At the end of September there were 1,545 banks in Japan, their aggregate capital being 303,041,514 yen. Banks increased by 24 during the month, while the increase of capital amounted to 4,474,000 yen. The new banks were:—Seven savings banks with a capital of 350,000 yen; 1 joint stock corporation with a capital of 3,615,000 yen; 1 joint-partnership with 100,000 yen; 2 joint-capital companies with 270,000 yen; a total of 29 banks. But as some were called into existence by amalgamation or suspension of business the new organisations really do not exceed 24.

The *Sekai-no-Nippon* reports that sixty persons were drowned in the flood that devastated the districts of Kaito and Nakajima on the 29th ult. Fifteen persons were drowned at Tokushima, and fourteen others are returned by the police as missing.

Messrs. Suzuki, Okumiyu, and Miyamoto, three political prisoners who were released by the special amnesty, have devised a prison gate help brigade that reminds one of the Labour Colony started by the Salvation Army in England. Their idea is to found a settlement at Totsuka, where discharged prisoners can go immediately after their release from gaol, and have work given them to do that will at once enable them to start upon an honest path of life. When they have shown proficiency in any of the trades conducted in the village, or settlement, they will be sent out to earn their living, a percentage of their wages being taken by the Association to pay the expenses of the Settlement.

Along with the progress of society, asserts the *Yiji*, there arises a tendency to an increase in the number of criminal offences. Statistical investigations have already clearly proved this fact. A report for the 15th year of *Meiji* (1882) compared with that for the 29th year shows the following difference:—

Year.	Population.	Prisoners.	Average of Population to one prisoner.
1882.....	36,700,118.....	33,357.....	1,101
1894.....	41,810,202.....	67,261.....	625

Thus the number of prisoners, which did not exceed 33,400 in 1882, increased in 1894 to over 67,000, or more than double the figure recorded for the 15th year. The population, however, had grown largely, and it is not surprising that the number of culprits should have proportionately increased. But it is a serious matter that the ratio of evil-doers has suddenly advanced this year, the number of offences having already reached 70,000. This extravagant rate of increase seems likely to continue.

The proper training and education of children's nurses has long been a matter of more than ordinary interest, says the *Tokyo Asahi*, but no one came forward with any practical scheme. Quite recently, however, the Director of the primary school at Usunomiya took up the subject, and in conjunction with his staff of teachers and intimate friends propounded a scheme whereby instruction in nursing can be given at the school free of charge. Thirty applications were soon sent in and without more ado the nursing class was started. Our contemporary recommends that the plan be adopted at all schools throughout the empire, for upon the proper nursing of children much more depends than is usually dreamt of.

A strange paragraph is published in the *Hochi* with regard to a theft that recently occurred in Korea. It runs:—A Korean in the employ of a Japanese merchant in Wonsan stole a large amount of money from his master and decamped. The matter was immediately reported to the police and the thief was arrested and thrown into jail. The culprit died in prison, and the Korean's friends set down his death as the deed of his Japanese employer. They accordingly managed to secure the corpse and then exposed it on the bank of a creek in the Settlement. Here they kept watch by day and night, lighting a fire near the body. Meanwhile a band of turbulent

men were collected with the idea of attacking the foreign settlement. But this plot having become known to the Japanese, defensive measures were taken and the attack did not come off. Frustrated in this attempt, the friends of the dead man induced the Korean authorities and the local merchants to refrain from trading with the Japanese. In consequence not a single Korean appeared in the Settlement from the 14th to the 17th September. Then the Japanese made a counter move by quietly intercepting the supply of provisions to the town and very quickly the natives were obliged to come into the settlement to obtain food. Finally the Japanese Consul was informed and he made strong representations to the police upon the subject. The Consul succeeded in having the corpse removed, but feeling still runs high against the Japanese.

Investigations made by the Bank of Japan, published in the *Shogyo*, show that the most important articles of domestic trade had risen 63 per cent. in cost by September as compared with the figures for January last, and fifteen per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

The *Chuo* states that while the recent case of ill-treatment, ending in death, of a prisoner at the Sahara Police Station, Chiba Prefecture, is still undecided, a somewhat similar occurrence is reported from Saitama. A villager named Tamezuka, of Maniata Osato district, after getting intoxicated on *sake* on his way home from a Buddhist temple at Tsumanuma, entered the police station at Sahara. There the head Inspector, Mr. Suzuki, and a police sergeant named Yanagawa, are reported to have kicked him till he fell to the ground, and then they poured water on his head for the purpose of sobering him, a very common and not at all cruel expedient. A number of Tamezuka's fellow-villagers went to the police station and asked for the man to be given into their charge, but the request was refused. A little later the man was found to be dead. A doctor was then sent for, but too late. The villagers, under the belief that the man's death was caused by the ill-treatment of the police, laid an information before the Court, and a post mortem examination of the deceased was ordered.

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, in referring to the Factory Regulations now under consideration, expresses an opinion that the working hours of artisans should be limited to 10 hours a day, and those of boys and girls up to fourteen years of age, to six, or eight hours a day. In support of this limitation our contemporary states that, though in Western countries the average working period for artisans extends from their 21st year of age, by which time they have learned their craft, to their fortieth year, the average period of the full working power of mechanics in Japan, according to statistics compiled by Surgeon General Ishiguro, ceases at the age of 27, this sudden falling off in working power being ascribed to the long hours of work customary in Japan.

The following purchases of coal were made by the Railway Engineering Bureau on the 5th instant by public tender:—

Amount of coal.	Place of delivery.	Tenderer.	Price accepted.
5,000,000 (Austrian)	Yokohama and Kobe	Mitsui	65.80
7,000,000	Ejiri	Minegishi	58.50
5,000,000	Ejiri	Minegishi	57.50
13,000,000	Yokohama	Mitsui	56.50
8,000,000	Yokohama	Maruni	54.00

Australian coal, remarks the *Shogyo*, was brought at 2.50 yen below the market price of Japanese coal and the Engineering Bureau must have realized a considerable profit by the purchase.

According to the *Shogyo*, considerable discontent prevails among the rabble that compose the Korean army. It seems that many of the men who were selected for drill under the Russian instructors, had previously undergone training in accordance with the Japanese system, and they now decline to have their lessons

rethought, or rather remodelled, on the Russian plan. A wrangle is consequently going on between them and the Government which rather resembles the disputes that sometimes arise between discontented schoolboys and unpopular junior monitors.

The *Chuo*, discussing the question of Mr. Takano's refusal to vacate the post of Chief Justice in Formosa at the order of the Governor-General, says a nice point has developed that may lead to some unpleasant legal proceedings. Supposing Mr. Takano's contention is right, then he will sue the Governor-General for his salary: now the Governor-General has already filled the vacancy by appointing Mr. Mizano to the position, and the latter is drawing the Chief Justice's salary. The Governor-General will therefore refuse Mr. Takano's demand and the matter will have to be fought out in the Formosa Law-Courts. According to our contemporary's information, all the minor Judges support Mr. Takano's contention, so a very much sharper collision may shortly be expected between the Executive and the Judiciary.

The *Shogyo* draws attention to the steady decrease in the catches of salmon and trout in Japan and warns the country against allowing the present suicidal policy of the fishermen to continue. The establishment of large fish-hatcheries is most necessary, but more essential is the issue of orders prohibiting under heavy penalties the catching and destruction of immature fish.

Permission having been granted, says the *Asahi*, to the Osaka Mercantile Marine Company to open steamship communication with Chinkiang, China, the Minister of Communications has issued lengthy instructions in the form of regulating articles, the gist of which we translate as follows:—(1) The company is required to begin the service in January, 1898, and continue till December, 1907; and it is to transport mails, passengers, and goods. (2) On the Shanghai-Hankow route two steamers of 600 tons and of an average speed of 10 knots per hour, shall be provided, to ply 6 times per month between March and October, and 4 times a month between November and February of the ensuing year. (3) An annual subsidy of 94,264 yen will be granted to the above service.

The export of tea from Yokohama during September this year was, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, as follows:—San Francisco, 881,852 cattie; New York, 423,745 cattie; Canada, 821,837 cattie; Chicago, 307,829 cattie; Pacific Coast, 19,251 cattie. Following is a comparative table showing the arrivals and sales of tea for the past two years as tabulated by the Yokohama branch of the Central Tea Dealers' Guild:—

	30th year (1897). Catties.	30th year. Catties.	Increase. Catties.
Arrivals	20,608,400	20,077,100	531,300
Sales	20,091,500	19,817,000	274,500
Value	5,735,980 Yen.	4,364,489 Yen.	1,371,490 Yen.
Average per picul	28.54	22.02	6.52

A report published by the Finance Department concerning the foreign trade of Yokohama and Kobe for the month of September and for the past nine months of this year, as published in the *Mainichi*, runs as follows:—

	September. Yen.	Jan.-Sept. Yen.
Exports	11,321,497	111,636,225
Imports	16,867,591	155,957,194
Total	28,189,088	267,593,419
Excess of imports	5,546,094	44,320,969
Export of bullion	188,201	5,195,908
Import of bullion	3,935,149	74,582,845
Excess of imports	3,746,948	69,386,937

At a meeting of the General Education Council held in Kobe for three days ending the 4th instant, the following decisions were arrived at:—(1) The question of an obligatory school term of five years, (cancelled); (2) Employers of children of school age to be under the obligation of giving them instruction for five hours a week (approved and passed); (3) Propriety of

prohibiting by law drinking and smoking by youths under twenty years of age, (passed); (4) Establishment of a local educational council, (approved); (5) Question of uniting lessons in reading and moral instruction in one branch of study, (rejected).

The superintendents of the Forestry Offices of Japan are now meeting in Tokyo to discuss improvements in the forestry system of the country. Mr. Shiga, Director in the Forestry Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department, in addressing the assembly, said that the Department was desirous of a thorough examination of all the forestry questions affecting the country, before the council rose. He advocated a conciliatory attitude on the part of officials in their dealings with the people, and the settlement of disputes and questions in the speediest manner possible. There were at present sixteen main offices, with three hundred branches, and a thousand protective sections, giving employment to over two thousand officials. If these men were to act in harmony with the wishes of the Central Office, the whole forestry system of this land might be carried on with marked success. To secure that uniformity was Count Okuma's ambition, for upon it depended the arboral progress of Japan.

The Electric Light Company organised in Formosa under the auspices of Messrs. Kume, Yamashita, Kawamura, and Kinoshita, is reported by the *Mainichi* to be the first joint-stock corporation ever instituted in the island. The Company seems to have secured many natives on their list of shareholders. The number of lights to start with will be between 2,400 and 2,500. The limits of illumination are the castle, the settlement, places of mixed residence, etc., the whole district extending over one *ri* and a half.

The amount of coins struck at the Osaka Mint up to September this year, according to the *Official Gazette*, was as follows:—

GOLD COINS.	PIECES.	VALUE. Yen.
20 yen.....	47,370	945,400
10 ".....	1,871,013	18,700,130
5 ".....	9,441,622	47,208,110
2 ".....	882,749	1,767,498
1 ".....	2,037,055	2,037,055
SILVER COINS.		
1 yen.....	162,150,000	162,150,000
Trade dollar ...	3,057,252	3,057,252
50 sen.....	9,491,701	4,745,855
20 ".....	71,650,490	14,330,098
10 ".....	165,679,080	16,567,908
5 ".....	50,559,378	2,527,968
NICKEL COINS.		
5 sen.....	132,603,400	6,630,170
COPPER COINS.		
2 sen.....	275,702,712	5,514,054
1 ".....	488,174,499	4,881,744
5 rin.....	395,553,152	1,977,765
1 ".....	44,491,750	44,491

The *Sekai-no-Nippon* states that the old submarine cable of Japan extended over a distance of 511 nautical miles, but the new lines cover 646 miles. More cables are to be laid within the present fiscal year: one between Taramizu in Harima and Sunomoto in Awaji; another between Fukiage in Awaji and Okasuki in Awa; a third between Kunino in Owari and Tatebe in Ise; a fourth between Shibukawa in Bizen and Nobu in Sanuki; and a fifth in the Straits of Akamagasaki. The cables are expected to arrive from abroad by January next.

Mr. Yoshida, a member of the Lower House, and a few other gentlemen, according to the *Sekai-no-Nippon*, will present in the 11th session of the Diet proposals for the establishment of a "Japan-China Bank."

An increase of misdemeanors after a war is an inevitable result, as was shown in the case of Germany. In Japan, however, the increase now observed must be chiefly, if not entirely, ascribed to the imperfect organisation of prisons and lack of suitable means for the reform of prisoners. Convicts of different character are placed in the same cells, while youths are not separated from

the rest so as to prevent them from being tainted with the vices and evil habits prevailing among the adult prisoners. In short, the Japanese jail of the present time is a seminary of vice and crime.

The *Kokumin* publishes a table giving the number of shooting licenses issued, and the amounts of the fees received, in three cities and forty-three prefectures during last year:—

Class B.	Licenses.	Fees. Yen.
1st.....	2,102.....	6,640
2nd.....	7,729.....	12,921
3rd.....	127,981.....	120,218
Foreigners.....	267.....	1,480

Professional hunting licenses that belong to Class A issued in the same period totalled 14,476, but licenses for shooting in parties did not exceed 30 in number.

Kerosene oil imported by various foreign firms in Yokohama and transported to other places during the month of September, according to the *Fiji*, was as follows:—

	Imported. Cases.	Transported. Cases.	In stock. Cases.
Standard Oil Co.....	104,411	32,634	71,777
Jardine Matheson & Co.....	178,249	124,019	54,203
Samuel Samuel & Co.....	105,676	24,181	81,888
.....	28,302	10,017	18,285
.....	—	62,108	—
Total.....	416,638	252,966	225,753

The arrival of two sailing ships with cargoes of oil will lead to about 120,000 or 130,000 cases being placed on the market within a few days, but owing to the many accidents and breakdowns on the railways of late, means of transportation to the interior are very inadequate, so prices will rise instead of remaining at their present moderate figure.

Large quantities of Chinese rice are now being imported into Japan owing to the continuous rise in the price of home-grown grain. It is said that the Niigata Prefectural Office has decided to buy 50,000 *koku* of Chinese rice with money obtained from the Famine Relief Fund, in order to relieve the present excessive distress prevailing among the poor of that locality. The rice was to be obtained through the Osaka rice exchange.

Count Okuma is reported to have said at the recent meeting of the promoters of the Formosa railway, that he was of opinion that the undertaking had every prospect of turning out a good investment. To begin with, the Government guaranteed a subsidy for twelve years equal to a 6 per cent. dividend on the capital, this subsidy being payable from the date when business commenced. He was astonished at the apathy of the public regarding this important undertaking, and could only ascribe it to the lack of adequate knowledge of the state of affairs in the island. In times of ordinary prosperity the shares of the Company should appreciate considerably, a 50 *yen* share rising, perhaps, to 70 or even 100 *yen*. The railway should be speedily built, in the interests of the country at large, and he would like to see the period of construction, now fixed at five years, reduced to three. The names of the most influential merchants of the country appeared on the list of promoters, so that any cause of anxiety on that score was removed. Yet the raising of the capital seemed a very difficult task. It was well-known that the Iwasaki and Mitsui houses were willing to undertake the whole affair, but in the Count's opinion the enterprise should be more generally supported: the greater the number of shareholders the better, for in that direction true success in such an enterprise lies.

The *Osaka Asahi* reports, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, that the *Taisho Maru*, a steamer owned by the Taikwa Company of Formosa, which got under weigh from Tamsui for Dokatsukutsu at 8 a.m. on the 1st inst., struck a shoal at the mouth of the river and foundered before she had proceeded more than 250 yards from the anchorage. All the passengers and crew were saved, but the cargo was partially lost.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

A telegram sent from S ul on the 14th instant informed us that all the Cabinet Ministers had tendered their resignations, and that the nucleus of a new Cabinet had been formed. There is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the information. The event had, indeed, been foreshadowed, and interpreted as a complete reversion to the state of affairs existing in administrative circles before the war between Japan and China. The *S ul Independent* of the 2nd instant is now before us, and we look with interest to find some explanation of the Ministerial crisis. But there is no mention even of the fact. Not the slightest reference is made to such an event either *in posse* or *in esse*. Our contemporary's silence is most singular. We can not offer any explanation.

The Minister of the Home Department in S ul has dismissed the Chief of the Construction Bureau in that Department for proceeding to Chemulpo to examine the state of the roads without making written application for leave. Verbal application had been made and approved. The Minister's harsh action is strongly condemned, as the dismissed official, Mr. Namkung Uk, is said to have been a most competent, industrious and honest official.

There are 80 students at the Royal Russian School in the Korean capital. They are drilled every day by their teacher, Mr. Birukoff.

No romancist ever conceived stories so incredible as the facts of contemporary history in Korea. For example. Last year the governor of a certain province was appointed general superintendent of gold mines, and given an official seal to be used in collecting revenue from the mines. By-and-by, he was arrested on a charge of black-mailing, tried by the supreme Court and sentenced to be banished for ten years to a certain island. He started for his place of exile under escort by two policemen, and a few weeks later, the magistrate in whose district the island lay, reported that the culprit had arrived there and begun to serve his sentence. But to the astonishment of the Authorities in S ul, he still managed to collect the revenues from the gold mines, on the strength of having retained possession of the seal, which he refused to give up. An order was finally sent from S ul to the governor of the province in which the island is included. Then the governor discovered and reported that the supposed exile "had not proceeded" to his island, and it was ultimately found that he had never left S ul, but was living there in concealment, and collecting revenues as merrily as possible. He had bribed the magistrate to make a false report. No one can deny that the individual Korean possesses magnificent audacity.

The editor of the *Independent* declares that Korea has never had a chance to prove her capacity for standing alone, inasmuch as she has never been even able to get on her feet. "There has never been a day," says our contemporary, "during the past fifteen years when the Government was not subject to the dictum of some contiguous Power; not a day." We believe that to be quite true, but we should not have expected to hear it from the *Independent*. We did not believe that our contemporary was disposed to admit the overshadowing influence of Russia in Korea at present. As for the value of the argument, however, the editor of the *S ul* journal must surely see that inability to assert her independence is a valid proof of Korea's inability to be independent.

The Korean War Office has issued orders to the colonel of a regiment to collect customs duties from Chinese traders at Ochaipo, in Jang-yun, which is not an open port. Such an order coming from such a source under such circumstances is another illustration of Korean ways.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Two missionaries of the Presbyterian Church have been sent to the Klondike gold-fields. They are Rev. S. Hall Young, of Wooster, Ohio, and Rev. George A. McEwen, M.D., of Farmington, Mo.

A Javanese gardener and a Chinese coolie are at present under sentence of death at Singapore. *Pour encourager les autres*, a Chinaman writes to one of the Singapore journals suggesting a public execution.

An examination of the necrological table in the last minutes of the Presbyterian General Assembly reveals the fact that the average life of the one hundred and twenty-eight ministers of the Presbyterian denomination who died last year was sixty-six years.

About 800 men from the 1st and 2nd Army Divisions, forming a mixed battalion, arrived in Yokohama from Tokyo on Monday morning, and embarked at 10 o'clock on board the N. Y. K. steamer *Sakura Maru*, which was brought alongside the pier for the purpose. They left in the afternoon for Formosa.

An attempt at suicide was made on Saturday last by a woman named Masada Kiku, aged 55, of No. 35, Bandaicho Nichome. The unfortunate woman, who appears to have been insane, threw herself into the Creek near Ogibashi Bridge, but was rescued by some persons who witnessed the deed.

In Singapore, in the month of July, 489 dogs were destroyed by the Rabies Suppression Department, making a total of 19,521 for the year. The importation of dogs into Singapore is prohibited. The Deputy President of the Municipal Commissioners, says the *China Mail*, suggests "quarantine" in place of "prohibition."

The difference between ancient and modern slang was amusingly illustrated in a recent incident at a Chautauqua assembly, when the teacher in English literature asked, "What is the meaning of the Shakespearean phrase 'Go to?'" and a member of the class replied, "Oh, that is only the sixteenth century's expression of the modern 'Come off.'"

The old Dutch Church of Tarrytown, N.Y., immortalized in Washington Irving's tales of Sleepy Hollow, celebrated its 200th anniversary on October 10th and 11th. This is said to be the oldest church in the United States, having been built in 1697. In the cupola hung a bell cast in 1685 that bore the motto in Latin:—"If God be for us, who can be against us?"

An Australian Debreitt is announced, says the *Sydney Mail*. It gives the standing of many colonial families. Curious the number of people that passed "La Manche" with William—you'd imagine all mediæval Europe went across. The redeeming feature about the Victorian hook (it comes from Melbourne) is that for 20s. or 21s. you can become *chic*. The subject of fathers and grandfathers is a large one in all countries, in Australia especially.

The owner of Popocatepetl, General Gaspar Sanchez Ochoa, expects within three or four months' time to complete a cable line to the crater. The line will be used for the transportation of sulphur to be prepared for the market. It will be made strong enough, however, to carry a limited number of passengers. As soon as completed it will be possible to leave the City of Mexico at 6 o'clock in the morning and be back at 6 o'clock in the evening, and yet spend a couple of hours at the summit of the great volcano.

Among the presents taken by President Faure of France on his recent visit to Russia were toys and dolls, gifts from Madame Faure to the infant grand-duchess. The principal present, however, was an olive branch in gold for the tomb of Alexander III. It was one of sixteen specimens of French orfèvrerie taken to St. Petersburg by the President. On the ribbon attached to the olive branch is the motto, "Pax

concepta feramat tempus." Among the other gifts were two busts in Sevres biscuit of the Emperor and Empress by Ratkowsky, and a marble bust of Her Majesty by Antokolsky.

A pet dog belonging to a foreign resident of Yokohama recently became rather strange in its behavior and the owner sent it on the 10th inst. to Mr. Matsuda Atsushi, veterinary surgeon, for treatment. Mr. Matsuda, upon examination, found the dog suffering from rabies, whereupon it was sent to the Bluff Police Station and killed. A post-mortem examination was afterwards made on the body to discover if possible the origin of the disease.

It appears that a newspaper in Madrid is seeking popularity by printing its columns on linen, and with an ink which easily washes out, so that the reader, after perusing the journal, may apply soap and water and convert it into a handkerchief. This suggests to the *Photographic News* an inversion of the process, by means of which the enterprising advertiser could make known his wares. He could print invisible pictures—i.e., "mercurially bleached silver images"—on pocket handkerchiefs, and give them away, but the first time they were washed the advertisement would reveal itself.

The total establishment of the Native Army in India, including European officers, is 145,000. Of this number 4,531 are Artillery, 23,130 Cavalry, 3,826 sappers and miners, and 113,813 Infantry. The total of native officers and privates is 144,071. Of the latter 83,671 are in the Bengal command, 31,929 in the Madras, and 28,471 in the Bombay. In addition to the European and Native Army there are 17,000 Imperial service troops, with two batteries of mountain artillery. This gives a grand total of nearly 237,000 men, exclusive of the Volunteer force, which includes 11 corps of cavalry, six of artillery, two of engineers, eight of mounted rifles, and 53 of infantry.

A writer in the *Globe* remarks:—Several attempts have been made recently to present the Bible in a form approximating more nearly to that of ordinary books, with the ultimate end of inducing the reader to come to its poetry and literary beauty with a mind as open as that which he would bring to Shakespeare. The type, paper, and general arrangement, combined with the influences of early training and tradition, make this a little difficult—in the case of the devotional Bible. Messrs. Macmillan now propose to put the Bible into their Eversley series, where it will occupy eight volumes. The text will be arranged in paragraphs. To what extent a Bible in eight volumes is needed remains to be seen.

At the recent medical congress, at Moscow, a paper was read by an official delegate from the Japanese Navy who was on board the *Yoshino*, a man-of-war, during the late war with China. Statistics show that, excluding one case in which a score of men were blown to atoms by an accidental explosion of ammunition, by far the greater number of men were killed in action by severe scalds, often over the whole body. These were caused by shells rupturing the numerous steam pipes about the vessel. Injuries to the head from fragments of shell come next in order. The fatalities of scalds account for over 20 per cent. and the head wounds for nearly nine. In the latter class, the men were killed on the spot; in the former, they often lingered for days.

A very large dry-dock is being completed at Glasgow and is the third built on the land owned by the Glasgow Dock Company. The first was built twenty-one years ago. It is 555 feet in length on floor and 72 feet wide at top at entrance. The second, of later build, is 575 feet on the floor and 67 feet wide at top at entrance, while that now under construction is 880 feet on the floor, 83 feet wide at top and bottom at entrance and has 26 feet 6 inches of water over the sill. It is built partly of brick and concrete, and is arranged with a gate in the middle to permit two steamers of 420 and 460 feet length to be docked simultaneously, if

occasion arises. All these docks have been made use of by the Government in docking such ships as the *Terrible* and several of the largest battleships, and the docks have been thoroughly tested. The third dock will be opened next month.

On the 30th of Sept. fifteen Indian constables were dismissed from the police force by the Governor of Hongkong. The men were picked out when on parade by a gambling-den *employé*, who swore that they had been in the pay of his establishment. Their names were further found on the lists seized by the police during a raid on a gambling-den. The *China Mail* hears that in the case of some of the European Inspectors dismissed from the force, appeals will be made to the Secretary of State for the Colonies against the decisions of His Excellency Sir William Robinson, and that several of the dismissed Chinese constables now resident in Canton, have been interviewed and their affidavits sworn before the British Consul in support of the forthcoming appeals.

Some rare manuscripts were recently discovered in the so-called Synagogue of Ezra the Scribe, at Cairo, Egypt, by Mr. Solomon Schechter, reader in Rabbinic at Cambridge University, England. These ancient writings have a bearing, directly or indirectly, on the Old Testament, and the *Sunday-School Times* says Mr. Schechter's disclosures will shortly be made known to the world. The papers were taken from what is called the Genizah, a receptacle for manuscripts of various character which have for any reason been discarded, but yet from the sacred nature of their contents must not be destroyed. Mr. Schechter made his journey with the approval of the authorities of the University, and was warmly welcomed by the chief rabbin of Cairo.

We learn from Kobe papers that some of the wreckage, consisting of pieces of a bridge and deckhouse, cabin fittings, etc., picked up by the steamer *Sekkai Maru* on the 10th inst. near Shinju, about 25 miles east of Oshima, have been identified by a boatswain of the missing steamer *Sesshu Maru*, who was prevented from going on the last trip of that vessel, as having belonged to her. It is therefore almost proved that the steamer has gone down, but whether owing to collision or other cause has not yet been shown.

The *Kobe Chronicle* reports that the N.Y.K. steamer *Otaru Maru* (Captain Poole) got ashore about 5 o'clock on Tuesday night on what is known as the "Sand Spit," east of the K.R. & A.C. Boathouse. Failing to get off by her own efforts an attempt was made by the *Fushiki Maru* (Captain Giese), to tow her off between nine and ten o'clock. The attempt, however, was not successful, and on Wednesday morning between six and seven o'clock, the *Totomi Maru* came to assist the *Fushiki* and after a few minutes' pulling together they got the stranded vessel off. She then proceeded to Yokohama.

The British steamer *Algoa*, Capt. Fraser, which arrived on Wednesday from Hamburg, consigned to Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., with a general cargo, is the biggest cargo carrier that has ever entered the port of Yokohama. Although her registered tonnage is only put down at 4,897, her gross tonnage is 7,575 nominal and her actual carrying capacity over 10,000 tons. The *Algoa* was built at Sunderland in 1896 for the Indian trade and is owned by the Algoa Steamship Co. She has come out from Hamburg in 51 days, calling only at Singapore after leaving the Suez Canal, so that she proves a fairly speedy vessel for a cargo boat pure and simple. Capt. Fraser, her master, was out here seven years ago in the *Metapedia*, owned by the same firm.

The budget of Indo-China for next year is to be made up in francs, instead of dollars, and all payments to the Government on revenue account will have to be made at the exchange rate of the day. The expediency of adopting the gold standard for the colony is under con-

sideration, but no decision has yet been arrived at. Meantime the public finances are in a bad way. The *Courrier d'Haiphong* says:—Before returning to Tonkin to spend some time with his family, the Governor-General (who is at present at Saigon on a tour in the neighbourhood) is to go to Hongkong. According to good information which has reached us, the principal object of this visit is to enable M. Doumer to make to the English banks propositions, which we must suppose are judicious, with reference to a financial combination which, if it is brought about, will deliver us from the deadlock to which the whole of Indo-China has been brought in consequence of the enormous depreciation of the dollar. We hope we may be false prophets, but we greatly fear that this movement of the Governor-General will resolve itself simply into a pleasure trip. We hope that M. Doumer may find nothing disagreeable in it.

A singular accident occurred to a steward belonging to the steamer *Changsha*, when in Hongkong harbour on Sept. 3th. As is the usual custom when in port, says the *China Mail*, the steward, along with a number of the officers and shipmates, went over the side for a swim. He had been swimming about for some time, and had just about reached the ship's buoy when he felt a prickly sensation and was almost immediately enveloped in a clinging substance, which emitted a dark brown liquid for a distance of about four feet. He was so stunned by the shock that it was with great difficulty he regained the ship. Being in severe pain he at once consulted the doctor, who ordered him to immediately take a fresh water bath. While in the bath he almost fainted, and had to be removed to his cabin. He suffered excruciating pain, developing paralysis of the lower part of the spine and lower limbs, and his condition throughout the night was very precarious. Lotions were applied to the skin, the galvanic battery was brought into requisition, and he was ultimately brought round, but he is still confined to his cabin in a weak state. His arms and body are very much inflamed. The injured man is of opinion that he must have come in contact with an animal of a more venomous nature than a jelly fish, and certainly the nature of the wounds and the effects of the shock point to that conclusion.

The development of the Celtic type in the last quarter of the nineteenth century is, of course, peculiarly interesting to the United States, writes John Paul Becock in the *Boston Herald*. The process may be studied by philosophers all over the world. In all countries and under all flags we find the Celt battling for that cause in which sentiment, or circumstance, conviction or tradition have enlisted his energies. Everywhere he has prospered, save in his own land. Take England, for example, a country in which an Irishman is not yet at home. Of the greatest general in her armies, Lord Wolseley, the commander-in-chief, is a native of Kildare, and Lord Roberts of Candahar, whom Kiplingsings of as "Bobs," the idol of the Indian armies, comes from county Waterford. In the Navy as well as in the Army the names of those fighting brothers, Lord Charles and Lord William Beresford, occur at once to the mind. They are Irishmen born, as is Lord Russell of Killowen, the Lord Chief Justice, the only Catholic of the five; the Marquis of Dufferin, the greatest diplomatist of his time, is now at home in County Down, seven miles from Belfast. He is the grandson of Richard Brinsley Sheridan, the son of Helen Sheridan, the beautiful and gifted author of "I'm sitting on the stile, Mary." Another Irishman famous in contemporary British diplomacy is Sir Nicholas O'Connor, Minister to Russia. In Australia, Sir Charles Gavan Duffy has made a name for himself; in Canada, Blake, Costigan, and Thomas Darcy Magee. In British journalism the Celt is everywhere to be found, beginning with my venerable friend Justin McCarthy, who has for years written the Imperial editorials in the *Daily News*, the great Liberal organ. Gladstone and Balfour are Celts,

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the above Society was held on Thursday afternoon, Mr. W. Ross in the chair. The report of the Hon. Secretary was presented and adopted, and the following officers elected:—Mr. W. Ross, President, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Vice-President, Mr. H. W. Fraser, Hon. Secretary; Mr. MacArthur, Treasurer, and Messrs. Cruickshank, Borthwick, Sterling, Philip and Ure, Committee. The question as to whether the Society should celebrate their Patron Saint's day with a ball led to considerable discussion, and it was eventually decided that for this year at least no ball should be given, for various reasons, one being the lack of room in the Public Hall for the yearly growing number of guests. Messrs. J. S. Watson, H. R. Mair, H. Keswick, J. R. Black, R. C. Ross, Forest, Steven, and Annal were elected members. The report passed was as follows:—

REPORT.

The Committee beg to submit their Report for the year 1896-7, attached to which is the Treasurer's statement of account.

A final Dividend, amounting to yen 16.50, has been received on the Society's claim against the New O. B. C., reducing the loss on this to yen 118.23. Assistance has been granted to two applicants. To one of these a temporary loan of yen 200 was given, against which ample security is held. The Balance at the credit of the Society is now yen 322.98.

The Committee deeply regret to record the deaths of three Members since the last report was issued, viz.—M. T. B. Macpherson, C. G. Buchanan-Dunlop, J. I. Boag.

The number of Members now on the list is 96, 48 of whom are absent. Five new Members joined during the year.

Under the auspices of the Society a Ball was given on 30th Nov. to celebrate St. Andrew's Day, which was well attended.

H. W. FRASER, Hon. Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PASSPORT QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your recent editorial upon "The Passport and Independence Day" lays the American community in Japan under a heavy debt of gratitude by its assurance that Mr. McCaleb's now historic reply to the Independence Day committee has nothing to do with the subsequent action of the American Legation in regard to his passport. Quite contrary rumours were in circulation among American missionaries in Japan,—unpleasant rumours which it is a relief to learn upon such excellent authority were entirely incorrect.

It is now to be hoped that Mr. McCaleb will understand the matter clearly and cheerfully comply with the regulations of the United States Government which all other American citizens observe.

E. C. FRY.

Sendai, Oct. 6th, 1897.

THE OTHER SIDE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Much complaint is being made, and often with good reason, about the treatment accorded to Foreigners by Japanese. Without any attempt to enter into a discussion of the merits of other instances, let a lover of justice present a case for consideration.

I landed in Yokohama on Tuesday morning Oct. 5th, acting as pilot for a company of friends who with myself had been detained for days on account of the break in the railway. I had purchased tickets for the company to go by steamer down the coast, and so strike across country to our destination. Partly on account of the heavy storm, and partly through a misunderstanding, we missed the steamer we were to take. The gentlemanly passenger agent, Mr. Hidaka, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, kept the steamer waiting half an hour in order that if possible we might reach it. As we failed to appear, the steamer sailed without us, but it was in no sense the fault of the Company that we missed the steamer, and they could not properly be held responsible in any way. Yet both Mr. Hidaka and his assistant, Mr. Akiaka, showed us every kindness, taking charge of our baggage, no small amount, till the following day, and offering us the use of their steam launch for our safe conveyance to the steamer, also handling the baggage for us. All this was a matter of great accommodation to us, and yet a service which they were in no sense under obligation to render. And this is only one

of many instances in which the writer has been under obligations to Japanese, both officials and civilians. The Japanese have their faults; there are other races than Japanese who cannot be called faultless; but will it not be as well to have a little of both sides of this mixed residence problem?

DAVID S. SPENCER.

Nagoya, Oct. 8th, 1897.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM AND ITS AS-SAILANTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I be allowed to say a few words, by way of protest, against this insensate and disgraceful attack on the Roman Church led by Mr. Snodgrass and Doctor Christlieb? The relations and attitude of the Roman hierarchy towards Civil Power is such a vast subject that I have neither desire nor ability to deal with it here, or anywhere. Many leading Roman Catholic writers of the past Reformation era have vehemently repulsed the charge of disloyalty whenever made against their Church by their Protestant opponents. Your readers will, I think, remember readily, the host of protests which Mr. Gladstone's famous pamphlet *Vaticanism*, evoked from the Roman Church,—clergy as well as laity. Catholic Christendom has certain well-defined rights which, from the sheer instinct of self-preservation, she is bound to guard jealously. It should be remembered, it was she, as the representative of a United Christendom, that stepped in when the pagan world was tottering, and out of the Roman chaos built what till very recently every cultured man was proud to call Christian civilization. Hence every National Church possesses, *per se*, certain rights which civil authorities are bound to respect; and if modern Protestantism is either unconscious of them or has waived her claim, so much the worse for its incohesive organism. Is it criminal and reprehensible for an ecclesiastical body which has done so much for our civilization to struggle that no temporal power should encroach upon her well-earned rights? Is the Roman Church blameable because she is solicitous that civil laws and civil powers should be based upon the fundamental principles of Christianity, and that these principles should be the guiding factors in moulding every form of our civilization? The voice of the seventh great angel was:—"The Kingdoms of this world are become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." (Rev. II. 15). How, then, can this theodicy be ever realized if Christian people, in their organized capacity, will not strive for its final consummation?

Now let us leave this abstract reasoning and come to the concrete lesson of history, which is our sole guide in all similar matters. Let either Mr. Snodgrass or the erudite German Doctor show us a single instance where the Roman Catholics, laity as clergy, were disloyal to the permanently established authority and conspired to overthrow it. Indeed the Roman Church has been repeatedly stigmatized for attaching herself to the pre-organized government, and not countenancing, or even encouraging, any resistance to it. It is quite true that Roman hierarchy has been very cautious, and even slow, in recognizing the new forms of government during the very critical era of transition from monarchical absolutism to constitutionalism; but whenever a majority of the people have accepted the new forms—consider, for example, the Latin Republics of South America, and lastly France—Rome has acquiesced. It is true that for a long time she was reluctant to recognize the new Republic of France; but the main reason for her action was because its leaders, men like Gambetta and Clemenceau and many others, were professedly anti-Christian, and did everything in their power to destroy her; but as soon as the persecution of the Church ceased, and the new leaders assumed a more conciliatory policy the noble Pope advised the faithful to submit to it, although he incurred the bitter wrath of the different monarchical parties in France who had been for years his great supporters.

The Roman Church has always identified herself very closely with her faithful followers whether in their weal or woe. She has never been guilty of entering into any unholy alliance with "the classes against the masses." Her sacred edifices once erected have stood there forever with open doors to comfort the poor and needy; while Protestantism is continually deserting every locality plagued with poverty. Will any of these zealous gentlemen show us an instance when the Roman hierarchy fomented a rebellion and overthrew the Government and usurped the vacant throne as Cromwell and his Protestant Puritans did? Are not Roman Catholics of the United States just as good citizens—perhaps better, because they are

well-regulated voters—as their Protestant opponents? Have they ever been detected conspiring against the American or any other Christian country? Why then this un-Christian attack upon them?

What was the primal motive of Mr. Snodgrass in agitating this matter, I don't know, nor care to know. I never have had the misfortune to read his pamphlet. One thing, however, is very clear, namely, such charges however baseless will greatly prejudice the people of this country to look with suspicion upon the Roman Propaganda in Japan, and might work immense injury and harm to the godly work of a Mission which contains many men and women who for self-sacrifice and devotion to better the condition of their fellow-men reflect great honour on our fallen humanity; and indeed might be made a good example for every Protestant missionary—Mr. Snodgrass and Dr. Christlieb not excepted—to imitate and follow. I am not a Roman Catholic, and never expect to become one, but thank God the eyes of my conscience are clear to see good even in an opponent.

No! Japan has no danger whatsoever from Roman Catholicism; indeed there might be more danger to her from the Anarchical Protestant individualism than from a well-ordered and well-ordained Roman episcopacy.

One word more for Dr. C. and I am done. Let me assure the learned Doctor that the utterances of the old Popes, or even of the new ones, will never be able to curtail the liberty of our progressive civilization. But the great danger is gradually showing itself, and coming from the utterances of some other kind of Popes. For more than three years hundreds of thousands of innocent Christians of Armenia have been mercilessly butchered by the barbarous Turk, and not a single pulpit in the whole length of Germany has raised its voice to denounce these infernal atrocities. What papal syllabus has destroyed either the conscience or the courage—perhaps both—of the Protestant Germany? There is the real danger to the liberty of the German nation.

Very truly yours, ISAAC DOOMAN.
Tokyo, Oct. 8th, 1897.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the above Society was held at Van Schaick Hall on Friday evening, Mr. J. T. Griffin in the chair.

The Secretary's report and accounts for the year were adopted as follows:—

REPORT—SEASON 1896-1897.

The Society continues to flourish, both as regards the number of members and its finances. As will be seen from the Treasurer's Report there is a balance in hand of Yen 481.84, and the roll of members includes 94 ladies, gentlemen, and 6 families. Some of these have since gone away or resigned, but the present number of members may be taken as about 210.

Treasurer's Account, Season 1896-1897.—Twelfth Session.

Receipts.	
By Balance in hand 1st Oct., 1896	¥878.73
Less repaid former Treasurer	5.30
By Members subscription, 6 family at \$10	¥77.53
By " " 94 Ladies at \$2	
By " " 100 Gentlemen at \$3	¥48.00
By Interest from Chartered Bank at 2 per cent.	6.73
	¥831.66
Expenditure.	
To Refreshments	¥124.10
To Coolie hire and postages, delivering tickets	12.25
To Printing and Stationery	64.70
To Commissions on collecting Subscriptions 1895/6 & 1896/7	25.00
To Hire of Public Hall, 16 October	5.00
To Putting up Platform on 16 Oct.	1.20
To Hire of Chairs for meeting, 5 March	6.67
To Rent for Session, Ferris Seminary, 14 meetings	122.00
To Balance carried forward	481.84
	¥831.66

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 30th September, 1897.

A. J. WILKIN, Hon. Treasurer.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.

F. CUMMINS.

Mr. Griffin announced his decision to resign the post of President of the Society, and his resignation being accepted with regret, the following officers were elected:—

President—Mr. A. J. Wilkin. Vice-President—Mrs. O. A. Poole. Secretary—Rev. J. L. Dearring. Treasurer—Mr. E. B. S. Edwards. Committee—Mrs. Cleveland and Rev. E. S. Booth. Music Committee—Mrs. J. G. Doering, Mr. C. I. Fraser, Miss Webb and Mr. F. Whitefield. Refreshment Committee—Mrs. Ballagh, Mr. Drummond, Mr. Neville and Mr. E. H. Irvine. A committee consisting of the President, Mr. Cahusac and Mr. Cleveland was appointed to revise the rules and present a copy of them for the

approval of the Society at the regular meeting to be held on the 5th Nov., the same when approved to be printed and distributed to the members. The first regular meeting is fixed for the 22nd Oct., when a varied and interesting programme may be expected.

YOKOHAMA CHORAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of members of the Yokohama Choral Society, adjourned on the 2nd inst. for want of a quorum, was held on Monday afternoon in Van Schaick Hall. There was again an attendance of only about half a dozen members, but after waiting till 6 o'clock—half an hour after the time notified for the meeting, the Chairman, Mr. J. J. Griffin, ruled that the meeting could proceed with the business before it, as although it was necessary according to the Rules that 20 members should be present to form a quorum at a general meeting, there was no minimum fixed as necessary at an adjourned meeting.

On the proposal of Mr. Sharp, seconded by Rev. E. S. Booth, the report of the Hon. Secretary, which was as follows, was unanimously adopted:—

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The past season can scarcely be called a successful one, as, owing to sickness, bad weather and other unavoidable causes, only one concert was given. The principal work performed at this concert was Lowen's "Sleeping Beauty," which occupied the first part of the programme. The work is very quaint and pretty, and being well rendered, was much appreciated by the audience, though the latter was not so large as it might have been. Part II. was made up of a selection of very attractive items, which included several numbers by the Philharmonic Society, who, as before, joined their forces with ours.

It is to be regretted that the practices during the season were so sparsely attended, there being on one or two occasions only five members of the chorus present. It is to be hoped that during the coming season greater enthusiasm will be shown. If this desirable energy is manifested, the usual three concerts can certainly be given. To Mrs. Doering, whose admirable accompaniment so greatly conduced to the success of the "Sleeping Beauty," the best thanks of the Society are due.

The Treasurer's account shows a balance in hand of \$179.53, with a liability for rent of \$75 for last season. With their best wishes for the future of the Society, your Committee now place their resignations in your hands.

F. WHITEFIELD, Hon. Sec.

September 30th, 1897.

The CHAIRMAN said that the next business was the election of officers for the ensuing season. He himself had decided to retire from active work for this winter, but if the members desired it he would be willing to remain President of the Society on condition that some one else was appointed musical conductor. Mr. Fraser had intimated his willingness to take this post, and with the exception of Miss Thomas he understood that all the present officers and members of Committee were willing to serve again if desired.

Mr. BOOTH then moved that the present officers and Committee of the Society be re-elected, with the exception of Miss Thomas, resigned, and that Mr. Fraser be elected to the Committee in her place.

Mrs. POOLE seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said, with regard to the programme for this season, Mendelssohn's "Athalie" had been put in practice last season and he thought that with a month's farther practice they could give a concert with that as the principal item. It had been proposed by a number of members that in future the work of the Society should include opera, both serious and comic, and there was no reason why those members who elected to do so should not take part in performances of this nature, which had been one of the principal sources of success of the old Choral Society.

Two new members, Mrs. Borthwick and Mr. H. E. Hayward, were then proposed, seconded and duly elected members of the Society, and this concluded the business of the meeting.

Practice commences on Monday next at 5.30 p.m., at Van Schaick Hall.

A LETTER FROM AMERICA.

Life at two points on the Atlantic Coast, as observed by your correspondent, has greatly interested him during the summer just passed. Within times that your correspondent remembers—though only as a child—there were, roughly speaking, no summer or watering places in the United States that were largely, that is, popularly patronized. At Mount Desert, Nahant, Newport, Long Branch, and Cape May there were, of course, cottages and pleasant society and hotels for transient guests, but there was nothing like a large summer population. I can remember when Commodore Benjamin F. Stockton, famous in the history of the United States Steam Navy and in

the Mexican war, went to Sea Girt, on the New Jersey coast. There he spent most of the heated term, and for so doing was thought to be peculiar, if not eccentric. Now, the whole eastern coast of the United States from Eastport down to the Florida Reefs is a summer play ground and a means of enjoyment and recreation to millions.

From Eastport to Narragansett pier we have rocks and rock scenery, with innumerable bays and harbours and arms of the sea for sailing, fishing and all sorts of aquatic enjoyments. For lovers, and those in the state of mutual delight and admiration which may and often does lead to mating and marriage, one of the summer delights is in "rocking," that is, in sitting, chatting and watching the sky and sea and the wonderful forms of marine life in the pools from what, in the Union College song, would be called "That grand old Seat of Stone." This remarkable feature of our American Atlantic coast arises from the fact that we have here a section of that great Appalachian range of elevated land that stretches from Labrador into Alabama, becoming the Alleghenies, the Blue Ridge, the Cumberland, Clinch and Great Smoky Mountains, with the White, Blue, Adirondack and Catskill mountains as outlying spurs. From Narragansett pier in Rhode Island, however, the rock ridges bend inland and thence we have no more rocks on the Atlantic coast till we get to South America. Long Island is only a huge bar of sand. The coasts of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida are flat and sandy.

Until after the war, there was scarcely more than a beginning of New Jersey watering places. Now, the whole coast from Sandy Hook to Cape May is lined with settlements ranging in importance from permanent municipalities like Atlantic City to those places which, like flowers, bloom only in the summer. Enterprising railways run with very accommodating trains from the pier at Sandy Hook to near Barnegat Inlet and from Cape May Point to Atlantic City. The lagoon and shallow inland waters, lying along the coast from Point Pleasant to Cape May, are in summer dotted with the white sails of thousands of pleasure boats. Even in winter many hotels are open. The tired business man may recuperate, or the invalid find a climate like that of Italy in the dry and aromatic region of the pines at Lakewood; or, in the long glass-encased corridors of Atlantic City hostleries can enjoy winter sunshine and the salt air of the ocean.

While spending some weeks at Spring Laker N.J., which is a select place of summer homes, somewhat different from the crowded popular places of Asbury Park and Ocean Groves six miles north, and which contain scores of thousands, I paid a visit to a place called Chadwick. It lies on the coast just below the 40th parallel. There I found a settlement of delightful summer cottages, built mostly by old college friends. Here in ante-railway days came, for fishing and gunning and sailing, such men as Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, and others famous in history. These wrote their names on the old hotel register here, as well as upon the shining heights of history. The old hostelry, once made of fragments of wrecked vessels, is now renovated and cased in modern sawed and painted timber, so that it looks smart enough. Down along the sea the cottages have been built just inside the great dyke of natural formation which the constant war of wind and wave has deposited. The Government has anchored the soil to itself by planting, after the Dutch manner, New Zealand grass which sends down long filaments and finds nourishment even in this silex, and thrives, making a deep green mass, which in the moonlight and as rippled by the wind, would delight a Japanese artist.

Here, at Chadwick, is the birthplace of that now famous United States life-saving service, which patrols and guards the whole water line of the American frontier on ocean and lakes. In old days, before steam enabled man to laugh at the winds and to smile at the currents, sailing vessels were frequently wrecked on this treacherous New Jersey coast. Often scores and hundreds of human beings found watery graves at lonely places where no living man was present to help. Even in this day of steamships, wrecks cannot be avoided, especially in fog and storm. Only a few years ago, at Elberon (a euphonious name made from the ordinary collocation of the letters E. L. Brown), a merchant of New York who some months before had ordered a cargo of coffee, had it unexpectedly delivered to him on his garden front and amid his flowers, by the wreckage of the steamer before his eyes.

For several years a life-saving station, supported by some New York merchant, had been maintained under the supervision of Captain Chadwick. On one dark night, the British

steamer *Ayrshire* was wrecked near the Captain's house. With cool skill and superb daring, he and his companions rescued two hundred and fifty passengers and ships' folk, only one person on the *Ayrshire* losing his life. This splendid success was made the fulcrum of the lever of interest created in Congress, which resulted in the formation of the U.S. Life-saving Service, the houses and the crews of which are to be seen on all our water frontier.

In the report for 1896, made to Congress, I find that the number of disasters to documented vessels within the field of station operations during the year was 437. On board these vessels were 4,608 persons, of whom only 13 were lost. Of the \$12,726,520 involved, the value of the vessels was \$8,880,140 and of their cargoes \$3,846,380. Of this amount, \$11,880,140 was saved to the owners and \$1,432,750 lost. The number of ship-wrecked persons who received succour at the stations was 613, to whom 1436 days' relief in the aggregate was afforded. Of undocumented vessels, such as sailing boats, row-boats, etc., on which were 597 persons (of whom seven were lost) there were 243 casualties. Of the property involved on these small crafts, \$114,915 was saved and \$4,350 lost. These figures give some idea of the splendid work in the interests of humanity and commerce, which the Life-saving Service does. Ultimately the *Ayrshire*, to which I have referred, was driven far up on the beach. Now, in that addition to the coast of New Jersey which the sea is steadily making (though often eating coast line away at other places) my old college mate's summer home stands, built over about where the machinery and the stern lay, while the bow and forward timbers are still visible embedded in the sand. W.E.G.

AN ELECTRICAL PIONEER.

An event of great, if not superior, interest was the general meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers at Green Acre near Eliot, Maine. There, the 50th anniversary of an Exhibition at Dover, New Hampshire, of an electric engine and railway, invented by the late Professor Moses G. Farmer, was celebrated. This gentleman, who was the brother of the late Charles Carleton Coffin, was an electric pioneer and did vastly more for electric science than even the great Professor S. F. B. Morse, "who did nothing electrically," but who invented a key and alphabet by which Professor Joseph Henry's invention of the magneto-electric telegraph was utilized for practical purposes. The addresses and papers read by experts at Green Acre showed that in Mr. Farmer's note books models and apparatus, made in the day before the terminology of the science was settled, almost every modern and recent invention or idea was anticipated. His original little engine and car, which ran on iron rails and drew a carriage containing two persons, were on exhibition.

The hall in which the interesting models and relics were shown is named the Eirenon. Here every year during the summer, lectures on comparative religion and in the themes that ought to and do occupy the best men of all countries are set forth in choice language by men who are masters of their theme. In the building adjoining, which Mr. Farmer called his workshop, there was apparatus of all sorts, showing his many inventions, for most of these machines were original with Moses Farmer, who was indeed a Moses of the Promised Land in which we dwell. In 1859, twenty-one years before the common electric lamps and circuits, now so familiar, Farmer lighted his parlour in Salem for some months with an electric lamp which has a filament of platinum wire. Until 1879 most electricians believed that this could not be done, although it had been done.

In 1866, Farmer conceived and carried out what is now called the self-exciting dynamo, by which all the electric industries of to-day have been made possible. It is true that other men, such as Siemens and Varley, may have proposed the same thing about the same time, but here are the written proofs, the first written descriptions of such a machine. With it in 1868, Mr. Farmer lighted a private residence in Cambridge, Mass., with forty incandescent lamps arranged in multiple series and with absolute regulation at the dynamo. An unfortunate fire destroyed nearly the whole plant, but the armature to the dynamo is still in existence and was shown at Chicago in 1893. In 1856, he succeeded in electrically depositing aluminum and made a chronograph and an electric clock for the Dudley Astronomical Observatory at Albany. In 1851, Reuclaut of Paris made a gyroscope for demonstrating the rotation of the earth. Farmer in 1856 kept the disc in continuous motion in

electric current. In a certain sense Mr. Farmer's prior inventions are somewhat of a terror to those who claim to be inventors; for, although he did not publish much, his note books show how thoroughly he had entered into the electrical Canaan for the men of to-day.

We must not forget that twenty years counting back from 1897 will cover the commercial development of electricity. Mr. Farmer went from Dan to Bethsheba of the promised land. At twenty-six he built an electric railroad; at twenty-eight he had improved the telegraph; at thirty he had invented and constructed the fire-alarm system, with water power driven by dynamo; at thirty-five he had discovered the means for duplex and telegraphy; at thirty-six he invented the art of depositing aluminum electrically; at thirty-nine he lighted his parlour with incandescent lamps; at forty-four, he had greatly improved thermo-electric generators; at forty-six, he had invented the modern dynamo with self-exciting field; at forty-eight he lighted a house in Cambridge with forty incandescent lamps in multiple circuits and all properly self-regulating. There is even good reason to believe that the introduction of the condenser into telegraph work, which so enormously increased the capacity of the line, was his invention.

How strange seem to be the ways of men to say nothing about the ways of God. While Morse had his breast covered with European decorations and his bronze statue stands to-day in Central Park, the name of Moses G. Farmer is unknown even to the books of references. Yet, his invention of an electric railway car was a new departure in electric propulsion, as distinguished from locomotion, and the logical sequence of this invention was the adoption of electricity for railway work. How wonderful the developments within the last decade! In 1887, there were scarcely a dozen electric railways in existence. Now, there are seven hundred in the United States alone, being over 14,000 miles in length and having 35,000 cars and 52,000 motors, while the era of suburban, and in a large measure interurban, traffic by electricity seems to be already ushered in. W.E.G.

THE AUTUMN REGATTA.

The Autumn Regatta of the Yokohama Rowing Club was held on Saturday afternoon under most favourable circumstances. The weather—that important factor—was all that could have been desired, a light breeze from the E. N. E. made the water a little lumpy outside the breakwater, but not seriously so, and the tide, until more than half the races were over, was with the rowers. There was a large attendance of visitors, including many of the fair sex, assembled at the Boat-house, the large upper room of which had been prettily decorated for the occasion and dancing was carried on during the afternoon to the strains of the Town Band. Several of the races were very close and almost all well contested, so that excellent sport was provided for the spectators. At the conclusion of the races the prizes, consisting of silver cups and pretty and useful articles such as cruet stands, spirit flasks, etc., were presented to the successful competitors by Mrs. Irvine. The arrangements were most satisfactorily carried out by Mr. H. C. Litchfield, President, as Judge, Mr. W. Sutter, starter and umpire, Mr. H. Tennant, time keeper, and Messrs. F. J. Hall, Captain; Schellenberg, Hon. Treasurer, H. E. Hayward, Hon. Sec.; and the Committee, consisting of Messrs. H. M. Arnold, P. S. Bent, J. MacArthur, G. Philip, and Dr. Wheeler. The various events were as follow:—

CLUB FOURS.—(One Mile).

"PELICAN."—(1).		lbs.
Bow.	H. Goddard	130
2.	R. Böhlke	147
3.	E. Levedag	178
Sir.	W. Goddard	126
Cox.	W. Fegen	132
"DARTER."—(2).		
Bow.	H. Rose	145
2.	G. C. Allcock	152
3.	R. Boyes	175
Sir.	H. S. Goddard	135
Cox.	W. M. Carst	100
"SEAMREW."—(3).		
Bow.	E. H. Irvine	135
2.	H. Bethell	135
3.	M. Schellenberg	159
Sir.	H. E. Hayward	138
Cox.	K. Wilson	105

It was past 1.30 when the first race, for the Club Fours, was started by Mr. Sutter; *Seamrew* having

the inside berth, *Pelican* next, with *Darter* outside. The latter got a lead of a length or two at the start, but the other two boats soon drew up on a level footing, though apparently this was not for long. *Seamrew* were pulling only about 32 strokes to the minute to *Darter's* 33 or 34. At the Pacific Mail Wharf *Seamrew* led by a few yards, but almost immediately afterwards *Pelican* passed and took her water, with *Darter*, outside, about level. *Pelican* finished about half a length ahead of *Darter* and *Seamrew* came in at the tail. Time, 9 min. 46 secs.

JUNIOR PAIRS.—(½ Mile).

"MALLARD."—(1)		lbs.
Bow.	E. H. Irvine	135
Sir.	F. Klüss	145
Cox.	W. M. Carst	109
"WIDGEON."—(2)		
Bow.	L. M. Williams	140
Sir.	H. D. Curtius	160
Cox.	A. L. Bouffier	115

Widgeon had inside and *Mallard* outside place. The latter got the best of the start by a trifle and soon after obtained a lead of two or three lengths, Curtius, the stroke of the *Widgeon*, appearing to be unused to pulling in water so choppy as that which prevailed outside the harbour. The crew of the *Mallard*, rowing in better form, kept their lead, and though Curtius spurred gamely when in smoother water inside the Breakwater, won a good race by about three lengths. Time, 8 min. 28½ secs.

SENIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—(½ Mile).

"PEARL."—(1)		lbs.
Bow.	I. Mottu	145
Sir.	J. B. Rentiers	155
"TERN."—(2)		
Bow.	J. MacArthur	170
Sir.	M. Schellenberg	159

After a very level start *Pearl* got a lead of a length and the chances of the inside boat, the *Tern*, were not improved by a Customs launch which went inside the course and left a nasty wash. Both crews pulled remarkably well, but the weight in *Tern's* bows told against her in the lumpy seas and Mottu and Rentiers increased their lead, passing the P.M. Wharf three or four lengths ahead. When they got into smooth water Schellenberg and MacArthur spouted well, but as this was gamely responded to by Rentiers, the *Tern* was unable to recover her lost ground and *Pearl* won by about two lengths. Time, 7 min. 51½ secs.

MEN-OF-WAR CUTTERS.—(About 2 Miles).

Three ten oared cutters—two from H.M.S. *Rainbow* and one from the *Redpole*—competed in this event, starting opposite the boat house, going round the breakwater and finishing across a line between the boathouse and the breakwater. The *Redpole's* cutter won easily by about half a dozen lengths.

SENIOR PAIRS.—(One Mile.)

"MALLARD."—(1)		lbs.
Bow.	H. E. Hayward	138
Sir.	L. Mottu	145
Cox.	A. H. Lay	105
"WIDGEON."—(2)		
Bow.	H. Goddard	130
Sir.	W. Goddard	126
Cox.	W. M. Carst	100

Mallard had inside place. Both went off to a fairly level start, the Goddards going to the front at once, but Mottu and Hayward almost directly after got on level terms and a little later on took a slight lead, and rowing with a long steady stroke, with plenty of swing in it, gradually increased the distance. Before the P.M. Wharf was reached *Mallard* led by a dozen lengths, and the Goddards gave up and paddled in at their leisure. Time, 11 min., 23 secs.

"RICKETT" FOURS.—(One Mile.)

"PELICAN."—(1)		
Bow.	L. M. Williams	140
2.	H. D. Curtius	160
3.	J. B. Rentiers	155
Sir.	W. Goddard	126
Cox.	K. Wilson	105
"FLAMINGO."—(2)		lbs.
Bow.	R. Böhlke	147
2.	G. C. Allcock	152
3.	E. Levedag	178
Sir.	R. Boyes	175
Cox.	W. M. Carst	100
"SWAN."—(3)		
Bow.	E. H. Irvine	135
2.	F. Klüss	145
3.	J. MacArthur	170
Sir.	L. Mottu	145
Cox.	A. H. Lay	105

"SEAMEW."—(o)	
Bow. H. Goddard.....	130
2. J. B. Gibbs.....	133
3. H. E. Hayward.....	138
Sir. H. S. Goddard.....	135
Cox. J. R. Gibson.....	128

Flamingo had inside place, *Seamew* next, then *Swan* and *Pelican* outside. A number of sampans were scattered about the course at the start, but after repeated whistling from the starter's launch for the most part cleared out of the way, but not until a good deal of time had been lost. *Pelican* got away with a lead of a length and then bored in to *Swan's* water. At the half mile *Pelican* led by three lengths from *Swan* with *Seamew* in third place and *Flamingo* three-quarters of a length behind, last. Goddard and Boyes, in the last two boats, rowed very steadily and well within themselves with a stroke of about 32. By the P.M. Wharf *Pelican* had increased her lead, the other three being within a length of each other. Going past the breakwater Boyes spurred and took second place, finishing in the same position, *Pelican* winning by five or six lengths with *Swan* third and *Seamew* close up. The tide had by this time turned and was against the boats, which accounted for the somewhat poor time made, viz., 11 min. 32½ secs.

JUNIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—(½ Mile).

"TERN."—(1)	
Bow. R. Böhlke.....	147
Cox. E. Levedag.....	178

Salabelle and Gibbs, in the *Pearl*, in inside place, got away with a slight advantage at the start, but there was little difference between the two boats, which raced almost nose and nose until just before entering the breakwater, when Levedag and Böhlke put on a grand spurt and went away lengths ahead, and in spite of a bad wash from a Japanese steam launch, which in spite of all efforts to stop it, ran right across the leading boat's bows, won a capital race by a couple of lengths in 8 min. 43 secs.

SCRATCH FOURS.

"PELICAN."—(1)	
H. Irwine	Kuhn
Barnby	Goddard
Bird	Gibbs
Rentiers (str.)	Stephens (str.)
"SEAMEN."—(2)	
E. Irwine	Moss
Mason	Bethel
Allcock	Rose
Hayward (str.)	Salabelle (str.)

A capital start was made, *Flamingo* going ahead with a dash, but was overhauled by *Pelican* half way home and the latter won cleverly by a length and half from *Seamew*, second, and the other two close up.

THE CRICKET FESTIVAL.

Kobe versus YOKOHAMA.

The cricket festival commenced in Yokohama on Tuesday. The fine autumn weather experienced on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday had led cricketers and the public generally to believe that the unseasonable and wet weather lately experienced was past and done with, and that we were safe for a spell of fine bright skies for the cricket and baseball carnival at least. But the promise failed to be fulfilled. On Tuesday morning the sky was overcast and somewhat threatening, though for a time the sun broke through and encouraged false hopes. During the forenoon the weather, however, though overcast, was fine, but during the afternoon the rain fell in successive showers of drizzle and sadly interfered with the enjoyment of players and spectators, though it was not sufficient to stop the play. Kobe had sent down a strong, though possibly not the best, eleven it could raise, to do battle with the local Club, and a close game was anticipated. The Pavilion on the Cricket Ground was more prettily decorated than we remember to have seen on any former occasion and during the afternoon the Town Band was in attendance and played a selection of music—not altogether of the most cheering character it must be said—the bandsmen appearing to be suffering from the depressing influence of the weather until near the close of the day, when they endeavoured to brighten things up a bit with some merry dance tunes. As might well be expected under the circumstances the attendance of visitors, particularly of the fair sex, was very limited, but the sport offered was fully up to the average of local interport matches, some excellent cricket being shown. The visitors

elected to go to the wicket first and in this they had bad luck, as the rain in the afternoon, when the Yokohama team batted, told more against the bowlers than the batsmen. The Kobe innings was not brilliant, as no individual "came off" specially strong against the Yokohama bowling, in which Edwards, Jr., Murray and White were in excellent form. Only three of their batsmen succeeded in getting into double figures; they evidently did not have the "luck," that a Kobe contemporary hoped for a few days since when it prophesied that at least eight were good for over 9 runs each. The innings of the Yokohama team, so far as it has gone, was remarkable for the splendid play of Murray and White. The former's 74 was capitally played, only one chance being given, and that a hard one, while the score included no less than 14 fours, showing that the batsman did not fail to "open his shoulders" when occasion offered. A little bit of over zealousness and perhaps want of prudence on his own part, in trying to make an extra run, led to his being run out when he looked set for the century. White's innings for 103, not out, was probably the best he has ever played on the ground, and that is saying a great deal. It was all good, sound cricket and skillfully played, not a chance being given from beginning to end, and like Murray's innings, included 14 fours. With 135 runs to get to equal Yokohama's present score, Kobe's chances do not look rosy for the first match. Some very pretty bits of fielding were done on both sides—and also some bungling—but taken altogether the fielding was very fair, particularly considering the sudden condition of the ball and the ground during the afternoon. Messrs. C. R. Joy and A. N. Hansell officiated throughout the day as umpires. Play, which had been set down to commence at 10.30 sharp, did not begin till after 10.45, and stumps were drawn at 4.45, with nearly two hours interval at tiffin; a good deal of fine weather was therefore lost.

W. D. S. Edwards, for Kobe, won the toss, and elected to bat, sending in Godrej and S. Lucas to face the bowling of F. E. White and E. B. S. Edwards, the former at the Pavilion end, with Duff at the wicket. Off White's last ball Godrej opened by scoring a single. In Edwards' first over Godrej cut him for two, and White then sent down a maiden over. Edwards' last ball in the following over was hit to square leg by Godrej for two. White put in another maiden over, and then Godrej scored a two off Edwards, but was bowled the following ball. One wicket for 7 runs. W. Braess then joined Lucas, and White put in his third maiden over. In Edwards' next over Braess made a single and a leg bye, bringing 10 to the scoring board. Braess made a single off White's first ball in the over, and then Lucas was caught by Edwards at point off White. Two wickets for 11 runs. W. D. S. Edwards took Lucas' place and drove White to the Pavilion to start with, Braess following this up with a 4 and a 2 off Edwards, to long field. Edwards drove White for a single and Braess made a pretty cut off the same bowler for 1, in the next over. In Edwards' next over Braess snicked him in the slips to the boundary for 4. White in his next over was driven by Edwards for a single, which would have been a boundary but for a bit of good fielding by Murray. W. D. S. Edwards made a single off his brother, and the next ball from this bowler was put up by Braess and taken by Kingdon, at cover point, after he had added 11 to the total. Three wickets for 29 runs. Pakenham followed and Murray took White's place at the pavilion end with the leather, and sent in a maiden over. W. D. S. Edwards added a single, and Pakenham another, off Edwards' next over and the latter followed with a 3 to the off from Murray's first ball; Edwards adding a single in the same over, and a bye for three off his brother's next, in which Pakenham also made a drive to the boundary for four. The next ball from Edwards however, took Pakenham's wicket. He had added 8 to the score, which now stood at 42 for four wickets. Scrymgeour followed in and in Murray's next over his partner made a single, and another single off Lias, who now relieved Edwards at the lower end. In Murray's following over Edwards drove him to the boundary for 4. Lias' next over was a maiden, but in Murray's next Edwards' made a single and Scrymgeour a single and a drive for 2. Murray's next ball was driven by Edwards straight over the wicket and was beautifully taken and held by White at long field. Edwards had compiled 18 and the score now stood at 54 for five wickets. G. Braess joined Scrymgeour, who made a single off Murray's next over, after Lias had bowled a maiden. Scrymgeour made a boundary hit off the latter bowler's next over and Braess drove Murray directly after to leg for 2, adding a single in the same over. Lias' second ball in the next over took Braess' wicket, he having added 3 to the score; 62 for six wickets.

Mat Smith joined Scrymgeour and the latter added a 4 and a single to his score off Murray, and 2 two directly after off Lias. Smith made a 2 off Murray and lost his wicket, clean bowled, by the following ball. Eight wickets for 74. R. E. Gill followed in. Scrymgeour added a single and Edwards took Lias' place with the ball at the lower end, and in his third ball clean bowled Scrymgeour, who had played a pretty game for his 18. Eight wickets for 76. Barto joined Gill and opened with a 2 off Edwards. In Murray's next over Gill was clean bowled. Nine for 78. A. L. Robinson joined Barto but was prettily caught and bowled by Edwards after making a single, the eleven being thus out for a total of 79. The scores were as follow:—

Kobe C.C.

Mr. M. B. Godrej, b. E. B. S. Edwards	7
Mr. S. E. Lucas, c. Edwards, b. White	0
Mr. W. Braess, c. Kingdon, b. Edwards	14
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, c. White, b. Murray	8
Mr. G. C. Pakenham, b. Edwards	18
Mr. J. Scrymgeour, b. Edwards	18
Mr. G. Braess, b. Lias	3
Mr. M. Smith, b. Murray	2
Mr. R. E. Gill, b. Murray	1
Mr. E. L. Barto, not out	9
Mr. A. L. Robinson, c. and b. Edwards	1
b. 3, l.b. 2, w. 1	5

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. F. P. White	35	9	3	1
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards	31	9	7	5
Mr. C. G. Murray	35	9	1	3
Mr. F. J. Lias	35	9	4	2

After tiffin, play was resumed at 2 p.m. the home team starting their innings with C. M. Duff and D. Tyng, to the bowling of W. D. S. Edwards at the lower end and G. Braess at the pavilion end with W. Braess at the wicket. Duff opened with a single off Edwards and the latter's next ball took Tyng's wicket. One for nought. Murray followed. Duff made a single and Murray a leg-bye off Braess in the latter's first over, and Edwards gave a leg-bye to Duff in his next. Murray made a boundary hit to leg from Braess' first ball in the following over, and followed it up with a single. Edwards' next was a maiden over. Duff then got Braess away to the fence at long field for four, but off the next ball was caught by Godrej at short long-on, having made 6 only. Two for 13. White then joined Murray, who got Edwards away in the next over for a four, a three, and a single. White then drove Braess to long off for 3 and again for a single. After Edwards had sent down a maiden over, Godrej relieved Braess at the pavilion end. Off his first over Murray made a four to long-off, and a pretty cut for three, to which White added a single—rather an expensive over for Kobe. A maiden over from Edwards followed and in Godrej's next Murray scored a single. Murray drove Edwards for four in the following over and White then cut Godrej for 2. Edwards' next only produced a single by Murray. Godrej was severely punished in the next over, Murray getting two boundary drives for 4 each off him. S. Lucas was now put on at the lower end in place of Edwards. White scored a single and Murray a four off his first over. Pakenham went on at the pavilion end in place of Godrej and Murray got him away to the pavilion for 4 and another for the same number to long-off. White made two successive drives for 4 each off Lucas and 70 was posted up. Murray added a single off Pakenham and then got Lucas away to the boundary for two more fours, and 80 went up. White hit Pakenham for a 3 and Murray made a 4 and a single in the following over. Lucas was sent by the same batsman to the fence for 4 and a bye for two; and another 4 to Murray off Lucas followed. Edwards now relieved Pakenham at the pavilion end. White made a single and Murray a 2 off his first over and the century went up. Geo. Braess now relieved Lucas at the lower end and White got him away for 3 in the first over. Off Edwards' next White made a single and then a leg drive for 4 and a single off Braess, adding a pretty drive to the Pavilion for 4 and a cut for 2 off Edwards directly afterwards.

Off Braess' next over Murray scored a single and another off Edwards, who was also cut for 2. Directly after Murray was run out having put together the capital score of 74. Three wickets for 122. E. B. S. Edwards joined White but was bowled first ball by his brother W. D. S. Four for 122. Kingdon was next man in. White made 3 twos and 2 fours off Braess' next over—a total of 14 for the over, and 130 went up on the telegraph board. After Edwards had put in a maiden over Pakenham went on in place of Braess at the lower end and a single to White and 2 to Kingdon were scored off his first over. A maiden over from Edwards followed and then Kingdon got Pakenham away for a 2 and a single. Kingdon cut Edwards for 2 in the next over and White then cut Pakenham to

the fence for 4. Edwards' next produced a single each to Kingdon and White. The latter then cut Pakenham to the fence again for a 4 and Kingdon made a single which was followed by a bye off Edwards. White drove Pakenham to square leg for 4 twice in the next over and 164 was posted up. In Edwards' next over Kingdon was caught in the slips, by Godrej, after adding 9 to the total. Five wickets for 164. J. G. Watson joined Edwards, and M. Smith went on at the lower end in place of Pakenham. White cut him for two in his first over. In Edwards' next Watson snicked him through the slips for 4 but the following ball was caught by W. Braess behind the wicket, off his pad, and given out. Six for 170 runs. Rev. T. S. Tyng joined White who made a single and then a 3 and a 4 off Edwards and 2 off Smith. Edwards then sent down a maiden over, but Smith in his next over was cut for a 2, two fours and a single by White, who also got a four off Edwards. Tyng also securing a single from the same over. Godrej now relieved Smith at the lower end and after Tyng and White had each scored a single off him the former drove the bowler for 3, and the 200 went up on the telegraph board. Tyng got Edwards away to the fence for 4 and was rather badly missed the next ball. Godrej's next over gave a single to White, making up his century, and cheers from the Pavilion greeted the event. White then drove Edwards for a single and Godrej for the same, Tyng and White following with another single each and three byes were added. At this point stumps were drawn, at 4.40 p.m., White not out for 103 and Tyng not out 9, the total for 6 wickets being 214.

Y. C. AND A. C. FIRST INNINGS.			
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. Godrej, b. G. Braess	...	...	6
Mr. D. Tyng, b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	0
Mr. G. C. Murray, run out	...	...	74
Mr. F. E. White, not out	...	...	103
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	0
Mr. A. Kingdon, c. Godrej, b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	9
Mr. J. G. Watson, c. M. Braess, b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	4
Rev. T. S. Tyng, not out	...	...	9
Mr. F. J. Lias	...	...	0
Mr. W. Y. Showler, } to bat.	...	...	0
Mr. G. Philip	...	...	0
b. 6, l. b. 2, w. 2	...	...	9

Wednesday, the second day of the cricket festival in Yokohama, was favoured with delightful weather, the sky being bright and the air balmy, while the pitch, which had been carefully protected from the rain during the night, and the ground generally was in capital trim, though towards the latter part of the game it got a little rough, resulting in the ball "jumping" up rather dangerously on two or three occasions. During the afternoon there was a considerable attendance of visitors on the ground, the ladies' tent being in particular well patronised; it was therefore rather disappointing to many visitors who did not arrive till about 4 o'clock to find that the match was finished. The base-baller however started in to practice and afforded the promenaders some little entertainment. Yokohama's innings was finished at 11.35, 42 runs being added to the over-night score of 214, bringing the total up to 256, the largest score made by Yokohama in any interport match, we believe, in recent years. White's splendid not-out innings of 135 figures conspicuously in the total, and was a piece of cricketing well worthy of the Yokohama Captain. The Kobe team opened their second innings before tiffin in excellent style, the first wicket costing 41 runs, and it then looked as if they were in for a big score, and that Yokohama would at least have to play a second innings. But after tiffin the scoring fell off, though the two Braesses and Scrymgeour played pluckily and well to save their side from defeat, but the tail of the Kobe eleven went all to pieces and gave a chance to E. B. S. Edwards once more to achieve the hat-trick, by taking three wickets with three successive balls in one over. Five wickets for 6 runs was Edwards' average, while White was not far behind with four wickets for the same number of runs. Messrs. Joye and Hansell again officiated as umpires.

When stumps were drawn on Tuesday afternoon Yokohama's score stood at 214 for six wickets. At 10.55 on Wednesday morning, 25 minutes behind time, play recommenced, the two not-out men, White with 103 to his credit, and Rev. T. S. Tyng, with 9, resuming their innings to the bowling of W. D. S. Edwards at the Pavilion end and Godrej at the other. Tyng took Edwards' first over, which was a maiden. In Edwards' second over White cut him for a single. In Edwards' third over White made a straight boundary drive for four, and Godrej in the following over was pretty cut by Tyng for two. White then scored a single off Edwards, and Lucas relieved Godrej at the lower end. White drove his third ball to square leg for 4 and cut the next ball to the boundary for another 4. Tyng followed

with a 2 and a single off Edwards' next over, and 230 went up on the telegraph board. Lucas in the next over took Tyng's wicket, he having added 14 to the total score, which now stood at 232 for seven wickets. Lias now joined White and opened with a cut for two and a single off Lucas, but was caught and bowled by Edwards in the next over. Eight wickets for 235. Showler took Lias' place at the wicket, but was caught by Barto at mid-wicket, off Edwards' fourth ball of the over. Nine for 235. Philip joined White, who cut Lucas for a 2 and drove him to square leg for 4 and to mid-on for a single in the following over. Edwards sent down a maiden to White, after which Geo. Braess went on in place of Lucas. Philip made a single and White two successive fours and a single off the first over of the new bowler, and 250 went up. Edwards bowled another maiden and off Braess' next Philip scored a single and White a 2. By the first ball of Edwards' following over Philip was clean bowled, White carrying out his bat after a splendid innings for 135. This closed the Yokohama innings, the total runs made being 256.

Y. C. AND A. C.			
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. Godrej, b. G. Braess	...	...	6
Mr. D. Tyng, b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	0
Mr. G. C. Murray, run out	...	...	74
Mr. F. E. White, not out	...	...	135
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	0
Mr. A. Kingdon, c. Godrej, b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	9
Mr. J. G. Watson, c. W. Braess, b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	4
Rev. T. S. Tyng, b. Lucas	...	...	9
Mr. F. J. Lias, c. and b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	0
Mr. W. Y. Showler, c. Barto, b. Edwards	...	...	0
Mr. G. Philip, b. W. D. S. Edwards	...	...	0
b. 6, l. b. 2, w. 2	...	...	9

With 177 to get to tie Yokohama's score the Kobe team started their second innings at 11.50 a.m., Godrej and S. Lucas opening the batting, to the bowling of Watson and E. B. S. Edwards. Both bowlers sent in a maiden over, but in Watson's second over Godrej cut him for 2 and a bye followed, Lucas adding a leg hit for 4. In Edwards' next over Godrej scored a single and Lucas a leg hit for 4. Watson's sent down a maiden over, and Edwards followed suit, while a single to Godrej was all that was made out of Watson's next. The second ball of Edwards' next Godrej tipped on to his balls, the first wicket thus falling for 13 runs. W. Braess followed and opened with a straight drive for 3 and a single off Edwards, Lucas adding another single off Watson. Edwards put in a maiden over and then Braess made a boundary hit for 4 and a single off Watson, following this up with a very neat cut to the boundary, and a leg hit for 4 off Edwards, bringing 30 up on the telegraph board. Philip now went on in Watson's place at the Pavilion end, and was cut by Lucas for a single in his first over. Lias also relieved Edwards at the lower end and rolled down a maiden over. Braess sent Philip's first ball in the next over to the fence for 4 and Lucas slipped a single. Braess then drove Lias to the fence for 4, bringing 40 up on the telegraph board. Kingdon was now put on at the Pavilion end in Philip's place and sent down a maiden over, Lias following suit. The game was adjourned for tiffin, at 12.30, the score being 41 for one wicket.

Upon resuming play at 2 p.m., White took the bowling at the Pavilion end and with his second ball scattered Lucas' wicket after he had made 11 runs. Two wickets for 41 runs. W. D. S. Edwards joined Braess and the latter made a single off White before the over was finished. A leg-bye and a single off Kingdon followed and Braess added two singles, off White and Kingdon respectively. Edwards then made a single and Braess a cut for 2 off the same over from Kingdon. Edwards drove White for a single and Braess obtained a four to long-on and a single, Edwards adding another single from the same over, and 60 was posted. Kingdon's following over only produced a single by Edwards, who in the next over drove White for a 2 to leg. Braess followed with a drive for 2 and a leg-bye for 1 off Kingdon. Off the next ball Edwards was caught behind the wicket by Duff, his score being 7. Three wickets for 66. Pakenham followed on and in White's next over Braess was taken at long-on by E. B. S. Edwards. He had added a very useful 41 to the total score of 56 for four wickets. Scrymgeour joined Pakenham and both batsmen added a single off White. Scrymgeour made a single off Kingdon's next and White sent down a maiden over, Pakenham making a single off Kingdon, White's second ball in the following over took Pakenham's wicket. Five for 70. G. Braess was next man in, and

Kingdon sent in a maiden over. G. Braess managed to cut White for a single and drove Kingdon to leg for the same. Scrymgeour adding another off the same over. Scrymgeour then drove White to long field for 2 and Braess cut Kingdon for the same number and a bye followed, the same batsman adding a single to slip. Braess made a 2 to long field and a single off White's next over, and Scrymgeour added 2 through the slips. Lias now took Kingdon's place at the lower end and sent down a maiden over. Murray went on at the Pavilion end in place of White, and Scrymgeour played him for a single, Braess adding a drive for 2. Scrymgeour cut Murray for two and added a single off the same bowler. A leg-bye and a single by Scrymgeour off Lias followed. In Murray's next over Scrymgeour drove him to leg for four. A leg-bye, a leg hit for 2 by Scrymgeour and three byes were made off Lias' succeeding over. Scrymgeour then drove Murray to the boundary for 4 and followed it up with a 2, the 100 having meanwhile been posted.

Edwards now relieved Lias and Scrymgeour made a single and Braess a boundary for 4 and a 2 off his first over. White again relieved Murray at the Pavilion end and Scrymgeour got him away to the fence for 4 and in the following over Braess made a single off Edwards. Braess added a single off White and was bowled next ball by Edwards, for 20 runs. Six wickets for 123. Matt Smith followed but was caught and bowled by Edwards off his first ball. Seven for 123. R. E. Gill followed and was bowled by Edwards with the next ball. Eight for 123. Barto was next man in. In White's next over Scrymgeour snicked him to the fence behind the wicket for 4 and added a single off the next ball, Barto also making a single off the same over and another in the next off Edwards, who, following ball took Scrymgeour's wicket after he had played a capital innings for 34. Nine wickets for 130. Robinson, last man in, joined Barto, who made two successive twos off White. The latter's next ball, however, took Barto's wicket, and the innings closed for 134, the match being thus won by Yokohama by an innings and 43 runs.

The following were the scores:—

KOBÉ C. C. SECOND INNINGS.			
Mr. M. B. Godrej, b. E. B. S. Edwards	...	...	4
Mr. S. E. Lucas, b. White	...	...	11
Mr. W. Braess, c. E. B. C. Edwards, b. White	...	...	1
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, c. Duff, b. Kingdon	...	...	7
Mr. G. C. Pakenham, b. White	...	...	34
Mr. J. Scrymgeour, b. Edwards	...	...	36
Mr. G. Braess, b. E. B. S. Edwards	...	...	0
Mr. Matt. Smith, c. and b. E. B. S. Edwards	...	...	0
Mr. R. E. Gill, b. E. B. S. Edwards	...	...	0
Mr. E. J. Barto, b. White	...	...	6
Mr. A. L. Robinson, not out	...	...	0
Byes 5, l. b. 4	...	...	9

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. J. G. Watson	...	30	12	0
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards	...	30	26	4
Mr. G. Philip	...	30	5	—
Mr. F. J. Lias	...	35	21	3
Mr. A. Kingdon	...	60	20	8
Mr. F. E. White	...	65	26	2
Mr. G. C. Murray	...	25	13	—

A SCRATCH MATCH.

A scratch match was played on Thursday between eleven captained respectively by Messrs. F. E. White and J. Scrymgeour, resulting in a victory for the latter. Mr. White's team started on a second innings and had compiled 61 for the loss of one wicket when stumps were drawn, W. Braess having contributed 36, not out, of the total. The scores in the first innings were as follows:—

MR. SCRYMGEOUR'S ELEVEN.

Mr. Joy, c. sub, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	0
Mr. D. Tyng, c. Showler, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	39
Mr. G. Braess, c. Godard, b. White	...	...	...	35
Mr. Watt, c. and b. White	...	...	...	0
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, b. Sutter	...	...	...	0
Mr. Scrymgeour, l. b. w., b. White	...	...	...	15
Mr. G. Philip, b. Godard	...	...	...	32
Mr. R. E. Gill, run out	...	...	...	0
Mr. Gibbs, c. Kingdon, b. Godard	...	...	...	0
Mr. Boeck, c. and b. White	...	...	...	0
Mr. C. M. Duff, not out	...	...	...	12
Extras	...	...	...	8

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	M'dens.	W'keta.
Mr. Godard	...	55	34	0
Mr. Kingdon	...	55	19	0
Mr. Sutter	...	65	25	4
Mr. White	...	83	74	2

MR. F. E. WHITE'S ELEVEN.

Dr. Wheeler, c. Tyng, b. Edwards	...	...	...	1
Mr. W. Braess, c. Edwards, b. Joy	...	...	...	18
Mr. A. Kingdon, b. Joy	...	...	...	0
Mr. H. Pinckney, b. Philip	...	...	...	0
Rev. Chappell, c. Duff, b. Joy	...	...	...	1
Mr. F. E. White, c. Duff, b. Braess	...	...	...	37
Mr. W. Sutter, c. Duff, b. G. Braess	...	...	...	0
Mr. W. Y. Showler, c. and b. E. B. S. Edwards	...	...	...	0
Mr. A. Tyng, b. Edwards	...	...	...	0
Mr. H. S. Godard, b. G. Braess	...	...	...	0
Mr. H. S. Wheeler, not out	...	...	...	4
Extras	...	...	...	7

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	Mds.	Wkts.
Mr. Philip	...	35	27	1
Mr. Joy	...	40	27	1
Mr. F. B. S. Edwards	...	27	8	3
Mr. G. Braess	...	80	9	0

THE Y. C. AND A. C. ENTERTAINMENT.

A happy spontaneity, which made up for a lot, characterised the entertainment given on Wednesday evening at the Public Hall by the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club in honour of the Kobe visitors. To begin with, the hall was charmingly decorated with big shower-baskets of flowers swung pendant from the roof, thus breaking up the awful monotony of the ceiling. The hall was packed to the doors, extra seating accommodation eventually being provided ere the entertainment began, at a few minutes past nine o'clock. The programme was not so ornate as some we have seen of late in Yokohama, but it made up for its plainness by the local jokes sketched upon the back. These included skits upon most of the players, but the gem of the collection was that labelled "The latest!" The burly figure, redolent of geniality, seated in the diminutive go-cart, pulled and pushed by three desperately labouring men, told its own naïve tale.

The proceedings commenced with a light comedy, translated from the French, entitled "What Tears can do." The scene is laid at Baden and introduces five characters: *Prosper Chomly* (Mr. Wilder) who has married a widow, *Delphine* (Mrs. McWilliams), a former convent friend of *Lady Dorothy* (Miss Poole), the three months' bride of *Lord Charles Clarendale* (Mr. F. Coghill Jackson). The young bride desires some diamonds which her husband refuses to buy for her. *Delphine*, who, by-the-by, keeps her husband on a monthly allowance, advises *Lady Dorothy* to resort to artifice to gain her ends, in fact, to use tears if all else failed. The advice is followed and disaster almost ensues in consequence of *Lord Charles* discovering the trick. But all comes right in the end, matters straightening out happily for all parties, *Delphine* even giving the key of her cash-box into her roulette-loving husband's care. Mrs. McWilliams played her part capably and received splendid support from Mr. Wilder. Miss Poole made a most promising debut as an ingenue, though naturally the part demanded more than a beginner could fairly be expected to achieve. Mr. Coghill Jackson made a very efficient foil, playing well within himself. Mr. Lambert Plummer, as *Alphonse*, an hotel-waiter, was very acceptable. At the close a bouquet was handed to Miss Poole and the rounds of applause that this evoked testified to the audience's appreciation of the players and the play.

The second part was a variety entertainment pure and simple. After a trio—piano, violin, and violoncello—by Messrs. Chalmers, Davies, and Pooler, M. A. C. Read sang "Jack's the Boy," in capital style. He was encored and repeated the last verse. Mr. Showler then got off an old wheeze in "Joshua," and, receiving an encore, replied with a short recitation that tickled the risible faculties of some. Miss Jane Cakebread next tripped on to the boards clad in a fetching costume of black, set off with snow-ball trimming. First the dainty maid sang and danced a Bolero; and then told of the wife-winning ways of the "Gay Tomtit." A flute solo by Lieut.-Commander E. Grafton, R.N., proved a veritable treat, some wonderfully clever effects being accomplished in the course of the selection. The next contribution came from M. Sydney H. Morse, who gave "Let me like a soldier fall" in finished style. Mr. Wilder next gave some "Selected chestnuts"—old favourites would have been an apter title, the applause showered upon the performer being long sustained, but Mr. Wilder, owing to the lateness of the hour, could only reply with one of his most genial smiles. A song "Anson Cab" by Mr. Hore, proved amusing from the variety of intonations and accents employed by the singer. The number was scarcely a success, however, and neither was the concluding item, a song and skirt dance, "Click-click," by Middle. Cogwheel, her words being scarcely audible.

THE INTERPORT FESTIVAL.

FRIDAY'S BASEBALL MATCHES.

The interport baseball matches between Kobe and Yokohama took place on Friday in genial autumn weather. The morning was dull but the afternoon turned out very nice. Putnam's splendid pitching in both matches was the theme of general praise, though other members of the visiting team came in for well-deserved applause. Kobe won the first match, by 13 to 10, and lost the second by 12 runs to 16 scored by Yokohama, so the decider will take place this afternoon. At the close of the first match, the teams adjourned to tiffin in the Pavilion. The President, Mr. J. P. Morrison, presided, having on either hand the respective Captains, Messrs. Barto and Blake. At the close of the repast—capitally served

by Mr. W. N. Wright—he formally welcomed the first baseball team from Kobe to Yokohama and wished them all success. The toast was drunk upstanding. Later in the day, at the close of play, Mr. Barto called for cheers for Yokohama, which were warmly given, and then Mr. Blake called for a similar compliment for the visitors, meeting with a hearty response.

The light was very bad when play began, a nasty glare coming from under the greyish-white clouds. Kobe went to bat first at 10.15 a.m., sending Wheeler to the diamond, to face the pitching of Dyer. He got down to second base on the third ball sent in; Barto was caught by Blake at 3rd base by the next ball. Then Putnam sent a ball down to centre field and Wheeler got home—the first run of the day. W. D. S. Edwards filled the vacancy, only to be caught by Bain, who also put out Putnam on second, by the same ball. Kobe were thus out for one run. K. Smith went out first for Yokohama at 22 minutes past 10. He was disposed of first ball, not reaching first base. Gibbs, the left-handed player, got down to first base on the next ball, and Ellis followed him five balls later, a muffed ball in centre field saving both men. The next ball was passed and bases were taken, Gibbs moving to third, whence he got home by the aid of a nice ball sent to the fence by Blake. One run all. Ellis was the next home, but Briggs was put out on the plate, so Blake got left on third—Kobe, 1; Yokohama, 2. W. Braess now went in for Kobe and took a base on passed balls. Chesai—substitute for Gibbs—filled the diamond, but was put out on strikes. Boeck, an old Yokohama man, was next in, and lost W. Braess before he left the plate, the "cricketing member" being run out at second base; Boeck was then put out on first base and the side went out for nothing.

Azbill started Yokohama's second innings by being put out on strikes. Merriman took his place and reached first base on the third ball sent in by Putnam. He stole his next base, narrowly saving his bacon, performed the same trick on third, and finally ran along the home-stretch, while Dyer got down to first base, only to be put out on second base when attempting a rather desperate run. K. Smith was dismissed by a clever bit of play on the part of Putnam and Chesai, the side thus being all out for one. Score, Kobe 1; Yokohama 3. Scrymgeour, Kobe's succeeding man, never left the diamond, being put out on strikes. G. Braess followed and Wheeler went in, to be put out on first base, Blake sending the ball smartly down to Briggs. Again a maiden innings for the visitors. Owing to an accident to his right hand, Wheeler changed places with Scrymgeour in the field in the succeeding innings. Gibbs, who opened for Yokohama, went out on strikes; then Boeck in left field let Ellis off easily when a catch looked certain. Blake then went down to first base, and a passed ball enabled him and Ellis to move on further. Briggs, the succeeding bat, got down to first base on balls, thus filling all the bases. Bain followed in and secured a free base through the ball striking him, and a base was taken all round, Ellis placing a run to his credit. Azbill went out at first base next ball, and Blake was missed on the plate by Barto, another run thus going up. Briggs by this time had reached third base, but Merriman being put out on strikes, he failed to get home. Score, Kobe, 1; Yokohama, 5.

The fourth innings began with Barto at bat, and he took a base on bad balls. Putnam went in, and before he moved, Barto stole a base—a narrow shave. Putnam received his first base from the pitcher, the ball striking his arm, then W. D. S. Edwards went to bat, and sending the ball into the centre almost brought about disaster. But the leather was muffed and next ball Barto got home, Putnam moved up to third, and Edwards to second. Putnam watching his opportunity next ran home, the ball not being returned to the catcher sufficiently smartly. Chesai, with a prettily played ball, got down to first base, and Bain throwing down wildly to Briggs, Edwards got home. Chesai moved down to second, but Boeck was put out on strikes. Scrymgeour went to bat and Chesai stole his third base, but got no further, Scrymgeour going out on strikes. Score, Kobe, 4; Yokohama 5. Dyer, opening for Yokohama, went out before reaching first base, and Smith went in, to get his first with a passed ball; and the second was stolen. Gibbs played a ball straight into Scrymgeour's hands at short-stop, and things looked desperate. Smith, however, got down to third and then home on a short played ball. Ellis, next ball, was out on first base. Score, Kobe, 4; Yokohama, 6. The fifth innings began at 22 minutes past 11 o'clock. G. Braess starting for Kobe, with a base on foul balls. Wheeler did not

succeed in reaching first base, but Braess moved on to second. Barto scored his first base by luck, Briggs missing the ball, an unusual thing for him. Putnam followed and took a base on bad balls—three men were now on bases. W. D. S. Edwards went to bat and in the result of some wild-over-throwing on the part of Azbill got round to third base. G. Braess was put out on the home plate however, but Barto and Putnam got in. Then W. Braess succumbed at first base, the side going out for two runs. Score, Kobe 6; Yokohama 6. Blake, beginning the 6th innings for the home side, was caught by W. Braess at third. Briggs went in next and took a base on balls. The sun by this time had struggled through the clouds, but the light was still very unpleasant for spectators. Bain going out on strikes, Azbill went out to bat. Briggs sneaked down to second, but he had to thank Wheeler's injured hand for an escape. Azbill being caught at first base, Briggs was left at third, no run being scored. Scores were now even, the telegraph showing innings 6; Kobe, 6; Yokohama, 6. Blake here relieved Dyer at pitching. Chesai, sending up a fly in the centre field, was almost held by Ellis, but the catch was difficult. Boeck, the next man, was caught by the catcher close to the net, and then Scrymgeour went out on strikes. G. Braess was the next visitor who failed to get down to first, and Chesai was left on second. No addition had been made to the score. Merriman began the last of the sixth innings by going out on strikes, but Dyer had a base presented him by the pitcher. K. Smith, who followed, fell in running to first base, and was put out. Gibbs followed and sent a ball nearly to the fence; Dyer came home. Gibbs secured his second and third bases before Ellis had left the diamond. Gibbs, two balls later, catching Barto asleep, ran home, while Ellis got down to first. Blake, last in, was caught by W. Braess, and the side went out. Score, Kobe 6; Yokohama, 8. The seventh innings began at 3 minutes to noon, Wheeler going in for Kobe. He made a pretty one base hit off Blake's sixth ball. Barto was badly missed at third, and then Putnam was forced off, Barto being unable to move. W. D. S. Edwards followed and had a "life" given him through three men running to catch a skied ball. His next hit brought Wheeler home and Barto to third base. Then W. Braess sent a splendid ball down the field and Barto and Edwards got home. Chesai, who followed, was caught by Bain, and then Boeck went in only to be put out by Briggs. The score now stood, Kobe, 9; Yokohama 8. Briggs, opening the next innings, had ill-luck and did not reach first base, but Bain being struck took a base and then sneaked two more. Azbill took a base on balls and Merriman went to bat, only to go out on strikes. Dyer, playing the ball almost into Wheeler's hands, put all the side out—nothing being scored. Kobe were now a run ahead, even innings. The eighth innings started at 12.15 p.m. Scrymgeour began for Kobe, but did not reach first base. G. Braess took a base on balls, and Wheeler followed and had similar luck. Barto, sending a ball near the line, an attempt at double play was made, but did not come off, though Smith backed up the pitcher splendidly. Three bases were now filled. Putnam went to bat and bought in G. Braess and Wheeler, Barto getting round to second. Edwards' next innings was remarkable for the number of balls he struck behind the line. He eventually got out on first base, and Briggs throwing in splendidly to Bain, brought off a smart bit of double-play, putting out the whole side. Score, Kobe, 11; Yokohama, 8. Kay Smith secured a base on balls, and then Gibbs went in to bat. Meanwhile Smith had sneaked two bases, coming in next ball, Gibbs making a splendid hit to the long field. This brought him round to third base. Ellis went to bat and was given out on strikes. Blake filled the vacancy and was missed on the fly by Wheeler, and Gibbs got home. Briggs went out on strikes and Bain took his place. Things were getting exciting when Bain went out at first base. Score, Kobe, 11; Yokohama 10. W. Braess began the last innings with a ball that nearly reached the Pavilion. It was a three-base hit. Chesai followed and secured a base on balls. Boeck brought Braess home, Chesai moving down to second. Thus Scrymgeour was the first to be disposed of, at first base. W. Braess occupied the plate next, but although he reached his base, Chesai was put out on the home run by the catcher. Wheeler brought Boeck home. Then Barto was put out by a smart return and the side went out. Score, Kobe, 13; Yokohama, 10. Azbill being struck, took a base and sneaked the next. Merriman was put out on strikes, and Dyer went to bat; only to be put out by a pretty bit of fielding by the pitcher, who caught Smith next ball, the game thus finishing in favour of Kobe by three runs. Score:—

KOBÉ CRICKET CLUB.									
	Pos.	At Bat.	Runs.	1st Total	B. Bases.	P.O.	A.	E.	
E. S. Wheeler	1st	6	3	4	14	1	6	5	
F. E. Barto	2nd	6	3	4	14	9	4	5	
L. Putnam	3rd	5	2	5	12	2	14	0	
W. D. S. Edwards	4th	5	2	4	12	0	0	0	
W. Braess	5th	5	1	3	7	2	0	0	
C. Gibbens (sub.)	6th	5	0	3	6	12	0	0	
V. E. Boeck	7th	5	1	2	4	0	0	3	
J. Scrymgeour	8th	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	
G. Braess	9th	5	1	3	20	0	0	0	
Total		47	13	27	79	27	28	12	

Y. C. AND A. C.									
	Pos.	At Bat.	Runs.	1st Total	B. Bases.	P.O.	A.	E.	
K. Smith	1st	6	2	8	0	2	0	2	
C. Gibbs	2nd	5	3	3	12	0	0	1	
M. L. Ellis	3rd	5	3	3	10	0	0	2	
C. H. Blake	4th	5	1	3	8	1	7	0	
J. Briggs	5th	5	0	2	6	0	0	1	
C. H. Bain	6th	5	0	2	5	8	2	1	
P. G. Azbill	7th	5	0	2	4	8	1	0	
W. L. Merriman	8th	5	1	2	4	0	0	0	
E. L. Dyer	9th	5	1	2	20	0	0	0	
Total		46	10	30	62	16	18	10	

INNINGS.
Yokohama..... 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Kobe..... 2 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—10
Kobe—Yokohama, 1st game.
Analysis of the score shows earned runs Kobe 2, Yokohama 1, double play Yokohama 1, left on bases Yokohama 5, Kobe 7, Dyer struck out 5 men, gave 3 bases on called balls and hit one man, Blake struck out 1 man and gave 3 bases on called balls, Putnam struck out 9 men, gave 7 bases on called balls and hit 2 men, Azbill passed 4 balls, Barto passed 5 balls, 2 base hits were made by Blake, Wheeler, Putnam, Edwards, and W. Braess; Gibbs and W. Braess each made a three base hit; time of game 2 hours 6 minutes.

THE SECOND MATCH.

Play began in the second match at 2:30 p.m., Kobe going in to bat. The proceedings in the afternoon were enlivened by the Town Band, while the Ladies Tent—most tastefully set out with flowers and foliage—filled quickly after play began. A much larger body of general spectators were also present. The light was better than before the interval, a breeze having sprung up soon after tiffin. Kobe put in the same team, but Yokohama substituted Morse for Merriman, while Gibbs started in to pitch, with Ellis behind as catcher, Blake going on at third and Azbill centre field. Wheeler began for Kobe, taking a base on bad balls. Barto followed and, sending a ball down to 2nd base, was held. Bain threw in to Briggs and both men were put out. Putnam sent the third ball down to the fence but the leather was smartly returned by Dyer, and he only reached first base. W. D. S. Edwards then went to bat and got out on first base, the side thus coming out for nothing. The fielding of the home side in this innings was very smart. Smith opened for Yokohama with a walk-down to 1st base on balls. Gibbs followed and sent the ball away into the sky. Ellis filled the vacancy at the plate and being hit, everyone took a base. Then Blake went in, only to be caught by Wheeler in centre field. Briggs sent the ball down towards Scrymgeour and the latter returning to catcher, Smith was forced out on the home run. Bain, next man in, was thrown out, and the side retired for nothing. Score, Kobe, 0; Yokohama, 0. W. Braess commenced the second innings for Kobe and had a merry time sending up foul flies. Eventually he got away on bad balls, and Chesai went to bat and sent the ball out into right field. Boeck followed and took his first base at the pitcher's expense. Scrymgeour, next man in, went down to 1st base, and Braess got home—the first run of the match. Chesai, the next man to attempt a run, was put out, Briggs fielding smartly. Boeck and Scrymgeour ran home, two balls later, but G. Braess was put out on 2nd base, on a hit by Wheeler. Barto got down to 1st base and let in Putnam, while Wheeler sneaked a base. Putnam was, next ball, caught by Ellis, and the side was out. Score, Kobe, 3; Yokohama, 0. Azbill, for the home team opened with a base hit, and Morse went to bat, but was given out on strikes. Before Dyer could do anything, Azbill was put out on 2nd base by Wheeler, and Dyer went out on strikes. Another maiden innings for Yokohama. W. D. S. Edwards again had a merry time with foul balls when he went in for the third innings of Kobe, but in the end was put out by Briggs at first. W. Braess, going to bat next, remained in some time before being caught by Ellis close to the Ladies' tent, the catch receiving hearty applause. Chesai soon after secured a base hit, and then Boeck went to bat, only to be given out on strikes. Kobe's second maiden innings. Smith, for Yokohama, took a base on a dead ball, and then catching the field asleep got down to second base, but the point was not allowed and he went back again. Gibbs went out at first base and Ellis filled the vacant place. Meanwhile Smith had moved to third, Ellis next

made a three-base hit, amid ringing cheers, and K. Smith got home—Yokohama's first run. Ellis came home on a passed ball, second run for the home side. Blake then took a base on balls, and Briggs went to bat and got a base from the pitcher. Bain sent a ball down to centre field, and as a result Blake was forced off third; Briggs moved on to second. Azbill went to bat and before he moved Briggs had stolen a base, and Bain another. A base was given to Azbill on balls and Morse followed at bat. He sent a ball down past short-stop, letting in Briggs and Bain—two runs. Two balls later, Azbill came home on a passed ball, and Morse moved up to third base. Dyer was put out next ball, Morse being left on third. Score, Kobe, 3 Yokohama, 5. Scrymgeour was Kobe's next batter, opening the fourth innings at 3:40. He went out at 1st base. W. Braess followed and had similar luck, but Wheeler took a base at the pitcher's expense, while Barto made an easy base owing to the pitcher miffing. Putnam making a three base hit, let Wheeler and Barto in, bringing the score equal. A minute later W. D. S. Edwards caused some consternation among the crowd gathered around the telegraph-board by sending a swift ball there. He made a foul hit towards the Pavilion, but the next carried him down to first base safely, and Putnam came home. W. Braess, taking a base off balls, eventually moved round to third, Chesai then made a capital hit that took Braess in. Boeck went out at first, and the side were out. Score; Kobe, 7; Yokohama, 5. Opening for Yokohama in the next innings, K. Smith took a base on balls; Gibbs followed and made a base hit to the right field. He stole his next base. A beautiful strike to deep field by Ellis, brought Smith in; then Blake brought in Gibbs and Ellis, the striker getting to second. Short-stop, Scrymgeour, nearly held Briggs a moment later, then Bain made a good hit and next Blake was forced off by a short ball sent down by Azbill. All bases were filled, Briggs being at third, Bain on second, and Azbill on first. Morse went to bat but was capitally caught by Putnam near the scorer's table. Two balls later, Briggs was put out on the home run, and the side retired. Score, Kobe, 7; Yokohama, 8.

The fifth innings began at 5 minutes past four o'clock, Wheeler opening with a base hit for the visitors. Barto, sending a ball down into centre field, was well held by Azbill, and Wheeler remained at second base. He stole down to the next, where he had to remain while Putnam took a base on a dead ball. W. D. S. Edwards brought Wheeler and Putnam home. W. Braess went out at first, and Chesai followed at the bat. Edwards in the meantime stole a base, getting down to third. Chesai being put out at first base, Edwards lost his run. Score, Kobe; 9; Yokohama, 8. A blocked ball following on a strike took Smith down to 2nd base; Gibbs, however, did not get down to first base. Ellis followed at the bat, and brought Smith home, equalizing scores. Then Blake made a base hit and stole another. Two balls later Briggs let in Ellis and Blake; then Briggs got down to third and Bain to second. Next Azbill went round to third. To vary matters, Morse was given out on strikes. Dyer took a base on balls, and Smith went to bat, succeeding in letting Bain get home. Next Azbill came in, Boeck missing a fly sent down by Gibbs. But next ball Dyer was forced off the plate in attempting a run home. Score, Kobe, 9; Yokohama, 14.

By this time the shadows were lengthening across the ground. Kobe lost her first bat, Boeck, Bain holding him well, and then Scrymgeour followed, to take a base on balls. The next batter, G. Braess was caught by Smith, short-stop. Wheeler went to bat and after Scrymgeour had taken a base on a past ball, made first base at the expense of the pitcher. Barto was the last man in—no runs being scored.

Yokohama opened their innings by losing Ellis, who was caught by the pitcher. Then Blake hit a ball to the fence and attempted a home run, but was put out just as he reached the plate. Briggs being caught next ball by Putnam, the side went out for nothing. The seventh innings began at 4:35 p.m., Putnam opening proceedings by taking a base, the ball striking his foot. But he was given out before reaching third base. Edwards, next man in, got his first base with a very safe hit, and then W. Braess sent up a fly, and was put out; Edwards meanwhile running to second, spiked his hand severely and Chesai took his place. Gibbs, just arrived by the *Saikyo Maru*, from Kobe, now went to bat and secured his first base after two balls. Boeck went out on strikes and the side retired. Score, Kobe 10; Yokohama, 14. Bain began business with a two-base hit; Azbill followed with a three-base hit, and Bain got home. Four balls later Azbill ran in. Morse came out on strikes, and Dyer followed

suit, but Smith managed to pull off a safe one-base hit. Gibbs was given out on strikes and the innings closed. Score, Kobe, 10, Yokohama 16. Opening the eighth innings, Scrymgeour went out on first base; Braess got to second, but Wheeler was put out on first. Barto took a base on balls, and then Azbill caught Putnam in the centre field. A maiden innings. Ellis went out to start and was put out on first; then Blake went out on strikes, and Briggs on first base. A maiden innings. The last innings began at 5 o'clock, Chesai taking the place of Edwards, retired hurt. He was missed by Smith at short-stop. Wheeler went in and in consequence of some erratic fielding got down to second. Gibbs next distinguished himself by placing a ball straight into Briggs' hands at first base. Boeck was the next man out on first base, but Chesai got home, scoring a run. Scrymgeour brought W. Braess home, and then was put out on second base by Bain and Azbill, the game finishing, Kobe, 12; Yokohama, 16. Cheers for the winners and then for the Visitors were once raised. Score:—

KOBÉ CRICKET CLUB.									
	Pos.	At Bat.	Runs.	1st Total	B. Bases.	P.O.	A.	E.	
E. K. Wheeler	1st	6	2	5	13	2	4	0	
F. E. Barto	2nd	6	2	4	7	13	0	0	
L. Putnam	3rd	6	2	4	14	3	14	0	
W. D. S. Edwards	4th	6	2	4	13	0	1	0	
W. Braess	5th	6	2	3	9	0	1	0	
C. Gibbens	6th	6	0	4	7	6	0	0	
V. E. Boeck	7th	6	1	2	4	0	0	0	
J. Scrymgeour	8th	5	1	3	7	0	0	0	
G. Braess	9th	5	0	3	5	0	0	0	
Totals		52	13	31	79	24	20		

Y. C. & A. C.									
	Pos.	At Bat.	Runs.	1st Total	B. Bases.	P.O.	A.	E.	
K. Smith	1st	6	2	3	8	0	4	0	
C. Gibbs	2nd	6	3	3	8	0	4	0	
M. L. Ellis	3rd	6	3	4	11	6	2	0	
C. H. Blake	4th	5	1	3	9	0	8	0	
J. Briggs	5th	5	0	2	3	11	4	0	
C. H. Bain	6th	5	3	4	14	7	1	0	
P. G. Azbill	7th	5	3	5	15	8	1	0	
W. L. Merriman	8th	5	0	2	3	0	0	0	
E. L. Dyer	9th	5	0	1	3	0	0	0	
Totals		50	16	30	94	27	17		

INNINGS.
Yokohama..... 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Kobe..... 0 0 3 3 0 0 2 0 0—16
Kobe..... 0 0 3 4 0 0 3 0 0—12

Mr. Rice was Scorer: Mr. Gunn, Umpire.

Kobe—Yokohama, and game.

Analysis of the score shows earned runs Kobe 7, Yokohama 4, left on bases Yokohama 11, Kobe 9, Gibbs struck out 2 men, gave 8 bases on called balls and hit 1 man, Putnam struck out 6 men, gave 7 bases on called balls and hit one man. Ellis passed 3 balls, Barto passed 3 balls, Blake made one a base and a safe 3 base hit, but was put out on the latter in trying to make a home run, Putnam also made a 3 base hit; time of game, 3 hours 14 minutes.

THE CRICKET DINNER.

On Friday evening one of the most enjoyable events of the Cricket and Baseball Festival, the dinner in honour of their Kobe visitors, was given by the Y. C. and A. C. at the Club Hotel. The large dining room was placed at their service by the manager, Mr. Seon, where the tables were arranged in horse shoe form, affording ample accommodation to the sixty or more guests and members who sat down, while the small room adjoining, at the front of the building was turned into a bar and ante-room. An excellent dinner was served, the liquid refreshment being as choice and as bounteous as the solids provided; the menu was as follows:—

HORS D'OEUVRE.

Consommé Macedoine à la Royale.
Saumon Bouilli, Sauce Crevettes.
Petits Pâtés à la Montglas.
Salamis de Bécassines aux Truffes.
Filet de Boeuf à la jardinière.
Champignons Frais au Gratin.
Petits Pois à l'Anglaise.
Dindonneau Farci.
Jambon à York.
Salade.
Glace Chocolat et Vanille.
Pudding Diplômé.
Gâteau Fleuri.
Fromage.

Fruits. Café. Dessert.

The President of the Y. C. and A. C., Mr. J. P. Mollison, occupied the Chair, supported on either side by the Kobe and Yokohama Captains of cricket and baseball—Messrs. W. D. S. Edwards and White, Barto and Blake, the Vice-Chairmen being Messrs. Walford and Coghill Jackson. After full justice had been done to the choice repast provided, the Chairman proposed the first toast, the "Rulers of our Respective Communities," which met with a fitting reception. The toast of the evening, "Our Kobe Visitors," coupled with the names of Messrs. Edwards and Barto, was then proposed by the Chairman in felicitous terms and drunk with musical honours. Messrs. Ed-

wards and Barto replied, referring to the recent matches, and proposed the success of the Y.C. & A.C., which was also drunk by our Kobe visitors with musical honours. Mr. White responded in a graceful little speech, in which he referred in complimentary terms to baseball, and the value of good fielding generally in both games. The Chairman then presented the Yokohama Cricket Captain with a very pretty silver bat, a prize which he had offered for the best individual score at the recent interport cricket match, and which was won by Mr. White with his splendid score of 135, not out. Mr. Blake replied on behalf of the baseball team to the toast of the Y. C. and A. C., and Mr. Coghill Jackson proposed the toast of the umpires, scorers, and all who had assisted at the matches, which was responded to by Messrs. Joye and Hansell, the two umpires. Mr. Duff proposed 'The Ladies,' and Mr. Murray responded. The last toast on the programme was 'The Press,' which was proposed by Mr. Walford and replied to by Mr. Tennant. Other toasts were afterwards proposed and enthusiastically drunk to, including the popular President of the Y. C. & A. C., the Hon. Sec., Mr. Coghill Jackson, the Captains past and present, Messrs. Duff and White, Mr. S. Lucas, Hon. Sec. of the Kobe Cricket Club, etc. A number of enjoyable songs were sung in the intervals between the toasts, there being a large array of vocal talent present; Mr. Morse gave a fine rendering of the 'Macgregors' gathering,' and an Italian song as an encore; the Chairman gave his well known cricket dinner song, 'The farmer's boy,' the genial and inimitable Mr. Wilder proved a perfect mine of song and recitation, which was worked without stint; Mr. Walford, Mr. Showler, and Mr. Kenny, who sang the 'Last Rose of Summer,' in Japanese, all contributed to the harmony of the evening, and shortly after midnight a most enjoyable social entertainment was brought to a close with the evergreen chorus of 'Old Lang Syne' sung hand in hand by the assembled company. The verse on the menu aptly describe the feelings of those who participated in the Y. C. and A. C.'s hospitality on the occasion:—

Happy are we met
Happy have we been,
Happy may we part
And, happy meet again.

CONCERT AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

The vocal and instrumental recital, or concert, given on Thursday evening as a farewell to Mr. Sydney H. Morse, under Mr. T. V. Twinning's auspices, proved a success and a failure: a success from an artistic standpoint—for a good programme was admirably carried out—and a failure from the business manager's point of view, as, to put it mildly, there was not half a house. It was the case of a good entertainment going a-begging. The concert opened with a Toy Symphony, by Hadyn, in which, the following local amateurs appeared and rendered full justice to the pretty overture selected:—Mr. Chas. F. Rhine, Pianist; Mr. H. Pollak, Mr. H. A. Poole, Violins; Mr. W. A. Crane, Viola; Mr. W. H. Crane, Cello; Mr. A. B. Walford, Double Bass; Mr. S. E. Unite, Drum; Mr. H. B. Darnell, Mr. H. J. Ginn, Trumpets; Mr. L. Jupp, Nightingale; Mr. F. Whitefield, Rattle and Triangle. Mr. Morse's fine tenor has never been heard to greater advantage since his stay in Japan, than in the solo he sang in the first part 'The Holy City,' by Adams. His voice appears to have gathered strength and volume since his stay among us and the crescendos and cadences in the beautiful song were most effectively rendered. An encore from the small but appreciative audience followed the song, and in response the last verse was repeated by the singer. Lieut. Commander Grafton, R.N., followed with a very artistically executed fantasia on the flute, by Reichert. It was easy to see that the musician loved his instrument and had thoroughly mastered all its technique, and his performance elicited warm applause. Mrs. W. W. Campbell, always a favourite with Yokohama music lovers, was enthusiastically received, and gave a most expressive rendering of Coenen's charming song 'Lovely Spring,' eliciting enthusiastic applause, and a pretty bouquet was presented to her on the recall to the stage. The duet, 'Oh, that we two were maying' (Smith), by Mrs. Irwine and Mr. Morse, was alone well worth a visit to the Hall so exquisitely it was rendered; and the violin solo by Lieut. Cole, R.N., which followed—a Fantasia by Rossini—was also a treat to music lovers. Miss Scherschewsky's recitation of 'The Swine-herd,' (H. C. Anderson) proved an admirable piece of elocution—of the American school—and showed moreover great dramatic talent on the

part of the fair elocutionist. The last number on the programme in the first part, a vocal trio, 'Dreaming,' was struck out and in its place Messrs. Morse and Walford sang Balle's beautiful duet 'Exelsior,' with great success, the two voices blending most effectively.

The second part opened with a trio, a Serenade by Kummer, by Lieut.-Commander Grafton, Lieut. Cole and Mr. Whitefield, for flute, violin and piano, which was admirably played. Mrs. Irwine sang Tosti's 'Could I' in her well-known finished style, and Mrs. W. G. Bayne performed Raff's 'Rigaudon' on the piano so artistically and effectively as to elicit an undeniable recall, to which the player responded by repeating the last movement of the piece. Mr. Morse took the house by storm with his splendid rendering of Molloy's 'Carnival,' in which he showed more power than perhaps ever before on the Yokohama concert stage, and in response to repeated recalls favoured the audience with the 'Echo' song by Lord H. Somerset. Another flute solo by Commander Grafton, 'Homage à la Russie,' was followed by a song 'My love is come' (Marzials), by Mr. A. Duncan, and a very enjoyable concert was brought to a close with the vocal quartette 'Ye spotted Snakes' (Stevens) by Mrs. Irwine, Miss Burdett Leach, Mr. Morse and Mr. Whitefield, which proved one of the gems of the evening, so effectively did the voices harmonise. The accompaniments during the evening were played by Mrs. Mollison, Miss Burdett Leach, Mr. Whitefield and Mr. Twinning, at the piano, and Mr. Whitefield at the organ.

THE "WAKASA MARU."

A SUCCESSFUL TRIAL TRIP.

On Thursday morning, in most perfect autumn weather, the N.Y.K. steamer *Wakasa Maru*, (Capt. McMillan), built by the Hendersons of Glasgow, and just arrived in Japan, made her trial trip, in order to qualify for the Government's substantial subsidy. At the invitation of the Directors of the Company a large company assembled on board shortly before nine o'clock, the guests including Mr. Alf. Woolley, of the P. & O. Co.; Mr. B. C. Howard, of the Pacific Mail and O. & O. Companies; Mr. W. T. Payne, of the C. P. R.; Mr. A. McMillan, of Tokyo; Mr. Matsuyama, N.Y.K., Tokyo; Mr. J. Johnston, Captain W. Townsend, Capt. W. C. Haynes, R.N.R., St. Ninian; Capt. Forbes and Capt. Ewata, Supt.-Captains, N.Y.K.; Capt. F. Brown, Capt. Ekstrand, Mr. Suda, Chief Superintendent Engineer of the N.Y.K.; the officials of the Teishinsho; Government Engineers, Chief Engineer Shibata; Mr. Takeda, Mr. Tsutsumi, Mr. Fukuchi, etc.

The *Wakasa Maru* left the harbour at 9.30 a.m. and proceeded to the trial ground, a measured course to the north-east of Tokyo Bay. The weather was all that could be desired, light variable airs, falling at times into calms, that scarcely rippled the glassy surface of the water, while bright sunshine flooded an almost cloudless sky. The three miles were run over three times, involving three turns at either end, an evolution that gave a vivid object-lesson to spectators of the ease with which a twin-screw vessel can be turned. The *Wakasa Maru* on this trip was drawing 14 ft. 11 in. forward and 16 ft. 1 in. aft., and as result of the trial made an average speed of 14.426 knots per hour; thus more than fulfilling the requirements of the Navigation Encouragement Law. During the trial the good ship developed a horsepower of 4,100, making 83 revolutions, mean, per minute, with a coal consumption of 45 tons per 24 hours.

The indicator cards read as follows:—

Knots per hour.	Mean Knots.	Average.
1 14.268	14.421	14.495 14.585 14.4105 14.3535
2 14.574	14.478	
3 14.382	14.4345	
4 14.4966	14.382	
5 14.268	14.325	
6 14.382		

As we have before stated, the *Wakasa Maru* was built at Glasgow by Messrs. W. and D. Henderson, who also engineered her. She has a carrying capacity of upwards of 7,000 tons, and is a decided advance on her sister ships, especially in the passenger accommodation. Lofty, airy, well-lighted first class passengers; the second class cabins and saloon being aft. In both cases the comfort and convenience of those who have to travel by sea, have been fully studied, the accommodation

being fully up to that of the latest P. & O. intermediate steamer. Indeed, the provision made for the second class is much above the average of mail liners, and the whole of her poop is set apart for their service as a promenade. Their bath-rooms are also very nicely fitted. The needs of steerage passengers have been very well looked after. The officers' quarters are designed on the latest scale, it being recognised by ship-builders at last that marine officers' deserve as much convenience and accommodation in their floating homes as do the saloon passengers. And this brings us to the saloon. In the *Wakasa Maru* light oak has been adopted in the panelling and fittings of this apartment, a charming and cosy effect being obtained. Passengers home-ward bound by the *Wakasa Maru* will, indeed, find ideal quarters; cosy berths, a pleasant lounge at the top of the companion, and a snug little smoking room. If the trip of Thursday can be taken as a criterion, travel on the *Wakasa Maru* should be very pleasant, the engines working so smoothly that hardly any vibration was noticeable. By the result of Thursday's trial she should earn the Company a subsidy of over 100,000 yen per trip, out and home.

The *Kamakura Maru*, Capt. Trennt, made her trial trip on Wednesday when, drawing 14 ft. 11 in. forward, and 16 ft. 6 in. aft. she developed a speed of 15.42 knots per hour. She is a Belfast built ship, twin-screws, but of very different model to the *Wakasa Maru*.

THE COMING RELIGION OF JAPAN.

Japan is the most interesting country in Asia, perhaps in the whole missionary field. The reason is plain. Modesty is not a shining characteristic of the modern Japanese; but, though their books and newspapers are painfully, even disgustingly, full of boasting and national vanity, yet in reality there is a deep-seated self-digust, a realization that something is not only wrong, but radically so. To-day probably more than ever before, there are deep searchings of heart in that country, where it is not yet safe to openly challenge the mythology on which the popular and political religion rests. There is much earnest talking and writing about a "moral crisis." There is yearning after a religion that will satisfy the awakened man in the Sunrise Land. As one who has for thirty years been before the English-speaking public as a writer on Japan, one will not accuse me of lack of appreciation. Yet the truth must be told. Using words in their highest and therefore their true sense, we declare that the average Japanese lacks the fundamental ideas that go to make up a religion. He not only does not know of God, but he ignores the very idea. He has scarcely a conception of the soul as perishing and individual. His idea of duty, nobly as he fulfils it, is a childish one. Using the word with the same value, weight, and colour that we use it when talking of the Hebrew prophets, the Greek sages, the English poets, Dante, Milton, or Shakespeare, or of the nations which have produced these men, I believe that the Japanese, in spite of all their religions, are not a religious, certainly not a spiritual people. I have tried to make myself reasonably familiar with Japanese history, but I find in it no overmastering spiritual ideals such as have moved and do move the great men of the continents; no consciousness of personal individuality such as filled and exalted the soul of teachers, heroes, and martyrs in lands where Christ reigns; no vision and realization of a presence filling heaven and earth. Indeed, what could we expect, with a rudimentary system founded on the idea of the mere evolution of matter and force which, after rising into the personification of the forces of nature, became a political engine for the subjugation of the people, centring everything to the will of the Emperor? After the baldness of Shinto comes the agnosticism of Confucius, teaching only etiquette and ceremony, bidding men to "honor the gods but keep them far from you." After this extinguisher of all faith in personality divine or human, Buddhism enters to ignore and ridicule the idea of a Creator, teaching flat atheism and a new cycle of ideas founded on agnosticism, evolution without any previous divine involution, and finding the whole basis of its philosophy in a succession of cause and effect, even while ignoring the First Cause.

Is it any wonder, then, that to-day the gospel of Herbert Spencer—a Japanized gospel at that—is the favourite creed of the average educated (heaven save the mark!) Japanese? Without, then, the idea of a personal God as a living, self-conscious, free intelligence; without the idea of personality of man, as of a real individual surviv-

ing as a spiritual entity the dissolving of his fleshy framework; without any moral character apart from personal interest and social necessity, or the will of the Emperor; how, in the name of any philosophy, are the Japanese to face the perils which now beset them and solve the problems awaiting them? How can Japan, undoubtedly yearning for the full recognition of all the world, reach that level which the proud nations in Christendom require in one who claims to be an equal? The Japanese boast of their ethics or "spirituality." It is a sham. They may be perfectly certain that a country in which one divorce to every three marriages is the rule, where polygamy and private harems,—with children born in a herd instead of a home, the Emperor himself setting the example, and this being the general custom from the court noble to the *betto*, is reckoned distinctly inferior and will be. The hazy view which mercantile and other folk take of the sacredness of a contract, the low value put on the letter of one's bond and of truth generally, the lack of general understanding of the value of a promise,—these things, which a better religion will vastly improve, are paving the Japanese future pathway with failures both humiliating and continuous.

He who dwells in the country of little Captain Miles Standish, and familiar with the story of David and Goliath, will not willingly twit the Japanese for their smallness, either in personal stature, the area of their country, the diminutiveness of their rice and grain stalks, compared with those of South Carolina and Dakota, the littleness of their rivers, their low percentage of arable area, nor with the grade of their heroes, literature, art, or poetry, all of which seem miniatures, rather than mature or imposing products. But, when we see the Japanese persisting in their love for things petty and clam-like in regions sublime, comical, eternal, demanding "Japanese ethics," a religion of their own making, or "Christianity adapted to the needs of Japan," we behold either a merely splenetic reaction against what they deem foreign, or insanity with which God has afflicted them in order to humble them, and we trust afterward to raise them up. When the whole truth is told about the Japanese armies in China and Formosa, and the behaviour of civilian officers in the newly conquered island, one is not favourably impressed with the fruits of their ethical training. Though the nation is to-day ground down under the awful load of taxes that keeps the mass of the people poor and ignorant, though, no doubt, many are made rich, one in Tokio, Osaka, or Kyoto looks almost in vain for great schemes of benevolence, hospitals, asylums for the insane, for the blind, and for diseased and suffering humanity.

Perhaps it is not possible for a foreigner to divest himself wholly of prejudices, but the writer has not often been accused of prejudices against Japan. This question of religion must be and can be pondered apart from subjective prepossessions, when we apply the test of results and ask for fruit. I fully believe that for the Japanese to continue in these old paths or to rest in their interpretation of the gospel of Herbert Spencer, will result not only in failure to win a place of equality among the nations of Christendom, but means utter collapse of the nation. They have planted the acorn in the bottle, but their honest men know the power of growth and the thinness and rigidity of the glass, and therefore dwell in impotent fear. They need to become a religious nation and to have that sense and apprehension of one living and true God who is "the overflowing fountain of all good." They need to know the reality and therefore the worth of the individual human soul. Will not the Japanese, even those who "swallow Herbert Spencer whole," understand that even the philosopher of the unknowable does not deny the existence and activity of a personal God, that even those destructive critics on the European continent who have deserted the old Calvinism and other traditional forms of Christian faith, believe none the less in a great determining Power, personal and intelligent? The Japanese must learn that the very "evolution" in which they so delight is, with thousands of Christian thinkers, supremely loyal to Jesus, only another way of describing and of seeing plainly God's methods of continuous creation. Certain it is that, without the faith of theism, it will be impossible to grasp that which not only binds the nations of the west in unity, but which gives them their law of progress,—that is, the fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man.—Rev. WM. ELLIOT GRIFFIS, D.D., in the September *Missionary Review*, New York.

The *Mainichi* states that the Government has under contemplation the opening of three more special ports for exports and imports during next year, with a branch customs house at each.

HAKODATE NEWS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Hakodate, Oct. 13, 12.25 p.m.

The *First Chishima Maru* arrived here yesterday with 256 seals aboard: she also brought in one hunter and 179 skins belonging to the schooner *Pointer*, wrecked at Shikotan, east of Yesso. The *Pointer's* Captain and crew are reported safe and are coming down to Hakodate.

The Russian gunboat *Korsets* has left here for Vladivostok.

Hakodate, Oct. 15, 9.40 a.m.

The *Daphne* has arrived with Capt. Funcke and seven men.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

SPAIN AND CUBA.

London, Oct. 8.

The Spanish Government proposes to grant autonomy to Cuba, providing that the island remains under the suzerainty of Spain, but the campaign will be continued against the rebels as long as necessary, and General Weyler will be recalled unless he resigns in the meantime.

London, Oct. 11.

The Spanish Government has determined to crush the rebellion in Cuba, and is about to despatch 20,000 more troops as reinforcements, accompanied by General Blanco, who is the successor of Captain General Weyler. The Government is also reinforcing the Philippines, and is recalling the present Governor.

THE NAVAL PROGRAMME.

It is estimated that the engineering dispute, through the non-delivery of materials to the dockyards where Her Majesty's ships are already in course of construction or have been ordered, has retarded the completion of the current naval programme by a year.

THE SEALING CONFERENCE.

October 9.

Fresh parleying in regard to the Sealing Conference has ended in the final refusal of Lord Salisbury to participate in any conference if Russia or Japan be represented thereat.

The Hon. Mr. Sherman, Secretary of State, in replying to the Marquis of Salisbury's Note declining to participate in the Sealing Conference with Russia and Japan, says that the United States is astonished at Great Britain's determination, and suggests the holding of a conference of experts of Great Britain, the United States, and Canada, constituted in accordance with the Marquis of Salisbury's views, in addition to the conference of the United States, Russia, and Japan. The first sitting of the latter conference will probably be held on the 20th instant.

RUSSIA AND INDIA.

The Vienna correspondent of *The Times* says that it is rumoured there that the late Prince Lobanoff left papers wherein he urged that, when Russia had completed her railways in Asia, she should strike a decisive blow at India, and it successful the disintegration of the British Empire would speedily follow.

THE ENGINEERS' DISPUTE.

London, Oct. 11.

The Secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers states that in the event of a continuance of the struggle, the engineers of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and other

mail lines will be withdrawn, thus rendering outside intervention inevitable.

THE FRENCH IN AFRICA.

A French expedition has left Porto Novo for Uikki, in the Lagos hinterland, where the situation is serious in consequence of the possibility of collisions between British and French troops. The Lagos Government is taking active measures to prevent encroachments upon British territory, though it has decided to grant autonomy.

RAILWAY EXTENSION.

It has been decided to extend the railway from Abu Hamed to Berber forthwith.

HOUSEHOLD TROOPS FOR FOREIGN SERVICE.

It has been decided to send two battalions of Guards to Gibraltar next troop-ing season, when the battalion at present doing duty at the Rock returns.

RIOTS IN ROME.

Serious anti-taxation riots have occurred in Rome.

TYPHOID IN ENGLAND.

Typhoid fever, in epidemic form, has broken out in Maidstone, the county town of Kent. Already 1,556 cases have been reported, and 68 deaths have occurred. The Lord Mayor of London has opened a subscription for the sufferers.

THE "YASHIMA."

Suez, Oct. 12.

The *Yashima* arrived here to-day.

ASSUMPTION OF A IMPERIAL TITLE.

Söul, October 11.

The King is to hold the ceremonies of assuming the title of Emperor to-morrow. No information has been given to the Foreign Ministers as to the ceremonies. The King, however, has forwarded despatches intimating that they will be received in audience on the afternoon of the 13th inst. It remains uncertain whether the Powers will recognize the new title, but the Foreign Representatives will have recourse to some measure after referring to their respective Governments subsequent to the above mentioned audience.

SIAM AND THE FRENCH PRESS.

London, Oct. 13.

The French Press has changed its tone in regard to Siam, the *Temps* and the *Débats* in recent issues being conspicuously moderate.

THE PORTE AND CRETE.

The Porte has proposed to the Powers the disarmament of the entire population of Crete, both Mahommedan and Christian, and the appointment of a Christian Governor, who shall be an Ottoman subject, and be nominated by the Porte with the assent of the Powers.

BOUNDARY COMMISSION.

London, Oct. 14.

It has been arranged that an Anglo-French Commission, to determine the boundaries of the respective countries in West Africa, shall meet in Paris on the 20th instant.

KOREAN NEWS.

Söul, Oct. 15, a.m.

The Order has been promulgated that this country will henceforward assume a national name, and be known as Taikan (Great Korea), and that there will be a great liberation of prisoners to commemorate the occasion.

CHESS.

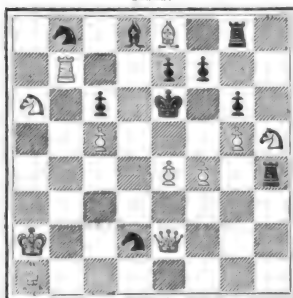
All Communications to be addressed to the *Chess Editor*.

The Yokohama Chess Club is meeting now at 184 Creekside.

The Tokyo Chess Club now holds its meetings at No. 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchome (next to the Tokyo Club).

Solution of Problem 340 will be held over for a while to give our friends time to solve this difficult problem.

PROBLEM No. 342.
By WALTER PULITZER, U.S.A.
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

We are indebted to our regular Problem solver P.E.F.S. for the above pretty two-mover.

Walter Pulitzer the composer of this problem, is well known as the author of Chess Harmonies and ranks among the great problemists of the world. Born in New York city in 1874 he is a very young man to have won such distinction in the Problem Art.

From the Preface of "Chess Harmonies" we quote his views on Problem making:—

"The Art principles laid down and prescribed by critics like Lowell and Ruskin may (in the main) be said to apply equally and with as much truth and directness to the art of problem construction as to any other art. Although I admit intricacy of theme and beauty of design and general harmony of ideas and conception to be very desirable qualities in the problem, still I do not consider them indispensable quantities. I am inclined to attach so much importance to construction in itself that even if a problem be commonplace and uninteresting, so long as the constructive laws have been followed out, the result in my opinion, is as much a composition as anything, and, indeed, a more legitimate work than a crudely executed "inspiration."

JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

The chess congress of the Berliner Schach-Gesellschaft opened at the Architekten, Berlin, on Sept. 12th. Twenty entries are announced. According to late advices, no American players will compete in the tournament. Lasker, Trassack and Maroczy have, so far, not entered the contest either. Blackburne, Burn, Bird, Teichman and Lee, however, will be found among the players in the tournament as representing Great Britain.

In addition to the international tourneys to be arranged next year at Vienna, Leipzig and Cologne, an international congress is projected to be held at The Hague.

A young and strong player has come to the front in England. He bears the name of Evans, and has proved his prowess in the pending tournament at the City of London Chess Club, wherein he leads all his competitors, including Blackburne. Evans will probably play in the next international cable match.

The admirers of Paul Morphy have just established in Berlin a new society, membership of which is open to all chess players in the world. The chief object of this society is the collection and publication of all unpublished games, letters and biographical notes of Paul Morphy. The leader of the society is F. Guttmayer, Berlin. The annual subscription is \$3. All subscribers will receive the organ of publication, the *Berliner Schachzeitung*, gratis.

The directors of the New York State Chess Association have had a special meeting respecting the unsettled contest of the *Staats-Zeitung's* challenge cup. They decided to declare this year's competition a draw, and they will hold the cup themselves until next summer.

The Brooklyn Chess Club has issued a circular letter to the principal chess clubs in the United

States inviting co-operation in the formation of the team for the cable match in 1898, and asking for suggestions as to the best methods to be adopted to make the team representative. This new policy will doubtless reconcile those clubs who denied the right of the Brooklyn Club to challenge Great Britain in behalf of American chess players.

The Metropolitan Chess Club of New York will hold a reception and entertainment on October 16th next, the proceeds of which will be used to create a "Steinitz testimonial fund."

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

On Monday night the Y.C.C. had another successful meeting at Clausen's Hotel and then removed to the new quarters at Messrs. Far-sari's Photographic studio, where members met for the first time last Thursday night. Great satisfaction was shown with the choice the committee had made, the rooms being well lighted by the electric light and possessing every convenience. We wish the Club success in their new home.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNEY.

We have had to abandon the idea of concluding the two remaining games by telegraph, communications being continually interrupted and messages wrongly interpreted. The games will now be carried on by correspondence. This, while being a very slow process, considering the distance the combatants are from one another, is preferable to a break-down of the Tourney, which so far has been a success.

The score of the two games will be published in this column after the conclusion.

A BRILLIANCY PRIZE.

The following game was awarded the Brilliancy Prize at the late New Jersey Chess Association meeting. The winner is a brother of the well-known problemist, M. Lissner, and the loser a brother of the world-famous composer San Loyd.

GAME No. 341.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—J. Lissner.		Black—S. Loyd.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 B K3	QxKt
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	16 KR Q sq	P QKt3
3 B QKt5	P Q3	17 Q Kt5 ch	Kt B3 (d)
4 P Q4	PxP	18 P K5	P KR3
5 Castles (a)	B Q2	19 Q KR4	P KKt4
6 P QB3 (b)	PxP	20 BxKtP	R Kt sq
7 Kt xP	Kt K4	21 BxKt ch	K K sq
8 Kt xKt	PxKt	22 P KKt3	R Kt5
9 Q Q5	P QB3	23 RxB (e)	RxQ
10 QxKP ch	Q K2	24 QR Q sq	B K2
11 Q KK3 (c)	PxP	25 RxB ch	K B sq
12 Rt Q5	Q QB4	26 KR Q7	K Kt sq
13 Kt B7 ch	R Q sq	27 R Q8 ch	Resigns.
14 Kt xR	Q QB4		

Notes by E. Hymes.

(a) A decided novelty, and worthy of consideration.

(b) Kt takes P would here bring about a well-known variation. The text-move produces an anomaly, the Scotch Gambit idea being tacked on to the Spanish attack.

(c) White here scorns the proffered exchange of Queens, and proceeds to tangle up his opponent in truly brilliant style. The sacrifice of the Bishop is the inaugural coup of a series of master-strokes.

(d) If K to K sq; 18—R takes B, K takes R; 19—R to Q sq ch, and wins.

(e) Simply beautiful. From the eleventh move White's play has been of the highest order, and this last bit of ingenuity serves to make the game a gem of the purest water.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Mitke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, P. Going, 9th Oct.—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 9th Oct.—Portland, Oc., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, J. M. Saunders, 9th Oct.—Hongkong via ports, 30th Sept., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 10th Oct.—San Francisco, 21st Sept., Honolulu, 28th Sept., Mails and General.—O. & O.S.S. Co.

Hermes, Norwegian steamer, 865, J. C. Jensen, 10th Oct., via Kobe, 24th Sept., Sugar.—Simon Evers & Co.

Socotra, British steamer, 3,919, John Paine, 10th Oct.—London via ports, Kobe 9th Oct., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.]

Germania, German steamer, 1,714, Muller, 10th Oct.—Hongkong, 30th Sept., General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, J. Muramatsu, 11th Oct.—Shimonoseki, 8th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Kawamuro, 11th Oct.—Otaru via ports, 7th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Teucer, British steamer, 1,802, Riley, 11th Oct.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,483, K. Nakajima, 11th Oct.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Teruick, 11th Oct.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mits Bishi Kaisha.

Shibata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,714, Matsumoto, 11th Oct.—Hakodate, Cable supplies.—Cable Dept.

Glenarthy, British steamer, 1,943, F. Gedy, 12th Oct.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Gerda, German steamer, 2,052, Ehlers, 12th Oct.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 12th Oct.—Otaru via ports, 8th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

James Drummond, American ship, 1,479, Skewes, 12th Oct.—New York, 25th May, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, W. Thompson, 12th Oct.—Seattle, Wash., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, S. Muramatsu, 13th Oct.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moravia, Austrian steamer, 2,736, E. Mecozzi, 13th Oct.—Batsum via ports, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Alcoa, British steamer, 4,897, Fraser, 13th Oct.—Hamburg via Suez Canal and Singapore 30th Sept., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Henrietta, German ship, 1,705, Seemann, 14th Oct.—Cardiff, 29th Sept., Coal.—Langfeldt & Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, Poole, 14th Oct.—Kobe, 13th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oolong, British steamer, 2,308, R. Conradi, 15th Oct.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 13th Oct., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, Moses, 9th Oct.—Seattle, Wash. via Kobe and Honolulu, Mails & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 9th October.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Linnet (2), British gunboat, 756, Captain R. C. Sparks, 9th October.—Nagasaki via Kobe.

Glancus, British steamer, 3,086, J. Barwise, 9th Oct.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Astec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, Cattarinich, 9th October.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,881, W. S. Thomson, 9th Oct.—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Olympia, British steamer, 1,691, Truebridge, 9th Oct.—Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Washington, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 10th Oct.—Hongkong via Kobe, and Nagasaki, Mails & General.—P. & O. N. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Minamide, 11th Oct.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F. Allen, 10th Oct.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. Brady, 11th October.—Taiwan, Troops, etc.—Navy Dept.

Rainbow (8), British cruiser, 3,600, Captain V. A. Tisdall, 12th Oct.—Hongkong.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 12th Oct.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hohoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Kawamuro, 12th Oct.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 12th Oct.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, J. W. Saunders, 12th Oct.—San Francisco via Honolulu, and Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Wakamou Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, T.

Tibbals, 12th Oct.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Halene Rickmers, German steamer, 1,961, Brandstetter, 12th Oct.—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, General.—M. Raspe & Co.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, S. Muramatsu, 13th Oct.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, H. Shirakata, 13th Oct.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 13th Oct.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Ternick, 14th Oct.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Co.
Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 14th Oct.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Chow Pa, British steamer, 1,055, Williamson, 15th Oct.—Mojji, Ballast.—Butterfield and Swire.
Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 15th Oct.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Noble, Mr. W. Noble, Miss A. Boyd, Mr. Grey Metcalf, Mr. T. P. Larken, Mr. J. S. Scrymgeour and native servant, Mr. A. W. Hunsell, Mr. R. E. Gill, Mr. Gotch and native servant, Mrs. Gotch, child and native servant, Mr. Messum, Master Gotch, Mr. G. C. Pakenham, child and servant, and Mr. F. E. Barto, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. Said Pak Sing, Mr. F. J. Cannon, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Merrins, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Lum Say Kan, and Mr. L. Apand, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. H. O. Bax Ironsides and valet, Mrs. J. V. Schenck, Mr. Geo. P. Hamlin, Miss Jane C. Hamlin, Mr. W. W. Hill, Miss S. F. Richardson, Mr. Robt Clark, Mr. S. Koya, Mr. M. S. Greenbaum, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. C. Carson, Rev. and Mrs. T. S. Scudder, Mrs. W. W. Hill, Mrs. J. H. Ransome, Mr. Thos. Halstead, Mrs. S. Koya, Mrs. Greenbaum, Miss C. Ganson, Mr. T. C. Johnson, Miss F. Wand, Mrs. T. C. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Iverson, Mrs. J. H. Thomdike, Mr. G. A. Nakayama, Miss Mary Bratton, Mr. L. C. Kimball, Jr., Mr. E. Forristall, Mr. G. D. Shattuck, Miss M. L. Halstead, Mr. W. B. Jones, Mr. N. Igarashi, and Mrs. C. Richards, in cabin; For Kobe:—Miss C. McCandlish, Mr. S. S. Lyon, Rev. C. Clark, Mrs. S. S. Lyon, Mrs. Clark and child, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. & Mrs. C. C. Bennet, Miss Stella Relyed, Rev. M. C. Wilcox, Miss La Verne Minnie, Mrs. Wilcox and 4 children, Mr. C. R. Bennett, Miss Ada Newell, Master Gordon Bennett, Mr. F. Souter, Mr. Kinear and 3 children, and Dr. H. N. Kinear, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. M. Thieler and child, Miss M. Reynolds, Mrs. Jung She and child, Miss A. Shenwood, Mr. Geo. Campbell, Mrs. Tea She and child, Mr. Lee B. Lok, Mr. R. Dunn, Mr. Robt McNab, Mrs. J. Lesser, Master T. Dunn, Miss Emily Early, and Mrs. B. Vance, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong, via ports:—Miss Pycroft, Mr. Moller, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dwight, Mr. H. Berrill, Mr. Kwang Man Wing, Mr. Chan Fun Quen, Mr. C. A. Miller, Mr. A. A. Mikker, Mrs. Carroll, Mr. V. E. Abraham, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Portman and servant, Mr. F. Morse, Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell, Master Mitchell, Mr. J. Lenz and native servant, Mr. King Chun, and Miss Sato Tsung, in cabin; 15 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Said Pak Sing, Mr. F. J. Cannon, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Merrins, Mrs. Dr. Noble, Mr. W. Noble, Mr. and Mrs. Lum Say Kan, Mr. L. Apand, Mr. G. L. Farnum, Mr. J. E. Farnum, and Miss M. A. Whitman, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. T. Wyss, Miss Grace Webb, Miss Miller, Mr. H. V. Stillman, Mr. Pryor L. Markell, Mr. R. Adams, Col. Chas. B. Nixon, Miss. Van Schluterbach, Mr. W. Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. Michaelson, 2 children, governess and amah, Mr. Carlos Gell, Mrs. Adams, Miss Adams, Miss M. G. Randall, Mrs. K. Hall, infant and native servant, Mr. S. Leslie, Captain Barry Drew, Rev. R. A. Thomson, Mr. Chas. Bennett, Mr. W. Wood, Mr. J. Campbell, Mr. Chas. Rogers, Mr. J. McDowell, Mrs. Waters, Miss Waters, Mr. M.

Ginsburg, Mr. J. Pimentel, Mrs. M. Mess, two children and amah, Mrs. A. F. Price, Lieut. T. Popoff, Mrs. M. L. Ede, Mr. E. J. Plaza, Mr. Schlitz Emanuel, Mr. T. D. McKay and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Cook, Baron P. de Gunsburg, Mr. J. H. Rollison, Mrs. G. Blundell, Hon. and Mrs. A. E. Buck and native servant, Mr. J. B. Page, and Mr. J. Burton, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Capt. J. Wilson, Mrs. J. Wilson and 3 children, Mrs. Crawford, Rev. P. Guenean, Messrs. M. Kirkwood, K. Hasegawa, T. Shibata, S. Akaba, E. Nagai, G. Mogi, G. Neubert, T. B. Pocklington, C. Longham, M. W. Kochen, Consul and Mrs. S. Hisanaga and child, Messrs. B. H. Chamberlain, S. Tsuzuki, R. Fukushima, J. Matsumoto, F. S. James, and T. H. Almstedt, in cabin; Mr. T. Mason, Mr. S. Kawasaki, Miss T. Goto, Mr. J. O.'Brien, Miss K. Usui, Mr. Y. Shimamoto, Miss S. Fuchizaki, Messrs. S. Tamana, T. Tsuda, D. Sato, T. Tsujita, Fukuhara, G. Inouye, H. Tanaka, S. Yamashiro, Y. Katayama, and Yo Gen Kei in 2nd class; 4 Germans, 5 Chinese and 80 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

The following are the silk shippers per P. M. steamer *Peru*:—

	BALES.
Siber Brennwald & Co.	150
Vivanti Bros.	94
Herbert Dent & Co.	51
O. Reimers & Co.	50
Bavler & Co.	42
Olivier de Langenhagen & Co.	30
The Doshinsha	39
The Kiito Shokwai	24
The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	31

Total 511

Per British steamer *Olympia*, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:—

	TRA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL
	CANADA	AND WEST.	AND EAST.	COAST.	PACKAGES.
Hio-go	563	—	—	—	563
Yokohama	566	916	1,411	135	3,328
Amoy	—	1,200	713	—	1,913
Colombo	161	—	—	56	217
Calcutta	—	—	—	42	42
Total	1,590	2,116	2,124	233	7,053

	SILK.	NEW YORK	SAN FRANCISCO	TOTAL.
Hongkong	356	—	—	356

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	HONOLULU	MON.	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	1,022	1,366	313	—	—	—	2,711
Hio-go	300	—	232	—	—	—	532
Yokohama	176	—	—	—	—	—	176
Hongkong	64	—	—	—	—	—	64
Total	1,562	1,366	555	—	—	—	3,483

	SILK.	NEW YORK	SAN FRANCISCO	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	578	—	578
Hongkong	—	467	—	467
Yokohama	—	566	—	566
Total	—	1,611	—	1,611

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Verona 2	Fa. Oct. 16
Europe	M. M. Co.	Cecilian 2	Tu. Oct. 19
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 3	Th. Oct. 22
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric 4	Fri. Oct. 23
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 5	M. Oct. 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenollern	Fri. Oct. 27
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Nov. 4

- 1 Left Kobe on the 25th inst.
- 2 Left Shanghai on the 24th inst.
- 3 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 2nd inst.
- 4 Left San Francisco on the 24th inst.
- 5 Left Vancouver on the 27th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	Tu. Oct. 19
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Oct. 22
Portland, Or.	N. P. Co.	Mogul	Sa. Oct. 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct. 25
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Caledonian	Su. Oct. 27
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenollern	Fri. Oct. 27
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Columbia	Sa. Oct. 30
America	M. M. Co.	City of Rio de Janeiro	Sa. Oct. 30
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Fri. Nov. 5

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Shirtings and other cotton piece goods are still lifeless. A little has been done in fancies, Turkey reds, etc., and several transactions have taken place in yarns and raw cotton, prices being generally maintained.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds, 38 yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
1. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 44 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42-45 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2 yds, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 1/2 yds, 24/25 yds, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 1/2 yds, 24/25 yds, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.34 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yds, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PIECE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$3.50 to 39.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 37, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 50, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 50, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	78.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	113.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$2.10 to 2.22
Indian Broach	21 to 22
Chinese	20 to 21

METALS.

Some business has been done in pig, sheet and galvanized iron, at former rates, but the amount of sales has decreased considerably since last week, when there was quite a little rush.

	PER PIECE.
Round and square 1 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Iron, No. 3	2.05 to 2.30
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.35

KEROSENE.

A fair business has been transacted at slightly hardening quotations.

	PER GALLON.
American	\$2.00 to 2.15
Russian	2.00 to 2.15
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Neither arrivals nor sales of Brown during the past week have been large, but a small and steady business has been done at, for the most part, unchanged rates; and the same remarks apply to White refined.

	PER PIECE.
Brown Takao	\$3.50 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.90
Brown Daitong	3.20 to 3.35
Brown Canton	3.50 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

During the week there has been a fair daily demand, while on the 11th quite a rush occurred and no less than 3,355 boxes, or half bales are reported to have been disposed of; the total settlements for the week being placed at 5,192 boxes, or half bales. Stocks on the 15th were said to amount to 525 boxes. Shipments during the week were: 713 bales per *Empress of Japan*, on the 9th, 566 bales on the 12th per *Peru*, for America, and 450 bales per *Ancona* on the 12th, for Europe. Quotations are unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$230 to 280
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	\$230 to 280
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	880 to 890

Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	780 to 760
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	840 to 850
Kakedas—No. 1	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 14	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

A fair business has been transacted, but holders not being induced to make concessions, buyers are holding back at the close. Stock only consists of some 149 boxes. The *Ancona* shipped 214 bales for Europe on the 12th inst.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 67½
Noshi—Bushu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 57½
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 24½

TEA.

Purchases are gradually falling off both in number and bulk. During the week sales amount to 115,700 catties, at about the same quotations as before. Shipments were, per *Olympia* on the 12th, 3,328 packages, per *Peru*, the same date, 176 packages, per *Empress of Japan*, on the 9th inst., 6,718 packages, for the United States and Canada.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$31 to 32
Fine	31 to 32
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Silver ½ higher has reduced rates on China but otherwise no change in quotations. In China sterling rates have advanced ¼ to half-penny.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0½
— — Bills on demand	2/0½
— — 4 months' sight	2/0½
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/0½
— — 6 months' sight	2/0½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.54½
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.58½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 9/10 d
— — Private 10 days' sight	5 9/10 d
On Shanghai—Bank sight	76
— — Private 10 days' sight	78
On India—Bank sight	154½
— — Private 30 days' sight	158
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49
— — Private 4 months' sight	50½
On Germany—Bank sight	1.06
— — Private 4 months' sight	1.10
Bar Silver (London)	26½

9691

WATERING APPARATUS

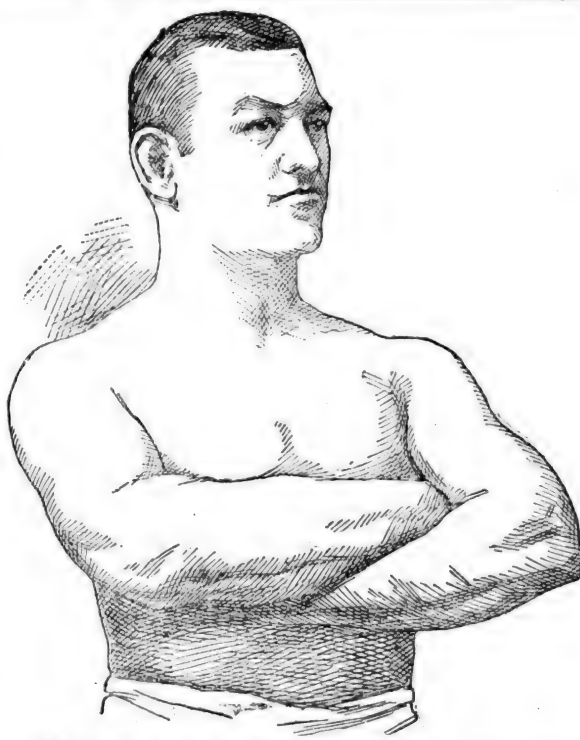
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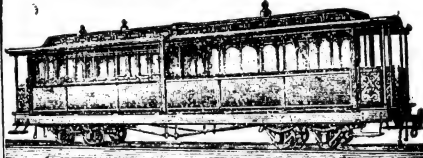
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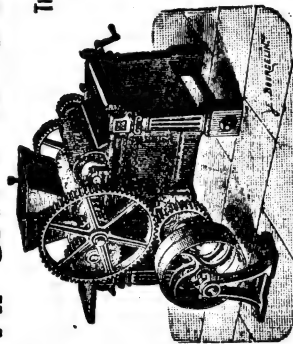
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 23RD, 1897.

BIRTH.

At Shanghai on the 9th of October, 1897, the wife of E. J. LINDSAY, Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, Hankow, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

At the British Consulate at Kobe Wednesday by J. C. Hall Esq., H. B. M. Consul for Hiogo and Osaka, CHARLES THWAITES to LELITA JANE CABELDO, daughter of P. S. Cabeldo Esq., of Kobe. Afterwards at the Union Church, Kobe, by the Rev. H. J. Foss M. A.

DEATH.

At Glasgow, Mrs. MARGARET PENDER MOLLISON, Mother of James Pender Mollison, Yokohama. [By Telegram.]

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD has married a Japanese lady.

TYPHOID fever is reported to have broken out in a London Hospital.

THE Japanese battleship *Fuji* arrived at Hong-kong on the 18th inst.

THE Authorities propose building 300 forts at many important points in Formosa, with the

object of providing against the attacks of insurgents.

It is stated that Governor-General Nogi of Formosa will submit his resignation at no distant date.

THE Emperor sanctioned the amended draft of the Formosa Administrative System on the 11th instant.

SIR ERNEST SATOW, British Minister to Japan, is reported to have left London on the 4th inst. for Japan.

HIS EXCELLENCY M. HARMAND, French Minister to Japan, left Japan on leave of absence on the 17th inst.

THE total amount of gold coins struck at the Osaka Mint up to the 10th of October reached yen 52,079,340.

THE crew of the sealing schooner *Pointer* wrecked near Shikotan on the 29th ult., arrived at Nemuro on the 21st instant.

THE P. and O. steamer *Verona*, which arrived at Yokohama on the 16th inst., brought silver yen amounting to yen 1,008,000.

THE Yokohama Merchandise Exchange, which deals with coal, kerosene and drugs, commenced business on the 15th inst.

EARTHQUAKES were reported on the 15th instant from Mito at 9.51 p.m.; Kofu at 10.57 p.m.; Tokyo at 10.57 p.m.; and Kumagaya at 11 p.m.

By the derailment of a locomotive on the line between Morioka and Utsunomiya on the 14th inst. a stoker on the engine lost one of his legs.

ACCORDING to *The Times* the British Government has declined to re-open the Indian Mints, or to enter the proposed monetary conference.

It is rumoured that some friction has occurred between Count Okuma and the Cabinet which may lead to changes in the Government very shortly.

THE Communications Department is revising the Navigation Encouragement Regulations. The draft will be submitted to the forthcoming session of the Diet.

THE autumn manoeuvres of the Imperial Body Guards will take place in the neighbourhood of the Tone and Kinu rivers in Ibaraki Prefecture from the 14th to the 22nd of November.

IN accordance with the advice of Count Okuma, some leading business men are now engaged in raising subscriptions for sending exhibits to the Paris International Exhibition.

AN iron mine was lately discovered in Ongagun, Fukuoka Prefecture, the ore being of excellent quality. The discoverer has applied to the authorities for permission to work the lode.

FIVE, or according to some reports, six, Japanese fishermen, have been shot off the coast of Siberia, or Saghalien, by Manchurians. Reports state that the men killed were stealing sealskins from a Russian schooner.

THE inauguration of the new harbour works at Osaka took place on the 19th instant, with considerable *clat*, in the presence of Prince Komatsu, Count Kabayama, Viscount Nomura, and other high officials.

THEIR MAJESTIES the Emperor and Empress have contributed yen 1,500 towards the alleviation of the distress caused by floods in Hyogo Ken, yen 1,200 to Tokushima Ken, yen 800 to Aichi Ken and yen 700 to Gifu Ken.

THE total output of the Hokkaido Tanko Kaisha (Coal and Mine Railway Company), has

been 600,000 tons per year. In order to meet the increasing demands the Company has decided from next year to produce 1,000,000 tons per annum.

THE Yokohama Electric Railway Company, promoted by Japanese merchants, has applied for a charter from the Government. The proposed lines are to run from Yokohama Railway Station in three sections, to various points.

ON the 18th inst. while thirteen workmen at the Yokosuka dockyard were conveying some dynamite, in a boat to a workshop, the dynamite exploded, killing two of the men and seriously wounding eight more.

ON the 15th inst. a luggage train from Moji, on the Kyushu Railway, was run into at Orio Station by a passenger train coming from behind. Five cars were broken to pieces. It is not yet reported whether any casualty to life or limb happened.

THE autumn manoeuvres of war vessels belonging to the Yokosuka Port Admiralty began from the 23rd inst. and extend to the 4th prox. The Commander-in-chief is Rear-Admiral Togo, Acting Commander of the Yokosuka Admiralty.

THE census of the principal cities of the empire at the end of last year was as follows:—Tokyo 1,368,070; Osaka 505,657; Kyoto 342,724; Kobe 183,065; Yokohama 179,868; Nagoya 235,706; Hiroshima 101,094; Nagasaki 71,906.

IN a succession of skirmishes between three companies of Japanese troops and the rebels, in the districts north of Kelung, Formosa, from the 5th to the 11th instant, 99 insurgents were killed, the Japanese loss being five killed and four wounded.

THE telegraph line between Osaka and Tokyo being frequently interrupted by storms or floods, the Authorities will shortly undertake the laying of cables between Cape Irako, Mikawa Province, and the port of Toba, Shima Province, and between Akashi and Saga via Awaji and Awa, as alternative routes.

THE Import market during the week has been fairly brisk, on the whole, though cotton piece goods and woollens have not yet begun to move. A fair business has been transacted in yarns, though at the close the wants of buyers appears to have been satisfied for the present, and prices have dropped some points. In metals there has been a good demand for iron, pig, bar and sheet; tin plates are weak, as heavy arrivals are anticipated in the near future. There has been some enquiry for American nails but buyers are not disposed to place any considerable orders as they are awaiting the development of a scheme in hand for starting a large nail factory in Japan. It is anticipated that the native-made article will be put on the market at prices considerably under the American and European rates. A steady business has been done in sugar, both brown and white refined, the former at a rise in quotations of from 5 to 10 cents per picul. The kerosene market is unchanged, though the arrival shortly of a cargo of Langkat may affect prices to some extent. In Exports a large business has been done in raw and waste silk, principally for the American market, prices generally showing an upward tendency. The trade in silk handkerchiefs and piece goods has also been brisk. An active demand for the lower grades of tea, principally for the Canadian market, still continues, and stocks being small prices have been forced up about \$1 per picul. Exchange shows a rise of $\frac{1}{4}$ on last week's closing rates.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* there appears an article strongly advocating official assumption of the work of railway construction in Formosa. The Cabinet has shown itself singularly solicitous about the question of Formosan railways. When the last session of the Diet was approaching its close, the Administration exerted all its energies to secure the passage of the bill providing an official guarantee of 6 per cent. on the capital required for building the line. All the pro-Government members of the House of Peers were whipped in, and the Minister President himself descended into the body of the House and offered explanations designed to obtain favorable votes. Nevertheless, when the projectors sought to raise capital, they could not find subscribers for more than a small part of the 12 million yen required. They reduced the amount of the capital, but still the public declined to be tempted. What the cause of this reluctance may be, it is difficult to perceive, but considering that the Company receives a State guarantee of six per cent., and that it also receives a free gift of the railway already built in Formosa with all its rolling stock and appurtenances—a property representing five million yen—the failure to obtain capital after six months' effort must be taken as a final indication that the line is beyond the reach of private enterprise. On the 6th instant, a meeting of promoters was held at the Imperial Hotel, and again the Government evinced its keen interest in the success of the scheme, Count Okuma himself attending, and delivering a speech, in the course of which he confidently described the enterprise as a paying project. Still it has been found necessary that a considerable part of the capital should be supplied from official sources. Thus the Government stands in the position of guaranteeing six per cent., of making to the Company a present of property worth five million yen, and of subscribing a part of the required capital. Does it not seem wiser, under such circumstances, that the State itself should undertake the work, especially if, as Count Okuma alleged, there is good hope of making it a paying concern? Evidently the public can not be persuaded to entertain the sanguine view taken by the Ministry. Instead, then, of making large concessions to tempt private enterprise; instead of inciting private individuals to undertake a work which the State itself might carry out without any sacrifices, let the Government take the line into its own hands. If capital is difficult to procure at home, there is no reason why it should not be obtained abroad. Everything indicates the advisability of the State's stepping in since private initiative has proved so feeble.

According to the provisions of the Bank of Japan's present charter, the power of fixing the Bank's rate of interest from time to time is vested, not in the President of the Bank, but in the Minister of State for Finance. The *Yiji Shimpō* urges the advisability of reversing that arrangement. It bases its argument on two grounds, one general, the other special. The general ground is that the independence essential to the successful and healthy development of commerce is seriously impaired by a system which confers upon a Cabinet Minister competence to exercise arbitrary control over such a question as the rate of interest upon circulating capital. The Bank of Japan is, in effect, the centre of the country's trade organization, and until it is free from official interference there is no hope of seeing a spirit of genuine independence grow up among the mercantile and manufacturing classes. Certainly a great improvement has taken place during the past twenty years in that respect. A quarter of a century ago, men feared to put their hands to any enterprise unless officialdom led the way, but happily they have now learned, in great part, to think and act for themselves. The improvement is not complete, however, and never can be complete so long as the control of the Bank of Japan's rate of interest remains in official possession. That is the *Yiji's* general reason, briefly stated.

Its particular reason is that, under the circumstances, the Minister of Finance is perpetually assailed by merchants, manufacturers and speculators who see their account in getting the Bank's rate raised or lowered, and who bring all sorts of pressure to bear on the Minister with that view. The "quick-eared coterie," as the *Yiji* calls these persons, are an additional obstacle to the sound working of the present system. They are men who contrive to obtain early information of the Minister's intentions, and make use of the knowledge in their own interests. The *Yiji* does not seem to suggest that the Minister now in power is a party to any impropriety, but it evidently thinks that some Ministers might be, and that, at all events, the door should be finally closed to such contingencies. On the other hand, some may be disposed to contend that this special abuse would be likely to flourish to an even greater extent if the power in question were transferred to the President of the Bank. But that is a misconception. The President is always under the supervision and control of the shareholders, whereas the Minister, being absolute, the shareholders make no attempt to interfere with him. They would soon interfere, however, were there any evidence that the President made corrupt use of his power, or failed to place the interests of the Bank above all other considerations, under ordinary circumstances. Yet again it may be contended that if the President were competent to fix the rate of interest, he would be likely to fix it at a point inconveniently high from the public's point of view. That, too, is a misconception. The Bank's prosperity is best secured when the volume of its business is largest; when it discounts a maximum of bills and lends a maximum of capital. If it succeeds in placing out the whole of its normal note issues, namely, 180 million yen, at 8 per cent. interest, it obtains a return of 14½ million yen, whereas if it can only employ a third of that total—namely 60 millions—at 16 per cent., its return is 9½ millions. (The *Yiji Shimpō* gives a table to show this, but it is self-evident). Thus, if the discretion rested with the President, the public might count on getting reasonable terms, a great step towards the complete independence of commercial affairs would be taken, and the road would be barred to abuses which, under the present system, might become very serious.

Under the heading "the trouble is from within, not from without; the *Mainichi Shimbun* attacks the Government in language that sounds effective and is skillfully constructed, but unfortunately lacks any semblance of practical suggestion. It is, indeed, characteristic of nearly all the assaults now directed against the Cabinet that the assailants do not appear to be themselves assured about what they want, but raise an outcry chiefly for the sake of hearing their own voices. However, the *Mainichi* makes one intelligible point: it insists that the present Cabinet is absolutely free from any formidable opponent, and has nothing to fear unless it creates an opposition by its own blunders. The nation, according to our contemporary, had grown heartily tired of the Ito Cabinet, and would have showed it a cold shoulder much sooner had not the war with China necessarily postponed all internal disagreements. After the war, the Ito Cabinet had, perhaps, an opportunity of recovering a place in popular esteem, but its mismanagement of *post bellum* measures and of the finances brought it into greater discredit than ever, and although by securing the alliance of the Liberal Party, it succeeded in weathering the storms of one session of the Diet, its fate was really sealed from the first. Thus the present Cabinet came into office as an inevitable result, and so completely shattered were all the forces otherwise capable of being marshalled against it, that it may be said to have had the arena virtually to itself. Assuming the direction of affairs within a brief interval of the Diet's tenth session, the new ministry had not time to lay any programme of reform before parliament. The Premier explained that difficulty, and, at

the same time, promised definitely that he should meet the next Diet with fulfilled pledges. The Diet was satisfied and so was the country. People rested assured that the adjustment of the finances, the vigorous carrying out of the *post bellum* measures, and the radical reform of the Administration would now, at last, be achieved. But nothing has been done. Two months more will see the Diet meet for its eleventh session, and the Minister President will have to go before it with hands as empty as they were a year ago. There will be no party then to save the Cabinet as the Liberals saved its predecessor, and the Ministry will find that their own failures have created a foe of overwhelming strength. It is here that one expects the *Mainichi* to tell the Ministry what they ought to do. But it confines itself to telling them what they ought not to do; namely, to waste time disputing about the appointment of petty officials or the division of the spoils among party partisans; to devote weeks and months to thinking about remodelling the Formosan Administration or choosing a new Governor-General for the island; to engage in endless discussions about the raising of new taxes, and to entertain retrogressive projects for increasing the postal and telegraphic rates. Large measures of administrative reform and a thoroughly sound financial policy are what the *Mainichi* wants, but what is meant by reform and what constitutes financial soundness it does not attempt to explain.

The *Nippon* reverts to the old question of the Russian *mission militaire* in Korea. It recapitulates the facts that the war with China having been undertaken in the interests of the peace of the East, and Korean independence having been recognised on the basis of peace, Japan's responsibility remains as heavy as ever. After the restoration of the Liaotung Peninsula, a state of affairs was created the result of which was to transfer to Russia the position previously occupied by China in Korea. The independence of the peninsula was not attained. Recognising that serious fact, the Japanese Government deputed Marquis Yamagata to come to some agreement with Russia. He concluded an abortive kind of Convention practically of as little value as was the Tientsin Convention. Nevertheless, defective as the text of the Convention was, there could be no doubt about its spirit: its intention was to place Russia and Japan on an equal footing in the peninsula. It has certainly failed to accomplish anything of the sort. Russia, indeed, justifies her action in furnishing military instructors to Korea by saying that the independence of the peninsula depends ultimately on Japan, and that to interfere with the King's right of employing whatever military instructors he pleases, would be a most marked way of demonstrating that Korea is not independent. That is like stabbing a man with his own spear. It is perfectly patent that Korea is not free to choose as she pleases. Her independence is at least as much impaired by the presence of a Russian *mission militaire* that she is constrained to employ, as it would be were she not allowed to employ it. Besides, there is no intention on Japan's side of forcing Korea's hand. The question lies between Japan and Russia, not between either of them and Korea. The Japanese are not deceived. There may be some who imagine that the recent change of Cabinet in Seoul indicates the withdrawal of Russian influence. It means nothing of the kind. It means that Russia, by nominally leaving the King unfettered in the selection of his Ministers, really gets him more than ever under her control. The new Cabinet is composed of men without any progressive ideas; men steeped to the lips in the old conviction that Korea can not stand alone, but must lean upon one of her neighbours. That is a situation fully appreciated by Russia, and the fact that she has brought it about will be evident by and by from the uses to which she puts it.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* has a cleverly written article containing general advice about the present political situation. An old Chinese proverb (*tekikoku gaiwan*) says that some

measure of foreign trouble is essential to the well-being of a State. If a nation is entirely without sources of uneasiness beyond its borders it is certain to lapse into a careless invertebrate condition fatal to sound health, for it lacks any incentive to development and to the union of its forces. On the other hand, a nation that fails to foster its capacities and allows itself to become a prey to domestic dissensions while a foreign foe is at the gates, must be considered to be in a hopeless condition. The story of the Tokugawa dynasty is a good illustration. Relieved from all external menace, it gradually fell into a feeble and helpless condition, and when the crisis came, it succumbed almost without a struggle. Prior to her recent war with China, Japan also lived beyond the current of international events, but she is now in mid-stream, and however skilfully the ship of State be navigated, there is always danger of a collision with some of the other craft into whose close company she has been brought. She is subjected to external influences that ought to be amply potent for her consolidation, yet she appears indifferent to the fact, and allows her attention to be engrossed and her strength frittered away by petty quarrels at home. Political parties are divided against each other, and the Government is divided against itself. It might at least be expected that men who cannot discover any differences between their political views should unite to form one party, in the interests of their common principles. But such is not the case. Look where one may, whether at the Ministry itself or at the various fractions into which political society is divided, the fact that union is force seems to be forgotten.

* * *

The proposition that a country's financial credit depends quite as much upon the exertions of its commercial and manufacturing classes as upon the policy of its Government, forms the subject of an article in the *Osaka Asahi*. Japan having now adopted gold monometallism, and thus placed her currency on a sound basis, her enterprises ought to attract foreign capital, and their failure to do so must be attributed to the doubts that foreigners entertain of the stability of the new system. Some people are disposed to attribute that failure to the defective methods of the Government, to something left undone by officialdom. But the truth is that foreigners have not learned to trust Japanese merchants, and that until the latter make themselves really worthy of the station which their country has won for itself in a political sense, foreign coöperation for the development of the national resources can not be looked for. The history of States like England and France shows that their credit, speaking financially, is independent of the statesmen in whose hands the direction of affairs may happen to be. The people, by their own exertions, have placed the national credit on a basis virtually independent of political influences. Japanese merchants and manufacturers are separated by only a short interval from the era when a *Samurai* might cut down one of their number with impunity—the *Kiri-sute-gomen* epoch—and it is natural that they should not yet have risen to a full appreciation of their place in the national polity. They have doubtless made remarkable progress towards self-respect, and towards a sense of their importance as factors of the empire's credit, but there is still much to be desired. It is a pity that the *Asahi* does not formulate this good advice in more explicit language.

* * *

The *Fomiori Shinbun* notices the exceptional number of international congresses at which Japan has been represented during the present year. She sent delegates to the International Postal Conference, to the International Conference of Librarians, to the International Geographical Conference, to the International Medical Conference, to the International Colonization Conference, and to the International Red Cross Conference. In some cases she was invited to be represented; in others, she applied for admission; but invariably her delegates received a most hearty welcome. At the geographical

meeting the theses that her representatives were able to submit elicited strong approbation, and at the medical meeting the addresses delivered by her delegates received warm applause. It is a matter for sincere satisfaction that she is thus taking her place in the civilized councils of the world, and the time is ripe for her to consider whether she should not herself become the host at some of these learned *ré unions*. In 1902, her turn will come to entertain the various representatives of the Red Cross Society, and, considering her great distance from Europe and America, it might be advisable to seize that occasion for opening other international conferences.

COUNT OKUMA ON AFFORESTATION.

At a meeting of the Directors of the principal Forestry offices throughout the empire, recently held, Count Okuma, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, is reported to have delivered the following speech:—Notwithstanding the fact that Japan naturally abounds in hills and mountains, many of them are barren and produce no timber, while most of the existing woods are yearly devastated by the axe, the only natural forests left uninjured being those situated in the remotest parts of the country. The demand for timber has increased year by year, and prices have so considerably risen that the import of foreign lumber became a profitable enterprise. The destruction of forests has not only affected the cost of timber, but also the well-being of the country, as the repeated calamities from floods clearly prove. The area of the Government forests extends over 7 million *cho* (17,500,000 acres), but the annual receipts therefrom do not exceed a million *yen*, while four millions are required annually in riparian works. A resolute reform of the forestry system is absolutely necessary. To carry out such a step the financial prospects of the Government forests must first be investigated. Thus:—(1) In dealing with forests, the fundamental principle should be to preserve them in a state of permanent utility, and every precaution should be taken to secure their fullest development. (2) It is necessary to raise in large quantities every variety of timber suitable to the demands of the country. (3) The gathering of by-products in the forests must not be allowed to injuriously affect the principal productions. (4) Every facility should be afforded to supply the demand arising from agricultural and industrial enterprises, to attain which end the rescission of the existing regulations and the framing of such provisions as may be necessary, is required; the Government forests to be made State property; the boundaries of Government forests to be properly investigated and demarcated; the carrying out of a programme for the planting and cutting of trees; the utilization of the natural forests in retired mountains and secluded valleys; planting of trees on barren hills; the enforcement of strict supervision over all private forests and adopting measures for their development; encouragement of education in forestry affairs; establishment of Forestry Experimental stations; organization of Training Institutes for Forestry officers; and the transference of forests from the supervision of Cities or Prefectures to the control of the Divisional Forestry Office.

Some of the above items have indeed been carried into execution, but owing to want of uniformity in the course pursued, no satisfactory results have been attained.

It is necessary for the present to establish the foundation of the system of forestry in Japan by immediate enforcement of the provisions specified. The policy hitherto adopted in the preservation of forests has been passive, and no science has been employed in their improvement. Preservation is doubtless indispensable, but utter indifference to all schemes of utilization is sure to deprive the country of the legitimate profits of its woods. Nor is it improbable that the existing system of forestry has been diametrically opposed to the sentiment of the people, the result being serious inconvenience to the populace and a loss to the Government. That the people of Japan have enjoyed valuable privi-

leges in connexion with forests has been customary from time immemorial, and instances of the kind abound also in Europe. The existing abuses must therefore be removed. Inspectors of forests who are responsible for the above important functions should faithfully apply their learning and experience to the matters in their charge and endeavour to display accuracy, celerity, and courage in all their dealings.

CONFLAGRATIONS IN TOKYO.

It used to be commonly said that Tokyo was burned to the ground every quarter of a century; a somewhat startling assertion, signifying that twenty-five times the average number of houses destroyed annually by fire equalled the total number in the whole city. It would seem, however, from statistics published by the *Yiji Shimo*, that whatever may have been the fact in former times, things have not been quite so bad during the *Meiji* era. Of course, the immensely improved organization and equipment of the modern fire-brigades must have materially modified the record. We ourselves can recall the incomparably greater frequency of large conflagrations from twenty to thirty years ago, and are distinctly conscious of the virtual immunity now enjoyed. It is not that the number of fires has greatly diminished, but rather that their destructive effects are circumscribed within narrow limits. The *Yiji's* statistics do not cover the first six years of the *Meiji* era: the history of that time does not furnish details. But from 1874 to 1896, inclusive, a period of 24 years, it appears that the number of conflagrations was 8,553; number of houses destroyed, 97,844; their area, 923,653 *tsubo* (769 acres), and their total value, irrespective of furniture and fittings, 19,787,128 *yen*. According to official returns, the number of houses in Tokyo is 294,456, and it thus appears that the life of the city is 72 years, if the *Yiji's* figures be correct. That is bad enough, it must be confessed. Our readers will note that the average estimated value of the burned houses is between 21 and 22 *yen* per *tsubo*, from which it may be inferred that the poorest quarters of the city suffered most, for the houses of the middle and upper classes would average at least 40 *yen* per *tsubo*.

DEPARTURE OF THE FRENCH MINISTER.

The French Minister, Madame and Mademoiselle Harmand left Tokyo on the 16th instant by the 4.10 train from Shinbashi. The station was crowded with people assembled to say farewell, among them being the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Countess Okuma, the Grand Master of Ceremonies and Baroness Sannomiya, Lieutenant-General Viscount Kawakami, the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, nearly all the *Chefs de Mission* and members of the Legation Staffs, and a number of Japanese and foreign friends. Several beautiful bouquets were presented to Madame and Mademoiselle Harmand. A very large company bade farewell to the departing Minister on board the French mail steamer on Sunday morning: hearty cheers being raised as the *Caledonien* left the wharf. We believe that the Minister expects to return to Tokyo in six months.

THE TRAGEDY IN THE NORTH.

The five men whose assassination at some point on the Siberian coast has been telegraphed to Tokyo, appear to have met their death at the hands of Manchurians, not of Russians, as was at first reported. Everything belonging to the unfortunate men is said to have been stolen. Three of them were natives of Niigata—one of the three being the son of a former member of the Diet for that prefecture—one was a native of Nagasaki, and one belonged to Hokkaido. Their bodies arrived at Matsugasaki on the 20th instant, and an inquest was about to be held at the date of latest advices.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

In connexion with the recent organization of the *Kodo-kai* we pointed to a feature now becoming more prominent than ever in Japanese politics, namely, the subservience of principles to persons. It is not to be inferred that there is any sacrifice of principles. The simple fact is that since a virtual consensus exists with regard to principles, there are no materials available for constructing special platforms. Every party is so deeply pledged to progressive ideas, that no one party can differentiate itself effectively from the rest. It is an ideal opportunity for men of commanding ability to become the leaders of groups each fighting for its own hand. The advantages of a free lance were vividly illustrated in the ninth session of the Diet by the National Unionists. An insignificant party in themselves, they acquired signal importance as the holders of the balance of power. That object lesson was not without its effect upon others. It is more than probable that the seceders from the Liberals and National Unionists, who brought such an unlooked-for accession of strength to the Government in the tenth session were not uninfluenced by the prospect of supplanting the National Unionists in the latter's rôle of middle-men. At any rate, we may fairly ascribe that motive to the recently formed coalition, the *Kodo-kai*. A political leader who can command fifty votes in the Lower House, would be in a position to dictate his own terms if the remaining members were virtually divided, as they were a few months ago, into two parties of nearly equal strength. But it is now evident that the organizers of the *Kodo-kai* will not be suffered to enjoy any monopoly of cave-making. Mr. Kono Hironaka, formerly leader of the Liberal Party in the Lower House, has decided to take a hand in the game. He has constructed a coterie of his own, calling it the North-Eastern Union (*To-koku Domei-kai*), and he will figure in the next session of the Diet as the captain of about a dozen free-lances. Excepting Mr. Kono himself and his confidential friends, no one seems to know why he left the Liberal Party. He was never remarkable either as an orator or as a parliamentary tactician, but he certainly wielded large influence at one time, and stood next to Count Itagaki at the head of the *Yiyu-to*. His defection was, therefore, a serious blow to the Party, and considering that it took place precisely at a time when some such disintegration of the Cabinet's opponents was essential to the success of any official legislation, ugly rumours were naturally circulated about Mr. Kono's motives. Had he subsequently accepted a post in the Government, the public could never again have consented to regard him as a trustworthy politician. But he has refrained from any suicidal act of that kind, and now once more resumes his familiar part as an agitator. With regard to his platform, it has only three planks that present any appearance of novelty. The first is that he proposes to increase the salaries of junior officials and of members of the Diet; the second, that he advocates extension of the franchise, and the third, that he desires to have the privilege of parliamentary representation conferred at once on the peoples of Hokkaido and Riukiu. Very slight planks, those, for building an independent platform, especially when we

know that any of the parties from which the North-Eastern Union seeks to differentiate itself would be perfectly willing to build with the same materials. But the point is that Mr. Kono wants to stand on a platform of his own. His conduct, and the conduct of those supporting him, may be regarded as fresh evidence that the personal element is now paramount in Japanese politics, and that the first essential of party organization is wanting, namely, the subordination of selfish ambition to genuine principles. Judging by present appearances, Japan is entering upon an era of cliques and coteries, and the possibility of party Cabinets is more remote than ever.

As the attitude of the newly formed political party (the *Kodo-kai*) becomes clearer, there seems to be little doubt that it will support the Government in the next session of the Diet. The secret of its organization as an independent body appears to be a reluctance, not unnatural, on the part of the members to enrol themselves in the ranks of the Progressionists (*Shimpo-to*). Most of them are seceders from the Liberals and the National Unionists, and while they are willing to support the present Ministry, they have not so completely abandoned their old traditions as to throw in their lot definitively with the party against which they formerly fought. It is thought, however, that the position they have now taken is a kind of half-way house, and that, by and by, they will unite with the *Shimpo-to* to form one great party. If that estimate of the situation be correct, as we are led to believe that it is considering the source from which it comes, then our own recently expressed ideas about the increased prevalence of the personal element in politics were exaggerated, and the same is true, in a still more emphatic sense, of the rumours that a split has occurred in the Cabinet and that the *Kodokai*, under the leadership of Viscount Takashima, represents an *imperium in imperio*. All such rumours must be accepted with extreme reserve. It forms part of the programme of Opposition journals to suggest the actual existence of a state of affairs which they would be glad to see realized. The organs of the *Shimpo-to* had recourse to precisely similar manoeuvres when their leaders were without the pale. Undoubtedly the Government weakened its position materially when it took the long-talked-of departure and began to employ the "talents." Whatever euphemism was used to disguise the step, it could not fail to bear the character of the "spoils" system, and it opened the door to the assertion of claims which had never previously proved embarrassing. Thus we read now, even in the columns of the Ministry's staunchest supporter, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, that the *Shimpo-to* are putting forward Mr. Minoura Katsundo for the post of Chief of the Legislative Bureau, recently vacated by the resignation of Mr. Komuchi, and that the "Satsuma Section's" candidate is Mr. Okuda Yoshindo. It is the custom of politicians, the world over, to reward their supporters by conferring office on them when opportunity offers, but all Japanese Cabinets antecedent to the present one declined to recognise in that manner the assistance rendered to them by parties in parliament. Indeed, they had generally reason to resent opposition rather than to acknowledge support. Things have changed now, however, and the result is that the

agitators who combatted so vehemently against what they called "government by persons" have been the means of securing governmental recognition for personal claims. One of the advantages attaching to the semi-independent position taken by the new party is that they may look for independent recognition of their services, but we are inclined to believe that rivalry of that nature represents nearly the whole gulf between them and the *Shimpo-to*.

THE EXPLANATION OF THE TAKANO AFFAIR.

It is a somewhat singular fact that the really important feature of the Takano affair has remained wholly unnoticed by the vernacular press. All the Tokyo journalists that have discussed the question devote themselves to its aspect from a judicial point of view, and lead their readers to suppose that Mr. Takano was a judge in the active discharge of judicial functions. But on making inquiry in official quarters, we learn that, in addition to being Chief Judge of the principal Court in Formosa, Mr. Takano was also Councillor to the Administrative Office, and that his duties since he went to the island have been entirely of an administrative character. We are informed, indeed, that he has never once sat as a Judge in Formosa, and that his removal to the Retired List is entirely owing to mistakes committed in his administrative capacity. That, of course, disposes completely of the criticism that the Government's procedure in his case strikes a blow at the independence of the Judiciary. The incident has no connexion whatever with the Judiciary. On the other hand, it affords a very plain object lesson as to the unwisdom of combining administrative and judicial functions in the person of the same official. We can not say that Japan is the only country guilty of that mistake, but the evil possibilities of such a system are now very apparent. Apart from the obstacles that a duality of office presents to the perfectly impartial discharge of judicial duties, there is the embarrassment that no effective distinction of responsibilities can be made, and if incapacity on the administrative side is visited with the usual penalty, the constitutional immunity of the Judge is vicariously violated. We can not see why, in Mr. Takano's case, his removal from the post of Councillor to the Administrative Bureau would not have fully satisfied the requirements of the situation. It may be, however, that the Chief Judge holds the post of Councillor *ex officio*, in which case his removal from one position would necessarily involve forfeiture of the other also. That is a point upon which we are not competent to offer any opinion, being without access to accurate knowledge of the administrative organization now in force in Formosa. The inevitable conclusion seems to be, however, either that the system is bad, or that a want of judgment and foresight has been shown in dealing with Mr. Takano. If he erred in his administrative capacity he should have been thenceforth limited to his judicial functions only, and if the separation of the two was impossible, the sooner it is made possible the better. With regard to the agitation that Mr. Takano is carrying on, it appears to us very unseemly. Indeed, we do not hesitate to say that his conduct, so far as the public are in a position to judge, sug-

gests that he is not qualified to discharge the duties of any high office. If he considers that he has been unconstitutionally treated, there are constitutional means of seeking redress. By defying the authorities and creating a scandal, he himself exhibits contempt for the laws whose majesty he is avowedly so anxious to assert. The subject is so interesting and occupies such a prominent place in Japanese thought at present, that our readers will probably be glad to hear what Mr. Takano has to say for himself. On the 15th instant, a meeting was held at the *Fujimi-Ken* in Tokyo to consider his case. About 120 persons were present, among them being several prominent members of the Diet—Mr. Shimada Saburo, Mr. Miura Yasu, Mr. Funakoshi Mamoru, Mr. Goto Shimpei, Mr. Moriya Konosuke, Mr. Tanaka Shozo, Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, Mr. Kurihara Ryoichi—, together with Mr. Matsuoka Koki, Mr. Fujii Saburo, Marquis Nakonomikado, and a number of judges and barristers. Mr. Takano delivered an address, of which the following is the gist:—

In April of last year, the military system of government in Formosa was abolished and the civil substituted. The first question that arose was by what laws the place should be administered. Some maintained that there were no laws applicable until enactments should have been made by Imperial Ordinance. I opposed that view. My contention was that security of life and property, as well as the preservation of the rights of the subject, being absolutely essential to good government under any circumstances, it was out of the question that the island should be left without laws for, perhaps, a year. Under such circumstances, murderers, thieves and even rebels would remain unrestrained. Granting that the Formosans were a conquered people, they had nevertheless become subjects of the empire, and were therefore entitled to have laws protecting their lives and possessions. Now the punitive regulations enforced in the time of the military government by virtue of delegated legislative authority, were not at all severe in comparison with the laws of China. I therefore decided that these should remain in operation, and for the rest, that the criminal code, the code of criminal procedure, and the code of civil procedure, as applied in Japan proper, should be enforced. Local law courts (*chiho-hoin*), courts of appeal (*fukushin-in*), and an upper court (*Koto hoin*), were organized. But funds being deficient, only twelve judicial officials (*han-gwan*) could be employed, a number obviously insufficient to meet the requirements of three millions of people. Last April, ten more judicial officials were added, but prosecuting officials (*Kensatsu kwan*) being still lacking, the district police had to discharge the functions of prosecutors. Such is the history, in brief, of the judicial system in Formosa. Inasmuch, however, as very serious consequences were involved in the manner of carrying it out, I found myself obliged to point out various imperfections from time to time, as they showed themselves, and to urge upon the Governor-General the importance of remedying them. Not one of my suggestions was adopted. Now although the object of criminal law is to punish crime, that object is not necessarily attained by the conviction of a number of persons. No mistake could be greater than to suppose that the object of the criminal laws was achieved by arresting the folks who gave "a dozen of beer as a bribe." (We do not understand this allusion). "The laws are well administered when they operate in such a manner that their corrective effect is a hundred times greater than their punitive. Justice tempered with mercy is the first principle to be observed in putting laws into operation. The three millions of inhabitants of Formosa are crying out to-day that they can not obtain security for their lives and property. The reason of that unfortunate state of affairs is that the local police are not sufficiently strong, the result being that rebels go about freely by day and by night defying honest folks who have no means of resisting them, and whose appeals to the police for aid meet with no adequate response, the police being unable to protect them. It is the plain duty of the judiciary to see that such a state of affairs is corrected, but if the appeals of the judiciary are neglected, what recourse is there? If I am asked to explain the cause primarily responsible for this failure to provide security of life and property, I can only reply

that my mouth is sealed by the Law of Official Circumspection (*Fukumu kiritsu*). I must say a word, however, about my own retirement which is now the subject of so much comment. I myself, I can assure you, am in a state of the greatest perplexity. I have sought an explanation of the reason from the Cabinet Ministers, but their reply is so vague that I can find nothing to take hold of. They will not tell me whether I have committed any fault in the discharge of my official duties. Am I then to understand that I am incompetent for the post of chief judicial official of the upper court? I may, indeed, be endowed with small ability, but I am not so lacking in brain power as to be incapable of discharging my duties. If, again, it be contended that I exceeded my competence when I put the criminal code, the code of criminal procedure, and the code of civil procedure into operation, I reply that the 5th Article of Law No. 36 authorized me. Some accuse me of want of principle, on the ground that, whereas I approved the compulsory retirement of two other judges, I have rebelled when the same fate overtakes myself. That charge is based on ignorance of the facts. I have always been opposed to the compulsory retirement of judicial officials, and the course that I adopted on that occasion is clearly shown in the records of the Governor-General's office. When a local official who combined judicial functions with administrative was removed from office, I urged that the judicial part of his functions should be made subject to his own resignation, and on the other occasion of a judge's removal, advantage was taken of my absence. If I have been guilty of any fault, I will resign at once. But neither the Cabinet Ministers nor any one else can give me any clear proof, and I am myself unconscious of any. Therefore I can not consent to receive the notice of my retirement. If, on the other hand, I am informed that although I have not been guilty of any fault, my continuance in office does not conduce to the interests of the public service, I shall be ready to resign unhesitatingly, recognising, as I do, that the interests of Takano Moku and the interests of the public service are not to be mentioned together. I have no desire to shield myself behind a provision of the Constitution and to assume an attitude of opposition to the Government. When, however, instead of any of the above courses being adopted towards me, it comes to a question of the arbitrary dismissal of judicial officials, then I claim that in the interests of the independence of the empire's judiciary the Constitution shall be respected, and then I am prepared to stand up against the Government. I do not think that any Japanese subject could do less.

This is certainly not the language of a petty man. It has a fine ring of courage and high purpose. We can not agree with Mr. Takano's methods, but neither can we withhold from him a measure of the applause that is the due of everyone boldly championing a cause which he believes to be sacred. Moreover, if it be true that he can not obtain any explanation of the reasons of his removal from office, and if he be really ignorant of them, we can well understand that he feels indignant. But that is a matter entirely apart from the Constitutional question, and we are surprised that a judge should confound the two. If the Constitution has any application to the case, the nature of Mr. Takano's fault, and the Authorities' failure to explain their order of dismissal, are wholly irrelevant issues. The one vital point is that the Administration is incompetent to remove him from office, since he can not be removed except by sentence of a criminal court or by judgment of a disciplinary court. Of course his case is greatly strengthened in public estimation by the plea that the Government will not even deign to let him know his fault, and, perhaps, we should not quarrel with him for appealing to the sympathy of the masses by advancing that plea.

It is the intention of the Authorities, we are informed by the vernacular press, to adopt a very resolute attitude towards Mr. Takano. He left Tokyo for Formosa on the 17th instant, and on arriving at Kelung, he will of course have to give his

name and occupation. Should he then describe himself as "Head of the High Law Court" (*Kato-hoira-cho*)—which is the title of the office formerly held by him,—he will be proceeded against by his successor, Judge Mizuno, on a charge of falsely using an official title (*Kwanmes Soshō*), and if he persists in so designating himself, he may possibly be arrested, though his imprisonment would, of course, be very unlikely. As for Mr. Takano, the same writers affirm that he will proceed to discharge the duties of his office, and they even pretend that he will carry arms for purposes of self-protection, but it is quite incredible, as, indeed, they remark, that a man holding such a position should attempt to forcibly resist the execution of the law. For our own part we anticipate that the whole trouble will end in smoke. More will doubtless be heard about it when the Diet meets, but we do not see how Mr. Takano himself can effect anything at this juncture. He has, indeed, many powerful supporters. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for example, denounces the action of the Authorities in uncompromising terms, nor can it be denied that there are materials for a strong indictment. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, on the other hand, points out the obvious error of supposing that Formosa has been brought under the judicial system operative in the other parts of the empire. The judicial and prosecuting officials are appointed by a process different from that followed in Japan proper; the procedure of the tribunals is different; the organization of the courts is fixed by order of the Governor-General or by Imperial Ordinance; there are no collegiate courts; the duties of prosecution are discharged by police officers of the seventh rank; the judges perform administrative functions, and in minor points also differences may be found. Ignorant of, or indifferent to, all the important facts, people do not hesitate to allege that the provisions of the Constitution have been extended to Formosa.

The 24th Article of the Constitution says:—"No Japanese subject shall be deprived of being tried by the judges determined by law." That article is now quoted by the defenders of Mr. Takano. If, they say, the judges officiating in Formosa are not judges duly determined by law, how can it be contended that Japanese subjects in Formosa are in the enjoyment of the privileges guaranteed to them by the Constitution? Persons advancing such an argument fail, apparently, to perceive that its value depends wholly on the applicability of the Constitution to Formosa. If the Constitution is applicable in Formosa, then all its articles must be applicable, and in that case the immunity provided for the judiciary by the fifty-eighth Article has been disregarded in the Takano matter, just as much as the privilege declared for Japanese subjects in the twenty-fourth is disturbed by the status of the judges. If the Constitution is applicable, there the discussion ends. Mr. Takano is then right and the Government is wrong. If the Constitution is not applicable, then to show that its twenty-fourth Article has not been observed is not more significant than to prove that its fifty-eighth has been disregarded. That seems such a simple exercise of the reasoning faculty that no one should be perplexed by it. Perhaps, since reference to the language of the Constitution is in fashion, we may

call attention to the fifty-seventh Article, which says:—"The Judicature should be exercised by the Courts of Law according to law, in the name of the Emperor. The organization of the Courts of Law shall be determined by law." Has that Article been carried out in Formosa? Is the Judicature exercised there by Courts of Law according to law, in the Constitutional sense? Certainly not. Has the organization of the Courts of Law been determined by law, in the Constitutional sense? Certainly not. The manner of exercising the Judicature and the organization of the Law Courts differ materially from the manner of exercising it, and from the organization of the Law Courts, in Japan proper. "Every law requires the consent of the Imperial Diet" according to the Constitution, and the Diet has never been consulted about the exceptional organization of the Formosa Law Courts, or about the exceptional manner of exercising the Judicature. The fact is that Formosa has been palpably and necessarily excluded from the operations of the Constitution for the past two years and a half, but people have only now discovered the fact. The Constitution of Japan was framed for Japan as she existed at the time when it was framed, not for territory subsequently acquired by conquest, a contingency of which the framers took no note. Territories added to the United States Republic remain outside the pale of the Constitution until it is specially extended to them by law, and the same system is observed the world over. A United States judge, for example, officiating in a new territory is appointed for four years only, whereas in the States themselves he holds office for life. When it is remembered that up to May of this year Formosa was inhabited by three million persons who, although under Japanese jurisdiction, did not possess the status of Japanese subjects, we find difficulty in conceiving how any one can contend that the provisions of the Constitution extended to it. Mr. Takano himself has destroyed his case, for in his speech recently delivered at the *Fujimi-ken* he informed his hearers that, after the substitution of civil government for military, he was instrumental in maintaining the operation of certain special laws which had been in force under the military system. He ought to have known very well that such laws could never have been enacted and put into effect without the Diet's consent had the island been under the Constitution. Hence he is now in the position of claiming for himself privileges granted by an instrument which his own action proved to be inoperative. We are speaking here of the Constitutional question solely, not of the wisdom of the Government's procedure in removing Mr. Takano, or of the propriety of the method pursued towards him. As to the two latter points, we think that the Government is emphatically blameworthy.

THE ANDREE EXPEDITION.

Colonel Templar, Director of the British aeronautic service, has stated his belief that the Andree balloon was not sufficiently gas-proof to cross the Polar region. If that be so, and scientific men seem to endorse the apprehension, the balloon must have failed to cross the great distance between its starting point and the frontiers of civilization, and several months will probably elapse before anything definite is known as to the adventures of the Swedish explorers.

COUNT OKUMA AND THE CABINET.

The rumours recently circulated with reference to friction between Count Okuma and the Cabinet seem to have some foundation. The *Fiji Shimpō*, an authority generally quite trustworthy, offers an explanation. More than a year has elapsed, we are told, since the present Cabinet gave a public declaration of its general policy, yet only one or two of the promises made by it have been redeemed. The verities of its pledges, so to speak, namely, financial and administrative reform, seem to have been neglected. If it were called the "mendacious Cabinet" (*Shokugen Naikaku*), the Ministers might be puzzled to repel the accusation. Its faults of commission, too, have been grave. The affair of the Audit Bureau, the question of the Formosan Administration, the Takano business—these things have so greatly offended even the supporters of the Cabinet, that certain members of the *Shimpō* are talking of an Address to the Throne next session, impeaching the Ministers. Not ignorant of the complications gathering about them, the Ministers have nevertheless found their hands tied so tightly by personal considerations that to remodel their conduct was impossible. Hence the resignations of Messrs. Takahashi and Komuchi, an earnest of a larger *débâcle*, and hence Count Okuma's standing forth as advocate of the final elimination of clan influences from the Administration and of a sweeping measure of financial reform. The situation is so grave that Count Matsukata has deemed it necessary to telegraph to Count Kabayama, who is now in Kobe, asking him to return immediately. Such is the gist of the *Fiji's* intelligence. We are not in a position either to confirm or to contradict it.

MR. McCABLE'S CASE.

We regret that Mr. McCaleb is determined to maintain a controversy about an incident which has been fully discussed in all its bearings and has little interest for the general public. Since, however, he not only challenges the opinions expressed by us, but also makes use of our opinions as a vehicle for censuring other people, no choice is left but to take up his challenge. We do so, however, with a feeling of despair, for it is unfortunately evident that Mr. McCaleb's method of discussing evidence does not warrant any hope of a mutual understanding. Doubtless this affair has caused him much worry. It may be that his ideas are now perplexed and that he is incapable of distinguishing between the conditions really existing and the shapes they have assumed in his own imagination. That would, perhaps, explain the exordium of his letter, where he complains of not knowing what he is expected to meet, and refers confusedly to charges not one of which has ever been advanced in these columns. It may also explain the fact that while, at one moment, he recognises, at the next, he altogether loses sight of, the distinction between an opinion expressed about the celebration of a victorious war and a declaration referring to his own citizenship. We have said, and we repeat, that his denunciations of the impropriety of commemorating independence secured by bloodshed, concerned himself alone, and could never have affected his status in the eyes of the

American Legation. But we have also said, and we repeat, that when, in the margin of a refusal to join with his fellow-citizens for an essentially national purpose, he made special reference to his own citizenship, an element was introduced that concerned others besides himself, and the whole incident, coming in the sequel of independent causes of uncertainty as to his citizenship, could not fail to receive official attention when he applied for official protection. If Mr. McCaleb does not appreciate that simple distinction, we can only express astonishment. But he evidently does not appreciate it, for he quotes a letter from Mr. Miller, in which not the faintest allusion is made to his religious views, and yet asks us to regard the letter as evidence that the United States Minister has attempted to "exercise a censorship over his religious utterances." We would remind Mr. McCaleb that while every man is entitled to hold what religious views he pleases, he must, at the same time, pay some regard to the context in which he utters them. If, for example, on receiving some information from a friend, he were to reply:—"I said in my haste, all men are liars," he could scarcely complain of his religious utterances being subjected to censorship because his friend slapped his face. We deem it mere waste of time to discuss this point. Mr. McCaleb's religious views were never cited. Not the faintest reference was made to them. The whole question turned on his citizenship. He had made a public statement which, taken in connexion with the occasion on which it was made, and coupled with doubts which had already arisen, compelled the United States Minister, in the exercise of the plain duty imposed on him by the regulations of the State Department, to ascertain whether Mr. McCaleb had satisfied the conditions legally required of every American citizen before receiving the protection of his Legation.

We come now to a point even more astounding than Mr. McCaleb's confusion between his religious views and his citizenship. He declares that his reason for cancelling his signature to a declaration of citizenship was that "the Minister insisted on leaving out two very important clauses." The form of declaration was this:—"I do solemnly state that I am a citizen of the United States, that I will support the Constitution thereof and will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and will perform the duties of a law-abiding citizen as I have done for thirty-five years." What are the "two important clauses" that were left out? Why does not Mr. McCaleb quote them? He signed the declaration on July 31st, having written it out with his own hand. On August 2nd, he withdrew it by letter. From first to last his letter does not contain the faintest allusion to the form of the declaration or to any omitted clauses. It simply contends that the declaration was unnecessary, and it concludes with an announcement of the writer's irrevocable purpose not to sign any declaration. Hitherto he has told the public that he refused to sign because he considered that an invidious discrimination was being made against him. Now he says that he refused to sign because two clauses were omitted from the declaration. Mr. McCaleb's sincerity not being in question, we must assume that he is labouring under some hallucination, or that his memory singular-

ly deceives him. For the rest, does he imagine that it is within his right to dictate the form of declaration required by the regulations of the State Department? Does he think that he is competent to insist on the insertion of this clause or of that? We are quite unfamiliar with the kind of respect for law that he exhibits and must leave it undiscussed. But when he says:—"That this withdrawal of my name created doubt in the Minister's mind about my citizenship is mere higgling," we have to remind him of the rudimentary fact that his own compliance with the obligations prescribed by his Government was the desideratum, not the state of the Minister's mind. The Minister's mental processes are not set forth as an alternative to the declarations of citizenship without which the Legation is forbidden to extend its protection to any one. Mr. McCaleb complains that he was treated "more as a criminal than a citizen," because the Minister, out of a kind desire to consult his convenience, offered him a temporary passport pending the decision of the Government in Washington. If that is Mr. McCaleb's interpretation of an act of courtesy, and if, further, while declining to accept a temporary passport, because it did not constitute a complete admission of his citizenship, he nevertheless interprets it as such an admission, we can only repeat our inability to understand his methods of reasoning.

Finally, Mr. McCaleb has found that out of nine Americans to whom he referred for information, six had never been required to furnish proof of their citizenship either in Washington or Tokyo, and three had. We accept that evidence so far as it goes, and frankly admit that we were mistaken in supposing that all American citizens in Japan, or practically all, had satisfied the required conditions. But Mr. McCaleb's discovery does not alter our view. He claims that as a majority of his fellow-citizens do not observe the law, therefore he is entitled to disregard it. We venture to remind Mr. McCaleb of the familiar precept, "Thou shalt not follow the multitude to do evil." He now knows that the Government in Washington has given judgment against him, and yet he persists in refusing to comply with the regulations. We fear that he must take the consequences. It is an unfortunate business. Very likely it has cost the officials of the Legation quite as much pain as it has cost Mr. McCaleb. But if Mr. McCaleb construes kindly consideration as an insult, we can not suppose that he concerns himself much about the trouble that he causes to others, or about the strange illustration that his own conduct furnishes of the long-suffering which is one of the most beautiful traits of true Christianity.

A BANK OF CHINA AND JAPAN.

It has already been mentioned that a Bank of Japan and China (*Nisshin Ginko*) is projected by Japanese men of business. Vernacular newspapers now say that the capital is to be five million yen, one half to be raised in Japan and the other half in China. The Chinese subscribers are to receive preference shares, carrying interest at the rate of four per cent., the payment of which will be a first charge on the profits. The purpose of the Bank is to facilitate operations of commerce between the neighbouring empires. The president is to be an official nominee.

THE TERM FOR EXCHANGING THE SILVER YEN.

The idea of shortening the term fixed for the exchange of the silver yen appears to be seriously entertained by the Authorities. According to the present arrangements, the coins are to remain legal tender up to April 1st, 1898, from which date during a period of five years the Treasury undertakes to exchange them for gold, on presentation, at the ratio of 32.34 to 1. But the Government, it is said, has come to the conclusion that great and needless risks are incurred by extending the time to five years. Under existing conditions, it is possible to form a tolerably clear estimate of the heaviest liabilities that the Treasury is likely to have to bear in connexion with the operation. Even assuming that the exchange has to be effected with silver at 23 pence an ounce, and that 160 million yen have to be exchanged, the loss is not formidable. But during the course of five years very embarrassing circumstances might have to be faced. For example, the coinage of silver yen might be undertaken in some foreign territory on a large scale. There would be little difficulty in turning out yen pieces absolutely perfect in every way, their fineness well within the legal remedy and their technique such as to bear the closest scrutiny. Such coins might be carried here in millions, and it is hard to see how Japan could escape the obligation of exchanging them for gold. Her stock of the yellow metal could not support such a drain, and her new system would soon become unstable. Hence it is alleged that a bill will be introduced in the next session of the Diet, materially shortening the period of exchange. Probably a year will be the new limit, but as to that we have no definite information. It appears to us that the Government ought not to hesitate in this matter. The foreign public can never feel entirely assured about the stability of Japan's gold monometalism until the problem of the silver yen is conclusively solved. It is an element of uncertainty. No one can be quite certain about the dimensions that exchange operations will assume. If—as may safely be supposed—one of the objects of demonetizing silver was to attract the capital of gold-using countries, then the sooner the silver yen is finished and done with, the better for that object.

CAPTAIN GUNJI OPENS FIRE.

An extraordinary story comes from the Kuriles, where Captain Gunji pursues his painful enterprise with patience and resolution that greatly mitigate the impractical and theatrical character of its inception. It appears that the Captain—he was a Lieutenant when he led his romantic expedition northward—and his companions have now inaugurated farming and fishing operations on a large scale, and are able to congratulate themselves on considerable success. In the middle of last month—so the story runs—an American sealing schooner, the *St. Lawrence*, visited the island, Shimushiri, where the little colony is established, on the pretext of procuring a supply of fresh water. Part of the crew landed, and went upon shooting excursions, some of them making their way into the houses of the colonists at sunset, and behaving with rudeness towards the female inmates. Captain

Gunji found these proceedings so intolerable that he advised the men to leave the island, as soon as they had obtained the necessary supply of water. But they treated his suggestion with contempt, and behaved more lawlessly than ever. Finally Captain Gunji informed them that if they continued to insult the women and prolong their stay on the island, he would use his artillery against their ship. That threat, also, they disregarded, and in the end he proved as good as his word, getting out a gun and firing a shot over the *St. Lawrence*. The hint was taken, and the crew, getting aboard with all haste, made sail. There is a postscript to the story, namely, that the people of the *St. Lawrence* probably told the crews of other schooners what they might expect at Shimushiri, for in the case of two vessels that subsequently visited the island, a very different line of conduct was observed. If the tale is truly told, we thoroughly applaud Captain Gunji's procedure. No one sympathises with roughs like the crew of the *St. Lawrence*.

THE BUDGET.

The Cabinet seems to have at length decided upon the course to be adopted with regard to the Budget. According to statements apparently trustworthy, the Treasury cut down the increased expenditures in the estimates to a total of 23 million yen, but subsequent consultation with the various Departments led to the restoration of some of the expunged items, so that the total was brought up to 26 millions. On that basis the Cabinet was invited finally to pronounce a verdict, and the result was that, at a meeting held on the 14th instant, the majority voted in favour of increasing the Land Tax and the *Saké* Tax. The idea is to raise the Land Tax from 24 to 33 per cent., by which means an additional income of 14 millions will be obtained; and to raise the *Saké* Tax from 7 yen a *koku* to 10 yen, by which means the impost will produce 12 millions more than it does at present. There will, of course be a corresponding increase of the rate on mixed *saké*, but the income from that source will be comparatively small.

DOMESTIC LOANS.

The Finance Department announces the issue of War Bonds of the aggregate face value of six hundred thousand yen, the issue price being 95.83 yen. We presume that this trifling amount is needed to close the war accounts which are understood to be almost ready for publication in their final form. It is now plain that the Minister of Finance feels justified in using the proceeds of the sale of Bonds effected in June last to a British Syndicate. By that sale a sum of forty-three million yen is understood to have come into the possession of the Treasury, and the money was doubtless held in gold until the dimensions of the exchange operations in connexion with the new system of currency could be clearly gauged. Since, however, it may now be fairly inferred that no drain of gold has to be apprehended, a portion of the forty-three millions is to be used for purchasing Railway and Public Undertakings Bonds at a price which makes them a good investment. That appears to be the explanation of issues recently announced.

THE "MAINICHI SHIMBUN'S" MONOPOLY.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* says that foreigners can not be supposed to know anything about the applicability or non-applicability of the Japanese Constitution to Formosa. That seems to us to be a decidedly interesting proposition. We should like to propound a question to the *Mainichi Shimbun*. Some foreigners—not many indeed, but still some—have studied painting according to Japanese methods. Suppose that one of those students, having copied a Japanese picture in Japanese style, were to place it on public exhibition, declaring, at the same time, that Japanese folks could not be supposed to know anything about the technical success achieved by the painter, what would be the *Mainichi's* verdict as to his moral equilibrium? The Japanese Constitution is merely a copy of foreign constitutions,—a compilation of them, if you will,—and it is applied according to foreign methods. Yet foreigners are not qualified to pronounce any opinion about its applicability to Formosa. It is a delightful idea. What adds to its charm is that Formosa is Japan's first, her very first, acquisition by conquest, and that her administration of it is her first, her very first, experience of the kind; whereas England has been busily engaged acquiring new territories for several hundreds of years—doing little else in fact,—and practising the science of administering them. Yet Englishmen are not competent to express any opinion about Japan's method of applying Constitutional Law to her new territory, or about her manner of administration there. Well, 'tis said that good, solid self-assertion never harmed any nation.

THE CODES.

In order that the Revised Treaties may go into operation at the time originally appointed, namely, July 1899, it is necessary that the whole of the Codes of Law shall have been in operation for at least a year before that date. A large portion of the Civil Code—which had been under revision since 1891—was submitted to the Diet last session, and passed. The part now remaining is the law of persons and succession. Its revision is said to have been completed. But the section of the Commercial Code treating of maritime law has not yet been fully revised. Still, the intention is to submit the whole to the Diet next session. Doubtless there will be no difficulty in obtaining the Diet's consent, the action of the Houses last session having shown plainly that they have no intention of attempting the impossible task of scrutinizing the new laws, clause by clause.

Referring to the above subject, the *Mainichi Shimbun* justly remarks that the foreign residents of Formosa will naturally object to be brought under Japanese jurisdiction if the independence of the judiciary is not guaranteed, as it certainly is not if Judge Takano's case can be considered conclusive. But we should imagine that the disadvantages under which Formosa labours are only temporary. The Law of the Organization of the Law Courts will certainly become operative in the island before the middle of 1899.

THE "SEKAI-NO-NIPPON."

The *Sekai-no-Nippon*, a paper with which our readers should be tolerably familiar, has ceased to appear. In announcing its demise, it assigns the death of Count Mutsu as a principal reason. "We and our fellow-thinkers," it says, "always regarded Count Mutsu as the statesman who commanded our respect and whose political opinions we desired to see put into execution. From him we derived large aid, and for thirty years we have profited by his assistance in our capacity of journalists. We had pledged ourselves to face the evil and the good in his company, and his death is one of our principal reasons for abandoning this publication." The editor then goes on to explain that the paper has accomplished its mission since it has largely contributed to the downfall of the Matsukata Cabinet, which result he now professes to consider imminent, and that having virtually no enemy to attack, a second reason presents itself for discontinuing publication. Dying men are supposed to speak the truth. Perhaps therefore, we err against orthodoxy when we query the correctness of the *Sekai-no-Nippon's* moribund testimony. But we learn with great surprise that it entertained such sentiments towards Count Mutsu, or that it acted as his mouthpiece. Very few Japanese, we imagine, would have been disposed to regard it in that light.

VISCOUNT TANI & THE FORMOSAN MISSIONARIES.

Viscount Tani is nothing if not outspoken. He has a fearless, straight-forward way of enunciating his views that commands respect, quite apart from the quality of the views themselves. It was he that threw the bomb into the Treaty Revision Conference in 1887. He would not at any cost have foreigners enrolled in the Japanese Judiciary, and he thus succeeded in eliminating for ever from the field of practical politics the only guarantee that could have reconciled the majority of the foreign residents to being placed under Japanese jurisdiction. He can not be called anti-foreign: the epithet would be quite inapplicable. But he is emphatically Japanese-assertive, if the term be permissible. In other words, he stands prominent among the men who are determined that Japan shall not be "put upon" by foreigners, and who are just a little morbidly apprehensive that she is constantly in danger of being "put upon." He is now spoken of as a probable, a very probable, Governor-General for Formosa, in succession to Viscount Nogi, and his opinions about the island, as expressed to a representative of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, are therefore interesting. "The treatment of foreigners in Formosa," he is represented as saying, "is the point demanding chief attention in the future administration of the island. The insurgents are a trouble, it is true, but they can not hold out long. It is their backers, Englishmen, Frenchmen, Americans, and so on that require consideration. The foreign missionaries had been making a business of propagandism in Formosa before we obtained possession of it, and had constituted themselves a species of *imperium in imperio*. Fearing to see their position disturbed, they appear to have encouraged the insurgents to take up arms, and these were only too ready to obey such sugges-

tions. If that state of affairs be neglected, unlooked for complications may occur. What is wanted for Formosa is a fixed line of policy. With things changing like the colour of a cat's eye, as they do at present, reforming the administrative organization or sending a new Governor-General is practically useless. You must have a definite programme. Whether to treat the island as Russia treats Armenia and Germany treats Alsace-Lorraine, that is to say, seeking to make them a part of the governing country, even in a military sense; or to treat it as England treats India, that is to say, making profit her sole object and neglecting everything else—neither method is entirely satisfactory, but either would be better than the half-ripe, jelly-fish methods now pursued. There are no roads or means of communication worthy of the name ten miles outside Taipei or Tainan, and there is not the slightest chance of getting railways constructed by private enterprise: they must be undertaken by the State. Funds can be obtained by issuing bonds bearing interest at 6 or 7 per cent. Sanitary measures are equally backward. As for the Takano affair, the Government's course has been extraordinarily inconsiderate."

NEW APPLICATIONS OF SCIENCE.

Sheep are now sheared by electricity. The machine is an English invention—the Woolsey, made at Birmingham—but the account of its operation lying before us appears in an American journal. A set of twenty machines is installed at Great Falls in Montana. They are driven by a 6-horse-power engine, and each machine shears a hundred sheep daily. In about three weeks time the twenty recently removed the fleeces from 16,184 sheep.

It appears that we are on the eve of being able to forecast the weather with certainty. The system of prediction depends upon the theory that if certain conditions of wind, temperature, humidity and so on produce a certain result once, the same conditions may be trusted to produce the same result always. Assuming, then, that we can tabulate a sufficiently wide range of conditions, nothing need be done except to extract from them the particular group corresponding with the conditions at the time when the prediction has to be made. Nothing else need be done, indeed, but what an infinity of combinations of conditions must be put together before we can hope to find among them any and every assemblage that the meteorological state of the day presents. M. Jaubert, the inventor of the system, does not see anything deterrent in that difficulty. His observations have already been conducted for so long a period that he has now a complete dictionary in which he can find a reflection of the sky's physiognomy under all circumstances; that is to say, he can find a reflection of all the features necessary for determining what expression the face will wear twenty-four hours hence.

EXCHANGE OPERATIONS.

The total demand for gold from the 1st to the 19th inclusive was 4,363,004 yen; the quantity of silver yen presented for exchange being 1,179,017 yen, and the quantity of notes, 3,183,987 yen.

HAWAII AND JAPAN.

MUCH as the immigration problem between Hawaii and Japan has been discussed in the public prints, some important miscomprehensions still appear to exist. Chief among them is an idea that Hawaii's action in excluding the Japanese immigrants was based on the alleged *mala fides* of their possession of fifty dollars. Prominence has been given to that point by the recent publication of a despatch from the Hawaiian Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Japanese Representative in Honolulu, wherein the writer notes that the Japanese Government declines to submit to arbitration the question of the *bona fides* of the possession of fifty dollars by each of the rejected immigrants, as well as the question whether the provisions of the 1871 Treaty are applicable to non-mercantile Japanese subjects. Commenting upon Japan's attitude, as indicated in that despatch, a Honolulu journal laments that, after three months of debating and waiting, the complication has made no progress towards a settlement, and a Hongkong journal indirectly accuses Japan of bad faith, and asks what on earth the arbitrator is to decide if the fifty dollar issue be excluded. To correct the confusion indicated by these utterances, it may be well to state briefly the simple facts of the case. We preface the statement, however, by noting that, according to Hawaiian law, Japanese immigrants, in order to gain admission, must have visible means of subsistence, evidenced either by the possession of \$50 (gold), in which case they rank as "free labourers;" or by a contract securing employment in Hawaii, in which case they are classed as "contract labourers."

The first batch of immigrants to which the discussion refers, reached Honolulu on the 6th of March, and the majority of them having been refused admittance, left the island for Japan on March 20th. Two other batches subsequently arrived, and were similarly turned back, but it is unnecessary to speak of the incidents separately, since all stand on the same basis and are grouped together for the purposes of the negotiation. Neither need we take any note of the various rumours circulated about the reasons actuating the Hawaiian Government. We have nothing to do with rumours, and shall confine ourselves to official statements. In three despatches the Hawaiian Minister for Foreign Affairs set forth the grounds on which admittance had been refused to the Japanese immigrants. In the first two despatches his language was almost identical. The Japanese immigrants, he said, had been found in possession of fifty dollars each, but it appeared that they had entered into an agreement with a Japanese emigration company, the latter pledging itself, in consideration of

a payment of ten dollars, to procure employment for them in Hawaii, or, in the alternative, to carry them back to Japan. Hence, according to the Minister's view, they had come as contract labourers, not as free labourers. Now the laws of Hawaii declare that the previous consent of the Hawaiian Board of Immigration is essential to the validity of a contract entitling Asiatic labourers to reside in Hawaii, and as the contract between the Japanese labourers and the Kobe Emigration Company had not received that consent, it was declared invalid. We do not pause here to discuss the singular character of such a contention. For the purposes of the point under immediate consideration, it is enough to note three facts:—first, that the Hawaiian Minister raised no doubt whatever as to the *bona fides* of the immigrants' possession of fifty dollars each; secondly, that by implication he admitted the *bona fides*, since he not only stated the fact of possession, but also addressed himself to find a disqualification which would operate in spite of it; and thirdly, that by resting his case on the validity of the contract, he constructively eliminated the fifty-dollars question, since the latter concerns free labourers only, and has nothing to do with contract immigrants. In his third despatch, however, dated June 25th—that is to say, three and a half months after the rejection of the first batch of immigrants,—he referred, for the first time, to the *bona fides* of the possession. He did not, indeed, venture to assert that *mala fides* had been proved. On the contrary, he still adhered to the contract argument, but, by way, seemingly, of a second string he laid down the proposition that the existence of the agreement with the Kobe Emigration Company "threw a cloud on the *bona fides* of the possession of fifty dollars by each immigrant." Thus, after having, in two despatches, not only excluded the fifty-dollar question altogether from his arguments, but also, by implication and by the nature of his contention, declared the impossibility of including it, he suddenly turned round, and when three and a half months had passed, when the emigrants had returned to Japan and dispersed to their homes so that any investigation of such a matter was impracticable, he raised the *bona fides* doubt in a tentative and speculative fashion. It is not for an instant to be imagined that any sane Government would consent to have new and irrational issues sprung upon it in such a manner, or that the Hawaiian Minister ever seriously expected the Japanese Government to consent.

We pass now to the second point, namely, that the privileges secured to Japanese subjects by the Treaty of 1871 with Hawaii, extend to the merchant class only. The contention is farcical on the

face of it, but we quote the Treaty Article relating to it:—

ARTICLE II.

The subjects of each of the two High Contracting Parties, respectively, shall have the liberty freely and securely to come with their ships and cargoes to all places, ports and rivers in the territories of the other where trade with other nations is permitted; they may remain and reside in any such ports and places respectively and hire and occupy houses and warehouses, and may trade in all kinds of produce, manufactures and merchandise of lawful commerce, enjoying at all times the same privileges as may have been, or may hereafter be, granted to the citizens or subjects of any other nation, paying at all times such duties and taxes as may be exacted from the citizens or subjects of other nations doing business or residing within the territories of each of the High Contracting Parties.

It seems almost incredible that the restriction suggested by the Hawaiian Government should be contemplated even with regard to the privileges actually enumerated in this Article; but when we further observe that a most-favoured-nation clause of the widest significance is embodied, and that, consequently, if the merchant class only of Japan are entitled to benefit by the Treaty, then the same limit applies to the subjects or citizens of all other States having treaties with Hawaii, the irrational nature of the latter's claim becomes doubly apparent.

A question that naturally suggests itself is, why did the Honolulu Government think of raising such an extraordinary issue after the Treaty had been twenty-six years in operation. The answer is simple. Evidently, so long as the Treaty remained in force, Hawaii had no right to legislate in contravention of its provisions without having previously sought Japan's consent. No Power is warranted in making laws that over-ride its treaty obligations until the other high contracting party has been consulted with reference to the proposed change. Hawaii failed to observe that plain international duty. In 1894 and 1895, she enacted laws which closed her territories to Japanese immigrants unless they should possess visible means of support. We do not say that, in the last resort, she was not entitled to legislate thus even in spite of Japan's opposition. Undoubtedly she was entitled to do so if she considered the measure essential to her own safety. But she ought to have set out by conferring with Japan. That was her first flagrant failure. Having enacted the laws, however, she did not enforce them in such a manner as to cause any serious inconvenience. Nearly two thousand Japanese immigrants subsequently gained admission. Then suddenly, at the commencement of this year, whether under the influence of an access of alarm lest she should be swamped by Japanese labourers, or in obedience to some other motive, she applied the laws in an unprecedented, arbitrary and plainly extravagant manner. She advanced a claim which, reduced to its ultimate proportions, assumes this form, namely, that because a number of Japanese subjects had made with a Japanese shipping company in Japan an

agreement which had not been submitted for the sanction of a Hawaiian Board in Hawaii, they must be held to have forfeited their Treaty privileges. The result of that sudden procedure, adopted without any previous intimation to Japan, was that three shiploads of Japanese emigrants were irrevocably engaged in the voyage to Hawaii before any suspicion of the latter's novel attitude had been conceived. Of course the Honolulu Government was hopelessly in the wrong, and since some improvements in its position would be effected could it show that no Conventional obligations of any kind devolved upon it in respect of Japanese labourers, it advanced the farcical claim, explained above, with reference to the restricted character of the Treaty's import. There were also other Treaty violations the consequences of which it was probably sought to evade by that device, but we need not enumerate them. We have said enough to show that Japan can never have been seriously expected to submit the above two points to arbitration.

"BUILDERS OF GREATER BRITAIN."

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin has conceived and is now putting into execution an idea that promises to result in a valuable addition to English literature. Taking the Diamond Jubilee as an occasion, he has made arrangements for the compilation of a series of volumes setting forth the life and acts of the men—generals, admirals, and administrators—who have contributed to the construction of that magnificent edifice, the British empire. The editor is Mr. H. F. Wilson, formerly a Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and now private secretary to Mr. Chamberlain. Thus far, arrangements have been made for the compilation of eight volumes only, namely, "Sir Walter Raleigh," "Sir Thomas Maitland," "John Cabot and his Sons," "Lord Clive," "Edward Gibbon Wakefield," "Rajah Brooke," "Admiral Philip," and "Sir Stamford Raffles," the writers being Messrs. Martin A. S. Hume, Walter Frewen Lord, and C. Raymond Beazley; Sir John Arbutnot, Mr. A. Garnett, Sir Spencer St. John, Messrs. Louis Becke and Walter Jeffery (jointly), and the Editor, in the order named. Each volume is to contain the best obtainable portrait of its subject, as well as a map showing his special contribution to the imperial edifice, and the price of each will be five shillings. The series promises to be of the highest interest; a worthy memento of the great occasion in connexion with which its compilation has been commenced.

THE LATE MR. R. N. ST. JOHN.

On Friday evening, at the Masonic Temple Yokohama, a Lodge of Sorrow was held under the auspices of the Yokohama Lodge, No. 1092, E.C., to honour the memory of the greatly lamented Worshipful Master, Bro. R. N. St. John, whose death, in England, we announced on Tuesday. There was a very large attendance of the Brethren, who all wore deep mourning. The beautiful rite was conducted most impressively by Wor. Bro. E. Flint Kilby, I.P.M., who was assisted by Wor. Bro. the Rev. E. C. Irwine, as Chaplain; Wor. Bro. H. J. Sharp, as S.W.; and Bro. E. C. Fox, J.W.; Wor. Bro. Griffin presiding at the organ. During the ceremony Wor. Bro. Flint Kilby delivered an oration, bearing eloquent tribute to the virtues and sterling qualities of the deceased brother in his many walks of life.

O'TENTOSAMA LODGE.

The annual installation meeting of the O'Tentosama Lodge, No. 1263, E.C., was held at the Masonic Temple, Yokohama, on Saturday evening. About forty-five brethren were present, including several from the Tokyo Lodge. The ceremony was impressively conducted by Wor. Bro. Stan. E. Unite, the retiring Master; Bro. the Rev. W. J. White assisting at the organ. Bro. A. B. Brown having been duly installed as W.M., invested his officers as follows:—
 Wor. Bro. S. E. Unite I.P.M.
 Bro. T. W. McIlraith S.W.
 Bro. W. Tucker J.W.
 Wor. Bro. Geo. Hodges Secretary
 Wor. Bro. C. D. Moss D. of C.
 Bro. Rev. A. R. Morgan Chaplain
 Bro. E. C. Herb Organist
 Bro. C. F. Rhine S.D.
 Bro. F. W. Thomas J.D.
 Bro. E. G. Bergeisen I.G.
 Bro. J. B. M. Barlett }
 Bro. T. Herlihy } Stewards
 Bro. H. Ivison Tyler

A banquet was subsequently held at which Wor. Bro. A. B. Brown presided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair. Wor. Bro. Silver Hall proposed the Rt. Wor. the D.G.M. of Japan and his Officers, to which Wor. Bro. G. Hodges, D. G. Treas. and Wor. Bro. Bourne replied. The toast of the newly installed W.M. and his officers was given by Wor. Bro. Unite, and received hearty recognition. The Chairman having replied, Bro. McIlraith gave the Sister Constitutions and Visitors, to which Wor. Bro. R. Hay, Wor. Bro. Silver Hall, Wor. Bro. Delf, Bro. Ralph G. Forster and Bro. Willison replied. The Past Masters' toast was given by Bro. W. Tucker, Wor. Bro. C. D. Moss replying. The Installing Master, given from the chair, was enthusiastically received, and Wor. Bro. Unite made a feeling reply. Bro. Thomas gave Mothers, Wives, Daughters, and Sisters of Masons; and the W.M. the Tyler's Toast. During the evening vocal and instrumental selections were given by Wor. Bros. Unite and Delf; Bros. Rhine, Neville, Haines, Bergeisen, Herb, and others, a most enjoyable evening being spent.

THE INDIAN TROUBLE AND GERMAN OPINION.

Now that the insurrection of the frontier tribes in India has been completely crushed—a feat which was performed with creditable celerity and thoroughness—, some of the opinions expressed in Europe, especially in Germany, when the fact of the *émeute* first became known, are very interesting to read. We take two from an American exchange. The *Hamburger Nachrichten*, Prince Bismarck's organ, says:—

"As there is little doubt that the nations of Europe are gradually combining against that notorious disturber of the peace, England, we are induced to investigate her position in India, for upon the possession of India's boundless resources exclusively the power of Great Britain rests. The colonies do not count. They will not help her with their own risk, and could not help if they would. Hence the question how England stands in India is one of the weightiest of our times. And her position there is undoubtedly imperilled. Twenty years after the Indian mutiny the Queen assumed the title Empress of India, to show how firmly British rule is established in that singular country. Twenty years later we find that the collapse is imminent. Despite the fact that the population of India is hopelessly divided on religious and national lines, England has been unable to establish her rule firmly."

The *Vossische Zeitung*, an organ of capitalistic Liberalism, writes:—

"Afghanistan is playing false, but it is childish of the British Government to threaten the Ameer. The history of two great campaigns proves that Afghanistan has little to fear from England. Moreover, it must not be forgotten that the Mohammedan danger that threatens British rule is very grave. The British officials in India and the residents at the courts of native princes must exercise all their prudence to remove existing irritation and to avoid fresh dissatisfaction. England is certainly on the threshold of a severe crisis in India. She will have to tack very skillfully in order not to irritate Russia into interference. If Russia once descends from the 'Roof of the World,' the Pamir, into the plains of the Indus, she will never find her way back again."

THE LOG OF THE "GLADYS."

We gather the following particulars of the voyage to Kobe of the steam launch *Gladys*, built by the Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, for the P. & O. Company, from the log of the little craft, which was kindly placed at our disposal. The *Gladys*, which is of about 15 tons burden, left Yokohama at 1.18 a.m. on the 4th inst. under the command of Capt. George Hay, and with Messrs. Tresize and Weaver of the E. & I. Works on board, and arrived at Uruga at 8.08 a.m., where the two last named gentlemen left her to return to Yokohama. She left almost at once and passed Sagami light at 9.25 a.m. During the afternoon of that day the weather looking very threatening. Capt. Hay put into Sunoda at 5.45 p.m. and stopped there till 6.40 a.m. on the 5th, the weather not looking so bad, and wind from the S.E. She passed Irosaki light at 7.45 a.m., a stiff breeze now blowing with a high following sea, but though she rolled a good deal the little craft behaved very well. The wind and sea increasing, however, Capt. Hay put the vessel's head to it and steamed up the bay to Numadzu, arriving there at 6.30 p.m. and remaining all through the next day, the 6th. On the 7th at 6.15 a.m. he started again, but on getting outside, found a strong wind from S.E., and on arriving off Irako-saki anchored at 2.15 p.m. under the Cape for shelter. On the 8th, the wind had shifted to N.W. and the weather looking threatening, so he hove up anchor at midnight and tried to make Mikawa Bay, but in the heavy rain which was falling, missed the entrance and then shaped for Yokkaichi, under half-speed, owing to the heavy sea, arriving there at 10.30 a.m. on the 9th. After provisioning and coaling, he started from Yokkaichi at 4 a.m. on the 10th, the wind still blowing strong from the N.W. At 6.50 p.m. he passed Shimomisaki, and on the 11th at 1.45 a.m., Hinomisaki, making Tamagashima light at 5 a.m., and at 8 a.m. anchored off Kobe pier.

WRECK OF THE "POINTER."

The Suisan Kaisha's schooner *First Chishima Maru*, arrived at Hakodate on the 12th inst. with 256 seal-skins. She also brought down a hunter and 179 seal-skins belonging to the schooner *Pointer*. From information received from the hunter in charge of the seal-skins it appeared that the schooner was wrecked on the 27th of September at 11 p.m. while beating out of Shikotan harbour, an island near Nemuro. She had on board at the time 253 skins but the crew were only able to save 179, the others being washed away. The men saved all but one gun and some other gear. The Captain and all hands are safe, but it is feared the schooner will become a total wreck.

The Suisan Kaisha's steamer *Katwo Maru*, late *Henry Dennis*, and the *Third Chishima Maru*, arrived at Hakodate on the 20th of September and 7th October respectively, the former with 166 and the latter with 155 skins. Another schooner of the same Company arrived at Hakodate on the 12th inst. from the Kurile Islands where she had been otter hunting. She had 4 sea-otter skins only.

THE FORMOSAN ADMINISTRATION.

The new scheme of organization for the Formosan administration has been published. We shall speak of it in a future issue. But, indeed, we attach little importance to it. The re-casting of offices, their abolition or establishment, is not what Formosa wants. She wants a first-rate man in the capacity of Governor-General with almost autocratic power, and she wants a new staff of officials. There are doubtless some good men in the island at present, but we believe them to be in the minority, and, at any rate, their influence seems to be unable to leaven the defective lump. Good men will not go thither from Japan at present. They know that there is much to lose and little to gain.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT
JAPANESE LITERATURE.

Reviewing the literature of the past year, the *Sekai-no-Nihon* observes that, compared with last year the amount and character of the matter published shows a great falling off. The supplements attached to the summer numbers of the magazines were disappointing. But there is one good omen. Vapid writing is becoming scarce. The ill-informed and incompetent critics who in former years used to cover pages with crude remarks, show signs of becoming an extinct race. The literary world has learnt how to separate the wheat from the chaff and to value at its proper price the well-digested learning of the real scholar. Another characteristic of recent literature, noticed by the *Sekai-no-Nihon*, is its conservative or national tendency. There is in literature at the present time a reaction that is anti-European. Increased attention is being paid to Chinese and Japanese literature. From some points of view this is gratifying, says the organ we are quoting, but from others it can only be likened to shutting out of one's house the pure air of heaven. It cannot last. It will not be long before we shall see a movement in an opposite direction.

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* publishes a long article on the internal dissensions of the Department of Education and the officials connected with the colleges and schools under its control. The title of the article is 學閥論 *Gakubatsuron*, the object being to show that the Department is a house "divided against itself." The writer says that there are three distinct parties in the Mombushō, namely, the University party, the Higher Normal School party (called 老練黨 *Meikindō*), and the party consisting of officials of the Department proper. Each of these is said to have its literary organ. The *Sekai-no-Nihon* expresses regret that the cause of education should be injured by these dissensions, and predicts that the only way to put an end to them is for the Department no longer to depend on the University and the Higher Normal School alone for its supply of teachers. Just as the internal dissensions of the Satsuma and Chōshū clans were terminated by the entrance of outsiders into government ranks, so the disputes between the various parties in the Mombushō will be remedied by rendering the Department independent of the two institutions which now hamper its action.

The question of what should be Japan's ideal in fiction is continually discussed in the magazines. In a recent number the *Waseda Bungaku* traverses the views of the *Taiyō* and the *Kokumin-no-tomo* on this subject. The former of these advocates the subservience of fiction to State interests. The latter complains of the modern novel on the ground of the low-class subjects which it habitually discusses. The *Waseda Bungaku* is of opinion that any attempt to confine writers within certain limits would be fatal to success. The *Kyōrin* writes in the same strain, and adds that since the ideas worked out in novels are to a large extent the product of the age in which they find a mouthpiece, in order to change the character of this class of literature, it is necessary to direct men's thoughts into other channels.

The distinctive characteristics of the leading newspapers of the day are thus summed up by the *Waseda Bungaku*—

The *Yūji Shimpō* makes a specialty of writing up the ideas, customs, and maxims of business people and of recording the changes through which society is passing. Politics is consigned by it to a subordinate position.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes *Kōdan* (lectures), war stories, and witty questions and answers, in addition to serving as a political organ.

The *Mainichi* is noted for its stage criticisms, its reports on provincial affairs, and for the well-executed illustrations that it occasionally publishes.

The *Chūō* delights in casuistry. Its questions

and answers on practical affairs of life are eminently suited to teach people of limited intelligence and to break down the barriers of superstition.

The *Asahi* publishes novels written by Namiroku and Tōsui and criticisms of the stage written by Kōson, in addition to itineraries furnished by various writers.

The *Yoroku Chōhō* prints Ruikū's detective stories and gives publicity to much of the gossip of the city. It is very widely read by the student class.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* resembles the *Yūji* in the importance attached to social questions and the secondary place assigned to politics.

A distinguishing feature of the *Miyako*, not to mention its account of detective investigations (*Tantei no jitsuwā*), is its publication of questions and answers on current topics.

The *Hōchi Shimbun*, in addition to figuring as a political organ, publishes Gensai's novels.

In the *Yomiuri* appear Ozaki Kōyō's novels, reproductions of old and almost forgotten works, and clever skits upon the 100 wise discourses which have been appearing in other papers, entitled the *Iyakubaka*, which consist of that indirect satire known in Japanese as *atekosuri* or 諷刺 *fūshi*.

The *Nippon* has a character of its own. It is fond of publishing the comments of noted men on current events. It gives special prominence to literary subjects, and is usually ahead of its contemporaries in the notice of published or forthcoming works.

In the *Yamato Shimbun* appear Mr. Saikiku's stories concerning old Japan.

Few Japanese have attained greater distinction than Dr. Chiga Tsurutarō. Many years ago, this gentleman was a teacher in the Dōninsha, Mr. Nakamura Keiu's school, an institution which was never very prosperous. Fourteen years ago, Mr. Chiga went to Germany to study Philosophy and Law. He was made professor of Japanese in the Oriental Language School of Berlin, and after many years of application, obtained from the Berlin University the degree of *Doctor juris utriusque*. The examination which has to be passed for this degree is said to be extremely stiff, the candidate being required to be thoroughly versed in Roman Law, as laid down in learned Latin works, and in ecclesiastical Law. Dr. Chiga is the first Japanese who has obtained this degree. Even among Germans, it is stated, few have the courage to try for this degree at the Berlin University, owing to the exceptionally high standard required by that institution. The essay which Dr. Chiga wrote for his examinations was on "Consular Courts in Japan"—a criticism of their constitution and methods. The essay condemned the whole system and attacked the principle of extraterritoriality. Its publication caused a great stir in Germany and other parts of Europe. One of Dr. Chiga's utterances, *Der Papst ist kein Souverän*, aroused the ire of the Roman Catholics and violent attacks on Dr. Chiga appeared in the *Germania*, in which journal it was maintained that the Berlin University had no right to grant the degree of *Doctor juris utriusque* to any but a Christian. The President of the University having been consulted by Dr. Chiga in reference to the abuse to which he as well Dr. Chiga had been subjected by Roman Catholic organs, observed, "It is not at all a bad thing to be spoken evil of by the Roman Catholics."

The *Kyōiku jiron* furnishes a report of an address delivered by Mr. Kinoshita, the President of the Kyōto University, at the opening ceremony held on September 13th last, from which we quote the following details:—The number of students who have entered the University is 53; consisting of 19 from the First Higher School, 10 from the Second Higher School, 7 from the Fourth Higher School, 10 from the Fifth Higher School, 6 from the Yamaguchi Higher School and one from the Tōkyō University. The idea of establishing this University was long in the minds of successive Ministers of Education and others, but from

one cause or another the enterprise was postponed. Viscount Mori always maintained that one University would never supply the needs of the country. With him originated the Five Higher Middle Schools, which were modelled on the basis of American Colleges. These schools were intended to furnish a high class education to students who did not intend to go through a University course. Later on, to three of these schools a department was added whose special function it is to prepare students for the University. This institution is in no sense dependent on the Tōkyō University, and it will be the aim of the faculty to impart to it a character of its own. In one important particular it will, at any rate for the present, differ from the sister institution in Tōkyō. In the Tōkyō University the course to be gone through is extended over 3 years and the advance of students only takes place at the end of each year. If a student fails at the annual examination, he is put back a year. We do not intend to observe any such rules here. Our course will range between 3 years and 6, according to the progress made by students, and we reserve to ourselves the right of advancing a student at any time we think fit. This rule is followed in other countries, but is now adopted for the first time in Japan. It possesses many advantages and unless its drawbacks seem to us to exceed these, our intention is to make it permanent.

The *Shakai Zasshi* has an article on the alleged increase of crime and attributes this phenomenon to the debasing nature of the popular literature of the day. There is no dearth of material of an elevating kind, says this organ, but a large number of journalists prefer grovelling in the gutter when in search of topics on which to write.

Dr. Toyama, commenting on some observations that appeared in the *Taiyō* on the prevalence of crime, denies that people are more wicked than they were a few years ago. The only change that has taken place, says Mr. Toyama is the increased prominence which Japanese newspapers have given to information that in foreign journals would be confined to Police News columns. Even the *Yūji Shimpō* is a great transgressor in this respect.

Dr. Toyama has recently published a small work on "Methods of Teaching English," giving the results of his long experience as a teacher. He discusses the subject of literal and free translation, furnishes examples of mis-translation, gives his opinions on the necessary qualifications for school-teachers and a variety of cognate topics. The *Shigaku Zasshi* speaks highly of a small work on the derivation and uses of words, of which Mr. Kanazawa Shōzaburō is the author. The title the book bears is *Kotoba no Inochi*. It is founded on a French work called *La vie des mots études dans leurs significations*. The principles given in the original work are applied to the Japanese language with great success, according to the *Shigaku Zasshi*.

Mr. Uchimura Kanzō has just published a small volume of translated poems under the title of *Aigin*. The selection has been carefully made and shows the translator to be a man of literary taste. These are some 20 poems in all. The translator's style is pronounced by the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* to be entirely new. He has aimed at reproducing the spirit as well as the words of the original, and has spared no pains to make his work as perfect as the capacity of the Japanese language will allow. The work is issued by the Keiseisha, Izumo-chō, Kyōbashi, Tōkyō.

A book of considerable interest and novelty has just been issued by the Hakubunkan called 三國探検實記 *Sankoku-tanken-jikki*, being an account of Mr. Iwamoto Chitenu's journey through Siam, Laos and Annam. In the garb of a Buddhist priest, Mr. Iwamoto started on his travels in December, 1896. From Siam he made his way to Laos, and after going through Annam traversed Tongking, travelling some eleven

hundred *rin* in 110 days. He met with numerous adventures, owing to the presence of wild beasts, poisonous snakes, and highway robbers in the country through which he passed. He kept a journal the whole time and the result of his observations on the customs, the religion, the government and the commerce of the countries through which he passed, together with a number of illustrations, is now given to the public in a volume which sells at 30 *sen* per copy.

The Minyūsha, Hiyoishi-chō, Kyōbashi, Tōkyō, announce that they are about to publish a work called *Yōku-seiki Gaikō-shi* (A History of Foreign Intercourse in the Nineteenth Century), by Mr. Hirata Hisashi, which will cover 4,500 pages and furnish a connected and minute history of the relations of European countries to each other from the fall of Napoleon I. down to the present time. From the reviews we are unable to say whether or not the work will include a history of Japan's relations to foreign countries. The title is somewhat misleading if the history is no more than a reproduction of Western treatises on the foreign policy of the leading nations of Europe.

In an article which appeared in the *Fiji Shimpō* last month some interesting facts were given bearing on the progress of the study of Botany in Japan, from which we cull the following particulars. The plant known as the *Ginkgo biloba*, called *ichō* or *ginnan* in Japan, during the Tertiary period was most plentiful, but has gradually become so scarce that even in China and Japan, where alone wild specimens are found, it is in danger of extinction. The discovery of a specimen in this country is deemed a great feat by botanists. Hitherto all efforts to propagate the plant have failed. But last year Mr. Hirose Sakugorō, assistant Professor of Botany at the Imperial University, as the result of numerous experiments with spermatozoids, succeeded in finding out a method of reproducing the plant. In the meanwhile Mr. Ikeno Seichirō, assistant Professor of Botany at the Agricultural College attached to the University, has discovered a new method of propagating the sago palm (*Cycas revoluta*). Professor Ikeno has been engaged on the study of this subject for a long time. It is stated that the value of the discovery has been acknowledged in America and elsewhere and has been fully explained in foreign journals. In Germany the *Ginkgo biloba* propagation discovery has attracted a great deal of attention, it having upset all traditional theories in reference to this plant. In a new German text-book on Botany a note is inserted announcing that, owing to Professor Hirase's discovery, the *Ginkgo biloba* must now be considered as constituting a class by itself. The *Fiji Shimpō* observes that the reputation which Japanese win by such discoveries is of a class to call forth the gratitude of their fellow-countrymen.

Mr. Ueda Bin, commenting in the *Teikoku Bungaku* on recently published English prose, makes the following remarks on Japanese current literature. Writers of New Style Verses, of whom there are hardly ten to be found, have been very quiet of late. Of course it is quite impossible to make a living by this class of writing, as poets do in the West. It frequently involves an enormous amount of labour, even a single verse taking a whole day and night to prepare. It is better that such writers should not allow the question of profit to affect them in any way, that they should spare neither time nor labour to make their own compositions perfect. The great evil of the day in the literary world is the presence of so many scribblers whose sole object in writing is a livelihood. The *Meiji Hyōron* writes in the same strain. The collections of New Style Verses that have been published, like the *Tōsai Namboku*, the *天地玄黄 Tenchi-genkō*, the *Kono Hana* and (花), the *松島鈴島 Matsumushi Suisumushi* are small affairs and do not show that there is any real poetical activity among us.

Among miscellaneous items published in the

Meiji Hyōron we find a note containing the views of Prince Konoye on some of the weaknesses of the age. The Prince draws attention to two serious abuses. The first is over-legislation. There is too great a tendency to multiply laws unnecessarily. The excuse given for the passing of a new law is the fact that such a law exists in some other country. Thus it is, says the Prince, that we are saddled with a number of useless laws. The second characteristic of the age which the Prince condemns is the levity and fickleness shown by the nation in dealing with grave financial affairs. Six or seven years ago a fit of economy overcame the Diet, and it insisted on a reduction of the budget amounting to some 6 million *yen*. Recently the Government and Diet alike have been suffering from the spending fever, and a sum of 10 millions added to the yearly expenditure seems a mere trifle. More ambition than wisdom is frequently shown by modern politicians.

In the same magazine Mr. Sasagawa Tōka delivers his opinion on the much discussed subject of Japanese independence of thought. This writer contends that as yet Japan has done nothing but borrow from other nations and that even in blending what she has borrowed she has frequently shown, as, for instance, in education, great lack of ability. The article is pessimistic throughout, and has no claim to be considered a fair statement of the facts relative to the history of thought in this country.

The *Kyōiku Yiron* reverts to the subject of giving more publicity to the lectures and investigations of University professors. There is no reason, says this organ, why the lectures delivered year after year should not be given to the world in book form. For the works which the University now has in hand, such as the *國史眼 Kokushigan*, the *Shokubutsu Samoku-susetsu*, the *Shokubutsu-hyōin-mokuroku* (Catalogue of Botanical Specimens), and the *Dainihon-Shokubutsu-shi* (History of Japanese Botany) it deserves great credit, but these only represent the labours of a few Departments. There are others which publish next to nothing. The *Kyōiku Yiron* thinks that the University Library should be thrown open to the public, thereby insuring increased usefulness for the institution that represents Japan's ripest scholarship.

The *Kyōiku Yiron* is doubtful whether the students who have been sent abroad by the Department of Education have not on their return to Japan done more harm than good. In many cases these students were quite ignorant of the real situation of affairs in their own country, and during their residence abroad only gained a very imperfect acquaintance with foreign institutions, systems and modes of thought. Full of the enthusiasm of youth and dazzled by all the new influences to which they were subjected in foreign lands, they returned to Japan to play the part of ardent reformers, and in many cases their radicalism knew no bounds. Many of the eccentricities of the present day are to be traced to the crude ideas propagated by strongly biased graduates of foreign colleges.

Dr. Katō Hiroyuki is represented by the *Asahi Shimbun* as having given utterance to the following sentiments in reference to the method of governing Formosa adopted by the Japanese Government. It is a mistake, says Dr. Katō, for us to begin by insisting on the Formosans becoming Japanese. It is out of place for us to be always drumming into them the duty of obedience to their new masters and love of Japan. This is not the way England governs India, nor is it the way the Dutch govern Java. The proper method of reconciling the Formosans to their new masters is by giving them as much liberty as possible and by not interfering with their numerous harmless national customs. The new yoke ought to be rendered as easy as possible if it is to be borne without constant resistance. There are some things that must be forbidden, but useless and annoying interference with national institutions should be avoided. We fear, says Dr. Katō, that the

Japanese Government has still much to learn on this subject.

The *Taiyō* has an article on the views of foreigners respecting Japanese art, of which we give an epitome. The Italian Minister of Education, when speaking at the opening ceremony of a Fine Art Exhibition, observed that in order to appreciate the art of any given country it is necessary that the student should be acquainted with the literature of that country, that he may perceive what are the ideas to which art gives expression. The same may be said of the study of poetry. A Japanese student of Dante who is ignorant of the history of Italian thought in the 14th century cannot possibly appreciate the great poet's utterances. It is not surprising that European art critics should fail to apprehend the characteristics in which Japanese art excels. These remarks the *Taiyō* makes the text of the following observations. How far it is possible for a foreigner to become thoroughly conversant with Japanese sentiments and emotions, is a question not easy to answer. How far can the consciousness of a people whose race and history is so different be partaken of by an Occidental? The position assigned to Hokusai by foreign critics and their enunciation of the points in which he excelled are by no means endorsed by Japanese writers on art. The peculiarities of Hokusai's style which foreign art critics select for special notice and praise, such as his faithfulness to nature in the matter of colour and form, and their comparison of his works to those of Michael Angelo, appear to us to be founded on a misapprehension of the nature of Hokusai's talent. It comes to this that the foreign critic of Japanese art selects the peculiarities that most accord with his own tastes, without inquiring whether those peculiarities constitute the chief merits of any given artist according to native standards. We visited in company with a foreign gentleman well versed in art an exhibition of paintings held at Ueno not long ago. We were struck by the character of the remarks made by this gentleman respecting the various pictures. To give a few instances; concerning a picture of a number of storks by the seaside, he observed:—"The storks are too big and the pine-trees too small. Were ever such storks as these seen in the world?" On a picture representing peacocks taking refuge in a pine-tree during a storm, he remarked, "Peacocks are only to be seen in fine weather." On the picture of Minamoto Yoritomo hiding in the hollow of a tree, he said, "How would it be possible for a person standing at a distance to see the hairs of his head and the colour of his clothes in the way represented?" After passing a number of ancient pictures, each of which had a meaning of its own, with the inattention with which one views floating clouds or rising smoke, my companion came to a picture of Kwanon (the Goddess of Mercy) and enthusiastically exclaimed:—"Here is something to look at. Here is a picture in which the difference between Eastern and Western tastes is lost. Who would have expected to find Western ideas so faithfully represented in an Eastern country?"

With the exception of Mr. Lafcadio Hearn, whose views on art we published in these pages a short time ago (summarised by us last month) these criticisms are a fair representation of the notions of Europeans respecting Japanese art. In a word, they amount to saying that though ideas may be expressed clearly by painting, if in the matter of form they do not come up to the foreign standard, as specimens of art, they are defective. This view is no less extreme than the advocacy of sacrificing form altogether to the exigency of thought. In their eagerness to satisfy foreign requirements in respect of form, some Japanese artists produce works which are entirely devoid of latent thought.

The contention of the writer we have quoted seems to be, that the Japanese method of expressing ideas by means of the brush allows of liberties being taken in the form of the objects represented which offend foreign canons of taste.

The question is of considerable interest and one on which there is much to be said on both sides.

Mr. Namikawa Sōsuke of cloisonné fame, has furnished to the *Zaiyō* an interesting account of his career; from which we take the following:—Nineteen years ago, I opened a porcelain shop in Tōkyō. At that time I knew little or nothing about cloisonné ware, but thinking that there was something to be made out of it, I purchased in Kyōto, Osaka, Nagoya, and Yokohama a number of specimens and forwarded them to the Paris Exhibition. Uncertain of the reception they would meet with in Europe, I placed a moderate price on them, regarding the venture as an experiment. My friends all viewed this new departure as foolish and only destined to failure. When the goods were presented at the French Custom House, the officers were astonished at the low price put on them and, thinking that this was done with a view of defrauding the Customs, wrote offering to purchase the articles at the price named. They were not a little surprised when they heard that I gladly accepted the offer. The cheapness of our ware astonished the French, but its inferiority to foreign productions was very manifest, as I learnt from a letter sent from Paris at the time. Thinking that there was a future for our Japanese cloisonné if it could only be brought up to the required standard, I determined to set about experimenting on new methods of manufacture. The first rebuff I met with was from my own artisans, who quietly informed me that the methods of producing this class of ware could not be modified in any one particular without resulting in failure. In order to be able to judge for myself, I determined to become an artisan and watch the process employed narrowly, which project I carried out in 1879. This new freak of mine, as many friends were pleased to term it, was interpreted as a proof that I was not quite right. I assured my friends that I only intended to work as an artisan till my purpose was accomplished. The next difficulty that I encountered was caused by the conservatism and bigotry of other members of the trade. They were so opposed to my experiments that they persuaded my workmen to leave my service. But notwithstanding this, I still persevered and in 1875 exhibited specimens which gained a medal in my own country and three years later had the still greater honour of receiving a medal in Holland. Eventually I succeeded in reproducing the natural colours of the objects imitated, and in the matter of transparency I produced things surpassing in beauty anything made in foreign countries.

It cannot be said, continues Mr. Namikawa, that art receives any great encouragement from the nation as a whole, notwithstanding all that is said on the subject in magazines and newspapers. Men who work for a reputation in many cases have their reward, but there is no such stimulus to art as existed in former days when Buddhism was popular throughout the country. No one unacquainted with the art of enamelling can estimate the enormous difficulty of reproducing certain colours or has any idea of the numerous fruitless experiments that precede success. To combine glossiness, and transparency with every delicate shade of colour it is desired to produce, taxes the ingenuity of the artisan to its very utmost, and it frequently turns out that the price which ordered articles fetch by no means recoups the workman for the losses incidental to the new venture.

The *Zaiyō*, writing on high class female education, says that the number of schools available for the daughters of gentlemen are for too few. The statistics furnished are as follow:—

	Pupils
官立 Government Female High Class Schools	322
公立 Public	8,194
私立 Private	6,651
Pupils of other schools	425

Schools established by foreigners number 26, and have an attendance of 1,566 students. These schools are Christian. That professing

Christians should attend them is natural, but it is a reproach to the nation that girls who have no intention of becoming Christians should be obliged to attend mission schools because there are no others open to them. The object of the missionaries in educating girls is to insure Christian influence being exercised in the home of the future mother, and in this they show great discernment. How is it that the nationalistic party do not adopt similar measures for the propagation of their doctrines?

THE "KOBE CHRONICLE," COUNT OKUMA, AND THE "STRICT ENFORCEMENT" QUESTION.

The *Kobe Chronicle*, while professing that its "time is too valuable to beat the air in a vain war of words," devotes something like a column and a half to that kind of performance. We fail to understand our contemporary's mood. Simple questions of recent history being the topics of discussion, there is no apparent reason for any display of excitement. As to Count Okuma's views on territorial expansion, we are content to take them on his own authority, without troubling ourselves about the singular hypothesis that he may have signed his name to an essay misrepresenting his ideas. As to the *Kobe Chronicle's* assertion that the "strict-enforcement policy" was "common at one time to almost all the Japanese political parties," it is an error so flagrant as to be inexplicable. For the rest, we must beg to bow ourselves out of the controversy. It has drifted into uninteresting and unsightly phases.

A VILLAGE TRAGEDY.

About 10 a.m. on Tuesday morning, Suzuki Nabe (41 years), wife of Suzuki Tomigoro, a farmer living at No. 838, Honmoku, Kurakigun, who has been mentally afflicted of late, killed her baby by striking its head upon the road at Nishi-no-yato. The infant was only a month old. The poor demented creature proceeded homeward and on entering her house told the inmates her story. The matter was notified to the Bluff Station, and Police Inspectors and others proceeded to the house. They took the dead baby to the Station, together with the mother. She is still detained by them. The licentious habits of the woman's husband are said to have turned her mind. He is at present absent from home on a debauch in the gay quarters of the town, where he has been from the beginning of the month.

EARTHQUAKE ON THE BORNEO COAST.

The following telegraphic news has been kindly put at the disposal of the Singapore papers by the General Manager of the E. E. A. T. Co. It is from the Superintendent at Labuan:—

An earthquake was felt at Kudat on the 21st. A slight tremor was observed at several places along the coast.

About the same time a new island was thrown up from the sea between Mempakul and Lambeidan, fifty yards from the mainland opposite Labuan.

The island is composed of clay and rocks, measuring two hundred yards by one hundred and fifty yards and sixty feet high, and appears to be increasing in size. It emits inflammable gas in several places, with a strong smell of petroleum gas. The earthquake was not felt at Labuan.

THE MEIJI FINE ARTS SOCIETY.

The Meiji Fine Arts Society will complete the tenth year of its existence in 1898. The present intention is to celebrate the occasion by holding a grand exhibition of works of art from the 20th of March, during an interval of fifty days. It is to be hoped that Japanese private collectors will be induced to contribute liberally to the display. At present, they show marked reluctance to coöperate in such undertakings.

DYSENTERY.

The returns of the dysentery epidemic during the present year are very shocking. It appears that the number of cases from the beginning of the year up to the 18th instant, inclusive, totalled 74,992, and the number of deaths, 17,591. The death rate, however, was comparatively low, being only 23 per cent. The cities and prefectures in which more than five thousand cases occurred were as follow:—

	CASES.	DEATHS.
Yamanashi Prefecture	8,983	1,820
Tokyo City	6,704	1,002
Kanagawa Prefecture	5,723	1,169
Gunma Prefecture	3,556	1,194
Niigata Prefecture	5,289	1,056
Shizuoka Prefecture	5,266	1,369

FRENCH NOVELS.

Messrs. Didier and Méricant—Rue du Pont-de-Lodi, Paris—have commenced the publication of a series of French novels at the exceedingly low price of 20 centimes. They are tiny volumes, prettily illustrated, and though the type is necessarily small, its great clearness obviates any inconvenience in reading. The idea is that one volume shall be published every Saturday, and sixteen have already appeared. The plan seems well calculated to bring French light literature within easy reach of people living at a distance from France.

THE POSSESSION OF CLONDYKE.

There is an idea in Canada that Americans contemplate a kind of raid upon the Clondyke gold fields. The vast majority of the adventurers who have flocked thither are citizens of the United States. Twelve thousand of them are said to be there, in presence of only a hundred and fifty Canadian mounted police, and the prophets of evil say that America will refuse to allow Canadian reinforcements to pass through her territory. In short, the Great Republic is suspected of contemplating a great robbery. Nothing is easier than to be suspicious.

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

The autumn manœuvres are to commence on the 2nd or 3rd of next month, and will last until the 16th, approximately. Four Divisions will take part in them, those of Hiroshima, Marugame, Kokura and Kumamoto. The Hiroshima and Marugame Divisions will take the field first, the former landing in the neighbourhood of Moji, and the latter in that of Nakazawa. After performing various evolutions, they will then march towards Tempo-zan, to meet the Kokura and Kumamoto Divisions, when the whole four will engage in a grand campaign.

PRIVATE RAILWAYS.

The *Official Gazette* announces that provisional charters have been granted to private companies for the construction of the following three lines of railway:—

Moji to Tanoura in Fukuoka, on the Kinshu Railway; 2 miles 40 chains; capital, 497,901 yen.
Tanoura to Sune, on the Bushu Railway; 11 miles 37 chains; capital, 800,000 yen.
Kawagoe to Narita in Chiba, on the Narita Railway; 67 miles, capital, 2,050,000 yen.

THE CREW OF THE "POINTER."

Three British and twenty Chinese members of the crew of the British sealing schooner *Pointer*, which was wrecked near Shikotan Island on the 29th of September, arrived at Nemuro on the 21st inst. on board the steamer *Kankō Maru* of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. They will all be taken on to Hakodate.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

Owing to the rise in the prices of commodities, remarks the *Tokyo Asahi*, the amount of capital in circulation has decreased and the rates of interest have risen. The maximum dividends declared by some banks for the first half of this year reached 70 or even 90 per cent. Judicious and active as these banks may have been in their management, it would be impossible for them to pay such extravagant dividends unless they had drawn on their reserves, issued loans at abnormal interest, or engaged in speculation. The Bank of Japan, the Sumitomo Bank, and many other sound institutions, have only been able to declare dividends of 20 per cent., and some others 30 per cent. The funds of the former banks, therefore, can not have been employed for the furtherance of industry and commerce. The following table shows the principal banks which have declared dividends of over 30 per cent.:

Districts.	Banks.	Dividend per cent.
Hiogo	65th National Bank	95.4
Kunamoto	9th "	78.1
Nagasaki	18th "	75.7
Ehime	52nd "	73.3
Hakodate	113th "	58.6
Osaka	130th "	52.1
Aichi	Kiyosu Bank	50.5
Nagasaki	102nd National Bank	49.9
Miyagi	105th "	48.2
Tokyo	84th "	47.8
Aichi	Nagoya Bank	44.9
Tokyo	Mitsui Bank	42.9
Tokyo	100th National Bank	42.9
Shizuoka	Shisan Bank	41.6
Shizuoka	35th National Bank	41.2
Aichi	Ito Bank	40.5
Tokyo	Mitsubishi Joint Stock Bank	36.2
Osaka	32nd National Bank	36.2
Osaka	34th "	35.5
Tokushima	Awa Commercial Bank	35.4
Hiogo	38th National Bank	35.2
Tokyo	Yasuda Bank	34.1
Kanagawa	74th National Bank	33.3
Fukushima	17th "	32.3
Osaka	121st "	31.1
Osaka	136th "	30.6
Chiba	98th "	30.4
Kagawa	114th "	30.1

For the purposes of administration, says the *Nippon*, the island of Formosa is now to be divided into three political sections. The first will consist of Soesan and the adjoining provinces; the second will comprise Kimpaoli, Ilan, and the neighbouring districts; and the third will extend over all the provinces of Taipei. The first section is to be governed by the Commandant of the Garrison, who will be specially invested with executive power, the civil officers being required to submit to his direction until the country is more settled. That section, in addition to troops, is to be protected by gendarmes alone, but the second section will be provided with both gendarmes and police, while the third will be furnished with police only.

Commenting upon the lethargic condition of the Orient, Viscount Soga is reported by the *Hochi* to have alleged that the direct cause of Oriental weakness lies in the prevalence of bribery and corruption. A friend of his who lately returned from China informed him that the failure of that country in the development of all such enterprises as railways, spinning mills, etc., is to be ascribed, not to the want of promoters or capital, but to the amount of bribes paid to all classes of government officials. Bribes generally absorb ten to twenty per cent. of the original capital. Corruption on such a scale cripples all enterprises, and demoralises the administration. It is not of course denied that bribery is practised to some extent even in foreign countries. But public opinion is too strong to allow it to thrive. The reputation of the organiser of the Panama Canal was besmirched by the dishonesty which was shown in the management of the work. These facts are more than sufficient to show the benefit of public censure. Such censure, however, is absolutely wanting in the Orient. A few years ago, the Persian

Government disbursed a million *yen* on telegraph works, while the real cost was not more than 250,000 *yen*. Yet the Persian scheme is said to have acquired considerable renown. The countries east of Persia are languishing under a burden of bribery. That it is openly practiced with impunity is the result of the absence of any restraining influence. If Japan has been enabled to maintain her national status among the Oriental nations and to make rapid progress, it is simply because she had not been tainted by the evil practice of bribery. A warning on this point is absolutely necessary for the country as the contagion, if it once spreads, will surely cripple the progress of the nation.

Referring to the import of rice from abroad, the *Nippon* says that while the total value realized in this branch of trade during the 29th year of Meiji (1896), did not exceed five million *yen*, imports for this year have already reached ten millions. Under the general heading of Chinese rice are included the Saigon, Rangoon, and Nanking products, which, when brought to the Tokyo market, are mixed for sale with 4th or 5th class Japanese rice. But the former grain can easily be distinguished on account of its cylindrical instead of oval shape.

The kerosene oil produced in Sumatra, asserts the *Fiji*, is nearly equal in quality to the Yehigo oil, but far inferior to the Russian petroleum. The year before last Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. imported Sumatra oil to the amount of 20,000 cases, but failed to realize any considerable profit. The Company therefore has stopped importing the oil, but it is now reported that Messrs. Raspe & Co. are expecting the arrival of over 49,000 cases from Sumatra, which is to be sold at 1.95 *yen* per case.

The *Chuo*, describing the miserable condition of the village of Toyoda in Saitama prefecture, says:—The village is situated in a hollow, and presented the aspect of a lake at the time of the late inundation. The rice crops were all under water. Some of the villagers were seen in a boat trying to reap the grain, but found a large portion of it sprouting or decayed, and unfit for food. The whole district is inundated to a depth of from 1½ to 3 feet. Communication from one house to another can only be effected by boat, while the dwellings are under water above the floor. Drinking water is not easily procurable, most of the wells being flooded.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* reports the import by Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. of 130,000 cases of kerosene oil from Russia on the 14th inst. In spite of the arrival of three vessels from America with kerosene oil at nearly the same time, quotations remain firm and unchanged, in view of the increasing demand for winter stock.

The *Fiji Shimpō* is urging strongly the necessity of laying submarine cables between Yokohama and Kobe and from thence to Nagasaki. It says that the slightest storm seems to bring about break-downs on the overland line between Osaka and the capital, and the bill for repairs grows larger year by year. At present the constant disorganization of the telegraphs is not only a continued cause of anxiety in business circles, but also a scandal that grows with every storm and flood.

It is expected that Count Kawamura will take over the duties of Governor-General of Formosa on the day that the new official organization of Formosa is promulgated:

The draft of the regulations for the control of artisans and labourers is finished. It is said that the Factory and Workshop regulations of England have been largely drawn upon by the drafters, but special provisions are provided for guarding against industrial combinations.

According to the *Tokyo Shimbun* 35,711 households in Kanagawa Prefecture were engaged in the rearing of silkworms in the Spring of this year. They succeeded in obtaining 50,307 *koku* of ordinary cocoons; 4,289 *koku*

of male cocoons; 218 *koku* of pierced cocoons, and 4,744 *koku* of waste cocoons.

The *Chuo* announces a police-strike in Kitaku, Osaka, involving some thirty constables. These men feeling annoyed at some alterations made by the Chief Inspector in the regulations governing their common boarding house, refused to comply with them. In the end they sent in their resignations *en bloc*.

From the *Kokumin* we gather that Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co. lately made overtures for the supply of ten million *yen*—out of the seventeen millions required—of the municipal loan for harbour-building at Osaka. The Municipal Council seems to have decided to accept the offer. Some difficulty exists, we are told, in determining the issue value of the bonds, but the Council will meet the buyers half-way.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* declares that the Cabinet is a house divided against itself, the Satsuma Ministers opposing all suggestions that emanate from Count Okuma. It was owing to the Takano scandal, it says, that Mr. Komuchi resigned the Secretaryship of the Cabinet; while Count Matsukata is being assailed on all sides for the failure of his financial and currency schemes. Our contemporary is "agin the government" so its observations can carry little weight, especially when it goes on to picture the state of panic it imagines will ensue among the Ministry when it becomes generally known that Count Matsukata has turned to his most faithful followers and piteously asked for their advice on the subject of resignation. This is a schoolboy's writing.

It appears that Mr. Inuzaki Katsutaro, Director of one of the Sections in the Railway Bureau, is desirous of establishing examinations for engine-drivers, guards, conductors, and station-masters with a view to the maintenance of better discipline and the selection of only good men for these positions. He has gone to Europe and America with the intention of discovering how these matters are arranged in Western countries.

The *Fomiori* states that Mr. Nakamura and others, with the patronage of Messrs. Hara Zenzaburo and Amenomiyama Keijiro, recently organized a company under the name of the Oriental Iron-Dust Mining Company. The object of the association is to gather the iron dust that lies scattered over an extensive district between Kuji and Kawajiri in Ibaraki prefecture. Permission having been granted by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, preparations are now being made by the Company to set up machinery of the latest invention. The iron dust is to be refined in the neighbourhood of the Kuji railway station, and work will commence from the 1st proximo.

According to the *Forosū*, the average speed attained on Government railways is 35 miles per hour in the case of fast trains; 30 miles in the case of ordinary trains; 20 miles by mixed trains, and 10 miles by goods' vans. This speed has been found incompatible with the steady development of communications, and the Government is contemplating increasing it to 40 miles per hour. Yet investigations show that the scheme is likely to be attended with serious danger if carried out on the present lines. Its practical enforcement ought to be postponed until the work of doubling the line has been completed.

Marquis Ito was among the speakers at the nineteenth meeting of the Rymonsha Club, held at Mr. Shibusawa's villa at Oji on the 17th instant. In the course of a lengthy speech the ex-Minister President deplored the present tendency of the nation to rush into extravagant enterprises before finding out whether there was a possibility of executing them or even of finding the money wherewith to set them going. During a recent visit to Osaka, he was struck with surprise at seeing the amount of pride and luxury that the citizens indulged in. Of course much of this was due to the influences of the late war. It was the universal experience of nations that emerged successfully from military en-

counters to rush at schemes of extravagant magnitude; this phase was also universally followed by wide-spread depression. He hoped that his nationals would take warning by Germany and proceed slowly and steadily, being content with modest results at first: then, when stability had been built into the foundations, larger schemes could be safely expanded and carried out. The nation had to find out what its income would be before launching out into extravagant expenditures: it was the same in business, and if Japanese capitalists and others bore this principle in mind success would crown their endeavours.

We learn from the *Fiji* that the Sumitomo Bank lately entered into a contract with the Chartered Bank in Kobe for a loan from the latter of one million *yen*, at a daily interest of 1.18 *sen* per 100 *yen*, giving as security public bonds. The *Fiji* does not guarantee the truth of this rumour.

The *Shogyo* calls attention to the recent discovery of a large coal mine in the neighbourhood of Iraushnai, Teshio province, Hokkaido. The discoverer obtained a lease from the Government for a tract of land extending over 1,200,000 *tsubo*. It seems that the mine is contiguous to the Sorachi measures, and the quality of coal is therefore supposed to be the same. The river Rumoi offers facilities for transportation, and it is expected that the new coal can be supplied at much lower prices than the Sorachi product.

The *Sekai-no-Nippon* reports that, on the night of the 13th instant, 120 coolies in Kanda were sentenced to a police fine on a charge of plying for hire with *jinrikisha* without licenses.

Investigations made by the *Saké* Brewing Corporation in Kyoto show the stock in August was as follows:—Clear *saké* 36,252 *koku*; sweet *saké* (mirin), 232 *koku*; distilled *saké* (shochu), 53 *koku*; white *saké*, 8 to. These figures indicate a decrease of ten per cent. when compared with the corresponding period of last year.

The Government has resolved, asserts the *Nichi Nichi*, to grant permission to Messrs. Mitsui and Amenomiyama to lay electric railways in the capital, the two companies having arranged a compromise.

An Imperial Ordinance, No. 356, embodying the Fleet Regulations, was issued on the 14th instant over the signature of Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, with the Imperial sanction. The main features of the Regulations are as follow:—(1) A squadron is to consist of more than two vessels, and is to be provided, if necessary arises, with torpedo boats, torpedo corps, and transports. (2) The ordinary cruising limits for a squadron shall be the seas by which Japan is surrounded. (3) The Commander-in-Chief of a squadron shall be under the direct control of the Emperor or the Minister of the Navy. The Commander may, in any emergency, send a vessel or vessels under his charge beyond the cruising limits, without receiving instructions from his superior authorities. The official staff of a squadron shall consist of a Chief Councillor, Councillors, Navigation-master, Chief Engineer, Chief-Surgeon, Paymaster, and Private Secretary.

The area of land set apart by the Hokkaido Office for colonization, says the *Meiji Shimbun*, extends over 3,276 million *tsubo* (1,200 *tsubo* = 1 acre). The land granted to the immigrants up to the end of last year being 1,215 million *tsubo* in extent, a balance still remains of 2,061 millions. If 200 million *tsubo* are leased every year, the remaining land may be colonized in ten years, and the extent of cultivation will then be equal to that of Tokyo, Kyoto, Tokushima, and Fukui. In other words, every year will see an area equal to one of these cities or prefectures occupied in Hokkaido. But the actual area available for colonization is not limited to the above figures: The plains in the island suitable for cultivation may be supposed to cover 7,327 million *tsubo*, exclusive of tracts of land leased or

sold or set apart for the use of the Government. Should that be the case, a period of thirty-five years will be required to occupy all the land, at the rate of 200 million *tsubo* a year.

The *Kokumin* publishes a report on the foreign trade of Japan for the month of September and compares it with the corresponding period of last year:—

Merchandise.	30th year. Yen.	29th year. Yen.	Increase. Yen.
Exports	12,994,102	8,008,993	4,895,109
Imports	18,254,645	15,813,183	2,441,462
Total	31,248,748	23,912,176	7,336,572
Excess of imports	5,260,543	7,714,189	—
Bullion.			
Exports	194,957	1,485,907	-6,290,950
Imports	4,017,374	586,464	+3,430,910
Excess of exports	—	899,443	—
Excess of imports	3,822,416	—	—

An increase of 5,250,000 *yen* is noticeable in imports of merchandise while the excess of bullion imports reaches 3,820,000 *yen*.

The export of ginseng from Japan increases year by year, alleges the *Kokumin*. It is now divided into four classes according to its place of production: Aizu, Shinshiu, Nikko and Yonezawa. The following table shows the amount of production for the last two years:—

	Aizu. catties.	Shinshiu. catties.	Nikko. catties.	Yonezawa. catties.
29th year.....	180,000	70,000	10,000	13,000
30th year.....	100,000	60,000	8,000	10,000

The decrease noticeable in the figures for this year is doubtless owing to reduction made by growers in production, in view of an expected falling-off in exports after the late war with China. The quantity exported in the 27th year amounted to 326,172 catties, valued at 499,798 *yen*; in the 28th year to 299,636 catties, valued at 373,648 *yen*; and in the 29th year to 318,291 catties; realizing 435,360 *yen*.

The *Shogyo* states that the public loan bonds in Japan being divided into different classes, such as Old Bonds, Pension Bonds, Naval Consols, Railway Bonds, War Bonds, and Public Undertakings Bonds, there is no little difficulty in dealing with them on account of intricacy. The Government has now under consideration the issue of a loan to be designated "Imperial Loan Bonds" in place of the existing securities.

Among the provinces in Hokkaido where sericulture is eagerly pursued, remarks the *Nippon*, the most prominent are Ishikari, Shiribeshi, Oshima, Hidaka, Kushiro, Nemuro, Kitami, and Teshio. Most of these localities, except Shiribeshi, are remarkably well suited for this branch of industry. Last year the number of houses in which silkworms were reared totalled 1,864; silk worm eggs cards hatched were 2,353, while the cocoons obtained did not fall short of 1,998 *koku*. The enterprise promises to be very successful.

A report from the Governor of Osaka, received by the Home Department and published in the *Fiji*, announces that house lots and cultivated fields devastated by the late inundations extended over 105 *cho*; bridges washed away or damaged number 27; and embankments destroyed cover a distance of 3,400 *ken*.

The police constables who were lately arrested in Sahara, Chiba, on suspicion of having caused the death of a drunkard by violence, were acquitted after a preliminary examination. The doctor who examined the corpse was fined 300 *yen*, and is suspended from the practice of his profession for seven years.

At the foot of Mount Asakuma, Tatebayashi, Ise, lies a lonely village surrounded by luxuriant forests. Here lived a man named Takimoto Kinshiro, who had a wife, a son, and two daughters. The wife had been ill for some fourteen or fifteen years, and during the past ten days began to show signs of mental aberration. The husband and children were greatly grieved at this. On the night of the 10th inst., Sadakichi, one of the wife's relatives, with the in-

tention of paying a visit to the husband, knocked at the door. The feeble voice of a woman replied from within. Then followed a ghostly silence, but in a few minutes the door was opened to the visitor. To his great amazement he was told that the man whom he wanted to see had died but an hour ago. Feeling extremely suspicious, he lighted a candle and proceeded, though not without fear, to examine the inner room. Suddenly he saw at his feet three corpses, dreadfully mangled, while in another part of the house the master whom he sought was seen lying dead. He had apparently hanged himself. The terror-stricken visitor at once reported the matter to the nearest police. The tragedy is ascribed by some to Kinshiro, who they think committed the deeds during a fit of mental depression; but others say it is the cruel work of robbers.

Japanese scholars sent abroad to pursue their studies, asserts the *Yomiuri*, were formerly treated with the utmost cordiality. Public schools, factories, and workshops were freely placed at their disposal for inspection, and to facilitate their scientific researches. This hospitable mood on the part of foreigners has entirely changed since the late war with China. Workshops, factories, arsenals, laboratories, have been closed to Japanese students almost universally, while they meet with coolness everywhere. To what can this be attributed?

It was universally supposed, says the *Shogyo*, that the tea crop this year would show a decrease of 15 or 20 per cent. as compared with last year. But on the contrary, arrivals as well as sales indicate an increase:—

	29th year. Catties.	30th year. Catties.	Increase. Catties.
Sales.....	20,399,200	20,614,050	124,850
Arrivals	20,582,400	20,940,650	358,250
Stock on Oct. 14.	184,200	326,600	142,400

Last year, sales increased towards the close of the year, this year a decrease may be expected, but old teas of the year before last having been mixed with new leaves to the amount of 1,500,000 catties, the total output for this year will be much larger than in 1896.

From the *Shogyo* we learn that the members of the High Agricultural, Commercial, and Industrial Council have been nominated as follows:—Nakakamigawa Hikojiro, Shibusawa Eiichi, Masuda Ko, Inouye Kakugoro, Hara Zenzaburo, Otani Kahei, Okuda Shoko, Hamaoka Kotetsu, Shoda Heigoro, Senzoku Ko, Hiroumi Zinzaburo, Murata Ho, Tomita Tetsunosuke, Doi Michio, Nakano Buyei, Sakuma Tei-ichi, Abe Kojin. Article IV. of the Regulations of the Council limits the membership to thirty, while in accordance with Article V. of the same Regulations, the following special members have already been appointed:—Kimotsuki Kanetsura, Tajiri Inajiro, Teshima Seiichi, Furuichi Koi, Komura Jutaro.

The *Official Gazette* announces that military bands may be hired on proper application, in accordance with the following provisions:—(1) A band shall consist of 50 men; half a band of 25. (2) Application for bands must clearly state the number of men desired; the date and place of the entertainment, and this enquiry must be addressed to the bandmaster. (3) Hours for playing shall be limited to five; any prolongation of this period must be arranged beforehand. (4) Applicants shall pay fees of 25 *yen* for a whole band and 15 *yen* for half a band. (5) If the hours of playing interfere with meal-times, refreshments must be provided, and when it is necessary to take conveyances to places on the outskirts of Tokyo or Osaka, travelling expenses must be paid; and in case a night is to be passed away from home, lodgings must be found.

Speaking at a meeting of the Ryumonsha, an association of business-men, who gathered at Oji on Sunday, under the presidency of Mr. Shibusawa, Marquis Ito impressed upon his hearers the necessity of dropping many of the insular prejudices which Japanese entertain against foreigners. In the course of his recent travels

he had noticed how men of all nations combined in every country to develop the resources and industries of Europe and America. English, French, American, German, and Italian capitalists were found putting up money together to develop the mines on the Rand in South Africa. Each nation invested in the other's securities, all thoughts of race being dropped out of sight. So it should be in Japan, but at present foreigners found no inducement to invest their money here: they were not welcomed, in fact were kept aloof, by the Japanese, who seemed to fear that something dreadful must follow if they entered into business or other combinations with foreigners. Many too, feared that when the country was thrown open to mixed residence, the influx of aliens would be so great that Japan would be swamped by them. Such a theory was absurd. Italy, a land possessing attractions surpassing any other country in Europe, was open to all, yet resident aliens did not number more than 60,000—an insignificant total. The Marquis concluded by urging that Japan should at once take steps towards perfecting her laws so that foreigners would find the most perfect security for their lives, their capital, and their property, by which they would be attracted hither to settle and invest their money. If this liberal policy were pursued from the very commencement a bright era of advancement lay before the land that they all loved so well.

Marquis Ito, in the speech delivered by him last Sunday, at the villa of Mr. Shibusawa, expressed great anxiety for the future of Japan if its present policy of education continued to be pursued. He said he was in favour of the European system, and expressed the opinion that Japanese educationists would find their account in abandoning the lines at present followed. The speaker then went on to criticize the methods adopted by teachers in common schools. "I doubt," he said, "whether teachers in our common schools are not encouraging their scholars to foster an anti-foreign spirit. If such is the case, the inevitable result will be that, as the years go by, the outcries against foreigners will grow in volume and intensity, and by the time mixed residence comes into operation an intolerable condition of affairs will have been reached. Collisions between the people and the principles guiding official circles will be inevitable: while broils between Japanese and foreigners will arise in all directions. I cannot but feel grieved when I contemplate such a lamentable crisis. Suppose that the present anti-foreign spirit continues to prevail after the new treaties go into operation and mixed residence has begun: suppose that a number of men conspire together against foreigners to prevent them from carrying on enterprises in Japan in which they have invested their capital; suppose that they organise a mob, as the farmers in this country frequently do when they wish to take the law into their own hands: suppose *soshi* make a violent assault, taking as their ground that the foreigners have encroached upon the privileges of the Japanese and are appropriating to themselves profits that should belong solely to the people of the land, and then break into the foreigners' warehouses and factories—what would follow? The justly aggrieved foreigners would proceed against their assailants in the law courts, impeaching them as malefactors. But suppose the judge before whom the case was heard, was imbued with the same spirit of illogical, ill-conceived patriotism, and gave a partial judgment against the foreigners—what would happen then? Why, the matter would become a diplomatic question and the country would be thrown into a state of indescribable embarrassment, an exit from which would be impossible to find. These are my reasons for desiring an alteration in our educational system; these are my reasons for protesting against a narrow, shoddy patriotism being instilled into the hearts of our rising generation. The anti-foreign feeling of the past few years must be eradicated. Foreign capital will have to be introduced into Japan under appropriate management and by the giving of proper security: foreigners must therefore be received with cordiality."

KOREAN NEWS.

The *Independent* says that the King of Korea refused nine times to adopt the title of "Emperor," though the whole body of officials urged him to do so. Finally he yielded. The *Soul* newspaper adds that, according to Oriental ideas, a country is not really independent unless its ruler is an emperor. We were not aware of the fact, but if such a theory exists in Korea, the King did well to follow his officials' advice.

We do not find in the columns of the *Independent* any explanation of the recent change of Cabinet in Korea: our contemporary merely says that a report had been circulating about it for several weeks. Among the new Ministers, the most promising is Mr. Pak Jungyang, who takes the portfolio of Finance. He studied in Japan some years ago, and served subsequently as Korean Representative in Washington. He now becomes a Cabinet Minister for the third time. The Minister of War—Ye Tongkeun—is described as a statesman of the old school. Concerning the Minister of Justice, the *Independent* can only hope that, inasmuch as he now attends a Christian Church, his nature has been completely changed. The Minister of Agriculture—Chung Nokyong—appears to be an active man of pro-foreign ideas. The Minister of Education—Cho Pyengjik—has served in the Cabinet, during ten years, with intervals and is said to be shrewd and sensible. Finally, the Minister of the Household is of the Min family, a relative of the late Queen, and seems to have shown himself quiet and incorruptible.

A regiment—the Second—of Body Guards has been organized in *Soul* by taking 250 men each from four other corps, and will be drilled by the Russian officers and non-commissioned officers.

The memorial addressed by the Korean officials to the King, with reference to the "Emperor" question, contained the following passages:—

"Your Majesty's enlightened thoughts, chivalrous disposition and grandeur of wisdom surpass the hundred monarchs of the world. Your natural character equals the workings of Heaven above and earth beneath. Your greatness and goodness have reached holy light. You expound the teachings of the three Emperors and inherit the ideas of the five Emperors. Since your coronation your goodness and beneficent influence have been felt everywhere for three decades, and your ruling has been in accord with the spirit of the classics. Of late years the country experienced troubles and dangers, but through Your Majesty's goodness the foundation of the country became again secure and the multitudinous confusions gave way to orderliness and righteousness. The future of the dynasty has been transferred from perilous ground to a solid rock, and prosperity has replaced anxiety and worry. The establishment of independence and maintenance of freedom are solely due to the merciful help of Heaven and to the continuation of your glorious career.

The King's reply was as follows:—

"We have reigned during the last thirty-four years without any goodness, and we have only experienced trouble and confusion. Finally the most horrible calamity has visited us. We have not been able to rule as we ought. When our thoughts reach that point we are simply worried and the sweat of shame wets our back. However, the officials are urging us to assume the undeserved title; the Ministers are pressing us in person and the six armies and ten thousand citizens are clamoring at the Palace gates for the same cause. If we continue our refusal in the matter it seems that it will never end. In consideration of the unanimity of the demand we hereby reluctantly accept your advice to please the multitude. It is a great state affair and we consider that great care must be exercised in consummation of the ceremony in connection with the Coronation."

The scholars of the Confucian School got an artistic answer from the King when they petitioned him to become an emperor. According to the *Independent* His Majesty replied:—"Do not bother us, but go and study the classics."

An extraordinary affair is reported from Chulla province. The Secret Royal Inspector ordered the Magistrate of Suncheon to arrest a man. The Magistrate obeyed. The Governor of the Province, acting on instructions from the Supreme Court, ordered the Magistrate to release

the man. The Magistrate obeyed. The Royal Inspector then proceeded in person to Suncheon and ordered the Magistrate's four soldiers to re-arrest the man. The soldiers refused. They said that they had nothing to do with arrests, having been sent from the Chulla Regiment to protect the Magistrate. The Inspector then had the soldiers beaten until two of them had broken legs, and the other two broken arms, in which condition he threw them into prison. When news of the affair reached the Regiment, a number of the soldiers broke out of barracks, and were hunting the Inspector at the date of latest advice.

It is alleged that a Japanese resident of Wonsan recently seized a Korean who owed him money and beat the man to death. According to the Japanese story the man was found lying intoxicated in the Japanese Settlement. A Korean who reports the incident to the *Independent* says that "it is a common sight to see the Japanese beat and kick Korean coolies in the streets of Wonsan." We had hoped that steps had been taken to put an end to such practices.

CHINESE ITEMS.

The *N.-C. Daily News* declares that the Japanese Post Office in Shanghai carries off the palm for slow delivery, and notes that such a distinction is hard to earn in view of the glaring faults of several other offices. By way of proof our contemporary refers to a letter clearly addressed to a leading resident of Shanghai and duly registered. It was posted in Tokyo on June 1st; it reached Shanghai on June 9th, and it was delivered to the addressee in the first week of October. What became of it during its four months' detention in Shanghai is a mystery.

The English eleven in Shanghai has beaten the Scotch by 98 runs, the scores—only one innings was played—being 184 and 86. Since this match—England and Scotland—began to be played in 1874, England has secured 13 wins, Scotland 5, and 6 matches have been drawn.

The Japanese gun-boat *Oshima* visited Ningpo early in the present month, having on board the Vice-Consul for Shanghai. According to the *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent, the Captain, the Vice-Consul and several of the officers of the ship visited the Taotai, and assured him, among other things, that the war between the two countries had been a great blunder. The correspondent, who accuses the Japanese of "an offensive parade of superiority," and the Chinese of "an inherited hatred for the little Japan," adds that the Japanese officers had the "pure cheek" to ask permission to inspect the Chinghai forts. The Chinese Authorities do not appear to have considered the request "pure cheek" for they granted the desired permission. It is curious that a writer like this correspondent does not recognise with whom the guilt really lies of an "offensive parade of superiority." But men have always found singular difficulty in identifying the reflection of their own moral lineaments.

A fire occurred in Shanghai on the 12th instant, at the junction of the Fukien and Sunkiang Roads. About eighty houses were destroyed. They were in Chinese occupation, belonged to Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co., and Messrs. Cushman and Smith, and were insured in the Sun and Royal. The fire was caused by the carelessness of an itinerant cook.

The successful negotiation of the Hooley-Jameson loan is said to have improved Li Hung-chang's position in the eyes of the Emperor of China, and his partial restoration to imperial favour is not unlikely.

Some alarm was caused in Chêngtu in the middle of September, by the display of a huge red flag on the city wall, exhorting the people to rise up, drive out the foreigners and save the country. Happening on the eve of the triennial examination, when the population of

the city would receive an access of forty or fifty thousand people, the incident was disquieting. Nothing came of it, however. On the contrary, everything passed off with exceptional smoothness at the examination, and the missionaries, indirectly aided by the officials, distributed 35,000 gospels and tracts among the students.

It is stated that the Chinese Government has decided to organize two *corps d'armée*, of 35,000 men each, the men to be picked from the various Banner corps at Peking and elsewhere. The *Ad Astra* Brigade at Woonung, which has been under German instruction, is to be taken as a model, and foreign teachers of tactics will be employed. These corps are to be distinct from the Peking Field Force (*Shengchi Ying*), which is also supposed to be drilled after foreign methods.

Detailed information as to the loss of the Douglas Line S.S. *Namoa* shows that she left Amoy on October 2nd bound for Foochow, and, shortly after passing the Haitan Straits, struck an unsurveyed rock. It was considered necessary to beach her, but in that endeavour she was caught among rocks about half a mile from the shore, where the sea made a clean breach over her. The boats were lowered, and the crew and passengers made for the land, but one boat capsized, and the occupants were drowned, some other lives also being lost owing to heavy seas washing people out of the boats. The casualties are estimated at twenty. It appears to be the regular habit of the Chinese to rob foreign vessels under such circumstances. The sea was too rough to permit much plundering in the case of the *Namoa* before the British Vice-Consul from Foochow arrived upon the scene in a Chinese gun-boat, but the mail bags had been broken open, and many of the letters were found in the possession of the villagers.

We learn from a letter addressed by Messrs. Ford, Ruthven & Co. of Sydney to the *Hongkong Daily Press* that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have promised to equip their Australian boats with refrigerators for carrying meat.

JAPAN'S NEW SHIPS OF WAR.

We have referred in our notes from Japanese papers to the names given by the Minister of State for the Navy to several of the ships now in course of construction for the Japanese Navy. Combining that information with facts recently published, we are in a position to compile the following list:—

Line-of-battle Ships.			
Name.	Tonnage.	Place of Building.	Date of expected completion.
1.— <i>Yashima</i>	12,140.	Lord Armstrong & Co.	Finished and in route for Japan.
2.— <i>Fuji</i>	9,800.	Thames Ironworks	do.
3.— <i>Shikishima</i>	12,140.	Lord Armstrong & Co.	Oct. 1899.
4.— <i>Aishima</i>	12,140.	Clyde Shipbuilding Yard.	Oct. 1899.
First-class Cruisers.			
1.— <i>Yakumo</i>	9,800.	Germany, Stettin	April 1900.
2.— <i>Asama</i>	9,800.	France	April 1900.
3.— <i>Yama</i>	9,800.	Lord Armstrong & Co.	July 1898.
4.— <i>Fubuki</i>	9,800.	Lord Armstrong & Co.	Sept. 1898.
Second-class Cruisers.			
1.— <i>Takasago</i>	4,850.	Lord Armstrong & Co.	Feb. 1900.
2.— <i>Kasagi</i>	4,850.	Philadelphia Ironworks	Dec. 1900.
3.— <i>Chikaze</i>	4,850.	San Francisco Ironworks	Dec. 1900.
Torpedo Gunboat.			
1.— <i>Chikaze</i>	1,300.	Yokosuka	—

It appears that the date of completion of all the vessels now building in England for Japan, has been deferred by two or three months owing to the strike of the engineers. One fact brought out very clearly by the above list is the rapidity of ship-building in England compared with any other country.

Although found as long ago as 1829, gold was not exported from Western Australia till the year 1886, when the precious metal to the value of £1,147 was discovered. In 1890, the output had grown to £16,664, and in 1893, to £421,385. In 1896, the yield amounted in value to over a million sterling, and Sir James Forrest anticipates that, at the close of the present year, the output will have exceeded £2,000,000.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

M. Patenôtre, some years ago Minister for France at Peking, was recently appointed to Madrid.

A cargo boat named the *Hiyoshi Maru*, owned by Mr. Ikeda, of Kuaki-gun, with 140 iron rails on board, capsized yesterday and sunk in the Creek near Horai Bridge, owing to a rapid current and overloading.

The British barque *Battle Abbey*, from New York to Anjer for orders, arrived at Anjer on the 17th September under command of the mate, the captain having died on the voyage. The vessel has been ordered to Batavia.

Captain C. Christensen, of the German steamer *Rio*, which arrived at Hongkong from the Straits, on Oct. 9th reports that the Norwegian barque *Alida* struck a sunken rock, drawing 19½ ft., in lat 0°55 N., and long. 107°43 E.

There is excitement in the Straw-braid Manufacturers' Guild, says the *Hyogo News*. Two local foreign firms are supposed to have entered into contracts with a non-Guild maker, and this is held to be in contravention of some body or other's agreement.

A Kobe morning contemporary announces that penal servitude for life is the sentence passed upon the notorious "Oni Sada," more properly Yoshihara Katsuzo, for the murder of a coolie in Jack Young's Office some months ago. Judgment was passed in the Kobe District Court on the 16th.

At a farewell dinner given to Prince Ranjitsinji, the cricketer, at Cambridge on Sept. 23rd, he said he was proud that his uncle was fighting for the Queen on the Indian Frontier, and he could assure his hearers that if they knew the feelings of the Indian troops and especially of the Rajputs, they need never fear a foreign foe.

The British community at Sourabaya intend to present that city with a clock in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee. The funds required have been raised and an order for the clock has been cab'd, says the *Sourabaya Courant*. The clock will be set up in the city gardens at a conspicuous spot, and will bear a suitable inscription.

The sudden unexpected ignition of some prepared chemicals at the Tokwa-kan Match factory, Kano-cho, Kobe, on Monday afternoon, led to an enormous blaze, we hear. It began at 3.50 p.m. and lasted till 7 in the evening, by which time the flames had swept through to Takimachi on the east and nearly to the station on the south. The damage is estimated at yen 13,000, none of which is covered by insurance.

On Saturday evening, a farewell dinner was given at the Grand Hotel to Mr. A. W. Payne, Jr., late of Messrs. Frazar & Co., Yokohama. Mr. Payne leaves for America on the *Coptic* on the 21st after a long and successful career in Japan. Those present included:—Messrs. E. W. Frazar, W. A. Crane, A. F. Cahusac, W. B. Curtis, Capt. Wm. H. Crawford, Messrs. H. K. A. Onderdonk, and Wm. H. Crawford, Jr.

"How is it done?" women ask when at a sale they buy a skirt or blouse for eighteenpence which they could not make themselves for half-a-crown. "How is it done?" A widow in a London police-court the other day explained that her business was the making of sunshades for a well-known firm. She had to find her own thread, and received one halfpenny per sunshade. That's how it's done, says the *Globe*.

We learn from the New York *Observer* that something in the nature of a religious parliament is proposed as a feature of the great world's exposition to be held in Paris in 1900. The objects to be obtained by it were recently set forth by M. l'Abbé Victor Charbonnel in a lecture given in Edinburgh, Scotland. These were stated to be:—1. To affirm the educational value and social power of religion for the

realization of the human ideal. 2. To proclaim religious liberty, that the conscience of every man is entitled to tolerance and respect, and to protest against all fanaticism of race or religion. 3. To seek, in default of doctrinal unity, the fraternal union of all men only as being religious, and to raise above the differences of sects the principles in which they are all united."

Dr. Herbert Giles, of Aberdeen, who was for a quarter of a century in the Chinese Consular service and is the author of a number of important Chinese books, has accepted the Professorship of Chinese at Cambridge University left vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Wade. He commences his duties in November. Dr. Giles retired from the Consular service in 1893, his last appointment being that of Consul at Ningpo.

A rather sharp earthquake shock was felt in Yokohama at 1 minute to 3 p.m. on Wednesday. In H.B.M.'s Court room, where the hearing of the *Melpomene-Patroclus* collision case was going on, the shock was sufficiently severe to bring Mr. Lowder to a temporary standstill in his address and gave him the opportunity to repeat a remark once before made in that Court—*Fiat justitia, ruat cælum*. One of the walls of the room cracked slightly, and the 1887 Jubilee picture of H.M. Queen Victoria looked as if it were coming down from the wall.

The *Journal of Education* is a serious magazine, but in a recent number the editorial mind unbent a little and reclothed a classic nursery rhyme in a most demure Latin frock. Here is the result:—

There was a young lady of Riga,
Who went for a ride on a tiger;
They came back from that ride
With the lady inside,
And a smile on the face of the tiger.

Addit se comitem tigridi lasciva puella,
Ridet et exultum tergo re veta feræ
Non eadem reditus species; sedet illa sub imis
Visceribus, monstri risus in ore sedet.

The *Courrier d'Haiphong* of the 21st Aug., tells how two soldiers—a Belgian and a Dutchman—deserted from the Dutch service in Borneo, last July, and put to sea in a boat belonging to one of their officers. They meant to reach Singapore in the hope of finding employment. But being without chart or compass, they lost their way, and drifted about until the current brought their craft to Pulo Condore, off the coast of Cochin China. One of them was barely 21 and the other 22½ years of age. The French residents at Pulo Condore received kindly these two unfortunates, whom privation had reduced to living skeletons. They were taken to the hospital and carefully brought round again. On recovery, they were looked after by the naval authorities, until an opportunity offered for their enlistment into the Foreign Legion.

A Chicago paper says "that a young Japanese woman aspires to the honour of being the first of her country people to brave the terrors of a winter in Alaska in search of gold. The young woman is Miss Takahashi, known to magazine readers under the *nom de plume* of 'Onoto Watanna.' Like the rest of the people of her country she is energetic, and takes an interest in all new things, especially in the advancement of her sex. She has identified herself with the Woman's Alaska Gold club, and proposes to be one of those who will leave in the spring for the gold fields with Miss Florence King, the head of the organization. Miss Takahashi is enthusiastic on the subject of woman's opportunities in the frozen north and gives it as her opinion that the percentage of those of her sex who start and turn back will not be as great as among the men. In appearance Miss Takahashi is small, she dresses modestly, and is an incessant talker."

It is rumoured that the Auckland law courts are likely to be engaged shortly with a more than usually interesting case. The story goes that a patient was in such a condition that it required human skin to be grafted on wounds

in order to cause them to heal. One or two kind-hearted people volunteered to give portions of their cuticle for this laudable object, and their offers were accepted. Among these martyrs was a young woman, who was greatly dismayed to find when she recovered from the effects of the chloroform that something like 50 inches had been transferred from various parts of her body to the patient. Her friends were also very angry, and their irritation increased when it was found that as a result of being flayed the young woman had in turn to become a patient, and as a matter of fact was laid up for over a fortnight, and has not been quite well since. An action for damages in the New Zealand Supreme Court is said to be now pending.

The *Lokal Anzeiger* learns from Copenhagen that Prince Charles of Denmark, at last yielding to the wishes of his wife, Princess Maud of Wales, has decided to enter the British Navy and to live in England.

The *Straits Times* derives the word "broker" from the Anglo-Saxon word "broc;" and then makes an attempt at a bad pun by remarking that it looks, at present, as if Far Eastern brokers will soon be "stony broke."

Information has been received by Mr. J. Kernan that his schooner the *Golden Fleece*, which was erroneously reported lost, has arrived all well at Miyako—between Sendai and Hakodate—where the schooner put in for some supplies.

A telegram that appears in the *Hiogo News* says that a stabbing affray occurred on the ship *Port Caledonia* in Nagasaki harbour on the morning of the 19th inst., knives being used by two of the crew. One man was badly cut being almost disembowelled, and is not expected to recover. The *Port Caledonia* arrived at Nagasaki on the 18th instant, having left Barry on June 4th.

Dredging for gold in Otago river, remarks a New Zealand paper, has made rapid strides during the past few years. Nearly every dredger at work is more than paying expenses; while the returns from several are very handsome, permitting of the payment of good dividends. Considerable excitement has been caused lately by the rich returns secured by the Electric No. 2, which obtained 600 oz. of gold in one week within a stonethrow of Cromwell, the site of the earliest dredging on the Kawarau River.

By the death of M. Pulszky at Budapest an eventful career is closed. The famous Hungarian archaeologist and publicist, who was 83 years of age, was the intimate friend and colleague of Kossuth, and took a leading part in the revolution, for which he was condemned to death. Like other notable Hungarians, he was pardoned, and afterwards devoted his energies to promoting art and science. During his career he held various important public positions, and was twice elected member of the Reichstag.

It is hoped that the Mandalay-Kunlon Railway will be completed in 1899. Recent explorations have shown that, providing the Chinese Government is agreeable, no insuperable difficulties lie in the way of extending it to Talifu and adjoining towns. The distance between Kunlon and Talifu is 280 miles. The most formidable obstacle is the Mekong, which is some two or three miles across, and the Gorge is about 2,000 ft. The Mandalay-Kunlon line will, no doubt, in the next century, be extended to China.

We greatly regret, says the *Nagasaki Express* of Oct. 15th, to have to announce the death of Mr. Arthur Norman, news of which has just been received by telegram from Hongkong. Mr. Norman originally came out to this country about twenty years ago as printer to the *Rising Sun* newspaper, which had then just been started. Some time afterwards, the *Rising Sun* and the *Nagasaki Express* were acquired by Mr. Sutton, and the two papers

were combined, Mr. Norman being made the manager of the business. Mr. Norman held this position until Mr. Sutton's death about six years ago. During this time the stationery was added to that of printing and publishing. When Mr. Sutton died, Mr. Norman acquired the business and the property by purchase from the administrator of Mr. Sutton's estate, and Mr. Norman continued to take charge of the business until his sad illness in the latter part of last year, the particulars of which will be fresh in the memory of our readers. Mr. Norman had a wide circle of friends in Nagasaki, and his loss will be much regretted.

Powerful electro-magnets with pointed poles are now employed in the United States for extracting iron sparks and splinters from the eye or flesh. The eye of the patient is brought close to the point of a pole, and the magnet, suddenly excited by an electric current, pulls out the intruders. As long ago as 1646, Rildanus employed magnets for this purpose (see his "Opera Observationum et Curationum"). Even when the iron has passed through the sclerotic and is lodged in the retina or the chamber behind it, the magnet enables a surgeon to localise it better ere proceeding to an operation.

Mr. John Clayton, some years ago, took twelve haricot plants of like age and habit: six were exposed to daylight and six kept in darkness. The lighted plants yielded a harvest of beans thrice greater than the unlighted. Some of the beans were sown next year, and those from the darkened plants produced a crop only half as good as those from the lighted plants. Moreover, after four seasons of this experiment in darkening, the offspring of the darkened plants in the third generation flowered indeed, but gave no fruit. The race was extinct.

The following is the programme of a charity concert to be given at the Yokohama Town Hall (Machigaisho), for the benefit of the Jizenkwaï and Charity Hospital, on Saturday, beginning at 5 p.m.:—1. Music, Yokohama Band; 2. Address, Mrs. Inagaki; 3. Japanese Music, Oide, Mikami, Mochida, Tomita, Ando, Nishimura; 4. Japanese Story, Kanda Teisui; 5. Teodori, Japanese children; 6. Address, Yamaoka Hatanoshin; 7. Japanese Music; 8. Address, K. Shiono; 9. Japanese Song, Ichio, Ippo, Tsurusawa Bunkyo; 10. Violin; 11. Teodori, Japanese children; 12. Japanese Song; 13. Violin; 14. Chinese Music, Chinamen. The programme, beginning at 5 p.m., will continue until between 9 and 10 p.m. Any person purchasing a ticket is entitled to stay from first to last, but may leave whenever they choose. The entertainment, being thoroughly Japanese, furnishes a fine opportunity to any person who desires to become acquainted with a Japanese entertainment, besides helping a worthy charity. Tickets can be obtained at Messrs. Moutrie & Co., Main Street.

To have a thief as neighbour in a railway carriage is bad enough, says the *Hiogo News*, but to be subsequently mistaken for the thief is a great deal worse. This was the experience of one of the Kobe cricketers during his return by train from Yokohama. A respectable-looking foreigner entered the carriage near Nagoya and seated himself between two sleeping Japanese. He remained only a short time, and left again apparently in answer to a signal from a Japanese who appeared at the window during the train's stay at a small station. In the morning the sleepers found, one that his Gladstone bag had been ripped open and the other that a valuable *netsuké* had been abstracted from his girdle. At Kyoto information was given and a zealous policeman began questioning the Kobe cricketer in a manner evidencing his very hasty and unfounded suspicions, while a crowd quickly assembled outside. When this was explained to the other passengers they treated it as a good joke, but it might have been otherwise. The gentleman wanted will probably be found ere long.

The *Hiogo News*, reporting the wedding of Mr. Charles Thwaites and Miss Letitia Jane

Cabeldu on Monday, says:—The first ceremony was at the British Consulate, where Mr. Consul Hall conducted the civil contract at half-past two. Proceeding then directly to the Union Church, the service was taken by the Rev. H. J. Foss, M.A., he being an old friend of the bride's family. The altar and altar-rails had been decorated for the occasion by members of the Church Guild. Mrs. Lightfoot presided at the organ and received the bridal party with a brilliant wedding march. The happy bridegroom was attended by Mr. F. W. Grimbale as "best man;" the Misses E. Cabeldu and Pease acted as bridesmaids. The bride was given away by her father, Mr. P. S. Cabeldu. Among many presents received from friends in Kobe, Yokohama, and Shanghai two may be especially mentioned—a clock from the Committee of the K.R. & A.C., and a gold-watch from the Members of the Lodge Hiogo and Osaka, Mr. Thwaites being at this time Treasurer of the former and R.W.M. of the latter. Our congratulations and good wishes go with the newly married couple. They left Kobe by the 5 p.m. train for Kyoto, en route for Yokohama and Miyanosita.

Subways for London streets, says the *Engineer*, is likely to become a rallying-cry in municipal affairs at no future date, since it seems quite unlikely that the numerous subterranean railways for London, now either authorised or actually under construction, will do much to relieve the pressure of traffic in the main thoroughfares. It is interesting, therefore, to note that the long talked-of scheme for a subway between the Middle Temple and the Royal Courts of Justice, apparently doomed to be indefinitely pigeon-holed, is being revived. When the City and West End Railway Bill was before Parliament last summer, a clause was inserted by which the company undertook to construct this subway, as a consideration for the wayleave to be granted to them to drive their own tunnels under the Strand. When the Bill was thrown out—although it will doubtless be reintroduced next session—the subway, of course, was also dropped. The Benchers of the Temple have now taken up the scheme, and power has been granted by the Strand District Board of Works, with the proviso that the subway when constructed shall be always open to the general public during the hours of legal business at the courts.

ENGLISH CYCLING NOTES.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Since writing my last letter, the race of the season, so far as London is concerned, has taken place, and new world's records from 33 to 100 miles have been created. I am referring to the Catford Gold Vase Race, which, though of 12 hours duration, is run in three sections, the first being of 6 hours, and the last two of 3 hours respectively. The Gold Vase itself is valued at 130 guineas, and must be won three times, not necessarily consecutively, before it becomes the actual property of the winner. J. W. Stocks had only to repeat his performance of the last 2 years to become the proud possessor of this valuable trophy. On Saturday, August 28th, the first 6 hours of this race was run off at the Catford Cycling Track, and a large crowd of spectators witnessed the struggle between J. W. Stocks, A. A. Chase and A. E. Walters, who were the only starters; Teddy Rale, who holds the world's record for 6 days, and J. Lumsden being the absentees. The first hour of the race was very fast, and Stocks' race gave every one who witnessed his riding the impression that he would have no difficulty in making the Vase his own property. But soon after the completion of what might be termed Stocks' distance, viz. the hour, or 30 miles, he was observed to be labouring somewhat and having a bad time. Now, when Stocks has a bad time it generally lasts 2 or 3 hours, which was the case on this occasion; during this time Chase had been forced to retire, the great speed at which Stocks had travelled in the first part of the race fairly breaking this rider up; but,

Walters, who had been going very steadily, had passed J. W. Stocks, and was leading by about 5 laps. Entering the last hour, Stocks had so much improved as to be able in half an hour to regain a lap, and then, carefully nursing himself behind Walters, he was able, by one of those spurts he is so well known by, to regain another 200 yards in the last 5 minutes. During the ride he put up fresh world's records from 33 to 55 miles, and A. E. Walters, British records from 35 to 102 miles.

The second day's racing was more interesting still, and the large crowd surrounding the track fully expected to see J. W. Stocks retrieve his lost distance, and put himself in such a position that he would be sure of winning the Vase, but it soon became apparent that he was not riding in his best form, and though leading up to the 24th mile, he was then passed by Walters, who, having gained the lead, kept it right up to the finish. This was a surprise to the spectators, but not so great as the marvellous riding of Walters, now an old hand on the track. From the 33rd mile he was well within world's records, and at the close of the 3rd hour he was going so strong that he decided to stay on the track till he had completed the 100 miles, which he did in the splendid time of 3 hours, 25 mins., 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ th secs. He had now nearly 5 miles the lead of Stocks on the 2 days, or 9 hours riding.

The 3rd and last section of this race started in heavy rain and strong winds, yet in spite of the elements three or four thousand people assembled to watch two of England's best riders complete the final 3 hours. Miserable and dreary was the aspect in all directions, and J. W. Stocks, seeing that he had no chance of overtaking Walters, retired before the completion of the 1st hour. Walters journeyed on, solitary, round the track till he had been riding about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours, when he received permission to retire, and was declared winner of the race, having in the 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours covered a distance of 311 miles, 1,094 yards.

Various cycle parades have been held during the past season in aid of local institutions, and in nearly every case the collections have proved very satisfactory. On Sunday, August 29th the Cyclists of Kent held their annual Church Parade at Folkestone, when the Rector of St. Michaels, the Rev. E. Husband, gave an interesting address, the Mayor of the town attending in state. The reverend gentleman, who is an ardent cyclist, during his address stated that he considered a bicycle was the best doctor a man could secure. Another parade, not quite of the same character, was recently held in Nottingham: it was a Vegetable Cycle Parade. The cyclist taking part in it were decorated, as well as their machines, with various vegetables. It was a peculiar sight to see the machines passing through the principal streets of Nottingham gaily decorated with cabbages, onions, marrows, and other products of the vegetable world. A strange spectacle, no doubt, but it answered the purpose for which it was originated, and a good collection in aid of the Children's Hospital was made.

Another event which caused a certain amount of interest in London was the 40 miles Scratch Race for the Roberts Shield, which forms the Championship of the South of England. The Roberts Shield is the trophy of the Southern Roads Riding Association, and is ridden for every year by one representative of each club affiliated to the Association. The Anerley Bicycle Club has held this Challenge Shield for the last 3 years, but this year, A. W. Turner, of the Brighton Wanderers, succeeded in beating their representative, F. R. Dixon, W. Ellis, the rider who the club had originally nominated to represent them, having sustained a serious accident while training for this event at the Herne Hill Track. A sealed handicap was run in conjunction with this race, F. G. Growley, who secured 2nd position in the scratch race, being the winner. A very fair attendance witnessed this meeting, which was

run off at the Crystal Palace track, Sydenham, on August 28th.

I was surprised to hear of one of our old amateurs, E. H. Ainsworth, joining the ranks of the Professionals the day before he left England for Australia. He is travelling with J. J. Platt-Betts per P. & O. *China*. C. F. Barden and T. J. Gascoyne will shortly be following.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RESCUE CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—So many of your readers have expressed to me privately their interest in the sad case of the woman sold into shame whose rescue was to be attempted, that I beg to report through your columns the result of the endeavor. It gives me great pleasure to say that the effort was entirely successful. It was handled so wisely by the person entrusted with the delicate commission that no antagonisms were aroused and the young woman herself was safely removed to another city and placed amid helpful, sympathetic surroundings. She now has a good home with steady employment and will easily support herself. She is so delighted to be freed from her loathsome bondage and so anxious to prove herself worthy of the great help given her that there is strong reason for expecting the best results that could be desired.

One decidedly interesting feature of the case was that the proprietor of the establishment into which she had been sold, on learning that she was being bought out by strangers as a work of pure benevolence, actually made a contribution himself to "the excellent undertaking."

The total expense of the whole effort, including a few cheap clothes for the freed woman, was \$80. Of this amount \$56 has already been raised. As the balance of the loan must be shortly returned there is still opportunity for any of your readers who may desire a practical share in this life-saving work, to "lend a hand." Not often do we have the chance to accomplish so much in what vitally affects the whole life of an individual at so slight an outlay of time and money, as in the present case. This strong, happy, hopeful young woman, eighteen years of age, who feels that she is out from the jaws of hell and is already entering paradise, is her own sufficient appeal. She thanks her unknown benefactors and promises with God's help to prove worthy of the salvation He and they have wrought for her.

J. H. PETTEE.

Okayama, 14th October, 1897.

THE FUJIN JIZENKAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Hearing that it is being said that our hospital at Negishi is closed, we beg to state through your columns that it is not closed, nor is there the slightest intention of closing.

The report must have arisen from the fact that, since the 1st of October, we have been without a house physician, and have, during that time, done only dispensary work; as soon, however, as a competent physician can be secured, patients will be admitted as usual.

During the quarter ending in September, 356 persons received assistance as out-patients, and 23 were admitted into the hospital.

The number treated is limited only by financial considerations, it being contrary to our policy to go into debt. The regular annual entertainment for raising funds for this benevolence will be held next Saturday, 23rd, after which a fuller report will be given.

Very truly yours,

THE FUJIN JIZENKAI.

Yokohama, Oct. 18th, 1897.

FRIEND DOOMAN TO THE RESCUE OF ROMAN CATHOLICISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—It is not at all surprising to me that a true, though somewhat wayward, daughter of Mother Rome, should come to the rescue of the sinking craft. Mr. Dooman, in his letter in the *Weekly Mail* of the 16th, has indirectly claimed one point,—the only point really worthy of notice, viz., that the Episcopal denomination is not Protestant. It is a very rare thing that you ever hear an Episcopalian radically criticise the Hierarchy. This is all that really needs to be said in reply to

friend Dooman's dissertation. For the only attempt he makes at reply to my tract is that he has been fortunate not to read it, and that I can't show a case where the Hierarchy ever incited subjects to rebel against the state,—the very thing I have shown in my tract. I would send friend Dooman a copy for his own special benefit if I thought the reading of it would not inflict a misfortune upon him. But a philosopher and erudite investigator of truth who plunges into criticising that whereof he has not read ought to have lived in the age of King John and the early childhood of the Royal Society of England.

It is only two years since I had a discussion with a Roman priest on one of the very points now claimed by friend Dooman for the Hierarchy, namely, that Christian civilization is indebted to the Papacy for its existence. This set me to studying this question. I take it that he means, solely indebted to the Papacy. This is not at all true in a positive sense; and is only partially true in a negative sense. If Mr. Dooman would acquaint himself a little better with the history of Romanism from an impartial and philosophic standpoint, he will find that the Papacy was continually putting a padlock on the lips of learning. She has not ceased to do this to this very day. Surely Mr. Dooman finds no excuse for not knowing these facts when they lie open before him in the pages of Papal decrees. And this fiction, that we are indebted to the Papacy for our Bible is groundless in any positive sense. The Bible exclusively in the hands of the Papacy has been perverted to a death and damnation to every man who would not bend to the interpretations of the Mother of harlots. And is this the considerate, the humane, the with all, Scriptural institution which Mr. Dooman proposes to defend?

Pray tell us, Mr. Dooman, what are the "well-earned rights" for the existence of which the Hierarchy must struggle against the State? Is it the right to destroy the common schools, and in their place put Papal schools? Is this one right? Is another the right to disfranchise a Protestant, as is done in Ecuador? And when you ask, "Is the Roman Church blameable because she is solicitous that civil laws and civil powers should be based upon the fundamental principles of Christianity?" do you not know that the Roman Church is not solicitous at all about such a matter. Her solicitation is that the laws and institutions of the State shall be patterned after the *Hierarchy*, the "true church" as the Pope writes it. And does not Mr. Dooman know that the fundamental principles of Christianity and those of the Hierarchy are very different? And where would your own religious freedom be, friend Dooman, if your lot were cast in some of the South American Roman republics?

Again, is Mr. Dooman really serious when he challenges Dr. Christlieb and myself to show a case where the Papacy has ever incited rebellion against the state? What is absolving subjects from their allegiance to the king but inciting rebellion? And what is the bloody war which followed? Mr. Dooman does not need to have read the Correspondence in the *Mail*, to say nothing of the tract. And when he says that Papacy has never arrayed herself with "the classes against the masses," he slips again. Guizot, who wrote the history of civilization in which due credit is given to the Papacy for the part she played in advancement, makes such a statement.

It is hardly fair, it is hardly true, for Mr. Dooman to step aside to say that Protestantism is working for the aristocratic classes while Rome is ministering to the poor and ignorant. If such were the case, quite a different reason and motive could be assigned to Rome's zeal for the ignorant. Such a comparison is fatal to Mr. Dooman's argument. Congenial soil is necessary to existence.

It is really not far from Canterbury to the Vatican; and in truth the two ought to unite. The contest would be simplified. But for what reason Mr. Dooman should step in to protest against what he very charitably calls "this insensate and disgraceful attack on the Roman Church" (pretty strong words, these) can be discovered by no other means than by the supposition that he is sailing on to Jerusalem in the same kind of a craft. The time to check the growth of evil weeds is when they make their appearance, not when they are full grown, and have sunk their roots deep in the soil. The day will come when Japan will have to meet the hydra-headed dragon of the Papacy, one or two orders of which have been forbidden in nearly every civilized nation of the West. Japan will never banish Christianity from her shores; nor probably religious sects. They could do well without the latter, however. Her leading men have reached a state of deliberate judgment which qualifies them to discriminate. It is a truth evident to my mind, however,

that if Romanism even gained the ascendancy in this country, Mr. Dooman along with the rest of us would have to sail. If this question is not investigated now, it will be when its solution will have become ten-fold more difficult.

The principles which underlie the Hierarchy are contrary to both nature and Revelation, and hence contrary to civil authority, which is according to both nature and Revelation. There has constantly been a struggle in the minds of many Papists to reconcile this conflict. It has never been done. And I would like to see a stronger defence of Romanism than has appeared so far in this discussion. If Mr. Dooman is the man to give us this pleasure, we shall with all courtesy wait upon him.

Very truly,
Kanazawa, Oct. 18th, 1897.

E. SNODGRASS.

NEGLECTED SOMETHING OR SAID SOMETHING: WHICH?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is really difficult to know what I am expected to meet; one day it is because I have said something; the next day it is because I "refuse to take part" in a Fourth of July celebration; and the next thing I hear is that "as a matter of fact the United States Legation did not take any notice whatever of Mr. McCaleb's expression of views about the celebration of Independence Day," but it is because he has neglected to take out a United States passport that has given rise to the trouble.

The accusation that I absented myself from such meeting needs no serious notice. Others invited and living nearer than I did the same but have their passports. If it be on the ground of what I have said in the card, then it follows that one cannot quote the scriptures and be a United States citizen. The "context" of the card was that I opposed war and worldliness. Whether the scriptures given will bear out this idea, a fuller quotation will show: "My Kingdom is not of this world; if my Kingdom were of this world then would my servants fight." "For many walk of whom I told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies to the cross of Christ: whose end is perdition, whose god is the belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things." For our citizenship is in heaven. Nothing is plainer than that these scriptures condemn following after the flesh, and carnal warfare. That this has been the point of my contention from the first every one at all acquainted with the facts knows. But the Editor releases me from this accusation any way since now he says, "As a matter of fact, the United States Legation did not take any notice whatever of Mr. McCaleb's expression of views about the celebration of Independence Day," but it is because he neglected to take out a United States passport. I am not surprised at the Editor's informant wanting to abandon the original ground of his accusation, since in addition to its having become quite ridiculous on the very face of it, the Minister is placed in the attitude of exercising a censorship over my religious utterances. But that the Editor has been misinformed let the reader note the following:—

"July 9th, 1897. Mr. McCaleb, No. 12, Tsukiji, Tokyo.—Dear Sir.—Referring to your favor of the 9th instant I am requested by Minister Buck to reply that he had been given to understand that you had recently, in a public manner and over your own signature, practically renounced your citizenship in and allegiance to the United States.

R. S. MILLER, Interpreter."

If further comment were at all necessary on this point I would add that in conversation with Mr. Miller he suggested that he had thought as a possible means of settling the difficulty that I might just consider what I had stated in the card "unsaid." When I called on the Minister to know on what ground my citizenship was questioned, he at once turned to his desk, took up the identical card and read "Our citizenship is in heaven," saying that his interpretation of it was that if my citizenship was in heaven I did not claim any on earth. Up till this very recent "information" the burden of the whole accusation has been what I have said. Mr. Miller and Mr. Herod both gave as a reason for the special action against me that "Others have not said what you have."

The reason for cancelling my signature to the form referred to was not because I did not regard myself as a citizen of the United States; but the Minister insisted on leaving out two very important clauses that I wanted inserted, which afterwards gave rise to some doubt as to the document, and another very important reason was, "if the right of free birth and a peaceable law-abiding

life of thirty-five do not grant to me the privileges of a United States citizen, I feel that it is a mistake to seek such privileges by any formal statement to that effect at this late date, especially since such privileges have been granted me in Japan for the last five years without such statement. I can but feel that it is a reflection on my character." That this withdrawal of my name created doubt in the Minister's mind about my citizenship is mere higgling. I was offered the passport after all this occurred without signing any agreement whatever. I declined it on the ground that it was not a regular passport but was only issued for two months till news could be had from Washington. This seemed to be treating me more as a criminal than a citizen. I may add here that only this two months affair and no regular passport was ever granted me on the form eliminating the Oath. The passport will speak for itself. But as to any doubt about my citizenship, it was only a week or so ago that the Minister expressed himself to me in the presence of a third party that personally he had no doubt about it whatever. Why should he have? I have given him repeatedly just such evidence as has, without a single exception, been received from other citizens, which has been nothing more than a mere statement of the fact, and this often by proxy. I cannot be mistaken here since I have the written testimony of a number of citizens to this effect. That I have declined to take the Oath cuts no figure whatever till it first be shown that it was justly demanded. But that such is not the case and that the Editor is quite mistaken in saying, "We are correct, we believe, in saying that all persons receiving the protection of the American Legation in Japan or obtaining its endorsement for any purpose are provided with passports," will appear from the following correspondence which out of a number of other letters of the same import I have special permission to publish:—

"Oct. 6th 1897. J. M. McCaleb, 12 Tsukiji. Dear Sir,—Replying to your questions in your favor of yesterday I will say that on coming to Japan I did not obtain a passport from the United States Government, nor have I since coming to Japan been requested to do so. I am, yours faithfully,

Hear another citizen to the same effect:—

"Oct. 7, 1897" Dear Mr. McCaleb; I came to Japan 9 years ago when Mr. Hubbard was U. S. Minister. I took out no U. S. passport on coming to Japan; and have lived through the administrations of Ministers Hubbard, Swift, Dun, and had dealings with all of them, but have never been requested by any one to take out a U. S. passport. Moreover, I have never heard of the U. S. Minister being imposed upon by a national of another country attempting to pass himself off as a U. S. citizen. I am persuaded that the present Minister's course, if followed out will become odious to American residents who have been years in this land. There is absolutely no necessity for such a course. When such a necessity arises, it will be time enough to pursue such a course. The circumstances which have brought up this question are ridiculous and laughable to me. It is truly a 'tempest in a teapot!'

When the Editor asserted that I was the only citizen that had not taken out a U. S. passport, I wrote to the U. S. citizens miscellaneously selected. Nine have been heard from. Out of the nine six testify that they have no U. S. passports, never had nor been requested to have any. Every one of them have their Japanese.

It would appear from these letters that two-thirds of the U. S. citizens have no U. S. passports. Yet to make a showing of defence the Minister has betrayed the Editor into the mistake of saying that "other American citizen in Japan have complied with the necessary forms," and of making it appear that I am the only citizen that has not done so. I simply state the facts, others can draw their own conclusions.

Again the Editor is mistaken in saying I ask the Minister to violate the law in my behalf and that he "has absolutely no discretion in the matter," for the Minister stated to me, "I have some discretionary power." He and his predecessors have for years been in the habit of exercising this "discretionary power" in regard to all others without feeling they violate the law; I fail to see what makes it so peculiarly unlawful to extend the same power to me. I only ask for uniform treatment which no doubt would have been given had it not been that the Minister was inveigled into a blunder, which, for his oath's sake and the dignity of his position, he could not retract, by the ill-advice of an overwrought enthusiasm of a Fourth of July effusion.

Most respectfully,
12, Tsukiji Tokyo, Oct. 11th, 1898.

J. M. MCALEB.

IN H.B.M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

IN ADMIRALTY.

Before H. S. WILKINSON, Esq., Judge, sitting with ASSESSORS.

Tuesday, Oct. 19th, 1897.

THE "MELPOMENE"—"PATROCLUS" COLLISION.

In the above Court, composed of Mr. Justice Wilkinson, President, and Commander E. H. Grafton, R.N., H.M.S. *Redpole*, and R. Conradi, master of the S.S. *Oolong*, as nautical assessors, the owners of the Austrian Lloyd's steamship *Melpomene* continued the suit against the owners of the Ocean steamship *Patroclus* for \$30,000 alleged damage sustained by the former vessel through collision with the *Patroclus* in Yokohama harbour during the typhoon on the morning of the 9th September.

Mr. Lowder appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. Walford for defendants.

Mr. Lowder said the ground of the plaintiffs in the case was negligence on the part of defendants' ship and Mr. Walford submitted that there was negligence on the other side.

Mr. Lowder briefly opened the case for plaintiffs and read the pleadings and answer, which were as follow:—

PETITION.

In Her Britannic Majesty's Court for Japan. In Admiralty.

The 20th day of September, 1897.

Between: { The Master and Owners of the Austro-Hungarian Steamship *Melpomene*, Plaintiffs, and
The owners of the British steamship *Patroclus*, Dickens Master, Defendants.
To: HIRAM SHAW WILKINSON, Esq., Judge of the Court.

The petition of the above-named plaintiffs sheweth as follows:—

1.—The Plaintiffs are the Austrian Lloyds Steam Navigation Company.

2.—The Defendants are British Subjects and are not resident within the jurisdiction of this honorable Court.

3.—The *Melpomene* is a steamship of 1,954 register and is owned by the Austrian Lloyds Steam Navigation Company. At the time of the collision hereinafter referred to she was lying moored to a buoy in the harbour of Yokohama and with her starboard anchor down.

4.—At the approach of the equinox, serious atmospheric disturbances are not unusual, but rather to be looked for in the Japan seas; and on the 8th day of the present month there occurred in the harbour of Yokohama occasional showers of rain, with variable winds, which increased during the night to strong squalls accompanied with torrents of rain. At 2.30 a.m. on the 9th September, the weather had become so threatening that the Master, Officers and crew of the *Melpomene* were all on deck or at their stations in order to be ready for any emergency, and orders had been given to get up steam.

5.—From 2.30 a.m. the weather increased in violence; the barometer began to fall, and the wind, in great gusts, strengthened into a gale, until at 5 a.m. it was blowing with typhoon force, when the starboard anchor of the *Melpomene* was let go, and orders were given to get a hawser ready to bend on to the port anchor.

6.—At about 5.15 a.m. or 5.20 a.m., the weather not having moderated, the steamship *Patroclus* was observed approaching the *Kaiser* (which was lying at anchor ahead of the *Melpomene*) and when astern of the *Kaiser* she was brought suddenly up with her head to wind and broadside on to the port bow of the *Melpomene*. In this position, seeing that a collision was unavoidable by any manœuvre safely practicable by those on board the *Melpomene*, measures were taken to render its effect less disastrous to the *Melpomene* by putting fenders over her port bow, and preparing bales of cotton to be used as fenders. At or about 5.40 a.m. the starboard side of the *Patroclus* came into collision with the *Melpomene*, knocking two large holes in her port bow besides doing other damages.

7.—The *Patroclus* did not keep out of the way of the *Melpomene*, and those on board her neglected to take proper and reasonable measures to enable that vessel to ride out the storm with safety to herself and to other vessels in the harbour of Yokohama; she was moored to a buoy with only 5 fathoms of chain: and although the strain threatened to become, and eventually did become, greater than the holding power of her mooring, nevertheless the chain was not

eased or slackened and no other effective measures were taken to relieve the strain, by reason of which neglect the *Patroclus* dragged her moorings, and having no steam up came into collision with the *Melpomene*.

8.—The said collision, and the damages and losses consequent thereon, were caused by the neglect of ordinary precautions and measures on board the *Patroclus* and by some or all of the matters and things stated in paragraph 7 hereof, or otherwise by the neglect, default and mismanagement of those on board the *Patroclus* in not keeping clear of the *Melpomene* and in not avoiding the collision as they might and ought to have done by the exercise of ordinary reasonable and proper care and precaution. Nothing could have been done by those on board the *Melpomene* to avoid the collision, and no blame is attributable to her or to any one on board her for the collision.

9.—The plaintiffs have sustained loss and damage by the reason of the collision amounting to yen 30,000 for which the defendants are liable. The plaintiffs therefore pray:

1.—Judgement against the defendants, the owners of the *Patroclus*, for the damage and loss occasioned to the plaintiffs by reason of the collision and the condemnation of defendant therein and in costs.

2.—That a proper account of such damages and loss may be taken.

3.—That the plaintiffs may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require.

(Signed)

J. F. LOWDER,
Counsel for the Plaintiffs.

The Plaintiffs bring into Court the sum of yen 1,000 as security for the Defendants' costs.

ANSWER.

The answer of the above named Defendants to the Petition of the Plaintiffs sheweth as follows:—

1.—On the night of the 8th and the morning of the 9th September 1897 the steamship *Patroclus*, 3,548 tons register, with a carrying capacity of 8,000 tons, was lying moored to a buoy in the harbour of Yokohama with about five fathoms of chain from her bows to the buoy. At a short distance nearly north of the position of the *Patroclus* the German flagship *Kaiser* was lying moored to a buoy, and at a short distance eastward of the *Kaiser* the German warship *Irene* was lying at anchor. The steamship *Melpomene* was lying moored to a buoy nearly north of the position of the *Kaiser*.

The *Patroclus* was almost empty of cargo and was therefore very high out of the water.

2.—Until 2 a.m. on the morning of the 9th September there was nothing to indicate the approach of unusually bad weather, but at and from 2 p.m. the wind was fresh to strong from the South East and afterwards veered to the South and S.S.W. and the glass fell rapidly. At 4 a.m. it was blowing very hard and all necessary preparations were made on board the *Patroclus* for getting up steam as quickly as possible. From 4 a.m. until after the time of the collision hereinafter referred to, the officers and crew of the *Patroclus* were on duty and at their stations. At 5 a.m. the wind had increased to typhoon force and the starboard anchor of the *Patroclus* was let go. No chain was then or had been previously paid out from the *Patroclus* because she was so high out of the water and the position of the German vessels aforesaid (and especially of the *Kaiser*) in relation to the *Patroclus*, was such that to have paid out chain would have greatly increased the danger of collision and must have resulted in far more serious consequences if any collision had occurred.

4.—At about 5 a.m. the *Patroclus* was struck by a terrific squall which caused her to drag her moorings, and although ample chain was paid out to the starboard anchor, both that and the buoy moorings were dragged until the *Patroclus* was brought up astern of the *Kaiser* heading nearly West and afterwards in swinging round with her head coming to the wind she came into collision with the *Melpomene*, those on board the *Patroclus* having first put fenders over her starboard side to ease the shock of the collision.

5.—The dragging of the moorings and anchor as aforesaid happened without any neglect or default or mismanagement of any person or persons on board the *Patroclus* and was the result of inevitable accident.

6.—Those on board the *Melpomene* improperly neglected to keep a good look out.

7.—Before and during the time when the *Patroclus* was dragging as aforesaid the port anchor of the *Melpomene* was hanging in the bridle and on the tackles and although from the time when the *Patroclus* commenced to drag she was continuously approaching the *Melpo-*

mene and threatening a collision, those on board the *Melpomene* improperly neglected to remove the said anchor from that position.

8.—When the *Patroclus* was brought up as aforesaid those on board the *Melpomene* improperly neglected to pay out chain to the buoy to which the *Melpomene* was attached.

9.—Before the collision and when the *Patroclus* was swinging towards the *Melpomene* those on board the *Patroclus* shouted and signalled to those aboard the *Melpomene* who improperly neglected to do both these things.

10.—The said collision and the damages consequent thereon would have been avoided if those on board the *Melpomene* had exercised ordinary care and would not have occurred but for their aforesaid neglect and default in not paying out chain and in not removing their port anchor from its dangerous position, and the said collision and damages were not occasioned by any neglect or default or mismanagement of any person or persons on board the *Patroclus* and nothing could be done by them or any of them to avoid the said collision and damages.

Save as aforesaid the defendants do not admit any of the allegations of the Petition.

The defendants therefore pray that the plaintiffs' petition may be dismissed with costs.

AMBROSE B. WALFORD,
Counsel for the Defendants.

Mr. Lowder then called the following witnesses:—

Kita Nokichiro, Police Inspector of Kanagawa, examined by Mr. Lowder, deposed—My duties are in connection with the policing of the harbour—the Water Police of Yokohama. There are regulations in force regarding the entrance to and exit of ships from the harbour, and also with regard to the approach to the pier. There is a regulation disallowing ships to come within 600 feet of the pier unless they are going alongside; a ship may not anchor within five cables from the entrance of the harbour in a westerly direction. Apart from these regulations foreign vessels entering Yokohama anchor where they please. I know of no other regulations. The moorings of foreign vessels are not inspected by the police.

Patrick Hodnett, before being examined, stated that he was a licensed pilot for Tokyo, Yokohama, Shimoda, and other ports in the Gulf of Tokyo. He was here in obedience to a summons but knew nothing of the case.

To Mr. Lowder—I have been a licensed pilot for 20 years. The regulations say that you are not allowed to anchor a vessel within 5 cables west of each lighthouse in Yokohama harbour—to the northward and southward, yes. Apart from that there is no regulation with exception to anchoring near the pier. We anchor a vessel wherever we get a chance. I know the *China Sea Directory*. I believe it is an authority on the prevailing weather and the coasts. It is used by most shipmasters.

Mr. Lowder quoted from the work referred to as regards the indications of the weather. Mr. Walford entered a protest against evidence being put to witness as a leading question. The quotation referred to the premonitory symptoms of a typhoon.

Witness continuing—I would not call a typhoon in September an unusual occurrence.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford—It was about three years ago since a typhoon occurred in Yokohama before the one in Sept. last. There is great difficulty in finding a clear berth for a ship in the harbour so she can swing both ways. We always go to a buoy if we can get permission from the people they belong to. The P. & O. buoy is not used now by their ships as they go to the pier.

Re-examined—I remember taking the Russian flagship to the P. and O. buoy last year. She is a very large ship, and lay there six weeks. I did not bring in or moor the *Patroclus*.

To the Court—I was told by the Kencho to take up moorings at the buoys when in want of a good anchorage. Sometimes, as a matter of courtesy, we ask the owners of the buoys, but not always, if pressed for a berth. There is no notification published against using them. The P. and O. buoy is commonly used by other ships.

Jan Carst, examined by Mr. Lowder—I am a Dutch subject and a marine surveyor. I laid the mooring to which the *Patroclus* was made fast, on the 7th June, 1895. It has never been taken up since then. I took it up on the 17th September last; after the collision. The mooring consisted of an old navy anchor, one fluke of which was partially cut and hollowed down to the shank. There was no stock to the anchor. It weighed about 2½ tons. The other anchor was a Trotman's patent, about 2 tons. When I took this anchor up half of the stock was gone. It appeared to be a fresh break. There was a backing to the

anchor of 30 feet of 2½ inch chain, fastened to a crank shaft of estimated weight of about 4 tons. The anchors were attached to the buoy with shackles and a triangle, or ring, and 45 fathoms of 2½ inch chain to each anchor. (Witness then put in a sketch showing how the anchors were laid—north and south.)

At this stage an adjournment was made for tiffin.

Upon the hearing being resumed at 2 p.m. witness was cross-examined, to the effect that the moorings occupied by the *Patroclus* were utilised by many of the largest vessels in the harbour.

Re-examined—On the 9th ult. most of the buoys in the harbour dragged—two of the N.Y.K., the P.M., and the P. & O. buoy. The *Kaiser* was made fast to the P.M. buoy. There were the French Mail, P. & O., 2 Pacific Mail, C.P., and Shell line buoys, and five N.Y.K. buoys; 12 in all. I believe all the buoys dragged on the 9th ult. I know that the *Kaiser's* moorings had dragged, as the anchors were found altogether. The *Irene* also dragged her anchors; they were approximately about 3 tons each. With regard to the other vessels some of them dragged about 1,500 feet, the *Patroclus*, and some of the N.Y.K. boats, 600 or 700 feet.

Mr. Lowder then read the evidence for the plaintiffs taken on commission, which was as follows:—

Mr. Lowder proposed to examine the witnesses through Leopold Martinolich, a cousin of the Master.

Mr. Walford raised no objection to his being interpreter on condition that if he is to be a witness, he is to be called first and his consent was limited to that forenoon, to which Mr. Lowder consented and announced that he did not intend to call Mr. L. A. Martinolich as witness.

Leopold August Martinolich, was sworn to interpret truly.

Antonio August Martinolich, Austro-Hungarian subject, sworn, and examined through Leopold August Martinolich:—I am Master of the Austro-Hungarian steamer *Melpomene*. I have commanded the *Melpomene* two months and a half. I have been at sea 32 years. I have been in command of a steamship seven years. I have been in the China sea before this, but never in the Japan sea. The number of the crew of the *Melpomene* is 36, Captain included. Her registered tonnage is 1,954. The owners of the *Melpomene* are the Austrian Lloyds Steam Navigation Company. The *Melpomene* is now lying in the harbour of Yokohama. She arrived on the 1st September. She is not now lying in the same position she took up on the 1st September. She is not now lying in the same position she was in when the collision with the *Patroclus* took place. At the time of the collision with the *Patroclus* she was lying at the buoy of the Shell Line. I was directed to take up that position by the Kobe pilot with the stevedore. I have caused a diagram to be prepared of the position of the *Melpomene* at the time of the collision. So far as I am able to form an opinion that diagram is correct (diagram marked "C" to be further proved). At the time of the collision I was fast with a chain to the Shell Line buoy. Our starboard anchor was ready to let go. At the time of the collision it was let go. It was let go at 5 o'clock. The collision was at 5:35 to 5:40. My port anchor was ready to let go. It was on the port bow. It was fastened by a chain and fastened to the tackles too. It was not yet fast to the cable. The cable was attached to the buoy. There was a hawser ready to be fastened to the anchor. We took our time from the *Kaiser*, a German man-of-war. She was lying right ahead of us near by. The collision was on the morning of the 9th of the present month. The equinox is on the 20th to 21st Sept. All the day on the 8th Sept. there was rain, and variable winds from the second quadrant (from S. to E.). That commenced on the 8th. It was all day with heavy rain at intervals. The weather changed about from 1 to 2 on the morning of the 9th. Then came heavier rain, with gusts of wind from S.S.E. At 2 a.m. the weather was stronger. At 2:30 a.m. orders were given for all the crew to come up on deck and get steam up. The order to get up steam was given at 2:30 a.m. These orders were carried out. Under the circumstances the quickest we could get up steam was from four to four and a half hours. At the time of the collision we had not steam up. After 2:30 the weather was always stronger, with rain. I looked at the barometer at 2 a.m. It began to fall. I looked once myself and on other occasions the officers looked. Between 2:30 and 5 the weather became always stronger till at 5 o'clock it was a typhoon. At 5 o'clock we let go the starboard anchor. At the same moment the order was given to prepare the port anchor. At 5 o'clock the *Patroclus* was ahead of us, a little on the port side. The *Kaiser* was lying between those two vessels. The positions of the *Melpomene*, *Patroclus* and

Kaiser were as given on the diagram (Ex. C.) After 5 o'clock in the morning—at 5.15 to 5.20, I saw the *Patroclus* drifting broadside with her head W. N. W. She was nearing the *Kaiser*, she continued drifting and came nearer me. The position of the *Patroclus* as I have just described it is marked 1-a and 1-b. After passing astern of the *Kaiser* her head was seen coming to the wind and her anchors got foul of the anchors of the *Kaiser*. Her position then was, as regards the *Melpomene*, with her starboard side on the stem and port bow of the *Melpomene*. They came into collision in this position. The two vessels came into collision I think twice. The first shock and then once more. The first impact on my vessel was on the stem and on the bow, the port bow. The effect was a heavy blow and our ship rolled twice. On the port bow two frames were broken and the plate bent in. The impact was given more ahead of the anchor. This diagram (Ex. D.) show the bows of the *Melpomene* with the anchor. The black part shows the place of the first impact. They separated a slight distance and then came together again. I have marked the *Patroclus* on D, showing her position when she struck us. The *Patroclus* then came more alongside and our anchor got hold of the *Patroclus*'s railings. The original position of the anchor was altered. It was originally in a horizontal position. The *Patroclus* unhooked it and took it away. It was aboard of the *Patroclus*, and when he came again against the *Melpomene* it made the two holes. When they pushed it from the *Patroclus* the anchor fell down outside near the water between the *Melpomene* and *Patroclus*, hanging by the davit. In order that it might not do any more damage, we lowered it down to the water. From the time I saw the *Patroclus* astern of the *Kaiser* until the collision I cannot tell what time elapsed exactly, but I would say 5 or 7 minutes. The collision to me was inevitable 5 minutes before it happened, and therefore I wanted to let go the port anchor too, but I could not unhook it from the tackle, because of the wind, and we let go the line of the tackle. We let go this line a moment before she came alongside. Measures were taken on board the *Melpomene* to lessen the blow of the collision. I ordered fenders to be put out. That order was carried out. First I ordered the fenders to be put out and I let go myself the line of the tackle. Four fenders were put out. I have marked on exhibits D, their position. They are represented by the four lines I have drawn ahead of the anchor. Three were with cork inside and rope outside. We also directly prepared some bales of cotton to put out. They were prepared; afterwards they were put out. The whole of the deck crew were engaged in putting fenders over the side or in preparing other fenders. The officers of the ship were all with me on the fore-castle. I heard no shouting from the *Patroclus*, but I saw gesticulation. I heard nothing. I understood that they meant to slack chain. The depth of water ahead was 24 to 26 feet, and astern a moment after the collision we took the depth and found 23 or 24 feet. Our draft was 21 feet, 21½ feet ahead and 20½ feet astern. We did not give our ship chain because if I had let go the chain we would have grounded. If we had let go the chain the direction of our head would have been the same. I have caused the depth of the water from the stem of the *Melpomene* to the shore to be accurately taken. So far as I know the depths appearing on Exhibit C. are correct (interpreter says, "soude in piede," Ex. C., means "soundings in feet"). Thinking of it now I can think of nothing that could be done to lessen the force of the collision on my ship. I can think of nothing that could have been done with safety to ourselves to avoid the collision. The damage sustained is being repaired here. The repairs are not finished yet. The cost per day of keeping my ship here is about £40 a day, wages, food and interest. I expect I shall be detained one day only—one or two days, because I was discharging slowly. I had iron on board.

Adjourned until 10 a.m. to-morrow, 24th Sept., 1897.

Friday, September 24th, 1897.

Adjourned from 23rd instant. Antonio August Martinovich, cross examined by Mr. Walford:—The age of the *Melpomene* is 14 years. Tonnage is 1,854, that is the register tonnage. Gross tonnage is 4,463. Carries dead weight 3,500. She was not fully laden at the time of the collision. She was carrying about half cargo—a little more. She is an iron ship, not steel. I have no plan of the ship aboard. I don't believe there is any plan of the ship in Yokohama. There is no plan of the port side to show the damaged plates. When we were lying at the buoy on the 9th September we had 13 or 14 fathoms from the hawse pipe. That was before the storm commenced. We paid out no chain. We did not drag our moorings in the storm. The *Kaiser*'s bearing to our ship was S.S.W.

about. The *Patroclus* bore when at anchor S. by W. The *Kaiser* was a ship's length from us. We were about 850 feet from the stern of the *Kaiser*. I don't know what chain was out to the buoy of the *Kaiser*. I can't say whether she had dragged her moorings; I think not. She was not much nearer to the *Melpomene* at 6 o'clock than at 2. I don't think she was any nearer. From the stern of the *Patroclus* to my ship was 1,200 or 1,300 feet about. I had my crew on deck at 2.30, all the 36. They certainly remained on deck from 2.30 till the collision took place. While the *Patroclus* was dragging, the wind was S.S.W., and it was nearly high water. The difference between high and low water is about 5 to 6 feet, but I don't know quite surely. All the distances I have named are estimated by collating the lengths of the ships and their swinging round. I can't say when they swung stern to stern, but they did so several times, that is the *Kaiser* and *Melpomene*. I don't know the length of the *Kaiser*, but I think 300 feet—300 to 400. The *Melpomene* is 320 English feet. I estimate the length of the *Patroclus* as about 40 feet longer than the *Melpomene*. I cannot say whether the *Patroclus* is longer than the *Kaiser*. I cannot say as to the strict correctness of this plan (Exhibit C.) It was not prepared by me. It was prepared under my orders by the 2nd officers. The 2nd and 3rd officers took the soundings. They took them at half tide. They were taken, I think, on the 12th or 13th of Sept. I am not sure. I cannot say at what hour I gave orders to have them taken; I was ashore when they were taken. The officers will say. The shore astern of the *Melpomene* is, I think, soft mud. If I had paid out chain it would not have eased the collision, because the ships would have gone on shore and the shock would have been the same. If there had been plenty of sea room, the easing of the chain would not have eased the collision, as she came with great velocity. I don't think the *Patroclus* dragged 1,200 feet, as the mooring of the *Patroclus* got foul of the mooring of the *Kaiser*. I don't know which of the moorings: the buoy of the *Patroclus*. If the *Patroclus* dragged 1,200 feet the buoy would have dragged about the same distance. There was a short chain from the *Patroclus* to the buoy. I cannot say what length when she was astern of the *Kaiser*, but I should think 4 or 5 fathoms. I had not a watch in my pocket and did not observe the time when the *Patroclus* began to drag, but I heard the hour strike and I think she began to drag at a quarter past 5. She started to drag in a terrific squall, and continued to drag until she brought up, coming down in the direction of the *Melpomene* all the time. At 5 in the morning I gave directions to get the port anchor ready. We were going to get the wire hawser to make fast to the anchor. We were fitting it at 5 o'clock and were getting another shackle, but were not in time to get it ready. When we were at it we saw the *Patroclus* was coming and we left that to attend to the collision. In good weather the shackle could be attached in ten minutes—in weather such as it would take about half an hour. The hawser was not attached to anything on deck. The port anchor was not put out at 5 o'clock. The reason I wanted to let go the port anchor just before the collision was to lower it to prevent it doing damage. It was not to let it go, as the hawser was not fast to the anchor. When the collision appeared inevitable, there was not time to lower the anchor in the tackle. In good weather it would take a few minutes. In that weather I cannot say with precision how long it would take. When I first saw the *Patroclus* coming towards us I could not lower the anchor, and waited to see if the *Patroclus* would be brought up. Yes, I left the anchor in that dangerous position all the time. Steam was up ready to work the engines about 7. The steam was up to work the donkey engines at the time of the collision. At the moment it would have been impossible to take the anchor in. To do that it would have been necessary to have begun half an hour before—in that weather it would take an hour. The anchor was hanging on both davits and fastened to the bridle. The davits are about 12 feet apart. The davits were swung out. They can swing. There is a small chain. When the chain is let go, the davit can swing. The davits were kept in position by those chains which were fast all the time. Those chains were not broken by the collision. The chains are fastened high up. The length of the anchor is about 12 feet. When the anchor was in that position before the collision the anchor was 4 or 5 feet below the top of the rail. I don't know the name of the anchor. The flukes are on a swivel. The stock is set at right angles to the fluke on the shank. There is a projection on the outside of the fluke. I can't say the length of the projection. It might possibly be six inches; it is not a foot. As the anchor lay in position the stock was towards the bow and the flukes toward the stern. I did not at any

times release the bridle. When the *Patroclus* came alongside she struck the anchor, and the stopper was bent and the bridle was let go. We did not try to unhook the anchor from the tackle. When I said the anchor was aboard the *Patroclus*, I mean it was hooked on the half round by one fluke. The half round was between the main deck and the upper deck. The anchor when carried away from the *Melpomene* was on the upper deck of the *Patroclus* and it then fell down and caught the rail of the main deck. A moment before the collision I was on the top of the fore-castle, and at the moment of the collision I went a little away. The crew were on the fore-castle, but I told them to retire. The only preparation made in my ship was to get ready some fenders. Four were put out before the collision—that is before the first impact. I don't know if the ship struck just where the fenders were. Looking at Exhibit D, one fender is marked on one side of the plate that was stove in and three on the other. The fenders were 1½ to 2 feet in diameter. I cannot say how far below the rail they were. Two plates of the *Melpomene* were damaged. One higher up and the other lower down and more ahead. The higher plate is abait the anchor davits; it is a plate in the bulwarks. It was pierced by the anchor. Behind the plate was the water closet and a room for the lamps. That is the upper plate. There is only one more plate damaged. The position of that plate is in the second strake. This plate, the lower plate, is damaged in two places. The damage further forward is bent in, not pierced; the after damage to the same plate is pierced. The after damage to the same plate was, I think, done by the anchor. The forward damage to that plate was not, I think, done by the stock of the anchor. It is too far ahead. The bend in the dent is by the ship not by the anchor. The anchor was horizontal. Two frames were broken, two frames near the mast forward damaged. I have seen the frames both broken and bent. The more forward plate damaged is what I spoke of as having been caused by the first impact. That is slightly forward of a straight line down from the most forward davit. I think the davits did not swing. They have a swinging radius of about 5 feet. After the collision I wrote a letter to the agent. I wrote a letter to the Captain of the *Patroclus* saying if he wished to come on board and see the damage, I would be on board from 5 to 7. The Captain of the *Patroclus* came on board on Saturday evening. When he came on board I did not know the full extent of the damage. I did not know till 2 or 3 days after that time. The Captain of the *Patroclus* came on board, I think on Sunday morning, with another gentleman. The agent of the *Patroclus* said it was a surveyor of his house. I don't know whether it was Mr. Tresize; I did not see him. I think the Chief Officer saw him, and showed him the damage. It will be finished to-day or to-morrow. Mr. Petersen gave an estimate, but before she was opened up. The damage was opened up on Monday the 13th, or Tuesday the 14th. Those repairs are being done by contract. We asked no one else to estimate for the repairs. We are not going to take any cargo from this place, except a little wire for Hongkong. We had that to-day. We finished discharging yesterday.

Adjourned at 12.10 to 2 p.m.; resumed 2 p.m.
Re-examined:—When I said that the whole crew were on deck at 2.30 a.m., I meant the deck crew only, not the engine-room hands. The shoal astern of me I believe is soft mud, but I didn't know that on the 6th of September. When the *Patroclus* was astern of the *Kaiser* I could not see the length of the chain, but I saw it immediately after the collision at 5 o'clock when I gave orders to get my port anchor ready. I did not anticipate a collision. It was the *Patroclus* dragging, and I ordered a stoppage of the work on the anchor and ordered the fenders to be got ready. I did this because I thought it was more necessary to lessen the shock. The fenders I don't think were of any use: I don't know. At the time I exercised my best judgment under the circumstances. Supposing my port anchor had been lowered to the water's edge, before the collision, the impact of the collision would not have been avoided. It may be the holes made by the anchor would not have been done. When we leave Yokohama, I think we go to Moji to load coals for Hongkong.

To Examiner at request of Mr. Walford:—When I said the whole 36 were on deck, I meant that they were at their stations—the deck hands on deck and the engine room hands in the engine room. The total number on deck were 12 of the crew and 4 officers, Captain included. The carpenter was on deck also, and would make 17 on deck altogether. The stewards were below. The 17 were all proper deck hands for working the ship.

The witness wishes to explain the circumstances under which he laid his claim at 30,000 yen: If I

had now to make the claim it would be much less, but when the claim was made I did not know that the weather would be so bad and that we would be occupied so long in discharging. I charged for detention to allow of repairs being made, but the repairs have been made while the cargo is being discharged. I thought that the ship would be empty four or five days after the collision while her discharge was, as a fact, only completed yesterday at noon. Moreover, I did not know with precision what the damage amounted to as the ship was then not opened up. It was a mistake when I said the work was done by contract. Mr. Peterson had to give me a detailed and conscientious account of the work.

To Examiner—In good weather it would be easy to tell how long it would take to lower the anchor to the water's edge by the tackle, but as it was at 5 o'clock, with the weather there was then, it was quite impossible to work it. The Chief Officer has taken the exact dimensions of the anchor and will give evidence about it.

Pietro Pavisich, Austro-Hungarian subject, sworn and examined through Leopold August Martinolich—I am chief officer of the *Melpomene*. I have taken the dimensions of the port anchor of the *Melpomene*.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford:—The extreme length of the anchor is 11 feet 2 inches. The stock is distant from the end of the shank 2 feet. The full length of the stock is 12 ft. 2 inches. That includes both ends of the stock from end to end. From point to point of the flukes is 5 feet 4 inches. The flange projects from the fluke 1 foot 1 inch. I don't know the name of the patent—I was on the deck of the *Melpomene* when the collision with the *Patroclus* took place. I saw when the *Patroclus* began to drag. I was then engaged about the port anchor. I was going to attach the hawser to the port anchor. I could not do it—the time was too short. The weather would have prevented it. It could not be done in that weather. We were going to make ready the anchor, to attach the hawser to the anchor to let go. We were ready there to do it, but we could not do it, the weather was so bad. The weather was so bad that we could not get near the anchor. We could not let go the bridle when the *Patroclus* was quite near. When the *Patroclus* began to drag, the weather was too bad to get near the bridle. The weather was too bad to lower the anchor to the water's edge, because we could not go near the anchor. I think it would have been let go by that time. Before that we would have attached the hawser to the anchor, and we would have unhooked the anchor from the tackle. We would have let go the bridle. The weather being such as it was it would have taken 30 or 40 minutes. If we had wished to let the anchor down we must let go the line of the tackle—that is done in a moment. There are only the two things to do—to let go the bridle and the line of the tackle. In such weather as there was from 5 to half-past 5 it would take 10 or 15 minutes to let go the anchor by the tackles. It would depend how the anchor was up. To lower the anchor by the tackle in the weather that there then was would take from 6 to 10 minutes. When the *Patroclus* struck us I was on the forecastle. When the *Patroclus* was brought up I saw the chain of the *Patroclus*; there was only about 5 fathoms to the buoy. The *Kaiser* did not drag her moorings. Some days before the collision the *Kaiser* and our ship swung in different directions—opposite directions. I estimated the length of the *Patroclus* from 350 feet to 400 feet. When the Captain of the *Patroclus* came on board on Saturday I was on board. He had a look at the damage to our ship. I let him see what damage there was. The outside damage I knew; but the inside damage that required the opening up of the ship, to know, I did not know. I was on board the following morning when the Captain of the *Patroclus* and Mr. Tiesze came on board. I showed them the damage; the ship had not then been opened up. I don't know who the gentleman was that was with the Captain, or whether he was Mr. Tiesze or not. I showed him all the damage that could be seen without opening up the ship, including damage to the lamps. I showed a gentleman the damage and he took a note. I showed him two plates that were damaged, and the lamps in the lamp room, and I showed him two anchor lamps, and one mast head lamp. I showed him two anchor lamps. Those three lamps were all the lamps I showed. I showed him a scuttle glass. I pointed out the bunks and the ceiling. The beams could not be seen. The edge of the sheer plate on the forecastle head required straightening. I showed the anchor. I don't remember showing him anything I have not mentioned. The damage was both above and below the line of the main deck. I took the time when he began to drag by my watch. It was 15 minutes past 5. The time of my watch is taken from the ship. I did not take

the time of the collision. It was not the time to look at a watch. I think it was about 5.30 or 5.40. When the ship was fully laden she draws 25 feet. She was drawing then aft 20.6, at the bow 21.6.

Adjourned at 5 p.m. till 9.30, 25th September, 1897.

Saturday September 25th 1897.

Pietro Pavisich's examination and cross-examination read over. No re-examination of Pavisich. Antonio Hanzal, Austro-Hungarian subject, sworn and examined through Leopold August Martinolich—I am 2nd officer of the *Melpomene* and have been serving on board of her as such since her arrival in this harbour. (Shown Exhibit C.) This is a diagram of the harbour of Yokohama. It was prepared by me alone. I prepared it four days after the collision. There are certain soundings in feet—English feet; the other officer took those, Starcich, the 3rd officer. On this diagram appear the break-water, pier, and town of Yokohama. The measurements are on a scale enlarged from the Admiralty chart. I have taken the length of the *Patroclus* to be about 380 feet; the *Kaiser* 340; the *Melpomene* 318 about. The vessel marked "1" in red ink is supposed to be the *Patroclus* before she dragged. "1-a" represents her first position after dragging. "1-b" represents her position when in collision with the *Melpomene*. I determined the position of the *Patroclus* when at anchor by the length of our ship. I reckoned about $\frac{2}{3}$ lengths of our ship. I saw the *Patroclus* when she was in that position there. It is from memory. I arrived at the position of the *Kaiser* as being about the length of a ship from our ship. I did not actually measure the distance from the *Patroclus* buoy to the *Kaiser's* buoy. I estimated the distance from the stern of the *Patroclus* to the bow of the *Kaiser* about 400 feet. I did not measure that distance, I estimated it. I estimated at 350 feet about the distance from the stern of the *Kaiser* to the bow of *Melpomene*. This diagram does not pretend to be quite accurate; it is approximate. The distances between the vessels given on the chart are according to scale and are estimated.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford:—On this diagram the figure 2 represents the position of the *Kaiser* and the figure 3 represents the position of the *Melpomene*. I put down the position of the *Melpomene*, as I estimated her distance from the *Kaiser*, the *Patroclus* and the *Irene*. I took the position of the *Kaiser* from the *Melpomene*; she was right ahead. These red, nearly circular, marks represent buoys. The pier is not according to scale, it is approximate. I have made it about 1,200 feet from the shore to the end. I took 1,200 feet. I took it from the small chart and put it into feet. I would not be surprised to hear it is 2,000. I did not take it exactly. If I took it at 2,000 feet in the diagram I would have to extend the pier and shift the position of the vessels. I cannot be sure that the bearing of the *Melpomene* to the end of the pier is correct. It could not be seen from the ship. The *Patroclus* buoy appears in the diagram to be about 700 feet from the end of the pier. I would not be surprised to hear that it was more than 1,000 feet. I do not put in the pier by bearing. The *Patroclus* buoy may have been in a straight line with the pier, I don't know. I have only estimated the length of the *Kaiser*. I know that it is longer than the *Melpomene*. I was on board at the time of the collision. The wind was S.S.W., a little to the south. I have marked the position of the *Patroclus* as S.S.W. from the *Melpomene*. She drifted north. The wind was more to the south when she was drifting than at the time of the collision. I was an officer of the *Melpomene* when she arrived, of the same grade. I have been second officer five years.

Re-examined—I put the soundings on the diagram as given to me by Mr. Starcich. I copied them from a note given to me by Mr. Starcich. I have the note on board. They are given in the diagram in exact accordance with the note.

Ecole Starcich, Austro-Hungarian subject, sworn and examined by Mr. Leopold August Martinolich—I am third officer of the *Melpomene*. (Shown exhibit C.) There are certain soundings marked in that diagram. I took those soundings myself. I took them two days after the collision, after the bad weather. It was half tide when I took them. I took a note at the time of the soundings. That note I gave to the officer who made the diagrams. The soundings as taken by me are given correctly on this diagram. The first "18" inside the breakwater and nearest to the end of the breakwater, I take from the beacon and from the light at the end of the breakwater. The next "18" I take by bearing and distance. The others are the same. The soundings are accurate, but the bearings approximate. With regard to the irregular line of soundings, I took them from the breakwater. There is a line

of soundings from the *Melpomene* to the shore. I fixed the position of the "20" estimating the distance by the length of the *Melpomene*. The figure "20" ought to be about 30 feet from the stern of the *Melpomene*. The other distances between the soundings are from 21.25 to 30 feet.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford—The *Melpomene* was at the same buoy when I took the soundings as at the time of the collision. I took the soundings from the stern of the *Melpomene*, and from the buoy to the stern. At the buoy it was 36 feet. These distances astern of the *Melpomene*, are estimated. I took the soundings two days after the collision. I took them about half-past two in the afternoon. The soundings I took first were from the buoy to the stern of the ship. At 600 feet from the buoy there is 13 feet of water. When I took the soundings the bow of the *Melpomene* was pointing S.W. I took the soundings first in a straight line N.E.

Before closing his case Mr. Lowder put in, for the convenience of the Court, the Admiralty chart No. 2657, of Tokyo Bay. Mr. Lowder also put in exhibit "B," a list of vessels in the harbour, from the *Japan Mail* of Sept. 9th.

Capt. Carst, recalled by the Court.—The bearings of the P. and O. buoy were approximately 700 feet from the Pacific Mail buoy; about 1100 feet from the pier, a little to the west. When the buoy was picked up it was about 150 to 200 feet to the South of the Shell Line buoy.

This closed the evidence for the plaintiffs, and it was agreed that Mr. Walford should produce the evidence for the defence, and afterwards Mr. Lowder and Mr. Walford should address the Court. Mr. Walford called:—

Thomas Evans, examined, deposed—I am a British subject and was ship's carpenter of the *Patroclus* when she came into collision with the *Melpomene* last month. I was called on deck on the 9th Sept. at 4 in the morning. I was ordered by the chief officer to go forward to the windlass. That and the anchors and chains were in my special charge. The windlass was a large and powerful one. The windlass and brakes were in very good order that morning. The ship was riding to a buoy by her port cable and a patent anchor to starboard. The anchor was of about 3 tons in weight. The chains to the buoy and anchor were 2½ inch cables. It was blowing fresh in the early morning and increased in force. The starboard anchor was let go but I could not say what time. It was before the ship began to drag, perhaps 20 minutes to half an hour before. The wind was blowing in gusts and the ship was jumping and jerking at the buoy. The clutch or cog of the crutch caught in the windlass, and in consequence two brackets of the engine carried away. We used that engine for heaving in the anchors. It was not used for paying out chain to an anchor. The accident took place before the ship began to drag. We had a messenger to the steam winch for heaving in the anchor. Some time after the ship was struck by a squall and did drag. The brake was screwed up tight before she began to drag and immediately after two men were put on to keep it tight. I was at the starboard brake. We let the vessel take 60 fathoms chain to the starboard anchor and then the chief officer helped me to screw up the brakes tight. The chain stopped running at 90 fathoms, we put the brake on at 60.

By the force of the wind the windlass was jerked round till thirty fathoms of the buoy cable had run out. The sides of the *Patroclus* from rails to bilge were straight up and down. There was a little damage done to the *Patroclus* in the collision, just below the rail, abait the engine. The stem of the *Melpomene* did not come above 30 feet forward beyond midships of the *Patroclus*. After the collision the windlass and brakes were in good order except for the two broken brackets, which were repaired before we left Yokohama. We recovered our starboard anchor which had been unshackled after the gale. It was put upon the deck after recovery.

Cross-examined—The patent anchor was one of the best obtainable. The *Patroclus* was furnished with the best and newest kind of gear. The ship was only 15 months old. Our object was to hold fast to the buoy. The 60 fathoms of chain paid out to the starboard anchor was allowed to run out; we did not use our full strength to prevent it. After allowing the 60 fathoms to run out we screwed up all we knew how to the buoy.

Re-examined—Whilst the 60 fathoms was going out there was a slight check on it. The 60 fathoms was let out purposely.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned till 10 a.m. to-day.

Wednesday, October 20th, 1897.

Mr. Walford called:—Walter Kendal Tiesze, who deposed—I am manager of the Yokohama Engine & Iron Works.

Mr. Walford—This witness undertook the repair of the brackets of the engine of the *Patroclus*.

Witness—It was two brackets of the driving shaft of the engine used for heaving in cable. It might be used for heaving up cable from the locker also, but for no other purpose. I saw an eccentric valve broken on the same shaft. The engine was totally disabled. There was no damage to the windlass and brake except this. I made a plan of the *Melpomene's* anchor. It was drawn to scale—1 inch to the foot. (Plan put in and marked Ex. 5), the break is marked in red. It was an ordinary Trotman's anchor. It had a sharp fluke projecting from the fluke and round balls at the ends of the stock. By direction of the agents of the *Patroclus* I surveyed the damage on the *Melpomene*. I went on board on the 13th Sept. and saw the chief officer. He showed me the whole damage then visible. I made a memorandum of the damage at the time and then drew a plan (put in, Exhibit K). The damage is marked in red. A plate at the break of the fore-castle, port side, was pierced and broken. The flukes of the anchor would account for the piercing, either the point or the flange of the fluke. One plate in the second strake, more forward, damaged in two places, the forward part dented in and the after part pierced. The flukes of the anchor would account for the piercing of the after part. The dent in the forward part extended over a surface of about 2 ft. 3 inches. It was quite possible that both the piercing and the dent were done in one impact, as the field of the two damages corresponded with the spread of the two flukes of the anchor. The appearance of the dent was favourable to its having been caused in this way. The damage to the forward plate was all within the radius of the davits supporting the anchor. The next damage was that the ends of three beams were slightly fractured. That could have been done by the same cause as damaged the plates. Two frames, corresponding to two of the beams, were also damaged. From the position of the beams and frames damaged it was decidedly the case that the cause of damage was the same as that to the plates. The bunks and ceiling and one scuttle glass were also damaged, in the wake of the damaged forward plate. The damage arose from the outside, from the same cause as that to the plates. One anchor lamp, one mast head light and two riding lights were also damaged; they had been thrown out of their sockets on the shelves. The sheer plate forward of the plate, was slightly bent. That was probably caused by the anchor. The anchor itself was broken. There was nothing projecting on the starboard side of the *Patroclus*; she was straight up and down. I have mentioned all the damage the chief officer showed me and I observed nothing more.

Mr. Lowder did not cross-examine.

James Ellerton, examined, deposed—I am surveyor to Lloyds at the port of Kobe. On the 18th September I was instructed by the agents of the *Patroclus* to examine the windlass and anchor gear of the ship. I went on board that day and made an examination. The windlass was of Ellis Walker and Thompson's make, a powerful steam windlass provided with two independent brakes, one on each side. When I saw it, it was in perfect working order. There was no fault to be found with the windlass or gear. It was such as might be expected on such a ship. The brakes were worked by double locking spring gear. There were a pair of horizontal engines attached to the windlass. The engines could be thrown out of gear. They could be used for hauling up an anchor; or for paying out chain, but not the latter in a gale. I saw one anchor on deck forward on the starboard side unattached to anything. I examined the anchor; it was a stockless anchor of an estimated weight of 3 tons. It was a good anchor, in good condition.

To the Court—For a ship of her size, according to Lloyds' requirements, the weight of her heavy stockless anchor should be (in class letter Y.) about 55 or 56 cwt, rather less than that of the *Patroclus* anchor. The anchor was stamped 57 cwt. There were four anchors on board the *Patroclus*. The size of the chain was $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, that is the size in Lloyds' regulations for a vessel in class Y.

Cross-examined—All the gear and equipment on the *Patroclus* is of the very best. She has a Board of Trade certificate.

Francis Ouston, examined, deposed—I am outside manager to Captain Weston, landing agent. I remember the great storm of the 9th of Sept. I noticed from daybreak that the tide was very high. It was highest about 5.30. The sea was over the breakwater and hid it. At ordinary full spring tides the breakwater would show a foot above the water. In a southerly gale the water was generally higher than usual.

Mr. Lowder did not cross-examine.

William Smith, examined—I am a Norwegian in the employ of Capt. Martin, stevedore. I remember the storm of the 9th and that the water was higher than usual.

John Gillam, examined—I am a ship's officer and have been so for 13 years. I know the Shell Line buoy in the harbour. I took soundings this morning N. N. E. of the buoy. It was about an hour after low water—the first of the flood. The soundings at 350 feet from the buoy I obtained were 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet, next, at 400 feet, 28 feet; 450 feet from buoy, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet, at 500 feet 22 feet, at 550 feet, 20 feet, 675 feet, from buoy 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet; 600 feet, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet water; 625 feet, 16 feet; 650 feet 16 feet water, 675 ft., 14 feet water 700 ft., 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The last was 525 feet from the breakwater.

Mr. Walford here put in and read the evidence for the defence taken on commission, which was as follows:—

Edwin George Dickens, British, sworn, deposed—I am Master of the British steamship *Patroclus*, which is owned by the Ocean Steamship Company. Her register tonnage is 3,548, gross tonnage 5,508 and carries 8,000 tons cargo. I have been thirty years at sea. During that time I have had 19 years experience in steamships as Officer and Master in the same Company, the Ocean Steamship Company. I have had a Master's certificate since 1876, that is 21 years. I have been seven years in command of steamships. I have been in command of the *Patroclus* since she was built—15 months. I arrived in the *Patroclus* on the 6th of this month, September. On arrival I moored the ship to the P. & O. buoy inside the harbour; moored by port cable which for that purpose was disengaged from the port anchor. We were moored by 5 fathoms chain, five fathoms to the buoy. I remember clearly Thursday the 9th, the day of the storm. We were attached to the buoy from our arrival until noon on the 9th. Previous to the 9th we had discharged most of our cargo and our ship was consequently then very light, drawing 14 feet 9 inches. She draws 25 feet when fully laden. There was a storm on that Thursday morning; about 2 in the morning the glass began to fall and indicated approaching bad weather. At 4 o'clock it began to blow furiously; half a gale or a gale of wind. I was on deck at 2 o'clock looking at the barometer and continued about from that time for the rest of the day. At 4 o'clock it was blowing very severe squalls. The glass had fallen more then. It fell from 2 to 4 and continued to go down after 4. At 4 I ordered steam and I ordered all hands to stand by—that would be a little after 4; they were really at stations on deck at 4, there being something unusual. Being in port we had let the fires out. We had no steam until I ordered steam at 4 o'clock. In case of our going to sea I give 12 hours' notice. On emergency we can get up steam in 4 hours, and at 8 o'clock we had steam up on one boiler. We could not have done it quicker. At 5 o'clock it was blowing typhoon force—very hard indeed. The glass was still going down. It was about 29 or a little below at 5 o'clock. At 5 o'clock we lowered our starboard anchor down. All hands were on deck at that time, except those on duty in the engine room. All hands had been out for some time, and were then at their stations. I was on the bridge. The Chief Officer was on the fore-castle head. He had with him the boatswain and the carpenter. The 2nd officer was aft. He had some men with him. The 3rd officer was the deck below the bridge, the saloon deck. He had two quarter-masters with him. They were standing by to attend with fenders in case of any collision—of anything occurring. We had not begun to drag them. Afterwards we did drag—that was about a $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6. It was blowing then very heavily indeed, the hardest of the blow I should think, and we dragged our moorings, the buoy and our anchor. We have two bower anchors—54 cwt. each. The moorings of a buoy I should consider 3 times the strength an ordinary ship's anchor. When the ship began to drag our starboard anchor was down. When she commenced to drag the chain rushed out and we held on at about 50 fathoms, but such was the force of the wind that we could not hold on to it, and she took out 90 fathoms of the ship's cable (that is to the anchor) and 15 fathoms on to the buoy (or moorings) before she brought up. Whilst the chain was going out we used the brake. About 50 fathoms were out when we applied the brake. This terrific squall lasted only about 10 minutes and she brought up with the moorings and the chain close to the stern of the German Flagship *Kaiser*—that is after we had been dragging about 10 minutes. When it began to blow—the storm became serious—we could not pay out chain. If I could have done it I would have paid out chain to the buoy when it began to blow at 2 o'clock in the morning—and also on the anchor. If I had room I should have let go anchor earlier in the

morning, but in consequence of the proximity to the men-of-war I could not do so, and had to trust to the moorings. We could have let the anchor go, but we could not pay out chain, and it was no use letting the anchor go unless we could pay out chain. The German Flagship was approximately a ship's length from me on my starboard quarter. The German flagship *Kaiser* was about 7,000, or 8,000 tons. The other German man-of-war, the *Irene*, was astern of me. Her tonnage is over 4,000 tons. She dragged her anchors and went ashore. I was heading South at this time. When I was heading S. to S.S.W. the *Kaiser* was on my starboard quarter, and the *Irene* was astern of me, rather on my port quarter. The wind at 2 in the morning was S.E., but when it came on to blow it was S. and S.S.W. If I had paid out chain on the moorings the effect would have been that the ship would have swung more in the gale—as it was she swung about 8 points. The more chain I would have out the more risk I ran if she dragged. The risk present to my mind was our getting foul of the German Flagship and that would be worse than getting foul of the *Melpomene*. This diagram gives approximately the position of the vessels as they lay in the harbour during the storm. (Exhibit A). I can give an idea of the distances of the ships but not accurately. The *Kaiser* was the nearest vessel and she would be I should judge 300 feet from the stern of the *Patroclus*. When we commenced dragging the leuders were put over the side. In the act of dragging our ship took a sheer and her bow pointed toward the *Kaiser* and drifted the whole length of the *Kaiser* until the moorings brought her up. She continued pointing like that until the moorings brought her up. Then her position was end on to the *Kaiser's* stern. I have marked on the diagram (Exhibit A) the position of the *Patroclus* when brought up after dragging. After being brought up she swung round with our starboard waist to the port side of the *Melpomene*. In dragging we passed so close to the *Kaiser* that they had to swing in their boats and booms. They were looking out, and when they saw a risk of collision they immediately set about getting in their boats and booms. The *Melpomene* made no preparations to receive us that I saw. She was moored with her port chain to the buoy. Her port anchor was hanging on the tackles over the bow unattached to any cable or hawser. She did not take in her anchor as we approached. She did not pay out any chain to her moorings. She put out no fenders when we collided—whether she did so afterwards I don't know. She had no fenders out when we came in collision and I saw no one there; what with the wind and spindrift I would not like to say there was no one there; but I saw no one there doing anything. They took no precautions to lower their anchor or take it in (they had plenty of time to do either) or let out chain or anything to avoid the collision. As we swung towards the *Melpomene* I motioned and shouted to them and the 2nd and 3rd officer also shouted to them and motioned to them to lower their anchor, which they did eventually, but not till after the collision, and the damage done. I motioned to them to pay out chain.

When we dragged the starboard anchor was out, the port cable was attached to the buoy, so we could not put the port anchor out. When we came alongside the *Melpomene*, the *Melpomene's* port anchor was hanging outside on the tackles and came in contact with my steamer's starboard side, damaging my rail, my bulwark and penetrating the plates of the *Melpomene*. The anchor was broken with the impact. Besides the damage done by the anchor to the *Melpomene* I don't think she sustained any other damage. After the collision I asked those on board the *Melpomene* why they did not take the anchor in or lower it. It was the Captain I spoke to. I spoke to him on Saturday evening. I said why did you not have your anchor in? I made a general survey with him of the damage done. I have no doubt whatever that the damage done to the *Melpomene* was all done by the anchor. I say that from the survey I then made. He gave no reason with regard to the anchor. He said nothing about the anchor. He said he could not pay out chain. He said nothing at all about his anchor except showing me the damage done. I asked him why he did not pay out chain. He said he would have liked to do it, but he could not for fear of getting ashore. The *Irene* was then on shore and also two other vessels. They had been blown ashore or dragged on shore—the *Glensicht* and the *Lonsdale* sailing ships—and several other steamers had dragged their buoys and moorings the same as myself. The *Melpomene*, to get ashore, would have to go at least twice her length from her stern—the buoy she was moored to was the nearest buoy to the breakwater—the most northerly buoy, I think so. Inside the breakwater there is shoal ground. The

two sailing ships and the *Irene* went ashore on that—they got ashore before they touched the breakwater. I have marked on the diagram (Exhibit A) roughly the shoal and the buoy marking it. After passing the buoy steamers coming in passed nearer the breakwater—there is a passage there and the distance from the *Melpomene* to the shore there may be perhaps five times her length. I have not measured it. I believe the *Melpomene* was attached to the Shell Line Buoy. After the anchor penetrated the plates of the *Melpomene*, as soon as we could get clear of it they lowered it with their cat tackle to the water's edge. If they had lowered it before there would have been no damage—my rail might have been damaged, but there would have been no damage to him—the whole damage was caused by the anchor. It could have been easily lowered. It requires no steam. The wind shifted a very few minutes after the impact. It came out from the North and blew us clear. They then commenced to act and put out bales of cotton over the side but we did not touch them again after that. I have nothing further to say than that if they had taken precautions to lower their anchor or taken it on board, there would have been no damage. If they had paid out 30 fathoms of chain I should say we would have cleared them: Later on—it took some time as I had to confer with the Captains of the men-of-war, as the *Kaiser* had to shift to let us get our anchor. About 12 o'clock—about noon—we unshackled from the buoy and tried to recover our anchor. We had to slip it eventually at 15 fathoms. We afterwards recovered it. I then steamed out of the harbour and took up another berth, and moored with my own anchors. We returned the same afternoon. I had steam up and was all ready to go on Monday afternoon when the ship was arrested. I had cleared at the Consulate. We have been under steam ever since ready to go.

Edwin George Dickens, cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—I have been here before in this harbour half a dozen times as a Master. I was here this time last year about 10 days earlier in the year. I should not say that from the 6th to the 8th violent showers with variable winds prevailed. The 6th was not a very bad day; we put out cargo that day. It was close on to full moon on the 8th and the equinox was approaching.

Did the fact that the moon was nearly full and the equinox approaching not indicate to you that atmospheric disturbance might be expected?—No.

On the evening of the 8th of September were there strong gusts of wind accompanied by torrents of rain?—Yes, very heavy rain. At 2 o'clock I was uncertain; I thought the weather was very threatening. I had asked no questions of anyone about the buoy to which we were moored. I did not know—I had no special knowledge of the buoy. I had 5 fathoms of chain from my ship and the depth was about 5 fathoms. Five fathoms is the usual amount you moor with to a buoy: the buoy is moored with heavy moorings. I lowered my starboard anchor at 5 o'clock. We could not give her chain, that was a precaution in case we dragged. There would be 10 to 15 fathoms chain out. I could not give her more. If I had had room I would certainly have given her more. If I had had plenty of room I would have given her 30 fathoms—as much chain as I could, and I would have given the same on the buoy. I was in a very dangerous position in case of a gale springing up. The *Kaiser* was there before me. Had I had all the steam in the world I could have done nothing in a close harbour as I was—I won't say it would not have helped me. I could have gone ahead on that. When I said I could have done nothing I meant I could not have gone away. I did not consider I ought to have got steam earlier. I question if any ship had steam up at 2 o'clock.

Mr. Lowder—I suggest to you that between 2 and 3 o'clock the weather increased in violence and the barometer was falling rapidly and that the wind strengthened into a gale.

Witness—Not at 2.30 It was between 4 and 5 before you could call it a gale. It was blowing hard at 5 but it attained its strongest force at 5.40. I put the anchor down at 5 but it was long after that before she dragged. Looking at the list of vessels in harbour given in the 6th column of the last page of the *Japan Daily Mail* of the 9th of Sept., I should say all the ships mentioned there were in harbour on that day and also three large Japanese steamers whose names are not given (Exhibit B) all of which three Japanese steamers dragged during the gale. To my knowledge those three large Japanese steamers dragged, and there were very few ships that did not drag—those Japanese steamers I saw drag.

How do you account for their bringing up when you did not?—We did bring up eventually, but unfortunately there were ships in the way: one of the large Japanese ships had a narrow escape from the *Kaiser*; much closer than we. My anchors

must have fouled the anchors of the *Kaiser*. The *Kaiser* could not get her anchors up and I could not get up mine. It may have been that my vessel was brought up by my anchors so fouling the anchors of the *Kaiser*. I admit the brake did not bring her up. No preparation was made to let go a second anchor. I should say a 3rd anchor—the mooring was my second anchor. No preparation was made to let go my port anchor—because my port cable was attached to the buoy. A hawser could have been made use of, but it would have been no use—I am speaking of the time I let go my starboard anchor—we don't ride by hawsers in 8,000 ton ships. A hawser would not have helped with the starboard anchor down and my port cable fastened to the buoy. The cable of the *Melpomene* was to the buoy the same as ourselves. That would not account for her not taking in or lowering her anchor. Her anchor was fastened to the tackles and she could lower it without any cable. She eventually did lower it without any cable. I should say that there was a very extraordinary strain put upon the cable of the *Patroclus* moored to the buoy. We did not ease it. I dared not do it. I could only let my starboard anchor go so as to be to be ready in case she dragged. It had no hold of the ground until she dragged. The strain on my mooring cable was not relieved by my starboard anchor—not to any extent. When the moorings dragged it did help. When I got fenders ready I did not anticipate we should drag. I was hoping we would not. It is an ordinary precaution to take. The reason I did not pay out chain either to the anchor or the buoy was that I was in a dangerous position. That position—we were moored to the buoy—we took that position ourselves. There are permanent moorings in the harbour. The *Kaiser*, the *Melpomene* and myself were each moored to permanent moorings. Seeing that the distance between myself and the *Kaiser* was about 300 feet I don't think I could have taken 150 feet of that. I was afraid of a greater sheer. We were very light. It was the close proximity to the *Kaiser* made me hold on to our moorings, instead of giving her more chain. But for that I would have given her more chain. I think there was room for the *Melpomene* to pay out 30 fathoms of chain with safety. I did not see any fenders on the *Melpomene* at the time of collision. They put bales of cotton out about half an hour after. I think I should have seen the fenders on the *Melpomene* if there had been any. The mist and spray would not have prevented me seeing the fenders. It was when we were drawing towards each other that I saw people—they were rushing about the deck. The wind was blowing from us and although it was a typhoon I think they could have heard our shouting and understood our motioning. From the time of our clearing the stern of the *Kaiser* and coming in collision with the *Melpomene* probably about 2 minutes elapsed. We were not brought up when the shouting was going on. It was before that. When we brought up we rushed with the fenders. I spoke in English to the Captain of the *Melpomene* when I went on board, and the Captain replied in English; we did not use an interpreter.

Re-examined—On the evening of the 8th before 6 o'clock I was in the harbour in a sampan, there was rain but no wind then. The rain continued. My attention was not called to the wind till after midnight. There was no dangerous weather till about 2 in the morning. It was towards midnight when I noticed the gusts of wind. I was then in bed. I was not on deck. The mooring I took up was dangerous in the gale. In all ordinary weather the berth was a good one. I should consider all the ships in the harbour on that day in rather a dangerous position. Because the harbour was rather crowded with ships, and there was not room to manoeuvre a ship. I had to come into the harbour to discharge my cargo. The *Melpomene's* anchor being in the tackles she could either have lowered it down or taken it on board: she could have lowered it down quicker. If the ship had not brought up when she did she would probably have struck the *Melpomene* broadside on across her bows. When I spoke to the Captain of the *Melpomene* he spoke to me in English. He did not speak good English, but intelligible English. He quite understood what I said to him.

Alexander Douglas, British, Chief Engineer of the British steamer *Patroclus* sworn, deposed—I have been at sea as Engineer about 30 years. I have been Chief Engineer about 14 years. I have been Chief Engineer in the *Patroclus* 15 months, since she was new. The *Patroclus* arrived in this harbour on the 6th of this month. We let the fires die out when we arrived in the harbour and finished with the engines. We have fires for donkey engines and winches from about 4 in the morning till 7 in the evening, but that has nothing to do with the

working of the main engines. When the storm came on on Thursday the boilers were all right, but the fires were out. There had been no fires in the boilers from the 6th, Monday. Under those circumstances the shortest time to get up steam to work the engines would be 4 hours. If the water had been quite cold it would have taken longer, but the water being a little warm we got it up in 4 hours. On the morning of Thursday the 9th I got orders from the Captain to get up steam. As near as I can judge it was about 4 o'clock, it may have been a little after. On receiving those orders I made all necessary preparations to get steam up as quickly as possible. We had as a fact steam up between 8 and 9 o'clock ready to work the engines.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—The water was not quite cold. We came in on Monday and the water would not be quite cold on Thursday morning: it would be luke-warm.

THURSDAY, September 16th, 1897.

John Young, British, Chief Officer of the British steamship *Patroclus*, sworn:—I have been at sea 20 years: of that I have spent about 10 years as an officer in steam ships of the Ocean Steam Ship Company continuously. I have had a Master's certificate since 1887. This is the log-book kept by me of the S. S. *Patroclus*. Referring to it I can say what the weather was in Yokohama on the 8th. The entries here were made by myself while things were fresh in my mind. The entry referring to the 8th of September was made by me about 6 o'clock the same evening. There is no entry referring to the time between six that evening and midnight. The state of the weather up to 6 p.m. was light S.E. winds, overcast and incessant rain. From my recollection I can speak of the weather after that up to 8 o'clock, when I turned in. It was similar to what it had been during the day. I turned out again at 2 a.m. Referring to my log I can say what the weather was after 2 a.m. on Thursday the 9th. It was fresh to strong winds, heavy rain. The wind increased to typhoon force at 5 a.m. At 5.45 there was a terrific squall. At 6.30 the wind decreased. The readings of the barometer were 29° 60' at 2 a.m. At 4 o'clock it was 29°, at 6, 28° 80', at 8, 29° 20'. I only entered them every two hours. I took the readings myself at 2 o'clock, and 4 o'clock, and at six o'clock they were entered on the slate by the 3rd officer. The same at 8 o'clock. I was on deck from 2 a.m. the rest of that day. At 4 a.m. I received orders from the Captain to call all hands on deck. I called them on deck and the officers went to their respective stations, and remained at their stations till after the ship was brought up. My station was at the fore-castle head, and my special duty was attending the chains and anchors. I received an order from the Captain at 5 o'clock to let go the starboard anchor. I let it go. At 5.45 there was a terrific squall, and the ship began to drag her moorings. When she began to drag we put on the buoy brake. She did not drag her anchor at first, she dragged her moorings. We put the buoy brake on as soon as she commenced to drag. There were two men working that brake. The ship in dragging took out some of the chain of the anchor, 45 fathoms were out on the anchor cable when we began to put the brake on that cable. Two men were on the anchor chain brake—myself and the carpenter. The anchor brake and buoy brake are quite close together, so that I had no difficulty in seeing what they did at the other brake. One man at the brake would usually check the chain with great ease, with one turn. On this occasion the two men at each of the brakes were using the utmost of their power. We have a very powerful windlass—about one of the most powerful built. The chains ran out so quickly that they broke the windlass—that was after the brakes were on. The breaking of the windlass had nothing to do with the bringing up of the ship. It did not affect it one way or the other. With the brake on the ship took 90 fathoms on the anchor chain before she brought up. The buoy chain was out 40 to 50 fathoms. I cannot say exactly how much was out on the buoy chain. The buoy cable was slack when she brought up. The anchor chain was marked. I did not notice the shackle on the buoy chain. The ship was drawing very little water—14.6' I think, her full draught when laden being 25 ft. We dragged from 5.45 for about 10 minutes. Then we brought up and swung against the *Melpomene*. Our fenders were out on the starboard side. I did notice any fenders on the *Melpomene*. I was looking the other way. I saw the anchor of the *Melpomene*. It was hanging in the bridle on the bow—that is it was outside the ship. It remained there until we came in contact with the ship. The *Melpomene* was moored to a buoy. She did not slacken her chain when we approached so far as I saw. I did not see her

slacken her chain. The wind was from the South. The *Melpomene* I should say was 400 feet—a ship's length—from where she would go ashore. I cannot say exactly, I did not sound. After the ships came together I came aft to assist in clearing the *Melpomene's* anchor. It was caught on our ship and we prized it up with a piece of timber. The *Melpomene's* people then lowered it into the water with the tackle. It had been hanging in the tackle and the bridle all the time. After the two ships had separated the *Melpomene's* people put out bales of cotton. It would not have been of the slightest use if I had attached a hawser to the port anchor and let that go—not the slightest we had not a hawser strong enough to hold that anchor. It would require a hawser of very unusual strength to do that. I don't think I have ever seen a hawser that would hold that ship in the trim she was in that wind.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—The wind, after attaining typhoon force, began to moderate about 6 o'clock. It began to moderate immediately after we got clear of the *Melpomene* and shifted. That was a few minutes after six. I don't think it took a much longer time than 10 minutes or a ½ of an hour from when we began to drag till we got alongside the *Melpomene*. The time, 5.45, as the time of the terrific squall, I took from the slate. I can say from my own observation that 5.45 is correct. I looked at my watch. I did not take the time when we came in contact with the *Melpomene* so that the 10 minutes or quarter of an hour is more or less guess work. The calling of all hands on deck at 4 o'clock was because the derricks were swinging about. At 4 o'clock there was a strong gale. I can't say when our fenders were put out. The second officer looked after that. It was after we began to drag. I am quite sure of that. They were out before we got to the *Kaiser*. Seven fenders were put out. Four of them were bundles of bamboos—cane fenders 8 to 10 feet long, 2 feet in diameter. The others were what are called cork fenders—made of rattan—round—spherical. I can't say where they were placed. When first put over the side, after the first impact, they were shifted about as wanted. The ships were held together by the anchor and were rubbing against each other. Our object would be to prevent chain running out even before we began to drag; our object would be to remain stationary. When I said the ship brought up, that is, when we were astern of the *Kaiser*, for all I can say to the contrary she may have been brought up by our anchor catching in the anchor of the *Kaiser*. When we were brought up the buoy cable was slack, the anchor cable was tight. We slipped our anchor in the afternoon between two and three o'clock—at two o'clock. We steamed as near our anchor and got in as much chain as possible before we slipped. When I saw the anchor of the *Melpomene* it was hooked on an iron ledge above our bulwarks in the waist. That was after the first impact; the vessels were then laying side by side. The anchor being in the bridle was horizontal and one of the flukes caught in the ledge at the point where the ledge rises above the bulwarks. I did not see whether the flukes were torn off. It was a patent anchor—with the flukes on a swivel. That is the proper place for carrying an anchor—on the tackle and bridle. Before we dragged, supposing we had a hawser, I would not have thought of attaching it to the port anchor and letting it go.

Re-examined—The brake is always on when the ship is at anchor. When a certain strain is exceeded the chain will run out unless extra force is put to the brake. When I say we put on the brake when she began to drag I mean that extra force was applied to the brake. I saw the anchor of the *Melpomene* before the collision. When I saw it after the collision it was hooked on the ledge on our bulwarks. When I said that "I did not see fenders on the *Melpomene*, I was looking the other way" I meant that I did not see the position of our fenders as I was looking the other way. As a fact I did not see any fenders on the *Melpomene* at the time. They might be there without my seeing them.

William Rushton Bailey, British, Second Officer of the British steamship *Patroclus*, sworn:—I have been 13 years at sea, of which I have spent 5 years in steamships, and I have had a Master's certificate 5 years. I have been two years in the service of the Ocean Steamship Co. I remember quite distinctly the storm of the 9th of Sept. Early in the morning I came on deck; at 4 o'clock in the morning, and remained on deck the rest of the morning. At 5.45 or thereabouts the ship began to drag. I was then stationed in the after part of the ship. I had been looking after the fenders. The fenders were stowed away and were got out, but not until after the ship began to drag. They are kept where they can be got in 2 or 3 minutes.

They were not put over the side right way. They were not put over the side until after the collision. At the time of the collision our fenders were not over the side. Our ship dragged past the *Kaiser*, very close to her. I could see the men on the *Kaiser* getting in boats and booms and doing everything possible to avoid our touching them. I did not see any similar preparations made on the *Melpomene*. I did not see any one on the *Melpomene's* deck; not at the time. We touched the *Melpomene* before we brought up. We put fenders out and swung round. There were no fenders out when we struck. The *Melpomene's* stem struck the midship section of our bulwarks. It was after that we swung round and came alongside the *Melpomene*. I was close to where the first impact was on our ship. Our fenders were not put out until after we were alongside the *Melpomene*. There were no fenders out on the *Melpomene* when we came alongside—not as I could see. I saw the two tackles on the anchor of the *Melpomene* on the port side—and the anchor in the bridle. As we approached the *Melpomene* I saw some of the officers and crew (I took them to be) coming up on the forecable head and I called out to them to take in the anchor. I pointed with my hands to the anchor. The *Patroclus* eventually came into collision with the anchor while it was hanging out. I was very near that point of collision. The anchor went through the upper plates of the after part of the forecable head of the *Melpomene*. The anchor was carried away by the first impact, that is carried out of the bridle. We first struck the stem of the *Melpomene*, then swung round and caught the anchor. The anchor when we swung round and struck it was carried out of the bridle. It then fell down and hung by the tackle at the davits. It penetrated the *Melpomene* after it had fallen. I saw the anchor afterwards lowered into the sea; we did not assist, it was lowered into the sea by the tackles by the *Melpomene's* men.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—It was after the bridle was carried away that I called out and motioned to the men of the *Melpomene* to take it in. I was on the main deck, starboard side, amidships. It was after the first impact and before we caught the anchor that I called out. The anchor was swinging, when the fluke caught in our ledge. The bridle had then been carried away. It was after the anchor had left the bridle that I called out. In saying it was 5.45 when we began to drag I judged from the time our coffee was brought. They generally bring our coffee at half-past five. I did not look at any clock. We take our time from our own chronometer—allowing for the difference of time. We keep 135th meridian time, Japan mean time. Yokohama is further East, L. 139.40, that is 18½ minutes faster.

Thomas Laurus Stephen Garrett, British, 3rd officer of the British steamship *Patroclus* sworn:—I have been about 12 years at sea, have had about 3 years experience of steam ships. Have had a Master's certificate since January of this year. I remember the storm of the morning of the 9th of Sept. I came on deck about 3 a.m. and remained on deck the rest of the day. I was at my station before 4 and remained at my station until after the blow was over. I was on the bridge deck under the flying bridge about midships. Later on the *Patroclus* dragged and eventually came into contact with the *Melpomene*. There was an anchor hanging in the bridles on the port side of the *Melpomene*. I saw that before the collision. I saw the *Melpomene* was attached to her buoy by a chain. I should think the chain was fully about 5 fathoms. As we approached the *Melpomene* I signalled to them to veer chain. The *Patroclus* when she dragged approached the *Melpomene* at about an angle of 45 and struck the stem of the *Melpomene* with her starboard waist (close by my position), rebounded and then came alongside. We did not strike the anchor at the first blow. At the 2nd impact the anchor caught in the half round and the bridle was carried away. The anchor was broken at the crown. This was quite close to my position. We prized off the anchor from our half round. It did no damage to the *Melpomene* when it was stuck in our half round. When we prized it away it went between the ships and it was then it damaged the *Melpomene*. After that they lowered it down to a point where it was no longer crushed between the two ships. I had to do with the fenders in our ship. We got some fenders out before she began to drag—cane fenders. Several were put out afterwards. I could not say whether any were put out before we came alongside the *Melpomene*. As soon as we struck we were getting fenders along. Some were getting the anchor out of our side and some were bringing the fenders along. Fenders might have been of use right aft. The two fenders—one was put abait the half round and the other nearly quite aft. I made no note of the time we began to drag—only a mental note. It

was about 5.45. I took the readings of the barometer from 6 to 8. I marked them on the slate. That is where the Chief Officer would take it from—the log slate.

Cross-examined—When I took the barometer at 6 we had struck the *Melpomene*; it was only a few minutes from when we started to drag until we struck her. When we prized the anchor off it was touching her side and was on our rail and caught in the half round. Immediately after we got it over, the two ships came together again and that caused the damage.

This concluded the evidence taken on commission and the Court adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

Upon the Court re-assembling at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Walford called:—

Robert Ross Thompson, a citizen of the United States, examined—I am shipping clerk in the office of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, agents of the *Patroclus*. On the 9th Sept. the *Patroclus* was in the harbour of Yokohama, moored to the P. & O. Co.'s buoy. I arranged that berth for her. My proper berth, the German mail buoy, which I chartered, was occupied by a German cruiser. I went to the shipping clerk of Messrs. Strachan & Co. agents of the Mutual Line, and asked them for the use of what is known as the P. & O. buoy, which I heard was chartered by them. They gave me the permission. The harbour was full at the time. A message was sent me from the P. & O. office after the *Patroclus* was moored, telling me to remove her from the buoy. I afterwards saw the agent, Mr. Woolley, who agreed to let the steamer remain there for the time being, until the arrival of the Fleet.

Mr. Lowder objected to the Fleet being mentioned and His Honour allowed the objection.

Witness continuing—I gave instructions that the *Patroclus* should be taken to the buoy. I go afloat whenever one of our steamers comes in. The P. & O. buoy was in very frequent use, by very large ships—the *Moyuna* over 3,000 tons net, the *Ningchow* and other large ocean steamers; the *Antenor*, on her previous voyage, and large cruisers. I knew nothing as to the strength of the moorings, beyond that they were used by large vessels. I had no reason to suppose that they would drag in a storm.

Cross-examined—The German cruiser was put at the German mail buoy without seeking my permission. The agent of the N. G. Lloyd did not remove the cruiser. I spoke to him on the matter. I got no satisfaction and as it would have taken days to come to an arrangement I decided to get another berth.

To the Court—The cruiser at the buoy must have been the *Princess Wilhelm*.

Mr. Walford said that concluded his case.

Mr. Lowder then addressed the Court, commencing by commenting on the evidence adduced as to the excellence of the gear and fittings of the *Patroclus* and the conduct of the Captain in trusting simply to the statement of a shipping clerk in taking up a mooring of which he practically knew nothing, instead of trusting to the ship's tackle. That he submitted constituted an act of gross neglect on the part of the master of the *Patroclus*. That the moorings were insufficient for the strain put upon them was shown by the fact that they carried away. Did the master take all due precautions in the circumstances of the case? The ship was almost empty and in the month of September bad weather might be anticipated.

Mr. Walford objected to the line taken by Mr. Lowder, as it was not pleaded that they were wrong in taking up the moorings they did, and quoted authorities on the point. The petition had been filed after the cross-examination of the master of the *Patroclus* but the point had not been raised in the petition. He took the case he had to argue from the petition. There were specific acts of negligence charged in the petition and this was not one of them.

After hearing Mr. Lowder again on the point, His Honour said he thought he would allow Mr. Lowder to go on, Mr. Walford having a right to be heard on the point later on if he desired to argue it.

Mr. Lowder referred the Court to the case of the *Secret*, in *Law Times Reports*, 26, p. 670, on the point, and also to the cases of the *Merchant Prince*, the *East Lothian*, *Lushington*, etc. Counsel submitted that the burden was not on him to prove negligence on the part of defendants, there was *prima facie* evidence of that, and the burden lay with the other side to show that the damage occurred through an inevitable accident which was unavoidable by him. Counsel drew attention to the light trim of the *Patroclus* and the time of the year, the typhoon season, and the dangerous position she placed herself in at a time when bad weather might be expected. The master had taken a position where

he was unable to veer chain when the storm came on, and showed negligence.

Mr. Walford objected to the charge of negligence founded on the position of the ship as contrary to the preliminary act and petition. His objection was noted by the Court and Mr. Lowder continued his argument, submitting to the Court the question whether or not it was the duty of the master of the *Patroclus* to have made use of his own anchors and chain instead of the buoy.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned till 10 a.m. on Thursday, when Mr. Lowder will cite his authorities and Mr. Walford will address the Court for the defendants.

Thursday, Oct. 21st, 1897.

Mr. Lowder for plaintiffs continued his address to the Court. Counsel called the attention of the Court to the premonitory symptoms of the weather at 2 a.m. on the 9th Sept. and the readings of the barometer at the time, and suggested that it would then have been an ordinary precaution to have ordered steam up on the *Patroclus*, instead of which the master waited till 4 o'clock.

His Honour—Would it have been of use at the time of the collision, if steam had been ordered at 2?

Mr. Lowder—The time of the collision was, in evidence, 5.55 a.m. and it was stated steam could have been got up in four hours.

His Honour—The earliest time that steam was ordered on any vessel in the harbour appeared to be at 2.30, when it was ordered on the *Melpomene*, and their time was $\frac{1}{2}$ hour or so later than the time on the *Patroclus*.

Mr. Lowder, continuing—It was pleaded by the defendant that he was unable to pay out any chain, and it would have been an ordinary precaution that the starboard anchor should have been laid out before the storm, when taking up his position in the harbour. The master of the *Patroclus*, according to his own statement, had 300 feet between him and the vessel lying nearest to him, the *Kaiser*. Had he paid out chain, say 150 feet, at 2 a.m. would it not have rendered the collision less probable? Also whether he could not have made use of his starboard anchor in addition to that measure, Counsel then referred the Court to various cases bearing upon the point raised by Mr. Walford as to whether a vessel drifting was really under way in the ordinary acceptance of the term, quoting the case of the *Massachusetts*, 1 William Robinson, 371, 1842, a case of collision by the dragging of the damaging ship, through the anchor being too light and not sufficient chain paid out, in which damages were given. The next cases cited were those of the *Volcano*, 2 William Robinson, 244, and the *Virgil*, 1843, 2 William Robinson, 205, in which latter case a definition of "inevitable accident" was given. Counsel then cited the case of the *Marpesia*, 1872, Law Reports Privy Council, p. 220, in which the definition laid down in the case of the *Virgil* was accepted, as it was also in 1876 in the case of the *Plada*. Counsel further cited the judgment in the case of the *Kepler*, which he considered to be on all fours with the case before the Court, in which the colliding steamer was pronounced alone to blame; the cases of the *Lidschalf*, 1856; the *Egyptian*, in 1861, Privy Council New Series, 373; Counsel considered that the deduction to be drawn from the latter case was that when taking up an anchorage it was incumbent on a vessel not to bring up in such a place that she endangers another ship. She should not bring up directly ahead or in the stream of another ship having regard to the current and the prevailing wind. If she bring up directly in the hawse of another ship or elsewhere in the neighbourhood of another ship, there must be such a distance between them that in the event of her dragging, she may have an opportunity to keep clear. He further quoted the cases of the *Excelsior*, 2 Law Reports, p. 272; the *Ruby Queen*, Lushington, 266; the *Secret*, Law Times Reports, vol. 26, p. 672; the *Nitrate Phosphate Manure Co. v. the London Dock*, 1578, Law Reports Chancery Division, p. 510; Pandorf v. Hamilton, 1886, Queen's Bench Division, p. 675, which gives a definition of "the act of God" as used in a mercantile sense; the case of the *City of Peking*, Law Reports 14, Appeal Cases, p. 43, year 1888, a collision which occurred in the harbour of Hongkong. It was pleaded by the *Patroclus* that she was very high out of the water and on the point whether the owners were responsible for damages to which her trim may have contributed, Counsel quoted the case of the *Argo* and a case decided in the Supreme Court of the United States, in which it was laid down that it lay with the defaulting ship to prove the efficiency of her moorings and tackle. Counsel also referred to the cases of the *Indus*, 12 Probate Division, 86; the *Albano* (1892) 8 Times Law Reports, p. 425; the *Merchant*

Prince, same vol. p. 430. In the *Albano* case the Master of the Rolls laid it down that the "greatest care and skill" required to be proved to justify the plea of inevitable accident.

Mr. Walford pointed out that the statement of the Master of the Rolls on this point was overruled by the other two judges sitting in the case referred to.

Mr. Lowder, continuing, referred to the statement in the defence that the accident was due to the *Melpomene's* anchor not being removed and to cable not having been paid out. As regards the anchor, it was hanging from the davits in the usual position, and work was in progress on board to get ready a cable to attach to the anchor. Certainly the absence of the anchor could not have averted the collision, the first impact of the *Patroclus* being forward of the anchor. The case which the defence would probably rely upon was that of the *Margaret*, 6 Probate Division, 76, in which a collision occurred on the Thames between a barge and a schooner, the injury to the former being caused by an anchor hanging in an improper position on the schooner but the barge being also found to blame for improper navigation, damages were divided. The case cited differed, Counsel submitted, from that before the Court as regarded the position of the anchor on the respective vessels. On the schooner it was in an improper position, and on the *Melpomene* in an ordinary and proper position; but even supposing it to be held that it was in an improper position the evidence showed that there was not sufficient time after the *Patroclus* dragged to take the anchor in board, or drop it, and the weather was so bad that the crew could not get near the anchor.

At this stage an adjournment was made till 2 p.m.

On continuing after tiffin, Mr. Lowder resumed his address. With regard to the line of the *Melpomene's* anchor the question had been raised by the Court as to whether it had been let go when it should have been, or could have been. Counsel submitted that the collision appeared inevitable only five minutes before it occurred. The evidence of the chief officer was to the effect that the wind would not permit them to get near the anchor. The Captain stated that he let go the line a moment before the collision but it had no effect. Mr. Lowder quoted from Marston to show that a wrong step at the moment of agony of the collision, or the omission of a proper step, on the part of the vessel struck could not be imputed to her in the way of making her in any way responsible for the damage done. Counsel further cited from 14 Moore's Privy Council, p. 83, in the year 1890, and Marsden, p. 345. It was not a case of a vessel breaking from her moorings, but he cited it to show that if a vessel is in a wrong position and a vessel in motion runs into her, the mere fact of her being in a wrong position does not exonerate the other vessel from blame, or prove contributory negligence, and the same would apply if not the ship, but its anchor, were in a wrong position. The next case on the other side would probably be that of the *William Lindsay* 5 Privy Council, p. 78, but in that case the ship was ordered by the port authorities to move to a certain buoy from which she broke and drifted after a gale and collided with the *Exeter*, in spite of an anchor having been immediately dropped. Judgment was given to the effect that the collision was the result of unavoidable accident and each ship paid its own costs. On appeal the decision was upheld, and on first sight the ruling would appear to be in favour of the defence in the case before the Court; but there were differences in the two cases. In the case of the *William Lindsay*, the master fastened to a buoy under the orders of the Harbour Authorities, who were responsible for the safe condition of the moorings. Here there were no such harbour authorities, and the buoys in the harbour are not guaranteed by any authority. Sanction had been given, it was shown in evidence, by the Kencho to the use of the buoys, but this was not sufficient to justify the master in trusting to the buoy. It was also shown that the *William Lindsay* had an anchor ready to drop in case of dragging, and that it was dropped, but did not reach the bottom. In that case therefore all possible precautions had been taken to prevent an accident. The *Patroclus* was in a position in which her only chance was to hold on to the buoy and Counsel suggested that they might have laid out their starboard anchor for one thing. He thought the question to be put to the Assessors was whether they were satisfied that everything possible had been done by defendants to prevent the accident.

His Honour considered he could only ask the Assessors their opinion with regard to the points raised by Counsel in support of the charge of negligence on the part of the defendants.

Mr. Lowder said one of the points he had made was whether the Captain was justified in making use of the buoy with no personal knowledge of its

condition, solely on the authority of the shipping clerk. Also whether he should not have laid out his starboard anchor in addition to the buoy. He also suggested that it would have been a proper precaution to have got up steam at 2 a.m. With all due deference however, Counsel could not agree with His Honour's statement that Counsel was bound to suggest all the questions which should be put to the Assessors. In conclusion, Mr. Lowder referred to one point which he had overlooked, which was whether the *Melpomene* should have veered chain. Soundings had since been taken, but at the time the Captain did not know the exact depth of the water, except that it was shoal at a very short distance, and that there was danger of his running aground if he had veered chain.

Mr. Walford then addressed the Court. Referring to the last point raised by Counsel for the plaintiffs, he had taken the trouble to have accurate soundings taken of the depth of water between the *Melpomene* and the shoal, the depths given by the witnesses for plaintiffs being only estimated. Counsel complained that Mr. Lowder had departed from the pleadings in his argument, and cited as authority in support of his objection—the *Marpesa* case. He could plead in two ways, either giving no particulars, or, if giving particulars, must stick to the definite allegations made. Mr. Lowder now contended that the *Patroclus* had no right to be at the buoy at all; a point that was not raised in the pleadings.

His Honour thought that Mr. Walford had met that in cross-examination.

Counsel, continuing, said that if it fell upon him to prove that there had been no negligence, it was incumbent on Mr. Lowder to show how he had failed to prove it. Taking the fact that nearly all the ships in the harbour dragged their anchors, some going ashore that morning, it might be assumed that a storm involving these casualties must have been an act of God. Although such typhoons occurred occasionally in the month of September they were not common, and this was an exceptionally severe one. There was nothing to indicate extraordinary bad weather until 2 a.m., according to the Captain of the *Patroclus*. It had been suggested that the *Patroclus* should have laid out her starboard anchor; that was a question for the Court; it was also said she should have got up steam at 2 o'clock; but if this had been done it was shown that it would not have been in time to prevent the collision. As to the distance between the *Patroclus* and the *Kaiser* it was put at 300 feet and 400 feet respectively, it is questioned whether the *Patroclus* was justified in taking up the position at the buoy. If she could have paid out 90 fathoms of chain she would have done so, but the paying out of only a little chain would have only made his position worse with regard to the *Kaiser*. Captain Dickens was on board at 2 p.m. and what he did was done deliberately, he held on close up to the buoy, and was not to blame for doing so. In ordinary weather, Captain Dickens said, the position was a safe one, during the typhoon it was a very dangerous one, but so were the positions of almost every vessel in the harbour. Passing on to the case made by the defence against the *Melpomene*, the two charges were that she did not remove her port anchor and that she did not let out chain to avoid the collision. If the *Melpomene* had veered chain for about 200 feet the *Patroclus* would have swung round and just cleared her. At 550 feet from the buoy there were usually 20 feet of water and on that occasion there would be several feet more, as the tide was exceptionally high. At 600 feet from the buoy there were 18 feet of water, according to their own witness, much more than sufficient to allow of veering 200 feet of chain, which would have prevented the collision. Defendants attributed the collision solely to the position of plaintiffs' anchor. The excuse given for the position of the anchor by the Captain and chief officer of the *Melpomene* was that the weather prevented them from getting near the anchor, but it was added that but for the collision the anchor would have been lowered by 5.40. It would take, in the weather there then was, from 6 to 10 minutes. It was clear that the anchor could have been lowered, and should have been lowered, directly the *Patroclus* was seen dragging, which was 20 minutes before the collision. Counsel considered it was proved that all the damage done to the *Melpomene* was done by the anchor. If the plaintiff's ship is found to blame for negligence, defendants claimed entire immunity from damage, even supposing previous negligence had been proved against defendants. In support of this contention Counsel cited Marsden, p. 20, Davis and Mann and the *Verona*, 12 Probate Division, p. 89. The same doctrine was recognised in the *Khedive*, Five Appeal Cases, p. 892, and other cases. Pollock on Torts also stated (p. 405)

that the party who has the last opportunity of avoiding an accident, even if negligence occur on the other side, is solely responsible. Counsel also quoted further authorities on the point. The defendants' case was that the *Patroclus* had done everything she could do to avoid the accident and on the other hand the *Melpomene* did nothing, although she saw the *Patroclus* coming down on her for 20 minutes; that she did not remove the anchor, the most dangerous thing on board, or veer out chain.

Mr. Lowder said he would not occupy the time of the Court with any reply.

His Honour—The Court will consider the case—judgment reserved.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

TYPHOID FEVER IN LONDON.

London, Oct. 15.
Typhoid fever has broken out in London, and there are eighteen cases among the staff of University College Hospital.

THE VENEZUELA ARBITRATION.

Professor Maertens, of St. Petersburg University, has been chosen umpire in the Venezuela Arbitration, and the court will assemble at Paris next autumn.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Five British men-of-war have sailed from Malta for Alexandria.

RESIGNATION OF LORD ESHER.

The Master of the Rolls (the Right Hon. Wm. Balfour, Lord Esher), has resigned.

BIMETALLISM.

The *Times* states that a letter is being drawn up for the purpose of expressing the grave objections of the majority of the leading City men to any movement by the Government in the direction of bimetalism.

London, Oct. 18.

A memorial has been forwarded by the leading men of the City (London) to Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, which urges the maintenance of the single standard, and that no retrograde step be taken with regard to the Indian Mints except after the most exhaustive enquiry, and then only if Indian interests are to be primarily benefitted. The Canadian banks have also forwarded a similar memorial.

The Cabinet on Saturday considered several memorials from bimetalists and goldites, including one signed by 1,500 members of the Manchester Exchange, urging the fulfilment by the Government of its pledges to cooperate in securing a stable par exchange.

It is understood that the home Government has consulted the Indian Government, and that the latter is strongly averse to reopening the mints, but it is believed that Saturday's Council will probably result in further negotiations with the United States and other foreign silver states.

London, Oct. 19.

The *Times* states that the Cabinet has decided upon declining to reopen the Indian mints or to enter the proposed monetary conference, but the Government will very likely intimate that it will be prepared to consider further or alternative proposals by the United States and France for the rehabilitation of silver.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN AFRICA.

London, Oct. 16.

Although the French Press discusses the West Africa question with some degree of heat, the French Government is moderate and conciliatory, and hopes that

the approaching negotiations will terminate in the adjustment of existing differences. Nevertheless, there is a strong divergence between British and French views on certain points, especially in regard to the banks of the Niger.

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

London, Oct. 20.

A British force has stormed the Chagen Plateau, on the Samana range, and captured the fortified village of Dargai, with the loss of Major Branley and nine men killed, and Lieutenant Pears and 23 men wounded. The enemy's loss was heavy.

London, Oct. 21.

The force under Brigadier-General Yeatman-Biggs yesterday captured the Dargai Ridge, which was held by many thousands of Orakzais and Afridis. The position is immensely strong, the ridge being crowned by precipitous rocks, but after a prolonged bombardment the Gurkhas and the Gordon Highlanders rushed the position and captured it under a destructive fire. It is feared that our losses have been severe.

GERMAN MINISTER TO TURKEY.

The German Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, has been appointed Ambassador to Constantinople.

THE NEW MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

Judge Lindley (the Right Hon. Sir Nathaniel Lindley, of the Court of Appeal), has been appointed Master of the Rolls.

MARRIAGE OF SIR EDWIN ARNOLD.

Sir Edwin Arnold has married a Japanese lady educated in England.

THE "FUJI."

Hongkong, Oct. 19.

The *Fuji* will stay here for six days, and will start for home on the 24th inst. Yokosuka will be reached on the morning of the 31st inst.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

THE INDIAN FRONTIER.

Paris Sept. 29.

Simla reports that the Mohmands have promised to surrender their arms.

ATTACK ON DOCTORS.

Paris, Sept. 29.

The populace attacked the English doctors at Igalspuri; four were wounded.

THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

Paris, Sept. 30.

Mr. Woodford, Ambassador of the United States at Madrid, is continuing negotiations with regard to Cuba.

It is believed that Germany and Austria are supporting Spain.

WEST AFRICAN BOUNDARIES.

Paris, October 1.

England and France have agreed to appoint a commission to settle the frontier lines in West Africa.

THE AMIR AND THE AFRIDIS.

The Amir of Afghanistan has ordered the arrest of all the Afridi chiefs who appear in Cabul.

Paris, October 2.

The Amir has forbidden his subjects to participate in the Indian Frontier war.

FLOODS IN FRANCE.

Paris, October 3.

Great floods have occurred in Ariège and Garonne districts.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Paris, October 4.

M. Barthou, Minister of Home Affairs, delivered a speech in Bayonne, in the course of which he called the attention of the electors to

the gravity of the elections of 1898, which will have an important effect on the future of the country. He repudiated all dangerous Utopias, and extolled all works that would tend to social solidarity.

AN ENGLISH TRAVELLER IN THIBET.

The English traveller, Landor, who had been kept a prisoner a long time in Thibet, has returned.

HAKODATE NEWS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hakodate, 18th Oct., 8.10 a.m.

H.M.S. *Peacock* has arrived here.

Hakodate, Oct. 23, 8.15 a.m.

H.M.S. *Peacock* has left for Yokohama.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

STORM IN THE NORTH.

Niigata, Oct. 16.

Since the 13th inst. a storm has been raging on land and sea. All the vessels in the harbour have taken shelter behind Sado Island.

Sapporo, Oct. 15.

The Japanese man-of-war *Musashi*, which started for Soya, has three times had to put back to this port on account of the severe gale.

GENERAL KONO.

Kobe, Oct. 16.

Major-General Kono, Chief of the Military Bureau in Formosa, arrived here yesterday from Tokyo. This morning he started for Ujina, whence he sails for Formosa.

MAN-OF-WAR FOR FORMOSA.

Nagasaki, Oct. 16.

The Japanese man-of-war *Sakô* left here for Formosa this afternoon.

EXCHANGE OF GOLD AT KOBE.

Kobe, Oct. 16.

Silver *yen* and notes presented for exchange into gold from the 1st up to the 15th instant amounted to *yen* 1,668,380. Silver *yen* imported from Hongkong and Shanghai district during ten days ending the 10th inst. amounted to *yen* 96,238.

LOOTING A FISHING BOAT.

Niigata, Oct. 22.

The fishing-vessel *Ajiu Maru*, owned by Mr. Irizawa Torajiro of this Prefecture, returned here yesterday from Siberia and reported that while the crew were fishing on the 7th inst. at a place on the Siberian coast, they were attacked by some Siberians and all the money they possessed was seized by the robbers, though no one was killed or wounded.

THE NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

Tsu, Oct. 21.

The war-vessels *Hashidate*, *Naniwa*, *Yasuyama*, *Amagi*, *Tatsuta* and *Heiye* arrived here from Yokosuka to-day for the manœuvres.

Tsu, Oct. 22.

Three torpedo-boats entered this port to-day to take part in the manœuvres which will commence to-morrow.

A NEW CANAL.

Sapporo, Oct. 21.

The work of cutting a canal between Sapporo and Zenibako has been completed and the canal was formally opened to-day.

ANOTHER KOREAN PRINCE.

Sŏul, Oct. 21.

Madame Gencho-kyu gave birth to a prince yesterday.

INDUSTRIAL BANK.

Matsuyama, Oct. 21.

The Matsuyama Agricultural and Industrial Bank is to be established with a capital of *yen* 700,000, of which over *yen* 233,000 is a Government subsidy.

DISSATISFIED WORKMEN.

Yokosuka, Oct. 21.

The workmen employed in the Shipbuilding Yard, machine-shops and other factories, have made a demonstration for an increase of wages.

ILLEGAL RICE SPECULATION.

Kyoto, Oct. 22.

About 40 speculators in rice have been arrested and are now being examined.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. Oct. 25
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	City of Rio de Janeiro	W. Oct. 27
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Oct. 27
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Fri. Oct. 29
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Sa. Oct. 30
Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.	N. P. Co.	Victoria	T. Nov. 1
Europe	M. M. Co.	—	W. Nov. 3
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Nov. 4
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu. Nov. 9

- 1 Left Vancouver on the 18th inst.
 2 Left Hongkong on the 19th inst.
 3 Left Hongkong on the 21st inst.
 4 Left San Francisco on the 21st inst.
 5 Left Victoria on the 19th inst.
 6 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 21st inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Portland, Or.	N. P. Co.	Mogul	Su. Oct. 24
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of India	M. Oct. 25
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Satsuma Maru	Tu. Oct. 26
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Oct. 29
Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.	N. P. Co.	Columbia	Sa. Oct. 30
America	C. P. R. Co.	City of Rio de Janeiro	Sa. Oct. 30
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	—	Su. Oct. 31
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Fri. Nov. 5
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Nov. 9

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-side.

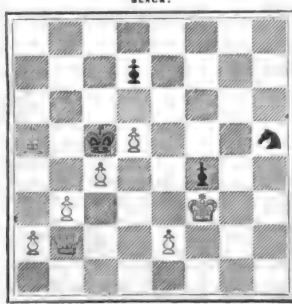
The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Ichome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 341.

- WHITE. BLACK.
 1—Q to B sq 1—P to B 3
 2—Q takes P (Kt 5) mate 1—P to B 4
 2—Q to K R sq mate 1—P to Kt 6
 2—B to B 3 mate 1—P takes P
 2—Kt to B 7 mate 1—Moves B
 2—B takes P (B 7) mate 1—Moves Kt
 2—Q to B 4 mate
 Correct solutions received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., and D.D.

PROBLEM No. 343.

By F. H. GUEST, Smethwick, England.
 (Respectfully dedicated to Mrs. W. J. Baird.)



Hermes, Norwegian steamer, 865, J. C. Jensen, 15th October,—Mojji, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, Dwyer, 16th October,—Portland, Or. via Mororan, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Lord Wolseley, British ship, 2,518, McVicker, 16th October,—Port Townsend, Ballast.—H. Ahrens & Co.

Lombard, British steamer, 1,658, Raison, 16th Oct.—Otaru, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Glenartney, British steamer, 1,943, F. Gedy, 17th Oct.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Caledonian, French steamer, 3,400, Durrande, 17th Oct.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.

Gerda, German steamer, 2,052, Ehlers, Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, T. A. Whistler, 18th Oct.—Hongkong via Kobe and Shanghai, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Socotra, British steamer, 3,919, John Paine, 19th Oct.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Germania, German steamer, 1,714, Muller, 19th Oct.—Mororan, Ballast.—Simon Evers & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 19th Oct.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, S. Kawamuro, 19th Oct.—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saint Ninian, British steamer, 1,938, Haynes, 19th Oct.—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Frazar & Co.

Sabit Mary, British steamer, 1,939, R. F. Perrie, 20th Oct.—Mojji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tencer, British steamer, 1,802, Riley, 21st Oct.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, R.N.R., 21st Oct.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Commodore T. H. Allen, American ship, 2,216, Merriam, 21st Oct.—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Selkirkshire, British Barque, 1,192, Brafender, 22nd Oct.—Portland, Or., Ballast.—H. Ahrens & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports.—Mr. K. Tosawa, General La Gaudre, Madame Espeisse, Mrs. Ayabe, Mr. J. F. Duff, Mr. Kuhn, Mr. C. Kadono, Lieut. R. Fujino, Mr. C. Gibbons, Rev. O. Cary, Surgeon Captain Watson, and Mr. F. S. Morse, in cabin, Miss K. Kondo, Messrs. G. Robert, T. Asahina, Y. Yamataka, K. Sugihara, I. Noma, Law Kin Jai, and T. Tomita, in 2nd class; 89 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma and Victoria, B.C.—Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Milliken, Mr. W. L. Worcester, and Mr. J. J. Long, in 2nd class; 15 Japanese in steerage. For Kobe:—Miss R. Edwards, Dr. R. A. Hardie, Mrs. V. J. Edwards and child, Rev. and Mrs. W. N. Brewster and 2 children, and Mr. T. T. Paget, in cabin; 3 Japanese in steerage. For Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. John Makins and child, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. R. de Malherbe, Mr. A. E. Alagar, Mr. A. J. Friedstrom, Miss Hilda Anderson, Miss Clara Anderson, Miss Hannah Lund, Miss E. Roehl, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Duff and 2 children, Miss Mary A. Antick, Mr. & Mrs. G. P. Bestick and 3 children, Rev. T. J. Preston, in cabin; Mrs. A. H. Smith, in 2nd class. For Hongkong:—Misses Clara Martin, Mary Jackson, and P. N. Worley, in 2nd class; 51 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports.—Mr. J. Smith, Mrs. Goldstein, Mr. A. Stead, Mr. Hough, Mr. Chongkwong, Miss Smithers, 7 Japanese, 2 Indians and 3 Chinese.

Per French steamer *Oceanic*, from Marseilles via ports.—Mr. Emile Chaix, Mr. Reich, Mr. and Mrs. L. Kerr, Mr. J. Orange, Mr. Y. Kawase, Mr. Roux, Mrs. Carl Le Gaudic de Poulon, Mr. Uyeno, Miss Broadman, Mr. and Mrs. L. Ratard, Mrs. Couperus, Niman Mohamed, Mr. Taminet, Captain Gay, Mr. Morris, 1 Japanese, Mr. M. Riemer d'Wenzel, Mr. and Mrs. Hecker, Mr. Strauss, Mr. Voulmier, Mr. A. de Ridet, Mr. Yanny, Mr. Benzakia, Mr. Hagi, Miss Alice Letz, Mr. Heuerthorn, and Mr. Oglesby, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports.—Dr. H. L. Norris, Mr. Jas. Ellerton, Mr. Mr. T. H. Eberhart, Mr. C. F. Heinlein, Mr. E. J. Plaza, Mr. H. J. Rothwell, Mr. Z. N. P. Hermann, Mr. W. O. Kohnmeyer, Miss H. Wallace, Mr. H. Merick, Mr. J. O. Van Buren, Mr. A. C. Byer, Mr. H. Ryder, Mr. F. Jones,

Mr. and Mrs. Von Trentler, Mr. H. Von Varchmire, Rev. H. Loomis, and Miss Loomis, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Lee Lat, son and native servant, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. J. Samson, Rev. F. L. Hawks Pott, Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Graham and 2 children, Mr. D. F. Hennessey, Mr. H. Carr, Mr. and Mrs. Erickson, Mr. Chang Hay, Mr. A. W. Schumacher, Mr. Denitsky, and Mr. P. W. Edwards, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Behrens, Mr. A. Alexander, Dr. G. W. Robinson, Mr. O. F. Oberbeck, Paymaster McDonald, U.S.N., Mr. F. M. Burgess, Mr. H. Kobayashi, Mr. Chas. Fink, Mr. A. Piesmeyer, Mr. Jas. Simpson, Mr. Oswald Simpson, Miss E. Simpson, Mrs. C. M. Presby, and Miss B. Presby, in cabin; 127 in steerage. For Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Stanford, Rev. and Mrs. Galick and 3 children in cabin; 2 in steerage. For Shanghai:—Mr. J. T. Hamilton, Miss E. B. French, Mr. A. W. Davidson, Rev. and Mrs. C. B. Titus, Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Stuart, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. C. Prakte, Rev. W. H. Dobson, Mr. Yang Kay, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Scherwin, nurse and child, Mrs. H. W. Elliott, Mr. J. E. Thompson, Miss K. Johnson, Miss C. H. McGilvary, in cabin; 317 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Sunda*, from London via ports.—Mr. Parr, and Mr. Chiron, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Caledonian*, for Shanghai via ports.—Mr. and Mrs. Harmand, children and servant, Colonel Fujii, Captain Fujimoto, Mr. Cudene, Mr. Haw, Mr. G. M. Malinofski, Sœur Marie Patrice, Sr. Marie du Sacre Coeur, Sr. Electa Beatrix, Sr. Elenore, Sr. Lily Brandt, Mr. Joseph Haas, Mr. Enomoto, Mr. Fukaki, Mr. V. V. de Newhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Favre, Mr. J. C. Avenas, Sœur St. Francois de la Croix, Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Bichenall and infant, Mr. J. Scryngeour, Mr. V. L. Bueck, Mr. R. E. Gill, Mr. A. N. Hansell, Mr. W. T. Payne, Miss Marie Bernard, Mr. and Mrs. Th. C. Carson, Baron de Gumburg, Miss Merry Brand, Rev. & Mrs. W. N. Brewster and 2 children, Mr. J. A. Muller, Mr. T. V. Twining, Mr. Syney Morse, Mr. and Mrs. Rabatsunkoff, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. C. Byer, Miss A. Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. John Burdan, Mr. P. W. Edwards, Rev. and Mrs. Erickson, Countess Festetics, Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Graham and two children, Mrs. L. B. Graham, Mr. H. Hijikata, Mr. Cheaney Heav, Mr. D. F. Hennessey, Mr. Inouye, Mr. K. F. Imitzky, Mr. Kitamura, Mr. H. B. Kendrick, Mr. & Mrs. Lee Let, son and servant, Mr. Frank P. Laikin, Mr. Geo. T. Marsh, Mr. Guy Metcalf, Mr. R. Mizuno, Mr. O. H. P. Noyes, Mr. K. Nagasawa, Mrs. W. C. Noble, Mr. W. Noble, Jr., Mr. S. Chashi, Rev. F. L. Hawks Pott, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Payne, Mr. J. Samson, Mr. A. W. Schumacher, Mr. L. E. Smith, Hon. and Mrs. J. M. B. Sill, Mr. K. Touda, Mr. J. Witkowski, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weld, in cabin.

CARGO.

The following are the silk shippers per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, which sails for San Francisco to-day, the 21st Oct.:—

	BALS.
Sieber & Co.	353
Siber Brennwald & Co.	313
Vivanti Bros.	146
O. Reimers & Co.	127
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	101
Bavie & Co.	74
Middleton & Smith.	62
Herbert Dent & Co.	45
Nabholz & Osenbruggen	25
The Kitto Shokwai	163
The Dashiha	114
The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.	74
The China and Japan Trading Co.	20

Total 1,617

Per American steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SAK.	NEW	HONOLULU.	MON.	OTHER	TOTAL.
	FRANCISCO.	YOKO.	CHICAGO.	TOKYO.	CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,123	2,985	—	—	—	3,808
Higo	—	—	496	—	—	496
Yokohama	857	—	—	—	—	857
Amoy	515	962	1,241	—	—	2,718
Total	2,495	962	4,472	—	—	7,879

	SAK.	NEW	HONOLULU.	MON.	OTHER	TOTAL.
	FRANCISCO.	YOKO.	CHICAGO.	TOKYO.	CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	—	417	—	—	417
Hongkong	—	—	550	—	—	550
Yokohama	—	—	1,686	—	—	1,686
Total	—	—	2,653	—	—	2,653

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A steady business has been done during the week in yarns, 2/42s. principally, at a slight reduction in prices, with the market rather weak at the close. Nothing at all doing in shirtings, fancy cottons or woollens, quotations being nominal.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

	PER PICK.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.50 to 3.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds. 39 inches	2.80 to 3.35
1. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 39 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds. 44 inches	1.05 to 2.00
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattains Black, 39 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25
Valves—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lanes, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2 to 2 1/2 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 1/2 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 1/2 yds. 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.34 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICK.
No. 16, 24, Singles	\$3.50 to 30.50
No. 18/32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
No. 38/42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
No. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
No. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
No. 2/60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
No. 2/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
No. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
No. 2/60, Gassed	78.00 to 79.00
No. 2/80, Gassed	80.00 to 85.00
No. 2/100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$1.10 to 1.25
Indian Broach	91 to 92
Chinese	80 to 81

MILLS.

There has been a considerable improvement in the tone of the metal market, and a good demand exists for forward delivery in several lines of iron. Tin plates are weak, with heavy arrivals in view. A native nail factory is in course of establishment and as a consequence dealers will give no considerable orders for American nails until they see what the home manufacturers can do.

	PER PICK.
Round and square 1/2 inch and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.10 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized iron sheets	9.20 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, H.C.	2.05 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.25

KEROSENE.

A small steady business has been done at unchanged prices. A cargo of Langkat oil is expected shortly, part of which has been sold at \$1.02 per case, but this has not influenced the rates for American and Russian oils.

	PER POUND.
American	\$2.00 to 2.15
Russian	2.00 to 2.15
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Arrivals since the 6th include 31,680 piculs Manila and 4,612 piculs China. There has been a fair demand at prices from 5 to 10 cents higher than quotations. Sales amount to 4,460 piculs Manila, 8,600 piculs China and 3,400 piculs Formosa. In white refined a fair business has been done at former rates.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$3.90 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.90
Brown Datong	3.20 to 3.35
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A considerable business, principally for America, has been transacted at prices rather below quotations, but at the close the market is firmer. Stocks amount to about 7,900 piculs, of which 2,500 piculs are sold but not delivered. Shipments have been:—per *Caledonian*, on the 17th, 539 piculs; per *Socotra*, Oct. 19th, 2 piculs, for Europe; per *Coptic*, Oct. 21st, 847 piculs, for America.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.....	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.....	\$30 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers.....	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers.....	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers.....	—
Kakedas—Extra.....	840 to 850
Kakedas—No. 1.....	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 1, 14/18 deniers.....	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2.....	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	—

WASTE SILK.

The market is active and prices well maintained. Sales during the week amount to about 1,800 piculs, and stocks at closing 8,500 piculs. The *Caledonian* took 1,173 piculs for Europe on the 17th inst.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best.....	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good.....	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best.....	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good.....	100 to 103
Noshi—Oshu, Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best.....	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good.....	65 to 67½
Noshi—Bushu, Best.....	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Good.....	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good.....	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair.....	55 to 57½
Kibiso—Filature, Best.....	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good.....	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair.....	20 to 22½

TEA.

A fair demand still continues and sales during the week amount to about 200,000 catties, a considerable increase on the previous week's settlements, at prices generally about \$1 under quotations. Most of the Tea purchased was of low grades. The *Coptic* took 857 packages for the U. S. and Canada on the 21st inst.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest.....	Nominal.
Choice.....	\$31 to 32
Finest.....	31 to 32
Fine.....	27 to 28
Good Medium.....	25 to 26
Medium.....	23 to 24
Good Common.....	21 to 22
Common.....	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Rates unaltered: silver ¼ lower from London, but no change in quotations from China.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/0½
— Bills on demand.....	2/0½
— 4 months' sight.....	2 0/8
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2/0½
— 6 months' sight.....	1/0½
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2.54½
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2.59
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	3 0/8 d.
— Private 10 days' sight.....	5 0/8 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	76
— Private 10 days' sight.....	78
On India—Bank sight.....	154½
— Private 30 days' sight.....	158
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	49
— Private 4 months' sight.....	50½
On Germany—Bank sight.....	2.06
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2.10½
Rai Silver (London).....	27½

WATERING APPARATUS

Non-freezing & Ordinary Hydrants and Street Washers, Garden Watering Boxes and Apparatus.

Gun-Metal, Copper, and Cast-Iron Cocks and Valves.

E. GUESNIER, E.C.P.,
Engineer and Cook Mfr.,
(Successor of ACHILLE CADET)
27, Rue des Tailandiers,
PARIS.

Hydropathic and Massage Apparatus supplied to the Vichy Co. Vapour Baths (Berthe system).

Apply to BOVES & Co., agents for M. OFFENHEIMER & Co., PARIS.

December 5, 1896.



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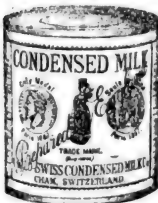
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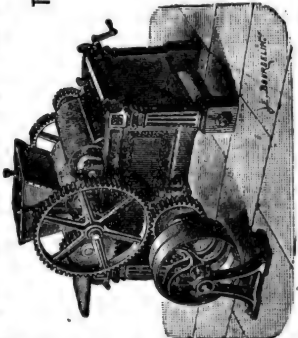
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 18.]

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YOKOHAMA, OCT. 30TH, 1897.

月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXVIII.
西曆一千九百零三年十月三十日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 30TH, 1897.

BIRTHS.

At Foochow, on the 17th inst., the wife of WILLIAM GRAHAM, of a daughter.
On the 7th October, at 4, Chao-fong Road, Shanghai, the wife of P. A. H. CHAMBERS, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Beauregard, Hongkong, on the 19th Oct., by the Rev. Dr. Chalmers, J. L. CHALMERS, of the Korean Customs, to DAISY, second daughter of Alexander Davidson, of Woodbank, Aberdeen, Scotland.

DEATHS.

At the Shanghai General Hospital, on the 13th Oct., Captain MCINTOSH, of the American barque *St. Katherine*.
At Hangchow, on the 8th October, 1897, the Rev. H. HUGHESDON, of the Church Missionary Society.
In San Francisco, on Oct. 2nd, GEORGE NEWHALL MACONDRAY, beloved brother of William and Horatio N. Macondray, a native of San Francisco, aged 33 years 6 months and 9 days.
At the Shanghai General Hospital, on the 18th of October, 1897, ALFRED JONES I.M.C., Hangchow, aged 27 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A strike of match-box makers has occurred in Kobe.

COLONEL SHAEFFER, of the Luxemburg Army, is to be appointed Governor of Crete.

TURKEY and Greece have agreed upon most of the articles for a definite treaty of peace.

THE Japan Red Cross Society will shortly establish branches in three Prefectures in Formosa.

It is reported that the forthcoming session of the Diet will open about the 26th of December

next and the Houses begin business early in January.

THE barracks of the Commissariat battalion at Komaba, Ebara-gun, were totally destroyed by fire on the 24th inst.

THE *Shimpo-to* (Progressive Party) has convened an urgency meeting of Parliamentary Representatives in the capital.

By an accident to an express train on the New York Central Railway on the 25th, twenty-eight persons were killed.

THE Koku Railway Co. has declared a dividend of 14 per cent. and the Sanyo Railway one of 13 per cent. per annum.

THE Agricultural and Industrial Bank of Tokyo-fu, now in course of organization, will commence business early in December.

THE Hooley-Jameson Chinese loan scheme has broken down and China is now negotiating with the H. and S. Bank for a loan.

THE Treasury has granted yen 270,000 towards the repair of damages by recent floods to embankments etc. in Niigata Prefecture.

An explosion of percussion caps occurred at Koishikawa Arsenal on the 25th inst. One employe was injured about the legs.

THE Bank of Japan, and all the principal banks in the country, will abolish the use of the *rig* in their accounts from the 1st Nov. next.

A few days ago a man named Yoshida Shintaro, of Yokohama, was run over and killed by a passenger train at the Takashima-cho crossing.

H.I.H. the Crown Prince will leave the capital for the Imperial estate at Atami, Izu Province, in a few days and stay there until next Spring.

THE cable between the Pescadores and Formosa has been interrupted since the 21st inst. The cable steamer *Okinawa Maru* has been ordered to effect repairs.

THE Autumn Meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held at the Negishi Racecourse on the 26th, 27th, and 28th inst., and proved in every way successful.

MR. TAKANO, the dismissed President of the High Court in Formosa, has returned to Taipei and entered the Court, against the orders of the Governor-General.

MARQUIS ITO, ex-Premier, returned to the capital on the afternoon of the 24th inst., and visited Count Inouye, who is at present a patient in the Red Cross Hospital at Shibuya.

THE Court being still in mourning for the late Empress Dowager, there will be no reception at the Palace, and no review, on the Emperor's Birthday, the 3rd of next month.

THE Aomori Prefectural Assembly, for passing a vote of want of confidence in Mr. Maki, Governor of the prefecture, was dissolved by order of the Authorities on the 26th inst.

THE Korean Government, at the request of the Russian Minister, has dismissed Mr. McLeavy Brown, adviser to the Treasury, and appointed Mr. Alexieff, a Russian nominee, to the post.

THE P. & O. steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind* encountered terrible weather on her last run from Singapore to Hongkong, and lost all her boats and received a great deal of damage to her upper works.

It has been decided to continue the use of the silver yen in Formosa, for the payment of taxes

and customs dues, as well as for private transactions, the authorities affixing a special stamp on the coins when received.

THE imports of foreign rice at Yokohama from January to September of this year amounted to 60,271,100 *kin*, while imports of rice from the 1st up to the 21st of October reached 7,700,381 *kin*.

THE revised Treaty between Chili and Japan, signed at Washington on the 25th of September, is stated to have been brought home by Mr. Hoshi Toru, who arrived in Japan on the 24th instant.

THE yearly output of rice in Echigo Province stands at 3,000,000 *koku* on an average, out of which 500,000 *koku* is usually sent to other localities. This year the farmers there are obliged to buy foreign rice.

On the 21st inst. fire broke out in the Sakatani railway workshop on the O-u line, between Yamagata and Fukushima, and six buildings were reduced to ashes. Six persons were severely injured during the fire, two of them fatally.

FOLLOWING on the coronation of the King of Korea as Emperor, the Korean Minister for Foreign Affairs has given notice to all the foreign Representatives in Seoul that the Peninsula is hereafter to be named *Tai Han*, or Great Korea.

A scheme is on foot for the establishment of a new club, to be called the Bankoku Keizai (International Economic Club), in which both Japanese and foreign merchants in Yokohama may meet and discuss commercial affairs at home and abroad.

THE Naval manoeuvres have commenced. The attacking squadron, consisting of the *Hashidate*, *Tatsuta*, *Yayeyama*, *Heiyen* and *Amagi*, which left Yokosuka the other day for the Bay of Ise, was to make a descent upon Yokosuka, the attack to last till the 27th and 28th. The manoeuvres continue till the 4th of November.

THE Import market during the past week has been anything but brisk. Cotton piece goods of all kinds were utterly stagnant, and woollens are in the same condition. Some business has been done in yarns, but buyers are by no means eager and prices have a downward tendency. There has been a slight fall in quotations for raw cotton, owing to good reports of the crops in China and the United States, though the Indian crop, which has hitherto supplied the larger portion of Japan's demands, is said to be considerably below the average. In metals, a small, steady business has been done at current prices. Arrivals of Brown sugar have been considerable and fully up to the requirements, while sales have not been large. A steady demand continues for White refined, and some business has been done in this line. The kerosene market is quiet for the time of year, and former quotations are fully maintained. There has been a considerable import of rice from Rangoon, Saigon, and China to meet local requirements, the price of home grown grain having risen to an abnormal figure owing to a much reduced crop in most parts of the country. Among the imports may be noted a trial shipment of Australian coal, which is reported to have compared favourably in quality and price with the native product. In the Export market a fair business has been put through in silk, both raw and waste, dealers having in some instances made slight concessions. Shipments have amounted to 455 bales for Europe and 1,039 bales for America. The purchases of tea have fallen off considerably, and stocks are low, prices being well maintained. Exchange remains steady.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The fact that popular attention has been diverted from Hokkaido since Formosa came into Japan's possession is deplored by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Strategically speaking, the northern island is just as important to Japan as the southern, and that the resources of the former admit of great development is certain. Thirty years, almost, have elapsed since the celebrated Colonization Bureau was organized on account of Hokkaido. During that long interval, the policy of the Central Government towards the island has undergone various changes, but there has been a uniform desire to promote emigration, and no less than sixty million yen have been spent by the Treasury for that purpose. What are the results? Out of 4½ million acres of arable land, only three hundred thousand have been brought under cultivation; in a district capable of supporting five millions of people, only seven hundred thousand are living, and an area representing eleven provinces is not as populous as a single prefecture in the main island. Meanwhile, in Japan proper, the prices of all the necessities of life have risen so that the struggle for means of subsistence has become terribly painful and a sense of despair is supplanting the confidence that should be inspired by the sight of such vast resources as those of Hokkaido lying undeveloped at the nation's doors. The great want in Hokkaido is means of communication. People do not care to raise crops or engage in manufacturing industries if they have no means of carrying the products of their toil to a profitable market. There is a programme of State railways, but it relates to one line only, and twelve years are to be occupied in carrying it out. As to private enterprise, two or three companies have been started, but they have not yet assumed tangible form. Such a state of affairs means that the troops and militia organized for the defence of the island could not be effectively mobilized, to say nothing of the fatal effect upon industry of every description. The *Nichi Nichi* does not understand why Japanese subjects should flock to foreign countries in the capacity of labouring emigrants, when such a field invites their enterprise at home.

Mr. Shimada Saburo, writing over his own signature in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, attacks the Government strongly with reference to the Formosa Railway. He describes the projectors of the road, Viscount Okabe and Baron Yasuba; as semi-officials; declares that their only qualification for the enterprise was the possession of many friends in the ranks of officialdom, and says that they planned the line by way of speculation rather than investment at a time when the share fever was rife, and when "potential shares" commanded absurd prices in the market. In short, Mr. Shimada hints very plainly that the whole business was a job. He wants to know why no surveys have been made in Formosa and why no experts have been sent there to investigate the financial prospects of the road. He heads his article, "Advice to Counts Matsukata and Okuma and Viscount Shinagawa," and he addresses himself specially to Count Okuma, whom he charges with having performed a *vulgar face* since he took office, since he had previously advocated the State ownership of railways whereas he is now using his influence to promote private enterprise in that field. To Mr. Shimada no prospect presents itself of the Formosa Railway's being built within any reasonable time unless the Government takes the work into its own hands. The question of funds he dismisses by observing that money can easily be obtained abroad. One ground of his assault upon the Government is that the latter's policy is inconsistent. On the one hand, it obliges the Bank of Japan to raise the rate of interest in order to check speculative enterprise, and, on the other, it encourages the formation of a company headed by speculators. The article is long and ably written, as might be expected considering the signature it bears, but the main

lines of contention will be sufficiently understood from what we have said above.

The *Fiji Shimpō* strongly urges the advisability of starting an iron foundry as a private enterprise in Japan. It holds that the country's future lies in manufacturing industry, and that the demand for machinery must grow larger and longer. At present, virtually all machines have to be imported from abroad. A few have been made in Japan from foreign materials and the results have clearly demonstrated that, owing to the cheapness of labour and the manual dexterity of the Japanese, such work can be accomplished much more cheaply in this country than in Europe or America. Further, the progress that has been made in shipbuilding proves that the Japanese are qualified to become expert workers in iron and steel. Thus with the certainty of a large demand, on the one hand, and of the ability to supply it, on the other, there should be no doubt about the result of such an enterprise. At the same time, it is not the kind of enterprise to tempt ordinary persons, who have no very large stores of capital to invest, and who look for speedy returns. Considerable outlay is required, and a comparatively long interval must elapse before profits can be realized. But these very facts should constitute an inducement to great capitalists, for the first to undertake the enterprise may fairly count on monopolizing the field. Now, however, is the moment to make a beginning. Two years hence, it will be possible for foreigners to start industries in any part of the empire, and they will certainly avail themselves of every really favorable opportunity that presents itself. Already, indeed, there are signs of active preparation on their part. The *Fiji*, therefore, earnestly commends this subject to the notice of the few capitalists capable of taking it up. There are difficulties to be overcome, it is true. Doubtless foreign experts would have to be engaged at the outset. But that an issue would be attained profitable from the point of view of those engaged in the enterprise, and highly beneficial to the nation, can not be questioned.

The Behring Sea Conference is the subject of an article in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. After recapitulating the history of the steps leading up to the Conference, and of England's attitude in the matter, our contemporary alleges that the exclusion of Japan and Russia on the ground of their having no *locus standi* is merely a pretext. The fact is that Great Britain and the United States have never been on good terms since the War of the Secession in 1863, and that this sealing question has not tended to remove their mutual feeling of umbrage. A very strongly worded despatch addressed by Mr. Sherman, the United States Secretary of State to the British Government, seems to have given much offence to the English people, and is probably the proximate cause of Lord Salisbury's sudden resolve to stand aloof from the Conference, a change of front which he has made under cover of the pretence that Japan and Russia must be excluded. The question then arises, what is Japan to do. In consideration of the American Government's intention, she agreed to send delegates. They were actually on their way to Washington before the news of England's decision reached Tokyo. Some publicists urge that they should be recalled. These persons argue that without England's co-operation the Conference must be a fiasco, since no agreement come to, nor any system of preservation elaborated, by America, Russia and Japan can bear practical fruits unless Great Britain gives her adhesion to it. Since, then, the Japanese commissioners would be merely wasting their time did they attend the Conference in its altered form, and since the meeting in which Japan was invited to take part was a meeting of four Powers, not of three, the best plan, they argue, would be to abstain from any further action in the matter. But the *Yomiuri Shimbun* holds a different opinion. It points out that no independent course adopted by Japan can be

satisfactory to one of the disputants without embarrassing the other. If Japan declines to take part in the Conference, she might please England, but would offend the United States; whereas by taking part in the Conference on its new basis, she helps America to escape from a dilemma, and, at the same time, does not give any cause for umbrage to England, since the latter has agreed to a separate conference of Canadian, British and American experts. Considering the conduct of America in the Hawaiian matter, there are doubtless many Japanese who would be gratified by contributing to her embarrassment at this juncture, but that is not a spirit that can be properly admitted into international intercourse. As to the abortive character of the Conference, it need only be said that Japan will have the United States and Russia for partners in the failure, if failure there is to be, a result by no means assured.

The *Times* recently published a letter on the subject of commercial education in Japan, and made some editorial comments on it, suggesting that Japanese industrial competition might soon become formidable to Great Britain. The subject is discussed by the *Kokumin Shimbun* in a very sensible and moderate strain. The *Kokumin* notes that whereas the Japanese used formerly to be regarded by Western nations as a superior kind of school-boys, to be sometimes petted, sometimes chastised, and sometimes applauded for their unexpected progress, they are now ranked with grown men worthy of serious consideration, and even of being treated as formidable rivals. In years gone by, the tendency was to despise and underrate them; nowadays, the tendency is to exaggerate their capacities and entertain unnecessary dread of them. The *Times'* article is an example of this modern propensity. It can not but be counted remarkable that the leading journal of a nation which is the only genuinely practical exponent of free trade in the world, and which, by faithful adherence to its liberal principles, has climbed to the very summit of the commercial ladder, should complain of peril to its supremacy because a comparatively insignificant Power has entered the field of competition. Japan has certainly made a marked advance in industrial competence, nor can it be denied that she has slightly cut into markets which were previously monopolized by Great Britain. But, on the other hand, her increased sales have resulted in an increase of purchasing power, and the result is that her imports, the greater part of which come from Great Britain, have grown enormously. Japan's gain in one direction is England's gain in another; the growth of the former's prosperity means that she becomes a better customer of the latter. No exposition of these facts can mitigate the racial prejudice which dictates anti-Oriental legislation by Occidental nations, and which unquestionably tends to exaggerate the dimensions of the cheap-labour problem in their eyes. Still facts are facts, and it may be hoped that calmer reflection will not only dispel the chimera that Japan's industrial competition can be an injury to England, but will also demonstrate the slenderness of the basis on which the supposed labour advantage stands. Japanese labour was cheap a few years ago; but the conditions are rapidly changing. The demand for skilled hands has enormously appreciated the wage they command in the market, and the remarkably rapid rise in the price of commodities constitutes another factor operating to diminish any advantage hitherto enjoyed by this country. The facts are not welcome to the Japanese themselves, but they ought to be recognised by Englishmen. Doubtless there is a political element in these apprehensions of industrial competition, but as to that, nothing can be said except that persons who fear a development of unscrupulously aggressive or bellicose sentiments in this country, greatly mistake the true character of the Japanese.

The story of political parties is discussed by the *Nippon* in an article that shows a remark-

ably broad grasp of the facts. In the early days of constitutional institutions, all the political parties were opposed to the Government. The first departure from that rule was made by the National Unionists. It is true that the National Unionists were the offspring of official interference in elections, and that they may not unjustly be called "the party of the clan party." Still to them belongs the historical credit of having been the first to support the Cabinet. The Liberals followed suit, and the Progressionists were the last to adopt that line of procedure. Now while it is true that the ultimate object of a political party is to secure the enforcement of the principles it advocates, and while it is also true that the line of cleavage between one political party and another is, or ought to be, a line of principles, there is, at the same time, no doubt that the tactics of every political party consist in getting the administrative power into their hands. Harshly considered, a political party may be called an organization having the sweets of office as the object of its efforts and movements, but if the facts be scrutinized more closely, there is no difficulty in recognising that since the possession of power is a necessary preliminary to putting into operation any given programme of principles, the apparently unseemly scramble for power in which political parties engage, is an unavoidable means to a praiseworthy end. It follows, therefore, that the degree of power actually secured by a party is an accurate measure of its political success. Applying that gauge, the National Unionists are found to have been a complete failure: they never obtained any share, however small, of administrative power, nor is the fact wonderful when the circumstances attending their evolution are recalled. The Liberals, a greater, and in every way more respectable, party, achieved a much larger success, but the palm undoubtedly belongs, in this respect, to the Progressionists. Apart from other considerations, the results of the policy of "employing popular talent" stand as a conspicuous score to the credit of the Progressionists. They have not, indeed, carried their success so far as to gain access to the Cabinet itself, but quite a number of their members have been drafted into the ranks of the administration in good, though not leading, positions, and they have fully established the principle that the claims of the Cabinet's supporters in the Diet must be duly recognised in distributing the rewards of office. Their success, however, carries with it a corresponding responsibility. The Cabinet is now their Cabinet. They do not actually hold the portfolios, but so many of their number are serving in prominent administrative posts that the whole party is emphatically identified with the Administration. Has the Cabinet given effect to the principles advocated by the Party? Is it apparent that to secure offices for themselves has not been the sole object of the Progressionists, but that accession to office is regarded by them merely as a means of giving effect to their political views. If these questions can be answered satisfactorily, well and good. If not, it behoves the Progressionists to adopt some definite and resolute line of procedure.

The *Shogyo Shimpō* writes in terms of strong approval of Count Okuma's resolve to sanction the establishment of silver bullion exchanges (*ginkuwai torihikiyo*). The settlement of this question devolved finally upon the Count in his capacity of Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce. There had been much opposition, many persons contending that no necessity existed for such exchanges, and that they would only constitute additional instruments for speculative gambling. But Count Okuma has wisely brushed away such frivolous arguments. There can be no reasonable doubt that public convenience loudly calls for the establishment of these exchanges. In Tokyo alone there are no less than 380 merchants engaged in the purchase and sale of silver and gold bullion. Nothing like a uniform rate exists. It is a matter of bargain, and much embarrassment is often experienced. No one can be sure of obtaining bullion if he

wants it or of selling bullion if he has it. That alone proves the need for an exchange in Tokyo, and when we remember that mercantile transactions with silver-using countries will henceforth involve transactions in bullion also, no room for discussion remains. The *Shogyo* writes at some length, but its arguments are familiar to foreigners, and need not occupy us here.

NEW PEERS.

The *Official Gazette* announces the creation of twelve new Barons, namely—Hosokawa Okimatsu (in consideration of his father's distinguished services); Nakane Koremi; Nabeshima Naoki; Nabeshima Shigemasa; Isahaya Iyetaka; Mori Yoshihisa (in consideration of the distinguished services of his father); Tamiya Suzutaro; Shimazu Hisamatsu; Shimazu Hisakata; Shimazu Takanobu (the last three in consideration of the distinguished services of their fathers); Fukuhara Motozo; and Takuken Ichiro.

Baron Hosokawa is a relative of Marquis Hosokawa. He was a Karo of the Kumamoto fief, enjoying an income of ten thousand *koku*, and he distinguished himself in the war of 1877.

Baron Nabeshima Naoki belongs to the family of the elder brother of the feudal chief of Kashima in Hizen. His father distinguished himself in the Saga rebellion of 1874 and the Satsuma rebellion of 1877.

Baron Nabeshima Shigemasa was a Karo of the Saga fief with a revenue of 21,600 *koku*. He performed good service in the Satsuma rebellion of 1877.

Baron Isahaya Iyetaku was also a Karo of the Saga fief, with an income of 30,000 *koku*. He distinguished himself in the Saga and Kagoshima rebellions.

Baron Mori Yoshihisa is a relative of Prince Mori. His father distinguished himself at the battle of Fushimi.

Baron Tamiya Suzutaro is a grandson of Tamiya Joun of the Owari fief: he distinguished himself at the Restoration.

Baron Shimazu Hisamatsu's father was the second son of Shimazu Hisamitsu. He distinguished himself on the occasion of the Choshu attack at Kyoto and also in the rebellion of 1877.

Baron Shimazu Hisakata is the heir of Shimazu Tadaakira—second son of Shimazu Iyehisa—who distinguished himself in the rebellion of 1877.

Baron Shimazu Takanobu represents a branch of Prince Shimazu's family. His father distinguished himself on the occasion of the British bombardment of Kagoshima and in the Satsuma rebellion.

Baron Nakane Koremi is a grandson of Nakane Sekko of the Echizen fief. He distinguished himself at the Restoration and in the Satsuma rebellion.

Baron Fukuhara Motozo's, father Major-General Fukuhara, distinguished himself in the war of 1894-5.

Baron Takuken Ichiro was a Karo of Saga fief and had a revenue of ten thousand *koku*. His father distinguished himself in the Satsuma rebellion.

SUICIDE IN SINGAPORE.

There appears to be something like an epidemic of suicide among the Chinese women at Singapore. A recently married girl, having lost heavily at gambling, killed herself on Oct. 12th by swallowing caustic alkali, and another girl tried to drown herself on the preceding day. No explanation of this reckless tendency is offered.

COUNT INOUE.

We are glad to be able to report that Count Inoue's health is improving. The trouble was a severe carbuncle on the side. Dr. Hashimoto operated successfully a few days ago, and since then the patient has been steadily though slowly mending. The Count is at the Red Cross Hospital, and will probably remain there some days longer.

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS FOR THE CAPITAL.

Two or three years ago, remarks the *Nippon*, a scheme was set afoot for supplying the Capital with electric railroads. But the fates were against the idea then, and the matter failed to reach a practical stage. Now the rumour is revived that Tokyo will soon be able to remove the stigma cast on it by Kyoto's greater enterprise, for electric trams of the latest design will shortly supplant the horrible public conveyances that now ply for hire in metropolitan streets. The Cabinet has resolved to grant permission to the schemes formulated by the Yokoyama, Okura, Mitsui, and Mitsubishi companies. Originally each firm fought for its own hand, but an amalgamation was effected between some of them, and two parties now alone hold the field. The Cabinet, it is said, has resolved to divide the capital between the two, the *Yamanote*, or hill district, and the *Shitamachi*, or lower land. The Fukuzawa party—Messrs. Mitani and Mitsubishi—receive the *Shitamachi* district. The Amenomiya party—Messrs. Yokoyama and Okura—have the hill district allotted to them, and the parties were to sign the documents connected with the charters on the 14th instant. It is rumoured, however, that the Amenomiya section are urging the Government to give them the sole monopoly, and some of their agents even followed Count Kabayama to Osaka, to importune him into granting the concession.

UNRAVELLING THE POONA TRAGEDY.

A Bombay telegram, dated 4th October says:—The man who has been arrested for the Poona murder is Damoder Chapkar, aged 28. He has had a most remarkable career, and confesses to having daubed the Queen's statue at Bombay a year ago. Concerning the Poona tragedy, he confesses that he had been seeking an opportunity to kill Mr. Rand for more than a month. On the night of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at Ganeshkhond, he followed Mr. Rand's carriage from Government House, accompanied by a confederate, who is still at large. When near a convenient and secluded spot he fired at Mr. Rand, while his companion shot Lieutenant Ayerst, because he happened to be near Mr. Rand's carriage and they were afraid he might intercept their flight. Their revolvers and swords were thrown into a well. The police having recovered these weapons, traced their owners. Damoder has incriminated a younger brother, who is now wanted by the police; and he is reported to have confessed that he was put up to execute the terrible deed by some wire-pullers.

PICTORIAL SINGAPORE.

We have received from the *Straits Times* three sheets representing the results of Mr. Wellesley Parker's visit to Singapore. They are appalling productions. It would be difficult to conceive anything more execrably vulgar. They carry us back to the time, many years ago, when insurance offices were beginning to send out coloured calendars, and they find their contemporary counterparts in the posters of travelling menageries. This, we presume, is the Mr. Wellesley Parker who afforded so much amusement to Yokohama residents a short time ago by proclaiming his "art advertising" mission, and who has been telling the good people of Shanghai that he secured the patronage of the Japanese Government and the Foreign Representatives. It was also announced, if we remember aright, that his doings were to have some mysterious effect in bridging the social gulf that separates foreigners and Japanese. We begin now to understand that he had conceived the subtle idea of providing a new species of entertainment for the public, and that these flaming sheets, shocking studies in red, yellow, and black, are the final act of the burlesque. It is incumbent, therefore, to tender him our thanks, and to his subscribers our commiserations.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Rumour continues to be very busy about the political situation. The *Fiji Shimpō* represents the Progressionists as much excited. They think that anything in the nature of a compromise with the Cabinet on ambiguous terms would seriously impair their credit with the constituencies, and that they must show a most obdurate front. Indeed, not a few of them believe that success at the hustings in the general election next year can be best assured by a rupture with the Cabinet at this juncture. Hence whatever be the nature of the answer given by the Prime Minister to their memorial—or, rather, ultimatum—their idea is to be recalcitrant. The contingency that Count Matsukata may delay his answer, or may even treat them with such unconcern as not to give them any answer at all, does not appear to be seriously contemplated by them. Yet, for our own part, we regard that result as very probable.

The *Yorossu Choho* gives another version of the situation. It says that, at a meeting of Progressionist leaders in the residence of the President of the House of Representatives, a new Cabinet was proposed and approved. Count Matsukata was to remain at the head, Count Okuma to be Minister of Finance, Mr. Hoshi Toru to be Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Oishi to be Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Kusumoto to be Minister of Communications; Mr. Hatoyama to be Minister of Justice. No reference is made to the portfolios of Home Affairs, War, the Navy or Education. The present holders of these would presumably remain undisturbed. Mr. Hoshi Toru is spoken of as the leader of the *Kodō-kai*, a position which, so far as the public knows, he does not occupy. In fact the whole scheme is most vaguely outlined. It suggests that the members of the *Kodō-kai* are endeavouring to act independently of Viscount Takashima, and the *Yorossu* alleges that the latter has taken umbrage, and threatens to form a Satsuma Cabinet on his own account, which resolve, as well as the Viscount's anger, Count Kabayama is reported to be combatting. We need scarcely say that little value attaches to these rumours. The pivot of the situation, in our opinion, is the question of increased taxation. It was from the first predicted that no political party could be induced, on the eve of a general election, to cast its vote for an addition to the people's burdens. On that point, therefore, the Progressionists are likely to stand firm. As for the talk about the Cabinet's having failed to carry out the programme to which it pledged itself on taking office, we shall begin to believe in its sincerity when any politician clearly states what he understands by Administrative reform. We doubt very much whether it would be possible to find in the political history of any other nation a parallel to the state of affairs that has existed in Japan for the past seven years. Administrative reform has figured on the platform of every political party, and not one politician has ever attempted to define what Administrative reform means.

There are reasons for thinking that, whether the dimensions of the political crisis have been exaggerated, or whether some medicine has been found for the "swollen heads," the tension is not so acute as to be really dangerous. That the *Shimpō* to have been passing drastic

resolutions, as reported in our issue of Monday, seems certain. But they have failed to secure the coöperation of the *Kodō-kai*, and without that coöperation they do not command the situation in the Diet. An effort to obtain the endorsement of the newly organized party has been made, and delegates from both sides have met at the residence of Dr. Hatoyama, President of the House of Representatives. But the conference was too thinly attended to justify the passing of a representative vote. It is confidently alleged, however, that the members of the *Kodō-kai* are radically opposed to the resolution in which the Progressionists call upon the Cabinet to abjure all unconstitutional procedure, and that they also denounce as impracticable the idea of again revising the Budget. They justly object that unless the Progressionists are in a position to indicate explicitly what they mean by "non-urgent works" (*fukiu no kōjō*), it is impossible to support a vague declaration that such works should be eliminated from the Estimates. Meanwhile, the Cabinet itself gives no indications of a ferment preliminary to disruption, and we are disposed to think that the cloud will pass without bursting. There is talk of obtaining funds to meet the deficiency in the Budget without recourse to increased taxation. The State possesses forests covering an area of some seventeen and a half million acres, and it has often been maintained that some reduction of the area is desirable in the interests of better administration. The sale of one-tenth would easily produce thirty million *yen*, wherewith to tide over the difficulties of the moment, and next fiscal year, doubtless, the money market will be easier, the leaf-tobacco monopoly will be more productive, and the Custom's returns will be greatly augmented. We can not assert that such a device has obtained the endorsement of Cabinet Ministers, but it is mooted, and it would certainly serve as a temporary expedient. The country has to face the fact that, owing to the recent marked appreciation in the price of all commodities and of labour, the appropriations voted in the past two sessions for public works, spreading over a term of years, will have to be proportionately augmented. It is not a question so much of undertaking enterprises as of carrying to completion those already undertaken. The money has to be found.

The most trustworthy information about the political situation, so far as we can judge, is given to-day by the *Fiji Shimpō*. It says that at the conference of four Ministers of State, held a few days ago in Count Okuma's official residence, no decision was reached, and on the following day, Marquis Saigo left Tokyo for Kure. From the latter fact various inferences may possibly be drawn, but the fact is that Count Matsukata has undertaken to make certain investigations with regard to the problem of increased taxation, and that until they are completed, another meeting of the Cabinet would be futile. The *Fiji* also publishes an interesting interview which one of its representatives is said to have had with Count Kabayama, subsequently to the Cabinet meeting at the official residence of Count Okuma. Count Kabayama is reported to have spoken as follows:—

THE QUESTION OF INCREASED TAXES.

Count Okuma was originally a consenting

party to the project of increased taxation. The noisy discussion that has now been started on the subject is nothing more than a commotion in the ranks of his political following. Speaking broadly, the Government has decided to augment the *Saké* Tax and the Land Tax. The trouble about the finances is that they have no firm foundation. If, despite the existence of urgent necessity to raise the taxes this year, that step, instead of being taken at once, be deferred to next year, the confusion will only become worse confounded, the necessity next year may be even more imperative, and the corresponding burden to be borne by the people may be still greater. When the occasion demands an increase of taxes, they ought to be increased.

THE QUESTION OF CABINET HARMONY.

The Progressionists call upon the Cabinet to secure union among its members by eliminating the foreign elements, and desire that this should be done before deciding the question of increased taxation. Such a procedure can not be adopted in deference to the demand of the Progressionists. The adjustment of the Administration was a prime object from the time of the Cabinet's organization, and whatever is difficult of accomplishment in connexion with it can not be accomplished any quicker because of the Progressionists' desire. As for removing foreign elements, the appointment or dismissal of men serving together officially depends upon their fitness or unfitness for their posts. Ministers can not be changed in obedience to other considerations.

THE FORMOSA QUESTION.

The Government too has always had in view the reforms of the Administration in Formosa. If I am ordered to go there again as Governor-General, I will willingly go. When I was appointed to direct the affairs of the island, I concluded that whereas people had taken many years to discover the advantages of developing Hokkaido, they would fix their eyes from the very outset on Formosa, and that, consequently, integrity must be the first aim of the administration. Contrary to my expectation, however, the trouble was found to be not with the people but with the corrupt conduct of officials. But it is easy to get rid of corrupt officials and put good men in their place. With regard to a change of Governor-General there have been many rumours. The facts are that the Government, in consideration of the difference between the conditions existing in the island and those existing in Japan proper, has revised the administrative organization, and decided to leave Viscount Nogi at his post. Mr. Nomura, Head of the Bureau of Formosan Affairs, has been sent to the island, to make known the Government's intentions. France has spent fifteen years getting Algeria into order. The first year of our occupation of Formosa was devoted to fighting. It is unreasonable to look for success already in the second year. There are bandits in Formosa; there are aborigines; there are good people; there are white men, and there are Japanese. It is impossible to bring all these under the laws of Japan proper. When a great Western Power has to do with an African district, it pursues the course that we have to follow in Formosa; namely, subjugate it from one side by force of arms, and then confer on the subjugated portion the benefits of civil government. Formosa is in the neighbourhood of Hongkong and of Tonkin. It constitutes, so to speak, the gate of intercourse between Japan and the Great Powers of Europe. In the event of any trouble in the East, the Powers would at once fix their eyes on Formosa. That goes without saying. We must seek to establish ourselves there by a military policy and by a colonization policy. If our policy be firmly fixed, the removal of an official is a small matter. I too regard it as essential that full guarantees of independence should be given hereafter to the judiciary in Formosa. But I am unable to endorse the constitutional arguments that have been raised about Mr. Takano, for the chief of the judicial section in Formosa being one of the heads of the civil administrative bureaux, it is undoubtedly within the competence of the Governor-General to remove him. I am well

aware of the importance of having a specially organized system of law courts for Formosa and of making the judiciary independent, but I consider that the provisions of the Civil Code are too complicated to be enforced among the Chinese in the new territory.

The *Yiji Shimpō* gives a very interesting *résumé* of the various cliques into which it believes the leading politicians of the time to be divided:—

THE PURE SATSUMA CLIQUE (*Jun satsu-ha*).

The central figures are Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima, and their following are the *Kōdo kai*. They do not hide from themselves that the complete supremacy of Satsuma is no longer possible, but they aim at getting into Satsuma hands as large a share of administrative power as possible. They have gone with Count Okuma as far as they could persuade themselves to go, but the time to part from him has come, and they are determined to spare no effort to maintain the present Cabinet without him.

THE MODERATE CLIQUE (*Ommei-ha*).

Marquis Saigō is the head and his colleague is Mr. Kioura. Count Kuroda is a fellow-worker. This clique may see themselves obliged to separate from the Pure Satsuma clique, according to the latter's procedure. Their relations with Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima are closer than their relations with Count Okuma, but they do not feel obliged to follow the Satsuma men to the tomb, and their great object is to effect accommodations and reconciliations.

THE UNION CLIQUE (*Rengo-ha*).

Mr. Oishi Masami and his friends are the promoters, and have a large following of tacticians. Their idea is to eliminate the so-called "clau elements," and form a constitutional Cabinet with an enlightened policy under the leadership of Marquis Ito, Count Matsukata and Count Okuma. But they have by no means secured the consent of Counts Matsukata and Okuma, and Marquis Ito seems disposed to stand aside, and watch the tossing of the political sea. Some of this Clique would accomplish their purpose by having Count Okuma resign and Count Matsukata follow his example, leaving the Satsuma men to stand alone until their fall, after which the new Cabinet should be organized. But others would have Count Matsukata remain Premier.

THE RECLUSE CLIQUE (*Inton-ha*).

Count Inouye stands at the head. After him come Marquis Yamagata and Marquis Ito. They are all in the position of mere onlookers. They leave the Cabinet to do just what it pleases, and even when their advice is sought, they refrain as far as possible from giving it. They remember that they were once called by the ugly name of camera statesmen. Hence they restrain exhibition of jealousy or impatience on the part of their followers.

SILVER YEN IN FORMOSA.

It will be remembered that there has been much talk about the circulation of silver money in Formosa. The natives of the island have never been in the habit of using gold, and great difficulties would be experienced, it is supposed, in reconciling them to give up the silver currency with which long established custom has rendered them familiar. The Authorities seem to have come to the conclusion that the best plan is to leave the *yen* in circulation there, but to limit the supply by enacting that only coins bearing the official stamp shall be received in payment of taxes or used in Governmental transactions. Moreover, the *yen* is not to have a fixed sterling value for these purposes, but will pass at its current price. The Im-

perial Ordinance relating to the subject is as follows:—

We hereby authorize the use of officially stamped (*Kyoku-in-zuki*) one-yen silver coins in Formosa for purposes of tax paying and official disbursements, and order the fact to be proclaimed.

[Sign Manual]. &c., &c.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE, No. 370.

Art. I.—Silver one-yen coins bearing the Government's stamp may for the present be used at their current value in the payment of taxes and for official disbursements. Provided that such a method of making official disbursements shall depend upon the consent of both parties.

Art. II.—The stamp referred to in the last Article shall be affixed on the face of silver one-yen coins of which the exchange has been effected by the Government, and shall take the form of the ideograph "silver" (銀) in a circle fifteen hundredths of an inch in diameter.

Art. III.—Foreign coins and privately stamped coins may not hereafter be used for paying taxes. Provided that this prohibition shall not apply to foreign coins the use of which for tax-paying purposes has been specially determined.

It will be seen that the Government's plan is to stamp silver *yen* which are now in the Treasury's possession, or may hereafter come into its possession, and to use them for official disbursements when no objection is raised by the receiver of the money. With regard to the employment of stamped coins in tax-paying transactions, it would seem that provision can not have any immediately practical effect, since there are no stamped coins in circulation. Probably the main object of the Ordinance is to facilitate the conduct of administrative affairs and the construction of public works in Formosa by authorizing payments in silver, which is the favourite metal of the Chinese and native inhabitants. On the whole it seems to us that the Government displays wise discretion in making this concession to the habits of the Formosans.

SILVER AND WHEAT.

It certainly seems as if the fates were arrayed against silver. The issue at stake in the last Presidential elections in the United States may be briefly stated to have been whether the remonetization of silver was necessary to restore prosperity, or whether that result could be attained by recourse to the old panacea of protection. Protection won by something less than one-thirteenth of the votes cast by the nation, and almost before a protective tariff could be put into operation, wheat rose to a dollar, and a flush of prosperity overspread the country, furnishing, in the eyes of the unreasoning masses, a conclusive proof that the medicine of protection was the real tonic. Mr. Bryan has been lifting his voice against the fallacy of such an inference. He justly points out that wheat has risen because of a great shortage in the European and Indian supply, and that protection had not the smallest share in bringing about the result. He predicts that when America ceases to profit by the disaster which has overtaken other wheat-growing countries, her people will feel the pinch of adversity all the more keenly because of this temporary sunshine, and the protectionists will be doubly discredited because of their folly in claiming the appreciation of wheat as a result of their legislation. Speaker Reed, on the other hand, contends that the great returns now obtained by America for her crops of wheat and other cereals will start the national machine on a career of work which will continue long after the cause to which it was primarily due has ceased to be operative.

THE FORMOSA ORGANIZATION.

The new organization of the Formosa administration is a very interesting piece of legislation. Its most noteworthy feature is the extensive nature of the power vested in the Governor-General. He is to control the military, naval and civil affairs of the island. In the former sphere, namely the military and naval, he is subject to the direction of the Ministers of War and of the Navy, as well to that of the Chief of the Central Staff, the Chief of the Naval Board of Command in the Empire, and the Inspector-General of the Forces. But in the domain of civil affairs, he is virtually autocratic. He may delegate civil functions to military officers; he may suspend or rescind the orders issued by local governors or headmen; he may appoint or dismiss officials of *hannin* rank; he may inflict disciplinary punishments; and he may issue ordinances with penal provisions up to a year's imprisonment or a fine of 200 *yen*. Virtually the only restrictions imposed on the exercise of his civil authority are that he may not appoint, dismiss, or inflict disciplinary punishments on officials of *sonin* rank and upwards, without obtaining Imperial sanction through the Minister President of State. He may employ military force for the maintenance of public peace and good order, but in such an event the fact must be reported, without loss of time, to the Minister President of State, and to the Departments of the Army and Navy. It is to the Minister President that he has to look for final supervision in affairs of civil administration, but it will be seen from the above enumeration of his powers that his competence greatly exceeds that of a governor of a British Crown Colony before it has received any measure of local autonomy. The Government has acted wisely, we think, in this matter. The only hope of administering Formosa successfully, for the present at all events, is to place the island under the control of a really able man, and to invest him with large powers. It will no longer be possible for the Governor-General to plead divided authority in extenuation of administrative failures.

For the rest, the new system presents no very notable features. There are to be four offices, namely, the Military Staff, the Naval Staff, the Bureau of Civil Affairs and the Bureau of Finance, and there is also to be a Governor-General's Secretariat. The Governor-General must be a military or naval officer, having at least the rank of Lieut.-General or Vice-Admiral. Apparently it is not yet considered expedient to place a civil official at the head of the Administration. There is room to doubt the wisdom of such a restriction, but if military or naval officers competent to undertake the task are available, no theoretical objection exists to their appointment. In British Crown Colonies it used always to be the rule that the post of Lieutenant-Governor was held, *ex officio*, by the officer commanding the troops, and that the affairs of the colony were administered by him in the Governor's absence. In Japan's case, however, there has not yet been found any military officer capable of governing Formosa successfully, and we imagine that the new system would have inspired more confidence had the resources of the civil service also been available for its control.

SAN FRANCISCO, HAWAII AND JAPAN.

The San Francisco journals are engaged in an attempt to create a public scare about Japan's intentions towards Hawaii, and are resorting to methods of the most sensational character. The usual device, striking headlines in type of various magnitudes, is resorted to. Here are some of these headings:—"To check the Schemes of Japan"; "No Longer any Doubt as to Measures of Precaution"; "Warned by a Message from Miller"; "Admiral sent Word of Peculiar Move of the *Naniwa Kan*"; "Pointed Instructions taken by the *Wheeling*"; "An Order to Miller to Closely Watch the Mikado's Men at Honolulu, and to Hold the Islands Against All Opposition"; "Distrust of the Mikado"; "*Baltimore* to be rushed to Honolulu"; "Japanese Soldiers landed as Laborers at Honolulu"; "To Offset the Greedy Japanese"; &c. Then there is a half-page picture of "Rear-Admiral Joseph Nelson Miller, U.S.N." in full uniform, and the legend:—"This fearless officer in command of the Pacific Squadron, who is now at Honolulu, duly warned the Navy Department of the peculiar movements of the Japanese cruiser *Naniwa Kan*. The new gun-boat *Wheeling*, now speeding to Honolulu, carries instructions to Admiral Miller to watch every move of the Japanese, and at the first sign of any unusual step, to hoist the stars and stripes over the islands and to hold them against all opposition." People in Japan will naturally inquire what on earth is meant by all this silly bluster, and some of our Yokohama contemporaries may possibly have the grace to ask themselves how it compares with the Japanese journalistic utterances which they recently denounced as so terribly "Jingo." The fact is that the San Francisco papers are not so hopelessly hysterical as they seem to be. Washington is the principal dupe. Telegrams from Washington to two or three San Francisco journals, dated Sept. 26th, announced that the Administration entertained grave suspicions of Japan's design, the principal ground of alarm being an alleged message from Admiral Miller to the effect that the *Naniwa* had left Honolulu merely to throw the Hawaiian Government and the United States Authorities off their guard; that she was lurking at one of the neighbouring islands, and that she would slip back to accomplish some fell purpose so soon as Japan's sinister design had matured. It really appears that the Government in Washington attached some importance to this delirious nonsense, for the *Wheeling* was sent off before her trial had been concluded—so, at any rate, the telegrams say—and the *Yorktown* also was instructed to proceed to Honolulu. Another story told by the *San Francisco Chronicle* deserves to be quoted in full:—

The steamer *City of Peking* landed 174 Japanese at Honolulu, and the officers and passengers brought by the vessel to San Francisco say that every one of the Mikado's subjects who made the voyage on the steamer was a drilled soldier. Among them were a number of officers who commanded them. A veteran Sergeant was the superior officer, and squads of twenty were under the more immediate command of inferior non-commissioned officers. A steamship official at Yokohama recognized in one of the pretended coolies a corporal of the regular Japanese army, whom he had seen often recently in his uniform.

During the voyage from Yokohama to Honolulu a marked military discipline was maintained in the steerage, even though there was an at-

tempt to dissemble the military character of the supposed emigrants. At Honolulu the Japanese marched down the gangplank in single file with an action and a symmetry of movement nothing except thorough drill can produce. They landed at Hawaii as labourers, and it is the presumption of the passengers and crew of the *Peking* that they are now waiting orders from the Mikado to do whatever that ruler may deem politic.

An officer of the *Peking* states that arrangements were being made at Yokohama with the steamship company of which he is an employé to carry about 400 Japanese to the Hawaiian islands on the next steamer of the company that touches at Honolulu. It was said that that lot would be all veterans of the late Japan-China war. Rumours of the presence of the Mikado's soldiers in the islands are not new. It is said that if all the reports are true of the landing there of Japanese subjects that there are fully 1,000 of the little brown men among the hordes of labourers, all trained to carry arms and all under a strict military discipline.

One does not know to whom the palm of credulity belongs, to Rear-Admiral Miller or to the officers and passengers of the *City of Peking*. And the trouble is that nothing will convince these people of their mistake. When they find that the *Naniwa*, instead of "lurking at a neighbouring island," was taking part in naval manoeuvres at Yokosuka, and that the soldiers in disguise were mere myths, they will simply say that the *Naniwa* would have lurked and that the soldiers would have been realities, had not the "fearless Admiral" given warning and had not the wide-awake folks in Washington taken precautions. They do now allege, in this very context, that the *Naniwa* played precisely such a game in 1892, at the time of the overthrow of the native Government, and that want of opportunity alone prevented her from making a coup. These things must constitute curious object-lessons to the Japanese.

MR. TENNANT AND "THE TIMES."

Mr. H. Tennant, editor of the *Japan Gazette*, has addressed *The Times* with reference to a leading article published by the latter on June 12th. We quote a portion of Mr. Tennant's letter:—

Some of the statements made by you are inaccurate and misleading, and calculated to do serious injury to men who are merely striving to earn a livelihood in a country where the protection of British law, hitherto extended to them, is shortly to be withdrawn. It may or may not be known to you that, of the many foreign papers in Japan, all, with the exception of two weeklies, are owned and conducted by Englishmen. You say we have been thrown into a state of excitement by an "imaginary discovery that the Japanese Government's recovery of judicial autonomy will be the signal for depriving aliens of the privilege of publishing newspapers." I do not deny the excitement. Probably London newspapers would also display a little excitement if they knew that in two years' time they were to be extinguished. The "imaginary discovery" unfortunately, is only too real. Of the notification issued by Sir Harry Parkes I do not complain, nor of the subsequent enactment by the Japanese of a law forbidding foreigners to print papers in the vernacular; but what chiefly concerns us is that, when the Press law was recently revised for the purpose of meeting the new conditions which treaty revision will introduce, the clause forbidding foreigners to own or edit papers in any language was allowed to remain. The Japanese papers construed that to mean that after 1899 foreign papers will cease to exist unless they are owned and edited by Japanese. I asked a prominent Japanese official what he thought the Government intended to do, and he frankly gave it as his opinion that our foreigners would not be allowed to own papers. Our Judge, Mr. Justice Mowat, in a conversation I had with him, expressed the opinion that there was nothing in the new treaty to prevent the Japanese dooming the English papers in Japan to extinction.

The danger is due to a defect in the drafting of the treaty, which has not expressly provided that all occupations and professions which the Japanese may follow in England may be followed by Englishmen in Japan. The treaty was intended to place the subjects of the two Powers on an equal footing in either country, and all we ask is reciprocity. Your comparison between the English newspapers in Japan and the French newspapers in Egypt is, I

can only conjecture, made in ignorance, as I cannot think you would, if cognisant of the facts, so gratuitously insult men, many of whom were, and in some cases still are, connected with English newspapers of unimpeachable standing. No paper here has ever attempted to do other than to uphold the cause of order and of good government. No paper has taken sides in politics, sought to create dissensions among the people, or aimed at casting discredit on the Throne.

What we ask is that the British Foreign Office, before the treaty comes into operation, shall have a distinct understanding with the Japanese authorities that the clause which permits Englishmen to rent houses and to carry on any business that a Japanese subject may conduct shall be understood to include a newspaper and printing business—an inclusion it is evident the Japanese are desirous of evading.

The experience which induces Mr. Tennant to advance the above assertions is singularly defective. It is unfortunately true that the influence of some of the foreign newspapers published in Japan has often been exerted in a manner very far from conducive to order and good government; it is unfortunately true that some of the foreign papers have taken sides in politics against the Government; it is unfortunately true that one foreign paper has used language insulting to the Throne. Every old resident whose memory is ordinarily retentive must admit these truths, and must further admit that the tendency of a great part of the writing which used to appear in the foreign local press was emphatically of a nature to cause bad blood between foreigners and Japanese. Mr. Tennant himself is responsible for some of the grossest and most unjust things that have even been written or said about the Japanese. If he is unconscious of his own sins in that respect, we may perhaps be justified in drawing the charitable inference that he is too deficient in discernment to appreciate the sins of others. But, indeed, the whole tone of his letter indicates a point of view that few will be disposed to applaud. He descends at once to cheap cant and spurious patriotism: seeks to enlist sympathy with the maligned "men who are merely striving to earn a livelihood," and to invoke racial prejudice by reminding *The Times* that "of the many foreign papers in Japan, all, with the exception of two weeklies, are owned and conducted by Englishmen." However, the point most worthy of notice is the flagrant inaccuracy of which Mr. Tennant is guilty. He says:—"When the Press Law was recently revised for the purpose of meeting the new conditions which Treaty Revision will introduce, the clause forbidding foreigners to own or edit papers in any language was allowed to remain." We invite our readers attention to the words "for the purpose of meeting the new conditions which Treaty Revision will introduce." Now we do not hesitate to affirm that, with the exception of Mr. Henry Tennant himself, there is not a foreigner in Japan so grossly ignorant as to imagine that the changes effected in the Press Law by the Diet last session had any connexion, however remote, with the conditions which Treaty Revision will introduce. There was not the faintest relation between the alteration of the Law and Treaty Revision. How did Mr. Tennant fall into such an egregious blunder? Of course the value that the misrepresentation possesses for the purpose of his argument can not be under-estimated. If it were true that the Press Law was altered "for the purpose of meeting the new conditions which Treaty Revision will introduce," then indeed the retention of the clause restricting to Japanese subjects the ownership and editing of journals in

Japan would have an emphatic bearing on Mr. Tennant's presentation of the case. But it is not true. It is utterly false—so false that with all the good-will in the world we find almost insuperable difficulty in giving Mr. Tennant the credit of being merely a gross blunderer. At all events, whether he deliberately invented a connexion between the alteration of the Law and Treaty Revision—a hypothesis which we decline to entertain—or whether he is phenomenally ignorant of the history of press-law agitation in Japan during the past fifteen years, his incompetence to discuss the subject set forth in his letter is demonstrated.

RICE.

The market price of rice has shown a strong tendency to rise since the 15th instant. It was then quoted at 13.70 *yen* per *koku*; but on the 18th the quotation was 14.09 *yen*, and on the 21st it was 14.49 *yen*. The average quotations for each month during the year were as follows:—January, 10.40 *yen*; February, 10.20 *yen*; March, 10.64 *yen*; April 10.75 *yen*; May, 10.95 *yen*; June, 11.90 *yen*; July, 11.77 *yen*; August, 12.20 *yen*; September, 12.35 *yen*. It must not be supposed, however, that rice is retailed at the figures we have here set down. People buying the grain for their daily consumption have to pay a *yen* for 4.8 *go*, which means nearly 21 *yen* per *koku*. Such a price is unprecedented. Of course there is a loud outcry, and the usual rumours are circulated by agitators. Some allege that speculation by a combination of five or six big merchants is the root of the trouble; others allege that the Ministers of State have bought up all the available supplies. But the fact is that, owing to the shortness of last year's crop, the supply of old rice has now run very low, and instead of a fine yield this year, as was predicted in August, the bad weather of September, the inundations in the Hokuriku and Tokai districts, and the ravages caused by insects elsewhere, have completely changed the prospect, and a considerable shortage is now expected. Prices in Tokyo depend approximately on the supplies lying in the Fukagawa store-houses, and it is said that the total now remaining there is only 110,000 *koku*. Under all these circumstances, high quotations are natural. The Authorities, however, seem to have supposed, for a moment, that speculation was more or less responsible, for they suspended transactions at the Exchanges in Nagaoka and Niigata, and are understood to have contemplated the advisability of interfering similarly in other centres of trade. The idea has now been abandoned, however, though it is said that numerous letters reach the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, setting forth the miserable condition of the lower orders, and urging that the Rice Exchanges be closed or restrained. In Niigata, especially, much distress is reported. The inhabitants of three districts in that prefecture recently held secret meetings, and appointed deputies to solicit some measure of relief from the Authorities. They were unsuccessful, of course, and there are fears that they will resort to violence. We read in a Tokyo contemporary that the municipal council in Sendai adopted the practical device of buying up a large quantity of the grain by means of a 9-per-cent. loan, and that the police had

considerable difficulty, a few days ago, in dispersing a mob that assembled on a bill in the Futai district of Niigata for the purpose of attacking the public offices.

In view of the extraordinarily high price of rice at present, and the prevalent rumours that the yield throughout the country will be fifty or sixty per cent. below the average, the following returns officially published are of much interest:

PLACE.	YIELD AS COMPARED WITH THAT OF AVERAGE YEAR.
Kyoto	Twenty per cent. less.
Osaka	Up to average.
Kanagawa	Fifteen per cent. less.
Hyogo	Up to average.
Gumma	Slightly over average.
Chiba	Twenty to thirty per cent. less.
Ibaraki	Up to average.
Tochigi	Ten to fifteen per cent. over.
Nara	Up to average.
Miye	Good.
Shizuoka	Twenty per cent. less.
Yamanashi	One and a half per cent. less.
Shiga	Slightly less.
Gifu	Slightly less.
Nagano	Good.
Miyagi	Up to average.
Fukushima	Twenty per cent. less.
Iwate	Ten per cent. less.
Aomori	Ten per cent. less.
Yamagata	Twenty per cent. less.
Akita	Twenty to thirty per cent. less.
Ishikawa	Twenty-five per cent. less.
Toyama	Slightly less.
Shimane	Twenty per cent. less.
Okayama	Up to average.
Hiroshima	From ten to fifteen per cent. less.
Yamaguchi	Twenty per cent. less.
Wakayama	Up to average.
Tokushima	Twenty per cent. over.
Kagawa	Twenty per cent. less.
Kochi	Twenty per cent. over.
Fukushima	Ten to twenty per cent. less.
Oita	Up to average.
Kumamoto	Twenty per cent. over.
Miyasaki	Thirty to forty per cent. over.
Kagoshima	Ten per cent. over.

This list is not complete, Tokyo city and six prefectures being omitted. In the case of Tokyo, however, the yield is known to be bad. We may say, then, that out of 37 districts, the crop is expected to be up to, or over, the average yield in seventeen; slightly below the average in four, and from ten to thirty per cent. below the average in sixteen. On the whole, that ought to signify a crop very little below the average.

THE INDEMNITY FROM HAWAII.

We read in the *Mainichi Shimbun* that the Japanese Government has demanded a sum of two hundred thousand dollars (gold) from Hawaii, by way of indemnity in connexion with the immigration affair. Our contemporary says that this sum includes the losses suffered by the immigrants to whom admission was denied, as well as by the companies that sent them, and the expense of sending a man-of-war to Honolulu. No particulars as to the items are given, but as we know that some twelve hundred immigrants were turned back, and that 200 *yen* each would not be an unreasonable rate of compensation: there is here a sum of two hundred and forty thousand *yen* at once. A hundred and sixty thousand more for the expenses of the *Naniwa* and the companies by which the three steamers—*Shinshu Maru*, *Sakuma Maru* and *Kinai Maru*—were despatched, would seem to be a very low estimate.

The general meeting of shareholders of the Naniwa Railway Company was held in the rooms of the Geological Association, Nihonbashi, on the 27th inst. Mr. Ogura, President of the Company, took the chair and read the report for the past six months. A dividend of over 14 per cent. per annum was declared.

SCORING THE REVOKE.

Considerable discussion has been provoked in connexion with the question of scoring the revoke at whist, to which allusion was made in one of our recent issues. We desire, therefore, to add a few words to our previous remarks. The point in dispute may be stated thus:—According to the laws of short whist, one of the penalties for a revoke is to reduce the revoking party's score by three: if they are four up, they may be put back to one; if they are three up, they may be put back to nothing. But suppose that their score stands at two, or one. Then obviously it cannot be reduced by three, and the question is whether, under such circumstances, the option of exacting the penalty by a reduction of the revokers' score is absolutely forfeited. Drayson says that it is. He alleges that, unless the revoking party have already marked more than two, the penalty for the revoke must be exacted in one of two ways only, namely, by adding three to the other party's score or appropriating three of the revokers' tricks. Now it is plain that if the revoking side have not made anything in the revoking hand, and if they have less than three already marked up, three cannot be taken from their score. But if, in the revoking hand, they have made the odd trick, or two odd tricks, then, according to our view, they can be required to add their new score to their old, bringing the total to three or four, after which the penalty may be enacted by reducing them to nothing or one. On what principle does Drayson interdict that method of scoring? On the principle that the penalty for the revoke takes precedence of all other scores at whist—that the revoke points count before tricks. A moment's thought will show that such a rendering of the rule is illogical. The precedence accorded to the penalty is obviously intended to emphasize it: in other words, to enhance its value to the non-revoking side. Yet Drayson actually adduces that precedence as a reason for curtailing the range of the penalty; a reason for depriving the non-revoking side of one of their three optional advantages. Among the many beauties of whist, not the least notable is the perfect logic that underlies all its rules and dictates all their interpretations. If Drayson's interpretation be accepted, it becomes virtually the first and the only illogical clause in the laws of whist. When we wrote upon this subject some days ago, we had not consulted any book. But being confronted with Drayson, an acknowledged authority, we have thought it worth while to refer to the latest and greatest writer, "Cavendish" (Henry Jones), whose exposition of whist, written for the "Encyclopedia Britannica" in 1891 is much more recent than Drayson's work. Here, then, is what "Cavendish" says:—

The penalty for a revoke—(i.) is at the option of the adversaries, who at the end of the hand, may either take three tricks from the revoking player, or deduct three points from his score, or add three to their own score; (ii.) can be claimed for as many revokes as occur during the hand; (iii.) applicable only to the score of the game in which it occurs; (iv.) can not be divided, i.e. a player can not add one or two to his own score and deduct two or one from the revoking player; (v.) takes precedence of every other score, e.g.—the claimants two, their opponents nothing—the former add three to their score and thereby win a treble game, even should the latter have made thirteen tricks and held four honours.

It will be seen from (v.) that "Cavendish" interprets the precedence of the

revoke score exactly as we interpreted it when recently writing on the subject, and that he does not, however remotely, suggest Drayson's interpretation. "Cavendish" is logical: he does not make the precedence of the penalty a reason for curtailing its consequences. The question does not seem worth further discussion, but we may add one obvious consideration. Drayson's method of applying the rule has the inevitable effect of enabling the revoking side to score their honours, if they have any, under the given circumstances. For if the penalty can take only one of two forms, namely, appropriation of three from the revokers' tricks or addition of three to the other side's score, then plainly the revokers are necessarily left to count any honours they may have held. In other words, honours take precedence of the revoke penalty. Assuredly the framers of the rule never contemplated anything of that kind. The second consideration is that Drayson's rule brings about the very result it professes to avoid: it gives to the score already marked precedence over the revoking score, for it declares that if the revoking party have scored less than three, their score can not be penalized on account of the revoke. Surely that can not be the intention of the law.

PERIOD FOR EXCHANGING SILVER YEN.

It appears tolerably certain that the Government will introduce a Bill in the approaching session of the Diet for shortening the exchange period of the silver yen from five years to one year, or even to six months. One of the cogent reasons for the change is the fear of coinage operations in the event of silver's falling to such a price as to make an enterprise of that kind profitable. We believe that plans were actually laid for undertaking extensive coinage work in Canton, and that they would have matured had not the appreciation of silver altered the outlook. It has been urged that no solid grounds exist for any such apprehension, and the case of Great Britain has been cited, the argument being that if people do not find it worth while to coin English shillings and half-crowns, though the intrinsic value of those tokens is fifty per cent. less than their currency value, still less would they find it worth while to coin Japanese yen when the margin of profit is only ten or twelve per cent. There are two very obvious answers to that. The first is that the bullion value of the yen may at any moment fall to twenty or thirty per cent. less than the sterling value at which it is rated in the Japanese system. The second is that, silver, not being legal tender to the value of more than a sovereign in England, exchange operations would be trivial, and moreover it would be exceedingly difficult not only to coin large quantities of shillings and half-crowns in a European or an American country, but also to get them into England without detection. In the case of the Japanese silver yen, there is no limit to the quantity that may be presented for exchange, and they can be imported openly. Nor would there be much impediment to their coinage in China. If Japan depended on the Peking Government to protect her against such a danger, she would be extremely fatuous.

FREEDOM OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF IN JAPAN.

It seems necessary to make one or two comments on a letter published in our correspondence columns over the signature "S.S.W." We need scarcely say that we entirely endorse the principle for which our correspondent contends, but the difficulty is its enforcement. So far as the Central Authorities are concerned, we imagine that there is no discrimination against Christians in any capacity, whether as civil officials or as school teachers. We are persuaded, also, that if conclusive evidence could be furnished of the dismissal of a teacher from a school by the local government on the declared ground of his belief in Christianity, the act would not be condoned. But has there been any case in which such proof was forthcoming? We are not aware that there has. Of course the absence of direct proof does not indicate that the spirit of the Constitution is fully respected. If it be desired to deprive a man of his post because he is a Christian without, however, letting that reason appear publicly, there are many pretexts available for the purpose. A man may be well aware that to embrace Christianity would be fatal to his prospects of continued official employment, and yet he may know, at the same time, that his Christianity will not be openly alleged against him by those in authority. It is a question of the greatest delicacy. As to the meeting of school-teachers mentioned by our correspondent, we fail to see what remedy could be applied. School teachers, in every country where freedom of speech exists, are undoubtedly entitled to meet for the discussion of religious problems, and to pass resolutions declaring that, in their opinion, a belief in some particular form of creed disqualifies a man to be entrusted with the education of youth. Many Protestants hold that Roman Catholicism constitutes such a disqualification, and many Roman Catholics entertain a similar idea about Protestantism, while both would probably agree that a Buddhist was quite unsuited. The resolution passed by the Kobe association of teachers did not carry with it a sentence of dismissal for any teacher professing Christianity. The power of appointing or dismissing a teacher does not rest with his colleagues. But very likely a body of teachers holding such views could find means of giving them practical validity. How is that to be prevented? How is the passing of such resolutions to be prevented? It is a good thing to denounce bigotry in every form, whether it be the bigotry of the atheist, the Christian, the Agnostic, the Buddhist or what not; but there are some exhibitions of bigotry which governments are powerless to control.

THE AOMORI ASSEMBLY.

The sentence of dissolution pronounced against the Aomori prefectural assembly appears to have been due to its persistence in passing a vote of want of confidence in the Governor. Such action is beyond the competence of a local assembly, but has nevertheless been frequently taken, and always with the result now recorded against the Aomori legislators. Japanese administrative affairs will be conducted more smoothly when the system of local governors appointed by the Central Authorities comes to an end.

THE "NIPPON" ON THE CABINET.

The Progressionist Party originally credited the present Cabinet with a certain degree of excellence as compared with the former Government and combined to assist it in developing the policy which it pledged itself to unfold at the time of its organisation. The Party, however, has since perceived that the Cabinet's declarations are not carried into execution, and that serious bungling continually occurs. Suggestions towards improvement have been made by the Progressionists, who threaten to sever their connection with the Cabinet if their admonitions are not listened to, for they are in no way disposed to bring ruin upon themselves in support of the Cabinet. The Party hold themselves free to take any course they please in case their suggestions are rejected. In the event of Count Okuma's retiring from his present post owing to failure to secure the consent of the Cabinet to his proposals, the Progressionists will become a purely political party, and in that capacity will assault the Government upon the proposed increase of taxation and other schemes. The result will be the dissolution of the eleventh session of the Diet, and the ascendancy of the two Ministers—Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima—in the organization of a purely Satsuma Cabinet; Count Matsukata, the Premier, being, of course, supposed to share the fate of Count Okuma. In predicting the policy of a Cabinet organised under the two Ministers referred to, it may be noted that the *Kodo-kai* would display a certain amount of sympathy. A section of Liberals headed by Mr. Matsuda might prove subservient to the new authorities, and yet would hesitate to sacrifice themselves to Satsuma clansmen. The Government would then exert all its energies to secure Mr. Hoshi's services, but the latter will firmly reject any proposals. The embarrassment of the Takashima-Kabayama Cabinet would thus manifest itself in the course of time. What would follow at that juncture would be a vehement conflict between the Constitution and Clannism. Each would endeavour to gain the victory over the other. Shall Clannism stand and the Constitution be ruined? Men of public spirit ought to solve these questions in the interests of the country. So writes the *Nippon*.

THE CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

The vernacular press reports that the chrysanthemums are in full bloom, and gives the names of the various subjects represented at the flower-puppet shows. The facts may interest such of our readers as contemplate a visit to the various places of note, though it must be confessed that an array of head-lines from Japanese history does not convey much information to the average foreigner. At Dangozaka are shown—the conference between Commodore Perry and Ii Kame-no-Kami; a hunting scene on Fuji-yama; the Loyal Komu; Yoshitsune; the *Neko-sodo* of Okazaki; a spring shower; the fight between Orita and Takao, &c. At the Senju garden, the *Kwanjin-cho*, and some of the principal events since the advent of American ships. At Shinmomi garden, the fight of the Kagoshima amazons, and the crossing of the Sumida by Abe Bungo no-Kami. At Kambu garden, the Otomaya of Nikko, and the two hundred belles of Tokyo. At the Yabusoba garden, the puppets of the Tokugawa era.

THE IMPERIAL BIRTHDAY.

The Household Department has issued the following notification, dated the 22nd inst.:

With reference to the Imperial Fête on the 3rd of the eleventh month, the Court being now in the Third Period of Mourning, the Ceremony of Congratulation at the Palace will not take place. It is, therefore, unnecessary that visits should be paid or congratulatory addresses presented, by superior officials, by noblemen, by holders of ranks, or by possessors of decorations.

THE CABINET CRISIS.

WHEN we find that even the *Yomiuri Shinbun*, which is usually the Cabinet's strongest supporter, absolutely abandons the rôle of defence and comes out "flat-foot" as an assailant, we can no longer conceal from ourselves the fact that something very like a political crisis impends. The *Yomiuri* says that, comparing the Cabinet's achievements with the promises it made when assuming office, the ratio is about one to ten, the only things standing to its credit being the amendment of the newspaper regulations, the abolition of the Department of Colonization and the employment of "popular talent" on a limited scale. We do not know whether it may be counted characteristic of the financial light-heartedness of the Japanese that the adoption of gold monometallism, which history will certainly regard as the preëminent work of the MATSUKATA Cabinet, is omitted altogether from the *Yomiuri's* list, but omitted it certainly is. On the other hand, continues our contemporary, the mistakes committed by the Cabinet in the short space of a year are numerous. For example, it has allowed the so-called "after-dinner clique" to have their own way in various matters; it has blundered about the Educational Department; it has permitted the illegal removal of members of the Board of Audit; it has made a mess of the Formosan administration; it has erred in the TAKANO affair; it has failed to secure union among its own members; it has rejected many of the proposals of the Progressionists; it has forfeited public esteem; and it has resolved to meet the deficit in next year's revenue by raising the rate of the Land Tax. Such is the indictment. Apparently it is formulated at the dictation of the Progressionists, for immediately following it we find an announcement that the great majority of that Party being firmly opposed to any increase of the Land Tax, and weary of waiting for the fulfillment of the Cabinet's promises, have determined to resort to decisive measures. Accordingly, they held a meeting on the 22nd instant, and passed resolutions to the effect that certain propositions should be submitted to the Cabinet, and that the latter's reply should determine the Party's ultimate demeanour. The meeting having been secret, no certain information as to its proceedings is forthcoming, but there appears to be little doubt that the following five points were voted by way of ultimatum to the Ministry:—First, that the Cabinet should "swear" to do nothing unconstitutional; secondly, that, in order to secure Ministerial harmony, all "extraneous elements" (*ibunshi*) should be eliminated; thirdly, that the Budget should be once more revised with a view to regulating the finances and reducing administrative expenditures; fourthly, that the administra-

tive policy in Formosa should be changed, and that corrupt government should be reformed throughout; and fifthly, that the President of the Board of Audit should be punished.

If these demands are rightly recorded, and we have no reason to suppose that they are not, they seem remarkable on account of what they omit rather than of what they embody. For they say no word whatever about administrative reform, so far as the Central Government is concerned, neither do they make any reference to the TAKANO affair. Administrative reform, as we have repeatedly pointed out, is a farce. Politicians that clamour for it are like children crying for the moon. When they succeed in indicating what they mean by "administrative reform" the public may begin to believe that they are in earnest about it. Its omission from the list of demands is a wholesome sign. For the rest, the resolutions of the Progressionists indicate clearly that their prime object is to secure the removal from the Cabinet of Marquis HACHISUKA, Viscount NOMURA and Mr. KIOURA, Ministers of Education, of Communications, and of Justice, respectively. If that were done, they could be easily placated in other respects. They carry Count OKUMA with them, it is understood, in their opposition to an increase of the Land Tax, and, of course, their movement derives its chief force from his association.

Such appears to be the situation. The vernacular journals allege that Cabinet meetings have been held at the official residences of the Minister President and of Count OKUMA, but that nothing definite has yet been resolved. It is also stated that, on the 23rd instant, Messrs. KUSUMOTO, HATOYAMA, NAKAMURA, INUKAI and HASEBA, as representatives of the Progressionists, waited upon the Minister President, and submitted the resolutions of the Party, and that Count MATSUKATA replied, promising to give the matter mature consideration. It is, of course, very plain that if the dictation of political parties in the above sense be obeyed by the Cabinet, there exists in Japan a kind of party government far more radical than that existing in any other part of the world. We do not say so because a demand for the dismissal of certain Ministers of State is included in the ultimatum of the Progressionists. That in itself is certainly a striking feature when we remember that the Ministers are appointed by the EMPEROR and can not be deprived of office except by his order. In fact, when the Progressionists call upon the Cabinet to swear fidelity to Constitutional methods, and, at the same time, themselves attempt to over-ride the prerogatives explicitly reserved to the SOVEREIGN by the Constitution, they betray a singular lack of consistency. But even that point is less notable than their general plan of

procedure. If in Great Britain, the home of party cabinets, a deputation of Conservative members of the House of Commons were to wait on Lord SALISBURY, and submit to him an ultimatum of five articles, the alternative to its acceptance being a campaign by the whole party against the Ministry, the nation would unanimously denounce the step as irrational and farcical. However, we must remember that Japanese politics are in a wholly exceptional state, and that they cannot be judged by Western standards. The links that bind political parties to Cabinets do not represent any genuine bond of coöperation, and since neither side admits any responsibility to the other, there is no real perception of discipline or mutual obligation.

THE BEHRING SEA QUESTION AND JAPAN.

MOST unfortunately the very limited space at our disposal renders it impossible to reproduce in full the principal despatches which have passed between the Cabinets in London and Washington on the subject of pelagic sealing in Behring Sea. Our personal sympathies are with every reasonable exercise of neighbourly coöperation to secure a valuable property against destruction, but we confess that the diplomatic methods of the United States Government in this controversy have been such as to rouse a strong feeling of indignation. It appears quite impossible to derive from a careful perusal of the despatches any conclusion other than that the accusations preferred by the Secretary of State in Washington are, if not altogether baseless, at any rate egregiously unjust. We insert the qualifying clause "if not altogether baseless," not because we can ourselves discover any ground for the accusations, but because we are bound to assume that the statesmen in Washington think they have discovered some ground, and the opinions of such able men can not be lightly set aside. Moreover, as the controversy now stands, the last word is with Mr. CHAMBERLAIN. Possibly when the American answer is published, the public will be enabled to take a less harsh view of the Washington Cabinet's extraordinarily intemperate language and seemingly wild charges. But, in the meantime, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S admirable despatch, perfectly consistent with all the best canons of diplomatic courtesy, crushingly powerful in its calm logic, and clear as crystal in its marshalling of premises and drawing of conclusions, appears to have dealt with Mr. SHERMAN'S petulant and unsupported denunciations much after the manner that a Nasmyth-hammer deals with a fragment of red-hot iron. There is nothing left of Mr. SHERMAN except a few paling sparks. With regard to the offensive declaration of the American Secretary of State that the report of the English expert, Professor

THOMPSON, was withheld "until an opportunity could be afforded to examine that of" the American expert, "Dr. JORDAN, so that the former might be enabled to pass the latter in review, criticise his statements and, as far as possible, minimize his conclusions," it now appears that, three days before this monstrous accusation was penned by Mr. SHERMAN, a despatch left London from Lord SALISBURY to Sir JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE, fully explaining the reasons for the delay in the preparation and publication of Professor THOMPSON'S report. Of course those reasons were not before Mr. SHERMAN when he wrote, but the incident shows that, without waiting to learn anything about the causes which had retarded the report, he hastened to accuse its author of chicanery and the British Government of a contemptible scheme. We can not but note in this context that Mr. SHERMAN, while, on the one hand, lamenting that "the impartial character which it has been the custom to attribute to the reports of naturalists of high standing has been greatly impaired by the apparent subjection of this report to the political exigencies of the situation," does not hesitate, on the other, to declare that "Professor THOMPSON'S report is plainly written with a view to minimize, as far as possible, the depleted condition of the herd on the Pribiloff Islands," and that the Professor "has been very careful throughout to say nothing likely to embarrass his Government." Thus Mr. SHERMAN'S avowed respect for "the impartial character of the reports of naturalists of high standing" does not restrain him from reading into the report of Professor THOMPSON motives of the meanest and most partial nature. Nothing can be more satisfactory than to observe that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN does not condescend even to notice Mr. SHERMAN'S accusation of bad faith, so far as it concerns HER MAJESTY'S Government. Having curtly observed that the reasons for the delay in preparing and publishing the report had already been forwarded to Washington, he adds, even more curtly:—"Mr. CHAMBERLAIN would not refer to the point, although so prominently put forward, if he did not feel it necessary for the vindication of Professor THOMPSON'S high character and reputation to declare that the allegations made against him are totally unfounded, and therefore equally unjustifiable." Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S despatch, dated from the Colonial Office on July 26th, occupies four columns of *The Times* of Sept. 18th. We earnestly commend its perusal to the editors of the leading Tokyo journals, since Japan is directly interested in this matter. Here, however, we are reluctantly compelled to confine ourselves to one extract. Referring to the fact that the United States Government apparently aims at nothing

less than the suppression of pelagic sealing, and that it accuses Great Britain of "unneighbourly" conduct for declining to consider an immediate revision of the Fishery Regulations established by the Arbitration Tribunal at Paris in 1893, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN says:—

In support of their views the United States' Government have departed from the noblest tradition of their country, which had earned universal honour by their efforts to vindicate the freedom of the high seas.

The nation which is now so zealous for prohibiting the killing of seals on the high seas was, in 1832, with equal zeal asserting a claim of right for its citizens not only to kill seals on the high seas, but to land and slaughter them on the shores of a friendly nation. The Power which now reproaches her Majesty's Government with "unneighbourly" conduct because they decline to abolish an industry the lawfulness of which has never been questioned except by the United States, and has, only four years since, been vindicated by the highest international Tribunal, did not shrink in 1832, when the United States' sealing-vessel *Harriet* had been seized for violating the territory of the Republic of Buenos Ayres in the pursuit of fur-seals, from landing an armed party at Soledad and carrying off the crew and cargo of the vessel, and from declaring that the seal fishery on those coasts was in future to be free to all Americans, and that the capture of any vessel of the United States would be regarded as an act of piracy.

The shores of the Pribiloff Islands are to-day just as much uninhabited as were the shores of the Falkland Islands and Tierra del Fuego fifty years ago, but no British subject has ever claimed the right to land and kill seals there as the United States' citizens did on the South Atlantic under the protection of the guns of a United States' man-of-war.

British subjects, and her Majesty's Government for them, have only claimed the right of every subject of a free State to exercise their undoubted right of fishery on the high seas; yet, while exercising that right, British subjects have been seized, fined, and imprisoned, in the face of the protests of Her Majesty's Government. And now, after Her Majesty's Government, in their desire for an amicable arrangement with the United States, had agreed to submit to arbitration their claim to exercise a right never before disputed, and to leave to the Tribunal to determine when that right had been vindicated, under what restrictions it should, in the interests of both countries, continue to be exercised, and after they have ever since scrupulously adhered to those restrictions, they find themselves, notwithstanding these concessions and sacrifices, accused of unneighbourly conduct.

When the award was made it was welcomed in the United States because it was believed that the restrictions were sufficient to render pelagic sealing unprofitable, and that the interests of the lessees of the Pribiloff Islands would not, under the new condition of affairs, be materially or injuriously affected.

When it was discovered, from the results of the first year's fishery, that the regulations, severely as they pressed on the British industry, were not sufficient to destroy it, the United States Government began to press her Majesty's Government to agree to revise the regulations. The same arguments as had just before been urged in vain upon the Tribunal were repeated. Pelagic sealing it was declared was suicidal, and the extermination of the fur-seal was imminent. Her Majesty's Government refused to agree to set aside an award arrived at after the most careful deliberation by the Tribunal, merely because it was found that British subjects could, under the restrictions imposed by it, still continue to prosecute their industry successfully.

The agitation and pressure were continued, and exaggerated statements as to the condition of the herd were circulated, till, when her Majesty's Government sent their agents to inquire into the actual facts in 1896, it was found that, in spite of the large catch of 1895, the herd actually numbered more than twice as many cows as it had been officially asserted to contain in 1895. The result of these investigations, as pointed out in Lord Salisbury's despatch of May 7, has further been to show that pelagic sealing is much less injurious than the practice pursued by the United States' lessees of killing on land every male whose skin was worth taking. If the seal herd to-day is, as Professor Jordan estimates, but one-fifth of what it was in 1872-74, that result must be, in great measure, due to the fact that, while the islands were under the control of Russia, that Power was

satisfied with an average catch of 33,000 seals, subsequently under the United States' control more than three times that number have been taken every year, until the catch was, perforce, reduced because that number of males could no longer be found.

Last year while the United States' Government were pressing her Majesty's Government to place further restrictions on pelagic sealing they found it possible to kill 30,000 seals on the islands, of which Professor Jordan says, (p. 21) 22,000 were to the best of his information, three-year-olds, though on p. 17 he estimated the total number of three-year-old males on the islands as 15,000 to 20,000. If such exhaustive slaughter is continued it will, in the light of the past history of the herd, very quickly bring about that commercial extermination which has been declared in the United States to be imminent every year for the last 12 years.

All this, however, relates to the question between England and the United States only, and we desire particularly to draw the attention of our Japanese contemporaries to a very signal misapprehension under which they have hitherto been labouring with reference to England and Japan. They have taken it for granted throughout that the British Government originally agreed to a conference of the Powers concerned, tacitly including Russia and Japan, and that a more or less perfidious change of front was made by Lord SALISBURY at the eleventh hour by way of Roland for Mr. SHERMAN'S unsightly Oliver. But the official papers now published render it perfectly clear that the British Government never agreed to anything of the kind. Here are Lord SALISBURY'S words, written at the Foreign Office in London on July 28th, in reply to Mr. SHERMAN'S notorious despatch of May 10th:—

In reply I have to state that her Majesty's Government are willing to agree to a meeting of experts nominated by Great Britain and Canada and by the United States in October next, when the further investigations to be made on the islands during the present season will have been completed. The object of the meeting would be to arrive, if possible, at correct conclusions respecting the numbers, conditions, and habits of the seals frequenting the Pribiloff Islands at the present time as compared with the several seasons previous and subsequent to the Paris Award.

Lord SALISBURY, as he states here in the plainest terms, agreed to nothing more than a meeting of experts nominated by Great Britain, Canada and the United States. Thus there has not been the smallest change of front on Great Britain's part from first to last. Under what strange hallucination the United States Government laboured when, on the strength of such a despatch as the above, it invited Japan and Russia to join in a conference with Great Britain, we are unable to divine. Lord SALISBURY'S despatch of July 28th must have been in Mr. SHERMAN'S hands by August 4th, yet America's invitation to Japan and Russia was allowed to stand, and the Japanese Representatives were suffered to leave Tokyo for Washington two months later. It is a most singular instance of diplomatic blundering. We can not suggest any explanation, but we desire to emphatically record the fact that the situation in which Japan now finds herself is due, not to any variability or inconstancy on Great Britain's part, but to the curious circumstance that the American Government invited Japan and Russia to sit with England in a Conference which England had not agreed to join,

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS OF THE EVOLUTION THEORY.

WITH ESPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE PROGRESS OF THE HUMAN RACE.

I.—ZYMOTIC DISEASE AND HUMAN EVOLUTION.

LAST year was published a work on evolution, entitled "The Present Evolution of Man," by Dr. ARCHDALL REID, which is unquestionably the most important contribution to the evolution theory since WEISMANN'S work on "The Continuity of the Germ Plasma."

DARWIN, by making the evolution theory comprehensible by every well-educated man, removed it at one stroke from the position of a doubtful and derided hypothesis to that of a well-grounded and almost universally accepted theory. WEISMANN brought forward apparently indisputable grounds for rejecting the view that the inheritance of acquired variations is a factor in evolution; and proved almost beyond cavil that natural selection by the survival of the fittest has been the sole cause of organic evolution. Dr. REID, adopting WEISMANN'S view, states, in a most convincing manner, the arguments against the possibility of the inheritance of acquired characters by any but the lowest organisms, and gives further a new and remarkable contribution to the theory of human evolution.

Let us first consider the simpler portion of his work, that which deals with the effect of natural selection on the human race. The methods of natural selection among the lower types of animal life, which may be summed up in the phrase, "the race to the swift and the battle to the strong," ceased to a large extent to be operative on man as soon as he emerged from the most primitive state of savagery. HERBERT SPENCER says somewhere, "The first requisite to success in life is to be a good animal," and the pithy phrase contains an important truth; but it is evident that the more man becomes civilized, the less does mere animal excellence remain a principal factor in promoting survival. The decay of many animal powers in the human race, notable in this regard being the loss of a keen sense of smell, affords ample proof of this assertion.

What, then, is the mode in which the struggle for existence is now chiefly operative among the races of civilized man? We can best determine this by ascertaining the principal causes of premature death. We find they can be arranged in two classes: zymotic diseases, that is, diseases due to the invasion of the body by low parasitic organisms; and the abuse of intoxicants, of which among western races the chief is alcohol.

Zymotic disease constitutes a part of the price man has had to pay for civilization. The conditions of life among fœral animals are such as practically prohibit

the origin and dissemination of these diseases; but *pari passu* with the evolution of civilized man there has been an evolution of organisms that are the deadly hereditary foes of the human race. Let us consider, for simplicity's sake, one only of these diseases, tuberculosis, which at the present time is responsible for one-seventh of the deaths that occur in England. The contagion of the disease is found to require two conditions for its dissemination; first, a certain concentration of infection in ill-ventilated dwellings; secondly, an individual susceptibility, innate or acquired, on the part of the recipient. Concentration of infection in ill-ventilated dwellings occurs wherever in cold climates men among whom is a tuberculous patient herd together under cover. Susceptibility to this form of infection was at one time probably universal, but in races that have for thousands of years been exposed to the contagion, the susceptibility has been gradually diminished by the progressive elimination of those with more susceptibility, and by the survival of those stocks only in which the susceptibility was less extreme. It is only necessary that this severe form of selection should be continued for a sufficiently long period, for the race to acquire an immunity, at least to the more deadly form of the disease.

The validity of this reasoning is readily tested and confirmed by an appeal to experience. There can be no reasonable doubt that the races of the more civilized parts of the old world have been familiar with tuberculosis from immemorial times. On the other hand, the sparser and less domesticated natives of the New World have until recently been free from the disease. Now, among the Old World races, racial immunity has so far been acquired that many persons escape infection altogether, though exposure to infection must in our large towns be a matter of almost daily occurrence; and the acute forms of tuberculosis, "galloping consumption," etc., are quite exceptional. Among the New World races, on the other hand, as soon as they adopt our domestic habits and are exposed to the contagion disseminated by an individual suffering from the disease, tuberculosis proves itself a deadly and almost universal scourge.

The same reasoning applies to other diseases which, in virgin communities, assume a deadly pestilential type previously unknown to scientific observers. Measles among the South-sea Islanders is a well-known instance of the kind. It is the deadly effect of these diseases in races not protected against them by many generations of evolution, that accounts in great part for the disappearance, often regarded as mysterious, of so many savage and semi-civilized races in contact with a higher civilization. Dr. REID writes as follows concerning the decay of the New World Races:—

"There is no more mystery connected with

their decay than with the extinction of the dodo or the bison. It cannot be doubted that the New World races have suffered or are suffering extinction in consequence of the introduction among them of Old World diseases, and because of one other cause, likewise an importation, of which more hereafter. So much is quite beyond dispute, and these causes may be seen in operation over half the world at the present day—in North and South America, in Australia, in New Zealand, in the islands of the Eastern Hemisphere. The sole mystery has lain in the circumstance that the races of the New World are less resistant to diseases of the non-malarial type than those of the Old World, and to that mystery I trust I have furnished a key. It is no question of freedom or of domestication, or even of civilization *per se*. The continental savages of the Old World do not perish when brought into contact with civilization. In India and Ceylon are tribes of an excessively wild type that have existed for thousands of years in contact with, and in the midst of, most ancient civilizations and very crowded populations. There is no conceivable reason why the Caribs should have been less capable of enduring domestication, or slavery, or civilization than equally barbarous negroes. But they perished, because, unlike the negroes, they had not been rendered resistant to the non-malarial zymotic diseases which the Spaniards introduced, and they would have perished had the Spaniards come among them as slaves, not as masters, and adopted their manners and habits of life, instead of forcing on them a change; for their islands lay in the very highway of the commerce that then sprang up, and in the very path of selection.

"It is probable that most if not all of the still persistent races of America, Australia, and Polynesia are doomed irretrievably to extinction. In the presence of zymotic disease, and of conditions that ever grow increasingly favourable to it, they are as unfit as was the dodo when man invaded Mauritius. But at least we need not favour their extinction by means that are ignorantly intended to prevent it. We need not crowd the American Indians, the Australians, and the Polynesians into school-rooms and churches, and so subject them to conditions most favourable for acquiring zymotic disease. We need not teach such of them as dwell in warm climates that morals are inseparably connected with clothes, and that the wearing of garments is a necessary prelude to eternal bliss. We need not persuade such of them as are nomadic to form death-traps for themselves in the shape of settled communities. In fact, we need not attempt to civilize them, at least in so far as civilization depends on settled and crowded communities, air-tight houses, and unnecessary clothes. Above all, we need not send to them as teachers and guides men who are infected with disease, especially with tuberculosis. Only by preserving intact, as far as possible, the conditions under which their ancestry lived, and for which their evolution has therefore fitted them, can we hope to save for a time these—in many cases—noble and interesting races."

It may be asked why it is that these weaker races cannot themselves undergo a protective evolution against zymotic disease, similar to that which, according to the argument, has been undergone by the Old World races. The reason is that during the many thousand years in which the Old World races, since the beginnings of civilization, have been painfully acquiring their immunity, the micro-organisms themselves have been undergoing an evolution of their own by which their virulence is proportionately increased—this must have been the necessary result of the working of the law of the survival of the fittest as applied to them. Confronted with these virulent germs the New World

aces have not time to undergo a protective evolution; they are too rapidly exterminated. A concomitant cause of their extermination is the abuse of alcohol of which, as the other great factor in present-day human evolution we have spoken above. The influence of alcohol on human evolution will be the subject of our next article.

II.—ALCOHOL AND HUMAN EVOLUTION.

In the first section of our review of Dr. REID's book, we traced the effect of natural selection in bringing about the evolution of a type comparatively resistant to the zymotic diseases that have grown up concomitantly with the growth of civilization. In the effect of alcohol as a cause of human evolution there is a strong resemblance with, and also a striking difference from, the effect of zymotic disease. The resemblance consists in the fact that just as the virus of the different zymotic diseases has tended to grow more potent as civilization has advanced, so, with the increasing knowledge of the technical arts that has marked the growth of civilization, there has come the power of preparing stronger and stronger varieties of alcohol liquors. In Guiana, for instance, the intoxicant manufactured by the natives from cassava is so weak that it takes a man from thirty-six to forty-eight hours of hard drinking to bring about the desired state of intoxication; the heir of all the ages, on the other hand, can drink enough neat whiskey or brandy at a draught to make him dead drunk within a few minutes. The difference between alcohol and the zymotic diseases consists in this, that whereas for the most part there is nothing men seek more earnestly to avoid than such sickness as zymotic disease, the exposure to the toxic effects of alcohol has the appearance of a deliberate voluntary action, the motive force being the charming sensations peculiar to the state of intoxication.

It is to be observed that the peculiarity of nervous tissue on which the craving for intoxication depends, must be an accidental product merely of evolution. Dr. REID's ideas on this matter, and his idea that evolution is bringing about the persistence of a type to which drunkenness is no longer charming, were anticipated some years ago by Professor JAMES of Harvard University, in his great work on Psychology. Speaking of affections of the nervous system that cannot have been due to experience of relations with the outer world, Professor JAMES writes:—

"One of the most striking of these affections is *susceptibility to the charm of drunkenness*. This, taking drunkenness in the broadest sense, as teetotallers use the word, is one of the deepest functions of human nature. Half of both the poetry and the tragedy of human life would vanish if alcohol were taken away. As it is, the thirst for it is such that in the United States the cash-value of its sales amounts to that of the sales of meat and of bread put together. And yet what ancestral

"outer relation" is responsible for this peculiar reaction of ours? The only "outer relation" could be the alcohol itself, which, comparatively speaking, came into the environment but yesterday, and which, so far from creating, is tending to eradicate, the love of itself from our mental structure, by letting only those families of men survive in whom it is not strong. The love of drunkenness is a pure accidental susceptibility of a brain evolved for entirely different uses, and its causes are to be sought in the molecular realm, rather than in any possible order of "outer relations."

Dr. REID's words on the same subject may fitly be adjoined:—

The question as to how the craving for alcohol and other narcotics, the love for those frames of mind which they severally induce, arose, can be answered in one way only. It can have arisen only as a by-product which, in the absence of narcotics, was harmless, but which in the presence of them is harmful, and against which, in races long afflicted by this or that narcotic, a secondary evolution has occurred; just such a by-product as paresis which accompanies the life-saving faculty of fear (e.g. in birds or frogs, fascinated or frightened by snakes), against which a secondary evolution is also doubtless occurring. In intellectually the highest animals only is the love for that state of mind which narcotics induce present, and only in the highest of all animals, *i.e.* only in man, is the craving for that state of mind present in the highest degree. Elephants and monkeys, for instance, but not fish or reptiles, can be brought to enjoy indulgence in alcohol; in man alone is the love for such indulgence easily awakened."

After giving some remarkable figures to show the direct influence of alcohol in promoting mortality, Dr. REID goes on to say:—

"Dr. Ridge's statistics place beyond question the fact that alcohol is a considerable cause of mortality. But his figures, however significant are by no means significant enough. Alcohol not only causes disease and death among the breadwinners of the community, to whom his statistics chiefly refer; it is also a cause of destitution to their families, and therefore a factor in the elimination of those who, inheriting the inborn traits of their progenitors, would in the next generation indulge in it to excess. Every shilling spent in drink is a shilling less for food, clothing, shelter, and the provision of better sanitation. Moreover, apart from the question of disease and death, individuals who indulge in alcohol to excess, *i.e.* to such an extent as to leave them appreciably poorer, or to such an extent as to damage their health, must on the whole have fewer offspring than those who do not so indulge, for the reason that they are less able to support wives and families, and because men and women are generally unwilling to marry the intemperate.

In generation after generation alcohol is therefore the cause of a considerable diminution of the unfit in relation to it, and therefore, like a very prevalent and deadly disease, in generation after generation, it must be the cause of a considerable evolution against itself. This evolution may be in one or both of two directions; it may be in the direction of an increasing power of tolerating the poison, or in the direction of an increasing power of avoiding it, that is, of abstaining from it, or both, *i.e.* it may result in an increased power of imbibing alcohol without ill effect, or it may result in a diminution of the craving for it, or both. In the presence of an abundant supply of alcohol and of a craving for it, it can hardly result to any great extent in an increased power of toleration, for, under such circumstances, the drunkard would simply drink more, and thereby poison himself just as effectually as a less resistant person would with a smaller quantity. The evolution against alcohol must therefore be in the direction of an increased power of avoiding it—in a diminution of the craving for it. *A priori*, therefore, we should

expect that races that have long been familiar with alcohol, like races that have long been familiar with a very prevalent and deadly disease, are less harmfully affected than races that have had little or no experience of it, and this because they crave less for it, and therefore drink less of it. *A posteriori*, this is exactly what we do find. The peoples inhabiting the northern coast of the Mediterranean, the Greeks, the Italians, the Southern Frenchmen, and the Spaniards, who have lived for thousands of years in the presence of an abundant supply of alcohol, are pre-eminently temperate, whereas savages who have had no racial experience of it, or a slight experience only, the natives of North and South America, Australia, Polynesia, Africa, Greenland, etc., whether inhabiting the arctic, the temperate, or the torrid zone, crave for it to such a degree that, unless we protect them by prohibitory laws, they perish in its presence. Moreover, races that in their experience of alcohol are intermediate between the Italian and the North American Indians, crave for alcohol, and are inclined to excessive indulgence in it, more than the former and less than the latter, *e.g.* the inhabitants of Northern Europe, the English, for example.

It has commonly been supposed, that in the use of alcohol we find a striking example of the inheritance of acquired traits. We are all unhappily familiar with cases in which a tendency to drink to excess is inherited, and most persons believe that the drunkenness of the child is the direct result of the drunkenness of the parent. As a matter of fact, however, what the child inherits is not an acquired variation, but the inherited tendency of the parent in virtue of which that parent himself became a drunkard. If the use of alcohol by the parent tended of itself to induce a craving for alcohol in the child, the disappearance of the human race would be speedily assured. As Dr. REID puts it:—

"In such a case the son would inherit the father's craving plus an increment to it, and would therefore drink more; the grandson would inherit the son's increased craving, plus a further increment caused by the drunken habits of the latter, and would in consequence drink still more; so also as regards the great grandson and subsequent descendants, till, in the presence of alcohol, the race would become more and more unfit, and would ultimately suffer extinction."

The fact cannot be denied that the less experience a race have had of alcohol, the more disastrous to them is the poison when once it has been put into their hands. Those among us known as dipsomaniacs, who have an irresistible craving for intoxication of the most profound type, comparable in its intensity to the craving for intoxication experienced by the savage without previous racial experience of alcohol, are dipsomaniacs in virtue of the well-known phenomenon of reversion, whereby an organism displays mental or physical characteristics that were at one time universal among the ancestors of the race.

The practical conclusions drawn by Dr. REID are striking and somewhat novel. So far, his facts and arguments will have been received with approbation by the most enthusiastic temperance reformers, who will perhaps expect to hear that Dr. REID is an ardent advocate of prohibition. Far from it. Dr. REID considers all pro-

hibition schemes to be utterly mistaken. He thinks that prolonged and generally enforced abstinence from alcohol would, owing to the cessation of the evolutionary process whereby a type desiring the slighter degrees of intoxication only has been evolved, result in retrogression to a type in which extreme drunkenness would be ardently desired. Since alcohol, so important in the arts and manufactures, cannot possibly be eliminated from daily use, a time would surely arrive when all legal and moral restraints would be overcome, a universal outburst of drunkenness would ensue, and the whole process of anti-alcoholic evolution would have to be begun over again.

"If, then," asks Dr. REID, "racial abstinence from alcohol must have for ultimate result only excessive indulgence in the poison, how may we save posterity from the curse of intemperance? How cause our race ultimately to crave for it as little as the South European? Most assuredly only by imitating the process of alcoholic selection, by eliminating those individuals among us who crave for alcohol to an excessive degree, at least in so far as to prevent them influencing posterity by leaving offspring, who, by marrying the children of the naturally sober, would contaminate the whole race. In other words, we must either permit alcoholic selection to run its cruel course, or we must assist it by artificial selection, and so prevent much of the misery, by weeding out the obviously unfit, either by forbidding marriage to drunken individuals, or in the married by preventing the procreation of children by separating the parents, or such other means as science may devise."

III.—HUMAN EVOLUTION AN ARTIFICIAL PROCESS.

Twenty-five years ago, Mr. WALTER BAGEHOT, one of the most accomplished thinkers of his time, wrote a fascinating work with the quaint title of "Physics and Politics," the aim of which was to throw light on the origins of civilization. At that time, the view that acquired traits are transmitted was almost universally accepted, and on the inheritance of acquired traits Mr. BAGEHOT'S argument was based. "The special laws of inheritance," he wrote, "are, indeed, as yet unknown. All which is to my purpose is, that there is a tendency, a probability, greater or less according to circumstances, but always considerable, that the descendants of cultivated parents will have, by inborn nervous organization, a greater aptitude for cultivation than the descendants of such as are not cultivated; and that this tendency augments, in some enhanced ratio, for many generations."

I do not think that any who do not acquire—and it takes a hard effort to acquire—this notion of a transmitted nerve element, will ever understand the "connective issue" of civilization. We have here the continuous force which binds age to age, which enables each to begin with some improvement on the last, if the last did itself improve; which makes each civilization, not a set of detached dots, but a line of colour, surely enhancing shade by shade. There is, by

this doctrine, a physical cause of improvement from generation to generation; and no imagination which has apprehended it can forget it; but unless you appreciate that cause in its subtle materialism, unless you see it, as it were, playing upon the nerves of men, and age after age, making nicer music from finer chords, you cannot comprehend the principle of inheritance, either in its mystery or its power."

We do not now propose to recapitulate the arguments against the inheritance of acquired characters; we shall assume it to be proved almost beyond the possibility of question that they are not inherited. Failing this mode of evolution, which explained things so satisfactorily for BAGEHOT, civilized man can have been evolved from the animal in one of two ways only, or in both ways combined, α by natural selection, β by an artificial process which we shall presently describe.

In the last of these articles we shall examine Dr. REID'S view as to the mode in which natural selection has been chiefly operative in bringing about the change from animal to man. In the present article we propose to show that the kind of natural selection operative in the lower animal world, the selection that is, as we have already said, summed up in the phrase "the race to the swift and the battle to the strong," cannot have been an important factor in promoting the change from savage to civilized man.

At first sight, if we abandon the old view of inheritance, if we cease to believe that acquired characters are transmitted, and if we admit that natural selection of the kind that promoted the earlier stages of man's evolution cannot account for the final stages, the development of civilization seems to be relegated to the limbo of the miraculous. A modern writer on evolution, Mr. BENJAMIN KIDD, has placed on record his belief that a supernatural element has been present in social evolution. Within the last few years, however, it has been becoming increasingly clear that to account for human progress it is not necessary to invoke the childish Greek expedient of a god from a machine; the whole process has become perfectly explicable within the sphere of ascertained natural causation.

In an essay on Heredity published last year, Mr. LESLIE STEPHEN, after some discussion of the latest view of heredity, goes on to say:—

Let me quote what has been said by an authority who expresses, I believe, the accepted scientific view. "There can be no doubt," says Professor Huxley, "that vast changes have taken place in English civilization since the days of the Tudors. But I am not aware that there is a single particle of evidence in favour of the conclusion that this evolutionary process has been accompanied by any modification of the physical or the mental characters of the men who have been the subjects of it. I have not met with any grounds for suspecting that the average Englishmen of to-day are sensibly different from those that Shakespeare knew and drew." The statement might, I imagine, be very greatly extended. I do not suppose that the average cockney of to-day is a superior animal, physically or morally, to the average Athenian

of the days of Pericles, or even, it may be, to the prehistoric savage who made flint implements for the amusement of our antiquaries. Briefly, whatever change has taken place, within the historical period, has been a social change, not a change in the structure of the individual.

Mr. STEPHEN goes on to show that the power of accumulating knowledge is like the power of accumulating wealth: by both alike each generation is placed on a different platform from that occupied by the preceding generation. Following this growth of knowledge along one line only, for the sake of example, we see three great changes in what Mr. STEPHEN calls the social factor, made by the development of the power of speech, by the discovery of writing, and by the discovery of printing, respectively, each of these changes in the social factor being accompanied by an enormous and almost sudden advance in civilization, without any correspondingly gigantic change in the physical and mental structure of the units of which society is made up.

Our illustration is perhaps a trifle strained from our having included the invention of speech; this must of course have been a much slower and more painful process than the discovery of writing or of printing; but once the rudiments of speech gained, the growth of the power of language would proceed with remarkable rapidity, and would be accompanied by a correspondingly rapid change in the social state of developing man, a change altogether disproportionate in its rapidity to any possible change in inborn structure and acquirements. Mr. STEPHEN thus writes of the transition period from monkey to man and of subsequent social evolution:—

Monkeys must have grown into men before they could begin to accumulate capital, either material or spiritual. The faculty of accumulating must itself have been developed. Only, when once it was developed, another process would begin, the process of social evolution, which, however it may resemble the other, or possibly be in some sense its continuation, proceeds, at least, at a totally different rate. The difference is comparable, one may say roughly, to the difference between the speed of an express train and the speed of a four-wheeled waggon. Beneath the surface, it may be, the slower process is still continuing; men, for anything I can say to the contrary, may be acquiring large brains and more sensitive bodies; and it is further possible, or rather obvious, that if we can do anything to facilitate this proceeding, to behave so as to give nature a better chance of turning out better work, we ought to do so. Only nature is pretty sure to take her time about it. How far, again, one process is to be considered as a modification of the other, or even as in opposition to it, is a point which I cannot now touch. What I have to say is simply this: that if we take any two periods of society, the present, for example, and that of a thousand years ago, we shall find enormous or incalculably great differences in the social structure, in the amount of knowledge, in the character of the ethical, religious, and philosophical beliefs, and in the relations between the individuals of which the society is constructed; but between the individuals at the two periods we may find hardly any definable difference whatever. For anything we can say, we should be able, if we could move people about in time as well as in space, to exchange a thousand infants of the nineteenth century A.D. for a thousand infants of the nineteenth century B.C.

and nobody would be able to detect the difference that would result.

Hence it follows, in my opinion, that the evolutionary process with which moralists and political philosophers have practically to deal, is what I have called the social, and not the individual process. We inherit thoughts as we inherit wealth; we inherit customs and laws and forms of worship, and indeed our whole mental furniture; we can add enormously to our inheritance, and can transmit the augmented fund to our descendants. But the other process of inheritance, to which the word "heredity" is taken to apply, is not, immediately at least, cumulative. We inherit the old faculties, bodily and mental, unaltered, or with infinitesimal alterations, though we live in a different environment, and are ourselves as much altered as our environment. The modern social organism is built up, if I may say so, of cells almost identical in their properties with those of the old organism, although the mode of combination gives entirely new properties to the whole, and brings out new actions and reactions among the constituent cells themselves.

Not the least part of the interest of the above passage lies in the fact that it comes from the pen of a man who has lived throughout the period when BAGEHOT'S view of heredity was the accepted view, and is now an outspoken adherent of the newer view. The other writer from whom we have to quote to-day is young, one of the most daring and original imaginative writers of our time. In an article in the *Fortnightly Review* for October, 1896, under the title we have chosen as that for to-day's section of this series of papers on evolution, "Human Evolution an Artificial Process," Mr. H. G. WELLS challenges the doctrine that the social evolution of man is brought about by natural selection. Natural selection, he says, operates by means of death. Only by a process of killing out the unfit, generation after generation, does it operate in producing efficiency. Now the human family breeds too slowly for this ruthless machine to get a chance of improving him much by killing off the unfit. Man does not begin to multiply until he is at least sixteen years old, and when he does begin to breed, his offspring are very few compared with those of, let us say, the rabbit. Then, again, the human being dies a natural death for the most part; other animals are usually killed off before they attain their full length of years:—

Taking all those points together, and assuming four generations of men to the century—a generous allowance—and ten thousand years as the period of time that has elapsed since man entered upon the age of polished stone, it can scarcely be an exaggeration to say that he has had time only to undergo as much specific modification as the rabbit could get through in a century. Indeed, I believe it an exaggeration to say that he can possibly have undergone as much modification as the rabbit (under rapidly changing circumstances) would experience in fifty years.

Therefore, it appears to Mr. WELLS impossible to believe that man has undergone anything but an infinitesimal alteration in his intrinsic nature since the age of polished stone. Prior to the age of polished stone, was the age of unpolished stone, lasting probably 100,000 years, during which mankind slowly

fashioned the wonderful instrument of articulate speech. *Pari passu* with this was the growth of a moral disposition, which became far more rapid during the subsequent age of polished stone, and was associated with the formation of higher social types. Now it seems incredible that in palæolithic savages a moral disposition could have been developed by natural selection, as moral restraint is directly prejudicial to the interests of semi-brute savages. How then was civilised man evolved? Mr. WELLS'S solution of the problem is as follows:—

That in civilised man we have (1) an inherited factor, the natural man, who is the product of natural selection, the culminating ape, and a type of animal more obstinately unchangeable than any other living creature; (2) and an acquired factor, the artificial man, the highly plastic creature of tradition, suggestion, and reasoned thought. In the artificial man we have all that makes the comforts and securities of civilisation a possibility. That factor and civilisation have developed, and will develop together. And in this view, what we call Morality becomes the padding of suggested emotional habits necessary to keep the round Palæolithic savage in the square hole of the civilised state. And Sin is the conflict of the two factors—as I have tried to convey in my "Island of Dr. Moreau." If this new view is acceptable, it provides a novel definition of education, which obviously should be the careful and systematic manufacture of the artificial factor in man.

The artificial factor in man is made and modified by two chief influences. The greatest of these is *suggestion*, and particularly the suggestion of example. With this tradition is inseparably interwoven. The second is his reasoned conclusions from additions to his individual knowledge, either through instruction or experience. The artificial factor in man, therefore, may evidently be deliberately affected by a sufficiently intelligent exterior agent in a number of ways: by example deliberately set; by the fictitious example of the stage and novel; by sound or unsound presentations of facts, or sound or fallacious arguments derived from facts, even, it may be by emotionally propounded precepts. The artificial factor of mankind—and that is the one reality of civilisation—grows, therefore, through the agency of eccentric and innovating people, playwrights, novelists, preachers, poets, journalists, and political reasoners and speakers, the modern equivalents of the prophets who struggled against the priests—against the social order that is of the barbaric stage.

In the future, it is at least conceivable that men with a trained reason and a sounder science, both of matter and psychology, may conduct this operation far more intelligently, unanimately, and effectively, and work towards, and at last attain and preserve a social organisation cunningly balanced against exterior necessities on the one hand, and the artificial factor in the individual on the other, that the life of every sentient creature on earth, may be generally happy. To me, at least, that is no dream, but a possibility to be lost or won by men, as they may not have the greatness of heart to consciously shape their moral conceptions and their lives to such an end.

This view, in fact, reconciles a scientific faith in evolution with optimism. The attainment of an unstable and transitory perfection only through innumerable generations of suffering and "elimination" is not necessarily the destiny of humanity. If what is here advanced is true, in education lies the possible salvation of mankind from misery and sin. We may hope to come out of the valley of Death, become emancipated from the Calvinistic deity of Natural Selection, before the end of the pilgrimage. We need not clamour for the Systematic Massacre of the Unfit, nor fear that degeneration is the inevitable consequence of security.

IV.—DR. REID'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE THEORY OF HUMAN EVOLUTION.

Among the lower orders of organisms, reactions to the environment are entirely automatic, and are, presumably, not accompanied by consciousness. Actions of this character, the consciousness of which, when it exists, is purely secondary, persist in higher organisms, including man. Such automatic responses to stimulation are known as reflex actions. As we rise in the animal scale, we meet with other reactions to external stimulation, of a more complex character, accompanied by consciousness, but still inevitable responses, determined by the reaction of the inborn nervous organization to the stimulus. Such responses are known as instinctive. These instinctive actions also are met with in man. Finally, in the higher animals, and preeminently in man, we meet with reactions to the influence of the environment that are conscious adaptations of means to ends, dependent, not on inborn nervous organisation, but on acquired knowledge. These are known as rational actions, and the faculty on which they depend is called reason.

As man developed from the brute, the reflex and the instinctive life became less important to his survival than his new power of responding to his environment by the conscious adaptation of means to ends. Hence the instinctive character of his mental life, like many of his animal capacities, has undergone a progressive decay. Mentally as well as physically he is when new-born the weakest of animals, but in his capacity for acquiring knowledge he is remotely approached by a few of the higher animals only, such as the dog, the elephant, and the ape, all of which the child of three years old has already left far behind. In one department only of human life has instinct remained supreme, in the sexual life, for the reason that, in this department, the conscious adaptation of means to ends would not on the whole tend to favour survival. There is no wide-spread instinct that leads man to desire the perpetuation of the species as an end in itself; nor does the developed reason, in the more highly trained minds that can grasp such abstract considerations, necessarily prompt to acts tending to perpetuate a race in which the balance of pleasures and pains is so uncertain, and of which the ultimate destiny is so obscure. It is certain that ordinary self-interest would lead the average man to avoid the cares and responsibilities of a family, and the average woman to shun the pains and perils of maternity, were the choice left solely to the arbitrament of reason. Hence natural selection has preserved, to guarantee the perpetuation of the species, an uncontrollable animal instinct. Where man learns on the large scale to gratify the sexual instinct without providing for the perpetuation of the species, the in-

evitable result is decline of population and national decay. The struggle for existence among families and among nations will necessarily lead to the survival of those stocks only in which the national result of the gratification of the sexual instinct is not prevented by artificial means. This, however is a side issue, and we must return to our main argument.

When we examine man's physical organization, we find that while, as an animal, he is in most respects inferior to other animals, in one respect he excels them all in an extraordinary degree, namely, in the size of his brain. Thus we see that man differs from other animals principally in two points, a mental and a physical, the mental being his power of acquiring reason (for it most clearly understood that "reason" is not inborn, but merely the capacity for acquiring it); and the physical, the greater size and complexity of his brain; and this discovery alone would lead us confidently to believe that the mental and physical differences are in some way correlated. That they are so is of course abundantly proved by other lines of research. As a pure animal, man inherits from his forefathers a dwindling and decaying physical organisation, and he is utterly unfitted, as an animal, to cope with the hostile forces of nature. But man as man inherits a large and intricate brain, and with it the power of acquiring reason, that is the power of learning consciously to adapt himself to his environment and to modify that environment in a manner that makes him lord of the visible and of the invisible world. Without the larger brain, man, the enfeebled, degenerate animal, would speedily disappear from the face of the earth. Even with the larger brain, but without the social factor of which we spoke in the last article, without the inheritance of knowledge laboriously acquired from generation to generation, and acquired afresh by each one of us in the process of education, man would become the jabbering, ape-like creature he was a hundred thousand years ago. Destroy for a single generation the power of communicating by spoken and written signs, and the whole painful process of civilization would have to be begun over again.

We are now in a position to grasp how natural selection has operated in evolving man from the brute, in the discovery of which Dr. REID's indisputable claim to originality chiefly consists. It has acted by giving to the individuals of each generation an increasing power of modifying in response to stimulation and of adapting means to ends, in simpler terms, an increasing power of acquiring knowledge; the physical concomitant of this, the physical change in virtue of which survival was promoted, being the increasing size and complexity of the brain. During

the hundred thousand years or more in which palæolithic man was being evolved from the brute, his brain was increasing in size because the large brain, in virtue of the increased power that went with it of intelligently adapting means to ends, gave advantages in the struggle for existence that promoted survival far more effectually than any increase in mere animal excellence. Since then, since the perfection of speech, social evolution, quite independently of any organic change, has proceeded at an enormously enhanced rate.

"Savage man," says Dr. REID, "differs from lower animals chiefly in that he possesses the power of acquiring articulate speech, and the knowledge he thereby acquires enable him to place himself in harmony with an environment of a far greater complexity than that of any other animal. Civilized man differs from savage man chiefly in that he has invented, and more or less perfected, certain artificial aids to speech, in virtue of which he is enabled to acquire or store in available shape vastly more knowledge than the savage, and is therefore able to adapt himself to an environment of vastly greater complexity. By means of written symbols, representing words or thoughts, he is not only able to store in a form easily available to himself, his fellows, and his descendants, accumulations of knowledge so immense that no memory could contain them, but by means of these symbols he is able (e.g. in the mathematics) to perform feats of thinking utterly beyond the powers of the unaided mind; just as by means of tools, machinery, and other mechanical contrivances he is able to perform physical feats utterly beyond the unaided powers of his body. To written symbols representing words or thoughts is due, practically speaking, his whole advance beyond the savage in the past, and to them are due also his vast potentialities for future advance."

We must now bring to a conclusion our review of this remarkable book. It fills a yawning gap in the theory of the evolution of man, a gap that was left by the enforced abandonment of the Lamarckian theory of the inheritance of acquired characters. By the Darwinian theory of natural selection as hitherto expounded, without the aid of the Lamarckian theory, much in the later stages of human evolution was difficult to explain. But Dr. REID's theory, that natural selection as applied to the highest animals and to man, operates no longer exclusively, nor in man even chiefly, by the survival of those possessed of mere animal excellence, but by the development in the individuals of each generation of a continually increasing power to vary in response to external stimulation—this theory, in combination with the recognition of the enormous importance of the accumulation of a "capital fund" of knowledge and of principles of conduct increasing from generation, throws light on all the dark places of human race history.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The *Yomiuri* reports the arrest in Osaka, on the 21st inst., of fifty merchants who had speculated in rice on time bargains.

The authorities of Tokyo have given consent to the erection of large advertisement hoardings in the capital on condition that Municipal notices are to be given free access to the top portions of the erections.

Through an explosion that occurred in the powder dépôt at Yamakami—a village lying between Fukushima and Yonezawa on the O-u railway—a man was killed and eight others injured. The accident occurred on the 21st instant.

The *Yomiuri* reports that the total production of *habutaye* in Fukui Prefecture this year, up to the 16th instant, reached 30,821 rolls, equivalent to 114,971 *tan*, showing an increase of more than 10 per cent over the figures for the corresponding period of last year.

Messrs. Jardine Matheson and Co.'s plans for starting spinning factories in Japan, says the *Tokyo Asahi*, are slowly but surely maturing, and the "Princely House" will be, as usual, in the van of foreign enterprise when the opportunity arrives for taking advantage of the trade privileges conferred upon aliens by the new treaties.

A proposal is on foot to establish a paupers' school with a capital of 500,000 *yen*, of which 150,000 *yen* will be put up by Mr. Okura Kihachiro, the principal projector, and the rest by men of wealth. Marquis Ito is said to have expressed approval of the scheme, and Mr. Hiranuma, the Yokohama millionaire, has promised a liberal subscription.

The *Chuo* reports a scandalous affair that lately occurred in a train on the Takasaki-Naoyetsu line. On the night of the 18th instant a beautiful young lady was travelling alone in one of the cars, when the conductor of the train, Fujimatsu Takejiro, perceiving her unprotected position, entered the car and committed an assault. The lady's father has taken steps to prosecute the scoundrel.

America is still the best buyer in the Japan raw silk market, Europe apparently neglecting the finer sorts of filatures that she usually purchases at this time of the year. The explanation is very easy. The United States are entering upon a phenomenally successful autumn trade, wheat is rising in value day by day, bringing money into the hands of the working and farming classes, money which they will freely spend: whereas Europe has serious strikes and other industrial disturbances to face in nearly every country, in addition to a huge deficiency in the wheat and barley crops.

The import of cotton from China in the 30th year of *Meiji* (1887), says the *Fiji*, did not exceed 86,300 bales, valued at 826,428 *yen*. In the 28th year (1895), however, the amount increased to 906,787 bales, valued at 14,160,300 *yen*. Such an enormous augmentation in the import of this commodity is the result of the progress made in the spinning industry by the mills established in the interior.

According to the *Nippon*, the amount of silk exported to Europe and America from July 1st to September 30th for each of the past three years was as follows:—30th year, to America 9,693 bales, to Europe, 6,518 bales, total 16,211 bales; 29th year, to America 1,525 bales, to Europe 2,351 bales, total 3,882 bales; 28th year, to America 10,865 bales, to Europe 10,119 bales; total 20,984 bales.

It was suggested some time ago, says the *Shogyo*, that the insufficiency in the supply of native coal and the extravagant rise in its price would eventually lead to the importation of Australian fuel. The forecast has proved correct. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha recently imported 4,300 tons of Australian coal by the *Hikoyama Maru*, and the new coal proved not only excellent in quality but comparatively cheap. If

the present high quotations for Japanese coal continue for any length of time the import of the Australian product will increase by leaps and bounds.

According to the *Nichi Nichi*, preparations are being made under the auspices of Messrs. Tomita Tetsunosuke, Iida Kosaku, and other gentlemen from Miyagi Prefecture, to send a representative to Formosa with a consolatory address to Mr. Takano. The project becoming known to persons in the capital interested in the Takano affair, it was proposed that the message should also be signed by them. The representative chosen for this mission is to leave the capital by a steamer sailing on the 27th instant.

The *Fiji* contains a report of another assault upon Japanese fishermen in Siberian waters. This time the crew of a smack known as the *Eiju Maru* were the victims, and the assault was committed while the Captain and some of his crew were sheltering in a hut on shore. The assailants were Manchurians belonging to a village some 15 miles distant from Vladivostok. The Japanese are said to have lost a supply of clothes, fish, stores, and 300 yen in cash during the encounter.

It is of great interest to note, alleges the *Osaka Asahi*, that the construction of Water Works has had a remarkable effect in diminishing the force of epidemics, as may be perceived from the following table:—

	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1st half of 1897.
Cholera	12	21	2,981	36	8
Dysentery	7,066	2,420	449	252	23
Typhus	512	740	416	276	90
Diphtheria	191	139	155	227	304
Small-pox	1,635	15	16	287	2,055
Eruptive typhus	8	8	1	4	0
Total	9,424	3,378	4,018	1,082	2,480

On the evening of the 21st instant, says the *Fiji*, more than a hundred farmers assembled before the Village Office in Iriai-mura, in the suburbs of Tokyo. The police, noticing that something extraordinary was going on, hastened to the spot and attempted to disperse the mob. On making inquiry, however, they found that the supposed rioters had gathered for the purpose of importuning their landlords to decrease by forty per cent, the quantity of rice which they had to deliver to the latter in lieu of rent. Their request having been granted to the extent of a twenty-five per cent. reduction, the men had just determined to return home when the police arrived.

From the *Official Gazette* we learn that mails collected at various post offices throughout the empire during May totalled 42,986,781, showing an increase of 7,192,665, or about 20 per cent., as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of last year. In Formosa the total did not exceed 390,217, while Weihaiwei, (with the exception of military mails) footed up to 24,194. The following are the details:—

	May, 1897.	May, 1896.	Increase or decrease.
Letters	12,274,102	9,846,205	+2,427,897
Post cards	21,027,529	16,876,635	+4,150,894
Newspapers & magazines	7,378,072	6,795,550	+582,522
Books, &c.	651,828	528,034	+123,794
Samples	66,948	56,798	+10,150
Agricultural seeds	13,882	9,117	+4,765
Money enclosures	12	29	-17
Postage free	1,573,508	1,681,659	-108,150

The *Yoroku* reports the suicide of a certain law student, the cause of which is put down to the indignation he felt at the Takano affair. The facts may be epitomized as follows:—One Tamimoto Kofuku, of Tottori Prefecture, came up to Tokyo in July of the 26th year of *Meiji*, and lived at Nishikicho, Kanda, under the care of Mr. Yagii, a newspaper agent. Not being provided with sufficient funds, he became a newspaper vendor, and studied law at leisure moments with the utmost diligence, soon making himself an object of admiration among persons with whom he became acquainted. On the night of the 22nd instant, he stabbed himself in the throat with a fish knife. He left the

following note behind:—"I can not support the indignation that I feel, and have resolved to reprove the authorities by my death. Favour me with your prayers, after I am gone, and redouble your efforts in the interests of our Empire." The letter was addressed to his friends.

The consumption of Chinese *samsu* was formerly confined to Chinamen in Yokohama and other treaty ports. Japanese workmen in the habit of visiting Chinamen in the Settlements gradually became accustomed to the strong beverage, however, but the quantity consumed by them was, until recently, very insignificant. The late war entirely altered the financial conditions of Japan, and the appreciation of commodities has led to many changes. Above all, the extravagant rise in the cost of *sake* has driven the labouring classes to indulge in the Chinese liquor, which is comparatively strong and cheap. Taverns devoted to the sale of this liquor have increased greatly since the Spring of last year. It is said that vast quantities are now transported to all parts of the empire, even to the extremities of Hokkaido. The import, according to the *Kokumin*, was doubled last year, as compared with the year before last, while the figure for the first half of this year had already exceeded the amount for the whole of the previous year.

On the afternoon of the 22nd instant the Head Office of the Nippon Ginko and its branches throughout the empire announced the raising of the daily rate of interest by one *rin*, transactions with private individuals alone remaining unchanged. The revised rates of interest are as follows:—

TRANSACTIONS WITH BANKS.			
	Sen.	Sen.	Sen.
Interest on loans and discount	2.5	2.6	2.6
Discount of notes on security	2.2	2.3	2.3
Discount of commercial bills	2.4	2.6	2.6
Discount of commercial bills from other banks	2.4	2.6	2.6
Interest on temporary overdrafts	2.6	2.7	2.8
TRANSACTIONS WITH PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS.			
Interest on loans and discount	2.7	2.9	2.8
Discount of Bank commercial bills	2.4	2.5	2.5

The scale of interest charged by the Bank of Japan was first raised on June 15th, next on August 11th, and lastly this month, the total rate of increase amounting to three *rin*.

BISHOP AWDRY AND THE ROMAN CATHOLICS.

In an address delivered by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Awdry to a meeting at Malshanger in Hampshire, he was journalistically reported to have said:—"The Roman Catholics in Japan deserve their success, not so much because of their work now, as on account of their work two hundred and fifty years ago, stamped out as it was in blood." This statement constructively suggested that the work now done by Roman Catholic propagandists in Japan is at least not as worthy of success as was the work done by them two and a half centuries ago. Against such a statement we deemed it a duty to protest in strong terms, for though not of the Roman Catholic faith, we are constrained, in common honesty, to bear testimony to the noble character of the Catholic priests' labours. It gives us much pleasure, therefore, to be able to explain, on the authority of Bishop Awdry himself, that his words were wrongly reported. What he really said, was:—"The Roman Catholics deserve their success if only because it is the reaping of the harvest from their work 250 years ago, stamped out as it was in blood." The Bishop writes:—"I did not refer to the present work of the Roman Church, which, I daresay, is very good, but only wished to acknowledge that their past work deserved this fruit." Our readers may perhaps remember that by way of preface to our comments on the original version of Bishop Awdry's remarks, we said, "we wonder whether Bishop Awdry has been correctly reported." It turns out that he was not.

CHINESE NOTES.

"A telegram from Viceroy Lu of Szechuan has been received," says the *N.-C. Daily News*, "by the Nanking Viceroy asking the latter to open a famine fund in aid of the people of Eastern Szechuan. The distress there will be very great this winter owing to the almost complete destruction of an already poor harvest by heavy rains and by hail during the summer. Frequent cases of cannibalism are reported from Yuyang and other districts, and it is feared that the present distress in Szechuan will be twice as severe as that experienced by the populace of Shanai in the great famine of 1884.

Fifteen shops and houses in the Foochow Road, Shanghai, were destroyed by fire on the 17th instant. The disaster was caused by the explosion of a Korean lamp owing to carelessness in handling it. Messrs. D. Sassoon, Sons & Co. owned the property, and it was fully insured.

Concerning the rebellion in the North of China, we take the following from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

According to a despatch received at Tientsin the other day, it appears that the insurgents in the Jehol country, outside the Great Wall, mentioned in these columns recently, have been making it very lively for the Imperial troops on the spot. In other words it is reported that the Military Governor of Jehol and his Tartar troops have been defeated in several encounters with the insurgents, and it is further said the sub-prefectural city of Pingchi'uan has recently fallen into the hands of the insurgents and that the sub-prefect has been slain. The number of the insurgents at Pingchi'uan is estimated at over 8,000, and General Nieh, the Chihli Provincial Commander-in-chief, who had started from Lutai to the aid of the Governor of Jehol with some 3,000 cavalry and mounted infantry and a couple of guns, has found his progress barred by the insurgents near the newly captured city of Pingchi'uan. General Nieh has, therefore, formed an entrenched camp some sixteen miles from Pingchi'uan and is now waiting for the rest of his brigade, which will swell his forces to about 8,000 men, with one battery of horse artillery and two mountain batteries. His next step will be to re-take the city of Pingchi'uan and, in conjunction with the Tartar General of Fengtien, who will attack the insurgents from the east, attempt to surround the latter somewhere in the vicinity of Chi'aoayang. The Governor of Jehol, who has 1,500 troops, will have all he can do to preserve his seat of government from also falling into the hands of the rebels, hence he is not counted upon at all in the above sketch of the proposed campaign against the insurgents. The whole country about Jehol and Pingchi'uan is reported to be laid waste by the insurgents, who are expecting reinforcements from the members of the secret societies who rose unsuccessfully against the constituted authorities in the winter of 1893, just prior to the war with Japan. These societies are reported to be able to put 40,000 men in the field but, of course, almost unarmed, although rumour has it that they and their secret emissaries have purchased or picked up more than seven-tenths of the arms and ammunition abandoned by the thousands of "braves" who had been sent to fight the Japanese. There are apprehensions that if general Nieh and his troops be defeated by the rebels, the latter will at once attempt to capture the railway and threaten Tientsin. It is further stated by despatches received here on Thursday, that the disciplined troops of Yuan Shih K'ai, now stationed at Hsiao-chau, 15 miles west of Tientsin, have also received orders from Viceroy Wang to be ready to start for Tientsin at a moment's notice. Yuan Shih K'ai, it will be remembered, was, previous to the last war, Chinese Resident at Seoul and has been occupied for the past three years, during which he has resided at or near Tientsin, in organising a disciplined brigade of 8,000 men at Hsiao-chau.

The old familiar anti-Christian agitation is again afoot in Hunan. A proclamation professing to contain the sentiments of the *literati* and people of Tachou has been distributed widely in the province. One paragraph of it reads thus:—

We have found that these barbarians have various tricky ways of propagating their doctrines. They disguise themselves as fortune tellers and physiognomists and thereby spread broadcast their tenets, gathering and beguiling the unwary into

their meshes either by promises of wealth or displaying their knowledge of the black art to compel their victims voluntarily to embrace their faith. The moment a man does this he is fed with a black draught to confuse his mind while his women folk are outraged at pleasure. They have gone so far as even to open the stomachs of the women to obtain the unborn babe, while they have gouged out the eyes of male children, scraped the brains and marrow and cut them to pieces in a manner heartrending to witness. As soon, moreover, as the foreigner enters a country to propagate his doctrines the inhabitants begin to lose their women and children, and although the utmost efforts are made to seek for the lost ones they are never found. Although, indeed, the people may really know that their lost ones had been beguiled into the chapels and therefore had met their fate, no one dared to call for an investigation [in the absence of tangible proof] But no sooner does an inkling of the truth appear than the people rise up in their indignation, and this is how we hear of chapels burnt or destroyed and foreign devils slain. As a matter of fact not a province of this empire can declare that it has been free from such riots. And now these people dare to encroach into the Yochou prefecture! Yochou is the gate of Human, and if the foreigners be permitted to enter therein they will be able to pry into, as it were, the very heart-stones of our homes, and the danger affects our very persons. Hence there is no time to be lost. We must oppose the invaders before harm has been done, rather than do so after some of us have suffered from the wiles of these barbarians.

Our readers may remember that a charge of extraordinary delay in delivering a registered letter was recently preferred against the Japanese post office in Shanghai. The Japanese post-master has written to the leading Shanghai paper explaining that it is the custom to send to the addressee of registered mail matter a printed form which he is required to sign and return before the registered matter is delivered to him. The forms are sent through the local post office. Several were thus despatched with reference to the letter in question, but not one of them reached its destination, nor could the addressee be reached until the services of the local post office were dispensed with. Thus the blame is transferred to the local post office.

The Korean correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—

M. de Speyer is a much abler diplomat than was M. Waerber, in fact the two can scarcely be mentioned in one sentence, they are so utterly unlike, not only in manner but in policy. M. Waerber spent most of his time in the study and left the duties of his office to others, whilst M. de Speyer has been most active since he landed, and although he has been in Korea scarcely more than a month, he now has the whole country in his grasp. The army is entirely under Russian instructors (and I must add that the troops are wonderfully well instructed), the Arsenal is in charge of a Russian officer, and now Mr. Alexieff has come to Korea to take Mr. McLeavy Brown's place as adviser to the Finance Department. A number of other foreigners whose contracts have now expired are not to have them renewed. Some of these were never needed, for their advice was never sought nor taken if given, and they were chiefly employed at the earnest solicitation of their country's representative at Seoul. With Mr. Brown, however, the case is different. He has been enabled in twenty months to accumulate sufficient money to pay off the three million dollar loan of Japan, and now just as he has accomplished it the finances are to be taken out of his hands. This fact will be very much regretted, for, as I said before, unless one of the Treaty Powers (besides Japan, which need not be reckoned) interferes Mr. Alexieff will take charge of the finances almost before this letter reaches Shanghai.

According to telegraphic information received by Messrs. Holiday, Wise and Co., Hongkong; the accident to the China Mutual Steamer *Moyune* (Captain Kemp) is not of a very serious nature. The vessel is now at anchor in Kalanderang Bay, on the east side of Balabac Island, just below Palawan Island, having made that position with her own steam. Telegrams were sent to Singapore for pumps and gear. She will probably proceed on her own steam to Singapore, where she will dock for inspection and, if necessary, repairs.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

One of the Achinese pirates concerned in the murder of Captain Ross of the *Pegu*, has been hanged at Edi Besar. Another pirate has confessed to taking part in the murder.

The retiring Lord Mayor of London, Sir George Faudel Philips, has achieved a record as far as obtaining charitable funds are concerned. During the 12 months he has been in office Sir George raised £700,000, the bulk of it being for the Indian famine fund.

We learn that a telegram has been received at H.B.M.'s Legation in Tokyo, appointing Mr. W. J. Kenny, at present H.M.'s Consul at Anping, Formosa, to a Consular post at Honolulu. Mr. Kenny is to be congratulated on the change.

On the 9th October, with all befitting ceremonial, the Governor of the Straits Settlements, acting on behalf of the Queen, invested the young Sultan of Johore with the dignity of a Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

The British Coroner's jury at Nagasaki have returned a verdict of wilful murder against the man Cuthbert who stabbed his shipmate Gerard on the *Port Caledonia*, in Nagasaki harbour on October 18. The jury were:—Messrs. J. M. Dow, A. B. Glover, and S. Officer.

Yamai Jisaburo aged 11 years, third son of Mr. Yamai Kijuro of Gocho, Takashimachio, Yokohama, decamped from his father's house on the early morning of the 23rd inst. and could not be found anywhere. His corpse was found floating at the foot of Takashimachio, Ichome, about 7 a.m. on the 24th inst.

Advices from the West Coast of Africa state that the King of Benin has been deported to Old Calabar. He has been exonerated from participation in the massacres of British officers near Benin last January. Six chiefs have, however, been found guilty, and two have been executed.

Mrs. Carew was removed from Victoria Gaol, Hongkong, on Tuesday afternoon, October 19th, to the P. & O. steamer *Sumatra*, which sailed for England soon after the convict arrived on board. The removal was, of course, kept a profound secret. Mrs. Carew is in charge of ex-Sergeant Phelps and a female warder.

Mr. Horatio D. Davies, the new Lord Mayor of London, is 55 years old. He was educated at Dulwich College and was formerly in business in London, but is now an owner of oyster fisheries. He has been a member of the London Common Council for twelve years and an Alderman since 1889. He is a member of Parliament for Chatham. In politics he is a Conservative.

It is stated that a new Bank is to be started in Saigon with a capital of one million francs. The 40,000 shares of 100 francs each are almost all taken up already by the leading merchants and traders of Cochin-China. A prosperous future is predicted for the new concern. A branch will be started in Tonkin later on, and *L'Avenir du Tonkin* approves of the new concern, saying that Indo-China has been badly in need of such an institution.

The annual financial statement of the American Board of Foreign Missions, issued on September 16, shows unprecedented receipts for the month of August, amounting to \$120,289, nearly twice the amount received in August last year. The total receipts for the fiscal year were \$643,283, and the total disbursement \$688,144, leaving a debt of about \$45,000. The results are considered gratifying, because previous to the August receipts a much larger debt was expected.

One of the finest specimens of figurehead carving now extant in the world, remarks the *Globe*, is to be removed before the vessel is sold out of the service. The figurehead of the

Indus, which represents a fighting Hindoo, is by direction of the Admiralty to be added to the already large collection in Devonport Dockyard. It was built with the ship in 1839.

The *London and China Express* says that the statement that Dr. Herbert Giles, of Aberdeen, has accepted the Professorship of Chinese at Cambridge University is rather premature. The election for the post of Professor of Chinese does not take place till November, when we anticipate that Dr. Giles will be selected, but such an event has not yet taken place.

Writing on Oct. 19th, the *China Mail* says:—The accident to the China Mutual steamer *Moyune* (Capt. Kemp), which we briefly noted in last night's issue, appears to be more serious than was supposed. She is stated to have left Cebu with a valuable cargo for home, some days since, and to have gone ashore near Palawan Island. Pumps and gear were despatched from Manila, and nothing can be heard as to the condition of ship or cargo for some time. We learn that the cargo—hemp, sugar, and other Manila produce—is of great value, and a considerable portion is insured in local offices. We understand, however, that one or two large lines are held by offices at home.

Russia is just now concerning herself with the work of connecting all the European and Asian railways in the Empire. To this end Prince Khilkoff, the Minister of Public Works and Railways, will shortly leave St. Petersburg for the Caucasus, where he will examine the surveys which have been made. Among the new lines to be constructed is one through Turkestan to the neighbourhood of the Pamirs, and it is rumoured that another will run due north-east, the idea being eventually to bring the Trans-Siberian road into connection with the Black Sea. The Government is credited with the intention of establishing a large factory at Tashkend, where it is expected that most of the rolling stock will be manufactured.

Rumour is a fickle jade. She is responsible for the statement that the Duke of York will go to sea again, but the story is not to be trusted. Though he will not hoist the broad pennant next year, at any rate, his continued interest in the Service is evidenced by his action in regard to the old *Bacchante*. He made his first long voyage in this vessel—as many Yokohama residents know by personal acquaintance—and when she was ordered to be broken up he applied to the firm which had undertaken the job for something which he could utilise as a memento. All he could get was a portion of the old timbers, so he has now asked the Admiralty for a drawing of her stern in order that he may have a model of it made out of the timbers of his old ship.

Cable termites are the latest things in entomology, and they are said to be playing havoc with the French cable in Tonkin. They bore through lead and other metals. The Tonkin cable was composed of seven copper wires protected by an insulation envelope coated with cotton and jute. In addition to this it was placed in a lead pipe. A few months after it was laid it began to show signs of decay. The cable was taken up and replaced. On examining the cavities in the old cable, Professor Bouvier, of the Paris Academy of Science, discovered that they had been made by a new termite. Prof. Milne Edwards, commenting on this, said that it was not the first time that injury had been done to metals by these insects. They were numerous in some portions of China. Mr. Edwards also said that some other species of insects had been known to attack metal.

When the last mail left England, the "gilded youth of Great Britain" were said to be in a great flutter, for a report had gone abroad that the Prince of Wales was bringing home with him from Bohemia another variety of hat, a memento of his visit to the little watering place where he has stayed his prescribed three weeks, and gained so much benefit from a not too severe cure. The Marienbad hat,

says a fashionable gazette, will probably take the place of the Homburg hat, and the Bohemian village, by this accident of fashion, become a familiar name to many who to this year had no knowledge of its existence. Latterly there has been rather a revolt against the bowler shape, and the Prince himself led it when he brought back with him the soft felt, high-crowned, but with a cleft in its crown, which we know as the Homburg hat. The Homburg hat was brown, a sort of Bismarck brown. The Marienbad is green and with a wider brim. The Bohemians have known it for centuries; indeed the Prince will scarcely be its absolute introducer into Western Europe. Something like it was popular in England years ago.

The *China Mail* reports that a fatal accident occurred on board the Blue Funnel steamer *Patroclus* on 8th Oct., while lying at her buoy in Hongkong harbour, one man being suffocated and two others having a narrow escape. Three Chinese workmen had gone into the bilges to clear the ship's grating. As soon as this was done the foul air which had been boxed in by the clogged grating made its escape and the men were overcome by the fumes. Assistance was given by some other workmen and the three men were taken out, and after a time two of them were resuscitated. The third, however, died from suffocation.

The wreck of the *Aden* is reported by the *Madras Mail* to have broken up and almost entirely disappeared. It has been thought, however, that a fair proportion of salvage might be recoverable, especially such dead-weight as copper, tin, etc., of which she carried a considerable quantity. Negotiations have resulted in an agreement being concluded between the P. & O. Company and two Aden firms, by which the latter have engaged to be in readiness to make a start at the earliest advisable moment. On Tuesday, the 14th September, the party left Aden for Socotra, where the attempt will be made jointly. Operations are impracticable until the cessation of the south-west monsoon, but an expedition of divers well accustomed to such work has been sent out from England. They will form a miniature encampment, living in tents on the island, with moored buggalows to work from and use as lighters.

A Bombay telegram, dated Sept. 30th, which appears in Rangoon papers, reports that while at ordinary target practice outside Bombay Harbour—in which the turret ship *Magdala* and some torpedo boats, belonging to the defence fleet, were engaged—torpedo boat No. 102 circled round with the targets on the starboard beam. Petty Officer Hodges brought the three-pounder quick-firer into action at the same time, with the result that the combination of recoil and heavy swell carried both man and gun overboard. A plucky attempt at rescue was made by Signalman Patterson. A heavy sea was running, and the rescuer and his charge were dashed violently against the boat's side, compelling Patterson to relinquish his hold. Hodges sank immediately and was drowned. The Court of Enquiry found that the mishap was caused by the gun being improperly secured to the mounting, and the recoilunshipped the gun from the holding ring. It is unlikely that the gun will be recovered.

The *Times of India* publishes the following:—In May last Mr. Henry Savage Landor, a grandson of Walter Savage Landor, and himself an artist, traveller, and writer of repute, set out from Almorá on a journey through Tibet, with the intention of crossing into China. Little or nothing had been heard of him since his departure, until yesterday (Friday last) when a Bombay friend received from Mr. Landor a postcard which, in laconic terms, tells a story of hardships and suffering which would not be easily paralleled in the history of travel and adventure. We give Mr. Landor's brief but terrible story in his own words:—"I am back, half mutilated by the Thibetans, as I dare say you have already heard by this time. All my men deserted me, and I proceeded for 56 marches with only my bearer and one sick

coolie. We lost all provisions, and when half starved, were arrested for treason by 400 Thibetans. We were tortured, and I was condemned to death and brought to the execution ground. I have twenty-two wounds. They injured my spine very much."

The Hokkaido administrative office is passing through another period of "reform," and as a consequence the District Headmen—officials receiving salaries varying between yen 600 and yen 800—are to be replaced by Directors of Branch Offices, who will receive 800 yen to 1,800 yen per year.

Hongkong possesses an amateur comedian of exceptional versatility in a Mr. C. T. Robinson, if a paragraph in the *China Mail* is any indication. Recently at the Kowloon Institute Mr. Robinson sustained an hour and a half's entertainment all by himself. He appeared no less than twenty-two times, giving humorous stories and sketches, coster and cockney delineations, and low comedy pieces.

The microbes of fever may be scattered, Prof. Charles Tichborne believes, in dew from sewers. As sewer water is usually two or three degrees warmer than the cold air at certain hours of the night, the watery vapour rising through traps may be frequently condensed, when each article of dew is liable to become a raft on which microbes may be carried for miles, to be finally deposited wherever the dew is dissipated—perhaps in a dwelling reached through a warm shaft.

An action was commenced in Hongkong on the 18th instant, in the Supreme Court, sitting in Admiralty, in which Count Rudolphe Festetics de Tolna and Countess Ella H. Festetics de Tolna (his wife) are plaintiffs and the owners of the steamer *Maria Rickmers* defendants. The claim is for \$4,000 damages for a collision which occurred at Kobe between the plaintiff's yacht *Tolna* and the steamer *Maria Rickmers* during the gale that was experienced there on the 29th of September, 1897. The steamer *Maria Rickmers* was arrested the same day by Mr. F. Howell, the Bailiff, under a warrant.

Mr. A. M. Bisbee, Coast Inspector, for the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, Shanghai, issues the following notice to mariners, No. 312. It refers to the Shanghai District of the China Sea. Southern entrance to the Yangtze:—Intended change in position of Fairway Bell Buoy:—Notice is hereby given that, owing to the movement of the Southeast Spit to the south-westward, as shown by the recently completed survey of that vicinity, the Fairway Bell Buoy will be shifted 1 mile to the south of its present advertised position on or about the 20th November next, its intended new position being with Gutzlaff bearing south and the *Tungsha* Lightship N. 54° W., magnetic.

The biography of Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate, arranged by his son Hallam, appeared in London at the beginning of October and is naturally arousing a great deal of interest. Many letters from the Queen appear in the two portly volumes, as well as letters from most of the men and women of light and leading during Tennyson's long life. Many of these communications emphasize the poet's regard for the United States and his earnest desire that the parent country and its offshoot should ever dwell in unity. Writing to Longfellow, Tennyson said:—"We English and Americans should all be brothers as none other among nations can be, and some of us, come what may, will always be, so I trust." But this appreciation of the great Republic did not prevent Tennyson from holding strong views upon the *Alabama* claims, and he presented them in a letter to Mr. Gladstone in which he remarked:—"Heaven help you through this session, which, like enough, will be a rough one, but if you let those Yankees get anything like their way of you in the *Alabama* claims I won't pay my 'ship money.'"

The *British North Borneo Herald* says:—The past year has witnessed some little progress on the part of the Museum. Undoubtedly the most striking and popular object in the collec-

tion is a *Gadel* or "disease boat," which was picked up in Brunel Bay, and presented by H.E. the Governor. It is a roughly constructed boat, or canoe, about 12 feet long and built to imitate a prahu, with cotton awnings, sails, wooden guns, and a crew carved in wood of less finish than the ordinary gutter-child's doll. When small-pox or any other epidemic disease appears in a riverine kampong, a boat of this sort is built, some fowls, rice, &c., are placed on board with written invocations, and the craft is launched. As it floats downward with the stream its appearance off another village is the signal for a vigorous effort to prevent its grounding in the vicinity, as this, it is believed, would transfer the disease to the place where it happened to stop. It thus, as a rule, reaches the open sea where the specimen in question was picked up.

Hongkong Volunteers have lately had a gay and giddy time at the encampment on Stone-cutter's Island, but the Governor, Sir Wm. Robinson, evidently did not wish "the boys" to have the merit of perpetrating all the jokes that set Hongkong laughing. The Volunteers chose the *Camp Gazette* as their medium for distilling fun; so the Governor—in revenge we presume—made use of the sober columns of the *Official Gazette*. And this is how he did it. The Commodore of the British Naval Head-quarters having found room in the Naval Yard for the fine old figure-head of the *Princess Charlotte*, which for years has been reposing at Victoria Peak, informed His Excellency of the fact and, at the same time, said:—"I expect that before very long the figure-head of the *Victor Emanuel* will be placed in a prominent position in this establishment, and it would seem fit that a Royal Consort should be provided for him. Provision is made in the yearly Naval Estimates for keeping these interesting relics of the past in a state of preservation." Thereupon Sir Wm. Robinson replied:—"I have no objection to the union in the Naval Yard of the figure-heads of the *Princess Charlotte* and *Victor Emanuel*, but I trust that no objection will be raised on behalf of His Majesty to his proposed Royal Consort on account of her somewhat mature age."

Japan's new battle-ship, *Fuji-kam*, received high praise in Hongkong where she put in on her way up to Yokosuka. Her whole appearance delighted the naval men who paid visits to Captain Miura during her stay in the waters of a Colony. It must be remembered that the *Fuji* is an exceptionally powerful fighting ship; for although she only exceeds in displacement by 100 tons the *Renown*, she is more heavily armed and armoured, the heaviest ordnance of the latter vessel being 10in. 20-ton guns, and her thickest armour 10in. The armour belting of the *Fuji* is, however, of Harveyed steel plates, 225 feet long, 18in. thick at the mid length and 19in. at the end. Above the main armour belt there is a secondary one—for the protection of the battery—7ft. wide and 4in. thick, slanting off at its ends to meet the armoured sides of the barbettes, both belts having a backing of teak—to which they are bolted—bringing up the thickness of the vessel's sides at these parts to 22in. At both ends of the main armour belt a screen of 6in. armour runs square across the main and lower decks to protect the guns from a raking fire. The armament of the *Fuji* comprises four 12in. breech-loading 49-ton guns, two being carried in each barrette; ten 6in. quick-firing guns, three of which are disposed on each side of the upper and two on each side of the main decks; the upper deck guns being protected by heavy steel shields, and those on the main deck by casemates plated with 6in. nickel steel armour. There are also carried 30 3-pounder and four 2½-pounder Hotchkiss quick-firing guns, the 3-pounders being distributed on the bulwarks, main deck, and the bridges, and the lighter guns carried in the tops. The barrette guns will fire through an arc of 240deg., the forward and after 6in. guns in the battery through 150deg., or 90deg. before and 60deg. abaft the beam; and the midship 6in. guns through 120deg., or 60deg. both before and abaft the beam.

ENGLISH CYCLING NOTES.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Since writing my last letter, the race of the season, so far as London is concerned, has taken place, and new world's records from 33 to 100 miles have been created. I am referring to the Catford Gold Vase Race, which, though of 12 hours duration, is run in three sections, the first being of 6 hours, and the last two of 3 hours respectively. The Gold Vase itself is valued at 130 guineas, and must be won three times, not necessarily consecutively, before it becomes the actual property of the winner. J. W. Stocks had only to repeat his performance of the last 2 years to become the proud possessor of this valuable trophy. On Saturday, August 28th, the first 6 hours of this race was run off at the Catford Cycling Track, and a large crowd of spectators witnessed the struggle between J. W. Stocks, A. A. Chase and A. E. Walters, who were the only starters; Teddy Rale, who holds the world's record for 6 days, and J. Lumsden being the absentees. The first hour of the race was very fast, and Stocks' race gave every one who witnessed his riding the impression that he would have no difficulty in making the Vase his own property. But soon after the completion of what might be termed Stocks' distance, viz. the hour, or 30 miles, he was observed to be labouring somewhat and having a bad time. Now, when Stocks has a bad time it generally lasts 2 or 3 hours, which was the case on this occasion; during this time Chase had been forced to retire, the great speed at which Stocks had travelled in the first part of the race fairly breaking this rider up; but, Walters, who had been going very steadily, had passed J. W. Stocks, and was leading by about 5 laps. Entering the last hour, Stocks had so much improved as to be able in half an hour to regain a lap, and then, carefully nursing himself behind Walters, he was able, by one of those spurts he is so well known by, to regain another 300 yards in the last 5 minutes. During the ride he put up fresh world's records from 33 to 55 miles, and A. E. Walters, British records from 35 to 102 miles.

The second day's racing was more interesting still, and the large crowd surrounding the track fully expected to see J. W. Stocks retrieve his lost distance, and put himself in such a position that he would be sure of winning the Vase, but it soon became apparent that he was not riding in his best form, and though leading up to the 24th mile, he was then passed by Walters, who, having gained the lead, kept it right up to the finish. This was a surprise to the spectators, but not so great as the marvellous riding of Walters, now an old hand on the track. From the 33rd mile he was well within world's records, and at the close of the 3rd hour he was going so strong that he decided to stay on the track till he had completed the 100 miles, which he did in the splendid time of 3 hours, 25 mins., 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ th secs. He had now nearly 5 miles the lead of Stocks on the 2 days, or 9 hours riding.

Various cycle parades have been held during the past season in aid of local institutions, and in nearly every case the collections have proved very satisfactory. On Sunday, August 29th the Cyclists of Kent held their annual Church Parade at Folkestone, when the Rector of St. Michael's, the Rev. E. Husband, gave an interesting address, the Mayor of the town attending in state. The reverend gentleman, who is an ardent cyclist, during his address stated that he considered a bicycle was the best doctor a man could secure. Another parade, not quite of the same character, was recently held in Nottingham: it was a Vegetable Cycle Parade. The cyclists taking part in it were decorated, as well as their machines, with various vegetables. It was a peculiar sight to see the machines passing through the principal streets of Nottingham gaily decorated with cabbages, onions, marrows, and other products of the vegetable world. A strange spectacle, no doubt, but it answered the purpose for which it

was originated, and a good collection in aid of the Children's Hospital was made.

Another event which caused a certain amount of interest in London was the 40 miles Scratch Race for the Roberts Shield, which forms the Championship of the South of England. The Roberts Shield is the trophy of the Southern Roads Riding Association, and is ridden for every year by one representative of each club affiliated to the Association. The Anerley Bicycle Club has held this Challenge Shield for the last 3 years, but this year, A. W. Turner, of the Brighton Wanderers, succeeded in beating their representative, F. R. Dixon, W. Ellis, the rider who the club had originally nominated to represent them, having sustained a serious accident while training for this event at the Herne Hill Track. A sealed handicap was run in conjunction with this race, F. G. Growley, who secured 2nd position in the scratch race, being the winner. A very fair attendance witnessed this meeting, which was run off at the Crystal Palace track, Sydenham, on August 28th.

The 3rd and last section of this race started in heavy rain and strong winds, yet in spite of the elements three or four thousand people assembled to watch two of England's best riders complete the final 3 hours. Miserable and dreary was the aspect in all directions, and J. W. Stocks, seeing that he had no chance of overtaking Walters, retired before the completion of the 1st hour. Walters journeyed on, solitary, round the track till he had been riding about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours, when he received permission to retire, and was declared winner of the race, having in the 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours covered a distance of 311 miles, 1,094 yards.

AUTUMN MEETING OF THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

PATRONS:—H. I. H. Komatsu-no-Miya, H. I. H. Fushimi-no-Miya, and H. I. H. Takehito-no-Miya.
PERMANENT COMMITTEE:—Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., President; Dr. Wheeler, Vice-President; Count H. E. O. Fini; W. B. Walter, Esq.; Jas. Dodds, Esq.; F. Strahler, Esq.; A. Dumelin, Esq.; and R. D. Robison, Esq.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:—W. W. Till, Esq., Chairman; Akakawa Yoshitaro, Esq.; T. Thomas, Esq.; E. Knaff, Esq.; S. Isaacs, Esq.; V. Blad, Esq.; and H. Tennant, Esq., Secretary.

CLERK OF THE COURSE:—E. Knaff, Esq.

STARTER:—W. G. Bayne, Esq.

FIRST DAY.—TUESDAY, OCT. 26TH.

In the finest of racing weather, with not too bright a sun, and a course in admirable condition, the Autumn Meeting of the Nippon Race Club was opened on Tuesday at noon. The attendance of visitors, at the commencement, was as usual rather meagre but increased during the afternoon, and by 3 or 4 o'clock the Paddock and Grand Stand contained a larger number of spectators, including ladies, than has been usual during recent years on the first day. A Band was in attendance and performed a varied, if not very original, selection of music. The sport afforded was fully up to the average, some of the largest fields on record contesting several of the events, while the times made generally were exceptionally good, three races of the day—Chiyo-da's win in the first event, the Banzai Stakes, half-a-mile, in 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.; Saikio's time in the Negishi Stakes, Five furlongs, 1.11 $\frac{1}{2}$; and Idaho's win in the All Aged Stakes, 1 min. 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs. forming records for Yokohama racing. Only two of the events, the third and last races, failed to secure a fair field, and honours were fairly divided between the different stables. The arrangements generally were satisfactorily carried out by the officers and Committee of the Club, Mr. H. Pickney officiating as Judge, with Mr. S. Warming as assistant; Mr. G. W. Bayne assisted by Mr. G. Philip, gave general satisfaction in the thankless task of Starter; Dr. Wheeler had charge of the scales, Mr. F. J. Hall, assisted by Mr. J. McArthur performed the duties of official time-keeper, and Messrs. T. Thomas

and Nicholson, those of handicappers. Mr. Knaff made an efficient Clerk of the Course and Messrs. L. Abel, L. Longin, W. F. Mitchell, A. Bianchi and G. Middleton, officiated as stewards. The various events were as follow:—

1.—THE BANZAI STAKES, value yen 150 for Subscription Country-breds of Spring, 1897, that have not won more than one race at date of entry; weight as per scale. Half a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Major Trick's Chiyo-da, 128lb. (Sugihara) 1
Baron Foy's Signorina, 125lb. (Baron Foy) 2
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Chance, 131lb. (Goto) 3
Mr. Worthington's Idler, 130lb. (Yasu) 0
Mr. Splinx's Mezurashi, 129lb. (Miyagawa) 0

Idler gave some trouble at the start, breaking away once or twice, but after the second attempt a fair start was effected, Chiyo-da getting to the front right away, with Signorina in second place. At the Trees, Chance came up and challenged the leader, but was unable to maintain the pace. In the Straight, Chiyo-da increased his lead, and running well within himself won comparatively easily by four lengths or so from Signorina, who had taken Chance's place in the Straight. Only three-quarters of a length separated second and third. Time, 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Idler 3, Midzurashi 4, Signorina 1, Chance 2, Chiyo-da 7; total, 17=\$85—Chiyo-da, \$10.90. \$2 Pool.—Idler 21, Mezurashi 19, Signorina 8, Chance 11, Chiyo-da 37; total 96=\$192—Chiyo-da, \$4.60.

2.—THE NEW CHINA SWEEPSTAKES, 1st Prize yen 340, and yen 150, 3rd yen 50, a Sweepstake for Subscription China Ponies of Autumn, 1897; weight as per scale. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 20 (prepaid).

Mr. News' Eclairer, 147lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. States' Colorado, 145lb. (Sugihara) 2
Mr. Campredon's Pointeur (late Realization), 144lbs. (Kobayashi) 3

Messrs. Tippett & Clifford's Jubilee, 144lb. (Mr. Elliot) 0
Mr. News' Voltaire (late Chance), 147lb. (Mayeda) 0

Mr. R. Field's Tradesman (late Quantox), 144lb. (Botan) 0
Mr. Worthington's Herald, 150lb. (Hayashi) 0

Mr. Four-in-Hand's Romulus, 147lb. (Ichi) 0
Mr. Taisuta's Maidzuru (late Tiny), 144lb. (Riki) 0

Mr. Campredon's Artiller (late Spring), 146lbs. (Mr. Campredon) 0
Major Trick's Minet (late Myna), 145lbs. (Mr. Mottu) 0

The good muster of eleven ponies turned out for this event, which excited considerable interest. It was not an easy matter to get the large field away on fair terms, though China ponies are not so difficult to handle as half-breds. When at last a start was accomplished Minet got away with a lead of three lengths or so, but was soon collared by Colorado, the rest being in a bunch. Between the half-mile and the Trees Eclairer came through his horses and took the lead, with Maidzuru and Pointeur close up, Minet having now finished himself. In the run home Eclairer, capably ridden by Mr. Kingdon, increased his lead, in spite of the efforts of Colorado and Maidzuru, and won cleverly by a couple of length from Colorado, who finished about half a length from Pointeur, who, hard ridden, had passed Maidzuru in the distance. Time, 2m. 14secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Eclairer 6, Voltaire 0, Tradesman 0, Herald 1, Jubilee 0, Colorado 1, Romulus 3, Maidzuru 1, Pointeur 12, Artiller 0, Minet 11, Field 2; total, 37=\$185—Eclairer, \$27.70. \$2 Pool.—Eclairer 24, Voltaire 5, Tradesman 1, Herald 5, Jubilee 1, Colorado 11, Romulus 12, Maidzuru 6, Pointeur 21, Artiller 2, Minet 36; total, 124=\$248—Eclairer, \$9.00

3.—THE MAIDEN SELLING PLATE, value yen 200.—A Selling Race for Country-breds, Maidens at date of entry, and Subscription horses of 1896-1897; to be entered at a stated value of from yen 450 to yen 100; if entered at yen 450, to carry 155lb., with an allowance of 5lb. for every yen 50 below yen 450. One mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Four-in-Hand's Rigi, 140lbs. (Goto) 1
Mr. Avis' Philomel (late Aida), 135lbs. (Sugihara) 2
Sir Ernest Satow's Tantalus, 450lbs. (Riki) 3

Only three starters appeared out of an entry of five. At the start Tantalus got left a length or two behind, the other two going off neck and neck. At the Shakespeare, Philomel led by a length, but between there and the Trees Rigi came up and took a slight lead. Between the two it appeared to be anybody's race till the Straight was entered, when Rigi, who appeared to have more left in him, came away and won a good match—if not a

race—by between two or three lengths, Tantalus wandering in about five lengths in the rear. Time, 2min. 2secs. After the race, Rigi, the winner, was, in accordance with the terms of the entry, put up to auction by the Clerk of the Course, but there being no offers, he was withdrawn.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Tantalus 15, Rigi 14, Philamel 21; total, 50=\$250—Rigi, \$16. \$2 Pool.—Tantalus 33, Rigi 29, Philamel 44; total, 106=\$212—Rigi, \$6.50.

4.—The **TRIAL PLATE**, value, yen 200, for All China Ponies; weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Four-in-Hand's Kindar, 144lb. (Ichii) 1
Mr. Worthington's Orion, 147lb. (Hayashi) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Usugumo, (late Terror) 150lb.

(Riki) 3
Mr. Worthington's Cleeve, 144lb. (Yasu) 0
Mr. Avis's Philmel, 141lb. (Mr. Kingdom) 0
Mr. Partner's Jido (late Aquidaban), 150lb.

(Kobayashi) 0

After a fair start, with a field of six, Kindar took the lead, the others being strung out with about equal distances between—Orion in second place and then Tomtit, Jido, Cleeve and Usugumo. At the Trees Orion challenged Kindar, but failed to collar him, and the latter, running strong down the Straight, won easily by from one and a half to two lengths, from Orion, with Usugumo a good third. Time, 1m. 36secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Orion 9, Cleeve 8, Kindar 19, Usugumo 11, Tomtit 4, Jido 4; total, 55=\$275—Kindar, \$13.00. \$2 Pool.—Orion 32, Cleeve 17, Kindar 76, Tmy 27, Tomtit 17, Aguldoban 15; total, 114=\$320—Kindar, \$4.30.

5.—The **NEGISHI STAKES**, value, yen 150, for Subscription Country-breds of Autumn, 1896, and Spring, 1897; weight as per scale. Winners at date of entry 5lb. extra for each race won. Five-eighths of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 143lb. (Hakodate) 1
Major Trick's Chiyoda, 128lb. (Sugura) 2
Mr. Durand's Hermine, 138lb. (Kobayashi) 3
Mr. Sphinx's Mezurashi, 128lb. (Miyagawa) 0

An easy start was effected, Mezurashi going to the front with a rush, with Hermine in second place and Saikio next in order. After passing the Shakespeare, Saikio came away and before reaching the Trees took the lead from Mezurashi, who then dropped behind, Chiyoda and Hermine both passing him. On entering the Straight, Saikio still led, and a capital race was made for second place by Chiyoda and Hermine. The race resulted in Saikio finishing a length and a half before Chiyoda, who came in second by about half a length ahead of Hermine. Saikio was the winner of three races last spring and therefore carried extra weight. Time, 1m. 11½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Saikio 16, Hermine 7, Mezurashi 3, Chiyoda 7; Total, 33=\$165—Saikio \$9.20. \$2 Pool.—Saikio 92, Hermine 30, Mezurashi 17, Chiyoda 44; total, 183=\$366—Saikio, \$3.50

6.—The **NANKIN STAKES**, 1st Prize yen 200, 2nd yen 50, for All Subscription China Ponies that have not won two races in Japan at date of entry; weight as per scale; winner at date of entry 5lb. extra; winner of No. 2 race 7lb. extra. Three-quarters Mile. Entrance fee yen 10.

Mr. News' Eclairer, 154lb. (Mr. Kingdom) 1
Major Trick's Minet, 144lb. (Mr. Mottu) 2
Mr. States' Colorado, 144lb. (Sugura) 3
Mr. News' Voltaire, 147lb. (Mayeda) 0
Mr. R. Field's Torpedo, 149lb. (Mr. Lungin) 0
Mr. Ralph Page's Tourist, 144lb. (Kato) 0
Mr. Worthington's Mulberry, 153lb. (Yasu) 0
Mr. Derby's Martingale, 153lb. (Takahashi) 0
Mr. Nishimura's Niitaka (late Morisan), 155lb.

(Hatori) 0
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Romulus, 147lb. (Ichii) 0
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Remus, 147lb. (Goto) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Maidzuru, 144lb. (Riki) 0
Mr. Campredon's Pointeur, 144lb. (Hakodate) 0
Major Trick's Minet, 147lb. (Mr. Mottu) 0
Messrs. Bent & Owen's Melbourne, 147lb.

(Mr. Owen) 0
Mr. Partner's Ji-ji, 153lb. (Mr. Kobayashi) 0
Mr. Nemo's Monaco, 155lb. (Nakazawa) 0

One of the largest fields on record in Yokohama started for this event, no less than sixteen out of twenty entrants facing the starter. Remus gave a lot of trouble at first, but after a little delay the big field was got away to a very fair start under the circumstances. The troublesome pony, Remus, was first off and, with apparently a lot of gallop in him, kept ahead for some time, with Maidzuru in second and Niitaka in third place. After passing the Shakespeare, a change took place in the order and the field got scattered. Remus was overhauled by Eclairer, and

Minet ran up into second place. In the Straight, this position was maintained, while Colorado passed Remus and Maidzuru, the race ending in this same order, Eclairer finishing about two lengths ahead of Minet, with Colorado, running strong, a length behind the latter. Time 1m. 39secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Eclairer 36, Voltaire 0, Torpedo 3, Tourist 3, Mulberry 0, Martingale 3, Niitaka 15, Colorado 5, Rumulus 0, Remus 0, Maidzuru 1, Pointeur 0, Minet 3, Melbourne 12, Jiji 1, Monaco 4; total, 92=\$460—Eclairer, \$11.50. \$2 Pool.—Eclairer 72, Voltaire 3, Torpedo 13, Tourist 5, Mulberry 3, Martingale 13, Morisan 41, Colorado 11, Romulus 3, Remus 5, Maidzuru 4, Pointeur 10, Minet 12, Melbourne 3, Jiji 29, Monaco 8; total, 234=\$468—Eclairer, \$6.

7.—The **ALL-AGED STAKES**, value yen 200, for All Country-breds; weight as per scale. Three-quarters Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. States' Idaho, 145lb. (Sugura) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 131lb. (Riki) 2
Mr. Nishimura's Hayakaze, 145lb.

(Takahashi) 3
Mr. Field's Cigarette, 137lb. (Kato) 0
Mr. Worthington's Traveller, 142lb.

(Mr. Kingdom) 0
Baron Foy's Tambour Major, 125lb.

(Baron Foy) 0
Mr. Nemo's Madame, 140lb. (Ichii) 0
Mr. Nemo's Sasha, 137lb. (Goto) 0

Eight out of nine entrants came up to scratch, Idaho and Tatsuta appearing to be the favourites. Some trouble was experienced in getting the field away, the first futile attempt ending in a quarter mile gallop for most of the ponies. After another fruitless try the field started fairly well together, Idaho at once going into front place, with Sasha next and Cigarette in third place. At the Shakespeare, Hayakaze ran up into second place but failed to come up to Idaho, who held her lead without any apparent effort. In the Straight, Tatsuta came up and took second place and, in spite of a spurt by Hayakaze near the post, finished in that order, Idaho winning by a length or a length and a half. Hayakaze had a good race with Tatsuta for second place and only lost it by half a length or less. Time 1m. 23½secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Cigarette 1, Traveller 13, Tambour Major 2, Hayakaze 6, Idaho 40, Tatsuta 13, Madame 4, Sasha 0; total, 79=\$395—Idaho, \$9.80. \$2 Pool.—Cigarette 10, Traveller 41, Tambour 10, Hayakaze 34, Idaho 100, Tatsuta 45, Madame 15, Sasha 7; total, 262=\$524—Idaho, \$4.70.

8.—The **SHANGHAI PLATE**, 1st Prize yen 200, 2nd yen 50, for All China Ponies; weight as per scale. One and a half Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. States' Maine, 150lb. (Mr. Pakenham) 1
Major Trick's Pantin, 153lb. (Mottu) 1
Mr. Nemo's Opportuniste, 150lb. (Ichii) 1
Mr. Yodo's Suma, 150lb. (Hakodate) 0
Mr. H. M. Bevis's Troubadour, 150lb. (Riki) 0
Mr. Worthington's Orion, 144lb. (Mr. Kingdom) 0
Mr. Sphinx's Samurai, 144lb. (Takahashi) 0
Messrs. Tippet & Clifford's Jubilee, 147lb.

(Mr. Elliot) 0
Messrs. Bent & Owen's Express, 144lb.

(Mr. Owen) 0
Mr. Partner's Jido, 150lb. (Kobayashi) 0
Mr. Nemo's Entry, 150lb. (Nakazawa) 0

1st Heat.

A field of eleven out of fourteen entrants, faced the starter and were got away to a very fair start with no delay. Samurai was the first to take up the running and was followed by Suma in second place, up to the Shakespeare, where Jubilee came away from the ruck and made a good show for second place. At the Trees Samurai still kept the lead, and Opportuniste came away and ran into third place. This order was maintained in passing the Grand Stand, but in going up the hill after the dip Jubilee drew away from the field and took second place for a time, and a little after Maine also came away from his field and ran into the front ranks. Just after passing the Shakespeare the second time, seven out of the eleven runners drew up together and ran in a close bunch till after passing the Trees, when Maine took the lead and kept it to the finish, gradually increasing his distance and winning easily by five or six lengths, while Pantin, who had come up in the Straight, and Opportuniste ran a dead heat for second place. Time 3m. 27½secs. It was afterwards decided by Pantin's and Opportuniste's owners to divide for second prize.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Suma 2, Troubadour 6, Orion 44, Samurai 2, Jubilee 0, Maine 26, Pantin 17, Express 0, Jido 0, Opportuniste 0, * * * 1, Field 3; total, 91=\$505—Maine, \$17.40.

\$2 Pool.—Suma 15, Troubadour 15, Orion 114, Samurai 7, Jubilee 4, Maine 56, Pantin 57, Export 4, Jido 5, Opportuniste 5, * * * 2; total, 284=\$598—Maine \$9.00.

9.—The **JAPAN STAKES**,—Value, yen 150, for Country-breds, Maidens at date of entry and Subscription Horses of 1896-1897; weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Yodo's Saikio, 127lb. (Hakodate) 1
Mr. Avis's Philmel, 123lb. (Sugura) 2

The last race of the day resulted in a match between Saikio and Philmel, these being the only two ponies that started out of seven entries. The betting was mostly on Saikio and the result justified public opinion. The favourite took up the running very soon after the start and gradually increasing his lead won as he liked by anything from six to eight lengths. Time 1m. 29secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Saikio 35, Philmel 13; total, 48=\$240—Saikio, \$6.00. \$2 Pool.—Saikio 124, Philmel 40; total, 164=\$328—Saikio, \$2.50.

SECOND DAY.—WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27TH.

The second day of the Autumn meeting opened with a dull and somewhat cheerless aspect, but during the afternoon the sun broke through at times and brightened up the scene at the Negishi course. Owing to the Court being still in mourning there were no Imperial visitors or representatives of His Majesty present, as is frequently the case on the second, or Ladies' day, but towards the latter part of the afternoon there was a large attendance of visitors on the Grand Stand and in the Paddock, including a numerous gathering of ladies, and a strong contingent from Tokyo, among whom were to be seen the Russian, Italian, Spanish, Netherlands and Brazilian Ministers, and the *Chargés d'Affaires* of Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Portugal. The size of the fields which appeared to contest most of the events was fully up to the average, and even the races which only produced three competitors were full of interest and well fought out. In the seventh race, the Country Bred Handicap, another local record was made, Idaho covering the mile in 1 min. 52½ secs., the previous record being Tatsuta's achievement at last Autumn meeting, in doing the same distance, carrying 11b. more, in 1 min. 55 secs. Some complaints were made as to the conduct of two of the professional jockeys Takahashi and Goto; the former being cautioned by the Committee for flourishing his whip in the face of ponies approaching him from behind, so as to prevent them coming up, while the latter was suspended from riding to-day for striking another rider, Hakodate, on the head with his whip. Plenty of speculation was indulged in, adding keenness to the interest in the various events, the Pari Mutuel being particularly well patronised. The Town Band performed the following programme during the afternoon:—

- 1.—The "Beg 4" March, by Southwell.
- 2.—Overture "Olivia," by J. H. Hyde.
- 3.—Traumbilder Fantasie, by Lumby.
- 4.—Reveille de Lion, by Kontski.
- 5.—"Forest Park" Waltz, by W. H. Thomas.
- 6.—The Columbian Exposition March, by Wiegand.
- 7.—Romaneska, by Zikoff.
- 8.—The Glass in hand Polka, by Fahrback.
- 9.—Der Kladderadatsch Potpourri.
- 10.—Vielliebchen Gavotte, by Wallfesch.
- 11.—Golden Beauty Waltz, by Millocker.
- 12.—Grand Selection Esmine, by Ferrazzi.
- 13.—La Dame du Lac Cavatina, by Rossini.
- 14.—Pist-pist Masurka, by Rossini.
- 15.—Arabesken Quadrille, by Budik.
- 16.—Die Schöne Augusta Redova, by Quintin.
- 17.—Fantasie Mary Night, by Zikoff.
- 18.—The Mikado Waltz, by Zikoff.
- 19.—Nettchen Pulka, by F. Eckert.
- 20.—Hyon Galop, by Braumlich.

The various events were as follow:—

1.—The **NIICAPU CUP**, value, yen 150, a handicap for Country-breds, Maidens at date of entry, and Subscription horses of 1896-1897; handicap after 1st day's racing. One and a quarter Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Four-in-Hand's Rigi, 140lb. (Goto) 1
Mr. Durand's Hermine, 129lb. (Kobayashi) 2
Mr. Avis's Philmel, 123lb. (Sugura) 3
Sir Ernest Satow's Tantalus, 140lb. (Riki) 0
Mr. Nemo's Madame, 135lb. (Ichii) 0

Five ponies went to the post out of eight entrants, Rigi and Philomel being apparently the favourites. After a fair start Madamelle, with Philomel second. Going up the hill after the dip, Tantalus came to the front and challenged the leader, but at the half mile post gave place to Hermine, who ran into first place. On entering the straight Rigi came to the front, with plenty of gallop in him, and took the lead, and gradually increasing this, won by about four lengths from Hermine, who finished about a length ahead of Philomel, the latter having run into third place in the distance. Time, 2m. 35½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Tantalus 3, Hermine 0, Rigi 15, Philomel 4, Madame 3; total, 25= \$125—Rigi, \$7.50. \$2 Pool.—Tantalus 7, Hermine 11, Rigi 65, Philomel 26, Madame 9; total, 118= \$236—Rigi, \$3.20.

2.—**THE BROKERS' AND BANKERS' CUP**, for Subscription China Ponies of Autumn, 1897; weight as per scale; winners at the meeting of one race 7lb. extra; of two races 10lb. Once round. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Major Trick's Minet, 144lb. (Mr. Mottu) 1
Mr. News' Eclairer, 157lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 2
Mr. States' Colorado, 144lb. (Sugiyura) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tradesman, 144lb. (Kubota) 0
Mr. Derby's Martingale, 153lb. (Takahashi) 0
Messrs. Tippitt & Clifford's Jubilee, 147lb. (Hakodate) 0

Mr. Four-in-Hand's Romulus 147lb. (Ichio) 0
Mr. Campredon's Artiller, 147lb. (Kobayashi) 0

Eight came to the post out of 16 entries, and after a capital start, Jubilee got away to the front, followed closely by Martingale and Tradesman, the latter taking the lead from Jubilee before the half mile post was reached, and kept it till after passing the Trees, when Minet came up with a rush and took first place. Colorado also made a game effort with Eclairer and in the straight a fine race was made for second place, but neither Eclairer nor Colorado were able to collar Minet, who won by about a length and half from Eclairer, with Colorado a good third. Time, 2 min. 15½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Eclairer 31, Tradesman 0, Martingale 1, Jubilee 0, Colorado 12, Romulus 0, Artiller 13, Minet 1; total 58= \$290—Minet, \$20. \$2 Pool.—Eclairer 77, Tradesman 1, Martingale 3, Jubilee 1, Colorado 34, Romulus 3, Artiller 1, Minet 34, Field 1; total, 155= \$310—Minet, \$8.00.

3.—**THE NIPPON PLATE**, value, yen 200; for All Country-breds; weight as per scale. One Mile and a half. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nishimura's Hayakaze, 140lb. (Takahashi) 1
Mr. Worthington's Traveller, 145lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 2

Mr. States' Idaho, 140lb. (Sugiyura) 3
Mr. R. Field's Cigarette, 137lb. (Kato) 0
Baron Foy's Tambour Major, 125lb. (Baron Foy) 0

Mr. Nemo's Sasha, 142lb. (Ichio) 0

Six started, and after one false start the horses got away well together, Traveller and Tambour Major leading the field to the Shakespeare, where Idaho came through her field and ran to the front, and kept the lead till the Trees were reached, with Hayakaze in second place and Traveller third. On entering the straight, Hayakaze came up with a rush and took the lead from Idaho, and after a capital scurry in the home stretch won a splendid race by half a length from Traveller, who finished about a length ahead of Idaho. Time, 2 min. 56½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Cigarette 2, Traveller 23, Tambour Major 8, Hayakaze 44, Idaho 20, Sasha 4; total, 101= \$505—Hayakaze, \$10.30. \$2 Pool.—Cigarette 14, Traveller 71, Tambour Major 14, Hayakaze 109, Idaho 64, Sasha 13; total, 285= \$570—Hayakaze, \$4.70.

4.—**THE KANAGAWA STAKES**, value yen 150, for Subscription Country-breds of Spring, 1897; that have not won more than one race at date of entry; weight as per scale; winners at the meeting of one race 5lb. extra; of two races excluded. Three-quarter of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Major Trick's Chiyoda, 133lb. (Sugiyura) 1
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Chance, 132lb. (Goto) 2
Mr. Worthington's Idler, 131lb. (Yasu) 3

Only three ponies started, all mares, Chiyoda carrying most of the money. At the start Chance took up the running, with Idler second, and led at the Shakespeare by several lengths. Chiyoda then came up, rushing to the front, Idler dropping into third place. In the straight, Chiyoda came away from the others and won easily by four or five lengths from Chance, who finished some two lengths in front of Idler, who worthily sustained her patronymic. Time, 1m. 30secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Idler 4, Chance 8, Chiyoda 31; total, 43= \$215—Chiyoda, \$6.20. \$2 Pool.—Idler 46, Chance 79, Chiyoda 166; total, 291= \$582—Chiyoda, \$3.10.

5.—**THE MANCHURIA STAKES**, 1st Prize yen 200, 2nd yen 50, for All China Ponies. Weight as per scale, winners at the meeting of 2 mile races 5lb. extra; of 1 mile or over 7lb. extra; of two races excluded. One mile. Entrance fee yen 10.

Mr. Tatsuta's Usugumo, 150lb. (Riki) 1
Mr. Worthington's Orion, 147lb. (Hayashi) 2
Major Trick's Pantin, 150lb. (Mr. Mottu) 3
Mr. H. M. Bevis's Troubadour, 150lb. (Kubota) 0
Mr. Worthington's Cleve, 144lb. (Yasu) 0
Mr. Sphinx's Samurai, 147lb. (Takahashi) 0
Mr. Nishimura, Niitaka, 150lb. (Hattori) 0
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Kindar, 149lb. (Ichio) 0
Mr. Partner's Ji-do, 150lb. (Kobayashi) 0
Mr. States' Maine, 150lb. (Mr. Pakenham) 0
Mr. Avis's Tomtit, 141lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 0

Eleven out of fifteen entrants came out, Mr. Worthington, who had two in, declaring best to win. After a little difficulty, owing to the eagerness of the ponies to get away, a fair start was effected, Usugumo soon showing in front, with Maine and Kindar close up, the rest in a bunch. At the Shakespeare Pantin came away from his field and for a few seconds took the lead from Usugumo, but the latter passed him again before reaching the Trees, where Kindar and Pantin were running in second and third places. In the straight, Usugumo kept his lead, though Orion came up and took second place in the home run, Pantin also displacing Kindar, and the race finished in the same order, Usugumo getting the best of a good struggle by a length from Orion, who finished about half that distance ahead of Pantin. Time, 2min. 11½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Troubadour 3, Orion 16, Cleve 1, Samurai 1, Niigata 1, Maine 19, Kindar 44, Usugumo 1, Pantin 7, Tomtit 5, Ji-do 0; total, 99= \$495—Usugumo, \$445.50. \$2 Pool.—Troubadour 11, Orion 37, Cleve 4, Samurai 10, Niitaka 6, Maine 77, Kindar 113, Usugumo 13, Pantin 33, Tomtit 11, Ji-do 3; total, 318= \$636—Usugumo, \$44.00.

6.—**THE TAIWAN STAKES**, value, yen 200, for Subscription China Ponies of Autumn, 1897; weight as per scale; winners of one race at the meeting 7lb. extra; of two races excluded. Three quarters of a Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Worthington's Herald, 150lb. (Hayashi) 1
Major Trick's Minet, 151lb. (Mr. Mottu) 2
Mr. Derby's Martingale, 153lb. (Takahashi) 3
Mr. News' Voltaire, 147lb. (Mayeda) 0
Mr. Ralph Paget's Tourist, 144lb. (Kato) 0
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Remus, 147lb. (Goto) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Maidzurn, 144lb. (Riki) 0
Mr. Campredon's Pointeur, 144lb. (Kobayashi) 0
Messrs. Bent & Owen's Melbourne, 147lb. (Mr. Owen) 0

Mr. Partner's Ji ji, 153lb. (Hakodate) 0

After a capital start the field of ten got away well together and ran in a cluster to the Shakespeare, where Minet came to the front, with Martingale and Ji close up. At the entrance to the straight, Herald came away from the field and challenged Minet for leading place, Martingale being next in order. A fine race ensued down the distance between Minet and Herald, the latter winning cleverly on the post by a head, or half a head, with Martingale a good third, about a length behind Minet. Time, 1m. 39secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Voltaire 3, Tourist 3, Herald 7, Martingale 5, Remus 3, Maidzurn 10, Pointeur 20, Minet 39, Melbourne 4, Ji ji 2; total, 96= \$480—Herald, \$61.70. \$2 Pool.—Voltaire 3, Tourist 10, Herald 17, Martingale 17, Remus 9, Maidzurn 24, Pointeur 43, Minet 56, Melbourne 6, Ji ji 7; total, 192= \$384—Herald, \$20.30.

7.—**THE COUNTRY BRED HANDICAP**, 1st Prize yen 150, 2nd yen 50, a Handicap for all Country-breds, Handicap after 1st day's racing. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. States' Idaho, 143lb. (Sugiyura) 1
Mr. Nemo's Sasha, 133lb. (Ichio) 2
Mr. Nishimura's Hayakaze, 139lb. (Hakodate) 3

This race excited considerable interest, as although it brought out only three starters, they were the cracks of the country-breds and the result was anything but a foregone conclusion. Idaho appeared to be the favourite, but the other ponies both found plenty of supporters. A capital start resulted in Idaho taking up the running and making the pace, Sasha coming next and Hayakaze third, the same positions being maintained down the dip and up the hill, about two lengths separating each of the ponies. When approaching the Trees, Hayakaze closed up with Sasha and ran neck and neck, Idaho still leading by a couple of lengths. From the straight

a fine race ensued for second place but Idaho had it all her own way, for first having plenty left in hand, and coming away won easily by half a dozen lengths from Sasha, who beat Hayakaze for second place by a neck only. Time, 1m. 52½secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Hayakaze 38, Idaho 58, Sasha 30; total, 126= \$630—Idaho, \$9.70. \$2 Pool.—Hayakaze 130, Idaho 156, Sasha 65; total, 351= \$701—Idaho, \$4.00.

8.—**THE HOKKAIDO PLATE**, value, yen 150, for Subscription Country-breds of Autumn, 1896, and Spring, 1897; weight as per scale; winners at date of entry 5lb. extra for every race won; winners of one race at the meeting 5lb. extra; of two races excluded. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Avis's Philomel, 138lb. (Sugiyura) 1
Baron Foy's Signorina, 128lb. (Baron Foy) 2
Mr. Durand's Hermine, 128lb. (Kobayashi) 3

Although only three ponies started, this race created considerable interest and each of the starters found backers, Hermine being apparently the first favourite. Philomel made the pace and took the lead, the other two changing second and third places repeatedly before reaching the Trees, which they passed neck and neck. In the straight, Philomel still led by a couple of lengths and kept her position to the finish, Signorina beating Hermine for second place by a length or more. Time, 2 min.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Hermine 41, Signorina 22, Philomel 37; total, 100= \$500—Philomel, \$12.10. \$2 Pool.—Hermine 109, Signorina 51, Philomel 103; total, 263= \$526—Philomel, \$4.50.

9.—**THE MANDARIN PLATE**, 1st Prize yen 200, 2nd yen 50, for All Subscription China Ponies that have not won two races in Japan at date of entry; weight as per scale; winners at date of entry 5lb. extra; winners of two races at the meeting excluded. One and a Half Miles. Entrance fee, yen 10.

Mr. Nishimura's Niitaka, 155lb. (Takahashi) 1
Mr. States' Colorado, 144lb. (Sugiyura) 2
Mr. Yodo's Suma, 155lb. (Hakodate) 3
Mr. News' Voltaire, 147lb. (Mayeda) 0
Mr. Ralph Paget's Tourist, 144lb. (Mr. Mottu) 0
Messrs. Tippitt & Clifford's Jubilee, 147lb. (Mr. Elliot) 0

Mr. Four-in-Hand's Romulus, 147lb. (Goto) 0
Mr. Campredon's Pointeur, 144lb. (Kobayashi) 0
Mr. Campredon's Artiller, 144lb. (Mr. Campredon) 0

Messrs. Bent & Owen's Express, 152lb. (Mr. Pakenham) 0

Mr. Nemo's Monaco, 155lb. (Ichio) 0
Mr. Nemo's J'Menfoutiste, 156lb. (Nakamura) 0

Twelve out of eighteen ponies stripped for the last event of the day, and were got away, after two or three futile attempts, on fairly level terms. Romulus was the first to make the running, followed by Monaco, with Colorado in third place, the rest in a bunch until after passing the Shakespeare, when Monaco took the lead from Romulus, who dropped to the rear, Colorado running into second place. On passing the Stand Monaco still led, with the rest of the field strung out. After negotiating the dip, in going up the hill Express drew to the front and took the lead, with Colorado close up in second place, and the same order was maintained till after passing the Trees, where Suma and Niitaka came to the front and a fine race ensued down the home stretch between Niitaka, Suma and Colorado, the former shaking off his two opponents in the run in and winning by five or six lengths from Colorado, who beat Suma for second place by two lengths. The field straggled in at wide intervals. Time, 3m. 30½secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Voltaire 8, Suma 27, Tourist 6, Jubilee 4, Niitaka 11, Colorado 47, Romulus 3, Pointeur 18, Artiller 3, Express 9, Monaco 23, Menfoutiste 2; total, 161= \$805—Niitaka, \$65.80. \$2 Pool.—Voltaire 14, Suma 56, Tourist 16, Jubilee 12, Niitaka 35, Colorado 101, Romulus 13, Pointeur 26, Artiller 9, Express 26, Monaco 36, J'Menfoutiste 13; total, 357= \$714—Niitaka, \$18.00.

THIRD DAY.—THURSDAY, OCT. 28TH.

The last day of the Autumn meeting was favoured with brighter and more summer-like weather than either of the preceding days, and the attendance on the Course and Grand Stand was, in consequence, quite equal in numbers to that of the second day, though there were naturally fewer distinguished visitors from Tokyo. The ladies again graced the scene in great force and took fully as keen an interest in the sport provided—and we might add if permissible, in a little backing and speculating—

as the sterner sex. The weather being more tempting for promenading than on the previous day, the lawn and the enclosure were patronised during the afternoon more perhaps than the Grand Stand, and enlivened by the bright and varied toilettes of the ladies presented quite a gay scene, the Town Band adding to the entertainment of the promenaders. Several of the events brought out good fields, notably the first race of the day, the Czarewitch, the China Champions and China Solace. The Country Bred's Champion and Solace only produced four starters each—rather a disappointment—and one race was reduced to a match. Most of the events however were well contested and there were several very close finishes. Another record was broken by Tatsuta in the Country-Bred Champion Race, the one and a quarter mile being covered in 2 min. 25½ secs. At the conclusion of the race for the China Champion's the winning rider, Mr. Kingdon, on Eclairer, was received in entering to weigh in with enthusiastic applause. The victories of the meeting have been divided between ten stables, Mr. Four-in-Hand's stable coming first with five wins, Major Trick and Messrs News, States, Tatsuta, and Worthington, three each, Messrs Yodo, Nishimura and Avis two each and Baron Foy one. Of the winning riders Mr. Kingdon scored three, Baron Foy, Mr. Pakenham and Mr. Mottu one win each, and among the professionals Sugimura six, Riki and Ichi three, Goto, Hakodate, Takahashi and Hayashi two each, and Yasu one. Honours and prizes have thus been more equally divided than is often the case, and this should give satisfaction to the greatest number and prove an encouragement both to owners and riders. The day's events were as follow:—

1.—The CZAREWITCH, 1st Prize yen 300, 2nd yen 100, 3rd yen 50, a Handicap for all China Ponies; a forced entry of yen 20 for all China Ponies entered at the meeting; non-starters half forfeit; Handicap after second day's racing. One mile.

Mr. Worthington's Orion, 148lb. (Hayashi) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Usugomo, 156lb. (Riki) 2
Mr. Worthington's Cleeve, 135lb. (Yasu) 3
Mr. Yodo's Suma, 145lb. (Hakodate) 0
Mr. R. Field's Torpedo, 133lb. (Baron Foy) 0
Mr. R. Page's Tourist, 135lb. (Kubota) 0
Mr. H. M. Bevi's Troubadour, 143lb. (Kato) 0
Mr. Sphinx's Samurai, 140lb. (Miyagawa) 0
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Romulus 137lb. (Nakajima) 0
Major Trick's Pantin, 154lb. (Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. Avis' Tomit, 137lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 0
Messrs. Bent & Owen's Express, 135lb. (Mr. Owen) 0
Mr. Partner's Jido, 140lb. (Kobayashi) 0
Mr. Nemo's entry 140lb. (Ichi) 0

Fourteen, out of an entry of thirty-five ponies, started for this race. Mr. Worthington declared best of his two to win. After one false start the big field was got away well together, but were stung out before reaching the Shakespeare. There Usugomo took up the running, with Cleeve and Orion well up, the rest some lengths behind. After passing the Trees, Orion worked to the front, and down the straight raced hard with Usugomo for first place, eventually winning cleverly by half a length; about a length between Usugomo and Cleeve, second and third. Time 2 min. 12 secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Suma 11, Torpedo 7, Tourist 1, Troubadour 1, Orion 15, Cleeve 5, Samurai 0, Rennis 1, Usugomo 3, Pantin 6, Tomit 1, Express 0, Jido 1, * * * 3, Field 31 total, 58=\$290—Orion, \$17.40. \$2 Pool.—Suma 17, Torpedo 5, Tourist 0, Troubadour 2, Orion 31, Cleeve 10, Samurai 3, Romulus 2, Usugomo 10, Pantin 15, Tomit 7, Express 0, Jido 6, * * * 3, total, 111=\$222—Orion, \$6.00.

2.—The MAIDENS' HANDICAP, value, yen 200, a Handicap for Country-breds, Maidens at date of entry, and Subscription horses of 1896-1897; a forced entry of yen 20 for all horses of this class entered at the meeting; non-starters half forfeit; Handicap after second day's racing. One Mile.

Mr. Avis' Philomel, 125lb. (Sugimura) 1
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Rigi, 152lb. (Riki) 2
Mr. Durand's Hermine, 125lb. (Baron Foy) 3
Major Trick's Chiyoda, 132lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 0

Only four ponies stripped for this race, Rigi being the favourite. The start was about the worst of the meeting, Chiyoda, with Mr. Kingdon up, being left six lengths or so behind. Philomel took the lead, with Rigi next in order, but going up the hill Chiyoda pulled up into second place and Her-

mine dropped behind. At the Shakespeare Philomel still led, with Rigi next, while Hermine got up into third place. On entering the Straight, Rigi challenged Philomel and had a game try for first place, but failed to collar the leader, who passed the post two lengths ahead of Rigi, with Hermine a good third. Time, 1 min. 59½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Hermine 6, Chiyoda 11, Rigi 28, Philomel 13; total, 58=\$290—Philomel, \$20. \$2 Pool.—Hermine 18, Chiyoda 36, Rigi 69, Philomel 34; total, 157=\$314—Philomel, \$8.20.

3.—THE PRIX DES HARAS, value, yen 200, a Handicap for all Country-breds, a forced entry of yen 20 for all horses of this class entered at the meeting; non-starters half forfeit; Handicap after second day's racing. One Mile.

Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 137lb. (Riki) 1
Mr. Nemo's Sasha, 133lb. (Ichi) 2

This resulted in a match between Tatsuta and Sasha, the only starters. The former took the lead from the start and won as he liked, passing the post half a dozen lengths before his opponent. Time, 1 min. 55½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Tatsuta 24, Sasha 13; total, 37=\$185—Tatsuta, \$6.90. \$2 Pool.—Tatsuta 60, Sasha 57; total, 117=\$234—Tatsuta, \$3.50.

4.—THE CHINA SUBSCRIPTION CONSOLATION, 1st Prize yen 150, 2nd yen 50, a Consolation Race for all Subscription China Ponies that have not won two races in Japan at date of entry, and have started and not won a race at this meeting; weight as per scale. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Four-in-Hand's Romulus, 147lb. (Ichi) 1
Mr. R. Field's Torpedo, 147lb. (Kato) 2
Mr. States' Colorado, 144lb. (Sugimura) 3
Mr. News' Voltaire, 147lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 0
Mr. Yodo's Suma, 150lb. (Hakodate) 0
Mr. Worthington's Mulberry, 153lb. (Yasu) 0
Mr. Derby's Martingale, 153lb. (Mr. Pearson) 0
Messrs. Tippitt & Clifford's Jubilee, 147lb. (Mr. Elliot) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Maidzuru, 144lb. (Riki) 0
Mr. Campredon's Pointeur, 144lb. (Kobayashi) 0
Mr. Campredon's Artiller, 147lb. (Takahashi) 0
Messrs. Bent & Owen's Melbourne 150lb. (Mr. Owen) 0

Twelve, out of twenty-three, started for the China Consolation, Mr. Campredon, who ran two, declaring best to win. Two fairly good starts were spoiled by Mulberry, with Yasu up, the pony being first held by a betto and then by Mr. Thomas, when the others were all ready to go; eventually he was left several lengths behind. Torpedo led for the first furlong when Romulus went to the front and Pointeur ran into third place. Going up the hill, Colorado came away and ran neck and neck with Romulus to the Shakespeare. At the Trees Romulus obtained the lead again, with Pointeur in second place, but in the home run Torpedo came up and displaced the latter, Romulus passing the post a couple of lengths before Torpedo, who beat Colorado for second place only by a length; the others followed in a bunch. Time 2 min. 14 secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Voltaire 4, Suma 21, Torpedo 4, Mulberry 3, Martingale 5, Jubilee 33, Colorado 4, Romulus 6, Maidzuru 12, Pointeur 3, Artiller 1, Melbourne 2; total 98=\$490—Romulus \$110. \$2 Pool.—Voltaire 12, Suma 46, Torpedo 10, Mulberry 11, Jubilee 12, Colorado 91, Romulus 6, Maidzuru 25, Pointeur 26, Artiller 16, Melbourne 6; total, 269=\$538—Romulus, \$80.00.

5.—THE JUVENILE CONSOLATION, value, yen 150, a Consolation Race for Subscription Country-breds of Spring, 1897, that have not won more than one race at date of entry, and have started and not won a race at this meeting; weight as per scale. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Four-in-Hand's Chance, 130lb. (Ichi) 1
Mr. Sphinx's Mezurashi, 129lb. (Miyagawa) 2
Baron Foy's Signorina, 125lb. (Baron Foy) 3
Mr. Worthington's Idler, 234lb. (Yasu) 0

Four out of five entrants started. Yasu, this time on Idler, again spoiled two fair starts by not being ready and in the third attempt got away with a lead of three lengths, with Signorina next and Chance in third place. The same order was maintained until the Shakespeare was passed when Signorina ran into first place and the others closed up behind so that the proverbial blanket could have covered them. At the bend Signorina gave place to Chance, and Mezurashi took third place. Chance, hard ridden down the distance, passed the post two lengths ahead of Mezurashi, who beat Signorina for second place, by about a length. Time, 2 min. 4½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Idler 10, Mezurashi

16, Signorina 29, Chance 29; total 82=\$410—Chance, \$12.70. \$2 Pool.—Idler 40, Mezurashi 51, Signorina 112, Chance 94; total, 297=\$594—Chance, \$5.60.

6.—THE COUNTRY-BRED CONSOLATION, 1st Prize yen 150, 2nd yen 50, a Consolation Race for all Country-breds that have started and not won a race at the meeting; weight as per scale. Three-quarters Mile. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Baron Foy's Tambour, Major, 125lb.

(Baron Foy) 1
Mr. R. Field's Cigarette, 137lb. (Riki) 2
Mr. Nemo's Sasha, 142lb. (Ichi) 3
Mr. Durand's Hermine, 128lb. (Kobayashi) 0

Only four horses came out for this race. After a capital start Tambour Major went to the front, closely followed by Hermine and Sasha, with Cigarette last. After scaling the hill Sasha ran into second place and Cigarette also passed Hermine. At the Trees Tambour Major still led and the order of the others was unchanged until nearing the Stand, when Cigarette rushed into second place, Tambour Major winning by between two and three lengths, a bare half length separating second and third. Time, 1.25½.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Cigarette 20, Hermine 15, Tambour Major 22, Sasha 45; total, 102=\$510—Tambour Major, \$2.80. \$2 Pool.—Cigarette 53, Hermine 26, Tambour Major 52, Sasha 53; total, 184=\$368—Tambour Major, \$6.00.

7.—THE CHINA CHAMPION, value, yen 300. A Champion Race for all China Ponies; a forced entry for winners at the meeting; for winners of one race yen 10; of two races yen 20; and of more than two races yen 40; optional to beaten ponies at an entrance fee of yen 25; weight as per scale. One Mile and a quarter.

Mr. News' Eclairer, 150lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Usugomo, 150lb. (Riki) 2
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Kindar, 144lb. (Nakajima) 3
Mr. Worthington's Orion 147lb. (Hayashi) 0
Mr. Nishimura's Nittaka, 150lb. (Hattori) 0
Mr. Worthington's Herald, 150lb. (Yasu) 0
Mr. Nemo's Opportuniste, 150lb. (Ichi) 0
Major Trick's Minet, 147lb. (Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. States' Maine, 150lb. (Mr. Pakenham) 0
Mr. Sphinx's Samurai, 147lb. (Takahashi) 0
Major Trick's Pantin, 153lb. (Baron Foy) 0

Eleven China ponies faced the starter to compete for the Championship, the favourite being Maine. Mr. Worthington and Major Trick, who ran two each, declared best to win. After three futile starts the field was got away on fairly level terms. Pantin got the lead and passed the Stand first, with Samurai second, and Usugomo in third place, the rest in a rack. At the Dip, Usugomo took the lead from Pantin and at the top of the hill Eclairer came away from the field and ran into third place. At the Shakespeare Usugomo still led, Eclairer second, and Minet came away to the front, in the Straight the former rushing into first place and running a fine race won by a head from Usugomo, who finished about a length and half ahead of Kindar. Time, 2 min. 49½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Eclairer 27, Kindar 11, Maine 34, Minet 17, Usugomo 14, Herald 7, Nittaka 7, Orion 27, Opportuniste 17, Samurai 5, Pantin 7; total 173=\$405—Eclairer \$28.80. \$2 Pool.—Eclairer 54, Kindar 28, Maine 81, Minet 46, Usugomo 28, Herald 27, Nittaka 32, Orion 60, Opportuniste 28, Samurai 29, Pantin 20; total, 433=\$866—Eclairer, \$14.00.

8.—THE COUNTRY-BRED CHAMPION, value, yen 300; A Champion Race for all Country-breds. A forced entry for winners at the meeting; for winners of one race yen 10; of two races yen 20; and more than two races yen 40; optional to beaten ponies at an entrance fee of yen 25; weight as per scale. One Mile and a quarter.

Mr. Tatsuta's Tatsuta, 137lb. (Riki) 1
Mr. Nishimura's Hayakaze, 140lb. (Takahashi) 2
Mr. States' Idaho, 140lb. (Sugimura) 3
Mr. Worthington's Traveller, 145lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 0

Only four competitors appeared to contest the Country-bred Championship. After one false start they were got away on level terms, Idaho making the running and leading past the grand stand, with Tatsuta second and Traveller third. In topping the hill after the dip Tatsuta took the lead, with Traveller close up, and the other two seven or eight lengths in the rear. At the Trees, Tatsuta led by a length and Hayakaze lessened the distance between herself and the leader, and in the Straight came up to the front with a splendid spurt, very nearly collaring Tatsuta on the post, the latter only beating the mare by a neck. Idaho a poor third. Time, 2 mins. 25½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 Pool.—Idaho 65, Hayakaze 30, Tatsuta, 44, Traveller 44; Total, 183=\$915—Tatsuta \$18.70. \$2 Pool.—Idaho 124, Hayakaze 109, Tatsuta 74, Traveller 80; Total, 387=\$774—Tatsuta, \$9.

9.—The CHINA SOLACE.—First prize, \$150, 2nd prize, \$50; a Consolation Race for all China Ponies that have started and not won a race at the meeting; weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile. Entrance fee, \$5.

Mr. Worthington's Cleeve, 144lb. (Yashu) 1
Mr. Avis' Tomit, 144lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 2
Mr. Nemo's Entry, 150lb. (Nakazumi) 3
Major Trick's Pantin, 153lb. (Hakodate) 0
Messrs. Bent & Owen's Melbourne, 150lb. (Ichi) 0
Mr. Partner's Ji-ji, 153lb. (Kobayashi) 0
Mr. News' Voltaire, 147lb. (Mayeda) 0
Mr. R. Field's Torpedo, 147lb. (Kato) 0
Mr. Ralph Paget's Tourist, 144lb. (Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. H. M. Bevis's Troubadour, 150lb. (Riki) 0
Mr. Sphinx's Samurai, 147lb. (Miyasawa) 0
Mr. Derby's Martingale, 153lb. (Takahashi) 0
Mr. States' Colorado, 144lb. (Sugina) 0
Mr. Campredon's Pointeur, 144lb. (Baron Foy) 0

A field of fourteen turned out for this event and gave the starter plenty of trouble. Jiji opened the ball by bolting a quarter round the Course, and gave some further trouble later on. It was not till after three attempts had failed that the ponies got away to a fair start. Martingale rushed to the front at once, and passing the Stand the first time led, with Pantin in second place and the rest in a cluster. On ascending the hill from the dip Cleeve worked to the front with Colorado second. Coming down the Straight Tomit came up to the front and challenged Cleeve, but though well ridden by Mr. Kingdon just failed to collar the latter, who passed the post half a length ahead, the third horse being two or three lengths behind, and the rest straggling in. Time 1 min. 39½ secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$5 pool.—Voltaire 6, Torpedo 7, Tourist 4, Tradesman 0, Troubadour 9, Cleeve 20, Samurai 3, Martingale 6, Pointeur 8, Pantin 24, Tomit 6, Melbourne 7, Ji-do 3, * * * 7, Colorado 25; total, 135=\$675—Cleeve, \$30.30. \$2 Pool.—Voltaire 18, Torpedo 21, Tourist 14, Troubadour 30, Cleeve 58, Samurai 20, Martingale 17, Colorado 52, Pointeur 20, Pantin 27, Tomit 30, Melbourne 35, Ji-ji 14, * * * 15; total, 371=\$742—Cleeve \$11.00.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS WITHHELD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—How long is it to be before the people of Japan really enjoy all the rights and privileges guaranteed to them by the Constitution? Or are they indeed never to enjoy some of them? I am prompted to pen this question by two incidents which it seems to me ought to be brought to the knowledge of the public, and if possible to that also of the proper Japanese Authorities, though I do not know how the latter point could be gained.

One of these incidents occurred in the Spring, though the facts only came to my knowledge this Fall. The other occurred yesterday, and is the immediate occasion of the writing of this letter. To speak of the latter first. A school teacher of my acquaintance who has visited my house several times, called again yesterday. He is very anxious to obtain a good knowledge of English and is also somewhat interested in Christianity. He inquired whether time could be spared to teach him the English Bible. He was asked whether, if a class for studying it was started at the Christian chapel, he would attend it. His reply was that he would be very glad indeed to do so, but if he should he would lose his position as a teacher. By the Constitution under which Japan is supposed to be governed now freedom of religious belief is guaranteed to every subject. I do not know the exact wording of the article, but it seems to be in a certain measure a dead letter, or are school teachers excluded from the privileges granted in said article? For, how can any one be said to enjoy freedom of religious belief if he is not permitted to go where he can enjoy the means toward helping him to form his belief? Freedom of religious belief would seem to mean freedom of belief provided one believe such and such things and does not believe such and such other things. This is the case of one individual who feels that he dare not exercise the right which is guaranteed him as well as every one else by the Constitution, for fear that he should lose his position as a teacher in the employ of the Government. The other incident referred to is

the public action of a body of school teachers who form an association in a province not 150 miles from Kobe. The association holds meetings at stated intervals, and this action was taken at a meeting held some little time before the Summer vacation, though, as I said before, the facts have only just recently come out. At this meeting, after the routine business had been transacted, some one proposed that they should have a discussion on the subject of Education and Religion. Some one else objecting that this was too vague, it was decided to change it to Education and Christianity, this having been the real intent of the original motion, notwithstanding its broader statement. A full and free discussion then followed upon this subject. At its close it was voted that Christianity is an injury, that a belief in Christian truth on the part of school teachers interferes with the proper discharge of their duties (it being implied that if one became a Christian he would lose his place), and that they should use their influence against Christianity, by keeping the public from attending Sunday Schools and in other ways which might be open to them. The attendance at this meeting was about 40 and, with the exception of two or three Christians, whose influence was nil, this was the unanimous decision of those present. My informant, who is a Christian living in that region, said that he thought at first that the Christians ought to take some action in opposition to this association and their position, but he concluded afterwards that it might be better to do nothing. However, it seems to me that it is a matter which should be brought to public attention. I have understood for several years that it was the desire of the Educational Department that public school teachers should have nothing to do with religion. In view of these two incidents this would seem to mean Christianity, and Christianity alone, for I have never heard of any objection being made to a teacher because of his attitude towards any other religion, and now these incidents would seem to show that the Authorities have no objection to teachers having something to do with Christianity provided only it is to oppose it. Can this be the policy of the Government of this "Enlightened" era in the ninth year of the Constitution which guarantees religious freedom to every subject? Is the education and training of the coming generation in its formative period rightly entrusted to such a bigoted set of men as the school teachers of this association are by their action shown to be? Is not this a serious question which demands the attention of the authorities? I think, as a sincere well-wisher of Japan, that it is, and have felt impelled in the interests of freedom to write this letter. It is a question that may have, too, a practical bearing on the immediate future when the revised treaties come into effect, for though in the first instance a question of religion (than which, however, I would concede none to be more important) it has a broader bearing than that. These teachers are leaders of public opinion in the places where they live, and their influence is paramount over their pupils upon every subject, and in most cases opposed, not only to Christianity, as shown by the action above mentioned, but as well to the foreigner and everything he represents. Asking your indulgence for this somewhat lengthy communication, I remain, Yours truly,

S. S. W.

"OUR CITIZENSHIP."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The revelations made in Mr. McCaleb's recent letter "Neglected something or said something: which?" strike the foundations out from under my recent letter which you were so kind as to publish.

In the light of these later revelations I feel moved to offer the following contribution to the discussion:—

Among the religious circles in the U.S.A. many condensed Biblical and other theological phrases are frequently used in senses which within those circles come to have a definite meaning not always as clear to outsiders. In the U.S.A. there exist certain religious circles numbering in all some hundreds of thousands of adherents among whom the phrase "Our citizenship is in heaven," and other similar phrases, are in frequent use as arguments against doing anything which appears to them to be contrary to that citizenship, such as taking part in the celebration of events connected with the shedding of blood, etc., etc.—that is to say, in exactly such a connection as Mr. McCaleb used the phrase in his reply to the Independence Day Committee—and that without the slightest thought of such phrases being so construed as to be a renunciation of their American citizenship. Indeed, a member of one of these groups not so very long ago sat for years in the U.S. Senate,

I am in possession of a Divinity diploma given by an American Divinity school, and offer the above as testimony, believing it to have important bearings upon the case.

Your obedient servant, B. C. FRY.
Sendai.

[We should like to know how a country would fare if every member of its population entertained a conscientious scruple against taking up arms in defence of the hearth and home. Members of religious circles should remember that they are human beings as well as propagandists of a religious creed, and that devotion to the Church does not relieve them from the misfortunes of humanity or absolve them from the duties of citizenship. All this appears to us to be a quaint commentary on the charge recently preferred in the correspondence columns of the Japan Mail that the Roman Church holds itself superior to the civil power. Is not Mr. Fry's argument an emphatic assertion that every believer in the Bible is entitled to disregard the very chief of all the claims that the civil power has to make on him?—ED. J.M.]

SOME CONCLUDING REMARKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Editor in his last editorial betrays excitement. Facts are stubborn things and hard to deal with, except to admit them. No doubt it would have made a much better showing for the Minister if the Editor's two long rejoinders to my brief statement had been allowed to pass unquestioned. My apology for encroaching on so much of your space is that nothing but documentary evidence has seemed to be of any avail with the Editor: this required space.

The issue now is that I "made a public statement" which, "coupled with doubts which had already arisen," compelled the Minister to take action. The "public statement" needs no further notice; but to attempt to throw suspicion on my past record as a U. S. citizen is very unkind. There is not the slightest occasion for it except to sustain a bad cause. What can be said of me in this regard can be said of (say) two-thirds of the U. S. citizens in Japan, (that I have failed to take out a U. S. passport) but since this "couples" no "doubts" with their citizenship I fail to see why it should in my case. The Editor is therefore under moral obligation to present some evidence of such a statement or else make another frank confession that he was again misled. The dispatch from Washington means no more than that I have not taken out a U. S. passport. The entire extent of their knowledge in the matter is what has been sent from the Legation in Tokyo. The stern fact therefore stares the Editor in the face, why should "doubts" be "coupled" with me for this omission and not with another single citizen dwelling in Japan for a like omission!

As to the omitted clauses referred to, the Editor asks, "Why does not Mr. McCaleb quote them?" This is in exact keeping with the spirit in which all my statements have been received till backed up by the proof. To simply say the form the Editor quotes was written out by my "own hand" is quite misleading. At his request I only copied it after the Minister had written it. It was his own document not mine. After maturer consideration it became unsatisfactory and I rejected it. The form I had suggested containing the two clauses mentioned was this:—"Further, I do hereby say that, as far as I conceive it to be in harmony with the word of God, I will defend and support the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic; that, so far as is in keeping with God's word, I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion." The two clauses underscored are the ones the Minister would not accept, saying that "It begged the whole question." When asked what "support the Constitution" meant he said it meant to take up arms and fight, and that a man who would not do so was not worthy the country's protection. The additional reason that led me to decline all forms, either suggested by myself or the Minister, and even the passport without signing any form, was that I learned that by such I was still not to be regarded as a citizen enjoying full franchise, and that the matter had already been referred to Washington. That the "Government in Washington has given judgment against" me does not signify, since I am but an obscure citizen and was never known by name at Washington till introduced under the colouring of Minister Buck; he is the Minister Plenipotentiary Extraordinary, having full power to act for the State. It is easy to see how the Government could not go against his judgment in favour of mine; moreover, as the dispatch clearly shows, the State Department, like the Editor, was misled into believing that to grant a Japanese permit without a U. S. passport was to "furnish an exception" to the "rule," and not that I was only pleading for that

uniformly granted to the majority of others. Besides, when appeal is made to strict adherence to the law I recognize that I am placed at a disadvantage. But it is only man's law, and man has felt that he could with the utmost propriety "exercise discretionary power" in regard to it in the case of every citizen that has ever come to Japan except myself. I have repeatedly asked, but in vain, for a single case where an American citizen was compelled to take out a U.S. passport, or take the Oath of Allegiance before being granted a Japanese passport. Up to date not a single case can be produced, myself excepted. Why this discrimination? And why must appeal be made to Washington to know if McCaleb should be granted a Japanese permit without taking the oath when two-thirds of the U.S. citizens in Japan are in precisely the same condition, about which no mention is made whatever?

I fail to reconcile the spirit of "long-suffering" supposed to have been exercised toward me, with that of being slapped in the face. The truth is they have "slapped my face" from first to last. I was called up in a most peremptory way, as the correspondence will show, was told that my head was all wrong, was very foolish, could have no passport till I took the Oath of Allegiance, ought not to be in Japan, was not fit to teach Japanese children, and finally was told (I have witness to it) that my own conscience told me when I said I was discriminated against that I was telling that which "is not so," hence not only lying but knew it. And this is "long-suffering"! It may also explain somewhat why my case is hopeless in ever coming to a mutual understanding. I am not cast down, however, at being slapped in the face. Jesus was buffeted and spit upon; the disciple is not greater than his Lord and is instructed when smitten upon one cheek to turn the other also. "Blessed are ye when men shall reproach you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." I think I have a right to be a very happy man.

Most respectfully, Yours,

J. M. McCALEB.

P.S.—Thanking the Editor for the kindness shown I shall not ask further space in regard to this matter.

Tokyo, October 25th 1897.

[The best we can do for Mr. McCaleb is to leave him the last word. It has been a painful controversy, and if Mr. McCaleb ends consolation in kissing a rod that seems to us imaginary, we shall say nothing to deprive him of his resource.—Ed. J.M.]

PROTESTANT GERMANY & TURKISH ATROCITIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR—I have perused Doctor Christlieb's letter with much interest. My statement concerning the deplorable attitude of Germany and its pulpit toward the massacred Armenians was based mainly on the general newspaper reports, and on the assertions of many Armenian refugees whom I met in New York last year. It was from the latter I learned that during the terrible Constantinople butchery the gates of the German embassy were shut and shelter refused to the terror-stricken women and children. I knew that a tardy denial was made by the German Ambassador, but it was supplemented by opinions such that, if I were an Armenian, the choice between the Turkish sword and German hospitality would have been very hard for me to decide. It was from the semi-official German newspapers I learned that "the bones of a single Pomeranian soldier were more valuable to Germany than the whole Armenian race." It was from many other reliable sources I learned that a son of the lamented Greek scholar, Dr. Curtius, after visiting Armenia and seeing the devastation of the Christian villages, started a periodical mainly devoted to the Armenian cause, with the hope that the Protestant clergy would espouse the cause of the oppressed Christians, but his noble endeavour proved abortive and fruitless, as the clergy, out of either apathy or fear, kept silent. These instances will prove that I was not totally ignorant of the real state of the Armenian question in Germany as the doctor confesses himself to be in relation to the same question in America. Therefore, while Christian liberty has and is still suffering in Germany—as the Doctor's own letter proves—it seemed to me supremely incongruous, if not absurd, for a German clergyman to warn the Japanese nation of the impending danger to its true civil liberty from the Roman hierarchy! However, although the attitude of the German Protestant clergy towards the Armenian question is not satisfactory to Dr. Christlieb himself, the Doctor's explanation obliges me to withdraw my

statement and apologize for the acerbity of its language. This, as a Christian, I do readily and gladly.

Concerning the primary subject which led to this controversy, allow me, in way of explanation, to say, that I did not intend to attack Protestantism; I was simply stating the incontrovertible fact that during its four centuries of existence it has not developed an altogether immaculate history; and neither is its present position absolutely invulnerable. A few points, among many which I mentioned, are, in my opinion, great dangers threatening the very existence of Protestantism as a progressive organism. And as long as Christianity is faced by so many dangers, for Christians to fight to-day about their own and their ancestors' past faults appears to me childishly foolish, if not wicked.

On the other hand, I must say that I am totally bereft of all prejudice against the Roman Church. I wish God's abundant and eternal blessings upon the labours of all her godly missionaries in all foreign lands—Japan not excepted. And in my opinion the recent unprovoked attacks made upon the French Catholic Mission in Japan by several Protestant missionaries have left a terrible stain over the good name of Protestantism that tears of poignant repentance shed for years will be unable to efface.

As this note is simply an apology and an explanation, and as I do not intend to write to the *Weekly Mail* on this subject any further—resting assured that your intelligent readers can form impartial judgment about the assailed Catholic Missionaries and their Protestant detractors—I beg you to give me a little space in the columns of the *Daily Mail*.

Sincerely Yours,

ISAAC DOOMAN.

Tokyo, Oct. 26th.

(It seems only fair to publish this letter in the *Daily Mail*.—Ed. J.M.)

CHINESE RAILWAYS AND SILVER.

The following sanguine letter appears in the *Economist*:

SIR,—By mail advices just to hand from North China, it is gratifying to learn that at last railways are about to be energetically pushed on in and around Shanghai. The line from the latter port to Woosung, a distance of some twelve miles, has been already begun, whilst the line to Hangchow, a distance of 200 miles, has been surveyed, and a survey has been effected between Shanghai and Soochow. These three lines will be under the direction of Sheng, who, it is reported, has recently sold his large cotton mill to a European syndicate for 2,600,000 taels, so as to provide him the means for extending his railway enterprises. Chang-Chi-Tung, another powerful Chinese Governor, was about to commence the great line extending from Hankow—some 600 miles up the Yangtze—to Tientsin and Peking, and work was to begin towards the middle of this month.

It is difficult even to form a rough estimate as to the cost of the fore-mentioned railway lines, but the amount is likely to be at least £8,000,000, such as wages, cost of land, rails, bridges, and general railway plant, most of which will be absorbed in China, as even rails and most plant can be manufactured at Sheng's huge works, near Hankow. It is often asked if railways will pay well in China. I think we may have no doubt as to the fact that they will pay well, and that this is the main reason why the influential Chinese are so anxious to construct them. The average net earning power of the Japanese railways may be put down as 9 to 9½ per cent., but in China not only should the cost be considerably less, as the country is comparatively flat—indeed, perfectly flat from Shanghai to Hangchow, and from Shanghai to Soochow, and the lines go through by far the most densely populated portion of China, whose population may be fairly estimated at 350,000,000 and comprising about the most hard-working and industrious people in the world.

It is believed that a large portion of the £16,000,000 loan which is being negotiated at the present moment in Peking will be available for construction of railways, as the amount payable to Japan would be some £10,000,000 minus the interest which would be saved by prompt payment.

Besides the special railway lines above mentioned, the Chinese officials talk of having one from Canton, the capital of the South, to Hankow, which in time would give free access in all seasons to the Northern capital Peking, no doubt a most important object for China.

In the event of this large loan of £16,000,000 being successfully negotiated or floated, it is quite evident that the bulk of the balance, say £5,000,000, will be remitted out to China in silver in gradual

instalments as it may be wanted, because, barring locomotives and certain specifications for special bridge work, very little material will be wanted from Europe or America, as the Chinese, as already remarked, can supply everything from their huge works up the Yangtze; and, if, if right in my contention, before very long we may see a very steady effect on the silver market, as well as on Eastern exchanges. At the present low price of, say, 24d per ounce, even two millions sterling worth means a very large quantity of the metal, and I doubt very much if even half the silver mines in America can live at these rates. Whilst wages and living in Japan have increased fully 35 per cent. since the war, prices have remained comparatively stationary in China, and at the present moment the difference of exchange between China and Japan is quite 5 per cent. in favour of the former as an exporter of her produce and manufactures, and if such a state of matters continues, the cotton mills of Shanghai and elsewhere in China must have a most brilliant future before them. I remain, &c.,

ORIENT.

London, August 20, 1897.

P.S.—Last advices from Peking state that the line newly opened will easily earn and pay 10 per cent.—that is, the Tung Koi, Tientsin, and Peking Railway, and will do even better as time goes on.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

BIMETALLISM.

London, Oct. 22.

The *Times*' statement of the 19th inst. that the Cabinet has decided upon declining to reopen the Indian mints or to enter the proposed monetary conference, but that the Government will very likely intimate that it will be prepared to consider further or alternative proposals by the United States and France for the rehabilitation of silver, has been confirmed.

Correspondence on the silver question has been published stating that France and America are prepared to open their mints to the free coinage of silver and gold, such silver being legal tender to an unlimited amount at a ratio of fifteen and a half to one.

The Government of India has been arguing at great length and with the most exhaustive reasoning against the reopening of the Indian mints. It is believed that the present difficulties are nearly over, and that it will succeed in the near future in establishing a stable rate of exchange at sixteen pence.

The Marquis of Salisbury, having summarised the objections of the Indian Government, has declined the American proposals, and the United States Envoys have abandoned their intention of going to Germany, considering that the British decision ends the matter.

ITALY AND EGYPT.

The Italian and Egyptian Governments have arranged the details for the surrender of Kassala, and operations will be commenced in November. It is undecided yet whether Egyptian or Indian troops will garrison Kassala.

RAILWAYS IN AFRICA.

The first train over the new railway has arrived at Bulawayo.

NEW REGIMENTS IN AFRICA.

The War Office is sending 35 specially trained non-commission officers to the Gold Coast and Lagos to train new regiments now being raised to the number of 2,000 men.

SPAIN AND CUBA.

London, Oct. 25.

The Cabinet at Madrid has drafted a Note to America stating its intention of granting autonomy to Cuba, and complaining strongly of the failure of the

United States Government to arrest the filibustering expeditions fitted out in American ports.

FRIGHTFUL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

London, Oct. 26.

An express train on the New York Central Railroad became derailed on an embankment and fell into the Hudson River, twenty-eight persons being killed.

MORE MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

Six companies of the Seaforth Highlanders and a battery of mountain guns go to Malta from Canada.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

London, Oct. 27.

The Turkish and Greek delegates have agreed upon all the articles for a definite treaty of peace, with the exception of that for compensation to private persons who sustained losses through the war and the question of Greek consular jurisdiction.

THE GOVERNOR OF CRETE.

Turkey and the Powers have agreed upon the choice of Colonel Shaeffer, of the Luxemburg Army, as the Governor of Crete. He is able and vigorous, a good linguist, and conversant with the East.

A VISIT TO OSMAN DIGNA.

The column under Colonel Hunter has left Berber, and is moving against Osman Digna, on the Atbara.

THE CHINA LOAN.

The Hooley-Jameson loan scheme turns out to be abortive, and China is now negotiating with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

THE DARGAI AFFAIR.

The enemy's loss on the Dargai Heights was a thousand killed and wounded. Captain Robinson, of the Gurkhas, who was wounded in this action, is dead.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-side.

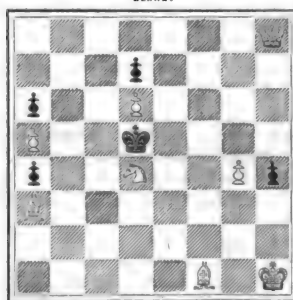
The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Itchoine (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 342.

- WHITE. BLACK.
1—B to K B 6 1—P takes B
2—B takes P (K B 7), mate
2—Q to K Kt 4, mate 1—R takes Kt (or moves)
2—Kt to Kt 7, mate 1—R takes B (or moves)
2—B to Q 7, mate 1—Kt takes Kt
2—Kt takes B, mate 1—B to B 2
2—R takes P, mate 1—B any other
etc., etc.

Correct solutions were received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., and D.D.

PROBLEM No. 344.
By A. KANSELL.



White to play and mate in three moves.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

Owing probably to the races, the attendance at the Y.C.C. on Thursday last was very poor, in marked contradistinction to the successful gathering on Monday, when some lively skirmishes took place. The first game in the Challenge Tourney, viz., Mendelson v. Friedlander, was played and attracted the attention of many onlookers. Mr. Mendelson played remarkably well, and had he been equipped with a little more experience of the "end game," should have scored an easy victory. As it was, his opponent managed to queen a Pawn and won. The second game in this match is put down for next week. Other challenges on the notice board are:—Storck v. Hodges and Pollak v. Tennant.

An interesting event will be the consultation game, to be played next Monday at 5.50 sharp, between teams captained by the President and the Secretary. Members desirous of taking part are requested to turn up punctually. The game will be published in this column.

SINGAPORE.

The Singapore Chess Club has arranged a tournament to commence on the 4th of next month. Two prizes will be given viz., six and three months' free subscription to the *Straits Times*, offered by the proprietors; and a special prize for brilliancy offered by Dr. T. H. Stephens.

BERLIN INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT.

The Berlin international chess tournament is now a thing of the past. Charousek was successful in carrying off the first prize, with Walbrodt a very close second, only half a point dividing the two. Blackburne was placed third in order of merit, Janowski fourth, and Burn fifth, while Alapin, Marco and Schlechter divide the seventh and eighth prizes. The score follows:—

PLAYERS.	WON.	LOST.
Alapin	11½	7½
Albin	3	16
Bardeleben	18½	18½
Blackburne	13	6
Burn	12	7
Caro	11	8
Charousek	14½	4½
Cohn	8½	10½
Englisch	6½	12½
Janowski	12½	6½
Marco	11½	7½
Metzger	9	10
Schiffers	10	9
Schlechter	11½	7½
Suechting	8	11
Teichmann	7½	11½
Tschigorin	11½	8½
Walbrodt	14	5
Winawer	8½	10½
Zinkl	6½	12½

Total number of games, 190.

Some of the games played in this Tourney have already come to hand and we publish one below:—

GAME No. 342.

White—Tschigorin.		Black—Albin.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	11 Q Kt K4	Ctl. (QR)
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	12 P KKt4	Q Q4
3 B B4	Kt B3	13 P x P	RR Kt sq
4 P Q4	P x P	14 Kt B6	Q Q3
5 Castles	B B4	15 Kt (Kt5)	Q K4
6 P K5	P Q4	16 P B4	P Q6 ch
7 P x Kt	P x B	17 K Kt2	Q Q5
8 R K—q ch	B K3	18 P B3, and wins.	
9 Kt Kt5	Q Q4		
10 Q Kt B3	Q B4		

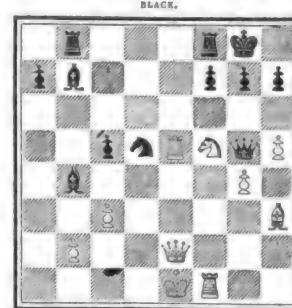
THE NEWNES CUP CONTEST.

The circular letter, issued by the Brooklyn Chess-club and sent to the principal Chess-clubs of the United States, asking for their co-operation in reference to the cable-match of 1898, which we mentioned some time ago in this column, has not brought about that reconciliation which, doubtless, the senders of the letter desired. The following comment by Reichelm, in *The Times*, Philadelphia, indicates that the Franklin Club will not accept the invitation:—"In the beginning of 1896 the Brooklyn and British Chess-clubs framed a lot of articles to govern a so-called Anglo-American match, in which the two clubs assumed the leadership of their respective countries. Two contests of the kind were played, the Brooklyn Club winning the 1896 event and the British the 1897 match. The latter event appears to have cooled the ardour of the Marean-Elwell management of the Brooklyn Chess-club, and in consequence a less pretentious Board of Managers now rule that club. Now, while we are very glad to note this change of base, the fact still remains that the Newnes-cup cable-

contest is purely a Brooklyn Chess-club match on this side of the water, and we do not see how any other club, as a club, can take part in the same under the present rules that govern the trophy."

A LASKER BRILLIANT.

On August 16th, Lasker gave the odds of a Knight to a comparatively strong antagonist in the Kaiserhof Café, Berlin. The game had progressed until the position was as follows:—



It was Black's move and he played Q to Q sq. The end was brought about in five moves:—

- White—Lasker. Black—"Opponent."
P takes B Kt takes P
P to R 6 Q to Q R 4
Q to Q B 4 KR to K sq
Q takes K B P ch K takes Q
Kt to K 7 mate.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.	N. P. Co.	Victor a 2	T. Nov. 3
Europe	M. M. Co.	Melbourne 2	W. Nov. 3
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 3	Th. Nov. 4
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Nov. 7
America	P. M. Co.	China 4	Tu. Nov. 8
America	O. & O. Co.	Belgic	Th. Nov. 18
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 22

- 1 Left Victoria on the 17th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 27th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 27th Oct.
4 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 21st inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	City of Rio de Janeiro	Sa. Oct. 30
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Oceanic	Su. Oct. 31
Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.	N. P. Co.	Columbia	Tu. Nov. 8
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Tu. Nov. 8
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Fri. Nov. 5
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Su. Nov. 7
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Nov. 9
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Fri. Nov. 10
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of Japan	M. Nov. 22
Portland, Or.	N. P. Co.	Lombard	Sa. Nov. 27

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, Wright, 23rd Oct., —Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Ettrickdale, British steamer, 2,468, J. R. Stewart, 25th Oct., Hamburg via ports, and Kobe 22nd Oct., General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 25th Oct.—Vancouver, B.C.; 11th Oct., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Daphne (8), British gunboat, 1,140, Com. A. C. C. Galloway, 25th Oct., —Hakodate.
Wally, German steamer, 3,200, Behrens, 25th Oct., —Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 18th Oct., General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Peacock (6), British gunboat, 750, Lieut.-Com. P. S. St. John, 26th Oct., —Hakodate.
Tai Yick, German steamer, 1,046, Shuldt, 26th Oct., —Sea, Ballast.—Captain.
Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker, 26th Oct., —Hongkong, 21st Oct., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Kintuck, British steamer, 2,312, C. de la Perrele, 27th Oct., —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 25th Oct., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Sabine Rickmers, German str., 598, T. Sanders, 27th October.—Hongkong, 13th Oct., Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Yarrowdale, British steamer, 1,908, Geddes, 28th Oct., —New York via ports, and Suez Canal 13th Aug., General.—Frazar & Co.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,950, D. Davies, 27th Oct.,—London via ports, and Kobe 26th Oct., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Fernfield, British steamer, 2,025, McFee, 28th Oct.,—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Frazar & Co.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 28th Oct.,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Oscarshol, Norwegian steamer, 950, Reichboven, 28th Oct.,—Cebu via Kobe, Sugar.—Grauert & Co.
Eureka, American ship, 1,996, Darrach, 28th Oct.,—Portland Or. Astoria 24th August, Lumber.—H. Ahrens & Co.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 28th October,—Hongkong, 19th Oct., Shanghai 23rd, Nagasaki 25th, Kobe 27, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Unique, Norwegian steamer, 1,298, Egeness, 29th Oct.,—Hongkong, Rice.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Hyson, British steamer, 2,880, J. S. Hogg, 29th Oct.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 28th Oct., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Machew, British steamer, 996, Farrel, 29th Oct.,—Hongkong, Sugar and Molasses.—Butterfield and Swire.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 29th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, 21st Oct., Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hansa, German steamer, 1,200, Martz, 23rd Oct.,—Otaru, Ballast.—Raspe & Co.
Oolong, British steamer, 2,308, R. Conradi, 23rd Oct.,—London and Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 23rd October,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Thetis, British barque, 1,295, John Oliver, 24th Oct.,—Portland, Or., Ballast.—Illies & Co.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 24th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, P. O. Marshall, 25th October,—Hongkong via ports, Mails & General.—C. P. R. Co.
Mogul, British steamer, 1,527, W. H. Wright, 25th Oct.,—Portland, Or., General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Tai Yick, German steamer, 1,046, Shuldt, 25th Oct.,—Newchang, Ballast.—Raspe & Co.
Martha, German steamer, 1,580, Krutzfeldt, 25th Oct.,—Kobe, Ballast.—Captain.
Tai Yick, German steamer, 1,046, Shuldt, 27th Oct.,—Newchang, Ballast.—Captain.
Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,376, H. Bleeker, 29th Oct.,—Hongkong, via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 30th October,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Professor Dr. K. Bieler, Lieutenant Meinicke, Mr. Gisho Jasnaja, Mr. Carlo Giussani, Mr. W. Steinmetz, Mr. K. Komura, Mrs. Cilla Brass, Mrs. and Miss Schwarz, Mr. T. Vogtner, Mrs. Mitsumajuta, Mrs. Toedjje, Mrs. Otuk, and Mrs. Odeima in cabin; two Chinese in steerage; 14 Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco:—Mr. J. Mendelson, Master Morris M. Mendelson, Miss Gertrude M. Mendelson, Miss Berta Babcock, Miss Minnie Hennessey, Captain J. M. James, Bishop and Mrs. J. McKim, Mr. T. Ushiba, Sir T. Fry, Bart., Mr. and Mrs. W. H. H. Stowell, Mr. W. A. Stowell, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Bothwick, Mr. Y. Murai, and Mr. M. Morimura, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. John Liddell, Hon. J. Sloat Fassett, and Mr. Newton C. Fassett, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. Manuel Mak Zam, Mr. Ygnacio Sam San, Dr. and Mrs. James M. Howie, Mr. Wo Pang Nin, Mr. A. P. Hotaling, Mr. F. C. Hotaling, Mrs. A. Javaraux, and Mrs. O. Leslie, in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. S. Naudin, Mrs. E. Douglas, Mrs. Volman, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Cork, Mr. E. Keelman, Mr. Schlietz Emanuel, Master Volman, Mr. A. J. S. Lefoy, and Mr. B. L. Baulen, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. Milton Harley, Mr. W. A. McGrath, Mrs. A. F. Chamo, Mrs. D. G. McIntosh, and 2 children, Mr. J. Bright, Mr. C. W. Gutzler, Mr. J. H. Malcom, Mrs. McCarthy, Dr. and Mrs. Tropine, and Mr. P. Ralley.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. Howard, Wrenn, H. J.

Verina, Osmund Tonks, Wong Kin Tong, and R. Abenheim, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss R. Marshall, Mr. Chas. Chesley, Miss F. Twitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Newman, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. A. Jenkins, infant and amah, Mr. G. H. Shirley Rollison, Mrs. Maxwell and native servant and two amahs, Mr. John F. Duff, and Mr. Jas. Ellerton, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Gatch and child, in cabin; 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Stoop, Miss Smithers, Mr. and Mrs. Henmur, Mr. T. Wai Hing, Rev. and Mrs. Tyng and child, Miss A. N. True, Mr. N. Tyng, Miss K. Tyng, Mr. D. Tyng, Mr. A. Tyng, Master J. Tyng, Miss Christoffel, and Miss H. M. Jones, in cabin; to Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Doric* for Hongkong via ports:—Dr. W. Noble, Mr. H. J. Rickett, Miss Helen Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Kerr and infant, Dr. H. C. Whiting, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Bardens, Mr. and Mrs. C. Thwaites, Mr. C. W. May, Mr. R. S. Philpott, Mr. A. B. Hulbert, Mr. W. H. Sturtevant, Mdm. Volman, Miss Minnie Hennessey, Sir Theo. Fry, Bart., Mr. J. T. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Lin H. Stowell, Mr. W. A. Stowell, Mr. Chan Lin Chin, and Mr. H. B. Robinson in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. B. Ede, Mr. and (2) Misses Richardson, Mr. H. Riedemann, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Denion, Capt. R. F. Lush, Capt. F. R. Loveband, Miss Black, Mrs. Newcomb and son, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Maedron, Mr. W. Boffey, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Capen, Miss Lichtenberg, Mr. R. Forshaw, Mr. C. L. Koch, Mr. & Mrs. T. C. Johnston, Miss Fanny Wand, Mr. Geo. Copeman, Mr. R. G. E. Foster and Japanese servant, Mr. W. and Mrs. A. Treneshim, Mr. F. Stuart Jones, Mr. H. W. Minum, Mrs. Broadhurst, Miss Trew, Mr. T. Haggard, Dr. E. V. Van Tonzebuam, Mr. C. H. Nugent, Rev. J. C. Gibson, Mr. H. J. Rothwell, Mr. A. W. Bain, and Mr. G. Baumerman, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Mizukami, Mrs. Y. Shibayama, Mrs. K. Nagai and 2 children, Lieut. Y. Hosoi, Mr. T. Kawamura in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. I. Komine, Mr. K. Inouye, Mr. M. Ogata, Mr. Leang Che Yaen in 2nd class; 35 in steerage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No movement has yet taken place in piece goods, either shittings or faucies, and woollens are equally stagnant. A small business has been transacted in yarns, at slight reductions from quotations; but buyers are loath to place any considerable orders for arrival. A slight fall has occurred in quotations for raw cotton, American and Chinese, as good reports have been received of the crops in the United States and China; the Indian crop, however, being considerably short of the average.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shittings—8½ lb., 38½ yds., 39 inches	\$2 50 to 2 80
Grey Shittings—9 lb., 38½ yds., 45 inches	2 80 to 3 35
P. Cloth—7 lb., 22 yards, 32 inches	1 60 to 1 90
Indigo Shittings—12 yards, 41 inches	1 95 to 2 30
Prints—Assorted, 21 yards, 30 inches	2 00 to 3 75
Cotton—Italiana and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0 18½ to 0 25

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 75 to 9 90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-43 inches	0 75 to 1 00
Turkey Reds—2 to 2 4 lb., 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 50 to 1 70
Turkey Reds—2 8 to 3 lb., 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 75 to 2 10
Turkey Reds—3 5 to 4 lb., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 40 to 2 70
Turkey Reds—4 8 to 5 lb., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	3 00 to 3 50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0 30 to 0 50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches least	0 35 to 0 41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0 30 to 0 37½
Medium	0 25 to 0 37½
Common	0 25 to 0 37½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 51 inches	0 15 to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 48 56 inches	0 35 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 48 56 inches	0 60 to 0 75
Cloths—Union, 51 48 56 inches	0 30 to 0 85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb., per lb.	0 50 to 0 80

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles	\$38 50 to 39 50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	41 00 to 43 00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	44 00 to 45 00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46 00 to 48 00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51 75 to 54 50
Nos. 2 60, Plain	61 00 to 62 00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	75 00 to 77 00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	99 00 to 100 00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	79 00 to 79 00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	89 00 to 95 00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	112 00 to 124 00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$20½ to 21
Indian Broach	20 to 21
Chinese	20 to 20½

IRON.

The improvement noted last week continues, and there is a good demand at current rates for iron, in rods, plates and pig.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1 inch and upward	4 15 to 4 60
Iron Plates, assorted	4 20 to 4 50
Sheet Iron	5 10 to 5 30
Galvanized iron sheets	9 20 to 10 50
Wire Nails, assorted	6 00 to 6 50
Pin Plates, per box	5 90 to 6 00
Pig Iron, No. 1	2 05 to 2 20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1½ inch)	5 00 to 5 15

KIKOSKNE.

The market is steady at current rates and a fair amount of business has been done on a small scale. Arrivals and cargo afloat are fully up to requirements.

	PER POUND.
American	\$2 00 to 2 15
Russian	2 00 to 2 15
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

A steady business has been done in Brown, Manila, Chinese and Formosa at current quotations, and a fair amount of sales has been effected in White refined, at former rates.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$3 90 to 4 10
Brown Manila	4 20 to 4 90
Brown Daitong	3 20 to 3 35
Brown Canton	3 30 to 4 20
White Java and Penang	6 50 to 6 60
White Refined	7 30 to 8 90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Business has dropped off a little during the past week, but a fair number of transactions have taken place. Holders are firm and buyers not disposed to purchase largely without some concession. Stocks have been reduced and now amount to less than 5,000 piculs of all sorts. Shipments during the interval have been 632 bales for Europe per *Verona* on the 24th, and 549 bales per *Mogul* for America on the 25th.



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EYEBROWS, &c.

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PRICES: 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 5s., 10s. 6d., £1 1s. per BOTTLE.

This EXTRACT is INVALUABLE to LADIES, as it restores the Colour close to the Skin.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	\$930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	840 to 850
Kakedas—No. 1	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	—

WASTE SILK.

A fair business has been done at slight reductions from former rates. The total stock in Yokohama on the 28th was placed at 18,147 boxes, or about 8,500 piculs. The Verona on the 24th took 952 piculs for Europe.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Shinshu, Medium	55 to 60
Noshi—Bushi, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushi, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Oshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Oshu, Fair	55 to 57
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Second	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 22

TEA.

The demand has dropped off considerably, and sales have decreased from 200,000 catties in the previous week to about 88,000 catties during the past seven days. Stocks, mostly of inferior quality, amounted to 171,700 catties on the 29th instant. Shipments have been 295,897 lbs. for the United States, per steamer *Mogul* on the 25th instant. Quotations remain nominally the same.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal
Choice	\$31 to 32
Finest	31 to 32
Fine	27 to 28
Good Medium	25 to 26
Medium	23 to 24
Good Common	21 to 22
Common	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Rates keep very steady with silver quoted higher from London.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/0 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2/54
— Private 4 months' sight	2/59
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 1/2 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	5 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	77
— Private 10 days' sight	79
On India—Bank sight	154 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	158
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49
— Private 4 months' sight	50 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.06
— Private 4 months' sight	2.10 1/2
Re. Silver (London)	27 1/2

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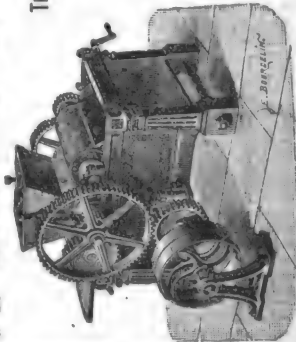
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 19.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOV. 6TH, 1897.

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SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE first snow of the season fell at Hakodate on the 30th ult.

THE Marine Exhibition at Kobe is to be closed on the 30th of November.

MR. JAMES I. DODGE, of Indiana, has been appointed U.S. Consul at Nagasaki.

A RUNAWAY horse a few days ago, knocked down and injured ten persons in Tokyo.

SIR RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, at one time British Minister to Japan, died in England on the 2nd instant.

NORWAY is sending out a steamer to search for M. Andree, who went in a balloon to reach the North Pole.

SINCE the great earthquake of 1891, Gifu has experienced 3,574 shocks, or tremors, and Nagoya 1,827.

THE amended draft of the Hokkaido Administrative Regulations is expected to be promulgated shortly.

THE funeral of the late Duchess of Teck was to take place at Sir George's Chapel, Windsor, on the 3rd inst.

THE Japanese iron-clad *Fuso Kan* grounded and sank near Nagahama on the 29th ult. No loss of life occurred.

GENERAL BLANCO has issued a pacifying proclamation in Cuba, promising autonomy and oblivion of the past.

H.M.S. *Redpole's* variety and minstrel company will give an entertainment in the Public Hall on Tuesday next.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON estimates the cost of the Indian Famine to the Indian Government at ten millions sterling.

THE sealing conference between Japan, Russia and the United States have agreed upon the suspension of pelagic sealing.

THE editor of the Osaka *Mainichi* has been sentenced to 45 days' hard labour and a fine of 6 yen for libelling an army surgeon.

FROM the commencement of the Indian Frontier operations, up to Oct. 9th, the British losses have been 190 killed and 580 wounded.

THE cable-steamer *Okinawa Maru* left Yokohama for Formosa on Monday to repair the broken cable between Formosa and Foochow.

A fire occurred at 47 Minami Nakadori, native town, Yokohama, on the morning of the 3rd inst. by which one house was destroyed and five damaged.

QUOTATIONS for Japanese War and Consolidated Bonds in London, which have been standing at £99 10s. per 1,000 yen, have of late fallen to £99.

THE steamer *Iyo Maru*, 620 tons, built at the Kawasaki Yard, Kobe, to the order of the Iyo Steamship Company, was successfully launched on the 30th ult.

IT is reported that Mr. Hoshi, Japanese Minister to the United States, will leave Yokohama for the United States on the 9th of November by the steamer *Gaelic*.

A BOY employed in the book-store of Messrs. Maruya & Co. of Nihonbashi, Tokyo, who was found dead near the Yoro Bridge, Nihonbashi, on the night of the 29th ult., is proved, from the *post mortem*, to have been strangled.

The Nihonbashi Police have arrested on suspicion two jinrikisha coolies who ply for hire near the Yoro Bridge.

A SEAMAN named William Cuthbert has been committed for trial for having stabbed and killed another sailor named James Gerard, on board the British ship *Port Caledonia* at Nagasaki.

THE Russian Representative in Seoul is said to have forced the Korean Government to dismiss Mr. McLeavy Brown, Financial Adviser and Chief of the Customs, and to appoint a Russian, M. Alexieff, in his place.

MR. ARAKAWA YOSHITARO, Secretary of the Kanagawa Prefectural Office; Mr. Hara Zenzaburo of Yokohama and twelve others have been appointed to organize the proposed Kanagawa Ken Agricultural and Industrial Bank.

THE British steamer *Breconshire*, which arrived in Yokohama on the 30th ult. from New York, is reported to have gone aground near Uraga, Sagami Province, at dawn on the 30th, but floated off about 2 p.m., without sustaining any damage.

NEGOTIATIONS are going on between the Kanagawa Kencho and Mr. Takashima Kayemon, of Kanagawa, with regard to the removal of the fish-and-vegetable market at Minatocho, Yokohama, which has been established there during the past ten years.

THE Cabinet of Japan is just now passing through a political crisis, the Progressionists having severed their connection with the Government. A number of Progressionist officials have resigned or been dismissed, and Count Okuma, Foreign Minister, has tendered his resignation.

THE Emperor's Birthday, the 3rd inst., was favoured with the most delightful weather imaginable, and was taken advantage of by a very large proportion of the foreign community for a day's outing. The town was gay with bunting. There was no official celebration, the Court still being in mourning.

THE Import market remains very stagnant, nothing at all being done in cotton piece goods or woollens, and very little in yarns. The cause of the general falling off of business during the past month or two is attributed, by vernacular papers, to an anticipation on the part of Japanese dealers and merchants that after the gold metallic standard was introduced, in October, there would be a general fall in prices of commodities generally. Under these circumstances merchants withheld from buying, except for immediate wants. But it has now been discovered that the effect of the change in the monetary standard has not been as expected, and prices are still appreciating. With regard to the business in yarns, one of the principal causes of the falling off of business, is the lowering price of American raw cotton, which enables the local spinning mills to compete more successfully with imported yarns. The cause first mentioned has affected the business in metals and kerosene, which has been very slack during the past week. Another reason has been the increased rates of interest on loans demanded by the banks. Exports have also declined considerably. The silk market has been quiet and little business has been done, while transactions in tea have been reduced considerably. The stock in the market is small, and the producing districts have been almost depleted. The season is finishing earlier than usual, but has been a good one for producers and dealers. Exchange has slightly improved, in sympathy with the rise in the price of silver bullion in London and New York.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to some one; that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 6TH, 1897.

BIRTHS.

On the 14th Oct., at the Peak, Hongkong, the wife of HAROLD BAXTER, of a son.

At Foochow, on the 17th Oct., the wife of WILLIAM GRAHAM, of a daughter.

On the 25th Oct., at Shanghai, No. 1, Nanking Road the wife of PAUL ZURN, of a son.

At Wuhu, on the 22nd of October, the wife of Dr. EDGERTON H. HART, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 28th of October, 1897, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, Shanghai, by Sir Nicholas J. Hennen, and afterwards at the Masonic Hall, by the Rev. Samuel Dyer, B.A., PAUL O'BRIEN EDWARD TWIGG to ALLEN ADRIAN JESSUP-CLARK.

On the 28th October, 1897, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, Shanghai, by Sir Nicholas J. Hennen, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., HERBERT ALFRED JOHN, second son of the Rev. W. D. MACHAY, Ducklington, Oxon, to MARGARET ANN, third daughter of the late Neil Sinclair, Esq., Glasgow.

On the 27th of October, 1897, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General Shanghai by Sir Nicholas J. Hennen, and afterwards at Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., Dr. W. A. DUNCAN COOPER, eldest son of the late William Cooper, A.M.I.C.E.P. & O.S.N. Co., to JEANNIE PRENTICE LAW, eldest daughter of the late Alexander Law, Shanghai.

On the 9th October, 1897, at H.B.M. Consulate, Amoy, before C. T. Gardner, Esq., C.M.G., H.B.M. Consul, and subsequently at the Union Church, by Rev. G. R. Vallings, Chaplain to H.M.'s Forces, Hongkong, TOM GRAVENS GOWLAND, eldest son of THOMAS GOWLAND, Newtown House, Rathgar, Dublin, to CORA MIM SAUNDERS, fourth daughter of JOHN CORNISH SAUNDERS, Amoy.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

It may easily be supposed that the friction now prevailing in political circles occupies a large share of journalistic attention. The *Fiji Shimpō*, which recently surprised the public by abandoning its wonted attitude of neutrality and attacking the Cabinet in measured but severe terms, now urges the advisability of a compromise between the Progressionists and the Ministry. It is not to be denied that the former have much justification for the impatience they display. Numerous mistakes have to be laid to the Cabinet's discredit and the apprehensions of the Progressionists that their popularity will be forfeited if they maintain their association with the authors of such blunders, can not be called unreasonable. On the other hand, Progressionists themselves have shown a conspicuous want of tact. They have preferred demands couched in such a form that the Ministers of the Crown can not possibly concede them publicly. They have insisted, for example, that the "foreign elements" should be eliminated from the Cabinet, a demand which amounts to dictating the composition of the Ministry. They have forgotten that there are conditions by which the Government itself has to be guided, and they have failed to perceive that any Cabinet acceding to the demands which they have so peremptorily formulated, would forfeit all dignity in the eyes of the nation. This is not the time to press an inquiry as to whether the administration is to be conducted in accordance with the will of the people or in accordance with the independent resolves of the Ministry. It must be assumed that the Progressionists settled that point when they agreed to support the present Cabinet. What they have now to consider is the result of adhering to their extreme attitude. Nothing is easier for them than to sever their connexion with the Cabinet, and revert to their familiar rôle of opposition. Would there be anything gained by such a step? On the contrary, would not the issue be heavy sacrifices without any compensations? The Progressionists can not hide from themselves that they have secured a substantial part of the advantages for which they fought in former days. They have obtained a practical admission of the fact that relations of intimacy between the Cabinet and political parties are necessary to the successful conduct of administrative affairs. They have, moreover, succeeded in getting their own partisans admitted to official positions of trust where their voices are heard in the councils of State. If they abandon those achievements, in a moment of hasty resentment, will they not invest all political alliances with a distinctly deterrent aspect for the present Cabinet, or for any future Cabinet? No Ministry can twist and turn so as to catch every breeze of popular caprice. The Government, having just admitted one set of politicians into its ranks, can not push them out at a moment's notice, and replace them by a different set. Neither can it go abroad seeking new allies to serve in place of those by whom it has been so incontinently abandoned. The Progressionists must recognise that if they are to work efficiently with any Cabinet, they have to stand or fall with it. They can not take up a Ministry to-day and cast it off to-morrow. Compromise is their only course at present. The alliance of the Cabinet is just as important to them as is their support to the Cabinet. They must not drive their ally into an impossible position or force it to adopt a course that would fatally weaken it by impairing its dignity.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* indulges in a little sarcasm. The world has been accustomed, it says, to seeing a Cabinet's policy traversed and its mistakes censured by the Opposition, but the Progressionists have furnished a new spectacle: They have shown us a Cabinet assailed by its own allies. The most hard-hearted observer can not but feel pained for a Ministry placed in such a predicament. As for the conduct of the Progressionists, the *Nichi Nichi* condemns it heartily. The public has been told that the representations made

by the Progressionists to the Cabinet were vague in character. On the contrary, nothing could be more explicit. They have demanded the removal of a certain group of Ministers. They have demanded that the Budget for next year should be re-considered, the plain alternative being that they will not pass it in its present form. They have demanded that the affairs of the Audit Board and of Judge Takano be properly dealt with, and they have condemned, in sweeping terms, the administration of Formosa. Nothing could be plainer than all this. But it is equally noticeable that not a word of complaint has been formulated with reference to foreign affairs, though the nation is agreed that great mistakes have been committed in that field. Of course the reason of such reticence is plain enough. The *Nichi Nichi*, after roundly denouncing the strange construction put by the Progressionists on the duty of allies, proceeds to lay bare what it regards as the real basis of the trouble, namely, dishonest tampering with members of the Diet last session. It attributes that corrupt proceeding entirely to the Satsuma Ministers, and says that having now secured the support of a number of disgraced politicians whom no sound party would be willing to readmit to its ranks, the Satsuma men are employing them as a kind of buffer against the assaults of their enemies, the Progressionists. The latter, too, are apparently so blind to the dictates of integrity that they are holding converse with the *Kodo Kai*, and seeking to secure the new party's cooperation. In short, the spirit of the *Nichi Nichi's* article is much more hostile to the Satsuma element of the Cabinet than to the Progressionists, a significant fact.

The *Mainichi* calls upon the Cabinet to adopt some definite decision. It sums up the situation thus:—On one side are Count Okuma and the Progressionists; on the other, Count Kabayama with Viscount Takashima in an attitude of rivalry; Marquis Saigō is playing the part of a mediator; Mr. Kioura, the Minister of Justice, stands between the two parties, neither specially respected nor specially disliked; Marquis Hachisuka and Viscount Nomura are almost outsiders, being regarded more or less as make-weights, and not entrusted with administrative secrets. The *Mainichi* does not assert that Count Okuma leads the Progressionists. Its representation of his relations with that Party is that, since the latter includes many political friends and fellow-thinkers of the former, it naturally results that the views advocated by Count Okuma from his seat in the Cabinet are endorsed by the Progressionists from their place outside. The relationship is, however, mistaken and misrepresented by a section of the public, who persist in thinking that Count Okuma uses the Progressionists as an instrument for forcing his own views on the Cabinet. As for the attitude of the Progressionists towards Viscount Takashima, it was never good, and of late the Viscount has come to be associated in their eyes with Counts Matsukata and Kabayama. The two latter naturally resent this unfriendliness, and the Progressionists, on their side, alleging that Count Matsukata and Kabayama have violated their engagements to the Party, openly describe them as breakers of their word (*Shokugen sha*). Viscount Takashima, also, has grown more and more distrustful of Count Okuma. In this way two opposing sections have arisen, the Progressionists and the Satsuma clique, and not only official appointments but also administrative acts are subject to their wranglings and rivalries. It is that evident the only exit from such a state of affairs is an agreement among the members of the Cabinet—an agreement to agree or an agreement to differ. They must know very well where the grounds of their dissensions lie. Let them be perfectly plain with one another. When all is said and done, the Government reflects the nation. These bickerings and squabbles, petty clouds as they are on the political horizon, can not fail to impair the national reputation. Whatever sacrifice of allies outside officialdom or of friends within may be entailed, it is necessary

that some definite line of function or cleavage should be struck out by the Ministry. If both parties can not work together, let one retire and the other put its fate to the test of practice.

The *Nippon* reviews the history of the Cabinet. It says that the foundations were essentially built with materials from Satsuma, and that no other materials would have been used for the superstructure, had that been possible. There was an absolute necessity, however, to go beyond the Satsuma politicians, and Count Okuma was accordingly invited to join. Count Okuma formulated his conditions, and they were accepted. That they provoked some opposition can not be doubted; but it was smothered, and an alliance was achieved. Then the Progressionists were taken into the combination. They, too, had their terms, and these being accepted by Count Matsukata and guaranteed by his association with Count Okuma, the Progressionists were content. At that stage a firm basis of administration seemed to have been achieved. But the stability of the situation suffered when the influence of Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima made itself felt. Agreement between them and the Progressionists could scarcely be permanent. Then ensued another injurious step. The remaining three portfolios were given to relics of the Chōshū party. The Satsuma men may have intended that these Chōshū elements should serve as a check upon Count Okuma, but in that expectation they were disappointed. At all events, Count Okuma found himself wedged between two coteries, each more or less antagonistic to the other, and both distrustful of him, while the Progressionists found themselves in alliance with a Cabinet restrained in the performance of its pledges by the jealousy of some of the Satsuma Ministers, and weakened by the inertia of the Chōshū. The Progressionists naturally had no course to follow except to look to Counts Matsukata and Okuma for the fulfilment of their promises, and Count Okuma had only to look to Count Matsukata. But Count Matsukata was constantly drawn in another direction by his Satsuma affinities, and thus, finally, a crisis has been precipitated. Many people imagine that the solution rests with Count Matsukata. That is not the *Nippon's* opinion. It thinks that everything depends on Count Okuma. The Progressionists are not under Count Okuma's control. If he throws in his lot with them on the present occasion, they will hereafter support him. But if he abandons them, they will work without him. It is for him, then, to determine what issue the crisis will have. The *Nippon* estimates that should Count Okuma leave the Cabinet and should the Progressionists' support be thus lost to the latter, the Ministry can still get together about a hundred followers in the Diet, by means of the *Kodo-kai*, a section of the Progressionists, the *Kimishū* clique and others. But it will be perceived that the *Nippon* views the situation solely from the side of party politics and the Diet. It does not appear to recognise any other considerable potentialities.

The *Kokumin* strongly urges the Cabinet to stand firm. It maintains that the dignity of the Government is concerned, and that a ministry which allows itself to be pulled this way and that by party politicians can not hope to command the confidence of the nation. Count Matsukata promised the Diet last session that he would carry out his own policy by the time the Houses met again. Let him keep his promise resolutely. The proposed increase of taxation is an absolute necessity. The country's position demands it. The Government as well as the people have pledged themselves to a programme of military and naval expansion and productive development. They must not shrink from carrying it into practice. If the general appreciation of prices has the effect of making the programme more costly than the original estimate, that is not a sufficient reason to draw back. The Cabinet should boldly pursue the line of policy that seems to be dictated by the interests of the nation, and should appeal to the country if

embarrassing opposition is organized by a political party.

The *Shogyo Shimpō* declares that it is now too late to talk of revising next year's Budget. That revision might be undertaken with advantage if time permitted, our contemporary does not deny. On the contrary, it asserts very emphatically that the estimates include enterprises not of a pressing nature and expenditures which might properly be dispensed with. But the state of vacillation and uncertainty that exists at present is intolerable. The Government ought to go ahead, present its Budget to the Diet, and, at the same time, devote serious attention to curtailment and economy. As for increased taxation, the country is well able to support it, but if the taxes are increased for needless or ill-advised purposes, the people may justly complain. The article is not very conclusive.

HIGHER COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

It goes without saying that national wealth and prosperity are the fruits of commerce and industry, and that to a nation whose ambition it is to play no mean part in the world's arena, commercial education is of prime importance. As one of the results of the *post-bellum* activity, commercial schools throughout the land have recently shown marked progress. That is especially true of the Higher Commercial School, where several new features have been introduced. One of these is the establishment of a School of Foreign Languages, with a faculty consisting of ten Japanese and seven foreign professors. Already the public have eagerly availed themselves of the opportunity thus offered them, more applications having been sent in than the school has room to receive. Another feature is the creation of a new course—the Professional Department—open to post-graduates—the object of which is mainly to train them for the Consular and Diplomatic services. More advanced courses of lectures are given here in Civil and Commercial Law, Political Economy, International Law, etc., besides further instruction in two foreign languages.

Much attention is paid in the school to the cultivation of a healthy moral tone and sound business principles. The students' association, organized with the hearty support and co-operation of the Director and Professors, holds its meetings occasionally to hear some prominent persons speak. At its last meeting Mr. Shimada Saburo, M.P. favoured them with an address on the necessity of commercial education and the study of foreign languages, as being the most powerful weapons in the peaceful warfare to be carried on in future both at home and abroad. The Director, Mr. Koyama, spoke on the cultivation of good manners and exemplary behaviour as the expression of refined sentiments, not incompatible, as is falsely believed, with true courage and fortitude. The speeches by the representatives of different classes were all filled with characteristic sentiments dealing with the responsibilities resting on their shoulders as the future leaders of their nationals in the field of commerce, deploring the low moral status and the ignorance of business methods and principles of the present-day merchants, etc. The meeting was entertained by the famous story-teller En-yū and the ever-favourite *Satsuma-biwa*, whose martial and historical lyrics, like the songs of rhapsodists or troubadours, seem to set the heart-strings of these sons of Yamato vibrating with all the ardour of patriotism and self-devotion. The school boasts of the most cosmopolitan set of men in the whole land. The following is the list of the names of foreign professors, except the Spanish professor, who is expected to arrive soon: English—Profs. A. Hare, E. Foxwell, R. McKerrrow; French—Profs. P. Jaconlet, F. Troubuois; Belgian—Prof. E. J. Blockhuys; German—Prof. E. Reimann; Russian—Prof. W. Fomenko; Italian—Prof. E. Binda; Chinese—Profs. K. Chin, T. Chang; Korean—Prof. S. Goh.

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for September, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1896.	1897.
	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	8,008,993.330	12,994,102.750
Imports	15,815,183.310	18,254,645.880
Total exports and imports	23,824,176.640	31,248,748.630
Excess of imports	7,806,190.280	5,260,543.130
CUSTOMS DUTIES.		
Exports	232,814.864	427,163.324
Imports	427,163.324	21,359.875
Miscellaneous	—	—
Total	660,000.000	681,338.066

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
British India	497,530,680	3,738,470,060	4,235,999,740
China	2,316,885,010	1,718,738,180	4,035,623,190
Hongkong	4,653,353.880	840,881.320	5,494,235.200
Korea	481,000.000	670,688.000	1,151,688.000
Russian Asia	89,735.700	330,593.860	420,329.560
Annam & other French	—	—	—
India	3,006,000	233,196,760	236,202,760
Philippine Islands	16,978.140	90,251.720	107,229.860
Siam	175,000	14,541.040	14,716.040
Great Britain	566,736.560	3,867,917,040	4,434,653,600
France	1,709,488.700	311,309,400	2,020,798.100
Germany	120,117,000	1,811,091,150	1,931,208,150
Belgium	10,728.080	3,800,460	3,811,188.080
Italy	244,164.180	36,435.110	280,599.290
Switzerland	84,189.100	158,000.300	242,189.400
Spain	25,000	18,544.060	18,569.060
Holland	8,271.710	1,911,840	1,920,111.710
Sweden and Norway	412.880	18,019.120	18,432.000
Russia	4,819,000	7,451,470	12,270,470
Austria	35,000	6,145,980	6,180,980
Denmark	3,028.110	34,000	37,028.110
Portugal	—	2,123,060	2,123,060
Turkey	500,000	37,540	537,540
United States of America	4,370,987,730	1,799,057,130	6,170,044,860
Canada and other British America	186,113.870	8,598.470	194,712.340
Australia	309,438.800	96,079,000	305,517,800
Hawaii	25,000	84,000	109,000
Other Countries	80,957.460	303,013.400	383,970.860
Total	12,674,471.750	18,254,645.880	30,929,117.630

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	8,416,850.770	7,858,230.420	16,275,081.190
Kobe	8,005,246.370	9,000,061.300	17,005,307.670
Osaka	213,180.750	258,594.940	471,775.690
Nagasaki	437,437.170	81,021.500	518,458.670
Hakodate	120,047.130	68,300.457	188,347.587
Niigata	4,453.310	1,308.050	5,761.360
Shimonoseki	189,216.960	189,013.000	378,230.960
Mojiri	177,068.000	—	177,068.000
Hokkaido	71,000	7,380.700	7,451.700
Karatsu	85,557.700	2,308.460	87,866.160
Kuchinotsu	288,134.500	36,193.480	324,327.980
Izumi	7,165.750	21,028.960	28,194.710
Shishimi	2,055.840	5,153.340	7,209.180
Sasano	6,610.780	880.300	7,491.080
Hamada	48,000	—	48,000
Sakai	741.330	3,763.880	4,505.210
Fushiki	—	1,398.700	1,398.700
Muroran	79,167.150	—	79,167.150
Otaru	79,545.590	—	79,545.590

Specie and Bullion

{ Exports	194,957.820
{ Imports	4,017,374.630

Total

4,212,332.450

Excess of imports

3,822,416.810

By Japanese Merchants { Exports

3,724,363.500

{ Imports

7,283,633.990

Imported by Government

133,150.510

VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED AND IMPORTED EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
January	12,848,712.020	13,321,323.780	26,170,035.800
February	11,088,703.420	13,188,888.490	24,277,591.910
March	14,081,469.770	17,190,093.800	31,271,563.570
April	12,555,433.430	18,103,549.910	30,658,983.340
May	14,526,743.860	18,354,015.100	32,880,758.960
June	11,088,901.650	16,499,099.310	27,587,999.960
July	20,636.310	17,400,099.350	17,420,735.660
August	14,606,931.750	18,518,279.770	33,125,211.520
September	12,994,102.750	18,254,645.880	31,248,748.630
Total	123,308,821.060	157,344,449.440	280,653,270.500

MR. TAKANO.

Rumours were circulated on Saturday to the effect that Mr. Takano, having persisted in maintaining his judicial position in Formosa, had been arrested by the police. Such was not the case, according to official information. It is true that Mr. Takano, in spite of the receipt of several orders to quit the Court of which he had been presiding Judge, persisted in remaining there, and that a posse of police, under the command of Mr. Isobe, Chief of the Taipei Police, finally proceeded to the Court, and intimated that unless the orders of the Governor-General were complied with, they should have to remove Mr. Takano by force. He then yielded, and quietly left the Court. The telegram adds that he will leave the island for Tokyo on the 3rd instant.

THE TREATY BETWEEN JAPAN AND PORTUGAL.

The Revised Treaty between Japan and Portugal has been published in the *Official Gazette*. It presents no novel feature, but the first article of the protocol provides that, one month after the exchange of ratifications, the General Tariff may become applicable to Portuguese goods imported into Japan, except in the case of twenty-two special products for which most-favoured-nation treatment is secured. These products are:—

TABLE B.

PRODUITS PORTUGAIS QUI JOUIRONT DU TRAITEMENT DE LA NATION LA PLUS FAVORISÉE À LEUR IMPORTATION AU JAPON.

NOTE.—Cette table s'applique non seulement aux produits de la métropole, mais également aux produits des colonies respectives, exportés de la métropole et la Macau.

Cacao en fèves et écale de cacao brut.
Café brut en fèves.
Candelles et bougies.
Chapeaux, y compris les chapeaux de feutre.
Cuirs de toute sorte.
Dentelles de toute sorte, en lin ou coton.
Fruits et baies : frais, salés, séchés, en saumure, sucrés ou préparés à l'huile ou au vinaigre, même en récipients de verre, de terre cuite, de fer blanc, ou autres hermétiquement fermés.
Huiles végétales (huiles d'olives, d'arachides, de sésame, de coco et de palme).
Huiles minérales.
Légumes non préparés ou en conserve.
Liège ouvré.
Ouvrages en métaux.
Ouvrages en tissus de coton, de laine ou de lin.
Ouvrages en cuirs.
Plomb en saumons, lingots et plaques.
Poissons marins, à l'huile, en récipients hermétiquement fermés.
Savons.
Sels de quinine.
Sucre.
Tissus de laine, de lin et de coton.
Verres à vitres.
Vins de toute espèce en fûts, barils ou bouteilles, quel que soit leur tirage alcoolique.

UNRAVELLING THE POONA TRAGEDY.

A Bombay telegram, dated 4th October says:—The man who has been arrested for the Poona murder is Damoder Chapkar, aged 28. He has had a most remarkable career, and confesses to having daubed the Queen's statue at Bombay a year ago. Concerning the Poona tragedy, he confesses that he had been seeking an opportunity to kill Mr. Rand for more than a month. On the night of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at Ganeshkhond, he followed Mr. Rand's carriage from Government House, accompanied by a confederate, who is still at large. When near a convenient and secluded spot he fired at Mr. Rand, while his companion shot Lieutenant Ayerst, because he happened to be near Mr. Rand's carriage and they were afraid he might intercept their flight. Their revolvers and swords were thrown into a well. The police having recovered these weapons, traced their owners. Damoder has incriminated a younger brother, who is now wanted by the police; and he is reported to have confessed that he was put up to execute the terrible deed by some wire-pullers.

THE "FUJI."

The new battle-ship *Fuji* arrived off Kannonzaki at daybreak on Sunday, and shortly after 7 a.m. anchored off the entrance to the harbour at Yokosuka. The naval port was crowded with visitors who had come from Tokyo and elsewhere overnight and filled all the hotels in the place. It had been intended that a fleet of steam launches and sampans should go outside the harbour to meet and welcome the battle-ship, but this portion of the reception had to be abandoned owing to the strong wind and heavy sea prevailing at that time. Later on, when the wind dropped a little, the *Fuji* was visited by hundreds of friends of the officers and crew, newspaper reporters, and sightseers generally.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*—which, of course, carries great weight at a time like the present—says that the Cabinet will not give any reply to the memorial of the Progressionists until the return of Marquis Saigo to the capital. It was the original intention of the Marquis to remain away until the 5th of November, but a telegram urging his speedy return has been despatched, and he is now expected to be back in a day or two. When he arrives the "Five Ministers"—Count Matsukata, Count Okuma, Count Kabayama, Marquis Saigo and Viscount Takashima—will hold a conference, and a reply will be given to the Progressionists through Baron Kusumoto. Meanwhile, it is alleged that, on the 25th instant, Marquis Ito and Counts Okuma and Matsukata met at Mr. Okura's villa at Mukojima, and discussed the situation—an incident that dispels any idea of strained relations between the leaders of the "ins" and "outs." As for the Progressionists, they are said to be split into two sections, of which one will be content to go on supporting the Cabinet if any form of compromise can be evolved, whereas the other will break away unless its demands are acceded to in full. Naturally the same rumour represents the Cabinet as seeking to turn the split to its own advantage. The *Kōdō Kai*, on their side, held a meeting on the 27th, and decided, it is alleged, to oppose the position taken by the Progressionists and to agitate for Count Okuma's retirement. The Japanese News Agency reports that, on the 26th instant, an anonymous letter reached Viscount Takashima, informing him that if Viscount Shinagawa were appointed Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Motoda Hajima made chief of the Legislative Bureau, the National Unionists *en masse* would support the Cabinet. Another rumour brings Baron Suyematsu upon the scene, and makes him say that the time is not ripe for anything like a union between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. There are three periods of peril for the present Cabinet, according to the Baron; one before the Diet, one while the Diet is in session, and one afterwards. The Chōshiu statesmen intend to look on quietly until, at one of those periods, the Cabinet falls to pieces. Then they will step in and assume the reins of power.

The meeting of the Progressionists held on the 31st instant to consider the memorandum received from Count Matsukata, addressed itself first to the question whether the memorandum called for any reply, and after a brief discussion a resolution advocating a reply was adopted. There were 26 leading members of the Party present. Baron Kusumoto, who presided, read out a form of reply, but the meeting did not approve it. Considerable controversy took place, and finally a draft prepared by Mr. Inugai and amended by Mr. Otake, was adopted. It runs as follows:—

Your Excellency—We have the honour to state that we profoundly regret the fact that the points submitted by us for your Excellency's consideration on the occasion of our recent visit, found their way to public knowledge. Still, secrecy or publication in such a case is nothing more than a matter of procedure. We venture to hope that your Excellency will not in consequence of such a trifling point of procedure, mistake the responsibilities devolving on you as a Minister. We have nothing further to say and we trust that your Excellency will appreciate our meaning.

This document, which certainly does not exceed in the direction of explicitness, was forwarded to the Prime Minister the same day, and in the afternoon the Progressionists met again to consider the question of maintaining or severing their connexion with the Cabinet. There appears to have been not a little discussion, but finally it was decided, by a majority of two or three, that the connexion should be severed. A committee of five—Messrs. Ozaki Yukio, Otake Kwaichii, Nakamura Yaroku, Shiba Shiro and Inagaki Ki—was elected to draw up a manifesto in that sense, with instructions to submit it to a meeting of the head-quarters on the 2nd instant, preparatory to laying it before a general meeting of the Party on the 4th. The meeting further debated whether any members of the Party holding official positions should be required to resign before the 4th, but the majority voted in favour of leaving that point to be decided by the individuals concerned.

It does not appear to be by any means certain that the general meeting on the 4th will endorse the decisions arrived at by the head-quarters' meeting on the 31st ultimo. Indeed, there was considerable dissension at the latter with regard to the question whether the head-quarters had competence to decide between severing and preserving the connexion with the Cabinet. Mr. Haseba and eleven others maintained that the head-quarters did not possess the necessary power, but fourteen votes were recorded against them, and they are said to be endeavouring to influence the members to reverse that decision at the general meeting.

The decision adopted by the Standing Committee of the Progressionists, in the sense of immediately severing connexion with the Cabinet, is challenged by members of the Party who do not belong to the Committee. As to the number of these malcontents, we have no information, but they have addressed to their fellow-members the following circular, which appears in the *Fiji Shimpō*:—"We presume that you are aware of the principal points of the resolution adopted by the Standing Committee of the Progressionist Party on the present occasion. We consider that resolution errs greatly on the side of precipitancy, and we can not endorse it. That the Party having associated itself with the Cabinet should from time to time urge its views and objects for the latter's acceptance, is a matter of course. But that, irrespective of the important steps to be taken in the eleventh session of the Diet, the standing Committee, merely because of the receipt of a single memorandum from Count Matsukata, should hold a meeting and decide to sever the Party's relations with the Cabinet, was a most hasty proceeding, in our opinion. A question of such gravity, affecting, as it does, the most vital interests of our Party, ought to be approached with the utmost circumspection. There is no occasion to come to any sudden decision about breaking with the Cabinet, though a resolve to establish relations with it had to be taken at brief notice. Our desire is that the decision should rest with a general meeting, not with the Standing Committee. If that method be not adopted, a suspicion is suggested that some special motive for haste exists. We, therefore, who do not belong to the standing Committee, adhere to our opinion that the

Party's course should be determined at the general meeting, and we trust that you will endorse our view."

With regard to the idea that a section of the Progressionists, under the leadership of Mr. Shimada Saburo, will break away from the Party and support the Cabinet, strong doubts are now expressed. It is admitted that Mr. Shimada has not always run smoothly in his present harness, but his definite secession is another affair. Meanwhile, the National Unionists seem inclined to follow the example of the Progressionists. They held a meeting on the 2nd instant—according to their organ, the *Chuo*—and passed a resolution that they "disapproved of the proceedings of the present Cabinet, and found them contrary to Constitutional principles and unsuited to national progress." They further decided to appoint a committee of seven for the purpose of determining the Party's policy.

It is worth noting one of the effects of putting party politicians into administrative posts. The business of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is now virtually at a stand-still owing to the resignations and removals of its controlling officials. It is without a Minister, without a Vice-Minister, without a Director of the Mining Bureau, without a Director of the Commercial Bureau, and without a Director of the Forestry Bureau.

Four of the "talents" were guilty of a slight oversight: they took part in the Progressionist meeting to denounce the conduct of the Government without previously resigning the offices they held under it. Instead of having the satisfaction of resigning of their own accord, they were consequently removed from their posts. These unlucky gentlemen were, Messrs. Ozaki, Minoura, Koizuka and Shiga: the first, a Councillor of the Foreign Office; the other three, Directors of Bureaux in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

THE REVISED TREATIES WITH FRANCE & AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The Revised Treaty with France was passed by the French Chamber of Deputies on the 28th instant, unanimously and without discussion. It appears that the Committee's report upon the Treaty was unreservedly favourable. We are therefore justified in assuming that the Senate's attitude will not differ from that of the Chamber. The delay in this matter, as we have more than once stated, was due simply to procedure. A certain routine had to be followed, and there does not appear to have been any special effort to expedite matters. But, on the other hand, there was no attempt to retard them. Last April, a rumour was circulated to the effect that the Committee charged with the duty of examining and reporting on the Treaty had raised objections with regard to the tenure of land. If such objections presented themselves to the Committee, they were never officially formulated. The French Government remained in ignorance of them; the Japanese Government never received any intimation of them either from its own Representative in Paris or from the French Authorities, and no reference was made to them when submitting the Treaty for the consideration of the Chamber of Deputies. In short, since the signing of the Treaty

no hint of a desire on France's part to modify its provisions has found official expression. We may add, here, that an agreement has been virtually reached with Austria-Hungary, and that the conclusion of the Revised Treaty in her case will probably be soon accomplished. As to its ratification, nothing can be certainly predicted, but there is a reasonable prospect of the whole business being finished by the end of the year.

Although the point is of small importance, there is a certain measure of amusement in recalling the wonderful stories that were formerly circulated in Yokohama about the French Treaty. Last April, the *Japan Gazette* published a sensational article denouncing the British negotiators and belauding the French. The former were described as "officials dressed in a little brief authority who acted with supercilious indifference to the claims of men whose future they were directing"; the latter as diplomats "whose wisdom might put Downing-street to the blush." The grounds of this crushing censure and ecstatic eulogy were clearly stated. "The Special Committee of the Senate," we were told, "did not understand why Japanese should be given the right to hold land in France if the French were not permitted to own land in Japan, and accordingly decided to have nothing to do with the Treaty unless the right were conferred. Count Okuma," the *Gazette* proceeded, "whose liberal views once nearly cost him his life, judiciously yielded the point, so that, thanks to a wise discrimination in Paris and an astute statesman in Tokyo, one of the worst drawbacks to the new Treaty was about to be removed." That was the story told by the *Japan Gazette*. The entire tale being a fiction, we denied it, but our self-confident contemporary "preferred to place credit in its informants' veracity to faith in the *Mails'* denials," and declared that time would demonstrate its accuracy. Time has played the *Japan Gazette* a scurvy trick in this instance. Indeed, the French Treaty has betrayed that journal into blunder after blunder, for in its issue of Saturday last it informed its readers, as an important item of news, that the Treaty had just been "signed," whereas the signature took place more than a year ago.

TOKYO CHIEF OF POLICE.

It is stated that the Administrative Reform Committee has decided to recommend the abolition of the office of Chief of Police in Tokyo, and to place the police under the control of the Municipality. The latter would then have a head office of police; the whole police force of the capital would be brought into one organization under the command of a superintendent general, and business of the higher police would be transferred to the Criminal Law Bureau in the Home Office. Such a change would be significant, for the relations between the Chief of the Tokyo Police and the Cabinet have always been a subject of criticism by political agitators. In the days when the Administration possessed and wielded the power of closely supervising public meetings and suspending or suppressing newspapers, the Chief of the Tokyo Police discharged important and somewhat invidious functions. But he has now been deprived of that part of his business, and might be abolished without much inconvenience.

NAGASAKI LAND QUESTION.

There appears to be considerable excitement in Nagasaki about a question of trifling importance as to its practical dimensions, but distinctly interesting as to the principle involved. Anyone acquainted with Nagasaki knows that the upper end of the harbour, the Deshima end, has long ceased to be an anchorage. It has silted up so that, at low water, there is only a bare and very unsavoury mud-bank to be seen and smelt, and even at high water, boats can not obtain access to the shore except by a river that runs down from the hill. It would be distinctly an improvement to the settlement were this mud-flat converted into dry land. When Mr. Kusaka was Governor of the place in 1886, he conceived an excellent scheme; namely, to deflect the course of the river so that it should run seaward *via* the back of Deshima, to fill in the fore-shore with the earth obtained from the cutting, and to convert the reclaimed land into a public garden. But it happens that a small portion of the settlement extends along the shore where the mud-bank has formed, and the occupiers of these lots strenuously objected to any work of reclamation that would deprive them of their sea frontage. The objection does not appear to have been very rational, for the so-called "sea front" was, as has been said, a mere mud-bank, covered with a few inches of water at high tide, and not capable of being employed at any time for purposes of maritime transport. Possibly the chief motive of the objection was to obtain compensation, but the Governor not being in a position to consider that phase of the matter, abandoned his design. Now, however, the question has again been brought upon the *tapis*. The inhabitants of Nagasaki—that is to say, the Japanese inhabitants, whose town lies entirely at the mud-bank end of the harbour—have definitely resolved to reclaim the unsightly fore-shore. But they have abandoned the idea of a public garden, and intend to use the reclaimed land for residential purposes. Thus the foreign land-renters in that part of the settlement are about to have streets and houses interposed between them and the shore, and in view of that alteration of the character of their frontage they demand compensation, which, however, the Japanese Authorities have declined to give, at least in the form of a money payment. It is officially admitted, of course, that after the projected improvements have been effected, the lots in question will cease to be frontage lots, and that, consequently, instead of being liable to a rent of 35 *yen* per 100 *tsubo*, as at present, they will be liable for the rent of rearage lots only, namely, 28 *yen*; but beyond that no compensation is to be given. The land-renters, on their side, claim that they are entitled to substantial compensation, and consider that they are very hardly used. It is difficult to see, however, that any legal claim exists. Foreign land-renters in Nagasaki are specially circumstanced. They originally acquired their holdings without making any disbursement, and subject only to the condition of paying rent. We speak of the foreigner *vis-à-vis* the Japanese. Some residents have doubtless paid substantial compensation to the previous holders of the lots they occupy, but that is a matter between foreigner and foreigner. In Nagasaki, too, such transfers have prob-

ably been inexpensive, for the trade of the place has never largely developed, and a considerable portion of the land set apart in 1860 for foreign use, remains to this day unoccupied. In connexion with that point a curious fact may be noted. The Japanese owners of the unoccupied lots, not being at liberty to employ them for their own residential or commercial purposes—since the lands lay within the limits of the settlement—and failing to find foreign tenants, were nevertheless required to pay the land tax year after year. Not until 1885 was the Central Government induced to redress this injustice. A large sum—four hundred and thirty thousand *yen*, if we remember aright—was then disbursed by the Treasury to the Japanese owners, and the lots passed finally into the possession of the State. However, that has no direct bearing on the question now agitating Nagasaki. The two points to be considered are, first, that the foreign land-holder has not purchased his holding, but simply rents it; and secondly, that the nature of its frontage is not mentioned in the body of his certificate of title. It is mentioned in the preamble, where the words "a frontage lot," "a rearage lot" or "a hill lot" occur, but such mention is held to be merely for the purpose of rent classification; it does not confer any right to a permanent sea-front, for which no consideration has been given. If the land-renters affected by the project were losing a genuine sea-front, they would certainly deserve commiseration. But as they are losing a mud-bank only their case does not seem very hard. They must regret Governor Kusaka's garden scheme, however, and so do we for their sakes as well as in Nagasaki's interests.

An article in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* with reference to the question of harbour improvement and sea-front lots in Nagasaki, is couched in terms which convey the impression that a section of the foreign residents at that port are opposing an enterprise calculated to be of general benefit. It would be regrettable that such an erroneous idea should obtain credence among the Japanese. There is not, so far as we can gather, the smallest disposition on the part of the foreign residents to obstruct the contemplated improvement. On the contrary, the *Nagasaki Press* alludes to it with satisfaction and says that foreigners wish all success to the work. But it happens very frequently that the interests of individuals and the interests of the community at large are not identical. Some of the owners of shore lots, whose holdings will lose their sea-frontage by the projected changes, may justly object to the resulting depreciation of their property, and it is plain that such persons have a right to look for compensation provided that no special circumstances invalidate their claim. Their assertion of their individual interests, in itself a perfectly proper and natural course, constitutes no index of an obstructive sentiment on the part of the community at large. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says:—"The plan can not be changed now simply because it encounters objections on the part of foreigners." There is certainly no idea on the foreign side of pressing for a change of plan. But just as in Tokyo where water-works are now being constructed, citizens whose properties suffer invasion or other injury, have a fair title to com-

pensation although the general benefit conferred by the enterprise can not be doubted, so in Nagasaki when sea-front lots are converted into rearage lots for the sake of harbour improvement, the owners may have just ground for demanding some consideration. We do not say that they have such a right. It would be rash to pronounce any opinion about a question depending largely on details with which we are not familiar. A legal right does not exist, so far as we can see, but a moral right may exist in special cases. The certificate of title, as prescribed by the Treaty, contains no reference to the nature of the lots except in the preamble, but we are assured that in the case of some of the lots a more explicit form of title is in the possession of their holders. That fact belongs to a special class of considerations varying with each case. It appears, also, that so far as British subjects are concerned, no definite demand for compensation has yet been formulated. The point is of small moment, however, since official representations have certainly been made in the interests of the land owners at the Deshima end of the Settlement, and such representations can, of course, have only one meaning. We were mistaken, however, in saying that compensation had been refused by the Japanese. It appears that no final decision has yet been announced.

An interesting point is raised, we understand, with reference to the question of harbour improvements in Nagasaki. The Treaties contain an article providing that "the place which the subjects or citizens of the Foreign Powers shall occupy for their buildings, and the harbour regulations, shall be arranged by the Consuls and the Japanese Authorities of each place, and if they can not agree, the matter shall be referred to, and settled by, the Diplomatic Agents and the Japanese Government." It is contended that this article confers on the Foreign Consuls and Representatives not merely a voice in the original selection of sites for foreign settlements, but also a right to be consulted about any changes that may subsequently be contemplated in the topography of the sites. There is no difficulty in conceiving a situation where the application of that principle would be a practical necessity. If, for example, the owner of an estate having agreed to set aside a certain part of it for the residences of tenants, should subsequently desire to make an alteration in the facilities of communication enjoyed by the chosen locality, the duty of first consulting with the tenants would certainly devolve on him. But it must be exceedingly difficult to fix the limits within which such a principle is practically applicable. Neither, indeed, does there seem to be much occasion for examining whether the conditions of the Nagasaki case bring it within the range of the principle. The Japanese Government would very readily admit, we presume, quite independently of the Nagasaki incident, that it has no competence to arbitrarily alter the environment of a foreign settlement so as to deprive the place of any of the advantages on account of which it was originally chosen as a settlement, and an admission in that sense ought to be entirely satisfactory from the point of view of the foreigners. We can not, for our own part, perceive that grounds exist for any serious apprehension. All the actions

hitherto taken by the Japanese Authorities towards the foreign settlements has been loyal and liberal. Kobe has been supplied with wharves, Yokohama with water works, piers, and a public garden. There ought not to be any fear of acts dictated by a different spirit. The programme contemplated with regard to Nagasaki, also, is admitted to be in the nature of an improvement to the settlement in general, so that the occasion is not altogether propitious for raising the question of the Treaty's scope. Still, we do not venture to take up any hard-and-fast position in a matter so delicate. We appreciate the spirit that prompts jealous conservation of Treaty privileges, though we can not believe that they are in danger of being infringed.

SITUATION IN KOREA.

Our advices from Korea indicate that, whatever may be the sentiment in this country, the foreign residents in Söul consider themselves to be in the presence of something very like a crisis. We are always most unwilling to lend our columns for the circulation of any matter calculated to embitter international feeling, but too much reticence may prove as mischievous as exaggeration, and we shall therefore reproduce the statements of a correspondent, who writes from Söul, under date of October 26th:—"Ever since the arrival of the present Russian Representative in Söul, it has seemed to be his policy to ride rough-shod over anything that is not distinctly and declaredly Russo-philic. The Koreans have been overawed and overpowered by him. The recent extensive Cabinet changes were a direct result of his dictation: such, at any rate, is the general belief here. He has himself made a number of avowals which I am not disposed to repeat. This campaign has now drawn the English into the arena. Mr. McLeavy Brown is at the head of the Customs, and holds, also, the post of Adviser to the Finance Department. He has been most successful in both offices. There is not so much as a whisper against his official competence or his economical ability. He is the strongest bulwark of British interests in Korea, and he enjoys the confidence of the Korean nation. That he has enemies is inevitable, for one result of his drastic reforms and administrative talents is that every one desiring to "have a pull" at the Treasury is detected and defeated. His value is appreciated, for a Korean assured me, only a few days ago, that ninety out of every hundred Koreans want Mr. Brown to remain where he is. In this position, the duties of which Mr. Brown has so admirably and beneficially employed, the Russians desire, not without reason, to place one of their own people. At the request of the Korean Minister in St. Petersburg, Mr. Alexieff was invited to take the post of Financial Adviser in Söul. He arrived here at the beginning of this month, ready, of course, to go to work at once. The Russian Representative asked the Finance Department whether they were prepared to have the new Adviser enter upon his duties. The Department replied that Mr. McLeavy Brown was occupying the position of Adviser under a contract not yet expired. Thereupon the Russian Representative promptly and vigorously showed his hand. With the present incumbent of

the office, he said, he had no concern. At the request of the Korean Representative in St. Petersburg Mr. Alexieff had come out, and the engagement must be implemented. The reply of the Korean Government was that Mr. Brown acted as Adviser under royal edict, and that he could not be thrust aside. It is reported, that, on receipt of this answer, the Russian Representative demanded an audience with the King within twenty-four hours. At all events, he had an audience yesterday (October 25th), at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Of course the public does not know exactly what passed between the Monarch and his visitor. But it is affirmed that the British Consul-General to-day received from the Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs a despatch announcing that Mr. Brown's services would no longer be required as Financial Adviser and Chief Commissioner of Customs. That is a direct blow between England's eyes. If she allows Mr. Brown to be kicked out in this unceremonious, nay brutal, fashion, *adieu* to her influence in Korea! The sentiment of the foreign community here is overwhelmingly in favour of the retention of Mr. Brown, and there is an almost universal hope that England will show fight. Great confidence is placed in the British Consul-General, Mr. Jordan, but the result is awaited with deep interest and no little anxiety. If the finance and the customs pass out of British control, and if the Russians are suffered to overpower the Koreans as they have been doing for the past month, then assuredly the next attack will be made on the pen, which is in the hands of Americans. It has, in fact, been already announced that freedom of pen will have to be denied to natives. What seems strange to many of us here is the silence of the Japanese. Apparently they do not know that anything unusual is going on. Yet, at the same time, the Government in Tokyo gets the credit of being wide-awake. Under the circumstances, it is surely not an exaggeration to conclude that the independence—the nominal independence—of Korea is in the balance, and that she will emerge from the present complications either a Russian province in fact, if not in name, or more independent than she is now. Her friends hope for the best, but it would be false to say that they are not anxious."

We suppose that all Englishmen reading the above—which, we may observe, is not written by a British subject—will feel thoroughly indignant. "By what right," they will ask, "does Russia browbeat Korea into dispensing with the services of British subjects who have proved themselves good men, and whose title to the positions they occupy rests upon established merits? Such action is entirely new in the history of Western intercourse with Eastern countries. There is not a single instance on record of a British Minister's having interfered to procure the displacement of a Russian subject, or of a German subject, or of any other non-British subject, from an office held by him under an Oriental Government in order that a British subject might be thrust into his post. We are proud to think that there are no instances of the kind, and we deem it intolerable that British subjects should be the victims of any such procedure at Russia's hands." That is doubtless what our British readers will say, and what we ourselves say. But the difficulty of being calm under the circumstances renders it all the more necessary to scrutinize them

closely. We must try to look at the situation from Russia's point of view. The Korean Representative in St. Petersburg applied officially to the Russian Government for a financial adviser, and the Russian Government sent out Mr. Alexieff. Did the Representative act on his own responsibility, or did he act under instructions from the Government in Söul? If the former, then nothing could have been simpler for the Korean Government than to disavow the Minister's action, compensate Mr. Alexieff and bow him out. But of course the Minister had his instructions from Söul, and equally of course the Government in Söul must have known long ago that Mr. Alexieff had been chosen and that he would soon be on his way to the East. Now if—as we must assume—Russia was in direct communication with the Korean Cabinet throughout the whole affair, it would certainly be most unreasonable to expect that she should consent to be thrown over at the eleventh hour; that she should tamely submit to have Mr. Alexieff's services rejected on grounds which had existed at the time when he was originally applied for, and which, therefore, did not concern Russia at all in the *finale*. Thus considered, the action taken by Mr. de Speyer after Mr. Alexieff's arrival in Söul seems to have been more or less unavoidable, and certainly Mr. de Speyer is the last man to be wittingly guilty of an international discourtesy. So then we come to the question—how was the Korean Government induced to send such instructions to its Representative in Korea? Are we to conclude that Mr. de Speyer's predecessor urged the Korean Government to displace Mr. McLeavy Brown in favour of a Russian, and that the scheme was carefully concealed from outsiders, as well as from Mr. Brown himself, until it had so far matured as to render retreat apparently impossible for Korea? If that is what happened, Englishmen have indeed a right to be angry. We do not know what to think. Russia always gets credit for clever diplomacy, and such diplomacy would be anything but clever. When it was announced that she contemplated sending out a *mission militaire* of dimensions sufficient to constitute in itself a respectable force, we ventured to doubt the rumour solely on the ground that extravagances of that kind were calculated to defeat their object, and were out of harmony with Russian diplomacy. This affair of the financial adviser seems to belong to the same category, and it will be as well for us all to keep our tempers until we are quite sure that there is cause to lose them.

FOREIGN JOURNALS IN JAPAN.

As to the fate awaiting foreign journals in Japan after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, we have had some very strong opinions expressed. We have been told that because a measure of purely domestic character contains a clause restricting to Japanese subjects the privilege of publishing or printing newspapers, therefore it is the evident purpose of Japanese legislators to put an end to the existence of foreign local journals so soon as ever the Revised Treaties go into operation. But instead of thus attempting to infer the future intentions of the Japanese from negative evidence of a vague and inconclusive nature, it is surely wiser to consider the

facts that we have actually before our eyes. For example, if the restrictive clause of the Japanese Press Law were aimed at prohibiting foreign journalism in Japan, what has there been to prevent the Japanese Authorities from putting the veto into force at any time during the past fifteen years? If the publication of foreign local journals is illegal, then the Japanese subjects engaged in printing them are violating the law, and the Authorities might order them all to abandon the work. There would be no redress for the foreign proprietor. According to the Treaties he is entitled to employ Japanese in lawful capacities, but if the publication of a foreign local journal be not a lawful occupation according to Japanese ordinances, then no foreigner has a right to employ Japanese subjects for such a purpose. Some may urge, perhaps, that it is for foreigners to determine the meaning and scope of the term "lawful capacity;" that, in short, "lawful" signifies, for Treaty purposes, not what Japanese law sanctions but what foreign law sanctions. Whatever may be the justice of such an argument so far as the proceedings of foreigners themselves are concerned, it has no validity in cases where the employment of Japanese subjects is in question. The Japanese Government is plainly competent to determine what occupations shall be lawful and what unlawful for its own subjects. If, then, it were intended that foreign local journals should fall within the purview of the clause which confines newspaper enterprise to Japanese subjects, the Government need not wait for the operation of the Revised Treaties, but might enforce the veto at once. Another method of achieving the same result would be to close the post-office to foreign local journals. That, too, would be quite within the competence of the Japanese Authorities. The Treaties do not require them to transport mail matter for the foreign residents. It will be understood, of course, that we are not arguing in favour of such steps. We merely refer to them as proving that if the animus attributed to Japanese legislators had any real existence, it could have been made practically operative long ago. There is no animus of the kind. We are in a position to affirm that not the smallest intention of interfering with foreign journalistic enterprise is entertained officially. Whatever measures may be necessary to legalise that enterprise will be taken. The *raison d'être* of the clause in the Press Law as it now stands is perfectly obvious. The Law was originally framed for the purpose chiefly of defining the limits within which freedom of speech might be exercised, and providing penalties for any transgression of those limits. It is plain that if foreigners, who are beyond the reach of Japanese punitive regulations, were permitted to hold the nominal posts of editors, printers and publishers of Japanese newspapers, then the penalties prescribed by the Press Law against offending publishers, printers and editors, might be evaded though the provisions of the Law were violated. Thus the insertion of a clause limiting to Japanese subjects the discharge of the responsible duties of Japanese journalism became a simple essential of effective drafting, and did not constitute the faintest evidence of an illiberal spirit on the part of the legislators. After the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction foreign local journals will have to comply with the provisions of Japanese law as to registration and so forth, but there is not the least

fear of their being unfairly discriminated against, though it must be confessed that the liberal treatment accorded to them will not be due to the giddy and unwarranted suspicions that some of them have formulated with regard to the motives of the Japanese.

THE "YEIJO MARU" AFFAIR.

Our Hakodate correspondent, writing on the 30th ult., gives the following account of the trouble recently reported on board the N.Y.K. steamer *Yei Jo Maru*:—While the steamer was at Hakodate, on the 19th Oct., trouble occurred on board which might have turned out rather serious, but fortunately ended in nothing more than a seaman being discharged, two of the European officers resigning, and the ship being delayed a day or two in getting men to replace the latter. It appears that the seaman in question was well known in the service as a troublesome man, having been dismissed from other ships. He had been surreptitiously shipped, by the purser it is said, on board the *Yei Jo Maru* at Kobe. He was dismissed by Captain Anderson when the vessel arrived at Hakodate on the 19th ult. for disobeying the orders of the second officer, to whom he used abusive language, and showed fight when the vessel was at sea. During the trouble between the second officer and the seaman, the second engineer came to the former's assistance, and the mutinous seaman got the worst of it, and on landing at Hakodate laid a charge of assault against the latter officer at the British Consulate. The case was dismissed, and the man, imagining he had a grievance, boarded the vessel the same night with some roughs he had collected, to take vengeance on the second engineer. These fellows succeeded in smashing in a port, but failed to force open the door of the second engineer's cabin. The other European officers on the ship being alarmed and not knowing what was taking place, fired shots to draw the attention of the British man-of-war *Peacock*, lying alongside, and a boat's crew was immediately sent off to their assistance. But the assailants, when they saw the man-of-war's boat alongside, cleared out, for they were nowhere to be found when the officers of the ship searched the vessel for them. Next day, the second officer and the second engineer of the *Yei Jo* sent in their resignations, deeming it unwise to go to sea again in the vessel, as no protection was afforded them on board.

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS FOR THE CAPITAL.

Two or three years ago, remarks the *Nippon*, a scheme was set afoot for supplying the Capital with electric railroads. But the fates were against the idea then, and the matter failed to reach a practical stage. Now the rumour is revived that Tokyo will soon be able to remove the stigma cast on it by Kyoto's greater enterprise, for electric trams of the latest design will shortly supplant the horrible public conveyances that now ply for hire in metropolitan streets. The Cabinet has resolved to grant permission to the schemes formulated by the Yokoyama, Okura, Mitsui, and Mitsubishi companies. Originally each firm fought for its own hand, but an amalgamation was effected between some of them, and two parties now alone hold the field. The Cabinet, it is said, has resolved to divide the capital between the two, the *Yamanote*, or hill district, and the *Shitamachi*, or lower land. The Fukuza party—Messrs. Mitsui and Mitsubishi—receive the *Shitamachi* district. The Amenomiya party—Messrs. Yokoyama and Okura—have the hill district allotted to them, and the parties were to sign the documents connected with the charters on the 14th instant. It is rumoured, however, that the Amenomiya section are urging the Government to give them the sole monopoly, and some of their agents even followed Count Kabayama to Osaka, to importune him into granting the concession.

COUNT OKUMA AND THE POLITICAL CRISIS.

Knowing that all eyes are now directed towards Count Okuma, whose retirement from the Cabinet would be a significant event in the realm of politics, a representative of the *Yiji Shimpō* waited on the Count, and the following conversation is said to have taken place:—

R.—Reporter—The Progressionists have definitely severed their connection with the Cabinet. What course does Your Excellency contemplate?

Count Okuma—The Progressionists are the Progressionists and I am Okuma. I do not regulate my tenure of office by the proceedings of the Progressionists. But if I find that I cannot discharge my responsibilities as a Minister of State, then I make up my mind to retire. There is nothing strange in such a course. Every Minister must be prepared to take it.

R.—It is reported that all the Progressionists now in office intend to resign. Will that not cause Your Excellency any inconvenience?

C.—Whether the members of the Liberal Party that took official positions had been influenced by the prospect of obtaining them, I can not say; but they certainly incurred public ridicule by remaining in office after Count Itagaki had left the Cabinet. Progressionists holding posts in the Administration are on a different footing. Their object in accepting office was to promote progress, and if they consider that a progressive policy is not pursued, it is perfectly proper that they should resign.

R.—It would seem that partly owing to the publicity given to the advice which the Progressionists submitted to Count Matsukata, partly owing to the premature publication of the memorandum sent Count Matsukata to Baron Kusumoto—at all events, owing to petty blunders of procedure, things have grown very warm. I should like to hear your opinion on that point.

C.—Under circumstances like those now existing there is no occasion to dispute about details of procedure. What we have to do if we desire to maintain our independence and reputation among the nations is to determine our main lines of policy and to pursue a course of which we need not be ashamed before the world. The trouble to-day is that our main lines of policy are not fixed. We need not talk about petty points of procedure.

R.—People say that the chief administrative difficulty of the time is the problem of increased taxation. Is that so?

C.—If funds are needed for conducting the affairs of the State, it is the duty of the people to accept the responsibility. Such a question as that of increasing or not increasing the taxes is an after problem. If the taxes ought to be increased, need we wait till *post-bellum* measures drive us to increase them? When once the national policy is settled, there ceases to be any distinction of *post-bellum* or *ante-bellum*. The important thing is to do nothing that shall discredit us internationally.

There is nothing in Count Okuma's language, as here reported, to show definitely that he has resolved to leave the Cabinet; but it must be confessed, on the other hand, that there is nothing to indicate any probability of his remaining. Indeed, a very general belief prevails that he has already sent in his resignation, and that the announcement of its acceptance by the Emperor will be made in a few days. The members of the former *Kathin-to*, Count Okuma's old Party, who through evil report and good report have stood firmly by his side, are said to be the most resolute promoters of the anti-Cabinet policy now adopted by the Progressionists in whose ranks they are enrolled. It follows, therefore, that they have been insistent with the Count in the matter of his resignation, and although he is not a man to appraise party obligations at a higher value than duty to the State, the difficulty of severing himself from his close friends could not fail to influence his decision. We can very well imagine that he is not altogether satisfied with the course pursued by the Progressionists. He must be perfectly cognisant of the fact that Count Matsukata, in his capacity of Prime Minister, could not possibly have consented to pass under the Canadian forks set up by them. It is a dangerous thing for a statesman with Count Okuma's prospects to endorse a precedent like that now established by the Progressionists. When he is himself Prime Minister—as he certainly will be, one of these days—it may prove

extremely inconvenient to have indirectly sanctioned the principle that political parties are entitled to publicly submit humiliating conditions to the Cabinet they have promised to support. There is the saving clause, indeed, that publicity in this case was accidental, not intentional, but the Progressionists have chosen to abide by the accident, and the precedent consequently stands. On the whole, however, were we invited as friends to express an opinion about Count Okuma's procedure, we should certainly advocate his retirement. He and his follow-thinkers are fighting for that development of constitutional polity known as "party government," and their sole hope of achieving it is to make every other method of government practically impossible. Our own predilection makes us hope that they will not succeed easily, but we see clearly enough that their way to succeed is to hold together and fight stoutly. The Progressionists are nothing without Count Okuma, and Count Okuma without the Progressionists would be very much less than he is at present.

The talk about Count Okuma's successor centres about Baron Nishi, who returned some time ago from St. Petersburg, and Mr. Hoshi Toru, who has just come back from Washington. It is doubtful whether the state of Baron Nishi's health is such as to permit of his undertaking such onerous duties, and we are not disposed to think that Mr. Hoshi Toru, able official as he certainly is, commands sufficient influence in administrative circles to obtain a portfolio in the present Cabinet. Viscount Enomoto's return to the Foreign Office might be a contingency more reconcilable with existing conditions. The *Hochi Shimbun*, however, predicts that Baron Nishi will be Count Okuma's successor, and adds that Count Matsukata will probably confine himself to the duties of Prime Minister, appointing Baron Tajiri to the post of Minister of Finance. Other changes foretold by the same authority are Baron Yasuba's elevation to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Count Kabayama's transfer to the Department, and Viscount Kawakami's appointment to the War Office.

Concerning the political following of the Cabinet after Count Okuma's retirement and the Progressionists' estrangement, the *Yiji Shimpō* thinks that the Ministry will have the support of the whole Liberal Party, with the exception of the Tosa section; also that a large part of the National Unionists will be with it, and that a considerable section of the Progressionists, under the leadership of Mr. Shimada Saburo, will secede from that Party and throw in its lot with the Satsuma statesman. If to these we add the *Kodo-kai*, the Cabinet will be found to have a majority ample for all parliamentary purposes. How far the *Yiji's* estimate may be relied on, we do not venture to say, but such an authority must not be lightly set aside.

We reported in a recent issue that the Progressionists had decided not to adopt any party resolution with regard to the retirement of their members from official positions, but to leave the matter in the hands of the individuals concerned. Our readers are aware that one of the pledges given by the present Cabinet on assuming office was that "men of talent" should be selected from among the people for administrative posts, and that the pledge was fulfilled by the appointment of a number of Progressionists to be provincial governors, heads of Bureau, Departmental Councillors and so on. It was expected that these would await the resolution of their Party's general meeting before resigning, but several of them have acted with unlooked-for celerity, and the resignations of the following were placed in the Government's hands on the 2nd and 3rd instant:—Mr. Oishi (Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce); Mr. Ozaki, Councillor of the Foreign Office; Mr. Taketomi, Councillor of the Finance Department; Mr. Takata, Head of the Commercial Bureau in the Foreign Office; Mr. Minoura, Head of the Commercial Bureau in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Koizuka, Head

of the Bureau of Mines in the same Department; Mr. Shiga, Head of the Bureau of Forests in the same; and Messrs. Hayakawa and Oishi, Secretaries in the same.

As for the Progressionists, over forty of them now in the capital, assembled on the first inst. to determine the preparations necessary for the general meeting on the 4th. There was some difference of opinion, Mr. Haseba Junko contending that to sever relations with the Cabinet would be premature, but that if the general sense of the Party favoured severance, the proper course to pursue would be a vote of want of confidence. After a discussion lasting until four o'clock in the afternoon, Mr. Haseba's motion was rejected, and it was resolved that severance must take place, and that a committee of five should be elected to draw up a manifesto for submitting to the general meeting on the 4th instant, the manifesto to be approved at a preliminary meeting of the headquarters on the 2nd instant. When the latter meeting was held, an argument took place with reference to the procedure on the previous day, one of the points brought up being that a majority of two only was reported to have decided against Mr. Haseba's motion, whereas, in truth, he alone had supported it. Without coming to any decision on this or other minor objections, the meeting proceeded to consider the draft manifesto prepared by the special committee. It ran as follows:—

Our Party, being convinced by the evidence of the past that the present Cabinet has no real intention of carrying out the promises made in its manifesto, severs relations with it for the time being.

This document led to much discussion. Mr. Haseba proposed an amendment in precisely the opposite sense, and was vehemently opposed by Mr. Inugai, a politician always remarkable for his extreme views. Mr. Koizuka finally reminded the disputants that the meeting had no power to make a radical change in the sense of the manifesto, but must confine itself to verbal alterations. The general import of the document having been already decided by vote, Mr. Haseba and his supporters, Messrs. Maruyama and Asaka—recognised the justice of the objection, and the manifesto was adopted in the above form for presentation to the general meeting on the 4th instant. Messrs. Haseba and Maruyama have always possessed influence among the Progressionists and if they maintain the present attitude at the general meeting, they will probably find several followers.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* attributes to Count Okuma the following statement:—"My hope has been to achieve the reality of constitutional government. I have striven hard for that end. But nothing went right. It has been pretty much a case of a disciple of Western medicine entering a company of Chinese physicians: the healing of the patient was out of the question. Just when things seemed to be moving in a constitutional groove, they would suddenly go all awry. If a man should spend two or three months toiling to carry a load weighing a ton to the top of a mountain, and should find himself thrown back to the bottom of the valley all in a single day, his case would be as mine has been. There is no help but to give up."

There is a ring of despair in the explanation, but we do not imagine that despair has much place in Count Okuma's mind. Time and the rising tide are on his side, as Mr. Gladstone said on a celebrated occasion, and he can afford to wait. The *Yomiuri* alleges that he will not send in his resignation until the 6th, and that the garden party on the 5th will be in the nature of a farewell to his friends. It is certainly a novel fashion of going out of office, to entertain a thousand guests on the day before the catastrophe.

The general opinion is that Baron Nishi will have the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. It is now stated that his health is quite sufficiently restored to allow him to take office. Three other names also are mentioned—Mr. Hoshi Toru, Viscount Enomoto, and Viscount Aoki.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

THE Cabinet seems to have finally decided to go its way without regard to the interference of the Progressionists. The last phase of the affair has been of a somewhat unexpected character. It appears that when the deputation of Progressionists visited Count MATSUKATA on the 21st ultimo, carrying with them a copy of the resolutions adopted by the Party on the preceding day, the Premier inquired explicitly whether his visitors came to publicly prefer demands as the representatives of a political party, or whether they came as friends of the Government to tender advice. Baron KUSUMOTO's reply was that they came as friends of the Government to talk over matters which appeared to be of national importance. Count MATSUKATA then consented to hear what they had to say, and it was mutually agreed that the whole affair should be kept strictly private. Next day, however, the interview was described in the organs of the Progressionists as a public discussion, the points formulated by the deputation were accurately stated in the guise of demands, and it was added that the Premier had been pressed for an answer. Thus the whole complexion of the incident was changed, and Count MATSUKATA'S promise, made out of good-will and in reliance on the engagements offered by his visitors, assumed a character which had never been contemplated by him. Under the circumstances, his Excellency saw himself obliged to take a new attitude, and, on the 29th ultimo, he despatched a private secretary carrying the following reply to Baron KUSUMOTO and his colleagues:—

MEMORANDUM.

GENTLEMEN—On the occasion of your visit to me as representatives of the Progressionist Party, I inquired the motive of your coming, and having received your assurance that you visited me as political friends with the object of holding a friendly colloquy, and that the strictest secrecy would be observed with regard to what passed between us, I approved your kind intentions, listened to what you had to say, and replied that it should receive my careful consideration. I acted thus out of regard for what was due to political friends. But I greatly regret to find that the points which you then submitted to me in a friendly manner were subsequently published in the newspapers under the guise of a public conference, all the details being made known and a complexion very far from moderate being imparted to the affair. Since, Gentlemen, the fact is thus established that your deputation was of a public character, and that you seek a reply from me, my official duty requires that I should make a definite statement. While conscious of my small capacity, I can not forget that I have received His Majesty's commission to assist in the Administration, and that a grave responsibility thus devolves on me. The appointment and retirement of Ministers of the Crown and the conduct of the administration are matters concerning which the interference of outsiders can not be admitted. It is the first duty imposed on me by the responsibilities of my office to guard the prerogatives of the administration. I solicit your clear comprehension of these points.

It is difficult to see what other course the Government could have pursued. Up to the publication of Count MATSUKATA'S reply, the general body of the public remained in doubt as to whether the proposals sub-

mitted to the Cabinet by the Progressionists were truly set forth in the newspapers. There was every appearance of veracity about the journalistic accounts, and writer after writer discussed them as though no uncertainty whatever existed. Yet all moderate observers found it well nigh impossible to believe that the Progressionists could have deliberately forced the Cabinet into a dilemma admitting of only a heroic solution. We have already remarked that in the present transition stage of Japanese politics any attempt to gage a particular situation by foreign standards may result in egregiously false deductions. England's contemporary history furnishes many instances of deputations from this or that body, commercial, religious, civic, or what not, waiting upon the Prime Minister, for the purpose of bringing some abuse to his notice or protesting against some legislative measure on which he is engaged. But the freest flight of imagination can not conceive such a situation as that a body of men, invested with the title of representatives of the Conservative Party, for example, should wait upon Lord SALISBURY and demand the weeding out of certain elements from the Cabinet, the revision of the Budget, the abandonment of a financial programme already adopted by the Ministry, the punishment of certain officials for acts which the Cabinet had endorsed, and a general pledge of respect for the Constitution on the part of the Ministers of the CROWN. No Premier receiving a representation of that kind, would remain in office a day longer, or would ever think of resuming office unless a most unequivocal national mandate came to reassert his dignity. If, then, even in England, where the system of party cabinets is in full force, no such incident is conceivable, what are we to say of it in Japan where, both theoretically and practically, the system of party cabinets is still tabooed? Simply this, as it seems to us—the Progressionist leaders lost their heads. By quietly cementing their relations with the Ministry, and privately urging upon it the adoption of their views as a condition of parliamentary support, they could have virtually absorbed into their ranks several of the leading statesmen of the era, after which the consummation of the system they seek to establish could not have been long deferred. But in a moment of vertigo, they publicly challenged the Ministers of the CROWN to stand forth, *coram populo*, and submit to the operation of having the dictates of a political party thrust wholesale down their throats; dictates involving the immediate removal of certain members of the Cabinet. Had the Ministry bowed its head to such a yoke, it would have endorsed the principle underlying the action of the Progressionists, namely that the SOVEREIGN'S Constitutional preroga-

tive of choosing his own advisers is a mere farce. Of course the Ministry could not do anything of the kind, and the marvel is that the Progressionist leaders could have dreamed for one instant of carrying their point. To us it seems that they have put back the hands on the dial of political progress—that is to say, progress according to their notions—for they have imparted an intolerable aspect to all alliances between Cabinets and parties, and have shown that they themselves have no just conception of the obligations imposed by such alliances. We are not at all surprised to hear that this access of dementia has been followed by a convulsion rending the Progressionists into three sections: a section which advocates opposition to the Cabinet at all hazards; a section which is willing to accept any concession as the price of continued alliance; and a section which advocates adhesion to the Cabinet with or without concession. The first section is said to number not more than six or seven members; the second, to be largely composed of men who talk of concession to "save their face," but at heart are content to fall into line with the third section at any moment. The fact is that in the troubled sea of Japanese politics one rock and one rock only survives the shock of all waves. It is composed of the *Meiji* statesmen; the men that have made modern Japan. It appears to be a rock endowed with disintegrating force even more effectively than with resisting power, for while parties often retain some semblance of cohesion after dashing against it, they dissolve incontinently when they attempt to embrace it. The Liberals fell to pieces as soon as they put their arms round the ITO Cabinet, and the Progressionists have fared similarly when they allied themselves with the MATSUKATA Ministry. There is plenty of material here for a political homily.

As for the Cabinet's financial policy, which is the chief point of interest, the decision is evidently in favour of carrying out the programme of increased taxation. The Government will submit its Budget to the Diet, and should the latter refuse to pass it, there will be an appeal to the country. It would be a novel incident in political history that a Ministry should go to the constituencies for a mandate to increase their taxes despite the opposition of their representatives; but Japan has furnished so many novelties already that an addition to the list can never be unexpected.

FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS IN JAPAN.

IN its last session the Japanese Diet succeeded in effecting a legislative reform for which politicians outside the Government had long been contending. The main purpose of the reform was to deprive the Administration of competence

to suspend or suppress a newspaper without recourse to a Court of law, and without even indicating the matter on account of which the punishment was inflicted. We do not suppose that any foreigner in Japan can possibly be ignorant of the contest that had raged about the question year after year, or of the fact that, session after session, the Government, aided by the House of Peers, had attempted to effect a compromise with the House of Representatives. Thus, when the objectionable power was finally taken from the Administration in the spring of this year, the advocates of free speech naturally congratulated themselves on having won the victory for which they had fought so persistently. The memorable event attracted foreign attention also, and incidentally directed it to the text of the Press Law, translations of which were published in the amended form. One result of the scrutiny was a discovery that the Law contained a provision limiting to Japanese subjects the privilege of editing, owning, or publishing newspapers in Japan. We say a "discovery," but the fact is that the provision had existed in the Press Law for ten years, namely, since the date of its original enactment in 1887. Indeed, the presence of such a provision was inevitable, as a moment's consideration will show. For since the original object of the Law was to set limits to the privilege of free speech, it necessarily prescribed penalties for violations of those limits, and since Japanese punitive regulations were not applicable to foreigners, it is obvious that if foreigners had been permitted to assume the post of editor, proprietor, or publisher of Japanese journals, the Law might easily have been evaded. Any Japanese subject might have started a vernacular newspaper under nominal foreign editorship and ownership, and, thus protected, might have snapped his fingers at the limitations fixed by the Press Law. Ignorant, however, of the original text of the Law, and too careless to refer to it, certain foreign critics "discovered" the limiting clause in the amended Law, and assumed that it had been inserted for the ultimate purpose of putting an end to the existence of the foreign local journals simultaneously with the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. At present, said these critics, since foreigners do not come within the purview of Japanese law, they are able to edit and publish newspapers in their own languages for circulation among their own nationals, but it is evident that the Japanese intend to deprive them of that privilege so soon as the Revised Treaties go into force, since the Diet has passed a law limiting newspaper enterprise of all kinds to Japanese subjects. The fallacy of such reasoning was fully exposed at the time. It was shown that the limiting provision had formed a part of the Law for ten years; that it must necessarily

have formed a part of it; that its retention in the amended Law had no more significance than its insertion in the original, and that to construe it as anti-foreign was entirely unjustifiable. The editor of the *Japan Gazette* took a prominent part in the controversy that grew out of the incident, and ought to have been fully conversant with all the facts we have mentioned. Yet, several months afterwards, he addressed to the London *Times* a letter intended to show that foreign journalistic enterprise in Japan was threatened with extinction, and in order to prove his case, he alleged that the revision of the Press Law which resulted in the retention of the limiting clause, had been undertaken "for the purpose of meeting the new conditions which Treaty Revision would introduce." Of course, if that were true, the animus of the Japanese legislators would have been quite evident. Did Mr. TENNANT believe it to be true? That is what puzzles us. If he did, he must have been ignorant of the whole story of newspaper progress in Japan during the past ten years; ignorant of the campaign perpetually conducted in the press and on the platform in favour of free speech; ignorant of the conflicts that had taken place between the Upper and the Lower Houses during nine sessions in connexion with the revision of the Press Law, and ignorant of all that had appeared in the columns of his own newspaper on these important topics since he became editor of it. He asks us now to charitably conclude that he did actually labour under that enormous weight of ignorance, and that the Press Law revision of last spring, which marked an epoch in the career of Japanese journalism and concluded a ten years' struggle between political parties and the Government, was supposed by him to have been undertaken "for the purpose of meeting the new conditions which Treaty Revision would introduce." Well, we must accept Mr. TENNANT'S account of his own deplorable condition. We should not have supposed it possible that any one living in Japan and making the public discussion of her affairs his daily business, could be so phenomenally ill-informed, but the fault doubtless lies in the weakness of our imagination.

What, then, is the actual situation? It is this. The law of Japan, as it now stands, restricts newspaper enterprise in Japan to Japanese subjects, and the Revised Treaties do not secure national treatment for foreigners in the matter of occupations such as journalism. Unless, therefore, some change can be effected in the law, or some addition made to the Revised Treaties, the field of journalism in Japan will be closed to foreigners in the capacity of editors, proprietors or publishers. That, of course, is a consummation which all persons connected with journalism are anxious to avert. We do not believe, however, that there is any cause for apprehension. Neither Japanese officials

not Japanese legislators are disposed to discriminate against foreign journals published in this country. If they were so disposed, they might long ago have made newspaper enterprise virtually impossible for foreigners. They might have forbidden Japanese subjects to serve as compositors or press-men in the offices of foreign journals, and they might have denied postal facilities to foreign local newspapers. They have refrained from doing anything of the kind, even when they had just reason to be incensed against several of the foreign local journals, which made it their unique *metier* to blacken Japanese reputation and to convince the world that Japan was totally unfit to exercise the rights of a Sovereign State. It is not of the slightest avail to pretend now that the foreign local journals "have never attempted to interfere with domestic politics or to create disaffection between the rulers and the governed." It is not of the slightest avail to fall back upon the hackneyed cant of "frank and free criticism," or to invoke the hypocritical pretext that Japan has been lashed for her own good. The plain fact is that the writings of a section of the local foreign press have been permeated by strong anti-Japanese prejudice, and that they have made themselves eminently odious in Japanese eyes. With the reluctance of the foreign residents to be deprived of the privilege of their own jurisdiction, every one must sympathise, and that their reluctance should make their censure severe and their applause scant where Japanese doings were concerned, was perfectly natural. But there is an immense interval between that justifiable mood and the methods of the journalists who have pandered to it, disgracing it by their excesses and discrediting it by their misrepresentations. If, through all that evil time, the Japanese sat quiet, may we not fairly repose some trust in the permanence of a liberality that supported so severe a test? National treatment will doubtless be accorded to foreign journalists, as well as to foreign merchants and manufacturers. More than that can not be asked. The *Japan Gazette*, indeed, asks for a great deal more, but is apparently unconscious of asking for it. "What we are contending for," it writes, "is that an Englishman in Japan shall have the same right to conduct a newspaper as a Japanese would have in England." Precisely. That is national treatment. That means that whatever privileges and immunities the laws of Japan grant to Japanese journalists, shall be extended to foreign journalists also. But the *Japan Gazette*, in the very next clause, interprets its own language quite differently. "That is to say," it explains, "that he (the Englishman) shall not be dependent on the caprice of any Government, which may happen to be in power, or of a Diet which may at any moment be virulently anti-foreign. We want that made per-

factly clear." Does the *Japan Gazette* imagine, then, that a Japanese conducting a newspaper in England would be independent of the British Government and the British Parliament? And does it seriously suppose that Japan, or any other Power in the world, would pledge itself to allow aliens to publish within its borders journals which should be entirely independent of the administrative and legislative control that it exercises over its own newspaper press? Here, again, we must in charity conclude that the *Japan Gazette* does not know what it is talking about. If our diplomats can get us placed on the same footing as Japanese subjects for purposes of journalistic enterprise in Japan, that is all we can possibly expect. We may be permitted here to recall one fact. Formerly the complaint of the foreign local journals used to be that their freedom of speech would be intolerably curtailed if Consular Jurisdiction were abolished, since they would then come under the operation of the Japanese Press Law, which gave to the Administration arbitrary power to suspend or suppress a journal. The *Japan Gazette* was a prominent formulator of the complaint, thus showing that it understood the necessity of submitting to the laws from which it is now agitating to secure exemption. Whenever the complaint was uttered, we took it upon ourselves to re-assure our contemporaries by predicting that revision of the Press Law would surely precede revision of the Treaties. Our prediction has been fulfilled. Well, we venture now to re-assure them by predicting that their enterprises are quite safe, and that national treatment will be extended to them.

YOKOHAMA RACES.

The records of the autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club show that an owner has again been allowed to enter one of his horses under an offensive name. We are aware that a difference of opinion exists with respect to the word. There are people who affirm that it has so far lost its original significance as to be no longer indelicate. Such an excuse doubtless had some validity last spring. But so soon as it was known that a section of the community—large or small—regarded the word as indecorous, its persistent use betrays singular indifference to the scruples of the Club's supporters. If there was the slightest doubt about its propriety it ought to have been expunged from the list of names, and, indeed, we should not have imagined that any person in Yokohama would have obstinately adhered to the public use of a word which he knew to be considered equivocal. Not the smallest trouble or inconvenience was involved in changing the name of the horse, and even if there had been a very great deal of trouble and a very great deal of inconvenience, the obligation to make the change was none the less imperative. Our readers need scarcely be assured that our protest last spring was not penned in any capricious spirit and that an editor's natural reluctance to advance such a criticism could not be overcome without strong evidence of its necessity. We regret very much to have to approach the subject again, but the circumstances leave us no choice.

SAN FRANCISCO AND JAPAN.

San Francisco is not very far from Japan, but its ideas about Japanese affairs are such as we should expect to find in the back-woods. The *Examiner* of the 9th instant tells its readers that "the relations between Russia and Japan are becoming more and more strained in regard to Korea;" that war may result; that if Mr. Hatoyama does not go as Representative to Washington in place of Mr. Hoshi, a determined effort will be made to elect Mr. Shimada Saburo to the post of President of the Lower House in Mr. Hatoyama's stead, and so on—items of intelligence decidedly novel to folk in Japan.

With reference to the Behring Sea Conference, we read in a San Francisco paper of the 9th instant:—

On the steamer *Chsna*, which arrived yesterday from the Orient, were the two delegates selected by Count Okuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan, to represent that country, at the invitation of President McKinley, at the forthcoming seal fisheries' convention at Washington. Shiro Fujita and Professor Kakichi Mitsukuri are the names of the officials. The former is the director of the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Professor Mitsukuri is at the head of the Department of Zoology in the Imperial University at Tokio.

Charles S. Hamlin of Boston accompanies the two distinguished Japanese. Mr. Hamlin was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury during Cleveland's last administration, and last summer was sent by President McKinley to invite Japan to be represented at the Washington conference. He is greatly pleased with the character and standing of the representatives and speaks in high praise of the reception accorded him in that country by Count Okuma and influential Japanese in general. He was greatly surprised to learn yesterday that Lord Salisbury had declined to have Great Britain represented at the conference, and so were the two gentlemen from Japan, but they, as well as Mr. Hamlin, said that the situation was entirely too delicate for them to be publicly interviewed about it.

Mr. Fujita, in speaking on behalf of Professor Mitsukuri and himself, said:—

"The prompt acceptance on the part of Japan of the invitation from the United States to participate in the Washington conference about protecting the seal herds, is but another sign of the cordial relations and strong feeling of friendship existing between the two nations. Such has been the case ever since the visit of Commodore Perry, and we believe these relations will exist forever."

The party will leave for the East to-morrow.

THE DISABLED "MOYUNE."

While the church bells were tolling on the 10th October, writes the Kudat correspondent of the *Straits Times*, the attention of all in Kudat was directed to a two-masted lifeboat which was sailing in towards Kudat Pier. The occupants, Messrs. R. G. Strickland, T. M. Moore, R. Plum, and Kiniburgh, officers, engineer, and quartermaster of the steamer *Moyune*, landed and stated the following:—That on the 2nd ultimo, at 8.20 a.m., the steamer, when passing through the Sulu seas and about 84 miles distant to the eastward of Balabac, suddenly grounded on an uncharted reef. A fresh head wind blowing did not help matters, but the engines being stopped and the steamer backed, she was able to resume her way. Both hand and steam pumps were rigged, and, at about 1 p.m., the anchor was dropped outside Balabac Island. The approximate position of the reef is stated to be Lat. 8° 6' N. and Long. 118° 6' 30" E. The next morning, it was found imprudent to resume the journey to Singapore, owing to the ship's condition, and she was taken to Kalindorang Bay, on the east coast of Balabac, where a Spanish Settlement is situated.

After consultation with the Spanish authorities, it was found preferable to call for volunteers to man a lifeboat, and to endeavour to effect communication with Singapore. The above-named officers pluckily volunteered, in spite of the harrowing stories of pirates furnished by the good people of Balabac; and having provisioned and armed a lifeboat, a start was made on the 8th instant at 7.30 p.m. Up to the afternoon of the 9th, fair weather was experienced, but a heavy rainstorm deluged all their clothing in the evening. The next day was dry, and, after pulling from Balambangan half-way towards Marudu Bay, a fair wind brought the party to Kudat after a voyage of 44 hours.

NIPPON BICYCLE CLUB.

The Nippon Bicycle Club of Yokohama celebrated the Emperor's Birthday on Wednesday by a very enjoyable outing to Tokyo, where they were most hospitably entertained by their brother wheelmen of the Sorin Bicycle Club. Forty-two members of the Nippon Club left Yokohama by the 8.47 train for Tokyo, and were met at Shimbashi by about 60 members of the Sorin Club. A start was then made for Ueno, via Maruno-uchi, which was reached at 11 a.m. Most of the bicycles were decorated with flags and chrysanthemums and the turnout made a very pretty show. At Ueno a short stay was made at a very pretty villa belonging to one of the members of the Sorin Club, where refreshments were partaken of.

After about half an hour's rest there the riders set out for the Komatsu Garden, on the bank of the Sumida river. This was reached, after a very enjoyable ride, at about 12 o'clock. Again ample refreshments were provided and photographs of the party were taken by Mr. Ogawa. A display of trick riding by one of the members of the Nippon Bicycle Club added to the amusement. The garden is very picturesque and contains a large pond on which were quite a number of wild duck and teal, who seemed quite at home. At about half-past 1, the ride was continued along the Mukojima sado of the Sumida river, past Asakusa, to the Seiyoken at Ueno. Here over 100 cyclists sat down to an excellent tiffin, which was served in the large room on the second storey. Mr. Akiyama spoke on behalf of the Sorin Club, thanking the Nippon Bicycle Club for their hospitality to them on the occasion of their visit to Yokohama on the Queen's Jubilee, and expressing the wish that foreigners and Japanese would by such social gatherings become more intimate and friendly with one another. Mr. Eylon, senior, returned thanks on behalf of the Nippon Bicycle Club for the hospitality and friendship displayed by their hosts, and said that one of the principal motives for the formation of the Club was to encourage good fellowship between the youths of Japan and foreigners, and he was happy to say it had been eminently successful, as the present meeting amply demonstrated. He trusted the day's run was only the forerunner of many to follow. All the Sorin Club members were invited to join the Nippon's in a trip to Kamakura at an early date. A band was in attendance and played during tiffin. On leaving Ueno the members of the Sorin Club accompanied their Yokohama visitors to Shimbashi, where after many *Banzais* they separated, and thus ended one of the most pleasant outings ever spent together by foreign and Japanese wheelmen.

FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.

About 3.35 on Wednesday morning an alarm of fire was received at the Central Fire Station and Superintendent Morgan, with a party of the Brigade men, with hose reel and stand pipe, promptly turned out. On reaching the scene it was found that a confectioner's shop, kept by Mr. Shinkine, at No. 47, Minami Nakadori, native town, was on fire. Much valuable time was lost in finding the nearest hydrant in the street, it having been covered up with shingle and earth, while there were no marks on the neighbouring buildings to indicate its position. After water was once found the fire was soon brought under control by the Yokohama and Police Brigades. The house in which it originated was totally destroyed and five others were damaged. The origin of the fire has not been discovered, but is believed to have been from the oven furnace.

With regard to the refusal of permission to 17 Japanese emigrants to land at San Francisco, the Kishu Kosei Emigration Company in Kobe is now negotiating with the United States Authorities through the Japanese Government.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The probable religious consequences of mixed residence are being discussed in the various monthly organs with increasing earnestness. The *十善寶窟 fūsen hōkutsu* (a Buddhist magazine) quotes from a speech delivered by Mr. Kōno Hironaka on the subject, in which he is represented as saying that missionaries are the only foreigners who will largely avail themselves of the privilege of residing in the interior, and that the competition between them and Buddhist and Shintō priests is likely to be very keen. Foreigners have more money to spend than Japanese, and foreign missionaries are in the habit of supplementing their religious labours with numerous benevolent works, such as the establishment of hospitals, asylums, and the like. It does not require keen eyes to see that a very large number of fish will be attracted by foreign bait: for all this Buddhists must be prepared. Count Okuma is represented by the organ we are quoting to have expressed satisfaction at the near approach of the conflict of creeds. The result of this will be, says the Count, a process of natural selection, a survival of the fittest. Truth and error will then appear in their real colours.

The Kyōto Hongwanji temples have appointed a Committee to superintend the necessary preparations for the new situation. Members of the Committee will visit all the temples of the sect throughout the empire, to confer with the priests in charge as to the measures to be adopted. The comments of most of the Buddhist journals on this subject show, as the *Nihon Shūkyō* remarks, a state of alarm that is to a great extent founded on ignorance.

The *Kyōrin* (Shintō) still continues to advocate the separation of Shintō from other religions, and the creation of a special government bureau for its control. This organ is of opinion that Shintō cannot possibly dispense with government aid and control.

Dr. Inoue Enryō, writing in the *Taiyō* on the same subject, says that the functions of religions generally, and of Buddhism in particular, may be said to be three in number. (1) The encouragement of learning. (2) The spreading of religious doctrines. (3) Benevolent works. To the man of the world the first two functions will appear to be egoistic. Buddhism benefits herself by means of them. The third alone is decidedly altruistic. In order to have more money for charity, Dr. Inoue proposes that Buddhists should abolish their secular schools and allow boys to be educated in Government schools. The only effective preparation for mixed residence that can be made, says Dr. Inoue, is the adoption of measures for enabling Buddhism to multiply a hundred-fold her works of charity. Mere envy of other creeds and a desire to hinder their progress are altogether unworthy motives for urging preparation upon Buddhist converts.

A small copper image of considerable interest has been secreted in a temple called the Seirinji, situated in the district of Fuwa, Gifu, for many centuries. Having now become the property of Mr. Takase Heizaburō, he has furnished the *Seikai no Nihon* with an account of its history and allowed it to be photographed. It is about 3 inches in length and on the back it bears the words:—NONSU REXIT MAJOR.* It is said that this image was found on the person of the famous Konishi Yukinaga when he was killed at Shijōgawara in A.D. 1600. A Roman Catholic missionary, to whom a photograph of the image was shown, is said to be of opinion that it is intended to represent John the Baptist.

The controversy on the present management of the Dōshisha still continues. It is stated that steps are being taken to import teachers from America whose views on religious subjects are of a broader type than those of the Ame-

rican Board missionaries hitherto employed by the institution. Mr. Kashiwagi Giyen, whose opinion we gave last month, has published in the *Fukui Shimpō* another long protest against the views held by President Yokoi. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* says that Mr. Yokoi can only be regarded as friendly to Christianity, and not as a real Christian, and adds that the changes being introduced into the Dōshisha will cause no small stir in the Christian Church when their significance is fully realised. As the Director of a Unitarian School (the Senshin-gakūin), and editor of the *Rikugō Zasshi*, Mr. Yokoi was far less to be feared than as President of an institution that has hitherto been considered a bulwark of Christianity.

The advocates of the entire separation of the native churches from foreign control and influence have started a magazine called the *Nihon-bōhan Kirisuto Kyōkai* (Japanese Standard Christian Church). Messrs. Yebina Danjō, Iwamoto Zenji, Yokoi Tokiwo and Oshikawa Masayoshi (of Sendai) are said to be the chief writers who have promised to contribute to the new organ.

In the pages of the *Nihon Shūkyō* a writer signing himself Rakka Tanjin reviews at some length the present state of Christianity in Japan. The essay is only one among a number that appear month after month. The tone of the writer is not that of an enemy to the Christian cause, but rather that of an earnest friend who is sick at heart at the non-realisation of long cherished hopes. In the choice of material for these summaries it is our constant aim to represent all classes of thinkers and thus furnish readers with data for forming an adequate idea of the real state of religious opinion in Japan. Midway between the views of the optimists and those of the pessimists the truth probably lies, but in order to locate this central spot it is necessary to know to what limits the two extremes extend. The writings of those who habitually paint the progress of Christianity in rosy hues have repeatedly been reproduced in these columns. We now give an opposite view. For years past, says the writer we are quoting, the falling away of Christians from orthodox belief has been going on, but in late years degeneration has been much more marked. Among Christians belonging to the Itchi, Kumi-ai, and Methodist Churches public worship is neglected, resulting in a corresponding decline in Christian zeal. Perhaps the most discouraging feature of all is the tendency shown by Japanese Christians to follow the lead of men of the world, to succumb to the spirit of the age. As long as the pro-foreign fever lasted, Japanese Christians were all in favour of working hand in hand with the missionaries, receiving foreign money and guidance. But no sooner did a reaction in the outside world take place in favour of nationalism than leading Christians began to clamour for the expurgation of foreign influence in the Christian Church.

"They prate and preach about what others prove, As if the world and they were hand and glove." What has taken place connected with the Dōshisha accords with what is going on all over the country. However great may have been the influence of the late Mr. Neejima, it is undeniable that the Dōshisha in the main owed its existence and prosperity to foreign help, and that, instead of fulfilling their obligations to foreigners, the Japanese Christians should have broken loose is a subject for regret. The way in which many Japanese Christians place all the responsibility of the failure of missionary work on foreign shoulders cannot be too strongly condemned. It is very easy to blame others for failure and take the credit of success to ourselves. But this theory will not wash. If their connection with foreign workers was the only obstacle to success with Japanese evangelists, how is it that results are so poor with those who have been working without foreign aid for some years? Having no foreign missionaries to blame, they now spend their time in finding fault with each other. Some writers are never

tired of holding up the divisions of politicians to ridicule, or saying how ugly the whole thing looks. But in no respect does the Japanese Christian world differ from the political world as regards factiousness and disintegration. How short-lived are all the agitations which cause so much stir while they prevail! Last year there was a strong movement in favour of union with non-Christian sects, and the steps that were taken toward bringing about a better understanding among earnest religious men of various creeds seemed to indicate the opening of a new era in religious history. But the whole thing passed away, or rather the voices of those in favour of the measure were drowned by the cries of the "no compromise" party, who shouted to all passers-by, "Show your colours. Let us have something definite in the way of a creed." Sunday after Sunday the few faithful Christians who habitually attended churches were treated to discourses on the necessity of outspokenness, orthodoxy, &c., *ad nauseam*. Now the question is being asked what new excitement can be got up? The whole thing is lamentable. It sometimes seems as though Christianity could not survive. We who are true believers can only possess our souls in patience and wait for light.

As is doubtless known to many of our readers, Mr. Tokutomi Ichirō lately returned from his European tour. Being asked who of all the eminent men that he met in Europe made the deepest impression on him, Mr. Tokutomi replied, Count Tolstoi and Sir Henry Acland. The *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* publishes an account of Mr. Tokutomi's interviews with these two noted men, from which we take the following. What struck me most connected with Count Tolstoi, says Mr. Tokutomi, was the marvellous simplicity and sincerity of his character. His mind was evidently made up on all the questions of the day, and his answers to my questions were so direct and lucid that I was left in no doubt as to his meaning. His openness and honesty made one feel that it was impossible to conceal anything from him. Notwithstanding the extreme age and feebleness of the Regius Professor of Medicine at the Oxford University, Sir Henry Acland, I succeeded in obtaining an interview with him. Sir Henry Acland being an earnest Christian, I was asked what was my religious belief. I replied that I considered it most derogatory to follow the custom of many Japanese residing in Europe and America and, for the sake of convenience, act the hypocrite and declare myself a Christian. To speak the truth, I neither believed in a god or a divinity, but in reason alone. This answer evidently surprised Sir Henry very much and led to the following rejoinder:—"That a man who figures as a newspaper writer, who aims at guiding men's thoughts, at furnishing a standard for others to follow, should make a confession such as you have made is very surprising. There is something wrong about it." Then, taking me into an adjoining room, he pointed to the pictures of Gladstone, Ruskin, and others, and observed, "Here are men who, though eminent as statesmen or scholars, realise the need of belief in God. How is it possible for you to fulfil your duty to your country while you refuse to bow to any authority but that of reason?" On this and a subsequent occasion he tried his very best to convert me. I felt very much touched by his earnestness and sincerity.

The *Kirisutokyō Shimbun* contains a notice of Mr. Buckle's labours in Formosa, which furnishes details not given in our last summary. Asked what were the chief difficulties connected with missionary work, Mr. Buckle is stated to have given the following reply:—(1) There is a very strong anti-foreign spirit among the natives and they are in the habit of alluding to our religion in terms of reproach. (2) Ancestral worship is held in high regard and it not infrequently happens that Christianity is considered to be subversive of filial piety. (3) Opium smoking is a great obstacle to progress. Asked what were the feelings of the Formosans towards their new rulers, Mr. Buckle said that the Japanese residing in Korea had been guilty

* The inscription is doubtless intended to be a quotation from scripture. "There hath not arisen a greater" (than John the Baptist), and should read, *Non surrexit major*.

of many outrages and that their lawless conduct had enraged the natives. There was a difference, however, between the North and South. In the North the feeling against the Japanese was much stronger than in the South. Robbery in open daylight had existed so long among the natives that they were quite accustomed to it. The robbers are principally Chinese. Not long ago in one day a gang of thieves carried off \$3,600 from one village whose inhabitants had been intimidated. Mr. Buckle said that in his work he usually tried to influence the heads of villages and towns first and to reach the mass of the people through them. The language spoken was the Amoy dialect. The Bibles in circulation are the same as those used by the Amoy Protestant missionaries. Great reliance was placed on the Roman letters and many were taught to read by this means.

* * *
The *Bukkyō* supplies some interesting facts bearing on the travels and exploration of Mr. Iwamoto Chitsuna, whose tour through Siam, Laos and Anam was alluded to in the last Literary Summary which appeared in these columns: Mr. Iwamoto was originally a Captain in the Army. He was ordained to the priesthood in Siam and purposes devoting himself to Buddhist studies and investigations in future. One of the principal objects of Mr. Iwamoto's journey was to discover the grave of Shinnyo, the Japanese Crown-prince who, in ancient times, renounced his title and his rank, became a disciple of Kōbō-daishi, and subsequently went to Siam, where he was killed by a tiger. As might be expected, Mr. Iwamoto's search was fruitless. His companion, Mr. Yamamoto, fell a victim to disease, and Mr. Iwamoto himself was forced by illness to return to Japan without completing his explorations. He is about to start for Siam again, furnished with letters from the Japanese Foreign Office asking for the assistance of the Siamese Government in the search for the missing tomb. One of Mr. Iwamoto's reasons for becoming a priest was to enable him to pass through the country without endangering his life. So great is the respect felt for priests in Siam that no highway robber thinks of molesting them, and among the people they are treated as gods. Mr. Iwamoto says that the priests of Siam, though inferior to those of Japan in point of learning, only two or three out of every ten being able to read, are superior in the matter of conduct. In many parts of Siam, according to Mr. Iwamoto, the people wear no clothing whatever. Japanese Buddhists purpose establishing a Mission in Siam, in order to raise the native priests to a higher educational level.

* * *
Mr. Uchimura Kanzō's opinion in reference to the teaching of Christianity in Japan is given in several journals, which may be summarised as follows. The success of Christianity depends on its not being subjected to any such modifications as are proposed by the Unitarians. The distinctive doctrines of Christianity are:— (1) The existence of a personal God who protects and blesses mankind. (2) The sinfulness of mankind. (3) The atonement of Christ. (4) The forgiveness of sins and the resurrection of Christ. (5) The existence and influence of the Holy Spirit. (6) The reality of miracles and the power of prayer. (7) The hope of eternal life.

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The Roman Catholic organ the *Koye* and the *Shūkyō* give accounts of the dedication ceremony held at Nagasaki on September 8th connected with the opening of a new Cathedral, which was attended by some 3,000 Roman Catholic converts. The ceremony was performed by Archbishop Osof. The ground on which the building stands measures 1,325 *tsudo*; the building is 102 feet high, 78 ft. in breadth, and 150 in length. The amount of carving displayed in various parts of the building is large and the effect very grand. An imposing memorial ceremony in honour of the martyrs who perished not far from the spot which now serves as a site for the Cathedral, and of other departed saints, was held in the new building.

The attendance of local officials and newspaper writers was large.

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Mr. Fukuzawa's "Hundred Short Essays," in book form, has already reached the 4th edition and the sale is still as brisk as ever. In the *Sekai-no-Nippon* is published a concise account of the views on religion and ethics expressed in the essays, which we reproduce here. (1) Whether what we are in the habit of calling *Tendō* (Heaven's Way) refers ultimately to a person or to principles; while the future of the world is full of hope, to do nothing but mourn over the existing state of things is extremely foolish. (2) The creation of the world as it exists is full of mystery. The assumption of a personal creator does not help us out of the difficulty, as we must ask who created this Creator? Far back as we may go we never reach finality. (3) Among human affairs there is no such thing as absolute perfection (*Yinji ni settai no bi nashi*). The world may be regarded as a playground for a number of children. We cannot but realise that we are but children engaged in amusing ourselves. What absolute standard of right and wrong, virtue and vice, is there to fall back on? To attain perfection is out of the question. All we can do is to select, each one for himself, the kind of life that most commends itself to the mind. (4) As regards the comfort to be derived from a study of the existing state of things, from one point of view there is none. The contemplation of the eternity of matter, the multiplicity of worlds and existences, the hoary ages of the past and the vast stretch of the future makes us feel how utterly insignificant in the great universe is the life of any one individual. Speaking comparatively, we are but worms, born to-day to perish to-morrow. But on the other hand there is a place which each one of us can and ought to fill, however small and insignificant that place may be; and to fulfil our destiny, whatever that may be, ought to be our chief desire. (5) Man's lot is very varied. But this variety is to be traced to natural causes. To say that Providence has so ordered it, is ignorance. Inequality is the result of the working of natural causes, of the progress of mankind generally, and of the constitution of society. (6) The bestowal of alms is not good for those who are recipients. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." The donors derive satisfaction from the exercise of charity, and this is its chief use. This being so, there is no need to publish the names of donors. Secret almsgiving is the highest form. (7) Every man has his own standard of right and wrong. To each man to do what he conceives to be right is far easier than to do what he thinks to be wrong. It is our nature to follow the easy path unless prevented by something unusual. Hence what each man thinks to be the path of virtue will in the majority of cases be followed naturally. Vice is usually the result of ignorance, the want of power to estimate the unpleasant consequences of an evil course, rather than a lack of respect for virtue. Men's wrong acts should be called *muchi* (stupidity) rather than *futoku* (virtuelessness). (8) Though I have affirmed that in the affairs of men there is no attaining perfection, this does not apply to the distant future. There is no saying that hundreds of years hence men may not reach a state that is not far off perfection. Knowledge goes on increasing from century to century, and just as our knowledge of the properties and laws of physical objects has in many cases become next to exhaustive, so the time may come when the knowledge of mental states and phenomena shall have reached such an advanced stage that under all circumstances the choice of the path to be followed will be an easy task. Other theories advocated by Mr. Fukuzawa in the essays are that the rich are by no means usually happy; that parents should not expect much from their children; that children should not rely on the property they expect to have left to them by their parents; that monogamy is in every way superior to polygamy; and that second marriages among women are to be encouraged, love being a necessity to a woman.

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* and the *Fukui-Shimpō* object to many of the views advocated by Mr. Fukuzawa. In addition to the above, the *Tetsugaku-Zasshi* points out that Mr. Fukuzawa advocates the elevation of woman by increasing legal rights, and by forbidding the disposal of her for pecuniary ends in the way that is sanctioned by the law as it now stands. Mr. Fukuzawa's views may be best described, says the *Tetsugaku-Zasshi* as favouring "optimistic evolution."

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In the columns of the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* and the *Fukui-Shimpō*, over the signatures of three Niigata Christian ministers, a letter appears which charges the Director of the Niigata Normal School with gross partiality in the management of the school. A short time ago a student, who, after an examination, had been selected for his learning and good conduct to be sent to the Higher Normal School, was disqualified by the Director on the sole ground of his Christianity, the Director declaring that it was impossible for a Christian to obey the Imperial Rescript on education. The pastors representing respectively the Methodist, the Kumiai, and the Kirisutokyo-Kai Churches appeal to all earnest men throughout the empire against the Director's action.

No. 39 of the Shinjō organ *Yuitsu*, in an article entitled "Impartiality," addresses words of wisdom to religious believers generally, of which the following is the gist. That men should choose their own religion, and, having chosen it, should observe its commands, defend it against attacks from all quarters, and endeavour to induce others to accept it, is all very proper. But when difference of religion is allowed to destroy friendship, to divide households, to create discord where otherwise concord would reign, then we are persuaded that something is wrong. To refuse to acknowledge the merits and the virtues of those whose creed differs from our own is blind prejudice that calls for strong condemnation. The tendency to carry religious zeal too far constantly shows itself in our midst. Want of respect for the rights, the feelings, and the beliefs of others is only too common. Unless the inconsiderate action of certain zealots is checked, religion will become a disturber of the peace and harmony of society generally, instead of a promoter of friendliness of feeling. The near approach of mixed residence, concludes the *Yuitsu*, renders it most desirable that we should take these considerations to heart.

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In an article on the "Maintenance of Churches and Missions," which appears in the *Dendō-geppō* (Monthly Evangelist), it is affirmed that the Seikōkai (Episcopalian), and the Methodist Churches are among Protestants the most dependent on foreign aid. This remark is qualified later on by the observation that the Southern Methodists have aimed at independence from the first and that many of the pastors of this church are struggling along on poor pay in a most heroic fashion. The Kumiai and the Nihon-Kirisutokyo Churches, continues the *Dendō-geppō*, taken in their corporate capacity, are partly dependent and partly independent. Attached to these bodies, however, are individual churches that have been quite independent for more than ten years. There are institutions, too, like the Nihon-dendōkaisha and the Nihon Kirisutokyo-dendōkyoku, that are entirely worked by Japanese and supported by Japanese money. Though no doubt the churches which now receive substantial help from foreigners are desirous of becoming independent eventually, it is a subject for regret that these bodies should have acquired the habit of constant dependence on foreign money. As the work of these churches extends, the amount of foreign money spent on them increases, and thus this class of Christians sinks deeper and deeper into the mire of obligation to foreigners.

Writing on the same subject, the Episcopalian Hokkaidō organ, the *Hokkai-no-Eihari*, says it has never been the intention of the English Church Missionary Society to grant pecuniary support to native churches to all time. The help given has had only one object, the eventual

entire independence of the churches. Hitherto great difficulty has been found in collecting sufficient money to pay native pastors. In order to meet this difficulty to some extent, a society has been formed called the *Hokkaidō Bokushi Hōkyū Kaisha* (The Hokkaidō Pastors' Remuneration Society), to whose funds all those interested in the mission are asked to subscribe. In the disbursement of the money collected precedence will be given to the pastor whose congregation subscribes more towards his support than other congregations. Thus gradually, it is hoped, the churches will, one after the other, be rendered entirely self-supporting.

No. 48 of Dr. Katō Hiroyuki's "Hundred Essays" is entitled "Loyalty (to the Emperor), Filial Piety, Benevolence, Justice, Humanity, and Compassion are all to be regarded as egoistic in origin and end. Some little time ago Dr. Katō was accused by the *Kokumin-no-tomo* of sowing the seeds of materialism among the professors and students of the Imperial University during the time of his presidency. To this Dr. Katō replies in the *Taiyō* that too much importance is attached to his influence by the *Kokumin-no-tomo*. It is not difficult to account for the attraction that physical science and kindred subjects possess for ordinary Japanese minds. The search for something solid and capable of being proved was a natural reaction from the vague theorising with which scholars had been amusing themselves for ages.

The efforts of Mr. Vebina Danjō towards amalgamating Christianity and Shintō are pronounced by the *Taiyō* to be quite fruitless, seeing that the two creeds contain elements that can never be made to blend.

The *Nihon Shugi* requests all Japanese Christians to give plain answers to the following questions. (1) Can the worship of His Sacred Majesty the Emperor, which every loyal Japanese performs, be reconciled with the worship of God and Christ by Christians? (2) Can the existence of authorities that are quite independent of the Japanese state, such as that of God, Christ, the Bible, the Pope, the Head of the Greek Church (the Czar), be regarded as harmless? (3) Can the Japanese who is the faithful servant of Christ be regarded at the same time as the faithful servant of the Emperor and a true friend of His Majesty's faithful subjects? Or, to put it another way, Is our Emperor to follow in the wake of Western Emperors and to pray, "Son of God have mercy on me"? (4) Can the Christian convert answer the above questions in a manner that will satisfy our reason?

Of these queries the *Saikyō Shimpō* and other organs write in scornful tones, contending that the loud professions of intense loyalty to the throne of the *Nihon Shugi* is nothing more than a device to hide the weakness of the cause it espouses; and there are those who say that its pretended patriotic zeal does far more harm than good; as patriotism carried to excess invites ridicule.

The *Rikugō Zasshi* contains a lengthy and carefully prepared criticism of the views advocated by Dr. Hozumi in his recent work entitled *Aikokuron* (Patriotism). The line taken by Dr. Hozumi corresponds with that of the ultra-conservatives of the Shintō persuasion. It will no doubt be somewhat of a surprise to many readers to find that a man who is well versed in Western learning should hold the view that consanguinity is the best foundation for morality, for that is what Dr. Hozumi's theory amounts to, when simply stated. He contends that both in the case of the Imperial Dynasty and of the Japanese people as a nation there has been no mixture of blood or race and that this unity of origin is the strongest of all ethical bonds. The *Rikugō Zasshi* first calls into question the facts on which Dr. Hozumi's theory is said to rest. What accurate historian is there, asks the *Rikugō Zasshi*, that would venture to assert that the Japanese of to-day are derived from one source? What becomes of Dr. Hozumi's superstructure when the foundation

of the whole, the assertion that we all sprang originally from the same family, is shown to be baseless? How can this theory of Dr. Hozumi's be reconciled to the principle of which we hear so much nowadays, the extension of the Japanese empire? How can we unite to us a people of alien lineage like the Formosans? What does Dr. Hozumi mean by our all having the same ancestors? There is no interpretation of the term *Dōso* (same ancestors) consistent with history that will support the ethical system which he is anxious to establish. What do we know, after all, about the genealogy of the ancients who lived centuries before written records were kept? Dr. Hozumi, in conjunction with others, has, it is said, succeeded in preserving in the New Civil Code many of the elements of Japanese family life, but when what has been preserved is compared with what has been eliminated the magnitude of the changes which year by year are taking place becomes very manifest? Will anything save the remainder? Do men any longer feel towards their ancestors as they used to feel? Do they believe that their spirits exist in a disembodied state? Do children actually think that they are objects of care to their deceased grand-parents? It would be interesting to know, says the *Rikugō Zasshi*, what Dr. Hozumi himself in his heart of hearts thinks on these points? A man's real belief does not always correspond to the theories which he advocates. But even supposing that the existence of the spirits of ancestors and their readiness to help could be proved, the worship of these spirits would still appear to the philosophical to be a purely selfish affair carried on for the sake of the benefits to be received, and in the majority of cases to be in no way based on any superior moral qualities possessed by the objects of worship.

FORTIFICATION OF HONGKONG.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* says:—

The report that the south side of the island is to be provided with defensive works sufficient to prevent any attempted landing by an enemy will be received with general satisfaction. With the powerful batteries protecting the harbour no enemy, it is believed, would attempt to force either the eastern or western entrance, and the city may therefore be deemed safe from attack from that direction, unless, indeed, the enemy managed to come over the Kowloon hills and establish himself in force on the peninsula. That is a danger which has been recognised and is one of the chief reasons for desiring a rectification of the frontier, in order that it may be guarded against. A more immediate danger, however, was the unprotected condition of the south side of the island, where an enemy might make a sudden landing in force and occupy important positions before the defending troops could be brought up to oppose him. Under the new scheme we understand all the available landing places will be covered by guns, so that the way will no longer be left open to the enemy to attack us from the rear. To provide for the working of the guns there will, of course, have to be a proportionate increase to the garrison.

The danger of an attack by way of Mirs Bay and the Kowloon hill passes will still remain, but further representations as to the importance of a rectification of the frontier are being made by the local authorities to the Imperial Government. It is to be hoped that success may attend those representations, for the rectification is urgently required not only for defensive purposes but also to allow of the industrial expansion of the colony.

LOSS OF THE "FUSO-KAN."

According to the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun*, the Japanese man-of-war *Fuso* ran on a rock near Nagahama in the Kita Division of Iyo province, and sank, at 6 p.m. on the 29th ultimo. The *Fuso* used to enjoy the distinction of being Japan's only iron-clad. She was built in 1877, has a belt of 7 inches and 9 inches over her battery, is of 3,777 tons displacement and carries twelve guns, of which the largest are four 15-ton Krupps. There were no casualties to life or limb, and it is expected that the ship can be raised without much difficulty. Nagahama is a port on the Iyo Nada, which washes the south-western shore of Shikoku. We have never heard that the place presents any special perils to navigation.

The city of Berlin has closed its annual accounts with a surplus of over \$2,000,000. This money has been saved by the different departments, most of which spent far less than had been granted to them.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

According to the *Shogyō* silver *yen* pieces exchanged for gold up to the 20th inst. amounted to 45,571,817 *yen*, of which 54,186,610 *yen* were delivered to the Bank of Japan and the remainder, 1,385,207 *yen*, to the public.

The *Official Gazette* states that earth, gravel, stone, etc., required for the construction of railways in Formosa, are to be delivered free of charge to the promoters of railway schemes, if procured from land under the supervision of the Governor-General's Office.

The *Kokumin* quotes as follow from a Russian journal:—"The principal causes of trouble to Russia in Korea are the control by the English over the Finance Department and the Customs, and the policy pursued by Japan of stationing troops in various places on the plea of protecting her own interests. Any relaxation of precautions on the part of Russia will enable the two Powers—Japan and England—to obtain complete control over Korea at no distant date.

Of the amount of War Bonds sold by Government, amounting to 43 million *yen*, 27,950,000 *yens*' worth were received in London at the end of September. A telegram received by the Government on the 29th ult. announces the receipt of the remaining 15,050,000 *yen* on the 28th ult. Of these some 30 millions were to be remitted to the Government through exchange, and it is now reported that similar arrangements are also being made for the rest of the money.

Various opinions, or conjectures, have been expressed with regard to the intentions of Mr. Hoshi, Minister to America. He is now reported to have determined to return to America again. He proceeded to the Palace on the 29th inst., and having acquainted the Emperor with various diplomatic matters connected with the country to which he is accredited, paid visits to each of the Ministers of State as is customary on such occasions. He intends to leave Japan by the steamer *Gaelic*, leaving Yokohama on the 9th proximo.

A scheme is on foot to reconstruct the harbour of Wakamatsu in Chikuzen at a cost of two million *yen*, which it was proposed should be raised by a joint stock corporation. As it is considered improbable that such a corporation could be successfully formed at the present time, an arrangement has been made, according to the *Shogyō*, to obtain a subsidy of 500,000 *yen* from the Government Iron Foundry, 300,000 *yen* from the Mitsubishi Company, and other sums from the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and certain coal mining companies.

The Educational Department is reported by the *Mainichi* to have approved a representation made by Mr. Toyama at the High Education Council with regard to the establishment of an Educational Statistics Bureau. Mr. Toyama considers that in determining the system of education suited to the Japanese, it is necessary to investigate, for a period of years, the physical and mental faculties developed by children, in relation to school instruction and discipline, and that for this purpose the educationists throughout the empire should be required to collate all statistics available for the formulation of a standard.

According to the *Hochi*, the projectors of the electric tramways in the capital were summoned to the *Tokyo Fuchō* on the 29th ult., and were required to comply with the following provisions:—(1) The locomotive power shall be exclusively supplied by electricity, the use for motive purposes of men or horses being strictly prohibited. (2) The system of storage shall be followed, no electric posts being used. (3) The construction of electric tramways shall be limited to thoroughfares of more than 8 *ken* in width, in the districts of Nihonbashi and Kyo-bashi, but in the Hill district the width of road may be over 6 *ken*. In sections where lines are

to be doubled for electric locomotives the road must be 2 *zen* wider than the limits above specified.

Reports from various prefectures received by the Government as to the rice crop throughout the empire show the total production for this year to be 36,289,056 *koku*. These figures indicate a decrease of about 10 per cent. as compared with ordinary years, but an increase of 0.4 per cent. over last year. Full statistics have not yet been obtained of the actual crop in some districts, but it is believed that this year has been more successful than last, though it is rather less than previous years. The clamour of rice speculators as to scarcity of grain must therefore be considered as misleading. Experience shows that the actual crop has always exceeded the estimates, and it may confidently be expected that the harvest this year will not be less by five per cent. than any of the previous years. So says the *Yorossu*.

The *Yorossu* states that the New Taxation Investigation Committee of Tokyo Fu decided, at a conference held on the 28th instant, to reject the scheme of levying taxes on companies' but came to no conclusion as to an alternative source of revenue. It is conjectured that the Committee will resort to the following measures at another conference to be held on the 4th proximo:—Taxation of banks at the rate of 18% on profits above 5 per cent. and below 10 per cent; 18% on profits over 10 per cent. and 18% on profits exceeding 20 per cent. Taxes on exchanges, 18% on profits above 5 per cent. and below 10 per cent.; 18% on profits of more than 10 per cent.; 18% on profits above 20 per cent.; 18% being increased for every 10 per cent. of profits above the last named limit. Tithes to be levied on the sale or purchase of land, buildings, and other immovable property. Taxes on *jinrikisha* will be 2 *yen* for single vehicles and 4 *yen* on double, while bicycles are to be taxed 3 *yen*. The taxes on carriages for domestic use, on hackney carriages, omnibuses, trucks, and ox-carts, are to be levied under the general head of "Carriage tax." Carriages drawn by horses will be taxed 20 *yen* for one horse and 30 *yen* for two horses, and horse-carts are to be required to pay 6 *yen* instead of 5 as heretofore.

The appointment of Mr. Ume Kenjiro, L.L.D., to the Presidency of the Legislative Bureau, was gazetted on the 29th instant. He was formerly known as an advocate of the independence of the judiciary in Formosa, but whether he will still hold true to his avowed principles after his new appointment is a question which the public, the *Tokyo Asahi* says, are eager to ascertain. The views he has expressed on the subject of the Formosan judiciary may be epitomised as follows:—The provisions of the Constitution which constitute the safeguard of the independence of judicial functionaries must be applied within the limits of the Constitution. The so-called Law-court Organization Law has no relation whatever to the Imperial Diet or to the Law of Election. It is, in fact, a by-law, and independent of it judicial independence is properly secured by the constitutional provisions referred to. The judiciary in Formosa are likewise entitled to maintain their independence according to the Constitution in spite of the non-existence of judicial Regulations or a Court Organisation Law. There is no room for doubt on this point. The adverse criticisms on the subject, which have been expressed by certain circles of the public are incomprehensible to the distinguished lawyer. Such are the opinions formerly entertained by Dr. Ume. The post of President of the Legislative Bureau does not afford the holder the authority of a political commissioner, the duties being simply to act as Law Councillor of the Cabinet, the authority of which cannot be impugned. What course will Dr. Ume pursue at the present juncture?

The *Kokumin*, commenting on the present situation of the Cabinet, ridicules and denies that there is any foundation for the popular outcry of

"want of unity," in the Cabinet. At the time of the organization of the present Ministry both Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima eagerly desired the co-operation of Count Okuma, who, by his simple and straightforward character, ability, and judgment had earned their admiration and respect. The confidence and friendship between the three statesmen, says the *Kokumin*, still remains unaltered, and not a shadow of ill-feeling exists between them.

The *Fiji* publishes the following statistics of casualties to life and limb on the Railways of Japan from the 23rd to the 29th year of Meiji (1890 to 1897):—

Year.	Mileage of lines open.	Persons killed.	Persons injured.
23rd	1,698.....	232.....	1,804
24th	1,750.....	243.....	148
25th	1,879.....	271.....	165
26th	2,039.....	318.....	233
27th	2,118.....	365.....	345
28th	2,290.....	461.....	446
29th	2,446.....	458.....	354
Total		2,348	1,804
Average per year ... 2,031.....		335.....	257

The *Yomiuri* states that the Relief Station established at Shimonoseki under the supervision of the Imperial Marine Disaster Relief Association, is to be opened on the 3rd November, arrangements having lately been completed. The relief to be administered by the Station is to extend over the whole bay, boats being kept in readiness in convenient places, such as Tanokubi, Deshimachi, Fukura, and Nambudomari, to render aid to vessels in distress. All the business will be conducted at the Water Police Office for the time being, while watch towers are to be erected on Ganryujima island and communication with the various stations will be secured by a submarine cable specially laid for the purpose.

In order to enlarge the scope of technical education, a sum of 150,000 *yen* was disbursed last year to the various cities and prefectures throughout the empire. The results having proved extremely successful, the Department of Education has now resolved, the *Nichi Nichi* asserts, to double the amount of the subsidy. It is hardly necessary to say that the number of local technical schools has increased considerably of late, their usefulness being fully appreciated. The late High Education Council also approved the extension scheme.

A telegram from Formosa, dated the 28th instant, reports that Mr. Kawada Tozaburo, Chief Judge of the Taipei Court, together with seven clerks, have tendered their resignations. Of the twelve clerks serving in the Taipei Court, more than half have therefore resolved to share the fate of their former chief, Mr. Takano.

The Home Department, alleges the *Meiji Shimbun*, has long devoted its energies to the improvement of jails. A few years ago, Commissioner Ogawa was despatched to the West with instructions to investigate the general regulations as well as the systems of prisons in Europe and America. The time for enforcing the revised treaties being at hand, improvement in the constitution and construction of prisons has now become a most indispensable enterprise. Count Kabayama made a declaration in that sense at the recent meeting of prison Superintendents from the various prefectures. The scheme requires an enormous outlay, and its execution was consequently deferred. The Prison Bureau, however, has resolved to commence the work at no distant date, and arrangements are being made for the purpose.

The *Kodo-kai* (Public Unionists) are reported by the *Osaka Asahi* to have submitted the following memorial to the Premier for acceptance.—(1) The Cabinet shall carry out the scheme of increased taxation, and discontinue the temporising policy of reducing departmental expenditures. (2) When the increased taxation scheme is carried into operation, prison expenditures shall be defrayed from the Treasury,

and the respective expenditures for public works payable by the Treasury and from local taxes shall be clearly specified. (3) The unity of the Cabinet shall be secured, and steps taken to adjust or reform administrative affairs. (4) Count Okuma shall be relieved of the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce.

The Progressionists appear to have altogether forgotten, says the *Chuo*, that the notice of dismissal sent to Mr. Takano placing him on a retired list was signed by the Premier and Count Okuma and other Ministers. They have placed the responsibility for the affair exclusively upon Mr. Kiyoura, Minister of Justice, and urged the Government to withdraw the notice to Mr. Takano and to remove Mr. Kiyoura from his post. Count Oki has begun a hostile movement against the Cabinet, and has communicated privately with Mr. Mizuno, appointed to succeed Mr. Takano, with a view to delaying his departure for his new post. The Cabinet, the *Chuo* says, is now in a state of great perplexity about the matter, but we (*Japan Mail*) have discovered no evidences of any perplexity.

Investigations made by the Finance Department and published in the *Fiji* show that the coinage in circulation in Japan at the end of last month amounted to 85,397,415 *yen*, showing an increase of 668,349 *yen* as compared with the previous month, and of 11,851,303 *yen* over the corresponding period of last year. The following are the details:—

	At the end of September, Yen.	Compared with previous month, Yen.	Compared with the corresponding period of last year, Yen.
Gold	5,622,354	194,432	143,141
One yen silver and trade dollars ...	37,525,036	347,434	7,555,299
50 <i>sen</i> silver coins and under ...	26,272,993	127,808	3,634,710
Nickel	6,626,078	—225	554,663
Copper	9,350,952	—100	—36,510
Total	85,397,415	668,349	11,851,303

The amount of Government and bank paper circulating at the end of last month was, according to the *Fiji*, 14,100,989 *yen*, showing a decrease of 190,802 *yen* in Government paper and of 469,368 *yen* in bank notes.

THE LATE SIR RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

The news of the death of Sir Rutherford Alcock will awake many old memories among the earlier residents in Japan, for he represented Her Majesty at the "Capital of the Tycoon" in very stirring times. We have only space for a short notice of his career this morning, which we extract from *Men and Women of the Time*:—Sir Rutherford, who was the son of Mr. Thomas Alcock, was born in 1809, and educated for the medical profession. He was on the medical staff of the British Auxiliary Forces in Portugal in 1832 in support of Maria II. against the Miguelists, and in Spain in 1835 in support of Isabella II., against the Carlists, and for his services in the Peninsula received honours and decorations from the Spanish and the Portuguese Governments. Subsequently he was Consul at Foochow (1844); at Shanghai (1846); and at Canton (1858). Thence he was transferred to the diplomatic service, and became Envoy Extraordinary, Minister Plenipotentiary, and Consul-General in Japan. Sir Rutherford Alcock was created K.C.B. in 1862; and in 1865 was transferred to Peking as Envoy and Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of Trade in China, and remained there till 1870. He is the author of "Notes on the Medical History of the British Legation of Spain," 1838; "Elements of Japanese Grammar," 1861; "The Capital of the Tycoon," 1863; and "Familiar Dialogues in Japanese," 1878; and a work on Japanese Art and Industries. In 1876 he was President of the Royal Geographical Society, and in 1882 presided over the Health Department of the Social Congress.

KOREAN NEWS.

The coronation of the ruler of Korea under his new title of "Emperor" took place on the 12th of October at three o'clock in the morning. The *Independent* gives the following account of the affair:—

The place where the ceremony occurred may not be equal in splendour to the marble palaces and jewelled thrones of European courts, but its address and simplicity command admiration. The Imperial Round Hill, or the Sacred Altar, inside of old Nambekung, is a circular platform divided into three terraces, each attaining a height of four feet of granite embankment. The lowest terrace is about one hundred and forty-four feet in diameter and surrounded by a low granite wall. The second terrace is seventy-two feet in diameter while the third or highest platform is thirty-six feet across. The floor of each is covered with rectangular tiles. Around the upper platform a circular awning of yellow was neatly hung, and over it all a huge square awning protected the platforms from the hot rays of the sun during the day and from the dew at night. There are four entrances through the circular granite wall on the lower terrace, one on each side of the compass. The gates are constructed after the fashion of Japanese *tori* and painted with the Imperial colour of yellow.

His Majesty, the Emperor, left the Kyengwon Palace at half-past two on Monday afternoon, and, with great splendour of pageantry of both Oriental and Occidental fashions, with several regiments of soldiers, carriers of flags, wooden hammers, gilded stirrups, silvery wooden swords, together with numerous dignified strutting of officials, went to the Sacred Altar. His Majesty inspected the various arrangements in connection with the ceremony in person with His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince. His Majesty wore the yellow robe upon which the sun, moon, stars and various animals were embroidered in gold. His hat was the jewelled crown after the fashion of the Ming dynasty. The Crown Prince wore a similarly fashioned robe except that the color was red instead of yellow. The Emperor and Prince each rode in a yellow chair which was richly gilded and each was carried on the shoulders of fifty or more men.

The entire length of the route from the Palace to the Sacred Altar was lined with soldiers and police and either side of the street was temporarily fenced off by awnings. Many private and public buildings were decorated with flags and thousands of people watched the procession from high places about the city. Every one was orderly and the details of the programme were admirably carried out.

His Majesty and the Crown Prince stayed in the Sacred Altar until four o'clock and returned to the Palace. About two o'clock Tuesday morning (12th Oct.) the Imperial party went again to the Altar and performed the coronation rituals. On the upper platform several tables were placed and upon them the usual sacrificial food was arranged and the Round Hill was brilliantly lighted. His Majesty rose and reverently bowed to Heaven, and a high dignitary—Grand Master of Ceremonies—read loudly the prayer which was composed for the occasion. The gist of the prayer was that through Heaven's blessing His Majesty takes upon himself the title of Great Emperor of Great Chosun, which was done in accordance with the will of Heaven and man. Heaven may bestow upon the Emperor continual blessings and guide him in directing the affairs of the Empire. After the completion of the prayer and offering of various sacrificial animals His Majesty and the Crown Prince again bowed. Then the Emperor took a seat and received the congratulations of the Ministers of State and other civil and military officials, who arranged themselves on the different terraces according to their rank and bowed to the Emperor nine times.

The only unfortunate occurrence during the ceremony was the downpouring rain which soaked through the awnings, causing great inconvenience and discomfort to the Imperial party as well as to the thousands of other followers. Some of the lights were blown out by the wind and the torches were extinguished by the rain. Every body was shivering with cold and their silky robes and gilded hats presented the most dilapidated appearance on account of the drenching rain. About five o'clock in the morning the procession was again formed and in the midst of rain and wind the Imperial party safely returned to the Palace. We join the loyal Korean citizens in shouting *vive l'Empereur*.

The Japanese-Korean newspaper of Söul—the *Kanijo Shimpö*—has become a daily, in-

stead of tri-weekly, publication. It appears on one day in pure Korean script, and on the next in mixed Korean and Japanese.

The *Söul Government Gazette* announces the appointment of six secretaries of Legation to the six European capitals.

Five Korean Imperial Princes are expected to be soon nominated, namely the Tai-won Kun and his son (the Emperor's brother); the Emperor's second son (Eniwha); the Emperor's first cousin (Ye Chaiwan), and one other.

Korea was visited by a great storm of wind and rain on the 23rd and 24th of September. In Sungchon fifty-nine lives were lost, and in South Kyensang, fourteen.

A Mr. Ye Junkie reports to the *Independent* that the newly appointed Magistrate of Onyang in Chunchong province having been continually drunk from the time of his arrival at his post, the leading inhabitants of the district finally marched to his office, tied him on horseback, and transported him across the frontier. The Magistrate took it good-naturedly and made no remonstrance.

It is stated that Mr. Greathouse will no longer be employed by the Korean Law Department, but will give his services entirely to the Foreign Office.

The *Söul Independent*, moralizing on the fact that Korea has become an empire without any exercise of energy on her own part, or any of the sacrifices that usually precede such an achievement, adds:—

The Shimonoseki treaty of 1895 secured Korea the indisputable title of independence, but very few Koreans realized the position in which their country was placed. They gained the independence but not a drop of blood was shed for obtaining it on the part of the Koreans. It was a most unusual way for a vassal State to be an independent sovereign Power, as the independence was actually forced upon her by another country.

The Russian Legation in Söul is in process of being re-roofed, corrugated iron being substituted for Japanese tiles; not a change for the better, we should think.

"Dai-han" is the new name of Korea, according to Korean pronunciation. The Japanese read the same ideographs "*Dai-kan*."

The French Government is said to have declined to receive Mr. Min Yungik as Korean Representative. The objection is based upon two grounds: first, that Mr. Min has been away from Korea for ten years and that he is not to return thither before proceeding to Europe; secondly, that he was connected indirectly with the fraud in Hongkong some years ago, when a sum of forty thousand dollars was improperly obtained from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Korea was sending Mr. Min as her representative to the six great capitals of Europe, but France's objection will, of course, put an end to his mission.

The degraded status of Buddhists in Korea is recalled by intelligence that the Söul police have been ordered to examine every Buddhist priest entering the city, for the purpose of ascertaining his business and destination. Before the war, Buddhist priests were not allowed to enter Söul under any circumstances. That veto was removed in 1895, and it appears that the priests have been abusing their new privilege.

YUKON MINING COMPANY.

The *New York Journal*, writing on October 2nd, says:—"The mining market was very dull yesterday, with the single exception of Yukon, which rose to 27½ on fairly active trading. Considerable blocks of this stock have been taken by Canadians, in addition to the stock taken by Englishmen in Japan. Sales were to-day:—Yukon, 11,300; 27½ high; 26½, low; close, 27½."

We understand that the Agent of the Company in Yokohama, has sold 35,000 shares at 10 cents, gold, a piece.

ENGLISH CYCLING NOTES.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Police charges for furious riding still continue to occupy considerable space in the cycling publications in England and the agitation against the miscarriage of justice, more especially in the case of the Magistrates on the Reigate Bench, is now extending to the London daily press. There can be no doubt that much prejudice is carried in these decisions of the various Magistrates, for it is a very rare occurrence for any of the public to be injured by the wilfulness or carelessness of cyclists. It is a positive fact that to ride down the Brighton road any Sunday between the hours of nine and nine lays one open to a summons and a 20/- fine. The policeman uses no discretion as to the speed of the rider, and the Magistrates use no discretion as to the evidence brought forward when convicting a cyclist, one and all are fined the 20/- and costs. Two men recently hired a tandem, started to ride down a rather steep hill in Kent, and did not notice that the machine was brakeless. They had not proceeded far before the machine became uncontrollable and dashed down the hill; they fell over, one receiving a fractured skull and the other a broken arm; yet the police and magistrates classed this as "wilfully riding a bicycle to the common danger of the public," and fined both the maximum penalty of 40/-.

The Scottish amateur racing season was brought to a close on Saturday, September 11th, when a 30-mile championship for Scotland was decided on the Dumfries track. The magnificent weather induced a large crowd to assemble to witness this event. The meeting, however, was marred by a series of accidents. Although the competitors were sent away without a mishap, it was apparent from the crowded appearance of the track that a disaster would occur sooner or later unless the field spread out. Scarcely a mile had been covered before 5 of the competitors came down in a heap, one breaking his collar-bone in two places, while another received damage to his left shoulder. At 18 miles Ramsey's tyre burst, and in his fall he brought down another rider which left only 4 men on the track. At 20 miles one of the competitors gave up, at 28 another, leaving only W. Johnston, of Lockerbie, and H. T. Crossbie, of Helensburg, to fight out the championship, the winner eventually turning up in the former man in the slow time of 2 hours 15 minutes.

W. J. Neason, of the Anfield B.C., has again been successful in reducing the time for the London to Brighton and back record. This has undoubtedly been the favourite place-to-place record of the present season. Scarcely a fortnight passes without someone attempting or achieving an improvement on the existing times. W. J. Neason, it will be remembered, early in May secured this record by covering the 104 miles in 5 hrs. 10 minutes and 54 seconds. He held the record for the space of a month. He has now re-gained it, covering the distance in 5 hrs. 6 minutes and 42 seconds, a really grand ride considering the numerous hills that have to be traversed. Subsequently, Montague A. Holbein started to re-gain his world's record for 24 hours on the road. The weather and pacing arrangements were perfect for achieving this object, and it is therefore all the more to be regretted that at about 30 miles from the start the famous road racer unfortunately touched his pacing motor and being unable to re-gain himself, fell. A tandem which was riding behind him had not time to escape riding over him, and in doing so fractured his hip. He had to be removed to the White Hart Hotel, Wisbech, where medical attendance was secured.

I was surprised to hear of one of our old amateurs, E. H. Ainsworth, joining the ranks of the Professionals the day before he left England for Australia. He is travelling with J. J. Platt-Betts per P. & O. *China*. C. F. Barden and T. J. Gascoyne will shortly be following.

AMENDED ORGANIZATION OF THE HOKKAIDO ADMINISTRATION.

The changes effected in the organization of the Hokkaido Administration have no particular interest for foreign readers. Three new bureaux are created—colonization, railways and engineering; five special business officials are to be appointed, and instead of Headmen of districts, there are to be Headmen of Branch Administrations. The alterations are to go into force from the 5th inst. ant.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. James I. Dodge, of Indiana, has been appointed U.S. Consul at Nagasaki.

Lord George Hamilton estimates the cost of the Indian Famine to the Indian Government at ten millions sterling.

From the commencement of the Indian Frontier operations, up to Oct. 9th, the British losses have been 190 killed and 580 wounded.

The foreign community of Bangkok intend to present an address to H.M. the King of Siam on his return from his European tour.

A native Volunteer Corps is being formed in certain provinces of the Philippines, under a decree issued by the Governor-General dated the 16th October.

The charge of *lese majeste* brought against the *Frankfurter Zeitung* for criticising the alleged erratic course of Emperor William has been dismissed.

Telegraphing at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday our Hakodate correspondent informed us that the first snow this season was then falling in the northern treaty port.

The approaching rice harvest in Tonkin promises to be a very good one, says a Hongkong payer. Satisfactory reports are being received from all parts of the country.

Since the great earthquake of 1891, Gifu has experienced 3,574 shocks or tremors and Nagoya 1,827. The number registered each year has decreased as the months have elapsed, remarks the *Higo News*.

H.M.S. *Plique* and *Rainbow* will not, says the *China Mail*, recommission on this station. On the completion of their present commission, about March or April next year, they will proceed to England.

The recovery of one of General Gordon's uniform cases is an interesting incident of the Sudan advance, and prophetic, let us hope, of the complete success of the expedition in recovering all that Egypt and England lost when Gordon died.

Two foreign banks of Yokohama—the H. & S. Banking Corporation, and the Chart-red Bank of I. A. & C.—are advertising an increase in their rates of interest: 12 months' deposits now receive 5 per cent.; 6 months' 4 per cent.; and 3 months' 3 per cent.

The China Mutual Steam Navigation Co.'s steamer *Moyune*, it seems, struck on an unknown rock near Palawan Island, at a place marked 200 fathoms on the chart. It is just probable that the rock has been thrown to the surface in the recent seismic disturbances.

In one of our Southern Courts the other day, remarks a Madras contemporary, a profound limb of the law was doing his level best to establish the soundness of an impossible proposition. "The Court is not with you," said the Judge. "Then," replied the Barrister grandiloquently, "I have in vain studied law for the last twenty years." "The Court is with you in that," was the smiling retort.

The steamer *Iyo Maru*, built at the Kawasaki Yard, Kobe, to the order of the Iyo Steamship Company, was successfully launched at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, says the *Kobe Chronicle*. There were present about 370 gentlemen, amongst whom were seen Baron Suzuki, the

Vice-Minister for Communications, Governor Omori, Judge Chiba, President of the Kobe District Court, and others. The *Iyo Maru* is a steel steamer, 180 feet long, 26½ feet wide, 20½ feet deep, of 620 tons and 90 horse-power. Her speed is intended to be 15 knots an hour, and she is designed to meet the requirements of the Steam Navigation Encouragement Law.

The St. Andrew's Society at Shanghai devotes a portion of its funds to provide bursaries for children of Scotch parentage in attendance at the Shanghai Public School. The bursaries voted last year were awarded to Winnie Lamond (\$100) and Master Willie Anderson (\$50).

It has been decided to hold a St. Andrew's Ball in Bangkok. A proposal is on foot to make it a fancy ball. If they be favourable, all Scotsmen are to be asked to appear in Scotch characters. This reminds us, that the Yokohama community will not lose their St. Andrew's Ball this year, though it will be on more business-like and manageable lines than formerly.

The preliminary examination by H.M. Consul, Mr. Longford, into the cause of the death of James Gerard, who was fatally stabbed on the 19th ult. at Nagasaki, on board the British ship *Port Caledonia*, has resulted in the accused, William Cuthbert, being committed for trial on the capital charge. The trial will take place at Yokohama, says our Nagasaki contemporary, but the date of the assize is not yet known.

The Agent of the Rosland and Yukon Gold-Mining Company states that latest quotation for Yukon shares on the Consolidated Stock Exchange of New York was 27½ cents. (Gold) on fairly active trading. A few shares of the stock can yet be obtained at the Agency but preference will be given to present stockholders. Applications for same must be made not later than Thursday morning next, for C. P. R. Mail.

The other day a cardboard box merchant in Birmingham delivered sixty cases, price 7s 6d. to the Birmingham branch of the Bank of England. The goods were accompanied by a delivery note with the following intimation:—

It is usual with a first transaction to have one or two references. However, to save time, I have sent the boxes on. Fancy trusting the Bank of England for 7s. 6d. without one or two references! Let us hope, says *Truth*, that the worthy man will not find that his confidence has been misplaced.

The *Undaunted's* on October 21st, says the *Hongkong Telegraph*, turned over from the *Tamar* to their own ship, where it is to be hoped fever will not be so rife amongst them as has been the case during their stay on board the hulk. A deal of work still remains to be done to complete the overhaul of the *Undaunted*, so it is unlikely that she will be ready for sea for some weeks. No date has yet been fixed for the transferring of the Commodore's broad pennant from the *Victor* to the *Tamar* as the alterations to the latter hulk are far from completed.

The Goorkha, with his catlike facility for taking cover—aided by his small size—and his sleuth-hound persistence in following an evasive foe, says the *Globe*, has always been an annoyance to the stalwart Pathan. On one occasion two Goorkha scouts were told off to drive away two Afghans who, from a neighbouring summit, were "sniping" at a passing column. The column reached its camp after midnight, and when roll was called the two Goorkhas were missing. Their comrades mourned them for a few hours, but at daybreak the two turned up, very hungry, and very thirsty, but radiant. "We got them both!" they said. Few men but Goorkhas would have enjoyed the sport of stalking enemies in their own country until they "got them both."

Sir William Robinson, Governor of Hongkong, in the course of a recent address to the Legislative Council, expressed the hope that a surplus in the Colony's accounts of \$3,686 would be found at the end of the new financial

year. Incidentally, he remarked that \$98,000 dollars had been subscribed by the residents of the Colony for a new Victoria Road, Victoria Hospital, and Nursing Institute, which are intended to commemorate the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign. The Government intends subscribing a like amount, the fund thus standing at \$196,000—a truly handsome sum.

Says the *Kobe Chronicle* of Monday, November 1st:—We greatly regret to announce the death of Mr. R. N. Gray, which occurred yesterday morning at the comparatively early age of 38, of consumption. Mr. Gray has only been in Japan some five or six years, having come to this country in the hope of arresting the disease from which he was suffering, and only this year he made a trip to Honolulu with a similar object, but without experiencing any benefit. He was at first connected with the firm of Messrs. C. P. Low & Co., and afterwards joined the China and Japan Trading Co., with whom he remained to the last, his conscientious and painstaking methods being much appreciated by his employers. Though perhaps not known to a very wide circle, Mr. Gray had many close friends in Kobe, who will deeply regret that a life exhibiting such sterling qualities should have been prematurely cut short by death.

On Monday evening the police effected a smart capture of a bicycle thief. It appears that a member of the Chess Club left his machine at the foot of the stairway leading up to the Club rooms on Creekside and upon coming down found the bicycle missing. He at once proceeded to the police-box at the Yato-bashi and the telephone bells were set ringing. Within half-an-hour the report came in that the missing bicycle had been found in the possession of a Japanese, who was caught as he passed the temple at the far end of Motomachi. The police are to be commended on their celerity and the bicycle-owner offered a piece of advice—not to leave his machine in an exposed position again.

A correspondent writes:—"Some time ago there was a discussion about the Japanese raspberry. The following extract from the London *Mail* may, therefore, be of interest. The description it contains answers to the *ickigo*, plentiful at Karuizawa and elsewhere, which is made (by foreigners) into jam:—

Observations made at the Rhode Island experiment station indicate that the Loganberry can be most successfully, though only slowly, propagated from its prostrate stems or stolons. The newer types of small fruits that have been gradually introduced into American gardens during the last ten years include the Crandall currant, the dwarf Juneberry, the Japan wineberry, the Japan Mayberry, the strawberry-raspberry, and the Loganberry. Of these the Crandall currant is a modification of the flowering or Missouri currant, formerly grown only as an ornamental plant. The dwarf Juneberry is a variety of the shadblow, *Amelanchier Canadensis*, and has not yet attained any commercial value. The Japan wineberry *Rubus phanicolasius*, is a variety of raspberry, in which the hull or calyx incloses the berry in the earlier stages of its growth, opening out at about the time when the fruit begins to colour, and leaving it fully exposed when ripe. The berries are vivid scarlet, but not highly flavoured.

It is rumoured that Sir Claude Macdonald will not remain very much longer at Peking, but will be promoted to a post which is expected to become vacant in the coming winter. His place in China will, according to the *Manchester Guardian*, fall to another man outside regular ranks of diplomacy, who, like Sir Claude, has been fortunate enough to earn Lord Salisbury's good opinion—Sir H. H. Johnson. Sir Harry has, however, only just been appointed British Consul at Tunis, and the *Guardian's* information is probably inaccurate on this point. That Sir Claude Macdonald will be promoted within a short time is very likely. He has been exceptionally fortunate in his diplomacy in China. The experiment of transferring a military officer with experience in Africa from the Oil Rivers to the charge of our relations with a vast Asiatic empire was a bold experiment. It has been crowned with success, and Sir Claude Macdonald is, therefore, the man of the hour in

the Foreign Office; as was Sir Nicholas O'Connor a few years ago and Sir Gerald Portal at the time of his death. Sir Claude's management of affairs has given great satisfaction to his countrymen in the East, who are notoriously more difficult to satisfy than the Foreign Office.

Upon the *Gräston*'s arrival at Singapore, the *Iphigenia* will leave, the *Free Press* says, within forty-eight hours for Hongkong via Manila.

A violent storm, accompanied by an extraordinarily high tide, caused considerable damage along the Tonkin coast on the morning of the 16th October.

A commerce-destroyer is being designed for the French navy. The vessel is to have a speed of 23 knots, the triple-screw engines to work up to 17,400 horse-power. The dimensions are:—Length, 440 feet; beam, 49 feet 3 inches, and a draft of 20 feet 3 inches, displacing 5,685 tons. The normal coal supply will be 600 tons, but the bunkers will hold 900, on which it is calculated the ship can steam 1,330 knots at full speed and 9,300 knots at 10 knots. Everything has been sacrificed for speed, hence the armament is light, and consists of eight 5-inch rapid-fire guns, ten 6 pounders, and six 3-pounders. She is to be named *Jules Gravier*, after a distinguished French admiral and naval historian. The designer is decidedly ambitious, (says an American exchange, as it is intended to eclipse the United States cruisers *Columbia* and *Minneapolis* of 7,375 tons, which made 22.8 knots and 23.073 knots respectively at their trials. As the French ship is 37 feet longer and of 9 feet less beam and 2½ inches less draught than the *Columbia*, lines of extraordinary sharpness may be looked for, and the ship will be simply a torpedo-boat of large dimensions so far as the hull is concerned, the coefficient of fineness of displacement being 43 against 49 of the *Columbia* and *Minneapolis*).

A shocking tragedy was enacted in the barracks at Colombo on the night of the 10th Oct., a little before midnight, while a dance was proceeding at the L. N. L. R. Officer's Mess. Lieut. Frederick Rudolph Rothwell Greene, attached to "H" Company of the Regiment, who, by reason of his not having subscribed to the dance, had been debarred participation in it, shot himself on the ramparts behind the Officer's Mess, just before the hour arrived for breaking up the party. He shot himself through the heart, but the report of the shot attracted no attention at the Mess. Just as the guests had gone away, however, Captain Knight, the Adjutant, received a note from Mr. Greene, and at the same time Mr. Greene's servant said his master had gone on the ramparts with a revolver; this caused Captain Knight and Sgt. Ennis to set out for the ramparts in search of him. They found him lying dead near a 64-pounder gun with a revolver at his side, the whole circumstances pointing to suicide. The police were sent for; and Colonel Tidy and Surgeon-Major Manders, of the A.M.S., were summoned, but Lieut. Greene was beyond all human aid. His body was removed to his room in the officers' quarters next morning, and at 8 a.m. Mr. W. H. Moor, Police Magistrate, held an inquiry into the affair. At this inquiry it was mentioned that deceased had brought himself to a very low condition in training for the Sky Meet, which finished the previous day. Every day he had ridden far and fast on a bicycle in the heat of the day, and then he had returned to his bed and kept between thick blankets, all to get flesh off. As a result, he was very much less in weight than his usual register, and, therefore, not in sound health, and the comparatively trivial matter connected with his being denied participation in the dance preyed on him in a way that would not have happened had he been in full vigour. He was also peculiarly embarrassed, and his relations were about to relieve him; while, as showing that his relations with his brother-officers were all right, it may be mentioned that he had dined the preceding evening with Col. Tidy, the Commanding Officer. The deceased officer was a son of Mr. H. R. Greene, of Combmarine, St. John's, Woking, and he was only 23 years of age.—*Exchange*.

CONVENTIONAL TARIFF.

We hereby sanction the Ordinance for certifying the original place of production or manufacture of imported goods for which it is desired to receive the benefits of the Conventional Tariff, and order the same to be promulgated.

(Imperial Sign Manual and Seal.)

October 27th of the 30th year of Meiji.

(Counter-signed.)

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 385.

Art. I.—Whenever it is desired that any articles imported into the empire of Japan should enjoy the benefits of the Conventional Tariff in accordance with the provisions of the Treaties, the articles in question must be accompanied at the time of the import with a certificate showing the original place of their production.

Art. II.—The certificate as to the "original place of production" must state the marks, number, name, amount or quantity of articles imported, the name of the place of production or manufacture, and the name of the port, and date of shipment, and must be issued from the Imperial Japanese Consulate or Commercial Commissioners' Office of the territory in which the shipments were effected, (or from the Custom House or other competent authority in places where no Consulate or Commissioner's Office exists).

The period of validity for a certificate so issued shall be one year from the date of issue.

Art. III.—When no certificate is appended or when, if appended, the items mentioned therein are found imperfect or wrongly described the goods in question shall be liable to be taxed according to the Customs Tariff.

Note.—In case a proper certificate is presented for the goods so taxed within six months after the import of the same, a reduction shall be made, in accordance with the Conventional Tariff, from the amount of duty collected thereon.

APPENDIX.

Art. IV.—The date of the enforcement of these Regulations shall be specially determined.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE IN FORMOSA.

We hereby sanction the Ordinance for the Organization of the Governor-General's Office in Formosa and order the same to be promulgated.

(Sign Manual and Seal.)

October 13th of the 30th year of Meiji.

(Counter-

signed)

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Cabinet.
MARQUIS SAIGO YORIMICHI,
Minister of State for the Navy.
VISCOUNT TAKASHIMA TOMOYOSUKA,
Minister of State for War.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 362.

ORGANISATION OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE IN FORMOSA.

Art. I.—In the Formosan Government Office a Governor-General shall be appointed having complete authority over Formosa proper and the Pescadores.

Art. II.—The Governor-General shall be of *shinnin* grade (directly nominated by the Emperor), and be appointed from among Generals or Lieutenant-Generals of the Army or Admirals or Vice-Admirals of the Navy.

Art. III.—The Governor-General shall preside over the military and naval forces within the sphere of control assigned to him, and superintend all political affairs, under the direction of the Minister President of State.

Art. IV.—The Governor-General shall, in regard to military administration and the personal affairs of combatants and non-combatants of the Army and Navy, carry out the instructions of the Ministers of War and the Navy respectively; in offensive and defensive measures and in the mobilization of forces he shall place himself under the direction of the Chief of the Central Staff or the Chief of the Naval Board of Command, and in the training of military troops shall submit to the direction of the Inspector-General of the Army.

Art. V.—The Governor-General may, in the exercise of the power vested in him, or in accordance with special commission, issue ordinances in the name of the Governor-General's Office, appending thereto rules for the imposition of penalties not exceeding a period of one year's imprisonment or a fine of 200 yen.

Art. VI.—The Governor-General shall take charge of the defence of all districts in his jurisdiction.

Art. VI.—The Governor-General may, if he deems it necessary, have recourse to military force for the maintenance of peace and order in the places under his jurisdiction. In such case, however, the fact must immediately be reported to the Minister President of State, Ministers of War and of the Navy, Chief of the Central Staff, and Chief of the Naval Board of Command.

Art. VIII.—Any application for Imperial sanction, as specified in Article II. or Article IV. of Law No. 63 of the 29th year of Meiji, shall be made through the Minister President of State.

Art. IX.—The Governor-General may instruct the Commandant of a garrison or other resident military officer to take charge of civil affairs in districts in which such procedure is deemed indispensable.

Art. X.—Whenever it is deemed that the orders or proceedings of a local Governor or of a Director of any District Office are contrary to established rules or detrimental to public welfare, or are in excess of the powers conferred, the Governor-General may suspend or withdraw such orders or proceedings.

Art. XI.—The Governor-General shall have entire control of his subordinate officers, with the proviso that civil officers of *Sonin* grade shall be appointed or dismissed only with the Imperial sanction, through the Minister President of State; those of the *Hannin* grade being dealt with exclusively at his own discretion.

Art. XII.—The Governor-General may apply for Imperial sanction, through the Minister President of State, for the bestowal of honorary ranks and decorations upon officers under his control.

Art. XIII.—The Governor-General may enforce disciplinary rules against civil officers under his charge, but the dismissal of officers of *Chokunin* and *Sonin* rank must receive the Imperial sanction through the Minister President of State; other officials being dealt with at his discretion.

Art. XIV.—In the Governor-General's Office a Secretariat shall be established consisting of two Aides-de-Camp and two private Secretaries, exclusively appointed to the post, for the management of confidential affairs and correspondence. Aides-de-Camp shall be chosen, one from military officers ranking between Colonels and Lieutenants, the other from naval officers between Captains and Lieutenants. The Private Secretaries shall be of *Sonin* grade.

Art. XV.—In the Governor-General's Office shall be established the Military Staff, the Naval Staff, the Civil Administration Bureau, and the Finance Bureau. Military and Naval Staff Regulations shall be specially organised.

Art. XVI.—The Civil Administration Bureau shall superintend all civil and judicial affairs.

Art. XVII.—The Finance Bureau shall deal with all financial matters.

Art. XVIII.—Sections of each Bureau shall be determined by the Governor-General.

Art. XIX.—The following officials shall be appointed in the Governor-General's Office:—Director of the Civil Administration Bureau, Director of the Finance Bureau, Commissioners, Councillors, Technical Experts, Interpreters, Clerks, Assistant experts and Assistant Interpreters.

Art. XX.—The Directors of the Civil Administration and Finance Bureaux shall each be of *Chokunin* rank, and shall superintend affairs of their respective Bureaux under the direction of the Governor-General.

Art. XXI.—Commissioners, eighteen in number, appointed exclusively to the post, shall be either of *Chokunin* or *Sonin* grade, and attached to the Civil Administration Bureau or Finance Bureau, shall manage the affairs of the respective Sections according to the instructions of the Governor-General or the Directors of the Bureaux.

Art. XXII.—There shall be two Councillors of either *Chokunin* or *Sonin* grade exclusively appointed to the post. Subject to the Governor-General or the Director of the Civil Administration Bureau they shall advise and assist in the management of sectional affairs whenever any special orders are issued to that effect.

Art. XXIII.—Technical Experts shall be twenty in number, of *Sonin* grade, and shall superintend technical business under the direction of their superiors.

Art. XXIV.—Interpreters shall be two in number, of *Sonin* grade, exclusively appointed to the post. Subject to the direction of their superiors they shall undertake the translation of official documents and the work of interpretation.

Art. XXV.—Clerks, Assistant Experts, and Assistant Interpreters shall number 300 in all and be of *Hannin* rank. They shall be employed, under the direction of their superiors, in technical work, interpretation, and in the conduct of other miscellaneous business.

APPENDIX.

Art. XXVI.—These Regulations shall be en-

forced from November 1st of the 30th year of Meiji.

Art. XXVII.—The Formosa Governor-General's Office Regulations embodied in Imperial Ordinance No. 88, of the 29th year of Meiji, the Civil Administration Bureau Organization Regulations promulgated by Imperial Ordinance No. 90 of the same year, the Regulations for the organisation of the Military Affairs Bureau in the Formosa Governor-General's Office, issued by Imperial Ordinance No. 169, and also the Regulations in regard to the Section of Special Public Works in the Civil Administration Bureau, promulgated by Imperial Ordinance No. 169, shall be null and void from the day of the enforcement of the present Regulations.

THE NEW FORMOSA ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS.

NAVAL STAFF.

We hereby sanction the Naval Staff Regulations for the Governor-General's Office in Formosa and order the same to be promulgated.

(Imperial Sign Mammal and Great Seal)

October 18th of the 30th year of Meiji.

(Countersigned) Marquis Saigō JUDŌ,
Minister of the Navy.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 364.

Naval Staff Regulations for the Governor-General's Office in Formosa.

Art. I.—The Naval Staff in the Governor-General's Office in Formosa shall superintend all naval affairs within the jurisdiction of the Governor-General of Formosa.

Art. II.—The Naval Staff in the Governor-General's Office in Formosa shall consist of the following officials:—A Chief Councillor, Councillors, Adjutants, a Chief Engineer, Chief Surgeon and Paymaster.

In addition to the above officers, naval ship-building engineers, accountants, and interpreters shall be nominated.

Art. III.—The Chief Councillor shall assist the Governor-General in the management of affairs relating to naval matters, and shall superintend all matters connected with the Staff.

Art. IV.—Councillors shall, under the direction of their Chief, conduct affairs concerning the preparations for expeditions, offensive and defensive, operations for coast protection, manoeuvres, inspection, and intelligence.

Art. V.—The Adjutant shall transact affairs relating to personnel and other miscellaneous matters, under the direction of the Chief Councillor.

Art. VI.—The Chief Engineer shall take charge of all machinery and arms, under the direction of the Chief Councillor.

Art. VII.—The Chief Surgeon supervises medical and Sanitary affairs, subject to the orders of the Chief Councillor.

Art. VIII.—The Paymaster shall conduct all financial affairs and assist the Adjutant in the discharge of his functions.

Art. IX.—Shipbuilding engineers, accountants, and interpreters are required to carry out their duties according to the instructions of the Chief Councillor.

Art. X.—Some naval non-commissioned officers, together with civil officers of the Hannin grade, shall be attached to the Naval Staff in the Governor-General's Office, and perform their duties in accordance with instructions from their superiors.

Art. XI.—These Regulations shall be enforced from November 1st of the 30th year of Meiji.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A COMPLAINT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I wish, through the columns of your paper, to call the attention of the officials of the Shimbashi-Yokohama railway line, and of the travelling public, to a circumstance which seems to me unjust to travellers.

Last Monday, wishing to go to Yokohama, I determined to take the 9 a.m. train from Shimbashi. Just as I stepped into the Station, the bell was rung and the ticket-wickets closed. It was two minutes before nine. I rapped at the wicket. No use. I went to the gate keeper and asked to pass. No use. The train stood on the track, plenty of time to get aboard, and I stood at the other side of the gate vainly expostulating. Finding I made no headway, I went into an office nearby and stated my case, and a gentleman came out

and asked the keepers to let me through—no use. "The gates close 2 minutes before the train leaves." The next train leaves at 9.45." And I was obliged to give up, and wait 45 minutes longer, though the train still stood on the track as I went to the waiting-room, in a not very comfortable frame of mind. This regulation, (if there is such a regulation) seems to me very unjust. It is not, so far as my knowledge goes, publicly and constantly advertised, and people looking at the time-table, and having a narrow margin of time as I had, may be seriously inconvenienced. The ticket-office should not be closed, nor passage through the gates refused, until the time advertised in the time-tables has fully expired—that is the humble opinion of

Yours truly,

OCASIONAL TRAVELLER.

Tokyo Oct. 29th, 1897.

[We fear that Japan is not yet ready to be in such a hurry as our correspondent recommends.—Ed. J.W.M.]

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

OFF-DAY, SATURDAY, OCT. 30TH.

The sport afforded on the off-day of the Autumn meeting, on Saturday, was considerably better than is usually the case on such occasions, and though the Stand and Enclosure were not crowded, there was a good attendance during the afternoon. Though there was not a large number of speculators to make the Pari Mutuel hum pleasantly, the sweeps were well patronised by a number of punters who saw in this the last chance of recovering (or adding to) their losses of the previous days of the meeting. A great deal of interest was taken in the match between the trio: Eclairer, Usugumo and Orion. They were all "in it" and it was Mr. Nicholson's fine riding alone that brought Orion past first. The last event of the day, the Betto's Race, was the most amusing. From the moment the saddling bell rang, when the bettos were to be seen rushing about the paddock, proud as peacocks in their silks—worn as sacks over their ordinary black tights—till the weighing in after the race, plenty of fun was provided for spectators and formed a fitting conclusion to a very successful and enjoyable meeting. The events of the day were as follows:—

RACE 1.—THE ECLAIRER CUP (Presented); value yen 100; 2nd pony, Entrance Fees. For all China Ponies that have started and not won a race at the Meeting; weight as per scale. 5lb. allowance for unplaced ponies. Distance, from the top of the hill. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Nemo's * * * 156lb. (Nakajima) 1
Mr. Yodo's Suma, 150lb. (Hakodate) 2
Mr. Derby's Martingale, 153lb. (Takahashi) 3
Mr. News' Voltaire, 142lb. (Sugima) 0
Mr. Avis' Tomtit, 144lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 0
Mr. Worthington's Mulberry, 148lb. (Yasu) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Maidzum, 139lb. (Riki) 0
Mr. Partner's J-j-i, 148lb. (Mr. Kobayashi) 0

After a fair start Jiji and Maidzum ran to the front, with Mr. Nemo's entry in third place. The same order was maintained till after passing the Shakespeare when Mr. Nemo's pony took the lead and Jiji dropped behind. At the entrance to the Straight Suma came up with a rush and challenged the leader, but failed to collar him, Mr. Nemo's pony winning by a length, with Martingale third, about half a length behind Suma. Time, 1m. 22½secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$2 Pool.—Voltaire 13, * * * 26, Tomtit 40, Martingale 14, Mulberry 10, Maidzum 33, J-j-i 13, Suma 37; total, 186=372—* * * 12 80.

RACE 2.—Pantin and Samurai Match, for 100 yen; weight as per scale. Distance, one mile and three quarters.

Major Trick's Pantin, 153lb. (Mr. Mottu) 1
Mr. Splinx's Samurai, 147lb. (Takahashi) 2

At the start, Samurai went off with a slight lead, but within a quarter of a mile Pantin passed him and led by a length, going easily. Passing the Stand, Pantin led by a couple of lengths, keeping about the same distance ahead till passing the Shakespeare when Samurai slightly reduced the distance. Coming down the Straight Samurai made a try but failed to collar his opponent, who finished a length ahead. Time, 4m. 11½secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$2 Pool.—Samurai 77, Pantin 99; total, 176=353—Pantin 33.20.

RACE 3.—THE WORTHINGTON CUP (Presented); value, yen 100; 2nd pony, Entrance Fees;

for all China Subscription Ponies (Autumn 1897) that have started and not won a race at the Meeting; weight as per scale. 5lb. allowance for unplaced ponies. One mile and a distance. Entrance fee, yen 5.

Mr. Campredon's Pointeur, 144lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 1
Mr. States' Colorado, 144lb. (Sugima) 2
Mr. R. Field's Torpedo, 147lb. (Mr. Longin) 3
Mr. News' Voltaire, 142lb. (Minagawa) 0
Messrs. Tippitt and Clifford's Jubilee, 142lb.

(Yasu) 0

Five started out of seven entries. Some little difficulty was experienced in getting the ponies off. After a good start, Jubilee took the lead, but lost it to Pointeur before passing the Stand, where Colorado took second place. In this order they ran to the half mile post, when Colorado pulled up to the leader and the two ran neck and neck, with the others several lengths behind, to the Trees, where Voltaire ran into third place. Down the Straight a fine race ensued between Pointeur and Colorado, the former passing the post only about three-quarters of a length ahead of Colorado, with Torpedo, who had come down the Straight very strong, a good third. Time, 2m. 38½secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$2 Pool.—Voltaire 24, Colorado 83, Jubilee 42, Torpedo 40, Pointeur 69; total, 258=516—Pointeur \$6.60.

RACE 4.—THE PHILOMEL CUP (Presented); value yen 100; 2nd pony, Entrance Fees; a Handicap for all Country-breds that have started and not won a race at the Meeting (starters for the Championship excluded). One mile. Entrance fee yen 5.

Mr. Nemo's Sasha, 150lb. (Nakazumi) 1
Mr. Durand's Hermine, 135lb. (Kobayashi) 2
Mr. Worthington's Idler, 125lb. (Sugima) 3

Sasha was troublesome at the start and made a bolt of a quarter of a mile. On the second attempt a good start was effected, Idler getting away with the lead, Sasha going to the front at the half mile and a little later Hermine ran into second place. In the Straight Sasha increased his lead, winning easily by half a dozen lengths from Hermine, with about the same distance between the latter and Idler. Time, 2min. 14sec.

PARI MUTUEL, \$2 Pool.—Sasha 152, Hermine 92, Idler 59; total, 303=606—Sasha \$350.

RACE 5.—Eclairer, Usugumo and Orion Match, for 450 yen; weight as per scale. One mile.

Mr. Worthington's Orion, 149lb. (Mr. Nicholson) 1
Mr. News' Eclairer, 150lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Usugumo, 150lb. (Riki) 3

After a splendidly level start Orion obtained a slight lead, but in going up the hill all three ponies were neck and neck. At the half mile Orion dropped a length behind. Before reaching the Trees, however, the latter pulled up to the front again and the three ran on very level terms till half way down the Straight, where Orion, capably ridden, succeeded in passing the post a neck ahead of Eclairer, with Usugumo about a length behind, in third place. Time, 2m. 14½sec.

PARI MUTUEL, \$2 Pool.—Eclairer 115, Orion 117, Usugumo 105; total, 337=674—Orion \$5.10.

RACE 6.—A 20 yen SWEEPSTAKE, with 50 yen added. For all China Ponies that have started and not won a race at the Meeting; weight as per scale. 5lb. allowance for unplaced ponies. Once round.

Mr. Derby's Martingale, 153lb. (Takahashi) 1
Mr. Avis' Tomtit, 141lb. (Mr. Kingdon) 2
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Remus, 142lb. (Goto) 3

After a good start Martingale took up the running, with Tomtit in second place and Remus last. At the half mile Tomtit drew up to Martingale's quarters, and the same position was maintained till entering the Straight, when Martingale succeeded in getting clear of Tomtit, and won by a length, with Remus, a bad third, four or five lengths behind. Time, 2m. 16½secs.

PARI MUTUEL, \$2 Pool.—Remus 52, Tomtit 79, Martingale 62; total, 195=390—Martingale \$5.60.

RACE 7.—BETTO'S RACE. Entrance Fees and 20 yen added money, to be divided between first three ponies (70 per cent.—20 per cent.—10 per cent.) for all China Ponies; to be ridden by bona fide unlicensed Bettos without whip or spur; weight, 130lb. One Mile. Entrance fee, yen 2.

Major Trick's Minet, 1
Major Trick's Pantin, 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Maidzum, 3
Mr. Four-in-Hand's Remus, 0
Mr. States' Colorado, 0
Messrs. Tippitt & Clifford's Jubilee, 0
Mr. Worthington's Mulberry, 0

Mr. Partner's Jido..... 0
Mr. News' Voltaire..... 0
Mr. Avis's Tomtit, (20lb. over)..... 0

Ten ponies started after many difficulties. Mulberry elected to take a preliminary canter round the Course, while at other attempts it was found that one or two ponies were quietly contemplating Fuji-san when the "are you ready" fell from the starter's lips. At last, however, a fairly good start was effected, and the ponies ran in a bunch till nearing the half mile when they began to string out, the leaders being, as far as could be made out, Jubilee, Minet, Maidzuru, and Tomtit. On entering the Straight Jubilee lost the lead and dropped to the rear, Minet winning by a length or so from Pantin, who had come away in the distance, and Maidzuru a good third. Time, 2m. 15½s.

PARI MUTUEL, \$2 Pool.—Remus 7, Minet 68, Colorado 32, Jubilee 8, Mulberry, 5, Maidzuru 24, Jido 21, Pantin 28, Voltaire 5, Tomtit 7; total, 215=\$430—Minet \$5 60.

CRICKET.

A match was played on Wednesday, the 3rd instant, between an eleven from H.M.S. *Redpole* and *Daphne*, and the Y.C. and A.C. The naval team went in first and made a very fair showing, scoring a total of 87, towards which Mr. Hardcastle contributed 34. The local team, however, proved very much too strong for the visitors, the bowling of the latter being completely colared by several of the batsmen of the home eleven—E. B. S. Edwards compiling the fine score of 131, and White and Lias contributing 69 and 43 respectively. White again distinguished himself in the bowling by "taking the hat," with three successive wickets in one over. Edwards was also very successful with the ball, taking three wickets for no runs. The naval team tried no less than six bowlers, the most successful being Real, who took five wickets. The scores were as follows:—

H.M.S. "REDPOLE" AND "DAPHNE."	
Mr. Shipside, c. Heap, b. White...	15
Mr. Tri t, c. Edwards, b. White...	24
Mr. Church, b. White...	3
Mr. Stewart, b. White...	0
Mr. Hardcastle, c. Kuhn, b. White...	34
Mr. Broadbent, b. Walford...	0
Mr. Real, b. White...	0
Mr. Cardew, b. Edwards...	0
Mr. Ward, c. and b. Edwards...	0
Mr. Scott, b. Edwards...	0
Mr. Taylor, not out...	0
Extras...	10
	87

Y.C. AND A.C.	
Mr. A. B. Walford, c. Stewart, b. Scott...	1
Mr. F. J. Lias, c. Church, b. Real...	43
Mr. F. E. White, c. Shipside, b. Scott...	60
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Cardew, b. Real...	131
Mr. S. L. Heap, b. Shipside...	1
Mr. E. Edisson, c. and b. Scott...	10
Mr. S. Kuhn, b. Shipside...	1
Mr. H. Tennant, c. Church, b. Shipside...	7
Mr. A. M. Gale, not out...	15
Mr. B. C. Hore, b. Real...	0
Mr. Austin, b. Real...	1
Extras...	7
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TRADE OF TAMSUI AND KELUNG IN 1896.

Mr. Henry A. C. Bonar, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Tamsui, sends the following report on the trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the year 1896 to the Foreign Office:—

TRADE OF THE YEAR.

The trade of the year under review presents no features worthy of note excepting that there has been a marked increase in the value of import trade, particularly attributable to a more settled state of affairs than prevailed during 1895.

The gross value of the trade in 1896 was £1,402,729; as compared with £1,355,108 in 1895, an increase of £47,621; the import trade showing an improvement of over 7 per cent., and the export trade rather more than 1 per cent.

Table showing Comparative Value of Imports and Exports during the Years 1895-96.

	1895.	Value. 1896.	Increase.
Imports	515,877	553,601	37,724
Exports	839,231	849,128	9,897
Total	1,355,108	1,402,729	47,621

Annex I gives the chief articles of import into Tamsui and Kelung in 1895-96. It has been usual to give the joint values of the trade of the two ports, but it is worthy of note that the import trade for the two ports the proportion for Kelung is only 4 per cent. of the value.

PROPORTION OF BRITISH IMPORTS.

Of the total value of imports Great Britain's and the colonies' share is 25 per cent., China 50 per cent., United States of America 7½ per cent., Germany 2½ per cent., France and colonies 9 per cent., and other countries 6 per cent. The increase is mostly in produce from China, though British trade shows a slight increase according to the following table, which gives the totals of opium, cotton goods, woollens, and metals. The import of opium ceased in February.

Articles.	Value.		Increase or Decrease.
	1895.	1896.	
Opium	£82,007	£60,821	-£21,186
Cotton goods	35,681	45,606	+ 9,925
Woollens	4,848	8,425	+ 3,577
Metals	10,266	11,480	+ 1,214

OPIMUM.

The prohibition of the import of this drug was notified in February, 1896, and its effect was to send prices up considerably, but owing to extensive smuggling, prices again dropped and remained stationary, holders of legitimate stocks finding great difficulty in disposing of their holdings on account of the competition with the smuggled drug. Henceforward the drug will no longer appear in the trade return. It was not till early this year that the Japanese Government made final arrangements to take over the small stocks still held by a few foreign merchants.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

Imports show an increase over 1895 of £9,925, owing, not to an improvement in business, but to the check which trade generally experienced during 1895.

GREY AND WHITE SHIRTINGS.

English manufactures have about held their position both for grey and white shirtings of best and medium qualities, but have suffered in the lower qualities by the competition of Japanese manufactures and native cloths, T-cloths being more affected by the latter than grey shirtings. Prices realised have not shown more than the usual fluctuations, being ruled, as always, by the Hongkong market. The amount imported by foreign merchants is very small, the trade being almost entirely in the hands of the Chinese.

WOOLLENS.

Woollens show an increase of £3,577, due simply to this small trade having resumed its former dimensions.

METALS: LEAD.

About 12,000 to 14,000 packages of lead are now annually imported to make linings for tea and camphor boxes. Of these from 8,000 to 10,000 packages were last year imported by foreign firms.

If the large item of close on £100,000 for munitions of war which figured in last year's import list be excluded, the import trade in sundries shows a very large increase indeed.

BEER.

Taking the articles alphabetically, the import of beer has quadrupled itself, and is a large item at £9,507. Nearly all of it is German beer. Japan-brewed beers find no favour in this climate, and the light beers of German manufacture evidently are quite harmless.

CEMENT.

The importation of cement is likely to become very considerable in the near future, if all the improvements in the way of harbour works at Kelung, projected by the Japanese Government, are carried out. "Green Island" cement should then take a leading place.

FLOUR.

American flour shows an increase of 50 per cent. over last year's import.

OIL: KEROSENE—AMERICAN, RUSSIAN.

The import of all kinds is returned at about 1,350,000 gallons, valued at £21,386, as against £19,751 in 1895. Of the quantity imported, 1,150,000 gallons American oil represent a value of £18,105. Of the remainder, 150,000 gallons are Russian oil, and the rest "Langkat," together valued at £3,281. The American "Comet" oil is considered the best imported here, though Russian case oil sells for practically the same figure. "Langkat" oil so far has not made much headway. Kerosene oil is distributed locally by cargo boats and coolies, and the country districts depend for their supplies on shipments down the coast in junks. In another part of the report, the import into one of the "special ports" on the west coast of the island is noted.

RICE.

Rice shows a value of £80,883, an increase of over £70,000 on last year's import, £43,636 worth

came from Annam and other parts of French India, £30,157 from China, the rest from other countries.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Provisions of all sorts show a considerable increase. Cattle fish, shrimps and prawns, lungus, beans and peas make up £28,819 of the very large total of £254,399 for miscellaneous.

It may be interesting to know that during last year 40,000 hogs, representing a value of £17,000, were imported into Tamsui and Kelung. Silk piece-goods from China, to the value of £11,845, figure in this year's returns. Also tobacco—prepared—to the extent of £15,215, nearly all from China, 11 per cent. being of British manufacture. As in the case of imports, the share of export trade claimed by Kelung is only an infinitesimal fraction of the total export trade, being only £1,607 of a total of £849,128.

CAMPBOR.

Of the exports, camphor alone shows an increase in value over last year's export, of £95,346, or 95 per cent., though the quantity exported was only 13,553 cwt., or 60 per cent. more than in 1895. The great difference in price of camphor last year is due entirely to speculation, as it was thought that owing to the restrictions imposed by the Japanese authorities, and the unsettled state of affairs in the camphor districts, the supplies would be considerably short.

COAL.

Coal has practically ceased to be an article of export. The mines are not being worked, and even if work should be resumed, it is very doubtful whether any of the coal will find its way out of the island.

TEA.

In tea it is noticeable that though the quantity exported was larger in 1896 than in the previous year by 820,031 lbs. Oolong and 210,204 lbs. Pouchong, the value decreased for both kinds of tea by £84,083, or 9 per cent. Expressed in half-chests, the export was 453,647 half-chests, an increase of some 10,000 half-chests over the previous year's export. The 1896 export was the second highest on record, having only been exceeded by the 1893 export.

The season opened later than usual but with a good tone, and buying soon became general. Fine grades were in small supply and met with keen competition at high prices. The spring crop was indifferent. Second crop showed a marked improvement and met with good prices, buyers paying extreme prices for choice parcels.

First autumn teas were the worst crop of the season, but later autumn teas were up to the average. In October a strong demand arose for tea for price which had the effect of making producers bring all they could possibly produce to market, a quantity being of very low grade. This increased the estimated total supply.

Prices ranged as follows:—

Per.icul.	Per.icul.									
	Pail.	Co. d.	Good to Superior.	Superior	Superior to Fine.	Fine.	Finest.	Choice.	Choicest.	
Op. nung	\$ 27	\$ 30	\$ 35	\$ 40	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	
June	27	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	
July	25	28	33	38	43	48	53	58	63	
August	25	28	33	37	42	47	52	57	62	
September	25	28	33	37	42	47	52	57	62	
October	25-31	29-33	33-38	37-44	42-53	—	—	—	—	

SPECIAL PORTS OF NORTH FORMOSA.

Late in 1895 Luikong (or Rokko), 117 miles south of Tamsui on the west coast, was opened as a special port of import and export; and in March, 1896, Kiukong (or Kinko), 36 miles south of Tamsui, was opened in a similar manner to trade for Japanese-owned vessels. Both are within this Consular district and under the Tamsui custom-house. The subjoined table gives the particulars of the foreign trade at both ports during 1896. Camphor to the extent of 4,416 was exported from Luikong, and kerosene imported to the amount of 3,244. The other items hardly deserve mention. The total trade for both ports amounted to 189,684.

EXPORTS.	VALUE.	
	Luikong.	Kiukong.
Camphur	£ 4,416	£ —
Sundries	88,809	14,980
IMPORTS.		
Kerosene oil	5,244	—
Sundries	57,806	18,429
Total	156,275	33,409

SHIPPING.

Though the number of British ships entered and cleared at Tamsui and Kelung in 1869 is less by 24 than in 1895 the tonnage has remained the same.

German shipping shows a marked decrease both in ships and tonnage.

Chinese steamers have practically disappeared from the list of shipping.

In this year's list the number of ships under the Japanese flag has been included. With the exception of one steamer, which cleared direct for a foreign port, all the other is Japanese shipping between the ports of Japan proper and Formosa, and has been included for the sake of reference; if the Japanese companies are at any time to run successfully between the ports of Formosa and of China, a trade at present almost entirely absorbed by British steamers, it will be necessary for them not only to increase the number of ships already visiting this island, but to build steamers suitable for the bar of the Tamsui river; so far the better class of Japanese steamers must confine themselves to Kelung.

It is worthy the consideration of British ship-owners whether steamers could not be run with profit between Tamsui and Shanghai via Nagasaki.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN JAPAN PORTS AND FORMOSA.

The Nippon Yusen and Osaka Shosen companies' steamers visit all the ports of importance between Kelung and Kobe, and according to the route taken occupy from 3½ to 9 days on the journey from Kelung to Kobe.

Chinese junks, which figure last year to the number of 2,932, with a tonnage of 35,037 tons, bring over large quantities of various Chinese produce, mostly pigs, poles, and paper from Foochow, Wenchow, and Chang-Chin.

The junks under the Japanese flag, mentioned in the list are those owned by Formosan natives and registered in Formosa.

HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS.

While improvements on a large scale for the harbour of Kelung have been contemplated, and are in progress, nothing whatever has been planned or done to improve the harbour of Tamsui. At a comparatively slight cost the latter could be made a suitable and safe anchorage for much larger vessels that visit it at present, and its position and proximity to the city, from which it is only eight miles distant by water, ought soon to make it a favourite resort for Japanese traders, but strangely enough Kelung, distant 15 miles from the capital, with only a wretched railway to connect it with the latter, seems to attract the lower class Japanese trader, probably because the steamer lands him there and is ready to take him away again when he finds to his surprise that he cannot make a fortune in a few days.

KELUNG NAVAL PORT.

Everything points out to Kelung as the naval station for Formosa. But it is extremely doubtful whether its small harbour will provide accommodation both for admiralty and commercial purposes. It is intended apparently that sooner or later ocean steamers are to call there, but no improvements, however great, in the harbour will outweigh the advantage that Tamsui has by its water communication with the business centre of Twatutia; and probably merchant steamers would be so hampered as to anchorages and other conditions prevailing in a naval port, that the experiment of a naval and commercial port is not likely to prove a success.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The statistics of trade for 1896 show plainly enough that British trade has held its own. Nor does it appear that British trade and the export trade in the hands of the British firms is likely to diminish in the near future by the advent of Japanese merchants of experience and standing. Such have, so far, hardly ventured on commercial enterprise in this island on any large scale, if we except one or two firms who act as agents for the Japanese Government. The trade in the hands of the Japanese does not extend further than the dealing in articles of Japanese and foreign origin, wines, and beers, &c., which the residents of Taipei can no longer do without.

Many of these articles are brought from Japan at enormous rates of transport. There is no reason whatever why the foreign merchant should not supply many of these goods to the Japanese dealers of Taipei, or why he should not himself establish a large foreign store, well supplied with goods imported direct from Europe or Hongkong. The establishment of one such foreign store at least should prove a successful venture and would lead to more extended business with the commercial community, which could certainly

be supplied more cheaply from Hongkong even than from Japan.

CURRENCY.

It is extraordinary that such a disgraceful coin as the Tamsui dollar should be able to continue a happy existence side by side with the convenient paper or clean silver yen. All commodities purchased in this district are paid for in this defaced currency, which assumes the value of a paper or silver yen in the customs returns. But no steps are being taken to enforce the circulation of the proper Japanese currency. The ever-varying value of this Tamsui dollar affords plenty of opportunity for speculation, and while the Japanese paper yen is worth 2 per cent. more than the Tamsui dollar, it is for some unaccountable reason itself worth from 1 to 2 per cent. less than the silver yen.

POPULATION.

A note on the Japanese population of North Formosa may be of interest.

	Japanese.	Natives.
City of Taipei, now the capital of the Island.....	2,779	1,036
Twatutia*.....	653	22,673
Banka.....	966	18,740
Kelung*.....	1,483	13,921
Tamsui.....	368	5,976
Total.....	6,249	62,351

* Are now the Mixed Settlements, where Chinese and other foreigners can reside and trade.

The total Japanese population of the northern part of the island is thus considerably under 7,000 souls.

FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

Exclusive of Chinese the foreign population of Twatutia, Kelung, and Tamsui is under 40, nor is the British mercantile community likely to increase so long as Amoy remains the head-quarters of the tea trade. As in the past, the more important Amoy firms content themselves with branch establishments at Tamsui and Twatutia, but it is evident that British trade would not suffer by these establishments being made independent of Amoy, the local conditions having now changed entirely.

RAILWAYS.

The present line between Kelung, Taipei, and Shinciliku—its terminus—remains in the same neglected condition. Charters for an extensive railway scheme to the south have been granted to private companies, and the Government appears to have guaranteed 6 per cent. interest, but so far there are no signs of railway construction. What with the material required, bridges to be built, &c., contracts must sooner or later be made; but the head-quarters of the company being in Osaka and Tokyo, probably no share of them will fall to Formosa merchants.

The present railway system is considerably inferior to what existed in Japan 25 years ago. Tamsui is to be joined to the capital by rail some time in the future.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION.

Between these two places a capital road has been constructed, but as the town of Tamsui or Hobé with its impossible tunnelled streets will hardly allow of a horse passing through, much less any sort of vehicle (no vehicle of any kind is to be found in the neighbourhood), the road stops short outside of the town, and is therefore useless.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

Postal arrangements remain in a primitive condition, and special messengers are the only reliable means of communication between the capital and the leading port of North Formosa.

LABOUR.

Formosa offers every inducement to the Japanese labourer. The coolie is paid from 1s. 8d. per day upwards; the carpenter from 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d., no kind of Japanese servant is paid less than 30s. per month; and Japanese cooks command from 2l. upwards; native labour is 50 to 75 per cent. more than before the Japanese occupation.

RUSSIANS AND JAPANESE IN KOREA.

(FROM "THE TIMES" CORRESPONDENT.)

Tokyo, Aug. 5.

The statement made on July 19th, by the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in the House of Commons, to the effect that the annexation of Korea by Russia was opposed to British interests would have caused much excitement in Japan a few months ago. But the feeling of uneasiness that distressed the Japanese nation up to the spring of this year seems to have grown less acute. It is seen that Russia has had her opportunity, and has failed to grasp it. Several

English journalists have of late accustomed themselves and their readers to think not only that Russia is absolute mistress of the situation in Korea, but also that Japan, finding herself in the presence of accomplished facts, has folded her hands and bowed her head to the inevitable. Now, as to the position that Russia has won in the peninsula there may be wide differences of opinion; but with regard to the attitude of the Japanese people, resignation is of all epithets the least applicable. If the heart of Japan could be laid bare "Korea" would be found indelibly stamped there.

Observers whose attention has been directed to the subject only within the past ten or fifteen years read Japan's doings solely by the light of modern statecraft. According to their view, as soon as her newly-gained experience of international intercourse had roused her to a sense of international dangers, and opened her eyes for the first time to the significance of having a great and aggressive Power looking at her across a narrow belt of water, she undertook the task of securing to the Koreans themselves the undisturbed possession of their little kingdom. That is certainly true, but it is only part of the truth. The Korean peninsula is a great deal more to Japan than a possible basis of dangerous attacks. It is, as it were, a common to which, by long centuries of frequently asserted supremacy, she has gained a traditional right of access. In very early times such dealings as she had with her little neighbour pointed only to the latter's vassalage or absorption, and if in these *fin de siècle* days she is content to play the part of her neighbour's protector, her deep-laying resolution nevertheless is that the peninsula must never be closed to her people, nor its people compelled to obey any foreign dictates. That is not a merely conjectural interpretation of her mood. It is a rendering traced plainly in the pages of her history. We can look back to the time when the writing began some 16 centuries ago, and we can follow it to the inditing of the last words at Shimonoseki in the spring of 1895.

If we put aside picturesque myths like the semi-miraculous voyage of the Empress Jingo, there is still ample evidence that, partly by military prowess, partly by amicable intercourse, the Japanese established themselves virtually as rulers in the south-western section of Korea not later than 500 A.D., and from that *piet à terre* made frequent incursions into the south-eastern divisions. Korea was the first foreign field where they practised the art of war; the cradle of their spirit of foreign conquest. When, owing to defective precautions, they were driven from the peninsula in the middle of the sixth century, the dying words of their Emperor were that the lost dominion must be recovered. Two armies of invasion despatched from Japan during the next hundred years failed to carry out that behest; not because of Korea's strength, but because China, under the great Tang dynasty, lent its aid to the people of the peninsula. China presented to Japan then exactly the same attitude—with one important difference—that she presented from 1881, when the first of the modern *éménés* occurred in Seoul, until 1894, when the first shot was fired at Pung-do. She sat always upon a pedestal of haughty superiority, condescending every display of neighbourly courtesy as a confession of vassalage, and throwing her shadow fitfully over Korea without making it feel the substance of her authority. But she was the unquestioned leader of civilization and learning and the embodiment of military capacity in the Orient, whereas in modern times she has forfeited all such titles to respect.

Bitter regrets were bequeathed by the Emperor Tenchi to posterity when, seeing his forces driven back by the combined forces of China and Korea and his offensive strength crippled by feuds at home, he definitely embraced the policy of leaving Korea alone, and if Japan could have obtained a sufficient respite from her internecine quarrels during the next nine centuries it is beyond question that she would have made another vigorous effort to recover her footing in the peninsula. History shows her to us through all that weary era of unnatural struggles standing alone in the East as the one Power that resented China's assertions of suzerainty, while at the same time drawing freely from the fountain of Chinese civilization. Later on, when employment began to be scarce at home for the many swords that the fights of her feudal magnates had whetted, we see the coasts of Korea become an arena for her freebooters. Then follows Kublai Khan's great attempt to force the Chinese yoke upon this one contumacious little neighbour of the celestial Colossus, and then ensue a series of events not the least singular in the annals of the world, when a handful of Japanese adventurers, not backed by any reserve of national strength, raided the littoral provinces of China and Korea simultaneously and defied the armies

of both Powers during a long term of years. Not until the times of the *Taiko*, that is to say, the close of the sixteenth century, were Japan's domestic differences composed sufficiently to allow her to look abroad, and then the immediate use to which she put her liberated strength was to invade Korea, where, once more, she crossed lances with China and was once more compelled to retire in the face of the same union of forces that had driven back Tenchi's troops.

Thereafter, the policy of seclusion, deliberately chosen and rigidly maintained by the Tokugawa regents, kept this chapter of extra-territorial doings closed for nearly three centuries, but no sooner had Japan emerged upon the international stage in recent times than she found herself again face to face with the perennial problem—China perched upon a pedestal of pretensions less tangible and more unendurable than ever, and Korea under the old semblance of her tutelage without the reality of her protection. Japanese veterans who have seen the drama of the Restoration played from the rising of the curtain 40 years ago do not attempt to conceal, in their franker moments, that to humble China's arrogance and repay the favours received at her armed hands in Korea was the dream of the men who aimed at knitting the nation's feudal fragments into an efficient entity. It was because some of them halted in the pursuit of that aim that the first great split took place in the ranks of the Restoration leaders, with the result that the people turned against each other's throats in the Satsuma rebellion the swords that Saigo and his fellow-thinkers would have pointed at China and Korea. But the project for which the Satsuma *samurai* laid down their lives in 1877 was only postponed. The nation could not have abandoned it without losing its own self-respect.

Had China stepped down from her imaginary eminence and joined hands with Japan in a practical policy of frontier protection, things might have turned out differently. But China remained always unapproachable, always in the clouds, and Japan found her traditional legacy of self-assertion reinforced by the fact that she now stood forth as the champion of liberal civilization against the representative of conservative prejudice. Great prominence has been given by some political analysts to that moral differentiation of the two Empires, a consequence of foreign intercourse, but, even if it had helped to estrange them, their collision in Korea would have been inevitable. History forced them into the arena. European strategists wondered when they saw the Japanese generals deliberately open an avenue of escape, for the remnants of the Chinese army at Ping-yang, but it is conceivable that the Japanese, with grim humour, set themselves to reproduce, on a modern stage, the converse of the drama, 301 years previously acted, when the victorious Chinese left a similar route of escape for Konishi's defeated troops across the ice of the Ta-dong. The Chinese are close students of their own annals. They probably understood the significance of that somewhat theatrical reversal of positions, though Occidental eyes were not likely to detect it. As for Japan, if, after 16 centuries of more or less persistent effort, she found her position at length assumed *vis-à-vis* her two neighbours, was it likely that she would incontinently step down at the nod of an outside Power whose approach she had new and vital reasons for opposing? Yet it is certain that during her period of exhaustion after the war with China, and after the crippling of her diplomatic capacity by Viscount Miura's savage *coup*, she might have been thrust so far out of the Korean arena that to obtain a footing there again would have cost a huge, perhaps an impossible, effort. That was Russia's opportunity, and while it remained within her reach the Japanese held their breath. But the opportunity is past. Russia, too—even supposing her to be deliberately aggressive, which is probably very far from the truth—is not always ready to reap the full harvest of circumstances. She has her own convenience to consult, and in the meanwhile the Korean season has slipped by.

There are many indications that Japan now views the situation with comparative equanimity, but none that her traditional instinct about the peninsula has been affected by the substitution of the Russian for the Chinese shadow. Hence Mr. Curzon's statement in the House, while it attracted great interest, did not produce any excitement. Its synchronism with Marquis Ito's visit to London led one or two journalists to infer an Anglo-Japanese alliance negotiated by the Marquis. But others promptly pointed out that until Japan was in a position to be a practically useful ally any idea of an alliance with an eminently practical Power like England must be abandoned.

Commenting editorially on the above, *The Times* says:—

The intervention of Japan in Korea which led to the war with China has been ascribed to many more or less recondite causes most of which may or may not have contributed to it. We were told that it was due to the awakening of a young and civilized Power to the hard realities of European statecraft and to the imperative necessity of securing her own position before it was too late. Commercial motives, according to another theory, were what really determined the course of Japanese action. A third view was that a powerful Japanese party sought relief from troublesome Parliamentary developments by a spirited foreign policy, while a fourth represented Japan as having embarked in a kind of crusade for the material and moral regeneration of Korea out of a disinterested detestation of misgovernment and oppression and from a chivalrous zeal for progress and enlightenment. It is possible that all of these opinions, together with several others equally plausible, may have had some sort of foundation in fact. The causes of great international events are usually very complex, and it is seldom that all of them can be discerned and measured for a generation or two after the deaths of the principal actors in them. But a perusal of the interesting letter from our Tokyo Correspondent, which we publish to-day, presents another phase of the Korean question and offers yet one more explanation of Japanese intervention. Our Correspondent acknowledges that the first of the theories enumerated above is true so far as it goes. Japan took an active concern in the affairs of Korea, because she was afraid that, if she neglected to do so, that exceedingly effete kingdom would fall into the hands of a great and aggressive European State. But, he declares, although this theory is true, it certainly is only a part of the truth. There is, he intimates, another and a simpler reason why Japan should intermeddle in Korea. It is that she has always done so whenever her domestic differences left her strong enough for the purpose. She regards Korea as a kind of traditional common, to which, by long centuries of frequently asserted supremacy, she has gained a perpetual right of access. That may seem a rather crude interpretation to place upon a movement which has been the subject of so much ingenious and instructive analysis. But it has the merit of being sufficient and of being supported by a great body of undeniable historic fact. Our Correspondent does not insist upon the authenticity of the voyage of the Japanese Empress who bore the appropriate name of "Jingo" to Korea in legendary days, but he shows that from a period when the Cæars still ruled at Rome until after the Reformation the soldiers and sailors of Japan, repeatedly invaded Korea, without the least pretension to altruistic motives. Then for three hundred years her rulers deliberately elected to live in isolation and to have no foreign policy. But as soon as they abandoned this position they reverted to their ancestral traditions in relation to Korea. Traditions are very strong in the East, and are quite capable of surviving even the adoption of a new civilization.

When the Japanese once more turned their eyes towards Sôul they doubtless found the state of the Hermit Kingdom exactly what it was when they had averted their gaze three centuries before. It may be surmised that all the antiquated institutions, which were the only institutions that existed, had sunk a little deeper into the mud. In other respects they were the same. China still claimed to exercise the shadowy supremacy over Korea which she had vindicated in arms against Japan under her earlier Emperors. The Korean nobles still cheerfully acquiesced in the pretensions of China, partly because of the ingrained affinity of two systems equally corrupt, and partly because they were so foolish as to credit their great neighbour with the military power she had possessed in Middle Ages. The Japanese knew better, and, almost as soon as they had time to look about them after they had carried out their domestic revolution, they resumed the old struggle in Korea where they had left off at the close of the sixteenth century. It is interesting to learn from our Correspondent that the design to humble China's arrogance and to wipe out the defeats suffered at her hands in Korea hundreds of years before was the inspiring move of some of the authors of the Japanese revolution, and that the execution of the project was postponed by the Satsuma rebellion. In fact, according to this explanation, the wholesale adoption of European civilization by Japan was due, at all events indirectly, to a characteristically Oriental desire to resume a blood feud with a neighbouring people suspended for three hundred years. The suggestion is decidedly piquant, even if it requires to be accepted with a certain reserve. Of course, when the Japanese reopened the controversy, they were careful to make use

of the advantages they derived from their recent education in European methods. They did not raid Korea without warning, and avow that they meant to hold it, in spite of China and everybody besides for their own benefit. All things were done decently and in order. There were despatches and negotiations, protocols and treaties. Japan let it be known that she had no selfish aspiration in Korea. She merely desired to assert the independence of that kingdom and to introduce its inhabitants to the blessings of reforms she had found so precious in her own case. All this, of course, meant war, as the Chinese themselves began to understand a good many years ago. History, as our Correspondent says, forced the two nations into the arena, and in due course they fought the quarrel out, with the results we know.

In the moment when China seemed prostrate at the feet of her rival there was another intervention—an intervention the likelihood of which had not been considered sufficiently by Japanese politicians. Russia, under the able guidance of Prince Lobanof, induced France and Germany to co-operate with her to deprive Japan of the full fruits of her victories. Not content with this result, she sought very skillfully to reap as large a harvest as possible for herself from the successes of the Mikado's armies. In Korea she endeavoured to attain this end substantially by stepping into the shoes vacated by China under Japanese compulsion. She gave Japan to understand that she, too, only wished for the independence and prosperity of the peninsula, but that she was so deeply interested in these objects that she must insist on sharing with Japan the honour and the duty of promoting them. Upon this, as upon other points, Japan had to give way, and for a time all seemed to smile on the labours of M. Waeber, the very adroit agent of Russia at Sôul. The Japanese had made frightful mistakes in Korea, and it seemed easy for the Russians to profit by them. Even Count Inouye, one of the most intelligent and capable of Japanese administrators, seems to have ignored what was really the cardinal fact in the whole situation—the fact, namely, that the ruling classes in Korea did not want to be reformed at all, and that the masses of the population were supremely indifferent upon the subject. To the Korean noble reform meant the loss of recognized opportunities for the corruption and extortion which are the salt of life to him. His one desire was to be let alone and to be suffered to plunder his weaker neighbours as his fathers had done before him, until he too should be despatched suddenly to join them, as the result of a Court intrigue skillfully conducted by his rivals. The Chinese had appreciated and sympathized with this temper, and, therefore, the Koreans had loved them and sent them embassies and presents and bribes from immemorial time. The Japanese attempted to introduce a system quite incompatible with it, and they persevered in their attempts with a harshness and a contempt for native opinion and native habits which peoples less conservative than the Koreans would have resented. The advantage thus offered to the Russians was palpable. They had but to follow the example of the Chinese and to avoid the example of the Japanese. But our Tokyo Correspondent tells us that in Japan at least, it is thought that they have missed their opportunity. They could not refrain—perhaps no civilized Power could refrain—from interfering with the ways of the Korean nobility to an extent which that influential class bitterly resented. They sent a military mission to Korea, and it seems the military mission did not make itself popular. Even the Russian newspapers have been complaining that mistakes have been made. In these circumstances it is of interest to be reminded that the Japanese have not by any means acquiesced in the ultimate supremacy of Russia in Korea. The historic tradition which impelled them to dispute the claims of China in that peninsula urges them, we are given to understand, with at least equal force to challenge the pretensions of any other Power to domination there. They still turn their eyes to the "common" over which they have so often ranged, and they hope apparently to make good in the future, as in the past, their right of access to it.

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL.

The annual general meeting of shareholders of the Oriental Hotel Company, Ltd. was held at the Municipal Hall, Kobe on the 29th ult., Mr. C. N. Crosie in the chair. In submitting the report and accounts, the Chairman explained the reasons for the dividend declared being less than the previous year's, in spite of the fact that the receipts for the past twelve months amounted to \$106,484 against \$91,097 for the previous year. These reasons were,

first, the increase in the cost of commodities generally, and the want of a market in Kobe; then the increased cost of fire insurance—the Company now having to pay from \$1,500 to \$2,000, or three per cent. on the capital, more than it did—, and the falling off in the number of visitors owing to the port having been declared infected with small-pox, first by the American Consul, and later on by the Japanese authorities. A great many visitors to the port were passengers on the American mail-steamers, and in consequence of the alarm raised in their minds by the port being declared infected with small-pox they were debarred from landing. At any rate they did not land, and consequently the Hotel, they might presume, lost a certain amount, and also assuredly the community generally lost a good deal. In connection with this matter the Chairman commented on the action being taken without any decision that such a course was necessary, by any proper Board of Health.

It was afterwards explained by Dr. Moore Graham that the American Consul had taken action in the matter by direct orders from Washington, and that both he, himself, and Dr. Throncraft had been consulted before the port was declared infected. Kobe was in the same Consular district as Osaka, where the disease was rife, and though he believed small-pox was worse in Nagasaki and Tokyo than in Kobe, the latter port had to suffer for its connection with Osaka. Under the quarantine laws of the United States once the port was declared infected it must remain so for thirty days after any reported case. The Consul had no discretion, but he certainly declared it clear again so soon as he saw any diminution.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted. Mr. Hellyer was re-elected to the Board of Directors, and a sum of \$500 was voted as remuneration to the Directors; Messrs. Rothwell and Macdonald were re-elected auditors, and a sum of \$100 voted them as remuneration for their services, while \$300 was voted as a bonus to the Manager.

HAWAIIAN REGISTRY FOR THE "CHINA."

A dispatch to the American papers from Honolulu states that the Supreme Court of Hawaii in a unanimous opinion handed down on the 28th ult. upheld the decision of Circuit Judge Perry in issuing a writ of mandamus compelling the Collector-General to issue to the steamship *China* a Hawaiian register. The writ was signed by Judge Perry, Sept. 29th, and Colonel George R. Macfarlane secured the *China's* register on the strength of it late in the afternoon, so that when the big steamship left on Oct. 1st it was with the Hawaiian flag flying victoriously from her mizzen. Within the next two months the *Baracouta*, now in Central American waters, and perhaps two more Pacific mail steamships will be brought to Honolulu registered under the Hawaiian flag. In announcing its opinion the Supreme Court decided two very important questions arising out of the case. The less important was the denial of the right of the Minister of Finance, in determining the value of the vessel to be registered, to go deeper than the figures named in the bill of sale presented by the flag owner. The consideration named in the bill of sale by which Colonel Macfarlane became flag owner of the *China* was five shillings, upon which a stamp duty of only \$1 could be levied. The Minister of Finance, however, fixed the value of the vessel at \$200,000, and attempted to levy a stamp duty of \$2,000. It has been the practice in past years to pursue this course, and many thousands of dollars have been paid into the Government coffers that the Government may now be called upon to refund to owners of vessels that have secured Hawaiian registers. A decision of far more importance, however, was the finding of the Court that a person born of foreign parents while domiciled on Hawaiian soil becomes a Hawaiian citizen, and may secure his full rights as one by taking the oath of allegiance to the republic. This question was brought before the Court on the attack upon Colonel Macfarlane's citizenship by Minister of Foreign Affairs Cooper, who represented the Government in the hearing of the *China* cases.

This means, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, that every Chinese and Japanese born on Hawaiian soil is entitled to the full rights of citizenship. But our contemporary is apparently unaware that no decision of the Supreme Court was required to establish that fact.

GERMAN NOTES.

In discussing the alleged alliance between Russia and France, the German papers express the opinion that it is an additional pledge that the peace of the world will be maintained, and that Germany's rôle should now be to consolidate her strength at home and abroad, so that her friendship may be sought and her enmity feared. They see no reason to be dissatisfied with the friendship between France and Russia. "The alliance," says the *Kreuz Zeitung*, "is in the first place defensive. Neither France nor Russia trusts the powerful combination of Central Europe, and they have combined their forces because they know that singly they are no match for Germany and her allies."

An editorial in the Russian paper *Novosti*, which has caused considerable stir in the Fatherland, comments on the recent ministerial changes in Germany, which have been regarded as a tendency to return to the Bismarckian policy. The *Novosti* does not believe that the Emperor will tolerate any "personal" rule other than his own, and Bismarck's rule under Emperor William I. was distinctly personal. This being the case, the new era in Germany represents an unknown quantity. Whatever happens, however, it is certain that Germany will remain the leading member of the Triple Alliance and Germany's present policy is decidedly adverse to war. It is no secret that in late years Emperor William has spared no efforts to bring about an understanding with France.

The *Reichsbote* has published an editorial on the significance of the German Emperor's visit to Pest, Hungary, where the two Emperors met, which has attracted considerable attention. The meeting of the Emperor and the Czar, in St. Petersburg, says the *Reichsbote*, was shortly followed by that of the Emperor and the King of Italy, and directly after came the meeting of the two Kaisers—not in Vienna, but in Pest. At all the meetings the peaceful intentions of each ruler and their respective governments were not only loudly proclaimed but the solidity of the alliance was emphasized, and one has no right to doubt the honesty of these assurances. Each ruler wants peace and endeavours to maintain it in order to check all disturbing elements in his own country. This presupposes the existence of such elements, and if one should ask where they are to be found, the present jubilant demonstrations of the French over the Russian alliance will serve as answer. For the cause of all the fuss is their long cherished desire for revenge, as is openly stated by themselves. This was the original cause of the formation of the "Dreibund" and is consequently the strongest factor in maintaining it. Germany naturally has the strongest interest in maintaining the alliance. In Austria the Czechs hate it and evince a friendship for France, believing that so soon as Austria is freed from the bond the Slavs would get the upper hand and Austria become a Slavonic State. For this reason the Hungarians cling all the more firmly to the triple alliance. The Magyars and Slavonians are irreconcilable enemies, and although the former are no particular friends of the Germans, they will always stand by them and support them rather than have the Slav to rule over them. This explains the reason for the magnificent reception the Hungarians gave the German Emperor in Pest and the remarkable enthusiasm with which the Magyars cheered him wherever he made his appearance. They felt themselves honoured by his visit and proudly emphasized their connection with the "Dreibund." The meeting of the two emperors in the capital of Hungary, as well as the popular demonstration of that people is, therefore, very suggestive.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

DEATH OF THE DUCHESS OF TECK.

London, Oct. 28.

The Duchess of Teck has died from exhaustion following an operation for strangulated hernia.

[The Duchess of Teck was born in 1831, and was the youngest daughter of the late Duke of Cambridge, Her Majesty's uncle, and sister of the present Duke. The Princess Mary Adelaide was married to the Duke of Teck in 1865, and has one daughter, Victoria Mary, married to the Duke of York in 1893, and three sons, Adolphus who in 1894 married Lady Margaret Grosvenor, daughter of the Duke of Westminster; Francis born in 1870, and Alexander George, born in 1874.]

The funeral service for the late Duchess

of Teck will take place in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, on Wednesday.

THE INDIAN MINTS.

The *Times* states that the only chance of securing a stable rate of exchange between England and India is to establish a common standard, which, in the circumstances, can only be the gold sovereign.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at Bristol, said that he entirely concurred in the decision for the rejection of the proposal to reopen the Indian Mints, the Government being pledged to maintain the gold standard.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN AFRICA.

London, Oct. 29.

The *Temps* apprehends that a serious crisis is imminent in West Africa unless restraining orders are given immediately to the armed forces of England and France. It is stated in Paris that, owing to complications in the Lagos Hinterland, French reinforcements are being sent to Dahomey from Senegambia.

The *Times*, in a leading article on the Hinterland question in Africa, warns the colonial party in France that England's patience is exhausted and refuses to continue any longer the series of compromises whereof France reaps all the advantages.

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

London, Oct. 30.

General Sir William Lockhart has captured the Samragha Pass with but few casualties.

London, Nov. 1.

General Sir William Lockhart has captured the Arhanga Pass with trifling loss, and is now descending into the Afridi country at Turah.

DEATH OF LORD ROSMEAD.

The Right Hon. Lord Rosmead, G.C. M.G.—Sir Hercules Robinson—late Governor, High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief, of Cape Colony, is dead.

A SEARCH FOR M. ANDREE.

Norway is sending a steamer to the Arctic seas to search for M. Andree, who left in a balloon to attempt reaching the North Pole.

THE OCCUPATION OF KASSALA.

The occupation of Kassala by the Egyptians has been definitely decided upon after evacuation by the Italians.

THE WEST AFRICA COMMISSION.

The Anglo-French West Africa Commission at Paris has held its first regular sitting.

THE SEAL CONFERENCE.

The Seal Conference between Japan, Russia, and the United States has agreed upon the suspension, or material limitation, of all pelagic sealing.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

In the first innings, England v. Australia, played at Adelaide, the Australians made 409, of which Hill scored 200, and the English team made 475, Prince Ranjitsinghi scoring 189.

DESTRUCTIVE CYCLONE.

Nov. 2.

A terrible cyclone has occurred at Chittagong, which caused a thousand deaths and rendered a million persons houseless.

THE PLAGUE IN INDIA.

The plague is on the increase in the interior of India.

THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

Count A. Goluchowski, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, will visit King Humbert, at Monza, on the 6th instant. The Marquis di Rudini, Premier and Minister of the Interior, and the Marquis Visconti-Venosta, Minister of Foreign Affairs, are also invited to meet the Austrian Minister. It is understood that the object of the meeting is to dispel any doubts as to the stability of the triple alliance.

London, Nov. 3.

RUSSIA IN KOREA.

The Times publishes a telegram from Soul which states that the Russian Minister has forced the Korean Government to dismiss its English Financial Adviser and Chief of the Customs, and replace him by a Russian official.

PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS.

The Marquis of Salisbury and the Japanese Minister to London signed a Protocol on the 20th of October enforcing forthwith Article XVII. of the treaty of 1894 regarding the protection of patents and trade-marks.

OBITUARY.

Sir Rutherford Alcock and Captain Chard (of Rorke's Drift) are dead.

GLEITION IN NEW YORK.

The greatest interest is being displayed in the election of Mayor for New York.

SPAIN AND CUBA.

To-day General Blanco issued a pacifying proclamation to the Cubans, promising autonomy and oblivion for the past.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

The match at Adelaide, after four days' play, remained unfinished and ended in a draw.

(FROM "LE COURRIER D'HAIPHONG.")

PRESIDENT FAURE ON COLONIAL EXPANSION.

Paris, Oct. 15.

M. Felix Faure, on his return from Russia, has been entertained at a banquet by the merchants of Paris. The President said that the results obtained in Russia, which had given so much satisfaction in France, were due to the wisdom of the two countries.

M. Faure also spoke in favour of colonial expansion, and urged the conquest of new markets.

TERRIBLE MARITIME DISASTER.

Paris, Oct. 17.

From Havana it is reported that the coasting steamer *Trilon* has been lost to the north of Pinor del Rio. It is feared that 230 passengers and the crew have perished.

THE POPE IN FRENCH POLITICS.

Paris, October 18

In the course of a recent speech, M. Bourgeois accused the Cabinet of making war upon the old Republicans. He protested against the interference of the Vatican in French affairs, and demanded the application of a general income tax.

CHOLERA IN INDIA.

Paris, October 19.

About forty English soldiers belonging to the garrison at Sitapur have succumbed to cholera.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PRESS.)

THE "FUSO KAN" ASHORE.

Matsuyama, Iyo, Oct. 30.

The war-vessel *Fuso* ran aground upon a shoal near Nagahama harbour last night. The *Matsushima* and four other ships are engaged in getting her off.

Matsuyama, Oct. 31.

The stranded vessel *Fuso* is scarcely visible above water at high tide. Most of the crew have been landed. It is expected that the

vessel may be floated a few days, unless bad weather occurs.

Matsuyama, Oct. 31.

Details of the stranding of the *Fuso Kan* are to hand. It seems that while the Standing Squadron was manœuvring near Nagahama about 4 p.m. on the 29th October the stern of the *Fuso* collided with the bow of the *Matsushima* owing to a strong current, and damaged her propeller, whereupon she was run aground on a shoal to avoid sinking in deep water. The steamer *Kure Maru*, which came from Kure to render assistance, also went ashore in the strong wind, and damaged her bottom. The *Fuso* sank this morning (31st), but can probably be raised, though not easily. Happily no casualty happened to life or limb.

Matsuyama, Nov. 1.

The *Fuso Kan* is reported to be a total loss, as there is no prospect of raising the vessel.

FIRE AT NIIGATA.

Niigata, Oct. 31.

Last night a conflagration occurred at Nagasaki-machi and over 350 houses were reduced to ashes.

GENERAL KODAMA IN CHINA.

Shanghai, Nov. 2.

Lieut.-General Kodama, Vice-Minister of War, and suite arrived here to-day en route to Wei-hai-wei.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES IN KOREA.

Soul, Nov. 2.

Min Yong-kwi has been appointed Minister for Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works, and Chong Pak-yong Minister for Home Affairs. Min Chihong-mok, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has resigned and Yu Kwi kwan been appointed Acting Minister *ad interim*.

FATALITY ON A RAILWAY.

Otsu, Nov. 3.

Mr. Yamazaki, ex Member of the Lower House, was run over and killed by a train the night before last near Baba station.

THE "YASHIMA."

Colombo, Nov. 2.

The battle-ship *Yashima* left here for Singapore to-day.

THE NEW FORMOSAN JUDGE.

Bakan, Nov. 4.

Mr Mizuno, the new President of the Formosa High Court, arrived here this morning en route for Formosa.

THE MANŒUVRES.

Moji, Nov. 4.

Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, Commander of the Fifth Army Division, and some Korean officers have started to Nakatsu to inspect the manœuvres.

NEW RAILWAY.

Mito, Nov. 4.

The section between Mito and Kujigawa on the Ota Railway has been completed and will shortly be opened for traffic.

RAILWAY COMPANY DISSOLVED.

Aomori, Nov. 4.

The Tsugaru Railway Company will convene a special meeting on the 20th inst. when the Company is to be dissolved.

The Women's medical school in St. Petersburg has opened with a class of one hundred and sixty students; nearly an equal number of applicants were refused admission for want of room. It was determined that only orthodox Christians should be admitted to the school, but a recent ukase had modified this to the extent that women other than Christians may be received, provided the number of them shall not exceed five per cent of the total. So many applied that the full number allowed by law was admitted. They are obliged to pursue the same course of studies as their orthodox sisters, and this includes the study for six months of dogmatic theology. The other subjects for the first year are anatomy, histology, physiology, botany, and chemistry.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 1	M. Nov. 8
America	P. M. Co.	China 2	Tu. Nov. 9
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Verona	Fa. Nov. 13
America	O. & O. Co.	Belgic 3	Th. Nov. 18
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 22
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Nov. 24
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. Dec. 2

1 Left Shanghai on the 1st inst.

2 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 1st Oct.

3 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 30th Oct.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Ancona	Th. Nov. 4
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Fri. Nov. 5
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Nov. 9
Shanghai	N. V. K.	Saikio Maru	Tu. Nov. 9
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	W. Nov. 10
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Malbourne	Su. Nov. 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Nov. 20
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	Sa. Nov. 20
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of Japan	M. Nov. 22
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Nov. 26
Portland, Or.	N. P. Co.	Lombard	Sa. Nov. 27

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—4.40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.

YOKOHAMA AND KARUIZAWA.

	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
From Yokohama	5.20	...	9.57	12.45
From Shinagawa	6.40	...	11.10	2.00
From Akabane	8.27	...	12.24	3.06
Arrive Takasaki	11.33	...	3.15	6.25
From Takasaki	12.30	...	3.30	—
Arrive Karuizawa	3.30	...	6.30	9.05

YOKOHAMA AND NIKKO.

	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
From Yokohama	7.10	8.47	9.57	12.45
From Shinagawa	8.15	9.45	11.10	2.00
From Akabane	9.27	11.27	1.27	3.27
Arrive Utsunomiya	12.30	2.30	4.40	6.30
Arrive Nikko	2.15	4.25	6.15	7.15

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

	Departure	Arrival
Yokohama	6.48 a.m.	Kobe 11.22 p.m.
Yokohama	1.26 p.m.	Kobe 9.00 a.m.
Yokohama	7.20 p.m.	Kobe 3.05 p.m.
Yokohama	10.55 p.m.	Kobe 7.00 p.m.
Kobe	6.00 a.m.	Yokohama 10.25 p.m.
Kobe	12.30 p.m.	Yokohama 8.08 a.m.
Kobe	10.00 p.m.	Yokohama 7.06 p.m.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements are received for the *Japan Daily Mail* at the rate of One *Yen* per Inch per Week. Notices of Birth, Marriage, or Death, One *Yen* per insertion.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-side.

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Ichome (next to the Tokyo Club).

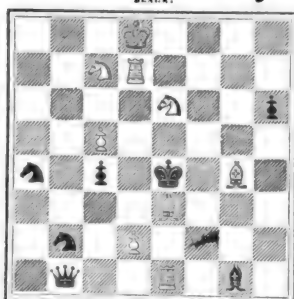
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 343.

- WHITE.
1—B to Q 8
2—Q to Q 4
3—P to B 5, mate
- BLACK.
1—K to Q 3
2—Kt moves
1—P to Q 3
2—Kt moves
1—K to Kt 5
2—Any move
1—Moves Kt
2—K to Q 5
- 2—Q to B 3
3—P to Kt 4, mate
2—B to Kt 6
3—P to R 3, mate
2—Q to R 3, ch
3—B to B 6, mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S. and D.D.

PROBLEM No. 345.

By P. F. BLAKE.



White mates in two moves.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Problem No. 340—Only one solution of Mrs. Baird's difficult problem has been sent in, and this, owing to a slight flaw, fails to be correct. The problem has proved a very hard nut indeed.

A valued correspondent writes suggesting that we should publish two problems every Saturday, as was our custom until recently. But, gratified though we feel at this exhibition of interest in problem-solving, we reluctantly find ourselves unable to fall in with the idea. So many tastes have to be consulted, so little space is at our disposal, that for the present, at any rate, only one problem a week can be given.

P.E.F.S.—Many thanks, will publish.
D.J.—Have corrected and returned.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNEY.

As predicted, Pakeha has carried off the prize in this Tourney. Mr. Fardel early this week resigned Game 4 and the score therefore is as follows:—

PLAYER.	WON.	LOST.
Pakeha	4	—
Olymp	1	3 1/2
Shepherd	1	3
Nemo	2	1
Fardel	1 1/2	1 1/2

It will be seen that one game is still unfinished, viz., Nemo v. Fardel and although the issue of the Tourney is now decided this game is still being continued by correspondence. Below we publish the score of Game 4:—

GAME No. 4.

KING'S BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

WHITE—Fardel.	BLACK—Pakeha.
1 P K4	15 Kt x B
2 P K B4	16 Kt x Kt's P
3 B B4	17 Kt x BP
4 B x P	18 K B sq*
5 Kt KB3	19 R K2
6 P x Kt	20 Kt x R
7 Castles	21 Q x P
8 Kt B3	22 K B2
9 Q K2 ch	23 B x Q
10 P Q4	24 R K sq
11 Kt K4	25 R x R ch
12 Q KB2	26 P B3
13 R K sq	27 Resigns
14 Kt (B3)	

* This move loses White the game. One way, if not indeed the only one, to get out of this dilemma seems to be..... 18—Q to Kt 3, in which case the game might have continued as follows:—

- 19—B takes Q
20—K takes P
21—Kt takes R
22—R to K B sq
23—R takes Kt
- 18—P takes Q
19—P takes P ch
20—Kt takes P
21—B x Kt
22—Kt to B 6 ch
23—B takes R

leaving White with but a Pawn minus and a fair chance for a draw.

STEINITZ TESTIMONIAL.

The Metropolitan Chess-club, of New York city, has published the following announcement:—"As previously announced, the Metropolitan Chess-Club has decided to take the initiative toward creating a 'Steinitz Testimonial Fund,' which later, it is hoped, will assume ample proportions, so as to be of material benefit to the grand old master in his declining years.

"In furtherance of this idea, a reception and entertainment has been arranged to take place on October 16, at the Central Opera-House.

"We hope and trust that the Chess world at large, and more especially all Chess-players of New York and its vicinity, will gladly and generously respond, and thereby prove that devotees of the noble game are not unthankful, as has occasionally been claimed, but, on the contrary, are only too glad to get an opportunity to show their appreciation of real merit, their gratitude toward the foremost master, the great teacher of our noble game.

"Tickets are now ready for distribution. Their sale should be almost unlimited, appealing, as they do, not merely to those who intend to be present at the occasion, but to all those, whose number is legion, that are willing and glad to swell the Steinitz fund. These are others, not Chess-players, with whom the name of Steinitz has a sterling ring, those who are willing to admit the civilizing influence of Chess. To those we appeal as well, to make our enterprise a grand success.

"There is no other parallel movement on foot which involves the co-operation of the other and larger clubs contemplating the assistance of our entire broad country. However, the project is still in its infancy, and nothing definite ready for publication has been as yet arranged.

"All communications and requests for tickets should be addressed to Metropolitan Chess-Club, Central Opera House, Sixty-Seventh Street and Third Avenue, New York city."

William Steinitz, at sixty-one years of age, is one of the greatest Chess-masters in the world. He has a record which has never been equalled in the history of Chess: for twenty-six years he was the Champion of the World. Besides this fact, Mr. Steinitz is one of the most distinguished Chess-analysts of the age, and has done as much, possibly more, than any other man to further the interest in the Royal Game.

NOTES FROM ABROAD.

We have heard the rumour that Chess is to be the rage among women this coming winter, says an American Journal. Whist parties and euchre sociables are to give way to the Royal Game. We hope that it is true, and that Chess will become not only the rage, but rather a serious study among the educated women of America. They may not get as much fun out of it, as out of some other game, but they will get solid enjoyment, and intellectual pleasure.

Reichelm, in the Philadelphia Times, divides the Chess-players of the present age into two classes: "Grubbers and Faculty men." The Grubbers are those who "grub" after Pawns, and have always in view an end game in which an extra Pawn is of so much value. The Faculty-men are on the qui vive after brilliancy. Sacrificing pieces gives them infinite delight. We saw a Faculty-man, recently give an R for a P. It wasn't sound and he lost; but this expression:—"If it hadn't been for that other R, what a beautiful thing it would have been!" revealed the pleasure he experienced in coming somewhere near a win by a display of Chess pyrotechnics. Moral:—Be sure you're right before you "brill."

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Breconshire, British steamer, 2,323, Peebles, Oct. 30th.—New York via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, Hill, 1st Nov.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Antenor, British steamer, 3,326, Jackson, 1st Nov.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 131, Laury, 2nd Nov.—North Pacific Ocean, 284 Seal Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Pantan, 4th Nov.—Tacoma Wash. and Victoria B.C., 17th Oct., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 4th Nov.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

McKinley, American schooner, 110, Hobbs, 4th Nov.—Bonin Islands, Ballast.—Captain.

Astec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, Cattarinich, 4th Nov.—Hongkong 28th Oct., Sugar and Rice.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, G. Shimazu, 4th Nov.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 3rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Melbourne, French steamer, 2,032, Duchateau, 5th Nov.—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 4th Nov., Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Immortalité (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Captain E. Chichester, 5th Nov.—Nagasaki.

Manila, British steamer, 2,711, Haddock, 5th Nov.—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 5th Nov.—Shanghai via ports, 30th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oturu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, J. E. Poole, 3rd Nov.—Kobe 2nd Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,000, J. B. MacMillan, 30th Oct.—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 30th October.—San Francisco via Honolulu Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Menelaus, British steamer, 2,770, W. Powell, 30th Oct.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Sunda, British steamer, 2,630, S. G. D. Andrews, 30th October.—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Alcoa, British steamer, 4,897, Fraser, 30th Oct.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, R. Schmitz, 31st Oct.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Ternick, 30th Oct.—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Co.

Lady Furness, British steamer, 2,042, Tiegathen, 31st Oct.—Moji via Kobe Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Esmeralda, British steamer, 120, J. T. Harrison, 1st Nov.—Guam, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Peacock (6), British gunboat, 750, Lieut.-Com. P. S. St. John, 1st Nov.—Hongkong.

Moravia, Austrian steamer, 2,736, E. Mecozzi, 2nd Nov.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Wally, German steamer, 3,200, Behrens, 2nd Nov.—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, Hill, 2nd Nov.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 2nd November.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,312, C. de la Perelle, 3rd Nov.—London and Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Ettrickdale, British steamer, 2,468, J. R. Stewart, 3rd Nov.—Portland, Or. via Mororan, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Kobota, 3rd Nov.—Mororan, Ballast.—Mitsui Bisan Kaisha.

Sabine Rickmers, German steamer, 598, T. Sanders, 4th Nov.—Newchwang, Ballast.—Samuel, Samuel & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 4th Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 5th Nov.—Shanghai and Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 5th Nov.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Yamamoto, 5th Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Columbia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. McRae, Mr. A. E. McGlew, and Mr. C. J. Mitchell, in cabin; 1 European, 1 Japanese and 25 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash. and Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Dodwell, Mr. D. J. Buckley, Mr. A. W. Taylor, Mrs. W. A. Shannon and son, Mrs. Margaret Johnson, Mr. A. J. Correa, Miss K. Sudo, Miss H. Abe, Miss A. D. Kelsey, Mrs. Ross Thomson, and Mrs. J. F. Gowey, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. J. M. Mussen in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Beach, Capt. E. W. Tisdall, Mrs. Tisdall and daughter, Mr. Geo. Warner, Miss Alma Carlson, Miss Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. Murray, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Doberck, Rev. Thos. McCloy, Mrs. McCloy and 3 children, Mr. H. Skott, Mrs. W. G. Pearce, Mrs. John Pantou, Mr. A. F. Cary, Mr. and Mrs. Wirtz, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. L. F. de Uliarte, Mr. Y. Ohita, Mr. & Mrs. A. M. Chalmers, Rev. and Mrs. T. W. Duxat, Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Leiva, Mr. V. W. Robinson, Rev. and Mrs. Sharp, Mrs. Gibbons, Mr. Pollak, Mr. S. Komor, Mr. O. D. Jerauld, Mr. C. Crowther, Mr. C. S. Averill, Mr. & Mrs. Howey and child, Mrs. Shepard, Mr. L. Jupp, Mr. C. W. Dimock, Mr. T. S. Stephenson, Miss G. Juben, Mr. Coye, Mr. and Mrs. Carey, and Master Carey, in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage. In transit:—Miss A. M. Baldwin, Dr. Bushell, Mr. P. Chamillard, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dwight, Mr. G. Gavelski, Bishop Hofman, Mr. H. W. Robertson, Rev. and Mrs. McK. Stewart, Mr. F. S. Warren, Miss M. M. Williams, and Miss L. Williams, in cabin; 6 in 2nd class; 211 in steerage.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. V. Taneda, Mr. and Mrs. van de Polder, Mr. W. Takase, Mrs. Bastien, Mr. Rabeyroux, Mrs. Robert, Mr. Foulon, M. Savouret, Mr. M. Sennet, Mr. and Mrs. V. Faga, and Mr. Edward S. Barton in cabin; 3 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. J. H. Bliss, Mr. H. Carr, Mrs. A. F. Chanot, Madame Carl le Gondec de Penlan, Ex-Senator R. F. Dubois, Senator Pettigrew, Mr. J. T. Hawke, Mr. Sidney Pye, Mr. W. H. Nicholson, Mr. W. J. Kenny, H.B.M. Acting Consul General to Hawaii, Mrs. W. H. Nicholson, Mr. Milton Harley, Lieut. W. D. Rose, U.S.N., Mr. W. D. Rose, Mr. Henry Ryder, Mr. Wm. N. McCarthy, Mrs. E. McCarthy, Mr. A. de Ridel, Dr. and Mrs. Tropine, Mrs. McIntosh and two children, Lieut. C. E. Pereira, Mr. H. Tanaka, and Mr. C. Voulemier, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Sunda*, for London via ports:—Mr. Arnold Pye Smith, Mrs. Tocque, daughter, infant and amah, Mr. George Richardson and two Misses Richardson, Mr. J. P. Tribe, Mr. H. F. C. Cowell, Mr. James H. Pearce, Mr. James Hy. Nile, Mr. Alex. Taylor, and Mr. C. Brown, in cabin.

Per Japanese str. *Wakasa Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. J. Johnston, Mr. Sakai Shinjiro, Mrs. J. S. Robinson, and Master W. Johnston, in cabin; Messrs. Thos. Spedding, J. C. Goulay, T. Komatsubara, K. Kamio, Y. Yamanaka, K. Hiraki, J. Matsushima and I. Kawara, in second class; 2 Japanese in steerage.

Per French Steamer *Oceanien*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. G. Ping, Captain G. G. L. Carey, Messrs. Mikkers, G. Campbell, W. Wood, Mr. L. W. Platten, Gen. Perret, Ch. Roike, S. Takahashi, Koriki, Mereiki, E. Jubin, Keuris, Mr. & Mrs. E. Fakky, Mrs. Oehardine, Mrs. Chow and 1 infant, Mrs. Augusta da Silva, Miss G. Jubin, Messrs. Coye, MacArthur, Th. W. McIlraith, C. Lincoln, L. Longin, B. Wolff, Kwang Yu Pon, Leiger, Loo Long Chan, T. Itsujo, Mr. and Mrs. Tree and infant, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—General Le Gendie, Mr. H. R. Blethern, Mr. B. Williams, Mr. Geo. Bowack, Mr. H. Collbran, Mrs. H. Collbran, Miss C. Collbran, Lieut. T. Watagi, Miss T. Watanabe, Mr. Takagi, Mr. D. Kuroda, Miss K. Kuroda, Mrs. R. Ishiware and 2 children, Lieut. U. Goto, and Mrs. S. Goto, in cabin; Miss N. Tanaka, Mrs. N. Tanaka, Master R. Tanaka, Miss M. Satow, Mrs. Yase and 3 children in 2nd class; 57 Japanese and 2 children in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Bombay and Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Osmund Tonks, Mr. Charles Niblett, Mr. Bruno Mencke, Surgeon J. C. Durston, R.N., Mr. Ganner, R.M.A., Mr. & Mrs. Raspe, child and native servant, and Mr. J. G. Birch in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver:—Miss A. M. Baldwin, Mr. C. Bretschneider, Miss Bretschneider and companion, Dr. S. W. Bushell, Mons. P. Chaillard, Mr. H. Cremer, Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Finch, Mons. G. Gavelski, Dr. Piers Hatton, Bishop J. Hofman, Mr. R. A. McClymont, Mr. H. W. Robertson, Mr. E. B. Saltwell, Mr. A. Stead, Mr. W. S. Taylor, Mr. F. S. Warren, Miss Louise Williams, and Miss M. M. Williams, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Columbia*, for Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Wash.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL
	CANADA AND	U.S. AND	PACIFIC	OTHER	
	WEST.	COAST.	CITIES.	ADRS.	
Foochow	1,312	680	534	—	2,526
Shanghai	—	2,760	—	195	2,955
Kobe	387	2,664	456	—	3,507
Yokohama	774	2,834	2,008	63	5,709
Total	2,473	8,938	3,088	258	14,757

	SILK.		TOTAL
	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	
Hongkong and Canton	131	—	131
Shanghai	158	—	158
Yokohama	561	—	561
Total	850	—	850

The following are the details of silk shipped per N. P. steamer *Columbia*, on the 2nd inst.:—

	BALRS.
Siber Brennwald & Co.	310
Bavie & Co.	171
Vivanti Bros.	50
Sieber & Co.	30
Total	561

The following are the Silk shippers per C. P. steamer *Empress of China*, which sails for Vancouver to-day, the 5th November:—

	Bales.
Siber Brennwald & Co.	332
Bavie & Co.	198
Total	440

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Nothing doing in shirtings and next to nothing in fancies and woollens. The business in yarns has also dropped off and is scarcely likely to improve so long as American raw cotton continues to decline. Quotations for the latter—middling—have fallen to \$19.75 per picul.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PICUL.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 42 inches	2.80 to 3.35
1. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 34 yds, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens black, 35 inches	PER YARD.
	0.18 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	PER YARD.
	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 2 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 2 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 2 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 2 1/2 yds, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches beat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	—
Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	—
Common	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloth—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloth—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloth—Union, 51 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$38.50 to 39.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 50, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	\$19.75 —
Indian Broach	21.00 —
Chinese	20 to 20 1/2

METALS.

A small business only has been transacted, dealers restricting their purchases on account of the increasing tightness of the money market and the rise in rates of interest.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.10 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized iron sheets	9.20 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Pin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.05 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1/2 to 1 1/2 inch)	3.00 to 3.25

RUBBER.

The market is weaker and prices have fallen 2 sen per case for American and Russian oil.

	PER PICUL.
American	\$2.00 to 2.15
Russian	2.00 to 2.15
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

A fair demand exists for Brown, and transactions have been considerable, at rising prices, quotations having improved 10 to 20 cents per picul. Since the 19th Oct. sales of Manila amount to 43,354 piculs, of China 11,242 piculs, of Formosa 10,716 piculs; arrivals during the same period are, Manila 26,764 piculs, and China 15,019 piculs. White refined is in fair request at firm rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$3.90 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.10 to 4.90
Brown Daitong	3.80 to 3.85
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market has been much quieter in tone during the past week and at the close very little is doing. There are no offers for fine sized filatures, owing to the high prices asked, but it is believed that slight concessions would now be made to intending buyers. Shipments in the interval have been small, and stocks amount to only 7,050 piculs, against 19,545 piculs at same date last year. Quotations are nominal.



GREY WHISKERS

EYEBROWS, &c.

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CONCENTRATED

EXTRACT OF NUT GALLS

Has been thoroughly tested and approved in all parts of the world for over a quarter of a Century.

It is NOT A DYE, but the colouring principle of the Nut Gall in a concentrated form, perfectly harmless, and will positively restore the colour true to nature in two months.

NOTE.—Thirty years Professor of Hair Specifics to the Honorable Branches of the Inner Temple.

GEO. COURTICE & CO.,

Laboratory, 8, Bishop's Court, Chancery Lane, London

(Late 234, STRAND.)

PRICES: 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 5s., 10s. 6d., & 1s. per BOTTLE.

This EXTRACT is INVALUABLE to LADIES, as it restores the Colour close to the Skin.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.....	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.....	\$930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers.....	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers.....	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 13/15 deniers.....	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers.....	780 to 790
Kakadas—Extra.....	840 to 850
Kakadas—No. 1.....	820 to 830
Kakadas—No. 1.....	790 to 800
Kakadas—No. 2.....	760 to 770
Kakadas—No. 2.....	—

WASTE SILK.

The market is quiet and prices well maintained. Settlements since 19th Oct. amount to 4,500 piculs, but little has been done during the past week. Stocks are estimated at 10,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best.....	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good.....	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best.....	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good.....	100 to 103
Noshi—Oshu, Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi—Shimshu, Best.....	70 to 75
Noshi—Shimshu, Good.....	65 to 67½
Noshi—Bushu, Best.....	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Good.....	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi—Joashu, Good.....	60 to 65
Noshi—Joashu, Fair.....	55 to 57½
Kibiso—Filature, Best.....	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joashu, Good.....	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair.....	20 to 22½

TEA.

There have been comparatively few, and those small, transactions during the past week, such demand as there was being for low grades—common to medium—at very firm rates. Stocks are small and supplies in the country are almost exhausted. The City of Rio de Janeiro took 75,565 lbs. on the 30th ult. for San Francisco, and the Columbia, on the 2nd inst., 363,558 lbs. for the States and Canada. Total settlements to the 3rd instant amount to 208,128 piculs, against 205,685 piculs at same date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest.....	Nominal.
Choice.....	\$31 to 32
Finest.....	31 to 32
Fine.....	27 to 28
Good Medium.....	25 to 26
Medium.....	23 to 24
Good Common.....	21 to 22
Common.....	19 to 20

EXCHANGE.

Slightly improved.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/0½
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0½
— — 4 months' sight.....	2/0½
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2/0½
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/0½
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2.54½
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2.59
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	5/6 d.
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	7/8 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	78½
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	80½
On India—Bank sight.....	154½
— — Private 30 days' sight.....	158
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	49
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	50½
On Germany—Bank sight.....	2.06
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2.10½
Rs. Silver (London).....	26½

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Engineer and Cook Mfr.,
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Hydropathic and Massage Apparatus supplied to the Vichy Co. Vapour Baths (Berthe system).

Apply to BOVES & Co., agents for M. OPPENHEIMER & Co., PARIS.

December 5, 1896.



INSTANT RELIEF FOR SKIN-TORTURED BABIES

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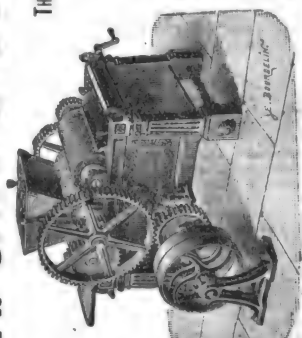
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YOKOHAMA, NOV. 13TH, 1897.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 13TH, 1897.

MARRIAGE.

BIRNIE-DANNATT.—On the 6th inst., at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A. Cyril Montague, son of the late DAVID BIRNIE, Melbourne, Australia, to Margaret Mary, younger daughter of the Rev. J. H. DANNATT, Barton-on-Humber, Yorks., and cousin of the Rt. Rev. Henry Evington, Bishop of Kinshiu, Japan.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. VAN WYCK, the Tammany candidate, has been elected Mayor of New York.

THE sealing conference at Washington rose on the 6th inst. after signing a convention.

THE cruiser *Akashi*, of 2,800 tons displacement, was launched at Yokosuka on the 8th inst.

A JAPANESE Consulate was opened at Chinnampo, Korea, on the 30th of October last.

MR. ALEXIEFF, the new Russian financial adviser to Korea, has taken up his post in Seoul.

A MYSTERIOUS tragedy has occurred in Paris, M. Dreyfus, a cousin of Capt. Dreyfus who was sentenced to life imprisonment for selling mili-

tary secrets, having committed suicide together with his wife and three children.

A TRAIN was derailed between Uyeno and Utsunomiya on the 4th inst. No lives were lost.

THE Ryusaki station on the Hokuyetsu Railway was wrecked by a dynamite explosion on the 11th inst.

TWO men were killed and ten injured by the derailing of a ballast train on the Nankai railway on the 5th inst.

THE naval manoeuvres at Yokosuka, which had been going on since the 22nd ult., concluded on the 2nd inst.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR, who has been suffering from a cold since the 5th inst., has now quite recovered.

BARON NISHI, the new Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the afternoon of the 8th instant had audience of the Emperor.

MR. HAMAO, the new Minister for Education, on the 8th instant took over charge from Marquis Hachisuka, the ex-Minister.

PRINCE TOKUGAWA KEIKI, the last Shogun, who has been residing at Shizuoka since the Restoration, has taken up his abode in the capital.

SEVERAL Japanese astronomers will leave Japan on the 16th inst. for India, where the total eclipse of the sun in January next will be visible.

MR. HOSHI, Minister to the United States, who was believed to be a candidate for office, is leaving Japan on the 21st inst. to resume his post.

A PASSENGER train was derailed near Sano on the Nankai Railway line on the morning of the 5th and six passengers were injured more or less.

REAR-ADMIRAL FITZGERALD has been appointed to succeed Admiral Oxley as second in command of the British squadron on the China station.

A COLLISION occurred on the 8th inst. between the steamers *Tatsuta Maru* and *Hiroshima Maru* off Nimo-shima. Both vessels were slightly damaged.

AN attempt has been made upon the life of the President of Brazil, and the Minister of War, in defending the President, was killed by the assassin, who was arrested.

THE vessels of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, as the result of negotiations with the Communications Department, will hereafter carry mails from Yokohama to Seattle.

MR. TOYAMA SHICHI, Professor in the Imperial University, has been selected as President of the University; and Professor Kikuchi, also of the University, as Vice-Minister for Education.

A BONIN islander named Gonzales, who assaulted a man known as Hatoba Charlie at Hakodate a week or two ago, hung himself upon hearing of the death of the man he had injured.

THE telegraph cable between Formosa and Foochow, China, which has been broken since September last, is expected to be restored to working order during the course of this month.

THE members of the Yokohama Japanese Chamber of Commerce held a special general meeting on the 4th inst. for the election of half the members of the Chamber, when Mr. Oiani Kahei was returned as President.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR will not, it is said,

attend the opening of the Diet, which will take place on the 24th December next, on account of the Court being still in mourning for the late Empress Dowager.

It is stated that many of the local Governors appointed from the Progressionist Party have tendered their resignations, but the Authorities at the Home Department are in favour of retaining their services.

To obtain funds for the improvement of Nagasaki harbour it has been decided by the Nagasaki Town Council to issue Harbour Construction Bonds to the amount of yen 90,000, and the subscription list was opened on the 5th inst.

On the evening of the 6th inst., the agents of various Armies of Great Britain, France and Germany were entertained at the Kaikosha, Kudan, Tokyo, in connection with the supply of quick-firing guns and other fire-arms to the Military Authorities.

COUNT OKUMA having resigned the post of Foreign Minister, Baron Nishi has been appointed in his place. Dr. Hamao Arata has been appointed Minister for Education, and Baron Yamada, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

THE Kawasaki Shipbuilding Yard at Kobe recently received an order from the Osaka Shosen Kaisha for the construction of a steel steamer of over 1,500 tons, which is to be placed on the river line between Hankow and Ichang, China.

THE father of the young servant girl, Hana, who was killed by an electric shock when grasping the cord of an electric light at a shop in Kanda, Tokyo, on the 5th of October last, is instituting a claim for yen 5,000 against the Tokyo Electric Light Co., as compensation for the death of the girl.

THE Import market during the past week has shown little vitality, the recent rise in interest by the Banks, and general tightness of the money market militating against any speculative business. Cotton piece-goods of all kinds appear to be a drug in the market, and the business in yarns, which was fairly brisk a few weeks since, has dropped to almost nothing, while the local spinners are in difficulties owing to the want of a market for their surplus production. This used to go to China, but as that country is now beginning to turn out her own yarns, and exchange is against Japan since the introduction of the gold monetary system, it no longer pays Japanese spinners to send their products there, in spite of the fact that they are buying their raw cotton cheaper from America. Very little is doing in metals; the only two staple imports showing any vitality being kerosene and sugar. In the former, a brisk business has been done at slightly reduced quotations, as stocks are large. Transactions in brown sugar have been satisfactory at former quotations, and white refined has also shown a fair demand. Among exports, the silk market has been very dull, buyers being disinclined now that their principal orders have been filled, to pay the prices demanded by dealers. The latter are quite content to wait until they can obtain their prices, as the season so far has been most satisfactory to them. Purchases of tea are gradually decreasing as the season closes, and stocks are diminishing, with very little more, if any, to arrive from the producing districts. There is no export of rice, prices being too high, while foreign grain is being imported to supply the wants of the poorer classes. The output and export of coal has fallen off considerably, prices having risen some fifty per cent. since the same time last year. Exchange closes steady.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The *Fiji Shimpō* considers that the Progressionists have acted with unwise precipitancy in bringing about the present crisis. It is impossible for a body of statesmen to give effect to any political programme in the short space of a few months. The Matsukata Cabinet came into office in September of last year. They could not be reasonably expected to have achieved any signal administrative or financial results by this time. The Progressionists should have remembered that point. If their hasty procedure is to become a precedent, there will be no such thing as rest and stability in Japanese politics. The Government had taken one significant step: it had admitted a number of outsiders to the ranks of the administration. It had given earnest of an intention to effect a radical change in the face of officialdom. But almost before the new policy had emerged from the stage of inception, the whole scheme has been overthrown. The Progressionists formulated five demands and threw them into the shape of an ultimatum. Was it possible for the Cabinet to bow its head? Is it conceivable that no method of compromise could be evolved? On the one hand, we have the petulant haste of party politicians; on the other the paltry declaration that because publicity had been given to the ultimatum, it must be rejected. Such doings would become children better than they become grown-up men. It is perfectly plain that there are two dominant principles in the political field at present: the principle of personal government and the principle of party government. A strong cabinet can be formed only by uniting the two principles. If they are to remain antagonistic, the harmonious working of the Administration cannot be hoped for. But their successful union demands a mutual exercise of patience and forbearance. That plain fact seems to have escaped the observation of the Progressionists. It has to be remembered, however, that the politics of the country are in a state of transition. The experience now gained may help to bring about the consummation so strongly to be desired in the national interests, namely, the *Meiji* statesmen's recognition of the necessity of working in unison with political parties, and the political parties' recognition of the necessity of working in unison with the *Meiji* statesmen. If the two are to come together only to fall out, the affairs of the nation must suffer intolerably.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* devotes itself to dissuading Count Matsukata from following Count Okuma into retirement. The gist of its article is that the pressure now brought to bear on the Prime Minister with the object of inducing him to resign, has for its real purpose his enrollment in the ranks of the Progressionists, who, by their extreme action, would thus gain the advantage of attracting to their banner a prominent statesman. What a Minister of the Crown has to consider is his competence to discharge the duties of adviser to the Sovereign and to command the confidence of the people. Count Okuma has concluded that he does not at present possess that competence or confidence, and he consequently retires. But Count Matsukata is differently situated. It can not be supposed that he is under any private engagement to follow Count Okuma's example. Such an engagement would be disrespectful to the Emperor by whose mandate he holds office. If, on the other hand, he thinks of retiring because the Administration has made mistakes, then not he alone but the whole Cabinet should go out of office, for all are equally responsible. Finally, he has himself declared, in his memorandum to the Progressionists, that his first duty as Prime Minister is to guard the Imperial Prerogative against such a violation as would be involved in allowing outsiders to dictate the removal of Cabinet Ministers. Hence, were he to quit office because the Progressionists have severed their connexion with the Administration, he would be acting contrary to his own solemnly avowed principles. He must recognise that the efforts made to bring about his resignation are nothing

more than devices to contrive his final association with the Progressionist Party.

It may well be supposed that Viscount Takashima does not escape attack at this juncture. The *Mainichi Shimbun* is especially severe on him. Marquis Ito, it says, created the Colonization Department and gave the portfolio to Viscount Takashima without any regard to the latter's competence, but merely for the sake of strengthening the Cabinet by the introduction of the Satsuma element. It was to Viscount Takashima, however, that the Ito Cabinet owed its fall. The financial demands made by him in connexion with Formosa led to the retirement of Viscount Watanabe, and brought about the economical difficulty that overthrew the Ministry. It was because of that achievement that he obtained a place in the present Cabinet, and was allowed to sit at the council board with his elders in years and his superiors in intellect, Count Okuma, Count Matsukata and Marquis Saigo. He ought to have been distrusted rather than rewarded for what he had done. It ought to have been perceived that he would work the ruin of the new Cabinet also, as has actually occurred. For he it is that gathered together a coterie of corrupt politicians, mere office-seekers, to be the rivals of the Progressionists. At every point friction occurred and jealousies were provoked between the men whom Viscount Takashima and Count Kabayama had organized into the *Kodo-kai*. It was impossible for politicians actuated by such different motives to agree in supporting any Cabinet, and their quarrels are the real cause of the Progressionists' loss of confidence in the Ministry and of the split that has now occurred. Viscount Takashima is a Cabinet-destroyer, and his own followers have as much reason as his enemies to condemn his conduct. This crisis has been brought about, not by any real desire on the part of the Progressionists to promote the cause of reform, but simply through the machinations of a section of the Party who think that they see their account in the overthrow of the Matsukata Cabinet. That interpretation becomes quite plain if the declarations of these agitators are examined. On the one hand, they condemn any increase of taxation; on the other, they clamour for the adjustment of the finances. How can the finances be adjusted without increased taxation? There is a deficit of some twenty-six millions on the side of the revenues for next year. It is not a deficit due to administrative extravagance. It is due to expenditures approved by the Progressionists themselves in the last session of the Diet. The expenditures can not be reduced now: the country is pledged to them. What, then, do the Progressionists propose by way of substitute for increased taxes? Do they advocate a foreign loan; or the use of the remaining part of the Indemnity at once; or the laying of violent hands on the reserves for the new currency, or postponement of the redemptions of the national debt; or the cessation of any payment of interest on account of the debt? Any one of these measures would fatally impair the country's credit. What, then, is their plan? They stand in the position of having submitted to the Ministry a programme impossible of adoption, the alternative of not adopting it being severance of relations. Such procedure is simply destructive. Count Matsukata is to be complimented for having declined to bow to an ultimatum which would have brought the administration to a stand-still, and he is to be congratulated on his separation from a Party so unreasonable in its methods. He has now to stand firm. Efforts are being made to induce him and Marquis Saigo to quit office, but there is no ground for supposing that any success will attend such schemes. As for the Progressionists, the advantage that they have gained, or that they hope to gain, by their destructive policy is difficult to detect. These are the sentiments of the *Kokumin Shimbun*.

The *Nippon* takes a view diametrically opposed to that of the *Kokumin*. It contends that Count Matsukata is morally and politically

bound to share Count Okuma's retirement. Briefly tracing the history of the present catastrophe, the *Nippon* compares it to the out-flow of a pent-up current. The public at large speak as though the ultimatum presented to the Cabinet by the Progressionists were the sole cause of the trouble, but the truth is that the resignations of Messrs. Takahashi and Komuchi were the beginning of the crisis. Then followed the submitting of certain proposals by Count Okuma to the Cabinet. They were, in fact, a modified form of the Progressionists' proposals. The Cabinet rejected them, and after that a split was inevitable. It matters little to inquire now whether the formation of the *Kodo-kai* was responsible for the friction, or whether the Progressionists had grown weary of the alliance. "Spilt water will not return to the dish." But it is certain that the Cabinet owed its existence to an alliance between a popular party and a coterie of Satsuma statesmen. On the strength of that alliance it came into power. How can Count Matsukata attempt to keep the Satsuma coterie in office after the alliance has been severed? Does he mean to establish the principle that men may be allies in prosperity and indifferent to each other in adversity? Such a course would be unjust to Count Okuma and unjust to the public. The example set by Marquis Ito is the only proper precedent. When Count Itagaki declared his determination to resign, Marquis Ito refused to remain in office. Yet the Ito Cabinet's relations with the Liberals had not been by any means as intimate as those of the Matsukata Cabinet with the Progressionists.

The *Yoroku Chōhō* preaches a sermon to the Progressionists on the text that they ought never to have joined forces with the present Cabinet. They ought to have known, they must have known, that their policy was not in harmony with such a Cabinet, but the fact is that they grew weary of waiting out in the cold, and thus, under the influence of impatience, took a step which they doubtless regret now, and which can not tend to enhance their reputation. For the public does not fail to see that whatever may be their political integrity, however proof they may be against the seductions of place or power, they are not gifted with the important faculty of estimating times and seasons. It is nothing that they have served relations with the Ministry, for to maintain the connection would have been to link themselves with the plainly moribund cause of clan government. The veriest tyro in politics can perceive the unwisdom of such a course. Little credit, therefore, belongs to the Progressionists for their eleventh-hour discretion, whereas, on the other side of the account, has to be set a feeling of public uneasiness that their once-committed error of judgment may be twice committed. That is practically the gist of the article before us. It is not unfriendly to the Progressionists, but it abounds with the wisdom that follows the event.

The political crisis having ended with the resignation of Count Okuma, and the Cabinet having settled down to work again, the question now is, says the *Shōgyō Shimpō*, whether the public may feel easy. So far as foreign affairs are concerned, they will probably be quite safe in the hands of Baron Nishi, who, although he has not yet given evidence of any remarkable political capacity, has great experience of the Occident and of the workings of diplomacy. But in the field of finance there is much cause for anxiety. The times are distinctly troubled. Men are experiencing difficulty in paying up the calls on the shares to which they have subscribed in various enterprises; companies find themselves obliged to suspend their operations; the banks are nearly at the limit of their capacity of grant accommodation; the currency of merchants' paper is suffering; the prices of commodities continue to rise steadily, and the prospects of the rice harvest are not good. It is by no means a reassuring situation, and to crown all, the Cabinet finds itself obliged to have recourse to increased taxation. On general grounds the *Shōgyō* has no objection

maintained that such a step was perfectly feasible and reasonable. But it does entertain some doubt whether the Cabinet is approaching the measure with sufficient seriousness. Official financiers seem to have no qualms whatever about the success of their scheme. They have shaken off the Progressionists as though no outside support were of any importance, and they are going steadily ahead. In the main, doubtless, they are right, but have they an earnest sense of the difficulties of the problem? Do they perceive that most careful investigations are necessary in order not to perpetuate or repeat injustices long complained of, and do they understand that, when they put their hand to the work of increasing taxation in one direction, the responsibility of decreasing it in another may possibly devolve on them, so as to maintain the equal incidence of burdens? The *Shogyo* merely propounds these questions. It does not attempt to answer them.

MEETING OF PROGRESSIONISTS.

The much-talked-of meeting of the Progressionists was held on the 4th instant, and was attended by 59 members of the House of Representatives and 7 representatives of the Party's branches. Baron Kusumoto having been voted to the chair, Mr. Shiba Shiro, on behalf of the business committee, offered an apology to the meeting for the fact that matters had reached such a crisis. He seems to have made no attempt to extenuate the committee's part in the result, but merely stated that they regretted their failure to discharge their responsibilities. This brought the celebrated Mr. Tanaka Shozo to his feet. He thundered at the committee but failed to impart any of his own caloric to the meeting. The business committee then presented a report which has much interest as showing the kind of relations that existed between the Party and the Government. We translate from the *Fiji Shimpō*—

It is unnecessary to explain the reasons that led the Party to establish relations with the Cabinet. You are all aware of them. After the prorogation of the Diet, your committee frequently conferred with the Ministers of State and advised them on the subjects of financial and administrative management, in order that effect might be given to the pledges of the Cabinet itself and to the declarations put forward in our Party's manifesto. The Cabinet had solemnly engaged to manage things as desired, but we, believing that the engagement could not be made good with the then organization of the Government, conceived that no course offered except to get our fellow-thinkers drafted into the ranks of officialdom, and to that end we opened negotiations in the sense of having our people appointed to the post of local governor. We failed to obtain full success, but were able to obtain three or four nominations. It being still evident that unless our partisans were admitted to the Central Government, the desired end could not be attained, we adopted measures for that purpose, but not, on this occasion, by direct negotiation with the Cabinet. Certain Ministers holding political views similar to our own, were instrumental in the appointment of our people to offices in the Departments of Foreign Affairs and of Agriculture and Commerce. Mr. Taketomi's transfer to the Department of Finance was in lieu of an additional nomination to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. These things amount to a very petty achievement, but we had some ulterior aims; and subsequently, when the Administrative Reform Committee was reorganized, four of our Party, including Mr. Taketomi, were appointed to draft the scheme of reform. We found, however, that the results arrived at by private consultation could not be adopted, and we therefore decided to approach the question from the more feasible points first. On those lines

we prepared a draft which was submitted to the Committee and passed by it, so that these secured a prospect of our ends being achieved. But the Cabinet rejected the draft. With reference, again, to the problem of finance, when the Government approached the consideration of the general estimates in May, we urged the postponement of all new enterprises, the reduction of the "fixed expenditures" as far as possible, and abstention from all new measures of taxation. The Government accepted our suggestions and, at a Cabinet council held on the 4th of June, resolved to put off the proposed increase of taxation. Nevertheless, when the demands of the various Departments came to be considered, a large deficit, amounting to 26 or 27 million yen, was found in the Revenue. Further, when the affairs of Formosa and the matter of the Board of Audit were taken into account, there appeared to be no hope whatever, and our relations with the Cabinet have consequently been severed.

The acceptance of above report having been proposed by Mr. Akasaka, Mr. Hasebo Junko opposed it. His full speech is not given, but the gist of it is said to have been:—

Unquestionably this is not the time for the Progressionists to sever their connexion with the Cabinet. We have still reason to hope that the Government will carry out the propositions formulated in the Party's manifesto. On the 19th of last month Mr. Inugai said to me that there was no use attempting to go on with the present Cabinet; that Counts Matsukata and Okuma ought to be urged to retire, so that the Cabinet might be wholly reconstructed; that if the two Counts retired, the Cabinet must fall; that even if it did not fall, the remaining Cabinet must be a mere makeshift, and that, consequently, we should urge the two Counts to resign. I opposed him, and recommended, as a better course, that we should press the Cabinet to give effect to the points set forth in our manifesto. Mr. Inugai agreed, and it was arranged that we should wait upon Marquis Saigo, Count Matsukata and Viscount Takashima. On the 20th, at a meeting with Mr. Ozaki, the latter intimated that the Standing Committee should be called together on the 23rd, but as we found that the Cabinet was to hold an important discussion on that day, I suggested we should await the result, and have the standing committee's meeting on the 23rd. My efforts proved unavailing, however, and on the 23rd the manifesto now in your hands was drawn up. I fail to comprehend such precipitancy. When Mr. Inugai held a conference with Mr. Oishi and Baron Ito Miyoji, I pointed out to him that, under existing circumstances, meetings with the Ito party were not advisable. He replied that there had been such a meeting, but that it related to commercial affairs and that no political discussion had taken place. I subsequently learned that there had been four such meetings, and under the circumstances it appears to me that the Progressionists can not escape the reproach of being led into mistakes by a section of schemers.

Mr. Inugai's reply to the above is reported as follows:—

Mr. Haseba has greatly misunderstood the nature of my remarks with reference to the resignations of Counts Matsukata and Okuma. What I said was that the two Counts should be urged to carry out the proposed administrative and financial reforms, and that if they were unable to do so, they ought to resign. I added that, in presenting their proposals to the Cabinet, they should carry their resignations with them, since, no lesser degree of determination would be of any avail. As for the other affairs, I was invited in the summer to Mr. Kondo's villa, where I met a number of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha people whom I knew. Mr. Oishi and Baron Ito Miyoji were also present, but I have not the pleasure of Baron Ito's acquaintance. Subsequently, when Mr. Haseba spoke to me on the subject, I said to Mr. Oishi that if the Govern-

ment was so nervous, he too had better not meet Baron Ito any more, and I understand that Mr. Oishi, on the following day, told Count Kabayama that with such a disorderly following it did not matter whom the Count met, and that he, Mr. Oishi, had had a meeting with Mr. Matsuda Seikin.

After these unedifying recriminations, and a brief debate, the Standing Committee's action was approved by a vote of 56 to 3, the "noes" being Messrs. Haseba, Orita and Arimura. Practically therefore, the Party may be said to have unanimously agreed to sever its connexion with the Government. The opposition that the *Fiji Shimpō* predicted on the part of Mr. Shimada Saburo and his followers—an event which we described in our last issue as very improbable—did not come off.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS AT WASEDA.

On the 8th and 9th instant great numbers of persons, Japanese and foreign, availed themselves of the three-times-renewed invitation of Count and Countess Okuma to visit the garden of their Excellencies' residence at Waseda and view the chrysanthemums. The weather was sufficiently beautiful to atone for all its previous misdeeds—a day of exquisite sunshine and soft, hazy air; the "little spring" of early autumn in Japan. We need scarcely say that the garden looked lovely; tended with infinite care and bursting into the early fire of autumnal tints. The house was also thrown open, presenting an attractive picture of a Japanese interior, restful, artistic, sober-tinted, and not without a glow of rich gold screens, magnificent lacquer, and gems of *cladon* and jade. Count Okuma's well known predilection for potted shrubs was evidenced by a wonderful collection of beauties and curiosities in that line, representing a sum of human labour and patience that would probably be very startling if reduced to figures. But, of course, the great object of attraction was the chrysanthemums. Of these there was really a noble display—eight hundred and fifty varieties, the culms of over four thousand plants. The shrub of twelve hundred blossoms was there in all its glory, a grand sight, marvellous in the luxuriance of its vigour and the lavishness of the care that must have been bestowed on it. The "specialties," however, were still more interesting. They showed extraordinary notes of colour, and a bewildering multiplicity of forms many of which were not to be reconciled with any reasonable conception of a chrysanthemum's shape. Visitors familiar with the achievements of London and New York horticulturists were obliged to admit that Count Okuma's collection contained a large number of unimagined novelties.

ANOTHER SHIPPING AFFRAY.

The *Ten Shin Maru*, says the *Hiogo News* of Friday, is at present lying alongside the western, or Railway, Pier. One of the quartermasters, a man named Miyata, was discharged therefrom yesterday morning for good and sufficient reasons. Following well-established precedents he proceeded to make himself objectionable. Having "primed up" ashore he proceeded on board during the afternoon and made his way to the Chief Officer's cabin. He behaved most insolently, and when Mr. Franklin sought to eject him he brought several coolies to his aid. The officer was struck over the head with a heavy spanner, a scalp wound about an inch long being inflicted. The Second Officer came to the rescue and was savagely bitten in the arm by one of the assailants. The Water-Police have the case in hand, and although the guilty parties got clear of the ship their arrest is not likely to be long delayed. Truly the Japanese commercial marine is at this time a thing of great beauty.

CONVOCAATION OF THE DIET.

An Imperial Rescript convening the Diet for the 21st of December has just been issued. It is dated the 10th instant, so that the interval allowed between its issue and the day of convention is exactly the prescribed forty days. A short time ago people were looking forward to this session of the Diet with but languid interest. The general idea was that the Cabinet would find at its back at least as large a following as it had last session. But now no one knows what to think. For the moment, the Ministry's parliamentary prospects look gloomy enough. Even the business men seem disposed to join the Opposition, if we may judge from the tone of a meeting of the united chambers of commerce, held in the rooms of the Tokyo Chamber on the 7th instant. Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi was in the chair, and the epitome of his speech published by the vernacular press indicates that he connected Count Okuma's resignation with the Government's failure to reduce the administrative expenditures to a point consistent with the national resources, and that he was disposed to endorse the views of the retiring statesman. Briefly stated, Mr. Shibusawa's policy is to abolish the Business Tax and other vexatious imposts and to derive the whole revenue—having first adjusted its dimensions in accordance with the national strength—from three or four taxes only. The representatives of the various chambers approved his suggestions, and a committee was appointed to submit them to the Government. But it is manifestly out of the question that any such radical change of policy can be effected during the brief interval between the present time and the meeting of the Diet. We have to remember, however, that the Chamber of Commerce protested vehemently against the Business Tax last year, and that, despite the Cabinet's indifference to their protest, the business men were subsequently found voting with the Ministry. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, which has always been a staunch supporter of the present Cabinet, declares that Count Matsukata and his colleagues will not give themselves any manner of concern about political parties next session. A Cabinet that declined to modify its programme for the sake of retaining the alliance of a powerful body like the Progressionists, is not likely to bow its head for the sake of securing the co-operation of comparatively petty coteries like the Public Unionists and the National Unionists. It appears to us that all the opinions now enunciated are purely conjectural. Probably none of the political parties except the Progressionists has definitely made up its mind what side it will take.

We have already stated that the eleventh session of the Diet is to commence on the 21st of December. The official opening will be on the 24th, and the Houses will doubtless rise on that day until the tenth of January, having appointed Committees to consider and report upon the principal Bills submitted by the Government, including, of course, the Budget. Among such Bills three, emanating from the Finance Department, will probably be given the first place. They are, a measure for changing the rate of the *Sake* Tax, a measure for changing the rate of the Land Tax, and a measure for changing the redemption period of the silver *yen*. The two first of

these Bills will precipitate a collision between the Cabinet and the Lower House. The silver-*yen* amendment will doubtless be passed almost immediately, the Government making it an urgency measure. But it is with reference to increased taxation that the Progressionists have broken away from the Cabinet, and they will of course oppose the *Sake* Bill and the Land Taxation Bill. What are the Government's chances of succeeding with these measures? We recently re-produced from the columns of the *Yû Shimpô* an estimate of the probable distribution of political parties in the next session of the Diet. It gave to the Cabinet a substantial majority. But it was based on a supposition which has since proved erroneous—the supposition that a section of the Progressionists, under the leadership of Mr. Shimada Saburo, would break away from that Party and support the Government. There appears to be no probability of any such event. Mr. Shimada was from the first opposed to the coalition between the Progressionists and the Matsukata Cabinet, and the severance of that relation removes any cause of friction between him and the Party. It is pretty certain—so far as present indications may be trusted—that the whole of the Progressionists, with insignificant exceptions, will oppose the Cabinet. There has been much talk of the Party's disintegration; talk emanating from generally well-informed sources. As yet, however, no signs of cleavage are openly visible. We may assume, therefore, that the votes commanded by the Party—some eighty in all—will be cast solely against the Bills for increased taxation. The National Unionists, also, have declared themselves hostile to the Cabinet. But are they really hostile? They came into existence as a party for the purpose of supporting the Cabinet over which Count Matsukata presided in 1892. It may almost be said that they owe their existence to the influence exerted by the Government in their favour during the general elections consequent on the dissolution of the first House of Representatives. They were organized under the leadership of Marquis Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa. It is not easy to see why they should array themselves against the present Cabinet except on the principle that the company of a failing cause is disagreeable. At all events they are now a comparatively insignificant factor. Taking into account the malady of shrinkage that has constantly afflicted them, and the secessions their ranks suffered last session, we doubt whether they aggregate more than twenty at present. Let us count them at twenty-five. Then the Progressionists and National Unionists muster a total of 105. On the other side, we have the Public Unionists (*Kodo kai*) and the Liberals. The latter now number about 60; the former, about 40. If they combined to support the Cabinet they would virtually balance the Progressionists and the National Unionists. The question is, however, will the Liberals support the Matsukata Cabinet. They would have supported it last session had it not included Count Okuma. If they oppose it this session, they will find themselves in company with their enemies, the Progressionists, and the irksomeness of the association will not be softened by the community of absorbing purpose that once knit together the normally discordant sections of the Opposition. We might, indeed, count pretty confidently on seeing

the Liberals uphold the Cabinet were any problem other than increased taxation at stake. But to vote for increased taxation on the eve of a general election will be a bitter test of loyalty. The members of the *Kodo-kai* have little at stake. Whichever side they espouse, their prospects in the approaching elections must be small. But for the Liberals the result of the next struggle at the polls is vital. They were once the great party *par excellence*. They are now a bad second to the Progressionists. If they are to recover their pride of place—and there is no reason why they should not—next June will be their time. Is it probable that they will present themselves to the constituencies as advocates of increased taxation? Is it probable that they will help their rivals to pose as the champions of the tax-payer? On the other hand, the Government has been fully cognisant of these difficulties from the outset, and there are some indications that in rejecting the Progressionists' ultimatum Count Matsukata had Marquis Ito's advice. In the years before the war with China, a failure to pass the Budget did not necessarily involve serious inconvenience: the Budget of the preceding year was repeated according to the Constitution, and the expenditures did not change so much, from year to year, that each Budget's appropriations could not be conveniently taken as a model for the next. But the Constitutional power to repeat a Budget applies to the ordinary expenditures only, whereas, during the *post-bellum* period of naval, military and industrial expansion, the extraordinary expenditures constitute the more important side of the estimates. We are not quite sure about the facts in this context. It is possible that in passing the general programme of expansion, the Diet may have invested the Cabinet with competence to make certain extraordinary annual disbursements by way of continuing expenditures. That can not be true, however, with regard to appropriations from the Indemnity, or yearly installments of the Industrial Undertakings Loan. Moreover, looking at the Budgets for the past two years, it appears that the finance of the present era requires special adjustments from year to year, and that without such adjustments there would be considerable dislocation. On the whole, therefore, we conclude that to be tied down in 1898-9 to the Budget of 1897-8 would mean a serious disturbance of the *post-bellum* programme. It is true that the resource of urgency ordinances always remains available. With that reserve of power the Cabinet can avert any inconvenience of the kind in question. But no Cabinet would be disposed to shoulder such an onerous responsibility as that of asserting financial independence of the Diet under the circumstances of the time. We thus perceive that to sacrifice its assured majority in the Lower House must have cost the Government many qualms, and we are further led to speculate whether, to use a homely phrase, the stale water has been thrown away before the fresh was drawn. Another point to be noted is that dissolution will have no terror for the next House of Representatives: it would scarcely hasten the election inevitable under any circumstances. Altogether the situation is most interesting. We must wait a little before attempting to forecast the issue.

NEXT SESSION'S BILLS.

In addition to Bills for increasing the Land and *Sake* Taxes and shortening the period of exchange for the silver *yen*, it is said that the Government will introduce in the next session of the Diet measures relating to the reform of local Government; to the portions of the Civil and Commercial Codes which, in their revised form, have not yet been passed; to the operation of the Civil Code and of the Commercial Code; to the amendment of the Registration law; and to the amendment of the Navigation Encouragement Law. There is a point worth nothing. Should the Diet be dissolved—a not improbable contingency—that event will probably occur about the 20th of January. The new Diet could not possibly meet before April, and is very unlikely to meet before May. The limits of time in such a case are fixed by two provisions of the Constitution. One requires that the notice convening the Houses must be issued at least forty days before the date of convention; the other, that after a dissolution, a new Diet must be convoked within five months from the day of dissolution. Hence, supposing the Diet to be dissolved on January 20th, its successor need not meet until June 20th. But it might meet in April. Thirty days notice has to be given before an extraordinary election after a dissolution. Therefore the election could not take place before the last week in February, and the Rescript convoking the Diet could scarcely be issued before the 10th of March. That would bring the Houses together on the 20th of April. Such expedition, however, would be unusual. May is the more probable time. In the event of a dissolution then, the remaining portions of the Civil and Commercial Code would not pass both Houses and be promulgated before June. That is running things very close, considering that the Codes have to be in force for a full year before July, 1899, unless the operation of the Revised Treaties be postponed. A great many important issues are involved in the disruption of the connexion between the Progressionists and the Cabinet.

NEW CABINET MINISTERS,
AND OTHERS.

The *Official Gazette* of the 7th instant announces the retirement of Count Okuma from the position of Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and acting Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and directs that, as a special measure, he shall continue to receive the treatment due to a Minister of State. Baron Nishi Tokujiro is appointed from the position of Privy Councillor to succeed Count Okuma at the Foreign Office. Another important change announced by the same gazette is the transfer of Marquis Hachisuka from the Department of Education to the Privy Council, and the appointment of Mr. Hamao Arata, hitherto President of the Imperial University, to be Minister of State for Education. It is confidently alleged that the post of Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, vacant by the retirement of Count Okuma, will be given to Baron Kitagaki Kunimichi, formerly Vice-Minister of Colonization, and that Mr. Okuda Yoshitomo will succeed Mr. Oishi Masami as Vice-Minister of the former Department.

The Governors of Yamagata, Ehime and Fukui Prefectures, who were selected from the "political talents," have resigned, but their successors are not yet appointed, neither does there seem to be any certainty with regard to posts of *Chokunin* Councillors from which other "talents" have retired.

Baron Nishi Tokujiro is a native of Kagoshima (Satsuma). He was born in July 1847, and is consequently in his fifty-first year. The first mention made of him in public records is that he was attached to the Legation in Paris, in the capacity of a student interpreter, in 1878, and that he became a Secretary of the Legation in St. Petersburg in 1880. We are disposed to doubt the accuracy of these assertions, however, for as Baron Nishi received his education in St. Petersburg and graduated from the University there, it is scarcely possible that he can have been serving in Paris at the age of twenty-one. However, the chief point of interest about his early career is his Russian education, a consequence of which is that he speaks and writes the Russian language fluently. In 1883, when only 26 years of age, he was appointed Chief Secretary of the *Dajo-kan*—the then Cabinet—and, at the same time, Acting Chief Secretary of the Imperial Household Department. After four years in those posts, he was nominated Minister Plenipotentiary, and in January, 1887, he proceeded, as his country's Representative, to St. Petersburg. During the war with China, he was able to render signal service from his place in Europe, and the Emperor rewarded him by raising him to the peerage, with the title of Baron, in August, 1895, bestowing upon him at the same time the First-class Order of the Sacred Treasure and the relative rank of *shinnin*. Doubtless his services in connexion with the revision of the Russo-Japanese Treaty contributed to the high reputation that he bears. During the past two years his name has been frequently mentioned in connexion with the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. He returned to Japan at the beginning of the present year, and was appointed a Privy Councillor last March.

Dr. Hamao Arata, the new Minister of Education, has been connected with educational affairs throughout the whole of his career. He was originally a *samurai* of the *Toyouke* clan, and as early as 1872, he held the post of manager in the *Dai-gaku Nanko*, or southern college of the university—the Imperial University had not yet been established. That year, he was sent to America, to conduct investigations into educational matters; and in 1874, he was appointed Manager of the *Kaisei-gakko*, the forerunner of the present University. He remained in that position until 1880, when he became Secretary, and finally Chief Secretary, of the Department of Education. In 1885, being appointed Vice-President of the Imperial University, he paid another visit to the Occident, returning in 1887, and becoming a Councillor of the Department of Education, which post he quickly exchanged for that of Chief of the Educational Bureau in the same Department. In 1887, he received the honorary degree of *Doctor of Law* from *Cambridge University* (England), and was appointed Chief of the Bureau of Technical Education, the appointment being changed to that of Senator in 1889, and life member of the House of Peers in

1890. Finally, in 1894, he became President of the Imperial University, which post he now vacates to take the portfolio of Education. He enjoys the confidence of educationalists and is doubtless thoroughly conversant with the affairs of the Department now placed under his charge.

The Cabinet is now veritably *Satsuma* in its composition, as the following table will show:

Minister President and	
Minister of Finance...	Count Matsukata. Satsuma.
Minister of Foreign	
Affairs	Baron Nishi
Minister of Home	
Affairs	Count Kabayama. Satsuma.
Minister of War ...	Viscount Takashima. Satsuma.
Minister of the Navy...	Marquis Saigo ...
Minister of Education...	Dr. Hamao
Minister of Communi-	
cations	Viscount Nomura. Choshu.
Minister of Justice ...	Mr. Kioura Keigo. Higo.

Thus, out of eight portfolio-holders—the Department of Agriculture and Commerce being without a chief—five are men of Satsuma extraction. Most students of Japan's modern history will wish success to a Ministry thus organized, for, after all is said and done, it is to these men and the Choshu leaders that Japan chiefly owes her prosperity and reputation. Count Matsukata is said not to be in the least dismayed by the secession of the Progressionists. He is not going, he says, to desert his post even though he be left standing alone at it. What the country wants at present is administration, not political squabbles, and Count Matsukata intends to administer it to the best of his ability and strength. He has no intention of surrendering the premiership and confining himself to financial duties. Whoever goes, he remains.

The most conflicting estimates are published about the Cabinet's prospects in the next session of the Diet. The *Chuo*, for example, which used to be an organ of the National Unionists but is now understood to represent the Conservative section headed by Viscount Tani, predicts that the Cabinet will find itself opposed by the following:—

Progressionists	80
Liberals	60
National Unionists	25
Business Men's Party	20
Economical Reformists	6
Total	191

That would indeed be a forlorn state of affairs, considering that the House of Representatives aggregates at present only 298 members. But the list includes one obviously inexplicable element—the Business Men's Party. These have always been understood to be supporters of Count Matsukata, and it is hard to see why they should change their flag because Count Okuma has left the Cabinet. The *Tokyo Asahi*, on the other hand, which speaking generally, commands much better sources of information than the *Chuo* does, estimates the Government's supporters thus:—

Seceders from the Liberals and Pro-	
gressionists	50
Public Unionists (<i>Kodo-kai</i>)	50
Business Men, Independents &c. ...	60
Total	160

It is difficult to know where the truth lies, but we have to remark that forecasts hitherto formed of the action of political parties in the Diet have usually been falsified by events.

CAPTURE OF THE THIEF WHO ROBBED DR. DIVERS.

During the night of June 24th, a thief entered the residence of Dr. Edward Divers, Kaga Yashiki, Tokyo, and stole a sum of 620 *yen* in bank notes, eight thousand *yen* worth of War Loan Bonds, together with a large quantity of deposit receipts of the Mitsui Bank and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. We do not vouch for the accuracy of these figures, but merely reproduce them from vernacular newspapers. The loss was promptly reported to the police, and as the numbers of the Bonds were known, the chances of tracing them seemed very good. But, of course, their recovery by Dr. Divers, even if traced, did not necessarily follow, for it was possible that before the coupons were presented for payment of interest, the Bonds might have changed hands several times. The matter was at once taken up keenly by detectives. So far as outward appearances went, a ladder had been erected to give access to a window in the second story, the glass had been broken, the sash opened, and a saw and a kitchen knife were found within the room. All this pointed to an entry effected from without by a regular burglar. But there were circumstances that militated against such a theory. The bonds' presence in the house on that particular night was a fortuitous incident of which outsiders could not have had any cognisance, and the consequent inference that some person in the household was implicated seems to have been strengthened by other considerations. Suspicion pointed to the cook, Murayama Bukichi, who was known to have fallen into habits of gambling, but the greatest caution had to be observed in watching him lest he should take alarm and destroy the bonds. The police finally succeeded in finding the shop at which the saw had been bought, and were able to have the cook secretly identified as the purchaser. They accordingly arrested him on the morning of the 5th. Brought before the magistrate, and confronted with various proofs, he finally made confession to the effect that a portion of the bonds and deposit receipts were still concealed under the floor of his room, but that he had spent the money, with the exception of a hundred *yen*, on gambling and dissipation. Search was accordingly made, with the result that a box was found containing the deposit receipts and other documents in a greatly mutilated condition, but of the eleven Bonds only three were forthcoming. The thief alleges that he destroyed the remainder, but it is of course impossible to rely on his statements. According to the account given by the police, presumably on the strength of Bukichi's confession, the box was originally hid in a drain, whence the man took it quite recently, having been afraid to keep it in his possession until suspicion seemed to have been lulled. It seems strange that the police were not able to act more promptly, seeing that from the outset suspicion pointed strongly to the cook. The man is said to have been a dissipated character from his youth. His father was a gentleman in a good position—factor (*Karo*) of the Shibata fief in Echigo, of which the present representative is Count Mizuoguchi. Bukichi showed gambling propensities when a mere lad, and gradually went from bad to

worse, until finally he had to support himself by menial service. Unfortunately foreign residents are always exposed to the danger of getting such persons into their employment. As a rule, they have no means of inquiring into the antecedents of Japanese offering themselves in the capacity of servants, and they thus engage waifs and strays who would never be admitted into a Japanese household.

THE TOKYO CLUB AND FOREIGN MEMBERS.

An interesting article, which we reproduce elsewhere, appears in *The Engineer*, whose special correspondent has contributed a series of excellent essays to that journal on Modern Japan. Doubtless the writer is correct in most of his statements, but one point that he makes calls for comment. He declares it to be "almost a foregone conclusion that a Yokohama man, however good he may be, will be blackballed at the Tokyo Club," and he leads the public to infer that this differentiation is due to a prejudice against the treaty-port foreigner. "To be a treaty-port foreigner," he says, is a stigma in the eyes of the Japanese, and they will not deal with him if they can possibly avoid it." That is by no means the reason of the blackballing. The reason is that many Japanese members of the Tokyo Club are incensed because one of the most prominent Japanese of the time, the former President of the Yokohama Specie Bank, was blackballed at the Yokohama Club. There appears to be a determination to resent that insult, more especially as the gentleman in question is universally and deservedly popular. Why the blackballing took place at the Yokohama Club, we are not altogether clear. It certainly was not due to personal considerations, nor do we think that racial prejudice was responsible. Probably the true explanation is that many of the members of the Yokohama Club, having regard to the limited resources of the place, deem it injudicious to admit Japanese. The number of foreigners eligible for a club in such a settlement is a pretty constant quantity, and can be gauged with sufficient accuracy. But the number of Japanese is virtually illimitable, and if one were admitted, two or three hundred might seek admittance. It is, of course, conceivable that a few of the younger members of the Club are influenced by considerations of a nature by no means so respectable; but if such men exist, they may be set down as exceptions. The guiding principle of the majority, we think, is simply that there is not room for Japanese, and that the latter are quite numerous enough to have a club of their own and too numerous to be taken into the little foreign club. It is a great pity that such obstacles should present themselves, but it would be a still greater pity if they were misconstrued so as to accentuate the division which so many attempts have been otherwise made to remove. The prime object of the founder of the Tokyo Club, Count Inouye, was to promote intercourse between the Japanese and resident foreigners. It was one of those far-seeing and liberal schemes for which that too little appreciated statesman was remarkable. During many years a large portion of the handsome building known as the Rokumeikan was given, rent free, by the Japanese

Government for the use of the Club, and when unavoidable circumstances necessitated the transfer of the edifice to other hands, the Imperial Household Department presented to the members a sum of fifteen thousand *yen* towards the cost of providing themselves with new quarters. A bare statement of the facts suffices to show the singular generosity with which the Japanese Government has treated the question throughout. Fate seems, therefore, to be particularly ironical when she perverts the Club into a means of widening the very gulf which the Japanese Authorities have endeavoured so earnestly to bridge, and we count it a duty to offer this explanation, since, if we may judge from the impression that has been conveyed to the Special Correspondent of *The Engineer*, the true facts are very imperfectly understood. Prior to the blackballing of the President of the Specie Bank at the Yokohama Club, residents of Yokohama were heartily welcomed as members of the Tokyo Club, and the names of many are borne on the roll. But since that incident, a spirit of retaliation has grown up. If the true reason of the Yokohama blackballing were understood, we are persuaded that the Japanese members of the Tokyo Club would change their attitude, and refrain from defeating one of the prime objects of the Club's establishment. Indeed, there is cause to think that they have already changed it, for a Yokohama resident gained admittance to the Club quite recently.

The subject can not be dismissed without some reference to the statement that "to be a treaty-port foreigner is a stigma in the eyes of the Japanese, and they will not deal with him if they can possibly avoid it." Here, again, the special correspondent has been somewhat misled, we think. There is certainly a feeling among the better classes of Japanese that the treaty-port foreigner knows very little about Japan, does not care to know more, and is disposed to take a harsh view of the nation and its doings. The feeling has its origin in the mistatements that constantly find their way into the columns of local foreign journals, and in the vein of strong anti-Japanese prejudice that runs through much of their writing. But during many years of tolerably close intercourse with the Japanese in Tokyo, we have never discovered any evidence warranting an inference so sweeping as that of the special correspondent of *The Engineer*—or, it would doubtless be juster to say, that of the person from whom he obtained his information. The intelligence and discernment of the Japanese would have to be ranked very low if they did not appreciate the fact that communities like those of Yokohama and Kobe, for example, include a much larger proportion of clever, competent, and highly educated men than could be found in a corresponding section of European or American population. It is in the nature of things that such should be the case, for the enterprise that sends Occidentals to a far-Eastern country to seek their fortune is alone sufficient to differentiate them morally from the bulk of their nationals. The Japanese understand that point: at least we think that they understand it; all our experience of them convinces us that they do, and we can lay claim to long experience. There is a strong ambition to get the foreign trade of the country out of the hands of the treaty-port communities—a natural ambition,

which, however, is likely to cost the Japanese very dear, for if they could take off their patriotic spectacles they would perceive that a better agent than the resident foreigner could not possibly be found. Still, they are actuated by that ambition, and it does not help to make them view the treaty-port foreigner with favour. But if any of them do not want to deal with him, it is simply because their national sentiment girds at his presence in their trade, not because a stigma attaches to him for his own sake. He it is that has built up for them a commerce which is proving a veritable river of Pactolus to their country, and though they may be jealous of his position, and of the profits that accrue to him—profits which they greatly over-estimate—it would be strange indeed if, while envying him, they also despised him.

Concerning the letter addressed to us by the Special Commissioner of *The Engineer* in Japan and published in our correspondence columns, it is scarcely necessary to say that, in common with all close readers of his communications to that journal, we recognise that he merely records facts collected by careful inquiry, and that his fairness in the manner of recording, and industry in collecting, them are conspicuous. It will be observed that he maintains the correctness of his original assertion as to a stigma attaching to the treaty-port foreigner in the eyes of the Japanese, and that he constructively indicates Japanese informants as the source from which he gathered the impression. It is scarcely possible to discuss such a matter intelligently, opinion being alone in question. We ourselves should not have been disposed to go so far as to speak of a "stigma," nor do we conceive that the causes of the treaty-port foreigner's unpopularity are of a kind to warrant that description of their consequence. Passing from that point, however, we desire to apply two corrections to our previous comments. The first has reference to the attitude of the Tokyo Club towards Yokohama. *The Engineer's* Special Commissioner writes as though any number of the Yokohama community now seeking admission to the Tokyo Club would be blackballed, and we, on our side, may be supposed to have tacitly endorsed the statement since we failed to contradict it. The fact is that, not residents of Yokohama, but members of the Yokohama Club are discriminated against. The difference is important, for, as we have already explained, the unwillingness to admit members of the Yokohama Club is due to their having blackballed the former President of the Specie Bank. Against Yokohama men as such there does not appear to be any manner of feeling on the part of Japanese members of the Tokyo Club. The second correction has to be applied to our suggestion that the blackballing of the President of the Specie Bank was probably due merely to an apprehension lest the admission of one Japanese member might be followed by an inconveniently large influx of others. That explanation will not hold, we find, for there are actually two Japanese members of the Yokohama Club. The blackballing consequently remains a mystery, but it is generally believed, we understand, to have been prompted by considerations which ought to be wholly excluded from such affairs. Of course it was the act of a small clique,

and we are justified in assuming that the great majority of the members would not have approved it for a moment. Still, with the fuller information gained since we last wrote on the subject, we can not maintain the justice of the extenuation then suggested.

THE BUDGET.

The Cabinet having decided to obtain an increase of revenue from the Land Tax, is understood to be proceeding on the principle of taking the average price of rice for the past five years as a basis of calculation. The resulting figure is over 7 yen per *koku*. The figure at the time of fixing the Land Tax in 1873, was, we believe, 4 yen per *koku*. Speaking roughly, the tax collected from the rural lands at present is 35 million yen. If the rate—2½ per cent. of the assessed value of the land remained unaltered, the new price of the *koku* would mean an increase of tax amounting to 26 million yen. But it is not contemplated to obtain more than 14 or 15 millions from this source. Hence, if the *koku* be assessed at 7 yen, the rate of the tax may be reduced to 1½. These points are understood to be now under consideration. To us it seems that the wiser plan would be to assess the *koku* at a lower figure and leave the rate as it is; or, at any rate, not reduce it below 2 per cent. Meanwhile, we hear nothing about the tax on urban lands. It has been shown in these columns that if the sum paid per head of the urban population, in the form of land tax, were equal to the sum paid by the rural population, the Treasury would receive 4½ million yen annually from town lands instead of eight hundred thousand yen. It has been shown, also, that the assessment of the urban lands for purposes of taxation averages only 17 sen per *tsubo*. Is nothing to be done about these manifestly unjust figures, we wonder.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

In appointing Professor Toyama to be President of the Imperial University the Government has selected a man whose figure has occupied a very prominent place in the vista of public observation during the past ten years. Professor Toyama is gifted with a singularly active brain. His literary accomplishments go without saying, seeing that he presides over the College of Literature in the University. But there are greatly varying degrees of literary knowledge, and Prof. Toyama's degree is remarkably high, whether Occidental literature or Oriental be in question. As a writer of prose he has a powerful, nervous style, representing the best tendencies of the new Japanese school, and as a poet he has earned considerable distinction on account of both the quality and the novelty of his work. In the field of practical education, too, he has shown much force of thought and effort, as well as industry that bespeaks genuine enthusiasm. Indeed, he seems to find a special aptitude for everything to which he directs his attention. His ideas about art show much originality and discriminative appreciation, and when he turns even to such a subject as politics, it is easy to conceive him playing the rôle of a party leader with thoroughness and success, for some of the speeches delivered by him in the House of Peers—of which the Em-

peror nominated him a life member in consideration of his distinction as a scholar—have startled that sedate assembly by their uncompromising diction and keenly caustic tone. Whether Professor Toyama is endowed with the organizing faculty, there has not yet been any opportunity to judge, so far we know, but his very practical manner of dealing with questions in general suggests that he will not be found wanting in that respect. It is interesting to see men of his type rising to high places in the world of officialdom. They may be said to represent the young generation; the generation whose advent to power has been looked for with so much interest and curiosity. Professor Kikuchi, who becomes Vice-Minister of Education, belongs to the same school. He is a graduate of Cambridge, where he distinguished himself highly in mathematics, of which subject he has been Professor in the Imperial University for several years. But unlike the great majority of men who devote themselves to that abstruse study, he is keenly practical and full of secular earnestness. We should say that he will be a thorough success in the Department of Education. The public will observe with curiosity what effect these various new appointments will have upon the attitude of the House of Representatives towards the Department of Education. The tendency of the House hitherto has been to regard the Department with the utmost disapproval. The celebrated Mr. Tanaka Shozo once went so far as to call it "a den of monsters" (*bakemono-yashiki*), and violent attacks upon it were always received with more or less approval. With Dr. Hamao as Minister and Professor Kikuchi as Vice-Minister of Education, and with Professor Toyama presiding over the Imperial University, this section of state affairs ought to enjoy public confidence.

THE FOREIGN PRESS IN JAPAN.

With all the good-will in the world we are totally unable to comprehend the position assumed by the *Japan Gazette* towards the question of the foreign press in Japan after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. Indeed, we very much doubt whether our worthy contemporary itself knows what it means or what it desires. "We want it understood," writes the *Gazette*, "that as long as we obey the Japanese laws we shall not be subject to the caprice of the Diet or of a Cabinet." Now what on earth does that signify? Suppose a man were to say:—"I want it understood that so long as I obey the laws of Great Britain I shall not be subject to the caprice of the British Parliament or of a British Cabinet," would not his hearers be justified in greeting the assertion with laughter? The British Parliament makes the laws by which British subjects are governed. To talk of obeying British laws while claiming exemption from the acts of British legislators, is mere silliness. No Japanese journalist is safe against what the *Japan Gazette* is pleased to call "the caprice of the Japanese Diet." If the Diet passed a law to-morrow interdicting the publication of newspapers throughout the length and breadth of the land, every Japanese proprietor, and publisher of a newspaper would have to obey it. If the British Parliament passed a similar law, British subjects would have to obey it throughout the United Kingdom. Men can not

be subservient to the law and independent of the legislator. No Japanese in Japan is independent of the legislative authority vested in the Government and the Diet. To ask that foreigners in Japan shall enjoy such independence, is to ask that they shall enjoy greater privileges than the Japanese themselves enjoy in their own country.

But in the very next clause the same journal writes:—"We desire it to be made clear that there can be no special laws curtailing the foreign press which are not also applicable to the Japanese press; * * * that as long as we do not offend against the Press Laws, we have as much right to carry on a printing and publishing business as any Japanese." That is clear enough. It is simply an elaboration of the proposition that foreign journalists shall enjoy national treatment in Japan: in other words, that they shall be placed on the same footing as Japanese journalists. If, however, they are on the same footing as Japanese journalists, they must submit to the "caprices" of the Diet.

On the whole, the trouble with the *Japan Gazette* seems to be that having thoughtlessly blundered into faulty language, it clings to its errors, for the sake of consistency, in one clause, and tries to erase them, for the sake of justice, in the next. Again, the editor informed *The Times* that the Japanese Press Law had been revised for the purposes of the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. That was a gross misstatement. It represented the Japanese Diet and the Japanese Cabinet as having deliberately legislated with the object of putting an end to foreign journalism in Japan, whereas their legislation was simply and solely for the purpose of relieving Japanese journalists from irksome restrictions. We pointed out the error and commented on the marvel of such ignorance, whereupon our contemporary replies:—"The *Japan Mail* reiterates its assertion that the clause debarring foreigners was not intended to be permanent." What is to be done with such wretched prevarication? We never asserted anything of the kind. We never hinted at anything of the kind. The permanence or impermanence of the clause was never in question. The motive of the law's enactment was the point, the only point. If the *Gazette*, having asserted that a man had been murdered, was shown to be in error since he had died a natural death, it might just as well shuffle out of its error by saying, "Oh! I really thought that he was permanently dead?"

Presumably what our contemporary means is that it wants foreign journalists to be placed on the same footing as Japanese journalists in Japan, and to be thus guaranteed against legislation injuriously discriminating against them. Now that is precisely what we all want—national treatment. It is not of the smallest avail for the *Japan Gazette* to pretend that it is "fighting the question without the support of any other newspaper." It is not "fighting" the question alone. It has not even the credit of having inaugurated the "fight." The *Japan Herald* took up the matter long ago, and the *Japan Mail*, in the clearest possible language, has asked for national treatment. It is not of the smallest avail for the *Japan Gazette* to pretend that while it "contends for independence" the *Mail* would be content with "dependence."

No false pretences, no cheap clap-trap, of that kind will hold water. The *Mail* asks that foreign journalists in Japan shall be placed on the same footing as Japanese journalists in Japan after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. It is impossible to make a clearer declaration. If within the limits of such a statement, already made by us and now repeated, the *Japan Gazette* continues to find room for prevarication, there can no longer be any doubt about the character of its writing. Our own definition of the difference between the *Japan Gazette* and ourselves is that, whereas the *Gazette* has grossly misrepresented the Japanese Government and the Japanese Diet, attributing to them an illiberal attitude of which they have given no indication; whereas by blundering language it has obscured the legitimate claim of the foreign journals and exaggerated the dimensions of the claim so as to render them unreasonable, thereby damaging the cause which we are all interested in promoting; and whereas it has written as though a campaign had to be waged in order to bring the Japanese Government to a sense of liberality and justice, thus prejudicing foreign journalists in the eyes of those to whom they are looking for concessions, we, on our side, have stated the plain facts and set forth the foreign claim in its moderate and true dimensions, showing that there has been no anti-foreign legislation, that foreigners ask for nothing more than the privileges enjoyed by Japanese subjects, and that the Japanese Authorities are understood to be prepared, of their own accord and without any "fight" or pressure, to place the foreign journalist on the same footing as the foreign merchant. Which course is the more likely to conduce to the interests of the foreign journalist, there can not, we think, be much difficulty in deciding.

Discussions with certain journalists in this settlement have a monotonous habit of reaching the same finale: our courteous opponents end by calling us names. It appears now that our "hatred of the foreigner" prevents us from discerning the *Japan Gazette's* point. Truly we are quite sorry not to be able to pay our contemporary the compliment of hating it. But we could not manufacture the sentiment out of such trifling materials. Besides, we like the *Gazette*; we have quite a considerable affection for it. It is so diverting and so benevolent. In this matter of the privileges of foreign journals in Japan, it "has set certain machinery to work" for the protection of its contemporaries *en masse*. There is not to be any soliciting of favours. The British Government, under the pressure of the *Japan Gazette's* machinery, is going to "insist that the foreign journalist must be placed on the same footing as the foreign merchant." There is to be no question of "the Japanese Government's granting the privilege or not at its option." What a fine power the *Japan Gazette* wields, and how nobly it rises superior to the trammels of reason. A short time ago, it was denouncing the incompetence and carelessness of the British negotiators for not having inserted in the Revised Treaty any clause securing to foreigners the privilege of carrying on journalistic enterprise in Japan. Now, it denounces the *Japan Mail* for asserting that "the right of a foreigner under the new Treaties to carry on a newspaper business does not

exist." To us, blinded as we are by hatred of the foreigner, it is horribly perplexing to be told that the drafters of the Treaty failed to provide for the journalistic privilege, and yet that the existence of the privilege under the Treaty is undeniable. Besides, we don't quite see by what principle of international law a State can be compelled to permit the publication of foreign journals by foreigners within its borders, and we are disposed to think that such defiant assertions will not tend to smoothe the situation. But the *Japan Gazette's* machinery will doubtless remove all difficulties. It is so nice to be splendidly championed.

The *Kobe Chronicle* also discusses the subject of newspapers and endeavours to prove that the Revised Treaty, as it stands, confers on foreigners the privilege of engaging in journalistic enterprise in Japan. We observe, *en passant*, that the *Kobe* journal considers it necessary to run a tilt at the *Japan Mail*, but to that we have no manner of objection. The fact is that the two evening journals of Yokohama cried out about the Treaty's defect in this matter before the *Mail* made any comment, but the *Chronicle* probably intends to show its discrimination by ignoring them and confining its criticisms to the *Mail*. We should be glad to see our *Kobe* contemporary prove its case, but its success, thus far, is very meagre. In the first place, it misstates our view. We do not say, and have never said, that unless a business is specifically mentioned in the Treaty, foreigners have not a Treaty right to engage in it. What we say is that the Treaty mentions "trade" only, and that the profession of journalism is not included in the catalogue of trades. The words of the Treaty are "trade by wholesale or retail in all kinds of produce, manufactures and merchandise of lawful commerce." It appears to us quite impossible to contend that journalistic enterprise was contemplated by the drafters of such words. Our contemporary instances banking, and asks whether we consider that "all foreign banks must close their doors when the new Treaties go into operation." We answer, certainly not. If there be any doubt about the propriety of calling banking a "trade," there can be no manner of doubt that it is an essential part of the machinery of trade. The principles of international law do not seem to be involved in the discussion. It seems to be a simple question of interpreting a simple English sentence. If there be any persons who can honestly persuade themselves that the profession of journalism is included in the words "trade by wholesale or retail in all kinds of produce, manufactures and merchandise of lawful commerce," we confess ourselves quite unable to share their view. It is unnecessary to follow the *Kobe Chronicle's* arguments any farther. They have their root solely in the rendering of the words quoted above. We may note, however, that our contemporary charges us with "supplying specious but fallacious arguments to the factious critics" who are likely to bring anti-foreign pressure on the Government. It is very amusing. At one moment we are accused of writing to order of the Government; at another, of supplying arguments to its critics. Would it not be wiser to take less thought about the source or destination of our arguments, and more about their intrinsic value? We repeat what we have

stated more than once, namely, that there are no grounds for apprehension as to the action of the Japanese Government about foreign local newspapers, and the present discussion is consequently academical.

AN INTERVIEW WITH COUNT OKUMA.

A representative of this journal waited upon Count Okuma on the morning of the 8th inst., and found him in apparently robust health and radiant spirits. The conversation naturally commenced with a reference to the inclement weather which had necessitated the abandonment of the Count's garden party on the fifth and sixth instant:—

Count Okuma—Yes, it was very unfortunate. The fine weather had been so continuous and looked so settled that I did not feel at all concerned on that score. But I hope that my friends will visit the garden during three days, from to-day, for I am sure that they will enjoy the chrysanthemums. We have been particularly successful this year. The quality of the flowers is splendid, and their profusion unprecedented. I have one plant with twelve hundred blossoms. That beats anything yet achieved.

Q.—That is wonderful. It represents a Japanese specialty. In England the cultivator's attention is directed entirely to the flower itself. If one plant bears one really magnificent flower, that is thought quite enough.

Count Okuma—We hold the same idea in Japan, but we do not confine ourselves to it. Many of my chrysanthemums are treated in the manner you describe, but with some the aim is profusion of bloom. I shall have plenty of spare time now that I have gone out of office, and I intend to devote myself to gardening and education. Those are my two hobbies. They are practically cognate pursuits—delightful in themselves and interesting as well as useful in their results.

Q.—I doubt whether your Excellency will be allowed to devote much time to gardening. But since you speak of going out of office, would it be indiscreet to ask what are the real causes of the present complication. The public knows that there has been much talk of opposition to increased taxation and much outcry for administrative reform, but we do not clearly understand whether these are the true reasons of your Excellency's retirement.

Count Okuma—As to increased taxation, that is certainly not a reason. Opinions on such a subject can be easily adjusted. The question of administrative reform is more difficult, but it takes me to ground where I am not at liberty to speak quite freely. So far as I am myself concerned, I may say that there are certain principles of government for which I have always contended, and which I had hoped to put into operation, but failing in that expectation, I think it better to retire. The explanation is somewhat vague, but I do not know that I can be more explicit without betraying confidences that are not my own.

Q.—Does it not appear to your Excellency that the working of the administrative machine is inconveniently impeded by the actions of political parties; that the public interests will suffer if the Cabinet is always liable to be convulsed by the proceedings of a body of outsiders who are not yet competent themselves to assume the responsibilities of administration?

Count Okuma—Yes and no; yes, theoretically, but no so far as the actual facts are concerned. Do not imagine that changes like that which has just taken place disturb the conduct of State affairs. The public business is managed without any jar or dislocation. These incidents are mere eddies in the great stream of progress. Even if they were more, even if they caused serious inconvenience, we must endure them. We have to work our way into smooth water. We have introduced constitutional institutions and we must follow them to their logical issue. There is a model before us—England. England is the mother of constitutional government. It

has been longest with her and she has reduced it to a thoroughly useful and convenient system. We hope to be equally successful. We may reach the goal by a different route but we shall get there. The examples that are before our eyes are not lost on us. We see that Europe rules the world. European civilization, European intelligence, European strength—by these the whole world is controlled. Look at India; look at China; look at Africa; look at Central Asia. When then we struggle to enter the comity of Western nations, we are really struggling to pass from the ranks of the ruled to the ranks of the rulers. Japan labours under no misapprehension upon that score. Her goal is clearly before her eyes and she will not rest until she has attained it. These political struggles are part of the day's work. They have their own uses; very substantial uses. They are not merely symptoms of the intellectual activity that is stirring all classes of the people; they are also factors in the education of that activity. Just as competition develops business faculties and promotes all kinds of commercial and industrial enterprises, so opposition in the field of politics and administration acts as a spur to energy and a corrector of abuses. Look at what France achieved under the influence of opposition. Would she ever have showed that marvellous access of vigour, that wonderful strength of recuperative energy, had not a victorious rival faced her in the lists? It may appear to you that such and such conduct on the part of a political party is wrong; that this or that procedure on the part of a Cabinet is regrettable. You may be right, but it is necessary to ask yourself whether it can be said of any human achievement that the path to it was free from blunders and miscalculations. The greatest statesmen err. Gladstone has erred, Disraeli has erred; Bismarck has erred. The wisest Cabinets err. That is nothing. The only really baleful condition is that of a nation or a community where public scrutiny sleeps, and where the path to better things is not lit by the fire of conflicting intellects. If you want to have a good government, you must have a stout opposition. That is what we hope for in Japan, that is what we are striving for, and we are getting it.

Q.—So indeed it seemed to us onlookers, also, until the present year, but the impression produced by the events of the past ten months is that the political parties thus far formed have no cohesion. Among all the parties hitherto organized the Liberals appeared the most powerful and the best consolidated, but they have fallen to pieces, and the latest episode in the political field is the appearance of a party without any clearly appreciable *raison d'être*. It is plain enough that party government is the end for which politicians are fighting, but how long will it be before the preparations for party government are complete?

Count Okuma.—That is indeed a difficult question. You would scarcely ask a meteorologist to tell you what the weather is to be a month hence, and I don't think that the science of political meteorology is at a very advanced stage in Japan. Remember that we are only emerging from our childhood in this matter of constitutional institutions. It is true that parties have not thus far shown much cohesion, but they can scarcely be said to have changed as much as the circumstances among which they find themselves. In my opinion there has been distinct progress. We are not at all discouraged.

Q.—One of the difficulties that suggests itself to onlookers is the absence of any dividing line of principles. We can not see how parties are to be differentiated. Each of the parties hitherto formed has published a platform, but truly it seems to us that a free interchange of platforms might be effected without doing any violence to their compilers' ideas. On what lines will party cleavage take place ultimately, in your Excellency's opinion?

Count Okuma.—Simply on the lines of pro-government and anti-government. I am not altogether surprised at your difficulty. It arises from the obvious fact that liberalism is absolutely

supreme in Japan to-day. It permeates the whole nation. We have emerged from a long night of seclusion into the noon-day of a very wonderful civilization, and the business of one and all of us is to assimilate the good things set before us. There are practically no conservatives. From time to time one or two have shown their heads, but the tide of progress has swept over them. No, we need not look forward to conservatism as a differentiating factor in politics. Neither is the spectre of socialism in sight. I see no evidences of it, nor does the genius of the nation appear suited to such a philosophy. Religious squabbles, too, are happily absent. The disposition of the people in religious questions is essentially tolerant. We have not been without a display of what history calls religious intolerance, but, as you well know, it sprang chiefly from causes independent of religion. But questions will crop up to create divisions. Do not the political annals of Europe and America suggest similar difficulties? Even in England, a country conspicuous for the absence of side issues sufficiently powerful to cause disaffection in the two great camps, you have to admit that your Conservatives and Liberals have from time to time exchanged platforms, and you could scarcely venture to affirm that their original differentiation was one of principles. It appears to me that one of the greatest figures among the Conservative leaders to-day is Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. The work that he has done towards knitting together the parts of the British empire, will go down with him through all the pages of history. Yet, a few years ago, he was a Liberal of Liberals; a Radical, indeed. One serious question like that of Ireland sufficed to break down the old party lines in England. So I anticipate that questions will crop up in Japan to mark out party lines. As soon as a flag is hoisted, there will be men anxious to pull it down as well as men anxious to keep it up. It may take a long time; how long I can not venture to predict. But that it will come sooner or later, and that it will come without any particular trouble or confusion, I am firmly convinced.

Q.—Your Excellency sees, of course, how perplexing these Japanese questions must be to foreigners, who have no experiences that seem applicable. For example, the object of the struggle now going on, so far as we can see, is a desire on one side to introduce party government, and a wish, on the other, to postpone that consummation. In England the same battle was fought. But whereas in England it was a fight of King against people, here in Japan it is a fight between a body of men who have proved themselves good administrators, and a body of men who have never given evidence of any administrative competence. The statesmen that have made modern Japan, the statesmen that have led the nation along a very remarkable path of progress, and managed its affairs wisely under circumstances of great difficulty, seem to be pitted against a mob of politicians who have never borne any responsibility or shown themselves fit to bear any. The natural tendency of the onlooker is to wonder whether there is any fitness in such a struggle, and to conclude that for the sake of the country victory ought to rest with the statesmen of established ability.

Count Okuma—Yes, that is natural. There is in Japan much that differs essentially from what you find in Europe, and if you apply your European standards to Japanese affairs, your calculations are apt to go far astray. The Emperor in Japan occupies a unique position. The people regard him as a father who, from generation to generation has always treated them as his children; who has been uniformly solicitous for their welfare; who rules by divine right and who has never preferred his own convenience or advantage to the interests and comfort of his subjects. It would be impossible for a Japanese to conceive such an idea as that the Emperor should abuse his prerogatives. If it appeared that the prerogatives of the Crown were taken improper advantage of, the immediate conclusion would be that evil Ministers stood between the Throne and the people. In fact the Emperor does not appear for an instant in this process of political evolution. A

word from him would arrest or conclude the movement. That is one of the reasons for my assurance that the end will be reached quietly and peacefully. As for the other part of your query—the apparent incongruity of a struggle for governing power between men who have actually governed with success and men who have never governed at all—does it not seem that the same difficulty presents itself at the very threshold of constitutional institutions? When the people are first given a voice in the government, there can be no previous proof of their fitness to make themselves heard. And you are faced by that anomaly at every stage of progress from unlimited monarchy to parliamentary supremacy and universal suffrage. The possibility and the advantage of each step must be assumed before you take it. If that truth be recognised, as it is recognised, by the men whom you call the makers of modern Japan, they can not be justly described as inveterate opponents of the change for which the political parties are contending. It would be more correct to speak of them as endeavouring to direct the change along safe lines, and to hold it in check until the elements necessary for its safe consummation are fully prepared and consolidated. All these movements which, superficially viewed, look like dangerous unrest and embarrassing agitation, contribute to the satisfactory solution of the problem. Each of them brings the end so much nearer. Meanwhile the country is steadily advancing in wealth and intelligence. Of the fact that its wealth is growing, I need not offer any illustrations. No one can entertain the slightest doubt on the subject. With regard to intelligence, the rapid development of literature is a striking evidence, and even more convincing is the spread of education. Take the Technical College (*Semmon Gakko*) at Waseda, which, as you know, was founded by me. It has already sent out seventeen hundred graduates, all of whom are occupying good positions in the worlds of commerce, of industry, of technical professions, and so on. We have a thousand pupils at the college now, and we circulate seven thousand copies of our magazine. That is the record of only one educational institution. What it is doing, many and many another is doing also. I do not feel afraid for a country where such conditions exist. We shall go right along, taking everything as it presents itself in the day's work. I am not yet sixty, and long before I reach Gladstone's age—if such a span of years is before me—I expect to see all these problems comfortably and satisfactorily solved in Japan, without any violence or disturbance.

Q.—There is one more point that I should like to have some information about. The public understands that a deficit of some twenty-six million *yen* appears in next year's revenue, as compared with the proposed expenditure. May I inquire how the deficit is caused, and how it can be met if increased taxation be not resorted to?

Count Okuma—The deficiency of available revenue is not the result of any sudden addition to the outlays of the State or any sudden shrinkage of income. In the main it may be said to have been visible for a long time. There is first, the proposal to spend some thirteen million *yen* on Formosa. No provision had been made for that in the programme of *post-bellum* finance. Then there is an almost inevitable growth of administrative expenditures in general. This item—probably aggregating some five millions—is due to the general appreciation of prices and to the natural expansion of business. On the other hand, certain sources of income have ceased to be productive, or are proving less productive than was anticipated. Among the former I may mention official contributions to the ship-building fund. These, as you know, represented ten per cent. of the pay of officials, together with a grant of three hundred thousand *yen* annually from the Privy Purse. The discontinuance of the payments signifies a loss of about 2½ million *yen* on the side of revenue. Then again, the scope of the Registration Tax was narrowed by a vote

of the Diet last session. Birth rates, death rates, marriage rates, and so on were repealed. The House judged rightly that such charges would bear too hardly on the lower orders. That means a loss of nearly 1½ millions of revenue. The Tobacco Tax, also, and the Business Tax are not yielding the amounts originally estimated. There are, besides, several outlays essential in the interests of progress. All these figures, added together, make a difference larger than you have named. But, on the other hand, the revenue from ordinary sources shows development—very marked development. We come now to the question of how to meet the deficit. There is the *Sake* Tax; that can easily be increased so as to yield an additional twelve or thirteen millions. It is a legitimate source of income, and the burden is not generally onerous. The Land Tax, however, involves other and special considerations. On the whole, it may be said that an available margin of revenue is distinctly visible there; but the time does not seem to be appropriate. In some regions the rice crop is excellent, and the farmers could bear an additional impost without any inconvenience. But in others exactly the opposite state of affairs prevails. Remember that there have been three tempests or inundations this year; that the weather has been emphatically unseasonable, and that great ravages have been caused by insects. There is no doubt that in some parts of the country the crop is almost, if not altogether, a failure, and that in one or two places something like famine may be looked for. It is out of the question to expect that the agriculturists in those provinces should pay an increased tax. It is doubtful whether they will be able to discharge their liabilities even as now assessed. Under the circumstances, the wiser policy would be to refrain from any increase of the Land Tax; to defer it, at all events. Turning to the expenditures, the grant which the Central Government is asked to make on account of Formosa appears scarcely reasonable. I am all in favour of an enterprising policy for purposes of productive development, but I do not believe in undue sacrifices. We need not look for any better model than England where the management and expansion of colonies are concerned. Now I can not find that England makes any sacrifices of that kind for the development of her newly acquired territories. I do not find that she devoted large sums on account of Ceylon, or of Hongkong, or of Jamaica, or of Burmah; certainly no sums that would represent so large a fraction of her annual income as thirteen million *yen* represent of ours. I think we may advantageously move a little more slowly in that direction; cut off, say, five millions of the proposed outlay. There is another feature of our finance which appears to me most anomalous. I have never heard of any other country which contracted debts with one hand while discharging them with the other. If you are borrowing money at a cheap rate of interest for the purpose of paying off obligations that carry a high rate, the proceeding becomes intelligent and financially sound. But to keep on contracting a five-per-cent debt to A while you are discharging a five-per-cent debt to B represents a kind of transaction that outrages reason. Were you bound to pay back, at a fixed time, the money you owe to B, the affair would assume a different complexion. Japan, however, is under no such obligation with regard to her domestic debt. She has, indeed, pledged herself to pay off her bonds within fifty years from the time when they first become liable to redemption, but she has, at the same time, explicitly reserved to herself discretion to regulate the yearly payments according to her own convenience. Why, then, should she keep on contracting new debts simultaneously with the discharge of the old? It appears to me that the proper and rational time for a State to pay off its debts—of course within the limits of its legitimate discretion—is when it has surplus funds available for the purpose. It happens that surplus funds are not available at the moment without increased taxation, and it happens that increased taxation

is inconvenient at the moment. I am for putting an end to that financial anomaly. The sum thus released would be eight million *yen*, which, together with the increased *Sake* Tax, the reduction in the Formosan grant, and the additional income that will accrue under the new Tariff, would make a total sufficient for the purposes of next year's Budget.

A FOREIGN LOAN.

We read in the *Chuo*, that the idea of a foreign loan is beginning to be seriously mooted in official quarters. According to the *post-bellum* programme, certain sums have to be raised yearly by public loan, partly for railway construction and partly for other industrial undertakings. Of the loans that ought to have been floated in the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1897, twelve millions remain unplaced, and of the loans included in this year's Budget, sixty-four millions have still to be put on the market. Even supposing that the bonds sold last June—42 millions in amount—be turned over to this account which, after all, would be a kind of robbing Peter to pay Paul, there would be a residue of 34 millions to be raised. Unless the money can be found, the *post-bellum* programme will have to be interrupted, and as to obtaining it in the home market where such tightness prevails, the thing is out of the question. The *Chuo* says that Count Matsukata is accordingly divesting himself of his old prejudice against a foreign loan, and is thinking of offering fifty million *yen* on the London market at 5 per cent. We never knew that Count Matsukata had any special prejudice against a foreign loan. Pending the consummation of Treaty Revision there was always a reluctance on the part of Japanese statesmen to saddle the country with any pecuniary obligations to foreign nations, but that is past now, and so also is the silver difficulty. Japan is terribly in need of foreign capital. She has turned over her own small stock again and again, and she can not make it go any farther. But if she is going to apply to London, she had better ask for ten millions sterling, not five. The latter is too small a sum for her credit.

THE STATUTORY TARIFF.

As there has been so much misunderstanding about the Statutory Tariff and the date of its operation, the following note, which appears in the columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, is worth attention:—"Our Statutory Tariff is to go into operation six months after the exchange of ratifications of the Revised Treaties with sixteen foreign Powers has been concluded. That has been done with fourteen Powers, and there remain only France and Austria-Hungary. The Austro-Hungarian Treaty will probably be signed in a few days and the French Treaty has already passed the Chamber of Deputies and will soon pass the Senate. It may reasonably be expected, therefore, that in the case of these two treaties also everything will be finished before the end of the year. Should that forecast prove correct, the new Tariffs, Conventional and Statutory, will go into operation from July next, and the revenue will receive an addition of some eight million *yen*."

NORTH-EASTERN LIBERALS.

At a meeting of the North-Eastern Liberals, held in Yamagata on the 4th instant, it was decided, says the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, that the Party would oppose the Government's scheme for increased taxation; also that the Cabinet should be called to account next session for its mistakes of policy in domestic, foreign and financial affairs. Considering the source of this information it can not be accepted with absolute confidence, neither does it follow that the Liberals, as a whole, will follow that policy mapped out by the North-Eastern Section.

THE BEHRING SEA QUESTION.

INTELLIGENCE carried to a later date than the advices available when we last wrote on the above subject, shows that the Washington Government was not without some slight warrant for its expectation that Great Britain would join an international conference including Japan and Russia. Our readers doubtless remember that, on July 28th, Lord SALISBURY, in reply to Mr. SHERMAN'S desire for a conference of the interested Powers, wrote a despatch intimating England's consent to a meeting of British, Canadian and American experts, for the purpose of considering the habits and conditions of the Pribiloff Islands seals. That was the last of the series of despatches included in the Blue Book whose contents have hitherto constituted the sole basis of comment. But it now appears that, on receipt of the above despatch, Mr. HAY immediately (July 29th) informed Lord SALISBURY in writing that the President expected, as had been from time to time intimated by the American Ambassador, that Russian and Japanese representatives would be present at the conference. Lord SALISBURY returned no answer until the 24th of September, when he informed the United States Ambassador in London that Great Britain objected to Russia and Japan taking part in the meeting since they had no *locus standi*. Hence it appears that from the 29th of July to the 24th of September, an interval of nearly two months, the Government in Washington was left without any intimation that Great Britain objected to a conference comprising Japan and Russia, and that Lord SALISBURY'S final refusal was not formulated until the representatives of those two States were well on their way to the place of conference. A claim is therefore advanced that England did not behave in a thoroughly straightforward manner, and that her silence at a time when it was a matter of common knowledge that arrangements for the conference were in active progress, might have been justly construed as tacit assent. We can not deny that there is some justice in the claim. Indeed, there appears to have been a disposition on the part of the British Government to accede to America's wishes, and the delay in returning an answer to Mr. HAY'S despatch of July 29th, was caused by endeavours to bring Canada into line with the Washington proposals. The effort having failed, nothing remained for Lord SALISBURY but to make a communication in that sense to the American Ambassador, and it is plain that if the latter had no knowledge of what was passing between London and Canada he might have been betrayed into misinterpreting Lord SALISBURY'S silence. Whatever misapprehension may have been caused by her tardiness in reiterating her refusal is

doubtless regretted by England as much as it is complained of by America. But when the questions are asked, did the Washington Government proceed with sufficient circumspection, and was there sufficient warrant to assume England's acquiescence, there seems to be no possibility of answering in the affirmative. It is to be observed, in the first place, that although a conference of national representatives and a conference of experts may appear to differ in name rather than in fact, they are in truth radically different. To assemble plenipotentiaries, as proposed by America, meant the convening of a new international tribunal to reopen questions which had been already settled by the Paris Arbitration. To bring together a number of experts, as agreed by England, signified nothing more than the organization of a committee to consider the result of recent scientific investigations, with the object of determining what (if any) revision of the regulations enacted by the Paris Arbitrators was desirable. Great Britain had never showed any unwillingness to ascertain the real conditions of the problem, but she had always shown emphatic unwillingness to deal lightly with the results of a solemn arbitration, and, above all, to admit outside Powers to have a voice in the changing of those results. It is to be observed, in the second place, that, in 1895, Lord SALISBURY "informed the United States Government that her Majesty's Government could not recognise that Russia and Japan had any interest in the seal fishery on the American side of the North Pacific, and that Great Britain could not, therefore, take part in any inquiry on the Pribiloff Islands in which Japan and Russia were associated"—which official declaration was never officially modified. And it is to be observed, in the third place, that America's efforts to secure, not a mere meeting of experts but an international conference, had been going on for nearly three years when they elicited Lord SALISBURY'S declaration of July last that England would agree to a meeting of experts only. In the face of all these significant facts, can it be reasonably claimed that a mere delay on Great Britain's part to re-iterate a refusal just formulated, to reverse a decision just announced, justified an inference that she had abandoned the position steadily maintained by her during three years? Mr. SHERMAN'S notorious despatch, clamouring for an international conference, was handed to Lord SALISBURY in May. The British Government did not reply to it until the end of July, and the reply intimated agreement to a meeting of experts only. Mr. HAY'S despatch, repeating the desire for an international conference, was sent in on July 29th, and England's failure to reply until September 24th was interpreted to mean tacit consent. We are unable to perceive that such an interpretation was justified, or

that Great Britain can be fairly accused of the slightest want of integrity. Lord SALISBURY might, indeed, have exercised greater despatch, or, at any rate, it seems that he might; but even on that point judgment must be reserved until we know how the delay was caused. Meanwhile it is satisfactory to know that the refusal to admit Japan and Russia to the conference was not, as some have suggested, a species of reprisal for Mr. SHERMAN'S singular despatch, nor yet an act of unfriendly exclusiveness, but simply a re-affirmation of the position assumed by England in 1895, and never subsequently abandoned.

SILVER-EARNERS.

The companies that carry passengers up and down the Yangtze have announced a rise of fares, the alleged reason being appreciation of prices all round, especially the price of coal, which used to be procurable from Japan at Tls. 3½ per ton but now costs Tls. 9. We observe that the leading Shanghai journal complains of this action on the part of the companies, and says that, unfortunately, the salaries and earnings from trade do not increase in proportion to these enhanced charges. The statement seems to require modification. The gross earnings from trade do undoubtedly increase with rising prices. It is true that the net profits remain little altered under circumstances such as those now existing. When manufacturers or producers have to pay enhanced prices for labour, raw materials, and so forth, the correspondingly enhanced figures at which they sell their goods leave the same margin of profit as before. There is consequently no ground for complaint on the side of tradesmen, manufacturers, or producers. In their case it has been admitted from time immemorial that a rising market means prosperity, a falling, adversity. Very different, however, is the lot of the receiver of a salary. His income remains unaltered though its purchasing power diminishes steadily. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that while nearly all wage-earners have managed, either by appeals to the justice of their employers or by strikes, to preserve a fair ratio between their emoluments and the cost of living, a large class of salaried persons, comprising merchants' clerks, book-keepers, officials, school-teachers, and so forth, have never attained that level of self-assertion, but have always reconciled themselves to be left behind in the general expansion. This difference is very marked in Japan's case. The price commanded in the open market not by labour alone but also by moral attainments has largely increased of late. A few years ago, an offer of seventy or eighty yen per month for an erudite translator—to take one example—would have brought a host of competitors into the field: to-day, scarcely a single applicant presents himself. Yet official salaries and the emoluments paid to persons engaged in education remain exactly as they were. It is certainly one of the injustices of the age.

MANSLAUGHTER AND SUICIDE IN HAKODATE.

A fortnight or so since a quarrel occurred at Hakodate between a native of the Bonin Islands named Francis Gonzalez and a man locally known as Hatoba Charlie, a loafer of doubtful nationality. In the course of the affray the latter was knocked down with a chair by Gonzalez, and carried insensible to the hospital. Gonzalez was accordingly arrested and locked up by the Japanese police. A few days later the injured man died in hospital, and upon learning of his death, Gonzalez, terrified apparently by the probable consequences to himself of his act, hung himself in his cell.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

It is reported that the collation prepared for Count Okuma's guests on the 5th and 6th inst., was presented to the students of the Waseda College.

The *Yorosu* states that the Korean Government resolved on the 30th ultimo to repay one million yen of its loan from Japan, with the approval of the Emperor. Of the total three millions of the loan, one million has already been paid.

The income tax question has brought about a split in the councils of the United Chambers of Commerce, and as a consequence each party will draft a bill for presentation to the Diet next session. One side advocates the entire annulment of the tax: the other urges revision and reduction.

The *Shogyo* announces that the business men of Japan are gradually coming round to a condition of opposition to the national armament expansion schemes. They urge that in Japan's present economical condition, the plans are too extensive to carry out without seriously crippling trade.

The Specie Bank recently raised its rate of interest on loans by one *rin* per diem, the interest on deposits remaining the same. This example is expected to be followed by other banks, and the Bank of Japan will also probably decide upon a further increase of its rates.

The rise in the price of coal in Japan has reached its climax, asserts the *Tokyo Shimbun*. First class Kiushiu coal is now quoted at a little less than 10 yen, and many manufactories are experiencing serious embarrassment. Electric light companies in particular seem to be great sufferers.

Judge Hamasaki, of the Formosan Law Court, who protested against the removal of Mr. Takano from the chief justiceship in Formosa, then tendered his resignation and forwarded a lengthy document expressing his views, was dismissed from the service on the 4th instant, and was also stripped of his honorary rank.

The Bank of Japan's issue of convertible notes above the legal limit amounted, at the end of last month, says the *Yorosu*, to 25 million yen. The Finance Department therefore increased the tax of six per cent. to seven per cent. The rate of interest in the loan market being over ten per cent. the Bank is not likely to suffer.

According to latest investigations completed by the Government and published in the *Tokyo Asahi*, the number of agricultural families throughout the empire totals 5,518,040, of whom 3,121,775 represent owners of land, and 2,397,965 tenants; while the area of land cultivated by the former is 2,795,707 *cho* and that by the latter 1,813,465 *cho*.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* announces that telegraphic communication between Japan and Formosa has been interrupted since the 3rd instant, the line between Nafu and Kelung having been damaged by a severe storm. It is expected, however, that the line will be in working order again in a few days.

The director, chief-editor and three other members of the staff of the *Kwantu Shimbun*, in Tochi prefecture, were arrested some time ago on a charge of blackmailing. The present editor, Mr. Sato, and the sub-editor, Mr. Shibuya, were also arrested, according to the *Yorosu*, on the 6th inst. on a similar charge.

According to the *Hochi* the number and classification of houses supplied with the electric light in Yokohama are as follows:—In the native town, workshops, 1; eating houses, 94; inns, hotels, and clubs, 18; banks and companies, 35; government offices, 12; shops, 417; dwellings, 117; hospitals, churches, and machine shops, 8; tea houses and houses of entertainment, 69; restaurants, 6; theatres and places

of amusement, 8. In the foreign settlement the number of buildings illuminated by electricity is 207.

The recent extravagant rise in the price of rice has considerably increased the distress of the poorer people, and the number of criminal offences is steadily increasing in consequence. According to investigations made by the authorities in Osaka, prisoners in that city on the 25th ultimo totalled 4,073, showing an increase of 100 over the figures for the corresponding period of last year.

The Nagasaki Harbour Improvement Loan is being managed by the 18th National Bank in Nagasaki; the 1st National Bank in Tokyo, and its branches in Yokohama, Osaka, and Kobe; the 9th National Bank in Kumamoto; 17th in Fukuoka; and 106th in Saga. An amount of 90,000 yen will first be put upon the market, at the minimum rate of 95 yen per 100 yen bond, the interest being 6 per cent. The period of subscription is from the 5th to 15th November.

The Osaka Clock and Watch Manufacturing Company began business with a capital of 300,000 yen. But the greater portion of the capital having been appropriated to the purchase of land, machinery, and buildings, the working funds were found insufficient and the Company has now decided, the *Osaka Asahi* says, to increase the capital by 150,000 yen in shares of 75 yen each—instead of 50 yen as heretofore—25 yen being added to each share.

The trade in cotton yarns at Osaka has declined since the beginning of October. The fall in the London exchange and the rise on Shanghai, together with the diminution in domestic demand, were the chief factors in the falling-off in this valuable trade. The Three Staples Exchange find prices constantly falling, and buyers have incurred considerable losses in recent transactions. At the end of October the average quotation did not exceed 89.10 yen.

Investigations made by the Coal Mining and Railway Company of Hokkaido show that the amount of coal transported to other places, and the traffic receipts during October this year amounted to 60,106 tons and 125,197 yen respectively, while the total output of coal exceeded 97,447 tons. The excess of traffic receipts over the estimates amounted to 4,488 yen in July, 6,745 yen in August, and 22,245 yen in September, making a total of 43,273 yen during the four months.

Eighteen students of the Navigation class in the School of Mathematics at Kanda rowed over to Yokosuka early on the morning of the 3rd inst., in two boats, to inspect the war-vessel *Fuji*. On their return trip, the following day, at about 11 a.m. they encountered a heavy storm off the coast of Daishigawara, and drifted seawards. One of the boats succeeded with great difficulty in reaching its destination at 5 p.m. on the 5th, but the other boat is still missing and steps are now being taken to search for it.

Since the Takano affair became known in Formosa, the Consuls of various nationalities have begun to clamour against the blundering of the Government. It is supposed, says the *Yorosu*, that some unexpected trouble may occur if the Government persists in carrying out its present intention. Does it not yet recognise the importance of securing the independence of the judicature? We (*Japan Mail*) desire to ask the *Yorosu* what on earth foreign consuls have to do with such a question.

We predicted, says the *Yorosu*, that the amount of transactions in the Tokyo Bill Exchange would reach 500 million yen in value within the current year. The figures recorded at the end of last month amounted to 440,464,498 yen, of which 50,120,000 yen represent exchanges effected during last month only. It may reasonably be expected that at the end of this month the amount will exceed 480 millions, and by the close of the year it will certainly amount to 500 millions. If this may

be regarded as the result of the development of commercial credit, the financial world is to be congratulated; but if it is to be regarded as the result of unsound speculation, which are constantly increasing at present, bankers must be warned to exercise a greater amount of discretion in their transactions.

The *Kokumin* reports that the number of companies throughout the empire at the end of October totalled 2,115, the aggregate capital amounting to 311,263,192 yen. These figures show an increase of 40 companies and 5,486,020 yen in capital over those for the previous month. The companies may be classified as follow:—Commercial, 1,027, capital, 140,688,125 yen; industrial, 997, capital, 168,232 yen; agricultural, 90, capital, 2,342,070 yen; total number of companies, 2,114 and amount of capital 311,263,192 yen.

The *Official Gazette* of the 8th instant states that the following personages have been appointed as a Committee for the organization of the Formosan Bank:—Mr. Nomura Seimei, Superintendent of the Formosan Affairs Bureau; Mr. Soyeda Juichi, Director of the Superintendent Bureau of the Finance Department; Baron Kawaguchi Takesada, Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Hara Rokuro, Takahashi Korekiyo, Okura Kihachiro, Yasuda Zenjiro, Tsuruhara Sadakichi, Ikeda Kenzo, Hamaoka Kotetsu, Nishimura Shintaro, Otani Kabei, and Kihara Chiubei.

Mr. Nishimura of the Kodo-kai recently called upon Mr. Hoshi, says the *Yorosu*, and suggested that he should become Foreign Minister, to display his abilities in diplomacy. "I am not unwilling to occupy the post you speak of," replied Mr. Hoshi; "but I suppose that for the present Count Matsukata is not able to remove Count Okuma. Should you devote all your energies to bringing about Count Okuma's resignation, I will be glad to accept the post." This is another *Yorosu* fable. Apparently our contemporary has started a mill for manufacturing political canards.

The following have been appointed, according to the *Nippon*, as a committee for the construction of railways in Formosa:—Messrs. Ikeda Kenzo, Kanematsu Fusajiro, Hara Zenzaburo, Hamaoka Kotetsu, Shibusawa Eiichi, Masuda Ko, Okura Kihachiro, Hara Rokuro, Nomura Masaaki, Tsuruhara Sadakichi, Kawaguchi Takesada. But as no Chairman has yet been nominated, no practical steps have been taken. The Office of the Committee is to be established within the precincts of the Finance Department, and a general meeting is to be held after the nomination of the President.

The *Yiji* states that loans issued by the Bank of Japan to private individuals amount to 83 or 84 million yen. These figures show a decrease of 5 million yen as compared with those for the beginning of February, and an increase of an equal amount over the corresponding period of last year. November is always regarded as a quiet month in business circles. December, however, is a month in which great pressure is put upon the circulation, and loans from the Bank will probably exceed 90 million yen, the issue of convertible notes amounting to 200 millions, while the notes above the legal limit will be no less than 40 millions.

In feudal days it was not uncommon for a Japanese woman to expostulate with her brother or husband upon his debauchery, and if her protests were unheeded to commit suicide, but instances of the kind have rarely occurred since the Restoration. The *Yomiuri*, however, reports an instance which lately happened in Kanazawa. Mr. Yamamori, a member of the Municipal Council, has been leading a dissolute life during the past few years, and recently had a child born of a singing girl. This he took home and acknowledged as his heir, but his wife, who, both in beauty and accomplishments, was long regarded as a perfect type of womanhood, asked him to desist on the ground that his family line

would be impaired. Her request being refused by the husband, who menaced her with divorce, she killed herself by cutting her throat with a dagger, in front of the family altar.

According to the *Hochi*, the amount of revenue and expenditures for the 29th fiscal year, as appearing in the accounts of the Treasury, are 189,990,000 *yen* and 168,850,000 *yen* respectively, showing a surplus of 18,141,989 *yen*, of which 10,810,000 *yen* has been included in the estimates of revenue for the 30th year. The actual unappropriated surplus does not therefore exceed eight million *yen*.

The coal exported from the port of Moji during the past ten months amounted, according to the *Osaka Asahi*, to 807,929 tons, showing a decrease of 100,407 tons as compared with the corresponding period of last year. During the current year, February and May alone show an increase in export, all other months marking a decrease. The price realized this year, however, was higher than last, the receipts amounting to 4,467,191 *yen*, against 3,291,958 *yen* last year. The average price per ton last year was 3.62 *yen*, which rose to 5.52 *yen* this year.

Coal and petroleum mining are the most profitable industries at present carried on in Japan. Petroleum has been found in Hokkaido and also in Formosa, but the best and most workable deposits are in the provinces of Yechigo, Koshiu, Shinshiu, and Akita. In the 27th year of *Meiji*, asserts the *Mainichi*, the production of petroleum throughout the empire totalled 130,000 *koku*, and in the 28th year, 140,000 *koku*, but by the 29th the total output had increased to 200,000 *koku*. Although no accurate statistics have yet been compiled for the present year, it may fairly be conjectured that the production from January to September will not fall short of 300,000 *koku*. These figures deal chiefly with Yechigo.

The sale of winter stock at the Mitsui Dry Goods Store during the first three days of this month amounted, says the *Fiji*, to 85,000 *yen* in value, showing an increase of 29 per cent. over the figures for the corresponding period of last year. The number of customers totalled 45,000, each purchasing on an average 2.44 *yen*'s worth of goods. It seems that this year sales are made in small quantities, buyers having come from the country by train. The latter fact alone is sufficient to prove the presence of local, or provincial, prosperity in spite of the extravagant rise in the price of rice. The Shirokiya Store is also reported to have secured an increase of 30 per cent. over the previous year.

The tea trade, says the *Nippon*, still remains stagnant, only an insignificant number of sales being effected of late. The producing districts are already exhausted and the want of arrivals in the market tends to decrease the stock day by day. Quotations do not show any serious downward tendency, but on the whole prices may be said to have fallen by one or two dollars. Arrivals during the past month amounted to 568,500 catties, and sales to 927,900 catties, the remaining stock being not more than 157,500 catties. Comparative figures from the opening of the tea season to October 31st for the last two years are as follows:—Arrivals for the 30th year, 21,176,900 catties; for the 29th year, 21,300,200 catties; sales for the 30th year, 21,019,400 catties; for the 29th year, 21,047,000 catties; stock for the 30th year, 157,500 catties; for the 29th year, 253,200 catties.

On the evening of the 2nd instant, three members of the Kodo-kai, Messrs. Shigeno, Minamino, and Hirose, repaired to the official residence of the Premier, and requested him to give them a positive reply to the suggestion they lately made as to the removal of Count Okuma from the Cabinet. To this the Premier is reported by the *Yoroku* to have answered as follows:—"You need not trouble yourselves so much, the Cabinet has already resolved to remove the Count from his present post, while the Count himself has complied with the decision taken. In

a few days he will tender his resignation but his retirement will in no way affect the existence of the present Cabinet, which pledged itself to carry out the programme originally contemplated." Being thus informed of the intentions of the Premier, the three visitors retired perfectly satisfied. We (*Japan Mail*) need scarcely tell our readers that Count Matsukata never used such language.

The Government, the *Mainichi* alleges, has definitely resolved to increase the land and *sake* taxes in order to make up the deficit in the revenue for the 31st fiscal year. With reference to the method of levying the land tax, it is reported that an assessment will be effected on the basis of the average value of rice during the last five years, and that the land so assessed being supposed to amount to 470 million *yen* in value, $\frac{1}{1000}$ will be levied as tax. If this be the case, the total land tax will not fall short of 59 million *yen*, which shows an increase of 21,500,000 *yen* over the receipts realized at present. The *sake* tax is to be raised to ten *yen* per *koku*, and the total receipts from this source being estimated at 45 million *yen*, there will be an increase of 13,500,000 *yen* over the sum hitherto realized by that tax. Whether the nation will accede to the scheme of increased taxation or not is one of the principal questions now occupying public attention.

Since the revision of the Coinage System various canseas have combined, says the *Mainichi*, to bring serious embarrassment upon the spinning industry. The most prominent of these is over-manufacture. In 1890, the number of spindles did not exceed 300,000, and with these domestic needs alone were supplied. This department of the industry has since increased rapidly, the number of spindles having by this year reached 800,000, while a new factory just started will bring the number up to 1,000,000. The total output being now considerably in excess of domestic demands, the balance must be exported. The chief market was formerly China, but the extraordinary rise in exchange in consequence of the revision of the coinage system has crippled that trade. Now that Japan finds she has lost her most important customer in the spinning industry, she must consider the best means of obtaining another market or of reducing her output.

According to the *Tokyo Shimbun*, the Japan Female Volunteers' Association held a meeting on the 6th instant at the Ryukwayen, Tsukiji, to discuss the nomination of a president and the publication of a magazine. The Association is composed of distinguished ladies, both private and official, with a view to rendering services in times of war or emergency. Its programme is as follows:—(1) Giving lessons in physical culture suitable to women for the purpose of securing perfection of physical constitution. (2) Establishing Relief Stations for the benefit of wounded patients so as to render assistance to the Red Cross Society. (3) Instruction to be given as to the most important points in midwifery. (4) The teaching of the process of examining the body as to diseases of various joints arising from bruises or wounds. (5) Organising clubs in the various parts of the empire and conducting matters relating to the relief of soldiers. Among the Directors of the Association, the most prominent are Doctor Matsumoto Aiko, Countess Iia Kinuko, and Mrs. Hoshi, wife of the late Minister to America.

Investigations completed by the Bank of Japan show that the prices of commodities in September this year had risen 63 per cent. on an average over those in the beginning of the 20th year. A still more astonishing appreciation was shown by October, the rate indicating an increase of 73 per cent. Last month was the first in which gold monometallism was enforced, and yet an increase of 10 per cent. in the cost of commodities took place within one month. The anomaly is probably not attributable to the introduction of the gold system, but it must be admitted that the object of the enforcement of

gold monometallism has been to a certain extent frustrated, the results produced being contrary to expectation. The extravagant appreciation of commodities in the past month seems to have been caused chiefly by the over-issue of convertible notes to the amount of 30 million *yen*. So far as the present conditions indicate, the issue of notes above the legal limit is still to be resorted to on an increased scale, and further appreciation of commodities must certainly be expected. These are the opinions of a Tokyo contemporary.

The centre of the petroleum industry in Japan is Nagaoka, where the trade has been greatly developed within the past twelve months. It is only two or three years since the Japan Kerosene Oil Company introduced machinery at its wells, but now every petroleum company in Japan can boast of an installation of machinery possessing the latest mechanical devices. The development of the industry has fostered a speculative spirit among the folks of Echigo, every man and woman of the Province investing their scanty savings in one or other of the oil companies. The mania grew so intense that 6 *yen* shares were at one time fetching 300 *yen*, but the period of inflation has passed, though every share is at present quoted at 50 or 60 per cent. over its issue value. There are altogether about 30 companies in the neighbourhood of Nagaoka, with an aggregate capital of 400,000 *yen*. The companies expect this year to obtain 300,000 *koku* of oil, which they ought to be able to sell at 3 *yen* per *koku*, or 900,000 *yen*. Some of the companies, working on this estimate, are already boasting of declaring dividends of 100 to 150 per cent. for the year.

According to the *Fiji*, a meeting of persons engaged in the fishing and agricultural industries of the Kwanto districts is to be held in Yokohama on the 16th inst. and two following days, to discuss subjects connected with their respective industries. Among the questions to be considered by the fishermen are means for the protection of, and assistance to, fishing boats in stormy weather; the protection of marine products; rapid transport of marine products; and the prohibition of the use of nets known as *gorota* in fishing. The cattle dealers will discuss the best means of obtaining stud bulls to breed good dairy cattle. The sericulturists will propose measures for the purchase of silk-worm eggs by the co-operation of rearers, and means for securing uniformity in the method of preserving the chrysalis; also the establishment of a station where the packing of silk shall be conducted under the control of the producers. The agriculturists will propose the amendment of the ordinances of the Department of Agriculture relating to the precautions against, and the destruction of, noxious insects.

The *Yomiuri* publishes the following information received from its special correspondent in Seoul, under date of the 28th ultimo:—"On the 11th October, Mr. Hiki, Secretary of the Japanese Legation, was stopped by a number of Korean troops at Tonghyon while he was proceeding on a visit to the American Minister. He gave them his name and presented his card, but was still refused passage. Thereupon he turned to the South Gate and attempted to reach the American Legation through So-chongton, only to be similarly treated. While standing at the latter place he saw two or three foreigners as well as Chinese and Koreans passing through without interruption. This caused him to seek an interview with the Commander of the Guards, from whom he demanded an explanation of the stoppage of Japanese, and Japanese alone. The Commander made no reply, and gave fresh orders to his men to prevent the passage of Japanese. Seeing remonstrance to be of no avail, the Secretary returned. A protest was formally drawn up at the Japanese Legation, and sent in to the Korean Government, and this was passed on by the Foreign Department to the War Department. On the 26th, the Minister of War, Te chang kon, sent a reply to the Foreign Department stating that "as the troops had acted in accord-

ance with instructions, no disciplinary measures could be taken against them." A copy of this answer was transmitted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Japanese Legation. A still stronger representation will be made by the Japanese Legation in a few days.

Comparing the volume of currency in circulation at the end of each month from May, 1894, to September, 1897, it will be found, says the *Yiji Shimpō*, that although there were changes in the figures for the respective months, according to the condition of the money market, yet on the whole they have shown a steady increase. The amount of money in circulation in May 1894 was 199,400,000 yen. If this figure is taken as representing 100, then the volume of currency in August this year would be 150 and that in September 148, thus showing an increase of 50 and 48 per cent. respectively over May, 1894. From a merely financial point of view it may be alleged that the volume of currency has considerably increased, and that this augmentation is considered by the public to have seriously enhanced the prices of commodities. The appreciation of commodities, however, is not to be attributed solely to the increase in the amount of currency, inasmuch as it is hardly possible to decide whether the amount of paper and coins in circulation really exceed the requirements of the day. Yet it is a strange coincidence that along with the increase of currency by fifty per cent. over that in May 1894, the cost of commodities has also risen about forty per cent.

All recent reports from Korea, the *Hochi* remarks, refer in some way or other to a Russian gentleman, Mr. Alexieff. One relates the resignation of the Minister of Finance, Pak chong-yang; another announces the engagement of Mr. Alexieff; a third asserts that the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cho Pyong Sik, has determined to discontinue the engagement of any foreigners except Russians, and that the intimacy between Koreans and Russians increases day by day. The latest information received by the *Mainichi* from its special correspondent seems to imply that Mr. Brown is daily attending to his duties in a room formerly occupied by the Japanese Councillor, Mr. Nio, and that the Finance Department is now under the control of two Heads. Mr. Brown's pertinacity in retaining his post has, it is said, secured the earnest approval of the British Consul, who has strongly protested against his removal. The Korean Government is now in a position of serious embarrassment, and further ministerial changes appear imminent. A suggestion has been made that both Mr. Brown and Mr. Alexieff should be employed as advisers of equal rank. It is rumored that Min, Minister for Foreign Affairs, having drawn upon himself the censure of the two Powers, is disposed to resign his post.

NEW REAR-ADMIRAL FOR THE CHINA STATION.

Rear-Admiral Fitzgerald will leave England in November in the *Edgar*, to relieve Admiral Oxley (at present on leave), says the *China Mail*. The new Rear-Admiral will hoist his flag on the *Grafton*. The *Edgar* brings out new crews for the *Archer*, *Linnel*, and *Tweed*, besides reliefs for the China station.

Rear-Admiral Fitzgerald's war record is as follows.—Mid. of *Colossus* in the Baltic during the Russian war (Baltic Medal); present in *Retribution* at the bombardment of Nankin, November, 1858 (China Medal); Flag Captain to Sir Francis Sullivan in the *Inconstant*, during the Egyptian Campaign, 1882, mentioned in despatches (Egyptian Medal, Khedive's Bronze Star, Medjidie 3rd class); Saxo Ernestine Order of the 2nd class. Author of a work called "Hints on Boat Sailing and Racing;" Captain of R. N. College, Greenwich, 1883-85; Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, 5th April, 1892, to 20th February, 1895; Author of a work "Modern Naval Tactics," 1896.

CHINESE NOTES.

"As an instance," says the *N. C. Daily News* "of the immense concourse of Court, metropolitan and provincial officials of all grades who will assemble at Eho Park to congratulate the Empress Dowager, and partake of the Imperial hospitality on the sixty-third anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday, falling on the 4th instant, it may be mentioned that, in addition to the Palace *chef de cuisine* and his full staff of 220 assistants, the Comptroller-General of the Imperial Household Department engaged recently some sixty first class and ninety second class cooks from the various restaurants, etc., in the city, to assist the Palace staff in providing meals for Her Majesty's guests during the festivities. These will last seven days, that is to say, three days before and three days after the 4th instant. The present *chef de cuisine* of the Palace wears the military brevet light blue or third rank button, which was bestowed upon him by the Empress Dowager a few years ago. His duty is to taste first all the dishes placed before the Emperor at meals for fear of any attempts at poisoning."

"On the 10th of October," writes a Vladivostok correspondent of the above journal, "before a large and brilliant assembly of naval and military officials and officers of the civil department, the Governor-General of the Amoor, General Dukoffski, laid the first of the ten-ton concrete blocks of the new harbour frontage to the railway depôt, at the present terminus of the Siberian railway. After an imposing religious ceremony and the block had been solemnly blessed by Right Rev. M. Smirnoff, General Dukoffski cemented up in a recess of the stone a number of current coins. A powerful steam floating crane, by Appleby & Co. of London, which has been specially imported for the work, then picked up the block, and in a few minutes deposited it in its bed twenty feet under water. This important undertaking, when finished, will be a great improvement to the railway depôt, and it will increase the facilities of the commercial port immensely by the addition of a deep water frontage a third of a mile long, at which the largest steamers afloat can load and discharge. It will be furnished with every appliance for despatch; electric cranes and lights, fresh water, coal shoots, and warehouses."

Wu Ta-cheng, the ex-governor of Hunan, whose proclamation inviting the Japanese army to surrender during the Manchurian campaign was quickly followed by his own crushing defeat at Tienchwangtai, has now emerged from a seclusion of two years in Soochow, and is about to preach and expound the "Sacred Edicts" nine times a month to the scholars and people of Soochow. That means that he will try to recover his official position by preaching a crusade against foreign religions. We may therefore hear of anti-missionary troubles in Kiangsu.

It is reported that the Japanese ships of war *Oshima* and *Tsukushi*, which were lying in the Shanghai river on November 4th, when the birthday of the Empress Dowager was celebrated, differentiated themselves from all the other men-of-war in harbour by not dressing ship.

We take this from the Shanghai morning paper:—

"We are glad to be able to state that the agreement for the establishment of a College for Western Sciences at Shanghai has been signed. The College will be styled the Kiangnan Kung-hsui. Its location has not finally been decided upon, but it will probably be built in the neighbourhood of Sicauei. The President will be the Rev. J. C. Ferguson, who for many years has been in charge of the Nanking University, and it would be difficult to select a more competent and experienced Principal. A full staff of foreign teachers will be shortly engaged, and work will be commenced on the buildings of the College without delay. Mr. Ferguson left for Nanking by the *Kiangkwan* last night, and expects to return to Shanghai in about two weeks time."

LADIES IMPEDIMENTA.

The autumn season, says the *Globe*, is always one of lassitude, and that is why, perhaps, we hear signs of grumbling at the enormous size of the trunks which ladies take away with them on their holidays. Every one must have noticed, at railway stations and at hotels, these enormous boxes, if they have not been personally responsible for the safe-conduct of one of them from place to place. No one thinks of saying a word against them, however, in the summer time when everyone is joyfully rushing off somewhere or other full of good spirits and tips. Then the porters swing them about with a will, and cheerfully pile the biggest trunk on the smallest hat box they can find. But when all the world is coming home again, these trunks seem to have grown to mountainous proportions, and to contain the best part of the shingle of the south coast for weight. This, perhaps, will account for the moan which has lately been made as to the unfair strain put upon porters and house-servants by the thoughtless owners of these monstrosities. The only limit to the growing size of the trunk seems to be the size of the luggage van, for if a porter cannot move them, a crane or lift can do so, and it is evident that modern hotels have been specially built with a view to admitting the dress-carrier of the day. It is said that a New York Custom House officer found a bicycle concealed at the very bottom of the trunk of an English actress a week or two ago, and it is quite conceivable that the report is true. The next thing will be to have the trunk fitted up as a villa, in which all the family can travel, and then the height of comfort by road and rail will have been reached.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

Contrary to public expectation, Baron Kitagaki has not been appointed to the vacant portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce. Baron Yamada Nobumichi, now Governor of Kyoto, is gazetted. Baron Yamada is a native of Hiogo province. He has hitherto served chiefly in local Governments, and his name has consequently been little before the nation. From having been Governor of Tottori Prefecture he passed to the Governorship of Fukushima, and from thence was transferred, in 1892, to Osaka, finally becoming Governor of Kyoto in 1895. His elevation to the peerage took place in June, 1896. The Cabinet is now complete, and the rapidity with which the changes have been effected shows the crisis did not much disturb Count Matsukata and his colleagues.

MR. KURIL ALEXIEFF.

The *Sōul Independent* of October 30th says:

In our issue of October 4th, we noted the arrival of Mr. Kuril Alexieff in Sōul, who was sent by the Finance Department of the Imperial Russian Government at the request, it is said, of the Korean ex-ambassador Min Yungwhan, to assume control of Korean finance. Mr. de Speyer immediately announced the arrival of Mr. Alexieff to the Korean Foreign Office and requested them to fix a day for him to enter upon his duties. The Korean Government replied by informing Mr. Speyer that it was already supplied with the services of Mr. J. McLeavy Brown, whose contract had several years yet before ceasing. To this Mr. Speyer responded that the contracts of other foreigners with the Government was no concern of his. Mr. Alexieff had been sent at the request of the Korean ambassador at St. Petersburg and a day must be fixed upon which he could enter upon his duties. The matter was finally referred to the Korean Foreign Office for settlement and the Foreign Minister has sent a dispatch to Mr. Jordan that the Korean Government will dispense with the services of Mr. Brown as financial adviser and chief commissioner of customs. This communication we understand, Mr. Jordan has refused to receive. In a former issue we expressed our appreciation of the valuable services of Mr. Brown to Korea. We are sorry to see him so ungratefully treated by the Korean Government.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Rev. Samuel Bickersteth, vicar of Lewisham, has undertaken to write a memoir of his brother, the late Bishop of South Tokyo.

The very Rev. Charles John Vaughan, D.D., who was appointed Dean of Llandaff in 1879, died on October 15th, in the 82nd year of his age.

Mr. W. G. Bayne, we understand, has acquired by purchase the acting rights in Japan of "The Passport" which is to be given at the Public Hall on Nov. 17.

Richard Reynolds, A.B. of the British ship *Claverdon*, charged with stabbing a shipmate named McGrath on the 6th inst., at Kobe, has been further remanded by Mr. Playfair, H.M. Acting Judge, for a week.

The *Kobe Herald* learns that the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. is about to open an Agency at that port. Mr. F. S. Morse, we understand, will represent the Company at Kobe. Offices have been secured at No. 14, Concession.

The members of the Tokyo and Yokohama Water Police forces will hold a regatta at Shinagawa, in the space between the No. 1 and No. 3 Forts, on the 11th and 12th inst. In addition to boat races some other marine or aquatic sports will be engaged in.

The police of Yokohama appear to be very slow in following up the clues with regard to the perpetrator of the murder of the seaman Thomas Kennedy, who was clubbed to death in Isezakicho on the 17th Sept. last. Eight suspects are still undergoing preliminary examination at the Local Court.

Mr. Crawford's latest novel in his Saracinesca sequence will soon be brought out by the Macmillan Company, in two volumes. "Corleone" deals largely with the adventures of Don Orsino and his cousin, San Giacinto, among the mountains of Sicily, where they encounter the Mafia among other perils.

Mr. George Pullman, the Palace-car magnate, died at his residence in Chicago on Oct. 19. He was 64 years of age and succumbed to angina pectoris. Mr. Pullman's wealth is variously estimated at from \$12,000,000 to \$30,000,000.

Early on Friday morning, a seaman named McGrath was stabbed on board the British ship *Clarendon*, then lying in Kobe harbour. Her Majesty's Consul, J. Carry Hall, Esq., held an enquiry into the circumstances the same day, and a man named R. Reynolds is now in custody under remand, he being alleged to be the assailant.

Mr. Timothy Healy, who has just returned from a cycling tour in Ireland, announces, "Potatoes generally are bad; but all the crops have been saved where farmers had sense or money to spray them. No doubt there will be keen distress in south-western and western counties during the coming winter and spring. In some places it may approach starvation."

Dr. Richard S. Storrs, who has resigned the presidency of the American Board of Foreign Missions, after a service of ten years in that position, says:—"My reason for resigning is that I think it is time that I was relieved. I am now 76 years old, an age when a man thinks he is entitled to take things more easily."

On Saturday, Mr. A. C. Sim was elected a member of the Hyogo Municipal Council, being the only person nominated. His nominators were Mr. A. H. Groom and Mr. F. S. Goodison, and the paper was also signed by the following gentlemen as approving the nomination—namely, Messrs. J. W. Crowe, R. Home Cook, Mark Baggallay, T. F. McGrath, Th. de Berigny and H. O. Delacamp.

Admiral John L. Worden, U.S.N., who commanded the famous *Monitor* in her duel with the Confederate ram *Merrimac*, in Hampton Roads, on March 9th, 1862, died in Washing-

ton on October 18th, from pneumonia. For nearly two-thirds of a century he was a naval officer, having been appointed a midshipman from Fishkill, Dutchess county, N.Y., on Jan. 20th, 1834.

Mr. William F. Sands, late Second Secretary of the U.S. Legation in Tokyo, has been appointed Secretary of the U.S. Legation in Seoul. He comes from the District of Columbia.

Dr. Colman, of Peking, writing to *The Church at Home and Abroad*, reports that making a professional visit recently to Li Hung-chang, he found the venerable statesman intently reading a Chinese New Testament, which had been given him by an English missionary. So engrossed was he in his reading that he did not notice the presence of his physician for some minutes.

According to the American press, the marriage of Sir Edwin Arnold to a Japanese lady took place on Saturday, October 16th, at St. Matthias Church, Earls Court, London, in the presence of Sir Edwin's brother, Sir Arthur Arnold, late chairman of the London County Council, the Japanese Minister, and their wives. Sir Edwin and Lady Arnold will reside at Bolton Gardens, London.

There is a rumour afloat, according to the *Foochow Echo*, that the wreckers in the locality of the wreck of the steamer *Namoa* procured a considerable quantity of gunpowder with the idea of blowing up the wreck, but by some mischance the powder exploded before it could be applied to the purpose proposed, and killed six men besides wounding several others.

A strong agitation is arising among foreign and Japanese shipmasters for a further improvement of Yokohama harbour on account of their vessels' being exposed to the danger of grounding in the harbour. Vessels which could anchor near the shore last year are now obliged to keep far off owing to the accumulation of mud within the port. It is a matter for regret that vessels having a draft exceeding 15 feet can scarcely enter Yokohama dock, the channel leading to the dock being only 15 feet deep at ebb tide and barely 17 feet at high tide.

The *Emanuelo Filiberto*, battle-ship, building at Castellamare, is to be launched during the present month. She is a sister ship to the *Ammiraglio di St. Base*, recently launched at Venice, and is of 9,800 tons displacement, calculated to steam eighteen knots. The side armour is only of 9½ inch maximum thickness, and the turrets are of the same thickness. The main armament consists of four 10 inch, eight 6 inch quick-firing guns and 47 rapid-fire guns.

The *Kobe Chronicle* understands that an action for damages is to be instituted against the owner of the steamer *Yedo Maru*, which ran into the D.D.R. steamer *Gerda* at Moji recently. The *Gerda* is now at Hongkong, and the repairs necessary to her as a result of the collision are estimated to cost about twenty thousand dollars. At the time of the collision, the *Yedo Maru*, we understand, was coming in to Moji. The *Gerda* had just shifted her anchorage closer to the shore and had one anchor out when the Japanese steamer ran into her. The captain of the *Gerda* and the pilot are stated to have shouted to the captain of the *Yedo* to reverse his engines when a collision seemed likely, but the Japanese captain is reported to have said afterwards that his engine would not answer.

Hankow has lost its oldest resident by the death of Mr. M. A. Jenkins, who expired at that port on the 20th of October. Mr. Jenkins had been Interpreter at the United States Consulate for thirty-one years, and was besides engaged in mercantile business, having agencies at Ichang and Chungkiang. The father of Mr. M. A. Jenkins was a well-known missionary in the very early days of that port, where he established a printing press, and the son, who was born in South Carolina, came out with his father and studied Chinese at Shanghai, but took advan-

age of Hankow being opened in 1861 to establish himself in business there, and that port has been his constant place of residence ever since. The remains were interred in the cemetery at Hankow, a large number of the late Mr. Jenkins' friends being present on the occasion.

According to the *Kölnische Zeitung*, the labours of Professor Schaininsfeld, the director of the Bremen Museum for Natural Science, Ethnology, and Commerce, who has recently returned after a fourteen months' voyage in the Pacific, have been richly rewarded. The Professor lived for a considerable time on the little island of Laysan, where he had splendid opportunities of observing the habits of the birds, and managed to secure specimens of the endemic species in all stages of development. Professor Schaininsfeld appears to have done very good work. Among his acquisitions are a skeleton of a native belonging to a tribe which will soon be extinct, and a curious kind of lizard.

The memoirs of Rubinstein, just issued in Russia and Germany, contain the following remarks:—"I am a Christian in the eyes of the Jews, a Jew in the eyes of Christians; Russians regard me as a German, the Germans say that I am a Russian. Those who believe in classic music claim that I compose music for the future; the Wagnerites call me a renegade. Consequently I am neither flesh nor fowl—a nondescript individual." "An artist giving a concert should not demand an entrance fee, but should ask the public to pay, just before leaving, as much as they like. From the sum taken he would be able to judge what the public think of him, and we would have less concerts, anyhow."

The death of Sergeant W. Rogers at Bideford recalls an interesting incident which occurred during the Crimean War. The deceased soldier belonged to the 1st Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers, and served under Lieutenant-General Boldero at Sebastopol and Inkerman. In one engagement this officer and his subalterns were wounded, and the command of the company then devolved upon Rogers, who found himself in sore straits as the ammunition of the Fusiliers gave out. There was nothing for it but to empty the pouches of the wounded Russians. Thus the enemy were peppered with their own bullets. Sergeant Rogers, it may be added, was attached to the Queen's service for 40 years.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 29th ult. heard that ex-Inspector Witchell, who was serving a sentence of six months' imprisonment for receiving bribes from a gambling house keeper, has gone out of his mind and was confined in a padded cell. The same paper said next day:—"We hear that although ex-Inspector Witchell has been very low in health and spirits of late he has not been pronounced to be actually suffering from any mental disease. In consequence of his illness he now occupies a roomy cell and is not called upon to perform the customary gaol labour. A petition has been forwarded to His Excellency the Governor praying for the prisoner's release." The *China Mail* flatly contradicts the story.

Mr. Geo. Sutherland, Agent for the C. Mutual S.N. Co., of Shanghai, has received the following telegram:—"The damage to the *Moyune* in chiefly confined to the fore-hold. The ballast-tank repairs are progressing satisfactorily. The temporary repairs, now being effected, will probably detain the ship a further seven days at Kalindorang Bay. Two hundred and ten bales of hemp have been jettisoned, and the steamer *Libelle* is now alongside the *Moyune*, loading a full cargo, ex the latter vessel, which will be conveyed to Singapore."

The Captain of the steamer *Clam*, which arrived at Colombo from Singapore on the 6th ult., reported that on the voyage, when about 15 miles from land, two Chinese firemen were suddenly found missing. It is believed that they attempted to reach land by using the hatches of the ship as a raft, as three of the hatches were found missing at the same time. In the

Captain's opinion it was certain they must have failed in the attempt, as it was an utter impossibility that, without oars or sails, the men could have reached land.

A Tokyo paper reports that legal proceedings have been instituted by Mr. E. Whittall, of Yokohama, in the Tokyo Local Court, against Mr. Matsuyama Ichimatsu, now living at Shinagawa, for the recovery of yen 30,000 alleged to be due to Mr. Whittall.

We learn that the return of the Belgian Minister and Madame la Baronne d'Anethan to Tokyo may be expected on the 13th of December. The Baron's health is completely restored, a fact which his numerous friends will learn with great pleasure.

It is rumoured that Viscount Fincastle has been recommended for the Victoria Cross for bravery in connection with the attempted rescue of Lieutenant Greaves. If it is conferred he will, when he succeeds his father in the Peerage, be the first and only Duke with the Bronze Cross for valour.

The Singapore *Free Press* hears a rather good thing about Mat Salleh's band of outlaws in North Borneo. They are said to be drilled and instructed in musketry by a former Sergeant of the Singapore Sikh Police. *Apropos* of that it is interesting to know that columns of Afriids have been heard to move by the usual English words of command in the drill-book.

The *Straits Times* of Monday, 25th October, contains the following paragraph:—In Saturday's *Government Gazette* it was announced that Mr. K. Kijima is recognised as in charge of the Japanese Consulate at Singapore, pending the arrival of the new Consul for Japan. On Sunday morning, Mr. Kijima was arrested in Malay Street for being drunk and disorderly! The case was disposed of this morning by Mr. Wolferstan, who said that a man in the position of the accused ought to be ashamed of himself, and fined him ten dollars.

A writer in *Harper's Weekly* says:—While the English language is spreading over the face of the globe where-ever liberty is possible, it is sad to mark the apparent incapacity of the noble German tongue to conquer new territory or even to maintain itself within its own legal limits. In Bohemia it is rapidly disappearing. In Hungary it has been exterminated within the last fifty years. The eastern provinces of Prussia have been in German hands more than a hundred years, yet the people there are as little Prussian to-day as when Kosciusko laid down his life for personal liberty. The Danish provinces were conquered more than thirty years ago, yet the new generation speaks Danish and hates the very name of Prussia. In Alsace-Lorraine, men who were babies in 1870 have served their time in the German army, and are nominally German subjects; yet the German language finds there a resistance insurmountable, even with the aid of a vast army of spies, gendarmes, officials, and 60,000 troops. Nor is the German language faring better in the German colonies, for the simple reason that German emigrants prefer almost any colonial flag to their own.

How possible it is for two writers to deal independently, yet synchronously, with the same theme, each unconscious of the other, has just been shown by the author of "Liza of Lambeth," a remarkable little study of the life of the poor in London, which we recently reviewed. One review in an English paper, dismissed the book very hurriedly and contemptuously as an imitation of Mr. Morrison—author of those depressing "Tales of Mean Streets." Mr. Maugham, the author of "Liza of Lambeth," at once replied, saying that he has not yet read Mr. Morrison's books. Indeed, there is no reason why he should. If two literary men come to "mean streets" with open eyes and open minds, intent upon getting something of them upon paper, the results must be similar. To tax the second of

the two with plagiarism is unfair; rather should the critic rejoice that an addition has been made to the ranks of honest, if saddening, writers. As a matter of fact, Mr. Maugham has no inclination to imitate anyone—he has worked in Lambeth too long as a doctor to need to borrow facts, and his aim in writing this book was not to please by his literary skill, but to show certain things as they are.

A very favourable report has been handed in by the Board under Captain Harrington appointed to examine the pneumatic system on board the U.S. monitor *Terror*. The points on which it is found superior to other systems are as follow:—Air-pressure may always be obtained greater than the greatest available steam pressure. If steam engines between decks, &c., were replaced by air engines the exhaust could be used for ventilation purposes, and the temperature would not be made uncomfortably high as it is by steam. Air leaks and burst pipes do no harm, and the former are quickly located. The points of advantage over hydraulic motors are, the immunity from freezing pipes, the non-necessity of exhaust pipes, and the possibility of starting or stopping suddenly. The report concludes with the following:—"Whilst the Board is pleased with the pneumatic machinery on board the *Terror*, it recognises the fact that it is an experimental design. The Board is of the opinion that a new design would produce results even more satisfactory than those on board the *Terror*."

A thoroughly trustworthy correspondent writes to the *Hongkong Telegraph* from Manila, under date of the 20th ult., as follows:—"A terrible disaster has happened in the South of these islands. A tidal wave, about ten feet high, broke over the coasts of Leyte and Samar. It is reported that 20,000 lives have been lost and the densely populated town of Tacloban completely wrecked, and that the forts of Gulan and Boregan have been swept off the face of the earth. As usual on such occasions, there are all sorts of exaggerated rumours flying about, but it is beyond question that something extremely serious has happened. Several million dollars worth of property (crops, etc.,) have been lost, and in addition there has been great loss of life, and the destruction of both public and private buildings is enormous. The great damage done by the wave is said to be due to the great mass of water forced into the Straits of San Juanico. These straits are very narrow and the wave was driven in as in a funnel, and broke with so much the greater violence over the neighbouring coasts of Leyte and Samar."

The *Engineer* remarks—We regret that on two or three occasions we have felt it our duty to reprimand English merchants for exporting indifferent goods to foreign countries. Under the careful tuition of the British Consuls we are gradually awakening to our error. The English manufacturer, we are beginning to find, is altogether too good for this world, or at any rate for a very large portion of it. He is too good and not nearly showy enough, and he has a perfectly absurd confidence that the purchaser will find in the long run that the best, although the dearest, is the most economical. The purchaser, when he happens to be a poor unenlightened Bulgarian or a Mexican, or a Fiji islander, is not vastly affected by such observation. He probably has an uneasy feeling that before he has had time to wear out his purchase his body may be "punched full of cruel holes," and even to ourselves, under the circumstances, the expenditure of an extra half-crown for the quality of endurance would be twice considered. It does not, however, very much concern us what the considerations which influence him may be. The fact is that the foreigner, particularly the ubiquitous one, exports gaudy, attractive, and cheap shoddy, which is greedily bought, whilst our valuable goods, warranted to wear for ever, testify to their own endurance by remaining eternally in the shop windows and merchants' warehouses.

THE CABINET.

Count Okuma took leave of his colleagues at the official residence of Count Matsukata on the 4th instant, and is understood to have sent in his resignation yesterday. It is alleged that Marquis Saigo, though he returned to Tokyo on the night of the 3rd, absented himself from the Cabinet meeting on the 4th, and that, in view of Count Okuma's resignation and of the obvious impossibility of carrying out the policy with which the Cabinet was organized, the Marquis has made up his mind that the time is not propitious for any attempt on the part of the Satsuma statesmen to undertake the administration. If such be indeed Marquis Saigo's sentiments, Count Matsukata is not likely to remain at the head of a forlorn hope, and the complete reconstruction of the Cabinet may be inevitable.

DEMAND FOR GOLD.

The total demand for gold at the Bank of Japan and its agencies throughout Japan, from the 1st of October, when the new monometallic system went into operation, until the 5th of November, was 5,186,286 yen, but during the same period 171,489 yen in gold was paid into the Bank of Japan on various accounts, so that the actual diminution of the gold reserves was 5,014,797 yen.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

Mr Uchida Kosai, hitherto Minister *en disponibilité* and Secretary of the Foreign Office, is gazetted to the post of chief of the Commercial Bureau in that Department, and Messrs. Omae Taizo and Nishimura Shizuo are gazetted Secretaries.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE GOTEMBA LEPER HOSPITAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Gotemba leper hospital is always full of patients. They number now 83. They are all content and happy in the asylum which charity had opened for them. They lead a life of prayer and work, following gladly a lenient rule, which assures good order and peace.

The number of deaths, during this year, has been 12. Their places did not remain long vacant, as demands for admission are frequent. We should like to enlarge our establishment; the women's department has become insufficient; but our resources do not match our aspirations.

That question of resources is always our most engrossing one. It requires being at the head of a community of nearly a hundred souls, to understand well how much its working costs.

Our patients are all very poor, with but one or two exceptions. They are therefore entirely at our charges, and furnish little more than the poor rags they need when they come. Besides the ordinary expenses for food, clothing, and medicaments, some more general expenses are necessary to keep up the hospital. Now, in a country like this, so often visited by heavy rains, strong winds, and even tempests, the houses which we can build, rapidly give way. All our buildings are of wood for we cannot afford otherwise. Unfortunately such constructions do not last long. From foundation to roof they rot quickly, and can hardly do without a workman continually engaged in repairing them. Must we add what every body knows, viz., that since some time all prices have risen considerably, that rice and all sorts of provisions necessary for life have nearly doubled?

Of course, our lepers work as much as they can, to cover a part of the expenses; but they are more or less disabled, and their work is necessarily very limited.

On the other hand, the alms from Christians in Europe have decreased of late, owing to the great number of charitable institutions which require aid in Europe also. The contributions of the closing year have been so reduced that without the generous gift of one foreign resident of Yokohama, who desires to remain unknown, we would not have covered half the expenses of the year.

We are therefore very poor and without means to better our situation. All we want is but to live, and it is only to preserve our existence that we ask for help and succour.

Therefore, this year even more than the preceding ones, I make bold to appeal to the charity of our former benefactors and of all persons desirous to be generous.

I thank in advance the charitable souls that will send us their alms. I pray God to repay them a hundredfold even in this world, for the good they will do us.

P. VIGROUX, Miss Apost.

Note.—Contributions may be addressed to Rev. P. Vigroux, Miss. Ap.—Tokio, 35 Tsukiji; or to Rev. R. Pettier, Procurator of the Cath. Miss.—Yokohama, 80; or to the Japan Mail Office.

THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ENGINEERING FIRMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with interest your leading article of to-day, dealing with a statement I made with regard to the Yokohama foreigners and the Tokyo Club, in the course of one of my articles on "Modern Japan" in *The Engineer*.

Let me say at once that, at the time I wrote the article in question, I was a member of neither the Yokohama Club for the Tokyo Club, though I fully appreciated the hospitality I had received at the hands of both. I have no personal feeling in the matter whatever, and if your article will tend to lessen the friction that now exists between the two communities I shall be very glad.

I agree substantially with what you say with regard to the reasons for the disfavour with which Yokohama men are regarded by the Japanese, nor do I think that individual merit has anything to do with the question. But if you will refer to my article you will see that I do not go into the rights and wrongs of the case, but merely state the fact,—a fact with which I presume both you and Yokohama people will agree.

With regard to its being a stigma in the eyes of a Japanese to be a treaty-port man, I do not say that such a state of things is justifiable, but that it exists. Personally, I think it to be quite unjustifiable, but no one who is in intimate touch with the Japanese, can come to any other conclusion than that such a feeling exists.

My work for *The Engineer* in this country consists in advising British engineering manufacturers through the columns of that journal, as to the best way of securing work for Japan, and in dealing with that subject, I was bound to point out that great care must be taken in the selection of representatives here.

On broad lines the Yokohama man is not the right representative for important engineering firms, because of the very complete Japanese merchant ring which at present surrounds Government contracts, and because of the "stigma" from a Japanese point of view, deplorable and unjust as it may be, which attaches to the treaty-port foreigner. You admit, and very truly, that the Japanese are doing their best to boycott foreign firms, and that is precisely why I maintain that manufacturers should be very careful in the selection of their foreign representatives in Yokohama and elsewhere.

There are certain treaty-port firms, as I mention in my article, who, in spite of the terrible handicapping, are yet able to deal satisfactorily with engineering representation, and it is greatly to their credit that they can do so. No doubt in other trades, with regard to which Government work is not so overwhelmingly important, treaty-port agents are all round greatly preferable to others. On this subject, however, I can offer no opinion, as my remarks in *The Engineer* have only to do with engineering work.

I have no wish whatever to enter into a discussion on anything I have written, but I should be sorry if a remark of mine, with the truth of which, I gather from your article, you agree, should be taken as implying either that I underrate the business capacity of the treaty-port foreigner, or that I sympathise with the attempt of the Japanese to block his work.

Faithfully yours,

THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF
"THE ENGINEER."

Tokyo, November 11th, 1897.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND ROMAN CATHOLICISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me a little space to refer in a farewell way to the principles defended by the three Papal champions who have appeared upon the stage of this discussion.

Mr. Pettier, in his letter of Sept. 13th, tries to make it appear that I make others say what they have not said, and give to their words a meaning not intended by them. To this charge he says:—

"Even in his answer to my letter, after quoting the resume I had given of the teaching of Leo XIII. with regard to civil power, he adds that Leo meant Papal power, which presently was out of the question." Let us see. He meant civil power not independent of Papal control. Mr. Pettier above makes my language say what was not intended. The following criticism will show how deceptive Papal logic is:—Mr. Pettier laboured hard in his letter of Sept. 13th to quote Roman authority to show that his church was not antagonistic to the civil power, that the two powers were regarded by the Hierarchy as distinct in authority, that one could not encroach upon the other. And he brought forth only one really authoritative Papal witness in the person of Pope S. Gelase to the Emperor Anastase. It reads as follows:—"With regard to the administration of public (Civil) affairs, the Bishops, knowing that the Imperial power has been given you by the disposition of God, obey they also, to your laws." Now, if I say "the Imperial power" here, which Mr. Pettier would have you all believe is distinct from Papal power, is ruled and reigned over by the Hierarchical power, in fact, is the Papal power, he would be again ready to say I am making the language mean what it does not. But does Mr. Pettier thus try to hide the facts? The "Imperial power" above is held by the Emperor at the will of Pope Gelase. "The disposition of God," through which that power was given to the Emperor, means the disposition of the Roman Hierarchy. Now let Mr. Pettier deny this. Does he think that the "dark ages" into which he dives for his "facts" are not accessible to others? Certainly the Bishops obey the Emperor's laws. The whole outfit is Roman, the civil rulers as well.

Emperor Anastase I. (there was another: which one does Mr. Pettier mean?) Emperor of the East, 500 A.D., was anathematized by Pope Symmachus for his support of the Etychians. Gelase I. (there was another: which one does Mr. Pettier mean?) was pope at the beginning of the 6th century and took part in the conflict between the Greek and Latin sects. From his letter to Emperor Anastasius, Mr. Pettier would make believe that the civil power referred to was non-Catholic civil power; but such is not the case. It is Roman Catholic civil power exercised by the Emperor at the will of the Pope, as Boniface VIII. clearly shows. Papists are not bound to keep faith with non-Catholic or heretical Princes. So it is plain that the civil power referred to by Pope Leo, quoted by Mr. Pettier, is civil power in the hands of Papists. And instead of my making anybody's language mean what the author did not intend, Mr. Pettier has simply tried to obscure the facts of history.

Another important difference between Papal and Protestant relationship to civil power which I had not time to bring out in my former letter I will now explain here. The very allegation made in my letter that the Hierarchy claims superiority over civil power and is not subject to civil power, the very thing Mr. Pettier has been trying to show not correct, he has been forced to acknowledge; and in his recent letter has attempted to justify it. He will certainly now acknowledge that I have not misrepresented the Papacy. The Papal claim to superiority in the special point when conflict arises between it and the civil power, is the one Mr. Pettier strikes upon to justify. And apparently quite plausibly he can raise the question, "What must be done when a conflict arises between the two powers? Which must yield?" He answers, "The State must yield. The Hierarchy must decide when the State (and he must mean Protestant State as well as Roman) has gone wrong." Now suppose the Hierarchy should go wrong, which thing it has done a thousand times, who must decide? Mr. Pettier still answers, "The Hierarchy must decide." So it remains in all circumstances just as I have shown, that the Hierarchy claims to be supreme above all powers. The Hierarchy defies the civil power, rules in the States that are Roman Catholic, and consents to hell all Protestant governments and subjects.

Let us contrast the Scriptural attitude in which the church is set towards the civil power. In the Bible no earthly religious organization is at all recognized larger than the local congregation or assembly of Christians, and the ruling power is vested in a number of the local members called elders, and this power does not extend beyond the local congregation. A religious ruling power over all the congregations or any plurality of congregations is utterly at variance with both the spirit and letter of Christianity. From just such a departure from the Truth has sectarianism arisen. It will be clearly seen then that the relationship existing between the church (local congregation) and State will be narrowed down to the smallest scope of mere insignificant matters of deed and

titles to lot or meeting house (if the congregation owns such). And when we come to study the New Testament instruction in regard to the Christian's relation to the State we find that the duty to be rendered is an individual duty each one for himself must render. It is so taught in the very text Mr. Pettier quoted; and which he erroneously applied to the Hierarchy. In obeying the scripture injunctions no conflict can arise with the civil government above an individual matter, and the Christian is taught to render obedience, except in matters of conscience as to individual duties to God. The State does not touch religious convictions. In these the individual conscience is supreme everywhere but within the pale of Papal despotism. The Christian law which tells one not to resist evil applies as well in the relation to the State as it does in relation to the individual.

But says Rome, "The individual has no conscience above the Papacy. The Papacy is his conscience. He cannot tell when he conscientiously differs from the State." This is the Papal figment from which infallibility has sprung. But nearly all the instructions in the epistles and the gospel history have an individual application. And to be logical, when Rome applies to the Hierarchy Christ's injunction not to resist evil, the Hierarchy should not resist the State even when the State imposes unjust laws. But her violation of this shows the marks of human parentage. The Hierarchy poses as a religio-civil government in the world; and as such opposes other civil governments in the same sense that one civil nation opposes another.

And does the Hierarchy keep her dragon claws off the affairs of State? Let us see. According to a telegram from Rome, the Pope has written a letter to the Queen Regent of Spain in behalf of Evangelina Cisneros. Some significant items appear on the surface. The news reads:—"As Queen, a full daughter of the church, it is practically certain she will use her influence with her Ministers to give effect to the appeal of his Holiness." Cardinal Rampolla states that, "the policy of his Holiness has always been to recommend mercy and generosity to monarchs." (When it suits the policy of "his Holiness," of course). The Cardinal is not certain, "that the intervention of his Holiness" "will prove efficacious, as the matter is very grave." This is a mild and gentle way by which the dragon puts his paw in State affairs.

And now for the farewell detection of Mr. Pettier and his terrible and formidable *Wisc* (by interpretation *Mr. A. Wolf-in-sheep's-clothing*). I suppose we shall never hear of him again. *Mr. Wisc* is probably trying to get his name changed. It is an ethnological fact that environment and habit have a deep effect upon the human species in developing physical and mental characteristics. Now will that loyal (?) American *Mr. Wisc*, the man who got ashamed of his name, and whom all true Americans also are ashamed to own as a fellow-citizen,—will this knight and redoubtable champion, who must be acquainted with the Papal priesthood in the United States, please tell us why this special class of celibate men who wear women's clothes have such large necks. The fact stands. What is the ethnological explanation?

The following is published in the papers in the U.S. The name is suppressed for the reason that the man would lose his position if known:—

DEAR FRIEND:—I will write you these few lines concerning a little incident which happened on board the United States ship *Oregon*, last Friday, to let you know how things are going in this grand United States navy.

Last Friday was, as you know, Good Friday, quite a day among the Catholics. Early Friday morning, just before breakfast, there was an order issued by the captain that there would be no meat eaten by the crew or officers that day, which caused quite a bit of dissatisfaction among some of the men. But that was only a "starter." About 10-30 a.m. a big, burly priest came on board ship, and the whole crew had to attend a meeting in the officers' quarters, where they had a great many large candles burning and a lot of other foolishness. All the officers, with the exception of two, were dressed in big robes of white. When the priest left the ship all the crew were lined up on the quarterdeck, and, as he went over the gangway, the captain gave the order to salute him, which they all did with the exception of thirty-four, myself among the thirty-four. And we were every one of us punished for not saluting the priest, under a charge of not obeying orders.

When I enlisted in the navy I did not think I was joining a Catholic institution, and I told the captain so, and he came near putting me in the brig (ship's prison) for saying it to him. Now that the officers know I am against the Catholics, I expect that they will make my life miserable the rest of my time on the *Oregon*, just because I let them know I am an American.

Now, I would like to have you advise me on this

subject. I have already been told by an officer that the best thing I could do was to get out of this, and, if I did not, I would be disgraced as a seamen.

April 22, 1897.

Suppose some Catholic sailors were ordered to do reverence to some Presbyterian minister, how the land would echo with the complaints. The matter is not a trifling affair. The wrongs here spoken of call for redress at the hands of the Government. Our navy is not a piece of Mexico or Spain, where Romanists may with impunity over-ride the Constitution of the United States, and trample on the rights of men for the sole crime of being Protestants.—*Christian Leader*.

Rise Mr. Pettier and tell us if this is not a menace to the peace of the State.

Friend Dooman in his entering the lists in defense of the Papal see did, indeed, a logical thing. For if Romanism is inimical to civil power (non-Catholic power especially), not much more can be said for the Episcopal Church of England which poses as a State Church. In theory at least, if the Episcopal Church is the State Church of England (it certainly was a child of the civil government of England), then it will logically follow that it is inimical to all other civil powers except England. This is the logical conclusion; and can only be refuted by admitting that practically no Churchmen to-day respect that theory any more, and act in reality upon the supposition that the Church has been disestablished.

When Jesus was once laying the scourge of condemnation upon certain ones another class arose saying, "in this speaking you also condemn us." This is the only reason I can give for Mr. Dooman's outbreak.

This subject embraces matter of the very gravest import. And these apprehensions are intensified when it is remembered that in the West Papists are assiduously instructed in strict military drill, and their anti-Protestant animosity is aroused at the least opposition. A system which violates nearly every commandment of the decalogue, which binds in degrading slavery the God given mind of man, and which sends to perdition every soul outside its hideous pale, may well be subjected to perpetual scrutiny and unflinching rational opposition. There are thousands of honest minds who ought to be liberated from this intellectual bondage which has been fastened upon them in their childhood.

Very truly,
E. SNODGRASS.
Kanazawa, October 28th, 1897.

LAUNCH OF THE "AKASHI"

The latest addition to the Japanese Navy was made on Monday afternoon by the launch at the Yokosuka shipbuilding yard of the cruiser *Akashi*, a sister vessel we believe, to the *Suma*, which was launched from the same yard about two years ago. The *Akashi* is a steel, twin-screw cruiser of 90 metres in length, 12.70 metres beam, 4.80 metres draft, 2,800 tons displacement and 8,000 horse-power. It is expected that she will attain a speed of 19½ knots an hour. Her coal bunkers have a capacity for 600 tons, and her armament, when completed, will consist of six 12-centimetre quick-firing guns, two 15-centimetre quick-firers, four machine guns and two torpedo tubes. The six 12-centimetre guns will be mounted in sponsons, three of which are constructed on either side of the ship, the two 15-centimetre guns being mounted, behind shields, fore and aft.

The picturesque little port of Yokosuka was, as usual on such occasions, *en fête* throughout the day, and the numerous men-of-war in the harbour, including the newly arrived battle-ship *Fuji*, were gay with bunting. The launch had been arranged for 3 p.m., and H.I.H. Prince Komatsu Yoshihito, who attended as representative of the Emperor, with a numerous staff, arrived at Yokosuka at about a quarter past 2 p.m. by the 11.50 train from Tokyo. Among the guests present were Count Matsukata, Marquis Saigo, Count Kabayama, Viscount Takashima, Viscount Nomura, Mr. Kiyoura, Marquis Ito and several military and naval officers, including the Commanders of H.M.S. *Redpole* and *Daphne*, etc. Several companies of blue-jackets, naval cadets, etc., with a naval band, were drawn up outside the station, and saluted the Prince on his arrival, the band at the same time striking up the National Anthem. After being conveyed in a carriage to the landing place for the outer harbour near the station, Prince Komatsu and suite embarked in a steam launch for the dockyard, the men-of-war in the harbour at the same time booming forth an Imperial salute. The arrangements for the accommodation of the numerous spectators inside the dockyard, as well as those for the more important function of the launch itself, were admirably carried out and reflect the greatest credit on all concerned. About ten min-

utes before 3, Prince Komatsu took up his post on the upper tier of the dais erected opposite the bow of the cruiser, with Admiral Togo, Commandant of the Yokosuka Admiralty Station *ad interim*, in the absence of Admiral Tsuboi, with a large staff of naval officers just below him. The *Akashi* was very prettily decorated with garlands of greenery relieved by bunches of crimson flowers, all round her bulwarks, while hanging over her bows and ram was a large and fancifully designed globe, or cage, containing the flight of pigeons which are released as the ship leaves the ways. At 5 minutes to 3 the various gangs of men along the sides of the ship were all in their places; at 3 sharp a flag was waved from the dais and the order given to drive in the wedges under the keel, and with rhythmic strokes this was effected in a few minutes; then another wave of the flag and another order shouted, and the knocking away of the shears was carried out; a couple of minutes more and a third wave of the flag and a third order given and the lever under the bows was set to work, and a minute more and the good ship, starting slowly, glided smoothly and gracefully down the ways into her natural element; the pigeons were released and all the steam whistles and syrens in the port vied with each other in a discordance of sound, to which was added the *bansais* and waving of hats of the assembled multitude. The launch was a complete success and a very pretty spectacle. The numerous guests invited were then most hospitably entertained to a cold collation and liquid refreshments *ad lib* in the big room above the engine-fitting shops, where probably a thousand visitors partook of the good things provided and joined in three cheers for the *Akashi* and to the health of the Emperor and H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, proposed by Admiral Togo. There was one new feature in the entertainment offered to visitors to Yokosuka on this occasion which we must not omit to mention. This consisted in the exhibition, in the gallery or cloak room adjoining the banqueting room, of a most interesting collection of curiosities, made by workmen and men-of-war's men at Yokosuka in their spare time from various odds and ends of materials used in the ship-building yard and shops. Many of these were *junk-works* of art and displayed wonderful ingenuity and together formed quite a museum of curios. Among the various items in the collection we may mention a very prettily executed miniature Maxim gun made out of boiler tubes; chrysanthemums in pots, made from zinc plates and metal shavings from the lathe; a huge spider, the body of which was constructed out of an old copper pot and the legs from bits of bar iron; one fine bit of rock work, with a little crawling around it, was made out of cinders and wood; storks and other birds were artistically constructed from cotton waste and bits of metal, and a host of other subjects have been as aptly treated. The collection is well worth a fuller inspection and description than we are able to give it on this occasion. From beginning to end the Naval Authorities did all that was possible for their guests on the occasion, but we regret to have to record that on this, as on former similar occasions, the Railway authorities were very negligent. Though they should have known the number of passengers booked for Yokosuka at Tokyo and Yokohama, there was the usual delay in despatching the return trains from the naval port, and extra carriages, already in waiting at the station, were not coupled on until considerably after the schedule time for starting, while there was the usual disgraceful struggle and fight at the Yokosuka booking office to get tickets—simply because no return tickets were issued at the Tokyo and Yokohama stations. The railway authorities appear to be utterly incapable of rising to the occasion when any well foreseen extra development of traffic occurs.

HAWAII.

The following is a translation of a Memorial adopted at a mass meeting of Hawaiian citizens held on the 8th October which has been presented to President McKinley:—

TO THE PRESIDENT, THE CONGRESS AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

This Memorial respectfully represents as follows:—

1.—That your memorialists are residents of the Hawaiian Islands; that the majority of them are aboriginal Hawaiians; and that all of them possess the qualifications provided for electors of representatives in the Hawaiian Legislature by the Constitution and laws prevailing in the Hawaiian Is-

lands at the date of the overthrow of the Hawaiian Constitutional Government, January 17th, 1893.

2.—That the supporters of the Hawaiian Constitution of 1887 have been, thence to the present time, in the year 1897, held in subjection by the armed forces of the Provisional Government of the Hawaiian Islands, and of its successor, the Republic of Hawaii; and have never yielded, and do not acknowledge a spontaneous or willing allegiance or support to said Provisional Government, or to said Republic of Hawaii.

3.—That the Government of the Republic of Hawaii has no warrant for its existence in the support of the people of these Islands; that it was proclaimed and instituted and has hitherto existed and now exists, without considering the rights and wishes of a great majority of the residents, native and foreign born, of the Hawaiian Islands; and especially that said Government exists and maintains itself solely by force of arms, against the rights and wishes of almost the entire aboriginal population of these Islands.

4.—That said Republic is not and never has been founded or conducted upon a basis of popular government or republican principles; that its Constitution was adopted by a convention, a majority of whose members were self-appointed, and the balance of whose members were elected by a numerically insignificant minority of the white and aboriginal male citizens and residents of these Islands; that a majority of the persons so voting for delegates to such Constitutional Convention was composed of aliens, and that a majority of said aliens so voting were of then very recent residence, without financial interests or social ties in these Islands.

5.—That the Constitution so adopted by said Convention has never been submitted to a vote of the people of these Islands; but was promulgated and established over the said Islands, and has ever since been maintained, only by force of arms, and with indifference to the will of practically the entire aboriginal population, and a vast majority of the whole population of these Islands.

6.—That the said Government, so existing under the title of the Republic of Hawaii, assumes and asserts the right to extinguish the Hawaiian Nationality, heretofore existing, and to cede and convey all rights of sovereignty in and over the Hawaiian Islands and their dependencies to a foreign Power, namely, to the United States of America.

7.—That your memorialists have learned with grief and dismay that the President of the United States has entered into, and submitted for ratification by the United States Senate, a Treaty with the Government of the Republic of Hawaii, whereby it is proposed to extinguish our existence as a Nation, and to annex our territory to the United States.

8.—That the Hawaiian people, during more than half a century prior to the events hereinabove recited, had been accustomed to participate in the Constitutional forms of Government, in the election of Legislatures, in the administration of justice through regularly constituted magistrates, courts and juries, and in the representative administration of public affairs, in which the principle of government by majorities has been acknowledged and firmly established.

9.—That your memorialists humbly but fervently protest against the consummation of this invasion of their political rights; and they earnestly appeal to the President, the Congress and the people of the United States, to refrain from further participating in the wrong so proposed; and they invoke in support of this memorial the spirit of that immortal Instrument, the Declaration of American Independence; and especially the truth therein expressed, that Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed,—and here repeat that the consent of the people of the Hawaiian Islands to the forms of Government imposed by the so-called Republic of Hawaii, and to said proposed Treaty of Annexation, has never been asked by and is not accorded, either to said Government or to said project of Annexation.

10.—That the consummation of the project of Annexation dealt with in said Treaty would be subversive of the personal and political rights of these memorialists, and of the Hawaiian people and Nation, and would be a negation of the rights and principles proclaimed in the Declaration of American Independence, in the Constitution of the United States, and in the schemes of government of all other civilized and representative Governments.

11.—Wherefore your memorialists respectfully submit that they, no less than the citizens of any American Commonwealth, are entitled to select, ordain and establish for themselves, such forms of Government as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness; and that ques-

tions of such moment to the Hawaiian people as are proposed to be settled by said Treaty, are questions upon which said people have the right, in the forum of Conscience, to be heard; and that said Hawaiian people have thus far been denied the privilege of being heard upon said questions.

12.—And your memorialists humbly pray the President, Congress and the people of the United States, that no further step be taken toward the ratification of said Treaty, or toward the extinguishment of the Hawaiian Nationality, or toward the absorption of the Hawaiian people and territory into the body politic and territory of the United States of America, at least until the Hawaiian people, as represented by those citizens and residents of the Hawaiian Islands who under the provisions of the Hawaiian Constitution, promulgated July 7, 1887, would be qualified to vote for representatives in the Legislature, shall have had the opportunity to express at the ballot box, their wishes as to whether such project of Annexation shall be accepted or rejected.

13.—And your memorialists, for themselves, and in behalf of the Hawaiian people, and of the residents of the Hawaiian Islands, pledge their faith that if they shall be accorded the privilege of voting upon said questions, at a free and fair election to be held for that purpose; and if a fair count of the votes that shall be cast at such election shall show a majority in favour of such Annexation, these memorialists, and the Hawaiian people will yield a ready and cheerful acquiescence in said project.

Honolulu, H. I., Oct. 8th, 1897.

J. KALUA KAHOOKANO,
SAMUEL K. PUA,
F. J. TESTA,
C. B. MAILE,
SAMUEL K. KAMAKAIA,
Citizens' Committee.

JAMES KRAULUNA KAULIA,
President of the Hawaiian Patriotic League.
DAVID KALAUOKALANI,
President of the Hawaiian Political Association.

MODERN JAPAN.—INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC.

In the first article of this series—says the correspondent of the *Engineer*—I dealt with the business relations between the Japanese and their foreign contractors. There is another and important business matter from the point of view of the manufacturer, and that is the manner in which he is represented out here. Japanese business is regulated in so strange a fashion that the conditions with regard to representatives in other countries do not necessarily apply here. I think I have already mentioned that the Government work, which is the work most worth having from the point of view of the manufacturing engineer, is nearly all in the hands of a small clique of wealthy Japanese merchants, who have had sufficient influence to cause the necessary laws to be passed to keep the work exclusively in their hands. Battleships and certain other war material are exempted from this ring, but otherwise it is extremely complete.

At the first glance it would not appear that this business would be so restricted, for the law nominally allows any Japanese firm to compete for the Government contracts, and on the face of it, it seemed that the object of this legislation was merely to exclude the foreign firms from competition. But the law is hemmed round with so many provisions that it is impossible for any but a few very strong Japanese firms to fulfil the conditions. These conditions provide that the firm shall have been carrying on a certain class of business for a certain length of time, and must have been paying a certain and very high amount of income tax during that time. So far there is nothing out of the way, as of course, the Government wish to protect themselves from dealing with bogus firms. But what knocks many of the smaller firms out of time, is the condition that whenever they tender they must deposit sums of money equal to 5 per cent. of the total amount, and in event of an order they must practically double this sum. Finally, as if this were not severe enough, they must be prepared to lose all that money in event of any small technical hitch occurring between them and the manufacturer, which may delay delivery or otherwise violate the wording of the contract; and this even in cases where it is utterly impossible for them to foresee such a catastrophe. Thus it is that practically all the Government work for Japan is handled by certain firms the number of which could easily be counted on the fingers of one hand. It would therefore seem that it is these few merchant firms who are the people whom the manufacturer should see, and come to an arrangement with, in order to secure Govern-

ment work. Such, no doubt, is the case up to a certain point, but it should be remembered that the merchant here is supposed theoretically to have no voice whatever in the matter as to who is to supply the machines or materials. The Government hand to the merchant a specification with one or a number of makers' names attached, and he gets an estimate through his London house from all the makers named. The same routine is followed by the other merchants, and assuming that the makers quote them all alike, the merchant who cuts his margin of profit down to the lowest, thereby putting in the lowest price, gets the order.

But it often happens that the makers, for one reason or another, do not treat them on the same basis, for being unacquainted with the conditions of the order they may imagine that one merchant can do more to help them than another. This is not so, at the late stage of affairs, at all events; for by the time the inquiry reaches London the conditions of the order are fixed hard and fast at this end. The way in which the merchant can help the manufacturer if he feels inclined to do so, is by using his influence to get the name of the manufacturer in question on the list of the makers who are to be asked to quote whenever anything in his particular line is asked for. But a merchant has no particular reason to do this for a firm unless he can get some better terms than the other merchants and so ensure the order passing through his hands. But when the other merchants find that they are continually underquoted by one of their competitors, it does not take them long to see that there is a compact between that firm and the manufacturer. Their policy of retaliation is simple. They do not bother to try and get that manufacturer's name removed, if there is any difficulty about it, but they take care to get the names of other and preferably cheaper makers on the lists in competition with him. If they can succeed in doing so, they effectually stop any orders going to the objectionable firm. As I inferred above, the few merchant firms who can quote for this work have all plenty of money, and as a consequence plenty of influence, and it is safe to say that in nine cases out of ten, as specifications are managed out here at present, they can rake up if they wish irrespective of the merits of the manufacturer, that which will effectually boycott an individual maker.

The merchants as a rule do not care about holding sole agencies for manufacturers, as in a general way it would tie their hands too much. Nor would it pay English firms to give their sole agency to one of these merchants, as all the others would at once begin to work against him in the effectual manner above described. There are, however, two exceptions to this rule. The first of these is the manufacturer who turns out specialties against which there is no competition. Such an individual could not possibly do better than come to terms with one or other of the big merchants and give them his sole agency if he can get an assurance that his specialties will be properly pushed.

The other case in which a merchant can be taken on as a sole agent to advantage is when a manufacturer turns out the worst class of rubbish, which, from its very cheapness, will defy competition. For as long as his merchant agent can force his name on to the Government lists this low-class manufacturer is sure to obtain the orders until one of the other merchants finds a cheaper man or the users have got tired of buying his goods.

To the credit of the Japanese merchants, it must be said that they do not all encourage the cheap maker, but it stands to reason that when they are put to such a close competition they should sometimes try to get the name of a squeezable manufacturer on the list. In a general way, then, the merchant is not a suitable representative here, and then comes the question as to who would be the right man to appoint.

Many of our English engineering firms having had it continually drummed into their heads that a Japanese is without business integrity—which, by the way, is a gross libel—think that their salvation lies in giving their agency to a foreign firm in a treaty port. It does not much matter who that firm may be, as long as it has the word "merchant" or "commission agent," on its letter paper. The "firm" may be an exporter of silk, or keep a hat shop, or let out bicycles. He may, in fact, be an excellent man—perhaps even an excellent business man—but the chances are he will not be of the faintest use to a first-class engineering firm as an agent. To such a man it does not matter how many engineering agencies he takes up, and his not knowing how to work them matters little to him. A few orders will perhaps now and then come his way, and he can make his commission on them. He will employ a low-class Japanese to tout for him on

commission, and though this man will hardly be received in many places, still he may or may not get an order sooner or later. But the treaty port merchant will not trouble himself about the negotiation, nor will he take any risk. For, in the first place, he knows nothing about the machinery he is to sell, nor is he sure that he is ordering what is wanted. So he very naturally wants all the money beforehand, or enough of it to cover him in the event of the goods being left on his hands. One cannot blame him for this caution; but I am merely pointing out that he is not the right man to represent an English manufacturing engineer. Of course there are certain treaty-port firms who have more or less of an experience in machinery and so on, and who lay themselves out conscientiously to work this business, but they are extremely few and far between.

Another great mistake made by our manufacturers is to give a sort of roving commission to irresponsible individuals to sell their machines on commission here. A man who is coming to Japan on other business, and writes to a manufacturer to know if while he is there he can represent that firm, in many cases receives a reply from the manufacturer to the effect that he cannot give him a sole agency but that he will pay him a commission on anything he may sell for him. This is not a good policy for securing Japanese trade. Such a man will call on the merchants, and state that he represents the firm in question, and after the merchants have taken a certain amount of trouble with him, they will find out that he has no more special knowledge of the subject than they have, and that he is powerless to estimate properly or give them detailed particulars. Then they find out he is merely an irresponsible "free lance." It is the repeated visits of these gentlemen which cause the merchants to doubt the credentials of the *bond-fide* and competent representative who is sent out to Japan by the manufacturer for the purpose of helping them to understand the specialties of their firm, and to facilitate a mutual business.

Speaking generally, Tokyo is the only place in which the representative of an engineering firm should have his headquarters, for it is there that the Japanese business people are to be found. To be a "treaty-port foreigner" is a stigma in the eyes of the Japanese, and they will not deal with him if they can possibly avoid it. It is almost a foregone conclusion that a Yokohama man, however good he may be, will be blackballed at the Tokyo Club, which is a mixed Japanese and foreign institution. Assuming that a firm has a representative in Japan, it is essential that he should be in a position to quote the merchants here the same terms that his firm in England would quote the London representatives of the Japanese merchants. There should also be a distinct understanding that he does not work against the merchants. Such a man will not have to handle the money, and so will have to take no risk. His commission, therefore, need not be large, especially if he is on salary, too. But his business is to get the books and particulars of his firm into the proper hands, and let the business find its way home automatically through any of the complicated channels which Japanese red-tapeism just now renders necessary.

As examples of the ludicrous manner in which engineering agencies are sometimes handled out here, I would mention that I know of a well-known firm of battleship builders in Great Britain whose interests are in the hands of an excellent treaty port firm, who know nothing whatever about ships, and who, until recently, subtlet the negotiation part of the business to a Tokyo tobacco merchant. This gentleman knows, perhaps, no less, but certainly no more than they do. Naturally that firm has never received an order, and is not likely to do so, for the worthy tobaccoist would certainly never be received by any of the people who have to do with the ordering of ships, and he would not know how to talk to them if they did see him. It is said that all the warship business is worked at the other end, and so it is with the final negotiation. But there is a very great deal of the preliminary work to be done here by a man who understands his business and can see the right people.

The high official Japanese are essentially gentlemen, and they appreciate having to do with a gentlemanly representative. They are essentially observant, and quickly see whether a man understands his business or not. Another shipbuilding firm have as agent one of those companies in England who seem to deal in everything which is made of metal, and issue enormous catalogues containing every type of machine under the sun. The Japanese sub-agent of this firm is a sort of ironmonger, and it is to him that they look for the technical negotiation with the Government. He runs no risk of showing his complete ignorance on the subject, from the fact that he will

never be applied to for advice. And, while his firm is well known here, it is openly stated that they will never get an order.

Referring, again, to the question of the irresponsible individuals who call themselves representatives, in the hope of getting a commission on something some day, I constantly meet men of this sort who tell me that they represent firms with whose accredited agents I am well acquainted. There were at least three different men here at one time, who told me they were the sole agents for the same firm of locomotive builders, and four who said they held a similar mandate from a single portable engine maker.

As I said before, the position of a real representative with regard to the merchants is a very difficult and delicate one. If he is merely passing through the country, the merchants, while receiving him courteously, doubt his credentials, and if he stops here any length of time they mistrust his motives, and think that he is sure in the long run to work against them and try to do direct trade. Therefore unusual tact and diplomacy are wanted in the man who is to represent English engineering firms in Japan, and the greatest care should consequently be taken in his selection.

VALUE OF STAPLE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Investigations having been made by the Bank of Japan in regard to the relative values of forty five staples of import and export in accordance with the Trade Report for August, the following results were obtained (100 being taken as the standard of value for January of the 20th year of Meiji):—

Original value of articles exported in August of the 30th year of Meiji:—

Classification.	August, 1897.	Previous month.	August, 1896.
Camphur	366	298	448
Ginseng	119	167	133
Sulphur	264	243	172
Barley	145	0	133
Dried cuttle-fish ...	215	209	190
Isinglass	208	184	183
Rice	201	203	184
Seaweed	127	601	602
Awabi	173	174	161
Wheat	211	138	0
Crude copper	184	187	165
Wrought copper, &c. ...	189	189	214
Fish oil	108	112	165
Noshi silk	45	37	56
Green tea	112	119	98
Silk handkerchiefs ..	89	95	86
Coal	126	167	123
Matches	95	94	89
Wheat straw braid ..	175	157	151
Average	103	155	152

Original value of articles imported in August of the 30th year of Meiji.

Peas and Beans ...	167	163	145
Rice	176	157	139
Raw ox hides	98	110	120
Rails	148	158	153
Nails, iron	114	118	112
Sheet lead	170	194	106
Sheet zinc	209	194	184
Kerosene oil	100	111	93
Brown sugar	116	121	122
White sugar	128	127	132
Cotton for spinning ..	162	154	142
Raw cotton	158	164	142
Cotton yarns	254	237	225
Shirtings	154	154	145
Wool	62	66	57
Blankets	173	173	152
Flannel	125	123	116
Italian cloths	138	157	136
Muslin de laine ...	150	143	144
Flaxen canvas	202	179	139
Cigarettes	112	159	130
Beer	130	110	119
Wine	260	277	214
Candles	97	93	84
Average	150	153	135

Said an eminent German professor to a correspondent on arrival at Victoria, B.C.:—"I have travelled some 7,000 miles in a British ship and across British territory without interruption; that gives me a conception of the extent of the British Empire which I never had before." This, perhaps, expresses the predominant thought in the minds of those members of the British Association who were fortunate enough to cross the Dominion in the special cars provided by the directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

London, Nov. 4.

THE MAYOR OF NEW YORK.

Mr. Van Wyck, the Tammany candidate, has been elected Mayor of New York by a large majority.

London, Nov. 5.

Mr. Van Wyck, the newly-elected Mayor of New York, was returned by a majority of 85,000, which is the greatest victory that Tammany has ever achieved. The State elections show throughout the count the general reaction that has taken place against McKinleyism, and the correspondent of *The Times* declares that New York under Mr. Van Wyck will become the head-quarters of populism, silverism, socialism, and the rest of the Bryanite programme.

FUNERAL OF THE DUCHESS OF TECK.

The funeral of the Duchess of Teck was conducted with Royal pomp, and all the foreign Courts were represented.

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., has been again installed as Rector of Glasgow University.

THE OCCUPATION OF KASSALA.

The correspondent of *The Times* at Cairo says that Major-General Sir Herbert H. Kitchener commands a force of 200 Egyptians with a battery of artillery to occupy Kassala, and will proceed to that place *via* Massawah.

CHINESE OFFICERS AND THE COMING MANŒUVRES.

Peking, Nov. 4.

The Chinese Government, it is said, will despatch a party of military officers, serving under Yuen Shi-kai, to Japan for the purpose of witnessing the coming army manœuvres in Kyushu. Captain Kajikawa, military attaché of the Japanese Legation here, has left for Tientsin on business connected with the affair. A Chinese man-of-war will probably be detailed to convey the officers to Japan.

A LIBERAL GAIN.

London, Nov. 6.

At the election at Middleton, in South-East Lancashire, to replace Mr. Thomas Fielden, deceased, Mr. Duckworth, the Liberal candidate, was returned with 5,964 votes, against Mr. Mitchell (Conservative), 5,664 votes. (The late member was a Conservative).

THE FRENCH IN WEST AFRICA.

When the Governor of Lagos (Sir Gilbert Thomas Carter, K.C.M.G.), found that the French had occupied Nakki, within the British sphere, he despatched a force thither, and the French thereupon retired.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., speaking recently at Glasgow, said that relations with South Africa were more satisfactory now than they had been for many a day, and that he believed that a really united empire was becoming a question of practical politics.

RUSSIA AND SIAM.

London, Nov. 8.

Russia intends to establish a diplomatic agency shortly at Bangkok.

THE SEAL CONFERENCE.

Russia, Japan, and the United States have signed a treaty for the protection of the seal fisheries.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

The peace negotiations at Constantinople have not progressed since October 26th.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

Stoddart's team is now playing the Victoria eleven, and the latter going in first have made 273 for six wickets.

THE SOUDAN EXPEDITION.

London, Nov. 9.

Four gunboats have ascended the Nile above Matammeh and reconnoitered to within seventy miles of Khartoum. They shelled the new forts at Matammeh, both going up and coming down, and though the latter replied they did but trifling damage.

SPAIN AND CUBA.

The Spanish Cabinet has approved the draft of a decree granting to the inhabitants of Cuba and Porto Rico the same constitutional rights as Spaniards.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

The Victoria eleven concluded their innings with a total of 306, and Stoddart's team has made 213 with seven wickets down.

THE SEALING CONFERENCE.

Washington, Nov. 9.

After the sixth sitting the Sealing Conference was brought to a conclusion on the 6th inst. and the convention was signed by the Representatives of the three Powers.

The Commissioners will take passage on board the *Coptic*, which will start from San Francisco for Yokohama on the 18th instant.

Japanese Consulate, Vancouver, Nov. 5.

An official message has been received to-day from the Canadian Government, to the effect that after Nov. 5th the benefit of the Reciprocal Tariff will be conceded to Japan.

SENSATIONAL TRAGEDY.

London, Nov. 10.

A great sensation has been created in Paris by the suicide, together with his wife and three children, of M. Dreyfus, a cousin of Captain Dreyfus, the officer condemned to penal servitude for life. The motive is entirely a mystery.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

Stoddart's team concluded their innings for 250, and the Victoria eleven had compiled 243 in their second innings with nine wickets down.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Sa. Nov. 13
Europe	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	M. Nov. 15
America	O. & O. Co.	Belgia	Th. Nov. 18
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Fri. Nov. 19
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 20
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Nov. 14
America	P. M. Co.	[Pezu]	Fri. Nov. 26
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M. Nov. 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. Dec. 5

- 1 Left Hongkong on the 9th inst.
- 2 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 30th Oct.
- 3 Left Vancouver on the 8th inst.
- 4 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Melbourne	Su. Nov. 14
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Satsuma Maru	Tu. Nov. 16
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Nov. 20
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	Sa. Nov. 20
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Su. Nov. 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of Japan	M. Nov. 22
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Nov. 26
Portland, Or.	N. P. Co.	Lombard	Sa. Nov. 27
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Tu. Nov. 30
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Fri. Dec. 5

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-side.

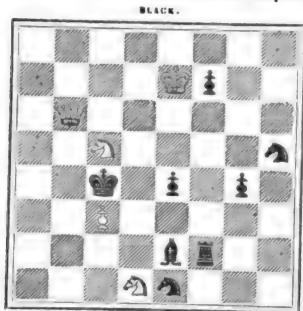
The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Ichome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 344.

- WHITE.
1—Kt to K 2
2—Kt to B 4, ch
3—B to B 4, mate
- BLACK.
1—K to K 3
2—K to B 2
1—K to K 5
2—B to B 6
1—K to B 3
2—K to Kt 4
1—K to B 5
2—K to Kt 6
1—P advances
2—K to K 3
if 2—K to B 3
3—Q to R 8, mate
- Correct solutions received from W.H.S., J.W.E. and D.D.

PROBLEM No. 346.

By OTTO WÜRZBURG, Grand Rapids.



White to play and mate in three moves.

Just as we go to press we have received a solution of Problem No. 340 (Mrs. Baird's) which at first sight looks correct, but we desire to have a little time for analyzing it before publishing.

THE YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

Further challenges have been handed in *via*, Thomas v. Fox and Ackman v. Abenheim, which brings the list up to five challenges. Meanwhile only one match game has been played, namely Stormbrink v. Hodges, resulting in a win for Mr. Hodges. We hope that interested parties will roll up next week or else the competitors will be hard pressed for time, each match having to be decided within a month from date of challenge.

The Consultation game which was to have been played on Thursday last week between the President's and the Secretary's teams, did not come off owing to the small number of members present. However a pleasant game was arranged between Messrs. Mendelson, Ackman and Thomas in consultation against Mr. Friedlander, the score of which we publish below:—

GAME No. 345.

KVN'S GAMBIT.

- | White—Friedland. | Black—Allies. |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1 P K 4 | 23 R B sq |
| 2 Kt KB3 | 24 P B4(h) |
| 3 B B 4 | 25 P B5 |
| 4 P QK1 | 26 PxB |
| 5 P B3 | 27 Kt Kt2 |
| 6 Castles | 28 R B2 |
| 7 Q K 3 | 29 QR KBsq |
| 8 P Q4 | 30 P B6 |
| 9 BxKt | 31 R H5 |
| 10 B Q3 | 32 K R2 |
| 11 Kt R3 | 33 QxQ |
| 12 Kt B4 | 34 R(Bsq)B2 |
| 13 PxP | 35 RxR |
| 14 Kt(B3)xP | 36 Kt B4 |
| 15 KxKt | 37 R K5 |
| 16 Kt B4 | 38 R K7 |
| 17 P K3 | 39 PxR |
| 18 P K5 | 40 Kt Q5 |
| 19 B K4 | 41 KtxP |
| 20 Q B2 | 42 Kt Q5 |
| 21 Kt K3 | 43 Resigns |
| 22 PxP | |

NOTES.

- (a) Better here..... B to R6 followed by..... Q to B 6.
(b) A bad move, for Bishop takes Pawn and White cannot retake the Bishop. This escaped Black's notice.
(c) A hard blow for White, who has been caught napping.
(d) Here Black should have played..... R takes Kt ch! Then 33—K takes Kt (if Q takes Kt, Black mates in three)..... R to Kt 5 ch. 34—K to R sq..... R to R 5 ch. 35—K to Kt 2..... Q to R 6. 36—K to B 2..... Q to R 7 ch. winning the Queen next move.

"A LESSON FOR BEGINNERS."

The Pawns are by far the most pervasive and important single element in a game of Chess. Pawn play is the very best index to a player's strength. Every one who would improve as a player must study the management of Pawns with care and patience, for the right management of the Pawns is not easy to learn.

We lay down a few general maxims, as follows: First—"In the opening move only the K P and the Q P."—Lasker. Exception: In "close games" the P to Q B 4 may sometimes be moved with advantage before deploying the Q Kt. Caution: It is generally not good to play P to K R 3 or P to Q R 3 early in the game. Let your adversary pin your Knights, if he likes. This rule has exceptions, however. Second—"It is bad to allow 'holes' to be formed in your third rank—that is, squares unguarded by a pawn. E.g., after you have played P to K R 3 and P to K B 4 a hole is left at K Kt 3; or after you have played P to Q Kt 3, there is a hole at Q R 3; or, after P to Q B 4 and P to K 3 there is hole at Q 3. Such uncommanded squares will often allow your opponent's pieces, especially his knights, to enter your ranks with disaster to your cause. Guard against the beginnings of trouble by forming no such weaknesses, unless forced to do so. The Chess world is indebted to Mr. Steinitz for this law. Third—Avoid advancing your Ps too far early in the game. They are likely to be cut off and captured.—Staunton. Sometimes your opponent will make a far advanced P serve as a protection to his own position. The fact that a P can not retreat ought to make you doubly cautious in advancing it. On the other hand, advanced Pawns are often very dangerous, and exercise much restraint and pressure.—Farmer's Voice.

GAME No. 346.

BERLIN INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT.

- | White—Schiffers. | Black—Walbrodt. |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 P K 4 | 13 Kt QK15 |
| 2 P Q4 | 14 Kt B7 |
| 3 B Q3(a) | 15 KxR |
| 4 BxP | 16 Q Kt sq(f) |
| 5 B K15 | 17 B Q3 |
| 6 BxKt | 18 R R-sq |
| 7 Kt KB3 | 19 P Q5 |
| 8 P B3 | 20 Kt Q4 |
| 9 PxP | 21 Kt R6 |
| 10 Castles | 22 RxP(r) |
| 11 Kt B3(d) | 23 RxB |
| 12 Q Q3 | |
- And White won.

Notes by Gunsberg.

(a) It is generally considered that this move causes a loss of time.

(b) This is the direct outcome of 3—B to Q 3, which necessitates 6—B takes Kt, thus producing this position, in which the second player has gained time.

(c) Not good on general principles. He should develop his queen's wing, beginning with Kt to Q 2, followed by R to K sq, then either Kt to B sq or P to K 4.

(d) White executes a splendid conception of an old form of attack. It is strange how many experienced players disregard the wholesome caution to beware of taking the Q Kt P while their game is yet in an undeveloped state.

(e) No doubt by this time Black was very sorry that he did take the pawn. He has no other move than this, as K R to Kt sq was threatened.

(f) This excellent move puts an end to Black's hopes of getting two pieces.

(g) There is an admirable crispness in all White's moves, though Black may yet win the White knight on the rook's square, yet his game is hopeless.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 7th Nov.—Hongkong via ports, 28th Oct., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 2,283, Grier, 8th Nov.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 8th Nov.—San Francisco 21st Oct. and Honolulu 28th Oct., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F. Allen, 9th Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 9th Nov.—Misuge, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shigaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, M. Suda, 9th Nov.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 9th Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,800, J. B. Murray, 9th Nov.—London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bayard (24), French flagship, 5,880, Capt. Fortin, 10th Nov.—Nagasaki, and Kobe 8th Nov.

Nang Chang, British steamer, 1,063, E. Finlayson, 10th Nov.—Hongkong, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, 10th Nov.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, F. L. Sommer, 10th Nov.—Seattle Washington 24th Oct., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347, H. Shirakata, 10th Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 10th Nov.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Kawamura, 10th Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Peterson, 11th Nov.—Hongkong 1st Nov., Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sophie Rickmers, German steamer, 2,048, C. Strunk, 11th Nov.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 2nd Nov., General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, S. Muramatsu, 11th Nov.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, A. G. Cubitt, 12th Nov.—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nihei, 12th November.—Shanghai via ports, 6th Nov., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,483, K. Nakajima, 12th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thekla, German steamer, 2,363, Stehr, 13th Nov.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 5th Nov., General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, 7th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, Wisbach, 7th Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Pantou, 7th Nov.—Hongkong via Kobe and Shanghai, Mails and General.—Dudwell, Carlill & Co.

Oscarshall, Norwegian steamer, 950, Reichboven, 8th Nov.—Moroian, Ballast.—Granet & Co.

Tolomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, N. Tate, 8th November.—Yokkaichi and Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 8th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, S. Muramatsu, 8th Nov.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Tennick, 8th Nov.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 9th Nov.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 9th Nov.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Unique, Norwegian steamer, 1,298, Egeness, 9th Nov.—Moj, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 10th Nov.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, Ekstrand, 10th Nov.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Astec, Hawaiian steamer, 2,303, Cattarinch, 10th Nov.,—Honolulu via Mororan, Ballast.—P. M. S.S. Co.

J. F. Chapman, American ship, 2,014, Thomson, 10th Nov.,—Manila, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Minamide, 10th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Machew, British steamer, 996, Farrel, 11th Nov.,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield and Swire.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, C. Young, 11th Nov.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mail and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, M. J. Currow, 11th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoe Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, 11th Nov.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,950, D. Davies, 12th Nov.,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F. Allen, 12th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyson, British steamer, 2,880, J. S. Hogg, 12th Nov.,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Soyeda, 12th Nov.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. C. Whiting, Mr. K. A. Sievers, Dr. and Mrs. Blackwood, Mr. & Mrs. L. Anderson, Mr. Geo. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Grim, baum, Capt. Wilson Walker, Mr. R. E. Eastlack, Mr. J. McDowell, Mr. H. Wunche, Mr. V. H. Deacon, Mr. P. L. Markell, Mrs. H. A. C. Bonar, Miss J. Kirk, Mr. M. Wescott, Miss E. Colson, Mr. W. R. Eastlack, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Mr. A. J. L. Dewette, Mr. J. Carroll, and Mrs. G. Elner in cabin. For Honolulu:—Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Hyde, and Mr. H. D. Lazelle in cabin. For San Francisco:—Miss G. Webb, Mrs. Winslow, Miss H. Miller, and Mr. E. Quackenbush in cabin.

Per Hawaiian str. *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Rev. and Mrs. Geo. Albrecht and 2 children, Miss Albrecht, Mr. E. Von Abecron, Mr. E. W. Brown, Mr. H. C. W. Blyth, Mrs. H. L. Bridgman, Mr. C. H. Buckingham, Mr. J. J. Barker, Rev. C. Beard, Dr. W. M. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. S. Coe, Mr. F. W. Callender, Mr. H. Cloete, Mr. R. L. Dunn, Mrs. Farey, Mr. G. D. Freely, Mr. L. Granger, Miss G. Granger, Mr. A. Hansen, Miss E. J. Hewett, Mrs. R. T. Hall, Dr. J. E. Jennings, Mr. H. N. Van Kempen, Mr. and Mrs. T. Low, Miss Low, Miss L. Low, Mrs. F. B. Lane, Mr. G. W. Little, Miss C. J. Miller, Rev. H. Miller, Mr. S. Niyama, Mr. E. Onouchi, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Osborn, Mr. and Mrs. H. Payot, Dr. J. Rosenstirn, Rev. E. Reid, Baron Rummerskirch, Mr. H. Y. Safford, Miss A. Southard, Mr. Y. Shinagawa, Mr. Sykora, Baron G. Von Schroder, Mr. J. Tschetinin, Mr. C. Vreeland, Mr. E. H. Vogel, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Webster, Dr. and Mrs. L. C. Warner, Miss Warner, Miss Warner, and Miss L. F. Watson in cabin. For Kobe:—Miss Low. For Nagasaki:—Mr. P. Y. Alexander. For Shanghai:—Hon. and Mrs. J. W. Ragsdale and 2 children, Mr. & Mrs. B. Ragsdale, Miss M. Leithanser, Mr. H. Hunt, and Captain E. Matthews in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Campbell, Miss Rowena Beans, Dr. H. K. Shumacker, Major J. A. Darling, Miss E. Hartings and maid.

Per Japanese steamer *Kinshu Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Messrs. K. Koto, K. Kusunoki, T. Kusunoki, C. Mitsuhashi, J. Mitsuhashi, K. Yasuda, Y. Kawabe, G. Ota, K. Tami, H. Fujimoto, M. Sakata, Chang Hung, Ching Song, Soo Hoo, and A. C. L. Cormick.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—General & Mrs. K. Shoda, Mrs. Russell, Mr. H. L. Dover, Mr. Fred Collins, Mr. K. Kanio, Mrs. Fukui, Mr. & Mrs. Ah Tai, Mr. S. Higuchi, and Mr. F. Yebizuka, in cabin; 29 Japanese, 7 Chinese and one European in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Hawaiian steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. V. Summers, Mr. Frank P. Ball, Mr. M. Goldman, Mr. T. S. Stephenson, Mr. C. W. Dimock, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuka, Mr. F. H. Bugbird, Miss Abenheim, Mr. J. Guggenheim, Mr. P. D. Gerald, Mr. F. H. Noltenius, Captain Wilson Walker, Mrs. E. H. Morgan and child, Mr. Ironside's valet, Mrs. A. C. A. St. John, Mr. W. Vaughan Robinson, Mr. G. Scalen, Mr. M. Anheim, Mr. A. Davidson, and Mr. J. D. Giorgin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saiko Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—General Nodzu, Lieut. General T. Kuragi, Colonel Y. Fukushima, Majors Akashi, and Ito, Lieut. R. Saito, Mr. M. Idzu, Mr. T. Usunomiya, Mr. K. Watanabe, Prof. J. C. Ballagh, Commander H. Kawamura, Mr. Altamira, Mr. K. Kato, Mr. A. MacMillan, Mrs. Kawamura, Master Kawamura, Misses Kawamura, Mr. R. Bardsley, in cabin; Lieut. K. Nakamura, Lieut. Awada, Mr. H. Ito, Mr. H. Noyori, Mr. K. Iizuka, Mr. F. Sakurai, B.Sc., Mr. James Nicholson, Mr. D. Logan, Mr. O. Kamiyoshi, and Miss F. Muramatsu, in 2nd class; 42 Japanese and 4 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Edward S. Barton, Mr. Geo. W. Bramhall, Col. A. S. Bacon, Mr. Louis F. de Uriarte, Mrs. Geo. B. Elner, Mr. J. H. Ebersole, Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Fielder, Mr. and Mrs. E. Goldschmidt, Mr. E. E. Gill, Rev. & Mrs. C. M. Hyde, Messrs. S. L. Heap, U.S.N., J. H. Jennings, Wm. S. Kahnweiler, H. D. Lazelle, S. H. Macoun, S. T. Nishimura, E. Quackenbush, S. Ohashi, O. A. Poole, G. A. Reimer, E. R. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Leiria, Mr. J. B. Millet, Miss Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Stejneger, Mr. S. S. Strauss, Mrs. E. Winslow, Dr. H. C. Whiting, Miss Webb, Mr. Wenzel, Mr. H. Wunsche, and Prof. A. Wood, in cabin.

CARGO.

Per American steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SHANGHAI	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	TEA	HONOLULU	MON.	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	732	306	—	—	—	—	—	1,038
Amoy	—	1,912	1,036	—	—	—	—	2,948
Yokohama	1,867	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,867
Hongkong	190	—	—	—	—	—	—	190
Total	2,779	2,218	1,036	—	—	—	—	6,043

Per American steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SHANGHAI	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	TEA	HONOLULU	MON.	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	15	307	—	—	—	—	—	322
Hongkong	—	369	—	—	—	—	—	369
Yokohama	—	904	53	—	—	—	—	957
Total	15	1,580	53	—	—	—	—	1,648

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market remains stagnant, nothing at all being done in piece goods and next to nothing in yarns, the local spinners finding it hard to dispose of their goods owing to the loss of their China market. Quotations are nominal.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD	PER POUND
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80	
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35	
P. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 39 inches	1.60 to 1.90	
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds. 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90	
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds. 40 inches	2.00 to 3.75	
Cotton—Italians and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25	
Velvets—Black, 35 yds. 44 inches	7.75 to 9.90	
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds. 42 1/2 inches	0.75 to 1.00	
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds. 24 1/2 yds. 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70	
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds. 24 1/2 yds. 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10	
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds. 24 1/2 yds. 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70	
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds. 24 1/2 yds. 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50	

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD	PER POUND
Flannel—	\$0.30 to 0.50	
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41	
Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2	
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2	
Common	0.15 to 0.22	
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yds. 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22	
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75	
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85	
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds. 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60	
Blankets—Scarf and Green, 3 to 5 yds.	0.50 to 0.60	

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND	PER POUND
Nos. 16 & 24 Singles	\$8.50 to 30.50	
Nos. 28 & 32 Singles	41.00 to 43.00	
Nos. 38 & 42 Singles	44.00 to 45.00	
Nos. 34 Doubles	46.00 to 48.00	
Nos. 42 Doubles	51.75 to 54.50	
Nos. 2/60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00	
Nos. 2/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00	
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00	
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	80.00 to 95.00	
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00	

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND
American Middling	\$19.75 —
Indian Broach	21.00 —
Chinese	20 to 20 1/2

RUBBERS.

Very little business is doing, only immediate

requirements being filled. Prices are firm at former quotations and are likely to rise in sympathy with the hardening of the market at home.

	PER POUND
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.20 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	3.10 to 3.30
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.05 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.25

KEROSENE.

Business is brisk, but rates are weak and inclined to drop on account of heavy stocks and large arrivals. Chester brand is quoted yen 2.08, Anchor yen 2.11, Tank yen 2.03, and Sumatra y n 2.03.

	PER POUND
American	\$2.08 to 2.11
Russian	2.00 to 2.15
Langkat	2.03

SUGAR.

A fair business has been done in Brown, at current rates, supplies arriving being fully up to requirements. White refined is in fair demand at former rates.

	PER POUND
Brown Takao	\$3.90 to 4.10
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.90
Brown Daitong	3.20 to 3.35
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Itated	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is dull and comparatively few new transactions have taken place, dealers being indisposed to grant concessions and the wants of home firms being fairly supplied for the time. Sales during the week amount to only 2,880 boxes, or about 1,400 piculs. Stocks on the 11th inst. amounted to 5,776 boxes, or some 2,600 piculs. Shipments have been 957 bales per *Gaelic* on the 10th, 57 bales per *Anson* on the 5th and 440 bales per *Empress of China* on the 5th.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$350 to 950
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	800 to 900
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	840 to 850
Kakadas—Extra	820 to 830
Kakadas—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakadas—No. 1	760 to 770
Kakadas—No. 2	—

WASTE SILK.

Sales have been small and stocks are accumulating, amounting to about 8,600 piculs on the 11th. The *Anson* took 226 bales for Europe on the 5th.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Noshi—Filature, Best	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oahu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oahu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Shimizu, Medium	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Best	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Good	90 to 95
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	80 to 85
Noshi—Joshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 25

TEA.

The tea market is dull and the season practically over. Sales for the week amount to 240,000 catties, and stocks on the 11th were only 202,000 catties. Shipments from Yokohama have been 2,453 packages per *Empress of China* on the 5th, and 1,867 packages per *Gaelic* on the 10th. Prices are nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Choicest	\$31 to 32
Choice	31 to 32
Finest	27 to 28
Fine	25 to 26
Good Medium	23 to 24
Medium	21 to 22
Good Common	19 to 20
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Rates have undergone no change; silver and China quotations coming the same as yesterday.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/0 ³ / ₄
— Bills on demand.....	2/0 ¹ / ₂
— 4 months' sight.....	2/0 ¹ / ₂
— Private 4 months' sight...	2/0 ¹ / ₂ to ³ / ₄
— 6 months' sight.....	2/0 ¹ / ₂ to ³ / ₄
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2.54
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight...	2.58
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	4 ¹ / ₂ d.
— Private 10 days' sight...	6 ¹ / ₂ d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	78
— Private 10 days' sight...	80
On India—Bank sight.....	154
— Private 30 days' sight.....	158
On America—Bank Bills on demand..	48 ¹ / ₂
— Private 4 months' sight...	50 ¹ / ₂
On Germany—Bank sight.....	2.05 ¹ / ₂
— Private 4 months' sight...	2.10
Bar Silver (London).....	26 ¹ / ₂

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. BISSSET & URR'S LIST.]

Yokohama, November 12th.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd., \$50 ...	800 N.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd., \$100.....	400 N.
Grand Hotel, Ltd., \$100.....	140 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd., \$100.....	110 ex div. Sa. & S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd., \$100.....	132.50 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Fdra.), \$125.....	405 N.
North and Rae, Ltd., \$100.....	185 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd., \$10.....	8 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., \$100.....	85 B.
Hioo Gas Co., Ltd., \$100.....	185 Sa.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb., \$100.....	100 N.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100.....	110 B.
Yokohama United Club Deb., \$100.....	100 B.
Wrett & Co., Ltd. Deb., \$100.....	104 S.

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.

SHIMBASHI—4.40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.

YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Departure.	Arrival.
Yokohama ... 6.48 a.m.	Kobe 11.22 p.m.
Yokohama ... 1.26 p.m.	Kobe 9.00 a.m.
Yokohama ... 7.20 p.m.	Kobe 3.05 p.m.
Yokohama ... 10.55 p.m.	Kobe 7.00 p.m.
Kobe 6.00 a.m.	Yokohama ... 10.25 p.m.
Kobe 12.30 p.m.	Yokohama ... 8.08 a.m.
Kobe 10.00 p.m.	Yokohama ... 7.06 p.m.

YOKOHAMA AND KANUJAWA.

	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
From Yokohama	5.20	9.57	12.45
From Shinagawa	6.40	11.10	2.00
From Akabane	8.27	12.24	3.06
Arrive Takasaki	11.33	3.15	6.25
From Takasaki	12.30	3.30	—
Arrive Kanuzawa	3.30	6.30	9.05

YOKOHAMA AND NIKKO.

	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
From Yokohama.....	7.10	8.47	9.57	12.45
From Shinagawa.....	8.15	9.45	11.10	2.00
From Akabane	9.27	11.27	1.27	3.27
Arrive Utsunomiya...	12.30	2.30	4.40	6.30
Arrive Nikko	2.15	4.25	6.15	7.15

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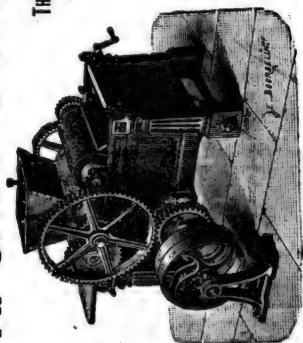
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 21.]

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YOKOHAMA, NOV. 20TH, 1897.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 20TH, 1897.

BIRTHS.

On the 14th October, at 139 Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of FRED. OWEN EUSTACE of a Son.

On the 19th inst. at No. 105, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of H. ABROG, of twin sons.

MARRIAGES.

On November 17th, at the Swiss Consulate, Yokohama, by R. Kallen, Esq., (H.I.G.M.'s Vice Consul General), Acting Swiss Consul, and afterwards at Christ Church, by the Rev. E. Champneys Iwine, M.A., PAUL LOUIS, son of Professor Benjamin Vautier, of Düsseldorf, to GLADYS MARGARET, daughter of Charles D. Moss, of Yokohama.

On November 18th, at the residence of the bridegroom's father (Oriani Kaihei, President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce), Iseiyama, Yokohama, ORIANI KŌNOSUKE, President of the Eastern Japan Trading Co., Ltd., to MASU, eldest daughter of Watanabe Enkusaburo, of Yokohama.

DEATH.

At Paris, on the 18th of November, MYRTILLE OPPENHEIMER, eldest partner of the firm Oppenheimer Frères of Paris, Yokohama, and Kobe.

At Tokyo, on the 13th inst., CHARLES J. HASS, a native of Switzerland, in his 60th year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Moyune* has been floated and arrived at Singapore.

THREE persons, husband, wife and son, were burnt to death during a fire in Tokyo on the 15th inst.

DYSENTERY having been stamped out though-

out the country all the inspection bureaux in the various Prefectures were closed on the 16th inst.

MR. ARAKAWA YOSHITARO, Secretary of Kanagawa Ken, has been appointed Governor of Tottori prefecture.

ABOUT one hundred Japanese traders, etc., have established themselves at Mokpo, one of the newly opened Korean ports.

SEVERAL futile attempts have been made to raise the sunken ironclad *Fuso Kan*, and it is now expected she will become a total loss.

THE *Shimpo-to* members of Kanagawa Ken will hold their grand general meeting on the 28th inst. at Yokosuka-machi and discuss the future policy of the Party.

THE army manoeuvres in the northern plains of Kynahu commenced on the 17th inst., the 5th Army Division having its head-quarters in Fukuoka while the 6th Army Division occupies Kurume.

A NUMBER of tenant farmers in Date-gun, Fukushima Prefecture, on the 11th inst. attacked the residences of their landlords, because the latter had refused to reduce their rents. The police dispersed the mob.

It is believed that the Government came to a decision on questions regarding the Budget for the 31st fiscal year of *Meiji* and the increased taxes on land and *saké* at the Cabinet Council held on the 16th inst.

HACHIJOI has again been the scene of a disastrous fire, which occurred on the 12th inst. at 5.45 p.m. and destroyed some 57 houses. It was only a few months ago since the town was wholly reduced to ashes.

THE Nippon Kangyo Ginko (Japan Industrial Bank) has granted a loan of yen 300,000 to four cotton spinning companies. It is expected that other spinning companies will also apply for loans to tide over the present bad season.

A SHANGHAI telegram reports that 600 marines have been landed at Kaichow Bay, near Wei-hai-wei, from German men-of-war, and that the local force of 2,000 China soldiers were driven away and the German flag hoisted and saluted.

TROUBLE has occurred between Austria and Turkey at Mersina, Armenia, owing to the expulsion of the agent of the Austrian Lloyds S.S. Co. and the Austrian authorities threaten to bombard the town unless satisfaction is given.

A FEW nights ago, a boy of about 13 or 14 years of age was run over by a train on the line at Ichome, Honshiba, Shiba ku. A note was found upon the person of the boy stating that he had committed suicide on account of having been disobedient to his parents.

Dr. Divers' cook, who broke into a locked up room on his master's premises some time ago and stole \$600 in cash and a much larger sum in Bonds, which he destroyed, has been convicted, and sentenced in the Tokyo Court to ten months' imprisonment and six months' police surveillance.

A most successful entertainment was given by the dramatic amateurs of Yokohama in the Public Hall on Wednesday evening, in aid of the funds of the Mosquito Yacht Club, which lost its flagship in the typhoon of Sept. 9th. The performance was so successful that in response to general request, it was repeated on Friday night.

THE amount of gold coins exchanged during October and during 15 days ended with the

15th of November, was as follows:—During last month yen 4,911,430 were exchanged for silver yen and notes for 3,472,527 yen; during 15 days of this month yen 1,638,595 were exchanged for silver yen and notes for 1,422,303 yen.

In connection with the revision of the Treaty between Austria-Hungary and Japan, the Foreign Office dispatched a final message some days ago to Mr. Takahira, Minister to Austria. The final negotiations between the Austrian Authorities and Mr. Takahira were to take place on the 18th inst. and a telegram announcing the conclusion of the Treaty may be expected at an early date.

THE Yokohama Chamber of Commerce (Japanese) has addressed a protest to the Railway-authorities against the lack of traffic facilities and the block of merchandise at Yokohama station. The Niigata Prefectural authorities have done the same, as there is an accumulation of 5,000 tons of goods at Naoyetsu and elsewhere on the Shinyetsu line and rice cannot be got through to Echigo, though urgently needed.

JUDGMENT was given in H.B.M. Court for Japan, in Admiralty, on the 16th inst. in the collision case between the Austrian Lloyd's steamer *Melpomene* and the British steamer *Patroclus*. In an exhaustive judgment, Mr. Justice Wilkinson found both vessels to blame and ruled that half the damages to the *Melpomene* be paid by the *Patroclus*; the damages to be assessed by the Registrar, and no order as to costs.

In the recent case of assault by a jinrikisha coolie and others upon a bicyclist at Kobe, the case in which Mr. Ackermann, an American citizen, was charged with assault and battery by a jinrikisha man, whom Mr. Ackermann hit over the head with the butt of a revolver, was dismissed in the U.S. Consular Court, but in the counter charge laid against the jinrikisha man in the Japanese Court, the accused was found guilty and sentenced to five days' imprisonment.

THE Import market has reached a stage of stagnancy not experienced for a long while past, and what is worse, there appears to be no hope of business improving this year. In spite of an inflation of currency by a large over-issue of convertible notes by the Bank of Japan, a tightness of money is complained of on all sides, and in the principal manufacturing centre of Japan, Osaka, several heavy failures are daily expected. The smaller banks in many parts of the country are also in difficulties, and the Bank of Japan is very chary of making loans to any considerable extent. Added to these financial troubles there is a perfect block on the railways, so that goods accumulate during weeks and months at the principal stations, booked for points in the interior. Under these circumstances it is scarcely surprising that all imports suffer, nothing but the merest hand to mouth business being done in any lines, whether we take cottons, metals, kerosene or sugar. Rice is the only import that shows any vitality, because, owing to the shortage in the home crop and the high price to which the latter has risen, the people must have foreign rice in order to live. In Exports there has not been a great deal done during the past week. Holders of raw silk having given way considerably, some business has been transacted at reductions in rates, but buyers are not eager and the market is weak. A few transactions have taken place in tea, but the season is nearly over and there is very little of good kinds left in the market. Exchange is slightly improved.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes at considerable length about the approaching completion of the Siberian Railway, and endeavours to rouse its countrymen to the necessity of at once taking steps to establish a really efficient service of steamships to Vladivostok. Unless the enterprise be vigorously and quickly undertaken, the Russians will step in, and secure for themselves the great carrying trade that must grow up after the railway is completed. It is now well known that they are preparing to employ a large part of their volunteer fleet for the purpose—fourteen steamers of ten thousand tons each and upwards, and eight of from five thousand to ten thousand tons. It is not merely a question of losing a profitable business: it is a question of Japan's deposition from the place which properly belongs to her. She ought to become the central depot of the trade between Europe and America, between Europe and Asia, and between Europe and Australasia, but she may find that stream of wealth deflected from her shores so that she is left altogether out in the cold. No immediate prospect of gain may be discernible in connection with a line of steamers between Japan and Vladivostok, but the final issue of such an enterprise admits of no doubt. Besides, the national interests are involved in the matter, and men would be conferring a benefit on their country if they devoted themselves boldly and perseveringly to the undertaking, instead of squabbling over political differences, or running after official posts, or discussing empty problems of law, or speculating in shares.

With reference to the fact that the recent Cabinet crisis was not brought about by any radical difference of political views between the Ministry and their some-time allies, the Progressionists, but was really due to the machinations of the Satsuma clique, the *Jiji Shimpō* considers that the public need not give itself much concern about such questions. An idea apparently prevails that the Satsuma men, having gained complete mastery of the situation, and being, for the most part, deficient in the instincts of true progress, will pursue a retrogressive policy, and may even endeavour to wield the governing power in such a way as to establish a kind of dictatorship for their own clan. Apprehensions of that kind are baseless. Japan's progress in the *Meiji* era has not been due to the efforts of a few statesmen nor can it be interrupted by any petty coterie. It is the outcome of the spirit of the time, and since no change in that respect has come over the spirit of the time, there can be no suspension of the progressive movement. Whether the Administration be controlled by Satsuma men, or by Choshu men, or by any other men, the nation is the same nation, and its instincts can not be altered. As to the possibility of a Satsuma dictatorship, the idea is equally untenable. If the Satsuma men had entertained any such project, the Restoration would have been the time. There would have been no difficulty then in establishing a Satsuma Shogunate to replace the Tokugawa. But Satsuma showed no disposition whatever to essay the coup. Again, in 1875, Okubo was suspected of a similar design, but his actions proved him to be influenced solely by consideration for the nation's interests. The present Cabinet has given proof of remarkable promptitude and resolution. It emphatically declined to accede to the proposals of the Progressionists; faced their disaffection boldly, and lost not a moment in filling up the consequent vacancies in the ranks of the Administration. That was a praiseworthy display of precisely the qualities for lack of which it has been the fate of Cabinet after Cabinet to forfeit popular esteem. The Matsukata Ministry has an opportunity of recovering the esteem of the nation. Let it only do its work stoutly and without wavering. The people are weary of instability. They want a Cabinet that knows its own mind, has the courage of its convictions and devotes itself to public business instead of being engrossed in internal dissen-

sions and political intrigues. Given such a Cabinet, they do not care whether it be composed of Satsuma men or not.

The responsibility of naval officers furnishes a theme for discussion by the *Nippon*. Japan has now a fleet of 45 ships with a total displacement of 109,000 tons, and 28 torpedo-boats with a displacement of 1,770 tons. Before many years have passed, she will have 64 ships with a displacement of 254,000 tons, and 106 torpedo-vessels with a displacement of 10,076 tons. Very few of these craft cost less than a hundred thousand yen each and several of them represent an expenditure of ten millions. A vast amount of the nation's money is sunk in them, and the responsibility devolving on their commanding and navigating officers is correspondingly great. Is it fully recognised, and are proper steps taken to secure recognition for it? England is the world's model in naval matters. When a British vessel runs on a rock or meets with an accident of any kind, a court of inquiry is held, and the conduct of all the officers responsible for the safety of the ship is fully investigated, the result of the trial being invariably published. But in Japan that is not the case. There is, indeed, a Naval Law Council which is supposed to look after matters of that nature, but nothing is heard about its proceedings. For example, when the *Tsukuba* ran ashore at Sado, the public learned, in a casual manner, that a violent gale of wind had been the cause. Subsequently, however, the same ship met with a similar accident in the Inland Sea under the same captain during the war with China, but nothing was heard about the facts, and the officer is now in charge of a ship just as though nothing had happened. Quite recently, again, a collision occurred between the *Matsushima* and the *Fuso*, and the latter had to be beached. It is stated that the accident was due to a swift current, but surely that is not a sufficient explanation. No court of inquiry appears to have been opened. If the naval authorities take proper measures for ascertaining the causes of such happenings and fixing the responsibility, they certainly do not let the fact be known.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* sounds the first note of hostility to the new Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. It is, however, only a warning note thus far. Baron Nishi—significantly dubbed a "Satsuma man"—is not the person whom the *Yomiuri* would have liked to see appointed, but now that he is fairly in office, his success is to be hoped for. He is understood to have announced that he will make no change in the foreign policy of his predecessor. That is as it should be. Such changes are not desirable. Sometimes, indeed, they can not be avoided. It was necessary that Count Okuma should change the policy of his predecessor because it was a policy not calculated to promote the country's prestige and not adapted to her circumstances after the war. Just in the same way it was necessary that Lord Salisbury should change the policy of his predecessor, Lord Kimberley. But there is no reason whatever why Baron Nishi should change Count Okuma's policy, and it is reassuring to learn that he has no such intention. But the question is, in what sense may his declaration be construed. If it be framed merely on the broad lines of cementing good relations with foreign Powers, maintaining the country's prestige and promoting the development of trade, then the definition is not satisfactory, for the bases of every foreign Minister's policy might thus be set forth on his assumption of office. Will Baron Nishi follow Count Okuma's policy in detail also? It is easy to state the three chief aspects of that policy. First there is the Hawaiian problem. In connexion with the proposed annexation of Hawaii by the United States, Count Okuma had obtained from the Washington Government a solemn assurance that the rights of Japanese subjects in the islands should be respected. But in addition to obtaining that assurance, Count Okuma had protested strongly against the annexation of the islands for reasons with which all must agree, and had

made arrangements for securing that his protest should receive due consideration when Congress meets next month. Does Baron Nishi intend to follow that route? Again, with regard to the dispute between Hawaii and Japan and the violation of the latter's treaty rights by the former, Count Okuma had carried the negotiations within sight of successful termination, and it is important to know whether Baron Nishi will adhere to the same programme. Korea is the second problem. There are many points connected with it that do not bear public discussion, but it is well understood that the broad object of Count Okuma's policy was to effect a clear demarcation of the spheres of Japanese and Russian influence in the peninsula, with a view to the maintenance of its independence. The Lobanoff-Yamagata convention afforded a basis of agreement, but was silent with regard to important points recently presenting themselves for discussion, such as the employment of Russian military men to drill Korean troops and the direction of financial affairs by Russia. It is above all things essential that Russia and Japan should fully understand each other, and that if as the Convention suggests, a more detailed agreement be desirable to promote such an understanding, measures should be taken to effect it. Count Okuma fully grasped the situation, and was in a fair way to mould it into an intelligent and secure shape. Does Baron Nishi intend to follow the same route? Finally, there is the question of Japan's attitude towards the neighbouring empire. China's condition is such as to suggest grave uneasiness. All the domestic factors that should knit and consolidate her strength seem to be momentarily paralysed, and, on the other hand, she is subjected to ever increasing aggressive pressure from without. It is in the interests of the peace of the East that China's integrity should be preserved, and the duty of contributing to that end devolves upon her neighbour, Japan. Count Okuma's Chinese policy was modelled upon those lines. The steps taken by him did not appear upon the surface, but were, nevertheless, numerous and sagacious. Does Baron Nishi intend to follow the same route?

The Tokyo *Asahi Shimbun* discusses the present aspect of Japanese politics, and arrives at the conclusion that the fruitlessness of alliances between Cabinets and parties has been placed beyond the reach of farther question. Marquis Ito, indeed, seems to have long ago foreseen that such means of conciliating the Diet could not be relied on, and that the safest course was to make the Imperial mandate the sheet anchor of the Administration. He therefore adopted the so-called *chosen shugi* (over-head policy), asserting and acting upon the principle that Ministers appointed by the Crown can not be deposed by the Diet. Yet there is one thing quite certain, namely, that so soon as a Diet is called into existence and invested with legislative functions, its exercise of those can not be ignored by the Ministry. Consequently, in ignoring them and remaining in office despite the Diet's hostility Marquis Ito added unconstitutional irresponsibility to his policy of supremacy. Count Matsukata has now adopted the over-head policy. Having essayed unsuccessfully to work hand-in-hand with a political party which would have given him a majority in the Diet, he has severed the connection, has declared it inconsistent with his duty as a Minister of the Crown to bow to the party's demands, and has thus debarred himself from renewed recourse to alliances of that character. It remains to be seen, however, whether he will adopt irresponsibility as well as superiority. To reject the demands of a political party that does not represent a majority in the Diet, and to ignore the voice of the Diet legitimately raised in the form of a majority vote, are two very different things. It may be laid down as a fundamental and incontrovertible principle that when constitutional machinery has been established for admitting the people to a share in administrative affairs, the administration can not be carried on over the people's heads. That

the Emperor should select and appoint his Ministers is right and proper, but that men who can not command the confidence of the people are unable to discharge the functions for which his Majesty appoints them, is self-evident. It results that there is one way, and only one, of reconciling the operation of the Imperial prerogative and the recognition of the privileges granted to the people. Let the Matsukata Cabinet adopt that way. Let them lay before the next Diet a frank and full statement of their policy, accompanied by an explanation of their reasons for adopting it. If the Diet rejects their programme, let them appeal to the country, and if the new members sent up by the constituencies adopt the same attitude of opposition, then it will be plain that the Cabinet has not the people's confidence, and that its resignation is a public duty.

Under the heading "a strong government, a strong people," the *Kokumin Shimbun* has an able article the tone of which rises far above the clamour of political factions. However rich a country may be in all the elements of material strength, it is nevertheless poor if its government be weak. France's example is very significant. France is endowed with everything needful to place her in the very foremost rank of nations, but the instability of the Cabinets constitutes a weak spot that deprives her of the weight she would otherwise possess in international scales. Her present Cabinet has lasted a year and a half but that is something quite unprecedented in her *post-bellum* history. Japan is threatened with a similarly mercurial condition of politics. The Matsukata Cabinet had been little more than a year in office when it was shaken to its foundations. A government does not rest upon a basis of its own manufacture: it has its foundations in the people. If the people are strong, resolute and constant, the same qualities may be looked for in the Government. It is no doubt wholesome that a Government should be criticised and exposed to the attacks of political parties, if the object of the criticism and of the assaults be to correct abuses and ensure good administration. But if, as there is too much reason to fear in Japan's case, the object be merely destructive, merely the pulling down of cabinet after cabinet in order to make way for the accession of a particular set of men to office, then it must be frankly acknowledged that the national interests are prostituted to party purposes. The people have duties and responsibilities towards the government just as the government has towards the people. If the country is to be great and prosperous its affairs must not be directed by men who are here to-day and gone to-morrow, and if the people suffer such things to be, they have to thank themselves for the consequences.

DYNAMITE OUTRAGE ON THE HOKUETSU RAILWAY.

At 3.20 a.m. on the 10th instant, an explosion of dynamite took place in the engine shed at the Nuttari station on the Hokuetsu railway. It was followed in quick succession by two other explosions, one at an iron bridge, the other in a store-house. Examination showed that the engine shed had been entered by digging under the sill. One engine and a portion of the building were shattered. The injury done at the store-house and bridge—over the Kuri-no-ki river—was not extensive. Ten thousand *yen* will cover the whole loss, according to the report of the railway officials. No casualty to life or limb occurred. The *Hochi Shimbun* attributes the incident to resentment on the part of the Niigata shareholders of the Company, who, it says, were shamefully deceived. Recourse to violence had been feared for some time, and the *Hochi* had urged the Company to make some amicable settlement, but no notice was taken of the advice.

"THE GIST OF JAPAN."

This is a volume by the Rev. R. B. Peery of the Lutheran Mission, who resides in Saga. Its chief object is to give a full statement of missionary work in Japan, and out of the sixteen chapters it comprises, one-half may be said to be devoted to that subject exclusively, the other half containing a succinct account of the country, the people, their characteristics, manners and customs, civilization, and so forth. Dr. Peery's style is simple, lucid, and free from mannerisms. We can not say that he sets many novelties before his readers, but, then, he does not profess to do so. Indeed, one of the charms of his work is the spirit of modesty and sincerity that pervades it. It is just what it professes to be—a plain statement for plain people, based on the most trustworthy information obtainable. On the whole, we think that the first six chapters convey quite as accurate and comprehensive an idea of Japan and the Japanese as can be obtained from the very much more voluminous treatises of other authors. Dr. Peery has the faculty of wise discrimination; he selects his materials well, and preserves the balance very successfully between the important and the trivial. Sometimes he disappoints us—notably in his essay on Buddhism. Nothing is to us more interesting than the story of the modifications that Buddhism underwent in the process of its adoption by the Japanese, and when we find that Dr. Peery devotes almost as many pages to the novel and insignificant sect, *Tenrikyo*, as to the whole history of Buddhism in Japan, we can not but wish that he had allotted his space differently. But it would seem that the question of non-Christian religions does not concern him much. He speaks of the missionary's home as "a place where he can evade the subtle influences of heathendom, which creep in at every pore," and the general tone of his writing indicates antipathy to all Oriental creeds. He is not unfair, however. All his judgments are evidently formed with the utmost conscientiousness, and if he is ready to acknowledge the praiseworthy elements of Japanese character, he is equally ready to set forth its faults. He speaks with authority and with interesting frankness about the private life of the missionary, his methods of work, the obstacles that prevent his success, and the outlook before him. In the catalogue of trials and hindrances we ourselves should have been disposed to assign a prominent place to the extremely unfriendly attitude of the foreign treaty-port residents, but Dr. Peery apparently has had no unpleasant experience of that kind. At any rate, he makes no allusion to the matter. Perhaps his distance from an open port has saved him. Indeed, there are some passages in his book that make us wonder whether the parts of Japan in which his missionary life has been spent do not differ significantly from the parts that come within the field of an ordinary resident's vision. The missionary's home, he writes, should be "a safe retreat from the sin and wickedness and vice around it." It should be well supplied with everything that will keep its inmate from being "orientalized, else he will be in danger of becoming heathenized." Referring, elsewhere, to the necessity of revisiting the West, he says:—"A too long uninterrupted breathing of the poisonous atmosphere of heathenism has a wonderfully cooling effect upon the missionary's ardour and zeal, and is trying to his faith." Finally, he quotes, with avowed approval, Dr. Edward Lawrence's definition of the life of a missionary:—"It is an exile as when a man is lowered with a candle into foul places, where the noxious gases threaten to put out his light, yet he must explore it all and find some way to drain off the refuse and let in the sweet air and sun to do their own cleansing work." * * * The missionary * * * is forced into closest relations with heathenism, whose evils he abhors, whose power and fascinations, too, he dreads." Making every allowance for the rhetoric into which men are apt to be betrayed whose work lies so much in the region of words, we can not but wonder where all these disagreeable things—sin, and wickedness, and vice, and poisonous at-

mosphere of heathenism, and noxious gas and refuse—are so much *en evidence* in Japan. They have not thrust themselves upon our own notice. We have seen more drunkenness and degradation in one day in an Occidental garrison town, and more flaunting displays of vice in one night in a great European Capital, than we have seen for thirty years in the streets of Tokyo. We do not mean to assert that the Japanese are more moral than the highly civilized nations of the West: that is a question apart. What we mean is that in no country is sin paraded less than in Japan. Another doubt that suggests itself is with reference to the "power and fascinations of heathenism." The term "heathenism," in the sense of its use by Christian missionaries, does not appear at all applicable to Buddhism, in our opinion, but that, too, is a question apart. What we find novel is the "cooling effect" ascribed to the "poisonous atmosphere of heathenism" and the "dread" expressed of its "fascinations." Do those statements really represent the view of the average missionary? The layman, certainly, experiences nothing of the kind. His life is neither worse nor better here than it is at home, and, so far as we know, there have not been more than one or two converts to Buddhism in all these years. To us both Dr. Peery and Dr. Lawrence seem to use exaggerated terms, but we acknowledge that they may have a special standpoint. At all events their comments are very interesting. So, too, are many of the problems propounded by Dr. Peery. He asks, for example, what course a Christian householder should pursue when applied to for the contribution made by all his neighbours on account of some Buddhist or Shinto festival. That must be a hard nut for some consciences to crack. Of course it may be urged that Christian propagandists have no hesitation in seeking the pecuniary coöperation of disciples of Buddhism or *Shinto*. Many contributions of that kind have been obtained in Japan for the founding of Christian schools. But to the missionary it could not possibly seem wrong that the "heathen" should assist to spread Christianity, whereas the converse proposition might appear most repugnant. We must refrain, however, from following Dr. Peery any farther. His book fills a niche hitherto empty and will set a great many people thinking. Let us add that it is beautifully printed on luxuriously thick paper, that it has several very pretty illustrations, and that the publishers are Messrs. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York. Doubtless Messrs. Kelly and Walsh are agents in Japan, but here we speak from conjecture only.

THE JAPANESE CONCESSION AT TIENSIN.

A telegram dated at Tientsin 8 a.m., the 13th instant, appears in the *Yiji Shimo*. It says that the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires had just set out on his return journey to Peking, having brought to a satisfactory conclusion his negotiations with the Viceroy for an appropriation of land to form a Japanese settlement, as stipulated by the Shimonoseki Treaty. The Viceroy seems to have acceded to the Chargé's proposals. According to the telegram, the area of the allotted space is 400,000 *tsubo*, or some 330 acres, but it appears to us that there must be some mistake about this figure. We do not think that any such space is available at Tientsin.

PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENTS.

There is now in England a "National Society for Checking the Abuses of Public Advertising." The object of the association is to preserve naturally pretty prospects against the invasion of flaunting posters and vulgar pictures. The members propose that a regulation should be enacted prescribing a maximum size for letters used in an advertisement, and forbidding any display of "speaking emblems" at more than a given height from the ground. The number of people in England who are willing to interest themselves actively for the general good is quite a feature of our era.

THE FINANCIAL PROBLEM.

There are plain signs that agitation against the military increment contemplated in the *post-bellum* programme is growing in strength and importance. We have already stated that the President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, spoke out most emphatically on the subject at the recent meeting of all the united Chambers of Commerce. A *resumé* of his speech is now published. "Up to 1895," he said, "the State budgets used not to exceed 80 or 90 million *yen*, but in consequence of the *post-bellum* undertakings, they grew to 200 millions in 1896, and to 240 millions in 1897. The Ito Cabinet compiled a table of expenditures covering a period of ten consecutive years, and the Matsukata Cabinet amended it, making some increases. According to that table, there ought to be a surplus of 5 million *yen* on the side of revenue in the fiscal year 1898-9, but, on the contrary, there is a deficit of 27 millions. Such figures naturally inspire grave uneasiness as to the future dimensions of the budget. What is to be the limit? What we understand by regulating the finances is not an increase of taxation. Anybody could make ends meet if there was nothing to be done but to collect additional revenue. The question is, what policy does the Government intend to pursue for getting the finances into order. I do not think that any confidence can be placed in the present system of finance. The principal cause of this expansion of the budget is undue military increment. There is, of course, no manner of doubt that military increment can not be dispensed with, but, on the other hand, military increment disproportionate to the national resources becomes a means of impairing the country's prosperity. We have an example before our eyes in the case of Italy. It is one thing to procure a number of ships of war and to raise a large army, but it is another thing to maintain them, and unless there is strength to maintain them, they are of no use. On the contrary, by reducing the number of ships and soldiers and putting the national finances into order, the prestige of the State may be advanced and the respect of foreign countries secured. We have to ask ourselves whether the sums we are now spending are in proportion to our resources, and if the answer be in the negative, there can not be the least doubt that we must reduce them. Otherwise, the very bases of national wealth, namely, agriculture, industry and commerce, will be arrested in their development. Nor is it on their account only that we bestir ourselves: the best interests of our country also are at stake, and it behoves business men to exert themselves vigorously."

It appears that Messrs. Shimada Saburo and Taguchi Ukichi also are busily organizing a party which will be called the "Association for the Regulation of the Finances" (*Zaisei-seiri Dōmei-kai*). Mr. Shimada has steadily advocated, in the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, a reduction of the programme of army development, and it is upon those lines that the association is to be formed. Count Matsukata's promise that he would put the finances in order before the eleventh session of the Diet, is recalled by the promoters of the movement, and they contend that the first thing re-

quired is to bring down to reasonable dimensions the scheme of military expansion. What they regard as reasonable dimensions would apparently be attained if instead of raising the standing army from six Divisions to twelve, the project were cut down to nine. In other words, instead of doubling the Army, they would only add fifty per cent. to its strength. If the Cabinet accepts that proposal, they talk of giving the Ministry their support in other matters. If not, they will oppose it to the bitter end.

It appears to us that this movement ought to succeed. When the programme of military and naval expansion was originally published, we expressed an opinion that the army side of the account was quite out of proportion. A large army is a very fine thing, but the question is whether it can be utilized. Japan showed, during the war with China, that she could put a hundred thousand men into the field—a foreign field—and that she could maintain them at that strength. But the effort completely dislocated the machinery of her coast-wise carrying trade, and entailed costly inconvenience on her commerce. In short, she had the men but she had not facilities for utilizing them. Suppose that her army were doubled and that she wanted to put two hundred thousand men on the continent of Asia. Could she do it? Has she a transport service, or will she, in eight yearstime, have a transport service, adequate for such an undertaking? We see no signs of its growth. Our conviction is that an army with a war strength of half a million men would be considerably in excess of Japan's capacity to employ it, and that if, when war broke out, she found herself with a great number of troops which she could not put into the field, her position would be decidedly humiliating. We say nothing of the danger of organizing a force so large as to provoke foreign suspicion and inspire its units with a conviction that their *raison d'être* must be sought in wars beyond the seas. That aspect of the question is worthy of attention, but, for the moment, the main point is that Japan is organizing an army too large to be utilizable.

With reference to this subject, the *Kokumin Shimbun* takes an interesting line. It contends that while Japanese economists are advocating the introduction of foreign capital, and while Japanese financiers have placed the country's currency on a gold basis for the purpose of gaining access to foreign money markets, Japanese journalists, politicians and even economical experts are defeating that purpose by speaking in alarmist strains about the national finances, and by urging the postponement of the *post-bellum* programme of armaments expansion. They keep their eyes rivetted on domestic happenings and forget to look abroad. They do not perceive that the average foreigner has very little insight into Japanese affairs, and that if he finds the Japanese themselves talking as if they were in pecuniary straits, he will naturally conclude that their condition is at least as bad as they represent it to be. All that is very true, but we can assure the *Kokumin* that, so far as Englishmen are concerned, nothing could tend more effectually to inspire them with confidence in Japanese finance than to see the people discuss it intelligently and not too san-

guinely. We ourselves are disposed to deprecate, as misleading and unduly alarmist, statements like that recently made by Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi at the general meeting of chambers of commerce, when he pointed with evident concern to the fact that the annual national expenditure has grown from 90 millions in 1894 to 260 millions in 1897. A man with an income of nine hundred pounds a year might spend eighteen hundred pounds in one summer on building a house, but no one would think of alleging that his yearly outlay had suddenly been trebled, and that his financial condition was consequently alarming. That is pretty nearly Japan's case. Her exceptional and extraordinary outlays for exceptional and extraordinary purposes must not be regarded in the light of regular annual expenditure. But the most superficial foreign critic is not misled by indiscriminating assertions of that nature, and although Japanese journalists habitually speak of foreigners as "unversed in Japanese affairs," we can assure them that the ignorance is not so great as they imagine. Seven years ago, a great London banking firm offered to Japan any sum she chose to name from one million to thirty millions sterling at 5 per cent. at par. We had an opportunity of seeing the letter that covered the offer, and we were absolutely astonished at the minute acquaintance that the writer possessed with what was going on in Japan. There was not an enterprise of any importance, projected or initiated, with which he did not seem to be familiar. All were referred to in clear terms of evident understanding, and for all, or any one, capital was offered. Yet the agents by whom the letter was compiled were men whose attention might reasonably have been supposed to be wholly engrossed in the multitudinous and vast undertakings with which they were already connected in Europe and America. The effect produced upon us by a perusal of the document was a feeling of deep admiration for the wide range of the English business-man's vision, and a sentiment of commiseration for the amateurs who sometimes undertake to show him how his affairs ought to be conducted. We may add that we have never seen in Japanese journals or periodicals *exposés* of Japanese finance so perspicuous and comprehensive as those that appear from time to time in British journals. On the whole, therefore, we are inclined to think that the hackneyed expression *Nippon no jifo ni tsuwaesaru gaijin* is becoming antiquated. There is not much fear that foreigners will be misled by the frankness with which the Japanese discuss their own monetary affairs, or by the nervous interest that they show in them. Neither would foreign faith be at all shaken if Japan cut down her scheme of army expansion. Thoughtful foreigners wondered from the outset how she could hope to utilize such a force, and they would congratulate her on her prudence if she reconsidered the programme while there is yet time to modify it. Japan is not expected to escape errors. Every government errs from time to time. But the biggest error in the world is to recognise an error and not remedy it. That, indeed, is a sure way to shake public confidence.

NEXT SESSION OF THE DIET.

It would appear from the statements of vernacular newspapers that the extremists in the approaching session of the Diet are to be the Liberals. Hitherto, that rôle has always been played by the right wing of the Progressionists, that is to say, by the old *Kaishin-tô*, whose leader in the House of Representatives is Mr. Shimada Saburo. It is very conceivable, however, that the Liberals should desire to retrieve their somewhat impaired prestige by adopting a particularly stalwart attitude at this juncture. Their plan is to introduce an address to the Throne impeaching the Cabinet, but nothing is said as to the counts of the indictment. Foreign affairs can scarcely be touched upon. Even if there were faults to be found with Count Okuma's policy, that range of subjects would have to be excluded from the field of discussion since without the support of the Progressionists no such measure could be passed, and the Progressionists could not possibly vote for an address impeaching their own leader. If, on the other hand, foreign affairs are tabooed, the Liberals might be puzzled to frame an impeachment. It is against the foreign policy of the Okuma Cabinet that the voices of journals like the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Tokyo Shimbun* have been chiefly raised. They accused Count Okuma of precipitating the annexation of Hawaii by sending a man-of-war to Honolulu, and they accused him, also, of allowing Russia to have her own way in Korea with regard to the question of military instructors. Now the leading Liberals are very well aware by this time—though a great many journalists seem to be still ignorant of the fact—that the Russian drill instructors about whom there has been so much talk, were applied for by the Korean Government, and actually engaged before the signing of the Yamagata-Lobanoff Convention. There was, consequently, no possibility of formulating from Japan's side a reasonable objection to their employment. That count could not figure in an impeachment, and it would be almost farcical to base an address to the throne on the sending of the *Naniwa* to Honolulu. Apart from foreign policy, what materials are there? Not finance: that is out of the question, the Cabinet having followed, in the main, the lines mapped out by its predecessors with whom the Liberals were allied. There remain only the Takano affair and the Audit Bureau business—scanty materials, surely! It appears to us the only logical course for the Opposition to pursue is to wait until the new taxation measures come up for debate, and vote against them. Then there will be a dissolution and an appeal to the country. As to the result of the appeal, little room for doubt seems to exist. This rupture between the Cabinet and the Progressionists must have the effect of throwing the latter once more into the arms of their some-time allies, the Liberals. It was Mr. Hoshi Toru that dug the chasm between the *Kaishin-tô* and the Liberals, three years ago, and Mr. Hoshi is now standing outside the arena of politics. Besides, the Liberals are no longer inspired by the pride of power. They have fallen from their old position of easy leadership among political parties to the place of a bad second. We doubt whether they will go to the polls with an independent platform, and are rather dis-

posed to anticipate that, after losing a few more of their members by gravitation to the *Kodo-kai*, they will amalgamate with the Progressionists, and both together will appeal to the constituencies. In that event the main line of cleavage at the next elections would be pro-government and anti-government, and the victory—probably an over-whelming victory—would rest with the latter. It is hard to see why the National Unionists should survive the ordeal of a general election, unless personal considerations and local influence constitute special factors in their favour. But the time has scarcely come for any confident forecast.

NEW FOREIGN MINISTER'S POLICY.

H.E. Baron Nishi, the new Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, is reported by the *Yiji Shimpô* to have expressed himself in the following strain to a friend visiting him:—"I have not the gift of eloquence and do not love talking, above all where foreign affairs are concerned. In that realm privacy is essential. If a diplomatist desires to succeed, it is a bad plan to proclaim to the world his plans. He may gratify some people by doing so, but their satisfaction is very far from compensating the injury that his policy suffers. Very seldom indeed could he escape failure when he came to carry out his projects if he had announced them beforehand. Having accepted the responsibilities of this important office, I shall not fail to discharge its duties in accordance with the dictates of my conscience and the teachings of my experience. The public need not be uneasy about what I do. If my policy begets trouble, I don't object to having my head knocked off! That I will make peace and friendship a guiding principle of our relations with foreign Powers, is a matter of course; but on the other hand, I shall strenuously oppose anything calculated to sacrifice the country's interests to foreign purposes. That the national interests should be sacrificed or the national prestige impaired merely for the sake of preserving peace, is not the true purpose of foreign policy. As for myself, people say that I am a Satsuma man. Well, when I was twenty-three, I went to Russia, and I have spent nearly half of my life abroad. I am now fifty, and whether I retain any traces of my Satsuma origin is doubtful. When the Kago-shima folks formed the *Kyoyu-Kai* (association of village friends) and asked me to endorse the undertaking, I declined to do so. In the field of my vision the country only has a place. How could one hesitate between country and native village? It is also said that I have Russian proclivities and that they will show in my foreign policy. That is altogether erroneous. It is true that I was longer in Russia than in any other country, but I am not unacquainted with the affairs of other States. I have been abroad four times and have made the tour of all the countries in the West. I spent more than two years in Paris. On my way back from Russia, I passed through Central Asia. I do not think that I am behind other men in my knowledge of the world. People may say that I have Russian proclivities, but the Russians themselves do not think so. They give me the credit of being a strong patriot. I shall not say anything hereafter, but shall merely act. I shall not regard public criticism."

STUMPS AND TAILS.

There is a game played in Tahiti—the game of stumps and tails. A number of variously bred and variously aged dogs have their tails docked, and are then placed in a large basket, the tails being deposited in another receptacle. Each player takes a dog or a puppy out of one basket and a tail, at random, out of the other. Success consists in happening to bring together the right stump and the right tail, but the sport of the thing is the grotesqueness of the resulting misfits. The *Japan Gazette's* method of controversy is modelled on the stump-and-tail pastime. It jumbles together an opponent's premises in one hat and his conclusions in another, and then taking them out hap-hazard, pieces them together. For example, the *Gazette* having claimed that journals edited by foreigners in Japan must be secured against the caprices of the Diet, we pointed out that even in Great Britain no such security exists, as witness the special legislation resorted to some years ago for the control of seditious journals. Elsewhere we discussed a wholly different point, namely, whether newspaper enterprise can be considered an operation of "wholesale or retail trade." Well, in the *Gazette's* stump-and-tail game, the special legislation record and the trade question having chanced to come out simultaneously, our contemporary joined them together, and found the result so comical that it presented it to the world with a happy chuckle. The transportation of the editor of the *United Ireland*, it cries, is "quoted as a conclusive proof that a newspaper business is not a trade." Yet, 'tis a quaint juxtaposition of ideas. But there is a much more profitable and suitable employment which we recommend to the editor of our stump-and-tail contemporary, an employment in which he would figure with considerably greater grace and appropriateness than he does in a controversy: it is to borrow a square of carpet and tumble at a street corner.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.

We have received from Her Majesty's Consulate a copy of the "First Report of the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund." The Report covers the period from January to July 1897. It is sad reading, but, at the same time, the strong and successful efforts made officially and privately to mitigate the calamity form a bright side to the picture. The Indian Government's experience of famines has now been sufficiently extensive to educate a special faculty for dealing with them, and we think that it may be fairly claimed for the British that where a work has to be done demanding at once benevolence, organizing capacity, and promptitude, they seldom make a failure. Methods of gauging the approach of a famine have been reduced to something like a science. Estimates of the probable yield of crops in a particular district must, of course, be more or less fallacious, but it has been proved by the annals of many years that when the whole out-turn of the year falls to 25 per cent. of a full crop, intense famine is inevitable, and that, with such an out-turn, the prices of food-grains rise to three times the ordinary figures, wherever railway facilities do not exist on an ample scale. Hence, when the minute returns

regularly compiled in the various provinces, show that prices are approaching the double of normal figures, measures are immediately adopted in view of serious distress. Seventeen years ago, a famine commission was appointed to collect evidence and formulate suggestions, and its recommendations having been fully adopted, there now exists an elaborate and systematized organization for dealing with these calamities. Precise indications of the duties to be discharged by every one concerned in carrying out the system are laid down in famine codes; lists of works for giving employment to the able-bodied are carefully drawn up in every province and revised from time to time, and clear and accurate regulations are enacted for the relief of the weak, the infirm and the aged. Moreover, during the past twenty years, the Government, made wise by a terrible famine in the Deccan and Mysore, had systematically constructed a series of protective railways throughout the areas most liable to scarcity, and thus, when the premature cessation of the annual rains at the end of August in 1896 was followed by a failure of crops, and it became evident that wide-spread distress must be anticipated, no confusion or uncertainty was felt: the relief machinery was all ready, and the local governments had only to choose the moment for setting it in operation. The main facts of the calamity and of the measures employed to mitigate it, may be stated in a very few words. The famine extended over an area of 575,237 square miles, with a population of 128 millions, and on the 5th of June the number of persons actually employed on the relief works was 3,115,281, and the number receiving gratuitous relief, 1,108,918. Thus it may be roughly said that throughout this immense area relief was being furnished to one person in every thirty on the 5th of June. If such was the state of affairs on a particular day, we may infer that the total section of the population to which aid was extended from first to last must have been about ten per cent. of the whole population. That is a remarkable record, and when we consider the celerity with which the vast machine was set working and the smoothness of its operation, we can not but admire the efficacy of the Indian Administration. As to the sums expended by the Government for relief purposes, no information is given, but the amounts subscribed by private charity aggregated 16,245,963 rupees. There is one point worthy of notice in this context, namely, the sums contributed by foreign countries. We collect them in a table:—

	Rupees.
Russia	98,153
United States	21,275
Sweden, Denmark and Finland	5,736
Netherlands	1,938
Germany	395
Italy	190

It is interesting to find Russia at the head of the list. Of course, one can not tell what portion of these monies came from the purses of British subjects resident in the various countries named, but even admitting that the whole were subscribed by nationals of those countries, it must be admitted that, if we except Russia and the United States, the great sums constantly subscribed in London for the relief of distress in other States have not yet educated a spirit of reciprocity on the latter's part. The contributions from England and Scotland aggregated £758,850, Lancashire alone giving

£127,812. The Report contains many interesting details of the work done in the various provinces, but we have no space to pursue the subject. The thought that occurs to us as we close the book is, what awful sufferings the people of India must have endured in the old days when no railways existed to carry food-stuffs to the famine-districts, nor any organization for the discovery and relief of distress. There were doubtless years when starvation claimed not thousands but millions of victims.

By way of postscript to the remarks published in our last issue on the subject of the Indian Famine, we may mention that the priests and parishoners of the Nichiren Sect of Buddhists in Japan subscribed a sum of 562,545 yen—the 5 *rin* are suggestive—towards the Relief Fund, and that the amount was handed by the Japanese Government to her Majesty's *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo for transmission to Calcutta. On the 13th instant Mr. Lowther conveyed to the Imperial Government the "warmest and most grateful thanks of the Central Executive Committee for the kind and generous assistance so opportunely rendered."

NEW KOREAN FINANCIAL ADVISER.

The *Kokumin Shimbum* publishes a document said to be a copy of the agreement under which Mr. Alnuxieff's services are secured for Korea in the capacity of financial adviser and commissioner of customs. The agreement is signed by the Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cho Pyong-sik, and the Russian Representative in Seoul, Mr. de Speyer. We translate the document:—

In accordance with the commands of the Emperor of Korea, the Korean Minister Plenipotentiary in Russia, Min Yong hwan, having requested the Imperial Russian Government to send to Korea an official versed in finance, whose functions would be to transact all the financial business of Korea, and to take charge, at the same time, of her customs, the Russian Government acceded to the request, and directed Mr. Alnuxieff (described as a "member of the great council" *Trs.*) to proceed to Seoul, where he recently arrived. Now, therefore, the Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Russian Minister, acting on behalf of their respective Governments, have consulted as to the duties to be henceforth undertaken by Mr. Alnuxieff, and have agreed as follows:—

1.—Mr. Alnuxieff is appointed as Adviser to the Korean Finance Department and as Superintendent of Customs.

2.—The Korean Government will pay to Mr. Alnuxieff, by way of salary in connection with his post of Financial Adviser a sum of three thousand dollars yearly.

3.—The duties of the Financial Adviser shall be:—

(a.) To make provision for the taxation revenue and the public expenditure of the ensuing year, and to submit (the budget) to the Korean Government. Provided that the Ministers concerned shall be consulted in all matters, and that the Financial Adviser shall not act on his own arbitrary authority.

(b.) To superintend all the receipts accruing to the Korean Government from taxation; to take them over from the chief collectors; to preserve them carefully and to employ them safely and profitably.

(c.) To pay in to the Korean Treasury and to the other official treasuries the sums necessary to defray the outlays of the various offices of the State, according to the amounts fixed in the budget.

(d.) To manage the Government's expenditures in the most cautious and strict manner.

(e.) To render an account to the Korean Government every month of the monies received under each item of the budget.

(f.) To render an account to the Korean Government of all new obligations incurred or old ones discharged.

(g.) To submit to the Korean Government a general statement of the country's finances.

4.—The various departments and offices of

Korea shall conduct the financial affairs appertaining to them in accordance with the recommendations and directions of the Financial Adviser; and shall supply him with whatever documentary assistance or aid of any other kind he may require.

5.—The Financial Adviser shall specially provide a suitable person to superintend the Korean Customs in *lieu* of the present occupant of that post. (This article is obscure. *Trs.*) The Superintendent of Customs shall submit all his accounts to the Financial Adviser, and shall report to him all expenditures and receipts, the Financial Adviser, in turn, reporting to the Korean Government.

6.—The Korean Government, when it concludes an agreement with the person appointed to be Superintendent of Customs, shall accurately determine his functions.

7.—Should the Financial Adviser have occasion to leave his post, he shall previously select a competent *locum tenens*, and shall make him discharge his duties during his absence. The person so selected must be approved by the Korean and Russian Governments. In the event of the Financial Adviser's return to Russia, he shall not leave Korea until a successor has arrived to discharge his duties.

8.—The period of this engagement is unlimited. In view of the friendly relations existing between the two countries, no occasion exists to fix a term of years. If at any time a Korean official be found competent to discharge the functions of financial adviser, and if, in consequence, the engagement of the present Financial Adviser should be dissolved after consultation between the two Governments, it is nevertheless agreed that no national other than a Korean or a Russian subject shall be appointed to the office. Should there be any reason for desiring to terminate this agreement, a period may be fixed by consultation.

(Signed.) KOREAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
RUSSIAN REPRESENTATIVE.

(Dated) October 5th.

We refrain from commenting on this extraordinary document, for we find its provisions quite incredible. One thing, however, seems certain, namely, that Mr. Alnuxieff remains a Russian official while he holds the appointment of Financial Adviser to Korea. Russia pays his normal salary and Korea gives him a special emolument of three thousand dollars annually. The Russian officers and non-Commissioned officers acting as drill instructors in Korea are on a similar footing. Pecuniarily speaking, Korea gets the service of all these experts at a comparatively cheap rate. It is not an arrangement that we should be disposed to call dignified from the point of view of a European Government, but it may serve special purposes.

THE "HOCHI" ON THE CABINET.

The Government, the *Hochi* says, seems to have considered that it would be able to gain over to its side the entire clique of the Kodo-kai and the Liberals, and also to retain at least thirty of the Progressionists. But the Kodo-kai has already assumed a hostile attitude and the National Unionists are watching their opportunity to attack the Cabinet. What tactics can the Government pursue to successfully confront these inveterate enemies? It is reported to have already adopted a certain course towards the Liberals. On the one hand, it endeavoured to secure, through Mr. Matsuda Masahisa, the support of the anti-Tosa party, on the condition that Mr. Hoshi should receive the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, and on the other hand Mr. Hayashi was approached. He proposed that, in reforming the Cabinet so as to secure the assistance of the Liberals, Count Matsukata should retain only the post of Finance Minister, and Count Kabayama be appointed Premier, with Count Itagaki as Home Minister. The first of these two schemes was relinquished by the appointment of Baron Nishi to the post of Foreign Minister. The second is now in progress. The Government has already experienced the injurious effects of coöperation with a political party. While professing to pursue an independent

course, the Government formed its Cabinet with the Satsuma clique at its head and the Higo clique at its back. Where do we find, the *Hochi* asks, any legitimate reform of the Cabinet? Again, the Government is perfectly aware of the advantages of buying up the weak members of Parliament, and steps are now being taken to purchase them from all parties—Liberals, National Unionists, and Progressionists.

WELCOME SOCIETY'S MAP OF JAPAN.

Some time ago, we mentioned that the Welcome Society of Japan contemplated the publication of a tourist's map of the whole of Japan, showing not merely the usual cartographical features of the country, but also the railways open, under construction, or chartered, the principal roads, the railway stations, the notable places, the hot springs, the water-falls, the rapids, the volcanoes, the lines of steamers, the light-houses and the anchorages. The map has been published. It appears to us to be the best thing of the kind that has ever been offered to the public. Printed on thick paper, as strong almost as linen, it folds into a little pamphlet that can easily be carried in the pocket, and opens into a sheet sufficiently large for an admirably clear chart of the empire and all its out-lying islands—Formosa not excluded—as well as a skeleton map of the world, indicating all the lines of steamers that connect Japan with Europe, America, Africa and Australasia. Merely in the light of a handy and accurate map it should prove of the greatest use whether in private houses or in merchants' offices, and we do not hesitate to predict that every tourist will provide himself with a copy. Of the four reverse faces obtained by folding the map—each face containing eight pages—one is occupied with an account of the Welcome Society's *raison d'être* and the various devices for the assistance of tourists; the other three, with advertisements, many of which are very prettily illustrated. It is a matter of surprise that so little advantage has been taken of this excellent advertising medium by the foreign firms in Yokohama. Among 54 advertisers only three are foreign—the Pacific Mail S. S. Company, the Grand Hotel, and the *Japan Mail*. Quite recently, the Yokohama public were induced to put up a considerable sum for the preparation of a pictorial representation of the Settlement's business aspects, though no apparent reason existed for regarding the enterprise as a good advertisement. But this map will certainly find its way all over the world. It costs only 50 *sen*, and the first edition of eleven thousand will certainly be sold out very soon. Indeed, we expect that it will have a steady and steadily increasing sale. The compilers were most anxious to have a due proportion of foreign names, and with that object kept pages vacant until the eleventh hour, despite numerous and pressing applications from Japanese. But Yokohama declined to recognise the opportunity. We recommend our readers to have a wiser appreciation of a good thing by providing themselves at once with a copy. We believe that the map can be obtained at Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, though we can find no intimation of the fact, but it certainly can be obtained at the Society's Office in the Imperial Hotel.

JOURNALISM A TRADE.

To the champion who has set machinery in motion to secure the profession of foreign journalists in Japan against "the caprice of the Japanese Diet or of a Japanese Cabinet," we desire to recall a well-known page of British history. It belongs to the year 1848. In that year a certain John Mitchell edited and published a newspaper called the *United Irishman*, which, from week to week, made itself the propagandist of disaffection and insurrection. Ordinary processes of law would have been ineffectual to restrain the pestilential sheet. The Government accordingly introduced and passed

rapidly through parliament a measure under which all written incitement to insurrection or resistance to law was declared felony, punishable with transportation. Mitchell was arrested, tried and sentenced to fourteen years' transportation. The champion would call that "a caprice of the Cabinet and of the Diet," no doubt, if it happened in Japan, but does he seriously imagine that either Cabinet or Diet can be held to have forfeited the right to secure public order by exceptional measures against journalistic excesses merely because Japan has signed a treaty allowing foreigners "to trade by wholesale or retail in all kinds of produce, manufactures and merchandise of lawful commerce?" The fact is that the profession of journalism can not by any possibility be regarded as an ordinary commercial enterprise. It does not fall within the legitimate purview of a commercial treaty, nor would any government in the world agree to bind itself by any pledge as regards foreign journalistic enterprise within its borders. We have precisely the same interest in this matter as any of our contemporaries, but we think that the common cause can only be injured by displays of bombast and unreason.

CRITIC AND CRITICISED.

(Italicised by us.)

Extracts from a letter by the criticised (the Special Commissioner of *The Engineer*), published in *Japan Mail* of Nov. 12th.

I agree substantially with what you say with regard to the reasons for the disavowal with which Yokohama men are regarded by the Japanese, nor do I think that individual merit has anything to do with the question. But if you will refer to my article you will see that I do not go into the rights and wrongs of the case, but merely state the fact—a fact with which I presume both you and Yokohama people will agree.

With regard to its being a stigma in the eyes of a Japanese to be a treaty-port man, I do not say that such a state of things is justifiable, but that it exists. Personally, I think it to be quite unjustifiable, but no one who is in intimate touch with the Japanese can come to any other conclusion than that such a feeling exists.

There are certain treaty-port firms, as I mention in my article, who, in spite of the terrible handicapping, are yet able to deal satisfactorily with engineering representation, and it is greatly to their credit that they can do so. No doubt in other trades, with regard to which Government work is not so overwhelmingly important, treaty-port agents are all round greatly preferable to others. On this subject, however, I can offer no opinion, as my remarks in "The Engineer" have only to do with engineering work.

I have no wish whatever to enter into a discussion on anything I have written, but I should be sorry if a remark of mine, with the truth of which, I gather from your article, you agree, should be taken as implying either that I underrated the business capacity of the treaty-port foreigner, or that I sympathise with the attempt of the Japanese to block his work.

This is a very good average specimen of Yokohama journalism, and since the Special Commissioner is here to take notes it is just as well that he should have an object lesson in Yokohama newspaper morality. He can now understand what kind of treatment these accurate and conscientious critics accord to every one out of whom they think they can make capital by spurious displays of local patriotism. The

Remarks of the critic (Editor of *Japan Gazette*) in his journal of Nov. 13th.

Never a globe-trotter passes through but he is able to teach the men who have built up Japan's trade their business. The latest gratuitous instructor is a correspondent of a paper called *The Engineer*, presumably a trade journal. This correspondent has been in Japan a few months and has made the discovery that the foreign merchants, English, American, German, French and Italian are altogether wrong. In point of fact they have committed one stupendous error. There is a social Club in Yokohama and there is a social Club in Tokyo, but no member of the Yokohama Club may become a member of the Tokyo Club because a member of the latter was some time ago "pilled" by the members of the former.

And you can only do business in Japan by being a member of the Tokyo Club. Therefore, if English manufacturers wish to do business in Japan they must send agents to Tokyo, who will studiously avoid Yokohama, and then they will quickly make their fortunes. It is all very simple to the correspondent of *The Engineer*, and no doubt the Yokohama merchants will erect a statue in honour of the man who has thus exposed the weakness of their whole system.

Special Commissioner dealt with one minor branch of business only—Government engineering contracts. He exposed a state of affairs which renders it exceedingly difficult for any but a privileged few to obtain a share of such business. The story he had to tell is well known to the best British merchants in Yokohama, so well known that they do not care for Government contracts and make little effort to secure them. They prefer the straightforward sound lines of regular imports and exports, and find that better and far more permanent profits can be secured by handling the great staples of commerce than by waiting, hat in hand, at official doors or devising devious routes to circumvent wily rivals. The Special Commissioner very cleverly and industriously probed to the roots of the affair and laid them bare. It was, we repeat, the one subject of engineering contracts that he discussed. Yet his critic accuses him of having made "the discovery that the foreign merchants, English, American, German, French, and Italian are altogether wrong." The Special Commissioner, says that, "no doubt in other trades" (not engineering work) "treaty-port agents are all round greatly preferable to others," but that he "can offer no opinion on that subject," and adds that he should be sorry if any remark of his were "taken as implying that he under-rates the business capacity of the treaty-port foreigner." Yet his critic charges him with alleging that the treaty-port merchants of all foreign nationalities "are altogether wrong;" that "if English manufacturers wish to do business in Japan they must send agents to Tokyo who will studiously avoid Yokohama, and that "the whole system" of the Yokohama merchants is "weak." The Special Commissioner alludes incidentally to the fact that Yokohama men are black-balled at the Tokyo Club as one indication of the prejudice against treaty-port foreigners, and his critic represents him as saying that the "one stupendous error" committed by the foreign merchants in Yokohama is the act which closed the Tokyo Club to them, and that "business can only be done in Japan by being a member of the Tokyo Club." What an estimate this critic must have formed of Yokohama intelligence. What an idea he must have of truth and justice.

FRACAS BETWEEN WORKMEN AND SEAMEN.

About 9 o'clock on the night of the 14th instant over twenty workmen employed by the Yokohama Dock Company, armed with swords, clubs, etc., made an attack upon the Yokohama Seamen's boarding-house, in the native town. The seamen in the boarding-house defended the place against the intruders while one of their number was dispatched to the Police Station for assistance. For a while severe fighting ensued between the seamen and the workmen, until a number of police from the Isezaki Police Station arrived on the scene and succeeded in dispersing the assailants. Hashizume Eitaro, Hashizume Nizo, and 17 other workmen were arrested by the police. In the fight four seamen were wounded more or less as were also three workmen. It was past ten o'clock when order was restored. It appears that the trouble arose over some money transactions between the two parties, some of the workmen having lent money to the seamen.

NEW BISHOP OF SOUTH TOKYO.

The *Hyogo News* of the 14th inst. says:—A telegram was received here on Saturday afternoon announcing the appointment of Bishop Awdry in succession to the late Bishop Bickersteth, in charge of the important mission work centred in Tokyo. We venture to say that Kobe's loss by the removal of Bishop and Mrs. Awdry to the capital is Tokyo's gain. Those who have known them best will regret the change for their own part the most, but the appointment will undoubtedly be popular all the same.

COLONEL BACON & A MISSIONARY ON THE SOCIAL EVIL IN JAPAN.

Japan was recently visited by Colonel Bacon, an American philanthropist, who seems to have worked hard in the cause of good during his brief stay here. A correspondent, signing himself "Missionary," refers in eulogistic terms to Colonel Bacon's lectures, and we are glad to assist in extending thanks to him. But since the question is thus prominently brought forward, we can not pass without protest one stricture attributed to Colonel Bacon and evidently endorsed by "A Missionary." "Notably he rebuked most fearlessly the shameful prevalence of the social evil." That is what Colonel Bacon did, according to our correspondent. Now what inference must any intelligent person draw from such a statement? Must he not draw the inference that the social evil prevails in Japan more than it does in Western countries? But that is a libel. The social evil does not prevail in Japan more than it does in Western countries. Did Colonel Bacon consult statistics, or has "A Missionary" consulted statistics? They have not, or they could not have fallen into such an unfortunate and unjust blunder. Are we to assume that what they really intend to censure is the licensing of prostitution? But surely they must know that prostitution is licensed in nearly all the countries of continental Europe? And surely they must know that in denouncing the licensing system as a flagrant sin, they are, at the same time, vicariously denouncing as flagrant sinners some of the greatest philosophers and profoundest thinkers of all ages and all lands, as well as a very large section of the most highly educated and highly placed English men and English women? We scarcely think that Colonel Bacon and "A Missionary" have the licensing system in view when they speak of "the shameful prevalence of the social evil in Japan," and we are driven to conclude that what distresses and offends them is the fact that "the priestesses of humanity" are banished to special quarters of the cities and that they sit behind latticed windows, "like animals in a cage," to be viewed by libertine visitors. As to the banishment question, we extend to it our hearty applause. It is excellent for two reasons: first, because it effectually guarantees the ordinary thoroughfares of the cities against the disgraceful scenes thrust upon public notice in the great capitals of Europe and America; secondly, because it attaches an additional stigma to vice, and doubtless reduces its dimensions by adding to the inaccessibility of its ministers. As to the custom of the latticed windows, we think that it deserves the most unqualified denunciation. It is in the last degree demoralizing—demoralizing to the passers-by and demoralizing to the unfortunate women themselves. For a brief interval, twenty-four years ago, the Authorities seemed determined to correct the abuse. A strong effort was made, but, for reasons that we have never been able to understand, it failed. Why do not the missionaries raise their voices against that feature of the system, instead of inviting ridicule by talking of "the shameful prevalence of the social evil." Fancy telling a Japanese who has been to London, New York, Paris, or Rome that the social evil prevails shamefully in Japan! All chance of effecting any useful reform is destroyed by such regrettable misstatements.

A LIGHT SENTENCE.

The thief who stole a large sum of money from the house of Dr. Ed. Divers some time ago, has been tried and sentenced to ten months' imprisonment and six months' police surveillance. The punishment seems to us almost ludicrously inadequate. The man was a burglar. It is true that he lived in Dr. Divers' house as cook, but it is also true that to effect the theft, he had to enter one of the rooms in the second story by the aid of a ladder and by forcing a window. Possibly the good character he had borne during a service of eight years, and the fact that after being arrested, he ultimately confessed his crime, may have suggested some mitigation of the normal penalty. But whatever allowance be made on such scores, we still find the sentence flagrantly out of proportion to the gravity of the offence. In commenting on the incident we have not the slightest idea of suggesting that the judge took any account of the nationality of the person robbed. That would, indeed, be an extravagant hypothesis. We merely express our astonishment at such a method of administering criminal justice. As a general rule foreigners hear nothing of what takes place in Japanese Courts of law, and when a rare case thrusts itself upon public attention, not because of any anomaly in the procedure, but simply because a foreigner is concerned, they are naturally disposed to conclude that it is a typical case. Are crimes, then, punished with this singular leniency in Japan? We do not think so. Our own impression is that the opposite is the truth. It is plain, at all events, that a great many Japanese would be willing to put in an imprisonment of ten months at Tsukudajima in consideration of a sum of six hundred yen, which was the amount of the ready money stolen in this instance. Undoubtedly the punishment can not be called deterrent, and since to deter not to chastise is the main object of criminal enactments, the judge seems to us to have committed a serious error.

The original accounts published with regard to the crime and the details of the arrest were erroneous. When the cook had carried away the box containing the money, bonds and other documents, he concealed it in the dust-bin, and made no attempt to open it for nearly two months, knowing that he was watched. Finally, one night in August, he took the box into his room, opened and proceeded to examine the contents. While he was so engaged, his wife, who, with her two children, was sleeping in the same room, awoke, or seemed to awake. The cook at once secreted the box and thrust a portion of the contents which he held in his hands at the moment, under the fire-place, thus destroying some six thousand yen worth of War Bonds. His wife, however, detected nothing. In fact, she was not conscious of having been disturbed. Ultimately the man took the ready money—six hundred yen—and then hid the box in a tub of pickled radishes, where it remained until found by the police two months afterwards, with the result that several of the documents were practically destroyed. By and by, the cook gave the money to his wife, telling her that he had won it by gambling, and desired her to keep it for him. Meanwhile the police, though watching closely, failed to find any clue, and at last, having assured themselves that the man was gambling, they summoned a new detective whose face could not be known to the cook, and set him to act the part of a gambler. One night, at a gambling bout in which the detective took part, the cook, having lost twenty yen, sent a messenger to his wife for thirty more, and having lost the second instalment, sent for another of like amount, and then for yet another. At that stage the police thought themselves justified in arresting him and carrying him before the magistrate. At first he asserted his innocence in a persistent and plausible manner, and it was not until the magistrate ordered him to be committed to prison—"to be tied up," as the Japanese expression goes—that he made confession. There appears

to be no doubt that his wife was innocent. She did not even count the bundle of notes given to her, and if she at first conceived a suspicion on being made depository of the money, her husband's assurances seem to have quickly convinced her. It is difficult to see what extenuating features these details present. The man deliberately broke into a room in the house of his master, whom he had served for eight years, and not only stole a large sum of money, but destroyed, almost wantonly, a quantity of valuable securities. An English judge would have given him three years at least.

THE HAWAIIAN PROBLEM.

According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which is now an opposition journal, Baron Nishi's policy with regard to the annexation of Hawaii differs slightly from the policy of Count Okuma. The Baron will not press any objection to the annexation, but will merely insist that the privileges already enjoyed by Japanese subjects in Hawaii shall not be impaired as a result of annexation, and that any losses caused by it shall be made good. We are disposed to doubt very strongly whether the *Yomiuri Shimbun* is in possession of any trustworthy information about Baron Nishi's policy. The new Minister of Foreign Affairs is most unlikely to take any outsiders into his confidence on such a question. For our own part, however, we fail to see that Japan can effect anything by remonstrating. According to present indications annexation is pretty certain to take place. The Senate will reject the Treaty, but a joint resolution of the two Houses will save it. Something may occur, indeed, to deter the American people. They are not particularly keen about the matter now, and an anti-annexation movement might be started without much difficulty. But Japan is not the one to start it. Her protests would probably produce an effect precisely the opposite of what she desires.

A "JACK THE RIPPER" CASE IN TOKYO.

Tokyo papers contain reports of a gruesome crime of the "Jack the Ripper" class, said to have been committed in the capital. At about 11 a.m. on the 15th instant, a man who happened to pass the Aoyama Parade Ground noticed the toes of a human foot appearing just above the ground in a shed formerly used by a railway corps. Horror-stricken by the sight, he immediately reported the fact to the nearest police on duty, and a little later Police Inspectors from the Asakusa and Yotsuya Stations, accompanied by the Criminal Judge of a district Court reached the spot, and having excavated the earth covering the body, in the presence of a physician whom they had taken with them, found the corpse of a girl of about eleven years old, with her hair cut extremely short. Her face was covered with a cloth, and she had apparently been buried alive with her head downwards in a hole just large enough to hold her. It was evidently through the precipitancy of the perpetrator of this cruel deed, that part of the toes were left uncovered. There were marks of blows on the face and limbs, while several cuts were noticeable in the upper part of her loins. In short, the appearances showed that the girl had been murdered with all possible cruelties. It is said that when exhumed, the body still had a little warmth in it. A post-mortem examination was held at the Imperial University, and steps are now being taken to find some clue to the perpetrator of the foul crime.

The *Münchener Allgemeine Zeitung* relates that foreign medical students will not in future be admitted to the clinical courses in German universities, unless they can prove that they have passed examinations as stringent as those of the German preparatory colleges. It is not thought that this will seriously affect American students, as American colleges will formulate rules which will enable their pupils to be admitted.

THE FORMOSA SCANDAL.

MR. TAKANO'S exit from the judicial scene in Formosa was attended by incidents which have furnished copy, more or less sensational, to several journals. MR. TAKANO intended, of course, to create a sensation, and when an official holding such a high position assigns to himself that object and pursues it in defiance of lawful authority, he is pretty sure to succeed. We do not by any means assume, or desire to suggest, that Mr. TAKANO'S motives were not high-minded. Very likely he regarded himself as the champion of an important constitutional principle, and having reached the state of mental exaltation frequently observed in men that believe themselves to be entrusted by Providence with a heroic mission, he snapped his fingers, metaphorically and literally, in the face of the Authorities, and compelled them to enforce their mandate by means that must necessarily invest it with a measure of odium. That sort of thing is so common in the British House of Commons that its true significance is fully understood. A member is directed by the Speaker to withdraw. He declines to obey until the Sergeant at Arms approaches, or, it may be, lays hands on him, whereupon he makes an exit designed to show that he bows to force though refusing to acknowledge the principle of its application. That is just what Mr. TAKANO did. He would not abandon his position on the bench of the Formosa High Court until the police removed him. There appears to have been some hysteria on the part of his fellow-thinkers. The clerks of the Court had a momentary impulse to embrace the fate of martyrs; a sword made its appearance on the scene and, being snatched from its brocade wrappings, shed a brief glitter over the drama; the assistant judges vaguely intimated their readiness to be sacrificed if a holocaust was *de rigueur*, and tears and sobs were not wanting as Mr. TAKANO marched out before the police. We may take it for granted that the immediate purpose of all this demonstration will be attained. The constitutionality of the Government's action will be brought up in the next session of the Diet, and one or two members will have an opportunity of delivering a trenchant attack on the Cabinet. But the Cabinet being technically in the right, parliamentary protests will not disturb it. The affair will take the form of a Question, supported by the prescribed quorum of thirty members and accompanied, at the time of its presentation, by a denunciatory speech. Then there will be a brief interval of silence, and finally the Government will reply curtly that the provisions of the Constitution do not apply to newly conquered territory and that the administration was perfectly competent to remove Mr.

TAKANO. The House may possibly pass some dissentient resolution. Its reputation for appreciating legal principles is not yet sufficiently established to form a basis for any forecast of its action in a given contingency. But we imagine that it will be better advised. The most rudimentary familiarity with constitutional law will be enough to convince the members that the Constitution of a State does not apply to conquered territory where the conditions are different from those for which the Constitution was originally framed. The whole system of administration in Formosa from the very outset has been unconstitutional—a species of military dictatorship, such as could not be exercised in Japan proper without the Diet's special consent. Laws have been framed and enforced without any reference to the constitutionally created legislature, and the Governor-General is invested with autocratic powers far in excess of those possessed by any official in districts where the Constitution holds. It is curious to observe how some critics strain at a gnat and swallow a camel in this matter: they overlook a wholesale departure from constitutional principles and become clamorous about a mere detail. Even English local journalists appear to ignore facts that stare them in the face. Forgetting that in Japan they do not themselves enjoy the full privileges of the British Constitution, since the power of making laws for their control is vested in an individual independent of Parliament, and even the celebrated "palladium of liberty" is reduced to a fraction of its proper dimensions, they declare that the Japanese Constitution in its entirety becomes applicable, *ipso facto*, to territory conquered by Japan from the moment of conquest. Of course the Japanese Government did not wait for this Takano affair to determine how far the Constitution should be held to apply to Formosa. The whole question must have been duly considered by competent experts before an administration and a judiciary were organized for the island.

But while the technical legality of the Government's action admits of no doubt, while the fact that the Constitution is not operative in Formosa can not be questioned, such a departure from Constitutional principles as the Takano affair, seems unwise and ought to be unnecessary. We take it that although the Government, when required to provide for the administration of newly conquered territory, is necessarily invested with discretionary power to determine what, if any provisions of the Constitution shall be applied there, it is, at the same time, under obligation to exercise its discretion within the narrowest possible limits. Thus, unless in the condition of Formosa there be something that constitutes an insuperable obstacle to independence of the judiciary, an independent judiciary ought by all means

to be organized there. Does such an obstacle exist? If it does, the public know nothing about it. Men understand that a military form of administration may be desirable, and that the delegation of exceptionally large power to the Governor-General may be essential, but they do not understand why the important principle of judicial independence should not be applicable. That is the instinct underlying the censure heaped upon the Government, and it is an instinct with which we heartily sympathise. Mr. TAKANO can not convict the authorities of technical unconstitutionality, but his resolute conduct has certainly contributed to establish the principle of the Judiciary's independence, and while opinions will differ greatly as to the strict propriety of his acts, there ought to be no second opinion about the uses they serve.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT JAPANESE LITERATURE.

We observe that a collection of the whole of Mr. Fukuzawa's writings down to 1892 is about to be published. For more than forty years the Mita sage has been using his pen. Some of his books have had an enormous circulation, considering the limited number of readers of such works in Japan compared with Western countries. The figures given in the *Fiji Shimpō* show that the most popular of Mr. Fukuzawa's books have reached a circulation of 200,000 copies, and it is estimated that if all the volumes that have been sold be added together, they will not fall short of 7½ million copies. The edition of his collected works now being prepared will cover some 4,000 or 5,000 pages. The books are to be arranged as to give a kind of connected history of passing events and topics of interest. The work is to be furnished with an introduction, which we observe is already appearing in the columns of successive issues of the *Fiji Shimpō*. This introduction contains so much that is of literary interest that we propose to summarise the contents of the portion of it that is now before us, reserving the remainder for next month. As a writer and translator Mr. Fukuzawa has always aimed at simplicity and lucidity of style, and, in the opinion of the best judges, he has succeeded to an extent unattained by any other writer. In popularising knowledge he is the Huxley and Tyndal of Japan. In reference to the acquirement of this style, Mr. Fukuzawa has furnished the following particulars:—About forty years ago, I became the pupil of Dr. Ogata Kōan, of Osaka. At this time Sugita Seikei of Edo and Dr. Ogata were at the height of their fame. They were well-versed in Dutch and they both engaged in translating to a considerable extent. But the methods followed were very different. Sugita was careful to reproduce the original, sentence for sentence, and word for word. But Ogata took the greatest liberties imaginable with the original, only consulting it in a general way. His view was that, since translations were read by persons who were ignorant of the original, it was quite unnecessary to keep to the author's method of expressing his thoughts. It often happened that other translators sent their manuscripts to Ogata for correction; when, in my presence, he habitually altered the language without even consulting the original. Ogata's aim was to make his translation thoroughly intelligible to readers, and in this he succeeded. When, on one occasion, I asked his opinion on the translation of a Dutch book on Fortification, which I had in hand, he made the following remark:—The translation of books on military subjects by *samurai* is to be encouraged, for the simple reason that

the language with which *samurai* are acquainted being limited and simple, what they write is easily understood. From Ogata I learnt that the art of being able to express thoughts in so simple and clear a manner that persons of ordinary intelligence can comprehend them is the highest of all literary accomplishments. This art I studied, and in two books which I published some time after, the *Seiyō-tabiannai* (Guide to Western Countries) and the *Kyūri-sukūi* (Physics, explained by Charts) my aim was to make the subjects treated intelligible to peasants and other illiterate people when read to them. In order to be sure that I had attained my object and to make corrections where necessary, I caused the manuscript to be read to a few illiterate women and children. Whatever was not understood I altered. I usually found that the introduction of classical terms had caused the want of intelligibility and I replaced them with words in common use. Thus by degrees I acquired a written colloquial style, which I have retained to this day. The difficulty I encountered was in rendering foreign technical terms into Japanese. But I observed the rule of selecting the best known characters for use in the Japanese equivalents. The subjects on which I wrote were not chosen haphazard. They were suggested by the spirit of the age when the books were published. In the Bunkyo era (1861-1863) the anti-foreign spirit was very strong. The illiterate masses were entirely ignorant of foreign ways and there was no attempt to enlighten them. This fact was impressed on me by Kanda Kōhei, who spent many months in trying, as an experiment, to enlighten an old woman who lived in his house. This old lady daily cursed the red-headed barbarians that were seeking to pollute the land of the gods with their presence. Mr. Kanda failed in the attempt to change the sentiments of the bigoted old lady. This is the state of opinion all over the country, said Mr. Kanda to me. My 唐人往来, *Tōjin-Orai* was intended to remedy this evil by teaching the unlearned something of foreign ways and doings. I published it under a *nom de plume* and distributed copies far and wide, under the impression that the country could never progress till the masses became more enlightened.

Here is the gist of what the *Kokumin-no-tomo* has to say on the spirit of the times. All things are drifting in the direction of materialism and outward prosperity. The age is becoming more and more practical. Abstract thought is at a discount. Even in the field of literature men turn away with aversion from subjects that have no immediate bearing on the affairs of every-day life. In order to gratify the tastes of readers the majority of writers are engaged in describing the actual condition of society and passing events. The consequence is that modern literature is for the most part characterised by an absence of religious belief, a lack of earnestness and feeling, and a dearth of truth. There is no soaring of the thoughts to the lofty regions occupied by really great writers. All our efforts to rise above the mundane commonplaces of every day life seem to be in vain. In order to write what is valuable men must have beliefs and ideas. Here beliefs and ideas are wanting. Hence the languishing on every hand. Little spurts of this and that, but no sustained effort. What we desire to see are authors who are determined to lead men's thoughts instead of following them, authors who have an ideal of their own that is unaffected by the whirlpool of topics and opinions in the midst of which the minds of so many writers revolve.

The well known School of Oriental Philosophy, established by Dr. Inoue Yenyō and others ten years ago, was burnt last year. On the occasion of the opening of a new building on the 2nd of last month, a detailed history of the founding of the school was given, from which we cull the following:—In order to find out what attention was paid to Oriental studies in other countries, in 1888 Dr. Inoue undertook a foreign tour, from which he returned convinced of the importance of founding a college in which instruction in Oriental subjects should be imparted by duly

qualified men. In order to collect money for this object, Dr. Inoue travelled throughout the length and breadth of Japan, visiting 220 places and giving no less than 818 lectures. He succeeded in raising the sum of 8,250 yen by this means. In 1895, a large piece of ground was purchased in Haramachi, Koishikawa, Tōkyō, where a school was erected. Prior to this, classes had been held in a building situated not far from the Imperial University. Hitherto the principal subjects of study have been Buddhism, Chinese and Japanese Literature and Philosophy, but it is now announced that certain Oriental languages will be taught, including Chinese, Korean and Sanscrit.

The magazine quoted above relates the experiences of Mr. Seki Shūzaburō while touring in Europe. What struck me most while visiting various families in Europe, says Mr. Seki, was the minute acquaintance shown with popular current literature by the ladies of the various houses where I stayed. The topics of conversation attable were frequently literary, and the striking sayings of the personages who figure in noted novels were constantly quoted with approval by quite young girls. In Japan we have nothing of the kind. An observation addressed to most of our ladies relating to modern novels would elicit no reply. But the question which it is pertinent to put is:—Are there any remarkable sayings uttered by the men and women who figure in our Japanese novels? We trow not. For maxims that embody wit and wisdom we have to turn to the writings of men of a bygone age. The modern puppets who are marched on to the stage in our fiction-theatre do not pour forth words worth repeating or laughing over at the family gathering. When they do not confine themselves to dull commonplaces, they make use of language that no proper-thinking father would wish his daughters to hear.

The *Waseda Bungaku* and the *Kokumin-no-tomo*, formerly fortnightly, have now become monthlies, each covering about 170 pages. No. 2 of the new series of the *Waseda Bungaku* contains a report of the views of Mr. Shiga Chōkō on art and literature, of which we give the following epitome:—What I desire to see in both art and literature is a manifestation of the unity of nature. This unity cannot be shown by representing things as they are found in any given place at any given time, but by applying to objects and events a process of harmonising. The photographer can furnish us with a perfect representation of visible objects as they present themselves to the eye of the observer, but from an artist we expect more than this. We expect him to show us combinations that do not actually exist in nature, but that may be conceived of as existing. We expect him to blend and harmonise objects in a way that nature rarely accomplishes. Literature and art should both become interpreters of nature. Even in reproducing natural objects the skilful artist can use his brush so that his picture shall reveal more of the processes of nature than any photograph can possibly accomplish. Many of our Japanese artists do not realise this, and hence are mere photographers minus the camera. The combinations which the artist and the writer alike should seek to effect ought not to be open to the charge of unnaturalness. While not transgressing any of the laws which govern nature, they should reveal to us more of nature's methods and ways than are exhibited in any one set of phenomena at any one time in the material universe.

A recent number of the *Taiyō* discusses a subject connected with high class education that seems to us to be of primary importance, namely the failure of the students that pass from the Higher Schools (Kōtō Gakkō) into the Imperial University to understand the lectures delivered by the foreigners employed in the Institution. The following is the *Taiyō's* account of the facts bearing on the subject:—In the Engineering Department there is no student who properly understands the lectures of the single foreigner employed. In

the Law College there are several foreign lecturers, but the lectures are poorly attended, and even in the case of those that attend there are none that comprehend the meaning of the remarks made, and as for stating difficulties for the teacher to deal with, it is out of the question. Even in the Literary College, where language is of still greater importance, comparatively speaking, with the exception of a few superior students, those that attend the lectures can do no more than dot down in their note books a few of the observations of the lecturer. If it be asked, how do such students as we have referred to manage to pass their examinations?—the reply is, they rely on copies of the lecturer's manuscript, which are distributed among the members of each class. The origin of this much-to-be-deplored deficiency is to be traced to the Higher Schools. While professing to specially prepare students for the University, these schools undertake to impart instruction in a number of extraneous subjects. The pupils have not sufficient time in which to master the difficulties of foreign languages. Though students are taught German 8 hours a week, it is found that at the end of three years there are none that can even understand books of reference, to say nothing of conversing or composing in German. It is necessary that the number of subjects taught in these schools should be reduced, that study should be limited to those branches of knowledge which are directly connected with the profession the pupil purposes adopting. The whole curriculum of these schools needs remodelling, so as to make them in reality as well as in name preparatory institutions to the University.

Specimens of ancient architecture are growing very rare, and hence it is gratifying to read in the *Shigaku Zasshi* that the Home Department has undertaken to restore the Chūsonji, a temple that has the credit of being the most perfect existing model of the Fujiwara style, which is situated in the district of Iwai, Rikuchū. The building was erected at the commencement of the twelfth century by Fujiwara Kiyohira. It was restored in the Tokugawa era, but not with sufficient attention to important characteristics of the architecture of the period to which it belongs. The heirlooms and relics treasured in the building are said to be of an exceptionally interesting kind.

A recent number of the *Waseda Bungaku* has an article entitled *Nihon-gwa no ichi Jimon* (A question concerning Japanese pictures). The point discussed was mooted by Baron Suyematsu and taken up by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, in whose columns it is thus stated: How is it that in Japanese ancient paintings, while flowers, animals and birds are so artistically and carefully delineated, the faces of human beings are conventional? What is the reason of this great difference? A writer signing himself Mukian Shujin gives the following answer to the above question:—In the power of reproducing objects in their actual forms Japanese ancient artists were deficient. Though they represented the presence of rays of light or the shade caused by their absence, the effects of the presence or absence of these rays on human faces is not given. The shadow thrown by a tree makes this object to be more capable of representation than the flat face of a man. Hence the excellence of Japanese artists when delineating trees, and the like. Commenting on the above, the *Waseda Bungaku* says, Japanese artists are lacking in the power to reproduce natural objects in their actual form, and hence the human faces they portray are characterised by unreality. Then there is among our artists a marked tendency to represent the common and general characteristics (通性) of objects rather than their individual ones, and this prevents them from paying attention to the shadows cast by human figures. The conclusion that the *Waseda Bungaku* comes to is that the failure to reproduce shade is only a minor defect in Japanese painting, and is more than atoned for by many excellencies. The *Waseda Bungaku* next takes up the views expressed by Mr. Lafcadio Hearn on Japanese art (reproduced in the

September Literary Summary) some of which it endorses. It says that while Professor Hearn's opinions on this subject are an immense improvement on the blind Western bigotry so often displayed by Occidental critics of Oriental art, his views are a trifle too optimistic, and that in certain instances the professor draws unwarranted inferences from the facts that he is discussing. Mr. Hearn's view of art seems to be founded on what is called Platonian idealism and the type theory of Schopenhauer, says the *Waseda Bungaku*, and he thinks that he sees these theories exemplified in Japanese art. The assumption that the further the painting is removed from being a reproduction of existing form the higher it ranks as a work of art is to our minds unwarranted. Nor do we see that the choice of the general and typical characteristics of objects for portraiture rather than their individual and peculiar ones indicates superiority in the ideal followed by the artists who adopt this course. The moral ideas which Mr. Hearn reads into our Japanese art are certainly not deducible by any ordinary process of reasoning. To say that there is any moral superiority in the representation of general and typical characteristics rather than individual ones, is to assert what is incapable of proof and savours somewhat of the art criticism of Europe common among those who think that ethical and religious standards are applicable to art. Mr. Hearn's views on Japanese art impress one as biased in its favour, while those given to the public by Baron Suyematsu, which also originated with a foreigner, are founded on an actually existing defect. We are of opinion, concludes the *Waseda Bungaku*, that nothing that can be said on the other side will suffice to nullify the truth of the assertion that Japanese artists lack the power to represent objects in their natural shape and form; and that it is to the interest of progress in art that this fact should not be obscured in any way whatever.

In this context we may mention that the writer mentioned above, who has adopted the *nom de plume* of Mukian Shujin, has, in the columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, published a long reply to Professor Hearn's *Taiyō* article, in which it is maintained that the portraiture of typical features of objects is in every way inferior as art to the representation of their individual peculiarities.

The *Taiyō* publishes an article by Mr. Teshima Seitchi on the necessity of increasing the number of high class Middle Schools. There is no denying the fact, says Mr. Teshima, that irrespective of cost there is an ever increasing demand throughout the country for high-class teaching on special subjects. Existing schools are insufficient to satisfy the demand; and if no efforts are made to provide suitable institutions for the hundreds of lads unable to gain admission into Government schools there is a danger that the talents of such boys will be lost to the country, and that *noles volens* they will be forced to commence earning a livelihood without the high class education they are anxious to receive. Statistics published in the latest Report of the Department of Education show that a large number of pupils drop their studies without entering a high class school. In some cases, no doubt, there are pecuniary reasons for this result, but in the majority of instances the paucity of schools is its real cause.

The *Kyōiku-jin* furnishes some interesting particulars bearing on the history of the Loochoo islands and the progress of education there, supplied by a Mr. Ando Kiichirō. From ancient times the Loochooans preferred Chinese to Japanese rule on account of the greater liberty given by the former. Prior to the China-Japan war, they always regarded the Japanese as inferior to the Celestials and while, from fear of consequences, they professed allegiance to Japan, their sympathies were with China. The party known as the Koku-iō (Black Party), the pro-Chinese party, was very strong and Japanese reforms were hindered by its obstruction again and again. Education made little progress. Ten years ago in Naha, a town of 35,000

inhabitants, nearly as large as Hakodate, there was only one elementary school, and there was great difficulty in procuring pupils for this one establishment. Three Elementary Schools are now in a flourishing condition, being attended by 2,000 pupils.

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The *Teikoku Bungaku* is confident that there is truth in the assertion that the literature of islanders is not characterized by the breadth and thoroughness of the literature of continentals. Japan compares badly with both India and China. Great changes have been witnessed in this *Meiji* era, continues the organ we are quoting, but there is one radical defect of the Japanese mind which has survived, despite all the reforms that have taken place. This is the lack of a spirit of perseverance. We are an emotional people and lacking in the power of sustained action. If our desires are not rapidly gratified we lose heart and desist. To quote a signal instance. It has been perfectly well-known to all persons engaged in education that the Japanese language as now spoken and written is a most imperfect medium for the conveyance of knowledge, and that a reform in the methods of writing words in common use is most urgent. On two separate occasions a kind of reform fever has raged on the subject of orthography, and various proposals as to ideographic changes have been the result. But the movement has been as short-lived as some of the epidemics from which we have suffered. The promoters of these reforms succumbed to the initial difficulties of the enterprise on which they had embarked. The path of progress is blocked by an obstacle that is by no means insurmountable, but the men who have sufficient persistency of purpose to effect the desired change are as yet not forthcoming. Until Japanese get rid of the defect to which we have alluded they cannot carry to a successful issue any great undertaking, concludes the *Teikoku Bungaku*.

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It is pointed out by the *Shakai Zasshi* that in many of the leading newspapers there is a dead set against class government, class distinctions, and cliques of all kinds. Attacks on the nobility as a class are very frequent. They are said for the most part to be leading idle, useless lives, and to be ignorant and superstitious. All kinds of irregularities are allowed in their families. As a class they are behind the age and a hindrance to the progress of civilization. The *Mainichi Shimbun* brings a number of charges against both the wealthy and the noble. Owing to their licentious lives, says this organ, the members of these classes do not increase in anything like the proportion they ought to do. The *Fiji Shimpō* ridicules the method of conferring rank now in vogue, showing that it is considered in Europe to be entirely out of date. The fact of services rendered to the government being selected for special notice and reward shows how unenlightened are many of the prevailing ideas on these subjects. This practice conduces to the continuance of the class government which it is desirable to be rid of. The *Kokumin Shimbun* goes as far as to advocate the total abolition of the nobility. As a class they have altogether lost the respect of the public, says this organ. They gamble, live profligately and are for the most part lacking in intelligence. Moreover, there are not a few of them who are too poor to be independent and hence become a burden to the Imperial House. The writers who have taken up this subject earnestly are divided in opinion, however, one party recommending total abolition, the other radical reform. Life peerages have also been advocated by several papers.

In an article entitled "Labour," the *Shakai Zasshi* quotes a variety of opinion on the relation of labour to capital and kindred topics. The following is the gist of what Dr. Toyama, writing in the *Ryūmon-Kai Zasshi*, has to say on the subject:—The most productive periods, as regards men, in our history were the Genki and Tenshō [A.D. 1570-1591], and the reason of this is that during

these eras there was keen competition. In modern times competition has resulted from the increase of population. Instead of the distinction between the high and the low in rank, we now have the distinction between the rich and the poor, and, as the struggle for a livelihood becomes keener, labour and capital will come into conflict here as they have in the West. But it is worthy of note that there are elements in our national character which will certainly modify the effects of whatever friction may arise between masters and workmen. There is in the Japanese as a people a sense of fairness and a regard for state interests that is not possessed to the same extent by any Western nation. Hence it may be confidently predicted that we shall witness no such industrial troubles in this country as are being experienced in Europe and America.

To the *Shakai Zasshi* the above observations seem somewhat naïve. Judging from the strikes that have been reported within about a month and the attitude manifested by workmen generally throughout Japan, there is little chance of agitators being influenced by any such considerations as are alluded to by Professor Toyama, says the *Shakai Zasshi*.

The *Awayama Hyōron* writes on the decline of interest in historical study throughout Japan during the past twelve months or so. A few years ago there were no less than six magazines devoted to the publication of articles on historical subjects, namely, the *Shigakukai Zasshi*, the *史海 Shikai*, the *Shigakufukū* (普及) *Zasshi*, the *史談 Shidan* and the *Kōtenkōkyūjo Kōron* (皇典講窮所講演). Of these only the first has survived. The defunct organs mostly owed their existence to a notion that no longer prevails, namely the idea that literature and history are inseparably connected and cannot well be treated apart from each other. The writers for these magazines were not real historians, but ordinary literary men. Their *raison d'être* was a fictitious one. Hence their early decease. It is worthy of note in this connection that the historical societies which were founded some years ago in O U, Hokuriku, and Kyūshū are doing good work, and that, during the past few years, a goodly number of historical works have been published, such as the *Gunsho ruijū*, the *Kokushi-taiki*, the *Asuma-kagami*, the *Kōji-ruijū*, the *Tokugawa Jikki*, and others. But there are two subjects for regret connected with this study; one is the failure among a large number of writers to appreciate the value of scientific accuracy in recording facts, and the other the restraint that is put on free criticism by the Government.

Dr. Nakamura Shingo, formerly a student of International Law at the Berlin University, now a teacher at the Semmon Gakkō, has just published a work entitled "*Shin-jōyaku* (The New Treaties), which is advertised for sale at the Hakubunkan for 1 yen 30 sen per copy. This book discusses in a thorough manner the various features of the new treaties made by Japan with Western Countries, comparing these treaties with those hitherto in use and dwelling on the changes which their operation is likely to bring about. In an appendix to the work the full text of each separate treaty is given in Japanese.

Another English Magazine has made its appearance called the *Eibun-no-tomo*. It is to be published monthly and sells at 12 sen per copy. Its design resembles that of the *Gwaikokugaku Zasshi* and other publications. It aims at assisting students of the English language by furnishing them with literary models and explaining difficult passages. Whether a sufficient number of reliable writers to keep such magazines going from month to month actually exists is questionable.

Mr. Yamazaki, a military instructor, is the compiler of a set of French Readers designed for first, second, and third year students. Book

* All these were noticed by us at the time of their publication.

I. sells at 35 *sen*, Book II. at 40 *sen*, and Book III. at 70 *sen*. In addition to ordinary reading lessons, specimens of French letter-writing are given, which ought to prove valuable to Japanese students of the language. These Readers have already been adopted as class books by the Tōkyō Military School. They are for sale at the Shoyeisha, 1 Motosukiyachi, Kyōbashi, Tōkyō

The publication of a new Fine Art Journal has been announced. The *Gwahōsha*, 2 Kabuto-chō, Nihonbashi, Tōkyō, are to issue the new organ. It is to be called the *Bijutsu Hyōron* (The Fine Arts Critic). Whether the *Nippon Bijutsu Gwahō*, hitherto published by this office, is to be discontinued is not clear. The new magazine is to appear fortnightly (on the 5th and 20th of each month) and will cost 20 *sen* per copy. The first number was to be published this month.

X The Japanese residing in San Francisco have started an English Magazine called, *The Japanese-American Voice*. Though diminutive in size, its get-up is very good and its contents above the average of English magazines edited by Japanese in this country. Among the subjects discussed in Nos. I.-VI. are:—"The Future of Commerce in the East"; "the History of Japanese Art"; "the rank occupied by Christianity in Japan," and "Mr. Noguchi's Poems."

The *Teikoku Shiryaku*, by Dr. Ariga Nagawo, is an historical work of considerable value. It is published by the Hakubun-kwan, occupies 1,000 pages and sells at 1 *yen* 50 *sen*. The *Teikoku Bungaku*'s review of the work is on the whole very favourable. According to this organ the best part of the new history is that which deals with Japan's earliest records, in which Dr. Ariga endeavours to separate truth from fiction.

LAND TAX IN JAPAN.

The Yokohama correspondent of the *Daily News*, referring to the proposed increase of the Land Tax, writes:—

Rice has now risen to the phenomenal price of 12 *yen* per *koku*, as against 4.80 *yen* a few years ago, and 8.20 *yen* in 1895. That means an increased value in the land, and the proposition would be fair if it were not that the land is already over-assessed. For instance, even at the present high price of rice, a *cho* of land cannot yield more than 160 *yen* worth, yet taxes are paid on 400 *yen*, the rent being one-half the yield. A small rise would not be unjust to the farmers, but as the land already pays nearly one-half of the total taxes, any further imposition would arouse resentment.

This is certainly one of the most perplexing and confused statements we have even read. What on earth has the rent to do with the tax? The tax is paid by the landlord who receives the rent. Then again, the correspondent seems to labour under the impression that the tax is paid on the yearly yield, or on some fanciful assessment of it. The truth is that the tax is paid on the supposed value of the land: it is 2½ per cent. of that value. A few simple figures will demonstrate the strange misconceptions under which the London journal's correspondent seems to labour. The area of rural lands under cultivation in Japan is 4,610,000 *cho*, and the tax levied on this land—we are excluding the urban lands—is 35 million *yen*. in round numbers. Hence the tax is 7½ *yen* per *cho*, and it is consequently seen that the land is assessed at a value of 300 *yen* per *cho* for taxation purposes. But if rice be selling for 12 *yen* per *koku*, as the correspondent alleges, the annual value of the various crops raised on the rural lands is 737 million *yen*, at the lowest calculation, or 159 *yen* per *cho*. In other words a *cho* of land which yields crops worth 159 *yen* a year is supposed to be worth only 300 *yen* for purposes of taxation. That is certainly a curiously moderate estimate. Further, while the yield is 159 *yen*, the tax is only 7½ *yen*, or less than one twentieth of the yield. It has also to be remembered that the tax is really a rent, the present holders of the land never having paid anything for the fee-simple.

THE NEWMANS.

Infinitely pathetic, says a London contemporary, is the story which the death of Francis Newman will recall to the minds of those who followed the divergent life-courses of the two eminent brothers, John Henry, and Francis Newman. Eloquent, too, of strength of character and deep vitality of religious conviction, the outcome probably of their Huguenot blood, is the record of the indomitable pertinacity with which each clung to his own belief, even at the cost of severing the tender tie of brotherhood. The stake and the torture are gone for ever, but in the self-sacrificing devotion which immolated the closest relations of life upon the altar of duty, there is discernible the spirit of martyrdom which would have defied both. It was a necessary condition of the trend of his opinions in the age in which he declared them that Francis never attained the eminence of his elder brother. Indeed, had not the strength of his convictions forced John Henry over the borderland which divides England and Rome, it is probable that he would have died a simple English cleric instead of a Prince of the Roman Church. Nothing could have afforded brighter promise than the outset of the younger brother's career. His University record, which included a double first and a Fellowship at Balliol, was far more brilliant than that of John Henry; but with the operation of the Test Act came the parting of the ways and an end to all hope of an orthodox career. It is well to remember that the younger brother's refusal to sign the Thirty-nine Articles was as prompt and decided as doubtless the elder's would have been had they been similarly placed. In fact, so far as character goes, there was the closest similarity between the two men, and when the divergence once became apparent, it was equally necessary to each of them to pursue his own course to the end be the cost and the consequences what they might; and this they did in a spirit of stern, unbending resolution which we more frequently associate with the unyielding temperament of the Middle Ages than with the love of compromise which characterises our own time.

INCREASE OF CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Investigations having been made by the Government with regard to the estimates of the Customs revenue realizable after the enforcement of the Statutory and Conventional Tariffs, as compared with the amount receivable at present, the following results were obtained:—

Classification of articles.	Present receipts. <i>yen</i> .	Receipts after Treaty Revision <i>yen</i> .
Arms.....	552,009	1,661,419
Food.....	52,955	167,336
Books.....	51,380	126,591
Clothing.....	10,958	119,412
Dyes.....	111,066	308,628
Glass.....	17,900	57,820
Cereals.....	28,824	176,213
Horns and tusks.....	57,072	287,086
Previous metals.....	398,480	1,093,636
Other metals.....	86,736	194,343
Oils.....	250,265	708,190
Sugar.....	451,939	1,279,599
Woven goods.....	1,078,757	1,393,084
Woollen manufactures.....	456,690	1,189,681
Silk textiles.....	47,366	175,833
Flaxen manufactures.....	80,620	345,556
Miscellaneous fabrics.....	33,468	136,613
Tobacco.....	21,995	222,256
Liquors and spirits.....	41,058	297,101
Miscellaneous goods.....	26,261	180,771
Miscellaneous manufactures.....	155,217	528,683
Total.....	4,238,842	11,318,412

The actual receipts given in the above table are based on calculations made at the end of December last year, while the amount realizable after treaty revision is computed in accordance with the Statutory and Conventional Tariffs. It represents the sum to be actually received when the new Tariffs becomes operative. The Customs receipts of Japan therefore will be augmented, through the adoption of the new Tariff, by a sum of 7,079,570 *yen*.

"THE PASSPORT" AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

The theatre-going public of Yokohama always expect a dramatic treat whenever the clever amateur Theatians of the community appear upon the boards of the Public Hall, for never once have their hopes been betrayed. But this feeling of confident assurance has begotten a most unpleasant trait in our characters: it has dulled our perceptive faculties so much that many altogether fail to realise the exceedingly high standard of art attained by local players. It is a pity that it should be so, but the fact remains. The house on Wednesday was crowded in every part by a very attentive and at times enthusiastic audience; though the coolness was more apparent than real. Many a good thing that trips from the mouth of a player would be taken up more readily, we feel sure, were the acoustic properties of the hall in a better state of perfection—this accounts for a good deal. The audience is so eager to catch all that is being said that the chances of applauding a smart remark gets swept away in the rush of the dialogue before it can be taken advantage of even by one familiar with the play. We offer this explanation to the players, for undoubtedly a sense of "chilliness" must often creep over them as the work proceeds—a "chilliness" that is by no means intentional on the part of the house.

Messrs. B. C. Stephenson and W. Yardley's farcical comedy is full of fun from beginning to end, except perhaps in the last act, which drags somewhat and develops a dangerous tendency towards attenuation. We gave the principal idea of the play the other day, but will crave leave to repeat it in this notice. *Ferdinand Sinclair* (Mr. W. G. Bayne) on his way to a diplomatic post in Russia, encounters on the frontier a fascinating young widow, *Mrs. Darcy* (Mrs. A. C. Read) who, owing to constitutional forgetfulness has left her passport in a bag at the railway terminus in Berlin. Having recently become a widower, *Sinclair* chivalrously offers the widow assistance and passes her across the frontier as—well, *Mrs. Sinclair*. But, as Burke said a century ago, "the age of chivalry is gone." For, the poets to the contrary, this censorious world of ours will not give mere man any credit for actions done from a chivalrous intent, and therefore *Sinclair's* Quixotic proceeding naturally led to trouble. To begin with, *Christopher Coleman*, a city merchant and (of course) Philistine M.P., has been detained at the frontier, along with his wife and her maid, by the Russian Police, but, after undergoing some very unpleasant experiences, they are able to proceed by the same train as that by which *Mr.* and the pseudo *Mrs. Sinclair* travel to the capital of the White Czar. Of course *Coleman* had appealed to *Sinclair*, as a British diplomatic official, to help him out of his fix, and although the intervention—owing to the arrival of the ubiquitous telegram—was unnecessary, an introduction all round had to take place. This really was the *fons et origo* of all the trouble that ensued eighteen months later, when the same parties meet again in London under wholly different circumstances. By this time *Sinclair* had come to the title of *Lord Bibary* and had married *Coleman's* daughter *Mildred* (Miss F. Eldridge); *Mrs. Darcy* had married *George Greenwood* (Mr. H. J. Sharp), *Coleman's* partner, and of course when the various people meet a delightful series of complications ensue. The unravelling of the mystery caused plenty of fun, and the audience grew more and more delighted up to the very close, when a perfect thunder of applause was raised.

Mrs. A. C. Read, more charming than ever, bore away the honours in her own gracious, queenly fashion, her interpretation of the impulsive, hopelessly forgetful, inconsequent, and delightfully imperious *Mrs. Darcy* was irresistible: whenever she was upon the stage all interest centred in her, and one anxiously awaited her reappearance. Mrs. Read has acquired a most charming stage presence: her voice is exquisitely modulated to meet the varying exigencies of the many moods of any character she for the moment may be

pourtraying; she makes her creations live and speak and move—in fact, she casts upon her audience the glamour that only a most finished actress has it within her power to bestow. As *Mrs. Coleman*, Mrs. McWilliams was very successful, acting the part of the stereotyped middle-class British Matron to the life; Miss Thomas, as *Markham*, the maid, was particularly successful; while Miss Wheeler played the subordinate part of *Violet Tracey* very prettily. A peculiarly pleasing *ingenue* was Miss F. Eldridge: one wished she had had more to do, so well was her impersonation realised. The central male figure of the *caste*, is *Ferdinand Sinclair*, and this part was capably carried out by Mr. W. G. Bayne. His sterling abilities upon the stage need no panegyric at our hands; suffice it to say that he surpassed himself all through. Mr. A. C. Read, as *Christopher Coleman*, has never been seen to better advantage—unless we bracket this performance with his *Colonel O'Flipp* in "Tom Cobb," in which he "made-up" upon the generous lines of the most genial of our local *medicos*, whose gentle mannerisms he "took off" so skillfully. A vision of the dear, good British merchant who flies to *The Times* to right his wrongs, who is ever overflowing with the mild milk of domestic platitudes, and whose heroics are always sustained by the fine-old-crusted axioms of suburban rectitude, rose before one as Mr. Read "strutted his brief hour" before us. Yes, it was a perfectly conceived interpretation. Mr. Sharp pleased best as *Schmirhoff*, a Russian official: he was too stilted as *George Greenwood*, though he then had to assume "a jealous disposition coupled with an Indian liver." A really clever piece of acting was that of Mr. E. C. Davis, as *Henry Harris*, the man-of-few-words: it was drollery of a very high order. Mr. Showler, as *Pattison*, afforded most agreeable comic relief as a valet, and Mr. Murray extracted all that was to be got out of *Algie Grey's* much cut-down and colourless part. One felt sorry for the "walking gents," *Ivanovitch* and *Predrovski*, they had to keep their risible faculties under such complete control.

The following was the *caste* :—

Ferdinand Sinclair, afterwards *Lord Bibly*,
Mr. W. G. Bayne.
Christopher Coleman, a city merchant,
Mr. A. C. Read.
George Greenwood, his partner... Mr. H. J. Sharp.
Algie Grey, Sinclair's best man... Mr. G. Murray.
Henry Harris, a man-of-few-words...
Mr. E. C. Davis.
Pattison, Sinclair's valet... Mr. W. Y. Showler.
Schmirhoff, a Russian official... Mr. H. J. Sharp.
Ivanovitch, Policeman... Mr. B. H. Pearson.
Predrovski, Policeman... Mr. G. Philip.
Mrs. Coleman, Coleman's wife... Mrs. McWilliams.
Mrs. Darcy, afterwards *Mrs. Greenwood*,
Mr. A. C. Read.
Mildred, Coleman's daughter... Miss F. Eldridge.
Violet Tracey, Mildred's friend... Miss Wheeler.
Markham, Miss Coleman's maid... Miss Thomas.

The gowns worn by the ladies were extremely handsome and Mrs. Read's hat was a dream of delight—to quote one feminine admirer. Miss F. Eldridge's wedding attire was a dainty perfection all through, as was also Miss Wheeler's, who appeared in a bridesmaid's costume. Mrs. McWilliams's dresses were very becoming.

A very pleasing little orchestra, comprising Commander Grafton, Lient. Cole, Messrs. H. Poole and F. Whitefield, played a most agreeable selection of music during the evening and won much applause. As the performance was in aid of the Mosquito Yacht Club, the hall was appropriately hung with flags, the Club's burgee bulking largely. A word of praise must be accorded the stage management, an onerous duty that fell upon Mr. W. G. Bayne.

The *Powerful* is to proceed to the East at an easy rate for her, of 12 or 13 knots, which ought to be very comfortable steaming. As at present intended, she will call at only four places on the voyage to Hongkong, namely, Las Palmas, the Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and Singapore.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

An Imperial Ordinance was issued on the 10th instant fixing the maximum rate of tuition fees for the ordinary course in common schools of a city, town, or village, at thirty *sen* per *monsem*.

The income tax increases satisfactorily year by year, says the *Nichi Nichi*. Investigations completed by the Finance Department show the amount for this year to be 1,905,696 *yen* against 1,434,258 *yen* for last year, thus indicating an increase of 471,437 *yen*.

The Hantan Railway Company is reported to have opened negotiations with Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. for a loan of 500,000 *yen* at 6 per cent. interest per annum, the security offered being the existing railways owned by the Company. But since no such security could be lawfully given, it is plain that the rumour must be erroneous.

The introduction of foreign capital, remarks the *Chyo*, can not fail to benefit a nation in the adjustment of its finances, if the scheme is formulated on a suitable basis. But no advantages can be secured if foreign capitalists are to be paid such a high rate of interest as five per cent. and are allowed to enjoy extraordinary powers in connection with their investment.

The *Mainichi* states that the various banks of Niigata forming a union lately decided to apply to the Bank of Japan for a loan of two million *yen*, but can offer no security. The reason for this is ascribed to the failure of the rice crops, and the consequent necessity for the importation of foreign rice. The committee are to arrive in Tokyo in a few days, to open direct negotiations with the Nippon Ginko.

Intelligence from Major Fujimura, dated Ilan, Formosa, and instant, as published in the *Tokyo Asahi*, announces that, having detected a band of insurgents among certain mountains in the vicinity of Ilan, known as Taishow, he attacked them and occupied their post, the enemy offering but slight resistance. The insurgents are reported to have fled to the mountains south-east of Taishow. No casualty occurred to the Japanese troops. It is said that the insurgents numbered over 2,000 men.

The *Chuo* chronicles the resignation of a number of judicial officials in Formosa who are in sympathy with Mr. Takano. Chief Judges Kato and Kawada, of the Appeal Court and the Taipei local Court, were the first to resign their posts. They were soon followed by Chief Judge Toguchi, and Judge Inouye, of the Hsui-chu local Court, and also by Judge Tatenouchi, of the Ka-wi local Court. It is reported that all the judicial officers in Taipei and Hsui-chu, with the exception of the Public Procurators, have resolved to resign in a few days.

According to the *Yoroku*, the registered capital of agricultural banks throughout the empire amounts to 19,600,000 *yen*, which, together with the unregistered funds, makes a total of 25 millions. These banks are not of course to raise shares and commence business exactly at the same time, but it is almost certain that their efforts to raise subscriptions will create, in the near future, a temporary pressure in the money market. The shares are nominally to be raised in various provinces, but the principal part of the money will have to come from the capital and Osaka, without a shadow of doubt.

Mr. Ume, the new President of the Legislative Bureau is reported, in the course of an interview with a representative of the *Mainichi*, to have complained that the public termed him a sycophant and time-server because he had accepted the new post. As a matter of fact he had not changed his opinions on the subject of the removal of Formosan judges, which he still regarded as unconstitutional. It was rumoured that the Government, when it appointed him President of the Legislative Bureau, expected

him to support their action. But he had never pledged himself to do so, and although his opinion might be asked by the Cabinet on various legal points from time to time, he was under no obligation to agree with the views of the Government on such questions. His duties were solely the investigation or amendment of drafts of laws and ordinances.

According to the *Yiji*, about 3,000 retail kerosene dealers are holding secret meetings in the capital with the idea of boycotting an oil company known by the name of the *Hakkosha*. This company is underselling all the other oil-dealers, having concluded a special contract with Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., for a big supply of cheap oil. The small dealers finding their trade falling off in consequence of the cut in rates, are very wrathful, and threaten vengeance.

At 7 a.m. on the 13th instant, a 3rd class car attached to a train running from Naniwa on the Hankai Railway, was suddenly overturned at Shinya, and the 1st and 2nd class cars, numbering five in all, were consequently derailed. Some of the passengers were slightly bruised, but others had their teeth broken, though none sustained serious injury. The cause of the accident is ascribed to the rails having become loosened in consequence of repair works now being undertaken on the railway.

The *Mainichi* remarks that orders for railway materials have decreased considerably of late, owing to the stringency of the money market and the rise in the cost of commodities. Shareholders in various new railway companies have, it seems, failed to pay-up calls on shares, and while some have been able to postpone payment for a little while other corporations have been compelled to dissolve. On the other hand, the engineers' strike in England has occasioned the breaking of many contracts. Prices and freights from Europe have risen tremendously during the past three months, cargo space that fetched 24 shillings a ton in May, having now gone up to 45 shillings.

The *Official Gazette* publishes the following table of coins struck since the establishment of the Mint up till March this year :—

Classification.	Amount. monme.	Pieces.	Value yen.
Gold			
50 yen	419,795	47,285	941,590
20 "	8,307,733	1,869,178	18,617,780
10 "	80,830,916	9,374,098	46,870,490
5 "	755,777	283,358	1,737,116
2 "	995,217	363,816	2,256,616
Total	31,449,478	14,810,715	75,330,542
1 yen	1,105,143,102	169,077,072	169,077,072
Trade dollar	81,255,700	3,250,038	3,250,038
50 sen	80,409,019	8,593,446	4,296,723
20 "	96,305,890	6,419,365	3,209,673
10 "	118,316,457	256,816,081	15,681,608
5 "	18,044,601	56,334,804	2,816,710
Total	1,439,353,060	415,972,808	200,158,844
Nickel			
5 sen	268,689,870	930,776,976	6,318,834
2 1/2 "	1,047,739,582	875,708,661	5,514,033
C. p.			
1 "	92,916,815	488,174,169	4,881,741
1/2 "	375,076,119	395,551,951	1,977,764
1 rin	10,715,860	44,491,530	44,491
Total	3,361,360,822	11,903,281,313	124,18,012
Grand Total	3,995,483,590	17,714,588,810	299,385,466

It is beyond question, asserts the *Mainichi*, that newly undertaken enterprises have declined day by day since the spring of this year. Nor is it deniable that Government enterprises are likewise very backward in their progress. This grievous state of affairs may be proved by a reference to the present condition of the cement market. At the beginning of this year, there was some difficulty in procuring a hundred barrels of cement at any one place or from a single merchant. At present, dealers are announcing that their stocks have reached a thousand or two thousand barrels. As for bricks, even the lowest quality were quoted in January at 1.5 *sen* each, and many enterprising men, considering that they could scarcely find a more profitable undertaking, competed with each other in starting manufactories. No sooner were these manufactories completed, than a decline in trade became universal, and old manufacturers were obliged to suspend business.

The views expressed by Mr. Shibusawa at the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce on the subject of financial adjustment appear to have influenced considerably the opinions of the members

of other Chambers of Commerce throughout the empire, and to have given them some practical pointers as to how to attain their object. Representations with regard to financial reform are to be made at a general meeting of the United Chambers of Commerce to be held on the 4th proximo, and submitted to the Government. The decisions unanimously arrived at are—(1) Curtailment of administrative expenditures to an extent in accordance with national resources; (2) reform of the financial administration of Formosa; (3) abolition of intricate systems of taxation. The above three points are fundamental bases for the adjustment of revenue and expenditure proposed by the practical community. Is the Government prepared, asks the *Mainichi*, to decrease the expenditures for administration?

We have already predicted, says the *Shogyo*, that the appreciation of gold and depreciation of silver would tend to impair trade in yarns to a considerable extent. The forecast has proved correct. The export of yarns to China shows a serious falling off and manufacturers are now greatly embarrassed. No prospect of a revival of business exists at present, in spite of the value of silver being restored to 36 pence. Under these circumstances, it is necessary for dealers to discuss the best means of restoring the former prosperity. A suggestion was made that agents should be appointed to export certain definite quantities of yarn to China upon condition that the losses, if any be sustained, should be equally borne by the producers and themselves. Such a system could only be the outcome of serious distress. There are, the *Shogyo* alleges, only three schemes for ameliorating the present situation and securing the permanent stability of the spinning industry in Japan. The first is the establishment of a factory in China to carry on trade in the interior; the second, the development of the manufacture of fine yarns, to be substituted for imported goods, and the third the starting of a cotton weaving factory. Something permanent must be adopted, says the *Shogyo*, for the maintenance of the spinning industry in Japan.

The *Yiji* reports that the general meeting of the Salt Industry Council was held on the 11th instant at the Prefectural Assembly Hall in Hiogo, over 400 persons being present. Mr. Murata was in the chair, and all the resolutions introduced at the meeting were passed without revision. After the election of officers and other business had been disposed of, H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, President of the Council, delivered an address to the following effect:—"Salt is absolutely indispensable for subsistence, and forms one of the most important productions of Japan. Vicissitudes in this industry, therefore, have not a little influence upon the decline or prosperity of a country. Some time ago, a number of men holding these views formed a union, which is now designated the Japan Salt Industry Council, for the purpose of securing improvements in and development of enterprises connected with salt. I am delighted at being enabled to be present at the first meeting of the Council so instituted, the object of which is to foster technical knowledge among salt producers and to promote the prosperity of the State. The members of the Council will, I hope, engage in their work of development of the industry with vigour and zeal." Medals were then awarded by the Prince to Mr. Murata and fifteen others, and congratulatory addresses were delivered by the local governor and Prince Konoye.

The currency of Japan, alleges the *Tokyo Asahi*, has been transferred from capitalists and manufacturers into the hands of the labouring classes, or direct consumers, and this has contributed towards the enhancement of the prices of commodities. Unless a scheme is devised towards restoring the money so held, any amelioration of the condition of the economic world can hardly be expected. To attain such an end two schemes alone commend themselves, viz., the encouragement of thrift among the working classes and an increase of taxation.

The former plan, however, is much simpler than the other. Postal Savings Bank deposits have decreased considerably of late. At the end of the year before last, the figures aggregated 28,065,427 yen, but they had decreased to 28,479,684 yen by the end of last year, indicating a falling off by an amount of 485,743 yen. The number of depositors, however, increased by 56,125. Depositors of large sums appear to have transferred their investments to various savings banks recently organised under more convenient systems. But it seems certain that the appreciation of commodities has had the effect of relaxing the spirit of thrift among all classes. In view of these facts the Postal Bureau now contemplates establishing a simpler and more effective system of postal banking.

Marquis Ito, being lately questioned by a visitor as to the probable issue of political changes which now appear imminent, is reported by the *Yiji* to have replied as follows:—"Men look at things from different points of view, and it is unreasonable to criticise the proceedings of the present Cabinet. I have already entreated the Matsukata Cabinet to carry out its own convictions to the utmost. I have therefore nothing further to say on the subject." Thus saying, the Marquis laughed heartily. It is said that he takes a walk every day with his attendants beyond the town of Oiso, seemingly indifferent to all political matters.

The *Fomuri* notes that the Yokohama Dock Company, having at present only one dock completed, is overwhelmed with work, and the employees have been unable to take a holiday since July last. Applications for docking accommodation and the repair of ships follow one another in rapid succession, long before vessels already in hand have been disposed of. It is expected the Company will be able to pay a dividend of 8 per cent. for the first half of this year.

Commenting upon the general corruption of Japan, the *Porodsu* says:—"Wealth demoralizes man, and unfortunately the highest orders of society have fallen into this grievous condition. They are now characterized by luxury and dissipation. Vice brings no shame to them. In stately mansions adorned with red lanterns and filled with sweet music, the meekest lusts are indulged. A step behind, however, hungry wretches are crying for bread. Such is the state of affairs throughout the empire. The dissipation of the rich and the starvation of the poor were the direct cause of French revolution. Apparently Japan has developed the germs of such a calamity."

The general meeting of the Practical Industrial Association of Kumamoto was held in the capital on the 15th instant, with Mr. Mayeda in the chair. The principal subjects introduced for discussion were—(1) The forwarding of a representation to the Government with regard to the promulgation of regulations for the prohibition of the export of spurious teas; (2) to urge the Government to adopt suitable means for encouraging the invention of machinery for the manufacture of tea; (3) the engagement of a French expert at public expense for the purpose of improving the process of dyeing, and the quality of silk textiles for export; (4) affording special treatment to persons who have rendered meritorious services in connection with arts and manufactures and with the sale of articles of domestic production.

The number of armed robberies in Tokyo is reported by the *Shogyo* to have decreased considerably of late, being less than one-tenth of the figures recorded five or six years ago. The reason for this is chiefly ascribed to the means of detection provided by the various instruments available for speedy communication. The decrease in grave offences in the capital, however, seems to have considerably influenced the adjoining prefectures to Tokyo, inasmuch as most of the malefactors, being fully sensible of the danger of their presence in the Capital, have retired to the country districts, where they ply their abominable trade with greater safety. The

amount of stolen goods for the fifteen urban and six rural districts of Tokyo is estimated every year at 260,000 yen in value, but one-third of this amount can be recovered. Offences at present do not exceed fifty in number per day, showing a decrease of almost 40 per cent. as compared with the figures recorded three or four years ago. This diminution is in part ascribed to the fact that the labouring classes are enriched in consequence of the abnormal rise in wages.

It is a matter for congratulation, says the *Tokyo Asahi*, that the people of this country have become keenly alive to the necessity of education since the late war. Not only primary schools but also prefectural middle schools have considerably increased during the past few months. In former times there was seldom more than one middle school in each prefecture, but now the number has increased to three or four. Everything, however, has some drawback, or is attended with some unexpected abuse. Thus it is with the middle schools of various prefectures. The members of several prefectural assemblies show an inclination to have educational institutions established in the most inappropriate places simply for the purpose of securing local interest, in utter disregard of the convenience of the students at large.

Provisional charters have been granted to the following railway companies:—

Name of Company	Section	Miles	Chains	Capital Yen.
Kyohoku	Obazaki-Otsu	6.18	.....	1,100,000
Asuma	Komigawa-Matsue-shi	13	.....	550,000
Usugishima	Kurashiki-Takeyama	21	.....	800,000

According to the *Hochi*, the anti-Japanese movement is growing in Thursday Island, Australia. In the 22nd year of Meiji (1889) the Japanese immigrants to the island numbered only 19, but have since increased to over 900. One of the reasons for the opposition to Japanese is ascribed to their sagacity and assiduity, with which the white labourers on the plantations can hardly compete. The latter found themselves gradually but steadily deprived of their occupation, being replaced by cheaper labourers from this country. The result has been a loud clamour against the Japanese, who are now represented as a race detrimental to the development of the colony on account of their readiness to return home with their savings. The Chinese, however, are universally welcomed. They appear to come to the country with the object of permanent settlement, in spite of serious differences in the mode of living and general customs of the society with which they are incorporated.

The *Boyski Shimben*, a few days ago, published a paragraph which would lead the reader to believe that some 180 deserters from foreign men-of-war and other vessels are now at large in or around Yokohama. Our vernacular contemporary says:—"The number of marines and seamen who have absented themselves without leave from men-of-war and steamers of various nations from January to the end of October last at Yokohama was as follows:—British, escaped 179, arrested 95, at large 87; American, escaped 162, arrested 75, at large 87; Russian, escaped 4, arrested 3 at large 1; German, escaped 5, arrested 1, at large 4; French, escaped 2, arrested 1, at large 1. The *Boyski* seems to take it for granted that all the leave-breakers not arrested by the police are deserters now at large, whereas the fact is that with very few exceptions all these men returned to their ships without the kind offices of the police. So far as the British and American seamen referred to are concerned, we learn from enquiry at the Consulates, from which the warrants for the arrest of leave-breakers and deserters are issued, that in the course of the current year there has been but one British seaman who has not been accounted for, all the others having either voluntarily returned to their ships or been put on board; while three deserters from an American man-of-war—the only men not returned to their vessels, have been shipped out of the port. Instead of there being 174 British and American deserters at large in Yokohama

there is not a single one, the only British sailor unaccounted for having made his way to Kobe. With regard to the other nationalities referred to we have no statistics, but we entertain not the least doubt that our contemporary is as much at sea in its statements regarding them as it is with the British and American seamen.

The high price of rice having now become a subject of universal comment and anxiety, it may be of interest to know the comparative amounts of the crop for the past two years. According to investigations made at the Shibusa Office and published in the *Shogyo*, the total crop for this year does not exceed 33,861,540 *koku*, against 35,854,809 *koku* last year, thus showing a decrease of 1,993,266 *koku*. Compared with ordinary years it bears the ratio of 8.456 to the average of 10, taken for seven years from the 23rd to the 29th year of *Meiji*. Below are the details:—

Names of cities and prefectures.	Estimated crop for this year.	Crop in ordinary years.
Tokyo, Saitama, Tochigi, Koku.		
Chiba, and Ibaraki.....	3,783,927	4,614,545
Kanagawa, Gumma, Nagano, and Yamanashi	1,926,285	2,320,826
Fukushima, Miyagi, Iwate, and Aomori	3,066,949	3,786,357
Akita, Yamagata, and Niigata	2,911,828	4,773,489
Toyama, Ishikawa, & Fukui	2,148,193	2,983,601
Shizuoka, Aichi, Mito, Gifu, and Shiga	4,893,397	5,097,289
Kioto, Osaka, Hiogo, Nara, and Wakayama	4,027,585	4,576,802
Okayama, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Shimane, and Tottori	3,702,807	4,408,104
Tokushima, Kagawa, Ehime, and Kochi	1,899,307	1,938,068
Saga, and other prefectures in Kiushiu	5,461,743	5,461,743
Hokkaido	39,519	39,519
Total	33,861,540	40,000,343

CHINESE NOTES.

The notorious Chou Han seems to have really disappeared from the scene in Changsha; the triennial examinations have taken place without the posting of any anti-foreign placards on the city walls; a society for the abolition of foot-binding has been formed, and the city is veritably lit by electricity. That is the latest record from Hunan. It comes from a Chinese missionary who is trying very hard to obtain permission for opening a London Mission chapel and school there, but whose success has thus far been small. Incidentally it is worth noting that the citizens of Changsha pay only 20 cash a night for an electric lamp. That means about 65 *sen* a month. People in Tokyo are charged 120 *sen*. Thus electric lighting costs only half as much in the capital of Hunan as it costs in the capital of Japan. There should be plenty of room for competition in Tokyo.

The Wuchang incident has been closed. Unlike the generality of "happenings" in China, it did not obtrude itself on public observation until the necessary official steps had been successfully taken to obtain redress. The affair was this:—The German Minister proceeded in the H.I.G.S. *Cormoran* to Wuchang, and went ashore in one of the ship's boats to visit the Viceroy, the celebrated Chang Chih-tung. During the Minister's absence, the German officers who were with the boat went ashore, and a mob collecting, stoned the men in the boat before the officers' return, and paid the same compliment to the officers as soon as they appeared on the scene. It now appears that the Viceroy has "fully apologized" for the outrage, and the German Minister is satisfied. Doubtless the Viceroy has taken steps to "get even" with the mob.

The insurrection in the north of China—the Têho country—continues to defy the efforts of General Nieh. The rebels appear to be pursuing guerilla tactics with considerable success.

The Chinese have a magnificently keen eye for opportunities. Several enterprising persons

calling themselves "deputies of the Railway Administration in Shanghai" having been selling bogus railway shares to capitalists in out-of-the-way towns up the Yangtze. They "eased" two Hangkow merchants of two thousand taels, and are now being looked after by the police.

Chungking has the honour of being the first city in China to start a newspaper under purely Chinese auspices—we except the *Peking Official Gazette*, of course. There are Chinese newspapers in Shanghai and Tientsin, but they owed their inception to foreign enterprise, and, at the outset of their career, were under foreign control. Indeed we are by no means sure they can yet call themselves independent. Chungking, however, has now a *Yü pao*, or "Chungking News"—Yü being the ancient name of Chungking. It is published once every five days, and wooden blocks are used instead of movable type. The latter strange fact is due to a stranger cause. Type and machinery have been ordered from Shanghai, but will take such a long time to get up the river that the projectors of the *Yü pao* determined to make a start with local resources. What a field China will be for newspaper enterprise one of these days.

The trouble that occurred at the recent race meeting in Shanghai between the representatives of the press and the Secretary of the Race Club was this:—The reporter of the *N.C. Daily News* obtained permission from Mr. MacGregor for himself and his brother-journalists to tiffin in the Owners' and Riders' Room on race days, and availed himself of the permission on two consecutive days. But, on the third day, he was informed by the Secretary that he had no right to come to the Room for such a purpose and the representative of the *Mercury* was refused admission by a policeman. Thereupon the reporters in a body, decided to take no further notice of the races. Correspondence subsequently passed, but no conclusion has been reached, for Mr. MacGregor is absent, and the Stewards apparently deem it necessary to seek confirmation or contradiction of the reporter's statement. It is a singular situation. We learn from the correspondence that when the Secretary addressed a veto to the reporter, the latter explained clearly that he had obtained Mr. MacGregor's permission. Surely the Secretary should then have conferred with Mr. MacGregor before enforcing the interdiction? His conduct seems to have been strangely arbitrary. For he says not a word about his own failure to refer to Mr. MacGregor, and he apparently treats the reporter's statement as quite unworthy of credence unless confirmed by Mr. MacGregor.

We take the following from the *N.C. Daily News*.

According to a memorial presented early this month to the Throne by H.E. Hu, Director-General of Northern Railways, his estimate for the building of the railway extension outside Shanhaikuan to North Kinchou will amount to four million taels, and the railway from Kinchou to Moukden and Kirin will cost another thirty million taels. In the present state of finances at Peking the memorialist regrets to say that unless assistance is obtained through a foreign loan there is no present possibility of commencing work on the proposed railways. He further gives it as his opinion that, owing to the sparse population outside the Great Wall, the net profits accruing from the proposed Shanhaikuan-Kirin Railway will only be sufficient to pay the expenses of running it together with the interest on the foreign loan. As for any chance of being able in the near future to repay the principal from profits derived from the line the memorialist fears that there are no hopes of doing so.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says:—According to a sensational story from Belgrade, ex-King Milan of Serbia recently visited the Metropolitan of Belgrade and demanded an absolute divorce from ex-Queen Natalie. It is said that he declared that the interests of the dynasty require him to marry again, as King Alexander is ill and must go abroad. There are rumours also that Milan will be decreed regent of Serbia.

CHANGES OF LOCAL GOVERNORS.

In consequence of the transfer of the Governor of Kyoto to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the following changes of Local Governors are announced:—

To be Governor of Kyoto, Mr. Uchiyumi Tadakatsu, now Governor of Osaka.
To be Governor of Osaka, Mr. Tokito Tamemoto, now Governor of Aichi.
To be Governor of Aichi, Mr. Egi Chiyuki, now Governor of Tochigi.
To be Governor of Tochigi, Mr. Sento Kyoomi, now Secretary of the Home Department.
To be Governor of Fukui, Mr. Arakawa Gitaro, now Secretary of Kanagawa.
To be Governor of Ehime, Mr. Maki Bokushin, now Governor of Aomori.
To be Governor of Aomori, Mr. Kono Shuichiro.
To be Governor of Tottori, Mr. Seki Shingo, now Secretary of Hiroshima.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Richard Reynolds, the man charged with stabbing a shipmate on board the ship *Clarendon* at Kobe on the 6th inst., was committed for trial by Mr. Playfair, Acting Judge, on the 15th instant.

The Straits Legislative Council has sanctioned the expenditure of \$10,000 for the purpose of converting the vacated military quarters at Penang into a residence for the Governor. The *Straits Times* proposes an increase in the Governor's entertainment allowance.

We learn from home journals that the total cost of the famine to the Indian Government, in the form of direct relief and remissions of taxation, is estimated at ten millions sterling. The contributions from various sources aggregated a million and a half, up to the end of September. Thus the full figure is 11½ millions sterling.

The *Osprey*, a new torpedo boat catcher, just completed by the Fairfield Shipbuilding Company, attained a speed of 31½ knots, and must consequently be regarded as the fastest war vessel afloat. She will not hold that position long, however, for Messrs. Laird have nearly finished the *Express*, which they guarantee shall have a speed of at least 32 knots.

A fine illustration of modern football has been given at Kelvin'side Park, Kirkintilloch. The spectators became so interested that they took a hand—and a number of feet—in it. They also took sticks and stones. In the end the visiting team and their adherents were so badly kicked and mauled that they had to leave the game unfinished. Eh, mon, but it was graun!

The *China Mail* hears that the Benneriz case has been settled, and that the Chinese Government have released all the steamers seized. The expenses paid for the detention of the *Ningchow* in Hongkong are said to be \$25,000, and the Chinese Government are said to have agreed to pay something like three and a half lacs of dollars in settlement of the whole claim.

In the U.S. Consular Court at Kobe, on the 16th instant, the case instituted by Takajiro Kurata, a jinrikisha man, against E. G. Ackermann, for alleged assault and battery, in connection with the recent bicycling trouble, came on for hearing before S. J. Lyon, Esq., Consul and Judge. Mr. Brushfield appeared for the defendant. After evidence had been taken on both sides, and Counsel for the defence had addressed Court, the case was adjourned till the 18th inst.

Kobe's Smoking Concerts are now in full swing. Some new performers have come forward this autumn, we notice, to reinforce the ranks of the sister port's entertainers, among them being Mr. L. C. B. Jabers, Mr. A. D. Jective, Mr. Special Banquet, Miss Wheelks and Mr. Shrimpher—all of whom are said to be full of promise in their various "turns." Yokohama, with a much larger supply of young men, makes a very poor attempt at entertaining itself in this social fashion,

though a "smoker" is looming ahead, we understand; probably taking place this month. Dame Rumour says that "the mysterious Incogniti will burst upon Yokohama some time in January next." The tidings are welcome.

The football season opened in Yokohama on Saturday afternoon by a pick up game (Association Rules) which displayed some very fair play considering the lack of practice and training under which the players had to labour. The sides were very evenly chosen and neither secured any advantage, no goals being scored. We note that the Kobe footballers opened their season the same day with a game between teams captained by Lightfoot and Skinner respectively, the latter winning by two goals to their opponents' one.

In the U.S. Consular Court on Wednesday afternoon, a seaman named John Kerney was charged by the Japanese police, before J. F. Govey Esq., Consul-General and Judge, with being drunk and incapable in a public place. Accused pleaded guilty, and evidence having been produced to the effect that he had been found lying in the street in a drunken sleep and had to be carried to the police station on a stretcher, his Honour convicted accused and sentenced him to pay a fine of \$5. gold, and to be imprisoned for 30 days, or until such time within that period as he could be shipped out of the port.

A correspondent of *The Times*, who describes himself as an ardent admirer and sincere friend of the British Navy, says that he is now in possession of a join. shell which recently pitched among a flock of his sheep grazing near the sea shore, and that were not his house a very solid stone structure it would, he thinks, be soon reduced to a mere heap of bricks and mortar "by the absolutely terrific and really alarming impact and concussion sometimes produced" when her Majesty's ships are firing in the neighbourhood. He adds that "a huge structure of solid timber framing, some 60 ft. long, which had served for a target stage, drifted recently into Swanage Bay, having evidently broken from its mooring." Residence at Swanage must be decidedly piquant if 30 in. shells, 65 ft. target frames and deafening concussions are common visitors from the sea.

More news from Japan! This time it is the usually veracious *Globe* that suffers itself to be the disseminator of pseudo fiction:—Horse-racing in Japan apparently takes place under perfectly ideal conditions. That is, so far as the wealthy are concerned. The prices of admission to the courses are so high as to come only within the reach of the upper classes, and no betting is allowed on any of the courses. The Emperor, though an opponent of gambling, is a great patron of the sport. He has about 3,000 horses, and intends to do all in his power to improve the native breed. It is stated that his agents have recently been all over Europe buying horses on his behalf, and are now in the United States with the intention of buying 20 horses for their Imperial master's stables.

At a gymkhana recently held at Hongkong, the fifth event on the card had some novel conditions attached. A word was selected by the committee which had to be made into as many English dictionary words as possible by a lady, four minutes being allowed. Then the gentleman nominee had to mount and race home with the result. Four points were allowed per word. The event was productive of much amusement. The word "Gather" was printed on slips of paper, sealed in envelopes, and handed to the ladies. Mrs. Ritchie—who nominated Col. The O'Gorman—made 24 words, and secured 96 points; Mrs. Phillips (Mr. Spencer) secured second position with 92 points, and Mrs. Hawkins (Mr. Landale) third, with 84 points.

The race for the Hundred Yards Amateur English Swimming Championship was swum at Hornsey Baths, London, on October 3rd. In the preliminary heats J. H. Tyers, of Man-

chester, the English Champion, beat R. Derbyshire; and J. Helling of Sydney, beat Cohen by four yards; V. Lindberg, of Bondi, being only a touch behind. The final heat proved a magnificent struggle. Helling swam the first 44 yards in 25 seconds. He was then clear. At 76 yards he was a yard in front of Derbyshire, who in turn led Tyers by a yard and a half. Helling missed at the final turn. Tyers then put on a splendid spurt, and eventually won by six inches, Helling and Derbyshire finishing a dead heat for second place. The winner's time was 1 minute 3½ seconds.

A correspondent writing in *The Sydney Mail* over the signature "C. H. S.", has some intelligence to impart which will be just as novel to our readers as it was to the Australian journal. After describing Prince Arisugawa's career in the British Navy, "C. H. S." says:—

In due course of his naval career he studied at the gunnery school, &c., in England, and subsequently entered his own service, in which he is a post-captain, and in that capacity did good work in the late war. Now the wheel of fortune has revolved for him again. Prince Yoshihito Haru no Miya, after 18 years of a feeble hold on life, has gone to his ancestors, and once again, this time, as the children say, "for always," Arisugawa Satsujiro Takahito is Crown Prince of Japan. A year ago, with what results may be guessed, overtures were made to obtain a bride from the House of Orleans for the deceased Yoshihito, but there is no need for such a marrying in Arisugawa's case; he has a wife and bairns of his own race.

A nurse of the Humbledon Union Workhouse has got into trouble for putting on a suit of corduroy ditto and promenading the ground, "causing much amusement." To the porter at the lodge she said, "I say, guv'nor, can you put me up for the night." Whereat the porter was "convulsed with laughter, we are told by a London paper." She has been asked to resign therefore; and now Mr. Hall Caine's friends and foes will doubtless find another opportunity to advertise "The Christian" by discussing whether this nurse is the proto-type or the result of "Glory Quayle."

On November 6th, at Hongkong, a court martial was held on the *Victor Emanuel*, the accused being Montague A. Penfold, assistant paymaster in charge of H.M.S. *Humber*. He was charged with misappropriating public money to the amount of about £30. The Court was composed of Captain Clarke, H.M.S. *Undaunted* (President), Commander Sparks, H.M.S. *Linnet*, Commander Kingmill, H.M.S. *Archer*, Commander Henderson, H.M.S. *Tamar*, and Commander Taylor, H.M.S. *Tamar*. Mr. Lawford, the Commodore's Secretary, was Judge Advocate, and the prisoner's friend was Mr. Wallace, assistant paymaster. The charge was proved and the prisoner was sentenced to lose eighteen months' seniority and to be dismissed his ship.

Sir Andrew Noble, presiding over the annual meeting of the shareholders of Messrs. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Company, said it was fortunate for the firm that they had a well-organised and effective establishment in Italy, which was rendering useful aid on the present occasion, and was capable of being developed to almost every extent, though the need for such expedients was much to be deplored. He denied that it was the wish of employers to crush the men's unions. Since the Amalgamated Society of Engineers came under its present management the employers had been subjected to most vexatious and constant demands. Any attempt to interfere with men using their abilities to the best advantage, and to make able and competent men carry on their backs idle and incompetent men, could mean nothing but disaster to the men and ruin to the engineering trade of the country.

On Wednesday afternoon the marriage took place of Miss Gladys Margaret Moss, daughter of Mr. Charles D. Moss, of H. B. M's Court for Japan, and Mr. Paul Louis Vautier, manager in Tokyo for Messrs Illies and Co. The civil ceremony was performed at the Swiss Consulate,

by Mr. R. Kallen, H. I. G. M. Vice Consul-general, and acting Swiss Consul, and the religious ceremony was conducted in Christ Church by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A. The Church had been prettily decorated by the lady friends of the bride. The bridesmaids were Misses May and Hilare Moss, the bride's sisters, Mr. Edward Bosshart being bestman. The bride was given away by her father. Mr. Griffin presided at the organ and played a march from Handel's Occasional Oratorio, at the opening, and the Bridal March from "Lohengrin," and Mendelssohn's Wedding March at the close of the service. A reception was afterwards held at the house of the bride's parents, No. 103 Bluff.

Professor Mason, of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, U.S., recently discussed the question of scientific evidence, says a home paper. At the American Bar, as at our own, witnesses are classified as liars, —liars, and scientific experts. Mr. Mason endeavours to account for the low grade of science in the scale. He blames first the cross-examination of the court, which does not speak the language of science, and does not understand it. Hence, counsel ask puzzling and sometimes monstrous questions. Scientific witnesses also encounter deep-rooted prejudices in court, which they cannot remove. As President Jordan once said, "There is no nonsense so unscientific that men called educated will not accept it as science"; and they will shift the burden of proof on the man of science opposed to their view. Adverse authorities, and even his own earlier opinions, are quoted against him, so he ought to be well up in these. "If I had only not written my first book," laments the distinguished author, just as a great composer once said of his first opera, "It is one of my early crimes." "The expert, above all things, should provide things honest in the sight of all men. He should be interested in the case as if it were his own, but not allow his interest or feelings to bias his judgment. Experiments should be tried before hand to ensure success. Care must be taken in reports not to leave out matters well-known to the expert but not to the public. In short, the expert should be absolutely truthful, clear and terse in his statements, homely and apt in his illustrations, incapable of being led beyond his proper field, and as fearful of illegitimate knowledge as he is fearless of ignorance."

The following cutting from *Engineering* (not *The Engineer* recently referred to in these columns), has been forwarded to us by Mr. H. S. Bindley, of Tokyo, technical adviser in Japan to Messrs Vickers, who asks us to insert it as explaining exactly the state of affairs with regard to the amalgamation between Messrs Vickers Sons & Co., Limited, and The Maxim-Nordenfelt Gun & Ammunition Company, Limited, and as this forms perhaps the strongest combination between manufacturers ever effected for the construction of war material, we think the subject of considerable interest:—"The purchase of the Barrow-in-Furness Naval Construction Works by Messrs Vickers Sons & Company, Limited, and the amalgamation with the Maxim-Nordenfelt Gun & Ammunition Company, Limited, which has been recommended by the Directors to the shareholders of both companies, constitute, in view of the immense resources of their own establishment at Sheffield, a most important industrial combination, which has great economic advantages; for while the company may build ships and engines, construct armoured plates and guns of every type and size, and produce all sorts of railway material and castings, they can without outside help also complete any type of warship ready for action. Thus there is a national importance involved which should not be lost sight of, especially as it is recognised that the existence of Britain depends on our resources to maintain our maritime power. Messrs Vickers' Works are more than equal to several of the Government establishments. Indeed, few other companies can of themselves so fully meet the demands of a nation in the supply of the weapons of warfare afloat or on land."

CORRESPONDENCE.

WORD MAKING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I read in to-day's *Mail* that at a recent word-making match between ladies in Hongkong, the largest number of words extracted from "Gather," in a space of four minutes, was twenty-four. Probably the excitement of competition prevented the contestants from searching thoroughly; for I have just taken,—confining myself to the same limit of time,—forty-six words from "Gather," to which number one or two others might perhaps be added, since they can doubtless be found in the Dictionary, although possibly obsolete or little used. I presume that a longer and closer search would disclose several additional words. E.H.H.

Yokohama, November 18th, 1897.

THE VISIT OF COL. BACON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am assured that I would express the sentiments of those who had the pleasure of an acquaintance with Col. Bacon, if I should put on record in the columns of the *Mail* a statement of hearty appreciation of his labour of love in Japan. It is not often that prominent "men of business" who come to this country have either the time or the inclination to turn aside from their regular duties to engage in philanthropic work. Too often even a professing Christian, if he happened to drop Sunday on the meridian, as in one case, left it entirely out of his calendar during his entire visit in this country. But Col. Bacon's course elicited admiration for his versatility, and love for his nobility of character, as well as wonder at his energy and powers of endurance; for he was at work somehow and somewhere almost all day and late in the evening.

Col. Bacon is a graduate of West Point Military Academy, where he was a class-mate and roommate of Rev. C. E. Garst, the well-known champion of the single-tax. The title of "Colonel" comes, however, from the fact that he is commander of a regiment of the New York National Guards. He is a prominent lawyer and successful business man, and has been a member of the New York State Legislature. He is an enthusiastic lecturer and reformer, interested in Y.M.C.A., temperance and Sunday observance work, and almost every week addressing large audiences.

The visit of Col. Bacon in Japan occupied about six weeks. He had the honour of dining with Count Itagaki; and he was invited to Count Okuma's garden party, where he had the pleasure of meeting the Countess and having a long and interesting interview with the Count. From Nikko to Kobe he saw Japan hastily; but he was impressed with the natural beauties of this Empire and also with the many admirable qualities of the people. He was unstinted in his praise where it was due, and equally ready to censure and urge reform where needed. Notably he rebuked most fearlessly the shameful prevalence of the social evil, the lack of business integrity (as in failure to keep contracts), and the cowardly habit of committing suicide.

During his stay he delivered perhaps twenty addresses, many of them before large audiences, speaking in Tokyo at the Y. M. C. A., the Central Tabernacle, the Semmon Gakko, the Higher Commercial School, etc., etc. He proved himself a true friend of the Japanese by telling them their faults, but in so kindly a manner that his rebukes were received in the best possible part and the hearty applause indicated a response in the hearts of his hearers. On occasion, he used the Japanese and U.S. flags most impressively, calling upon the Japanese to cleanse their flag of the dishonor that sin brings upon it, just as the United States cleansed hers of the disgrace of slavery. Individual purity he urged his hearers to believe is the highest patriotism.

One of the busiest of business men, he made a unique impression; for it is sadly unusual to see such a man urging faith in Christ and devotion to the Holy Scriptures as the two sure roads to success for the individual and the nation. Col. Bacon's many friends, Japanese and foreign, would gladly urge him, a true and inspiring "missionary to the missionaries," as well as to the unbelievers, to "come again" to Japan.

Yours respectfully, A MISSIONARY.
Tokyo, November 15.

The *London Gazette* announces that King Menelek, of Abyssinia, has been appointed a Knight of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, and that Mr. T. W. Taylor, Chief Justice of Manitoba, has been knighted.

YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

An extraordinary general meeting of the above Club was held on Monday afternoon at Keil's Building, to discuss certain proposed alterations in the Rules of the Club. There were present Messrs. H. Rose, Salabelle, Carst, Carst Jr., G. Hodges, Tucker, Gibbs, H. Irwin, C. S. Averill, Schmiedeke, Black, T. Abbey, F. Owston, A. Owston, G. Scidmore, A. Kingdon, K. Kingdon, A. M. Gale, Manley Jr., M. Pors, Grautoff, Abbey Jr., etc.

On the proposal of Mr. ROSE, Mr. G. SCIDMORE took the chair, and at the request of the latter Mr. ROSE acted as secretary *pro tem*, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. BOYES.

The Chairman said they were convened as an extraordinary meeting to consider certain proposed amendments, which were before them, in the Rules of the Club. The first was Rule 4, which it was proposed to alter to read as follows:—

That the committee shall consist of 3 members, one of whom shall act as President and one as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. The President shall have power to appoint a President *pro tempore*, whenever he is unable to act himself. In event of any disputed question arising, the President shall decide it, and from his decision there shall be no appeal.

After some discussion as to the reasons for reducing the number of the Committee to three, the alteration was proposed by Mr. AVERILL, seconded by Mr. SALABELLE, put to the meeting, and lost.

The next proposal was to alter Rule 13, the last words, "in December," to be altered to "at the time of the Annual General meeting." This was explained and proposed by Mr. ROSE, seconded by Mr. HODGES and carried.

The next change proposed was in sailing Rule No 20, to read: "Racing crews shall be limited to the following numbers:—for 39 raters, no limit, 32 raters, no limit, 26 raters, no limit, 21 raters, 5 men."

Mr. GRAUTOFF proposed and Mr. GIBBS seconded the proposal, which on being put to the meeting was lost.

Mr. R. KINGDON proposed and Mr. HODGES seconded the alteration of Rule 25, the words "either by accident or design" to be altered to "by any cause whatever."

Put to the meeting and carried.

Mr. AVERILL proposed and Mr. GRAUTOFF seconded the alteration of Rule 27: Allowance to Schooners and Yawls, the words "schooners at three-fifths and yawls at four-fifths of their actual rating" to be altered to "schooners at the cube root of 3/5ths of their L X SA, and yawls at the cube root of 4/5ths of their L X SA."

The words at end of section "middle of rating length" to be altered to "middle of L.W.L., and foresail shall be at least 50 per cent. of area of mainsail."

The alteration was put to the meeting and carried, as was also the following clause: Ketches and Luggers: "Allowance at three-fifths their rating" to be altered to "allowance at the cube root of 3/5ths of their L X SA."

In a ketch the distance between the masts to read "not exceed half the mean of over all + L.W.L. length, that the smaller sail is carried at." and that the mizzen mast is stepped forward of rudder post at deck, the sail to be at least 50 per cent. of area of mainsail."

The next clause, that classification be made to correspond to Y.R.A. rules, was proposed and lost.

Mr. AVERILL proposed and Mr. HODGES seconded that for all boats over 17 rating, etc. the words "A Class" and "B Class" be altered to "A Division" and "B Division." Add to Rule 29: "at least half the 'First Prizes' offered shall be sailed for under club-time allowance."

Carried as was also the following clause, Rule 2—alter §2 into "Ven 2" and add:—"That members shall pay the measurement fees, both when entering their boats on the Club Register and also when making alteration necessitating a remeasurement, due notice of which must be given to the Hon. Sec. in writing."

Mr. AVERILL proposed that the alterations in the Sailing Rules be laid on the table, as they required consideration by the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN was against this step, as they were liable in that case to be called up again. He proposed to put the alterations to the meeting *en bloc*. These were read and put to the meeting *seriatim*, some being carried and others lost, as follows:—

1.—Alter "the committee shall award the prizes" to "the prizes shall be awarded."—Lost.

3.—Alter the words, "the officer of the day," insert "and the committee."—Carried.

18.—After the word, "buoy, boat &/or vessel to

mark it out," insert "the Breakwater at the Harbour Entrance excepted."—Carried.

28.—Alter the words, "the Club Courses shall be as follows" to "the majority of the Races shall be sailed over the Club Courses, which shall be as follows:—"

Add to this Rule:

The amount of entrance fees for all classes to be at the discretion of the Committee and to be stated in the Race programmes.—Carried.

29.—Add: (a) The Programme for the Season shall provide for only 12 races in each class, for which record points on club time allowance shall be awarded, two to the first and one to the second boat.

(b) All additional races, whether provided for on the programme or not, to be termed extra races.

(c) Races with record points not to extend beyond Kannon-saki for the A division, and not beyond 7 miles from the Harbour Entrance for the B division, nor to extend over more than one day.

(d) Races without time limit are to be avoided except in the case of cruising races.

(e) Fastest time prize to be awarded on the L.W.L. basis.—Carried.

Mr. A. OWSTON proposed the rule *d* be altered as follows:—*d*. "All races except cruising races are to be subject to a definite time limit, not less than 30 minutes per mile for A division and 40 minutes for the B division." This was put to the meeting, and carried.

This concluded the business of the extraordinary meeting and the Chairman then called the Ordinary Annual Meeting to order.

The CHAIRMAN spoke in high terms of the valuable services of the Hon. Sec., Mr. BOYES, who they all regretted was leaving for Kobe, but they had grounds for hoping that he would return here again later on.

The adoption of the report and accounts was proposed by Mr. SALABELLE, seconded by Mr. HODGES, and carried. The report and accounts were as follow:—

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE, SECRETARY, AND TREASURER OF THE YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

SEASON OF 1897.—REPORT.

The Committee have much pleasure in reporting that during the eleventh season of the Club's existence the sport has been kept up with an enthusiasm that offers abundant promise of its future popularity and growth. An innovation was this year made by giving a "cruising race" to Uraga and round the island of Ukishima, which proved a very enjoyable feature of the sport. Of the 56 races sailed, the most prominent was the regatta held in celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of Her Britannic Majesty's accession to the throne, and the members will look back upon that regatta as one of the most important in the Club's history.

The entries were very numerous, not less than 29 boats taking part in the races, towards the prizes for which the members and the public contributed very liberally. The thanks of the Club are also due to the local press for their continued support and promotion of the interests of the sport.

The fleet has been increased by a new competitor in the 39 rating class, the centre-board cutter *Riever*. She did not at first prove a success under her old rig against the Yokohama craft, but with her fine new sails she will have a look in for the prizes in certain breezes. *Mary* did not dim her old fame and again proved that she was able to win under heavy handicaps when the weather suited her. *Golden Hind*, the most powerful vessel of our Club, broke the record this season with an actual speed of 7.54 knots over a 22 miles course and secured second place for record points with her yawl rig allowance, *Maid Marion* and *Spray* being very close to the same number of points.

In the 26 rating class *Molly Bawn* secured most of the prizes, being of a far superior racing type to her competitors; *Ideal*, the smallest boat of this class, taking second place, and having good racing with her larger sisters all through the season.

The 17 raters received an addition by *Snap*, now *Devonia*, of the type of *Bonito*, a valuable acquisition to this class.

Eclair, equipped with a new suit of sails, reducing her to 16½ rating, maintained her position at the head of the class, besides winning the fastest time prize on full Club-time allowance. *Isabelle* showed her power in rough weather, whilst *Petrel* did not race this season.

The 12 raters.—Mr. Alan Owston's school for young yachtsmen—were represented by six boats, of which *Susume* and *Chocho* secured most of the prizes and record points. This class, with its short courses in full view of the Bund, added greatly to the interest in racing taken by onlookers.

The full theoretical time allowance adopted at last year's meeting has given entire satisfaction, save to those boats of older age, for which somewhat large handicaps are at times needed.

The rig allowance as worked this season seems to have been in excess of the intention of its promoters, and it is proposed to rectify it. A few changes in minor details of rules have been suggested; but with,

these few exceptions no alteration seems required and our rules give general satisfaction.

Appended is the Treasurer's Report

T. ABBEY
T. M. LAFFIN } Committee.
H. ROSE

YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB—SEASON 1897.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Receipts.	Yen.
Annual dues from members	366.00
Entrance fees for Races...	488.00
Prizes in cash	772.00
Measurement fees	50.00
	Yen 1,567.00
Disbursement.	Yen.
Prizes	1,339.04
Flag-boat hire	12.50
Ammunition and gun repair	23.26
Measurement fees	30.00
Advertising and Printing	180.50
Collector's Commission	5.00
Gratuities	20.00
	Yen 1,557.00

RICHARD BOYSS.

Examined with the Vouchers and found correct.

W. GAUTOFF.

Yokohama, 6th November, 1897.

The CHAIRMAN proposed and Mr. HODGES seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, and the Committee, which was carried unanimously.

On the ballot for officers the following gentlemen were declared elected: Messrs. H. Rose, J. O. Averil, M. Pors, G. Hodges and T. Abbey.

Mr. BOYSS, the retiring Hon. Sec., who had come in after the opening of the ordinary meeting, read a letter from Mr. Jas. Troup, H.B.M. Consul, accompanying a very fine Cup presented by the British Residents of Yokohama on the occasion of the Jubilee of Queen Victoria. The question arose as to what should be done with the Cup.

Mr. ABBEY proposed that it should be sailed for by the whole fleet on Her Majesty's Birthday.

Mr. HODGES proposed that it should be won twice over by any one boat, in races on the Queen's Birthday, on Club time allowance.

With the amendment that the date of sailing be left to the Committee, Mr. Hodges motion was carried.

This concluded the business before the meeting.

THE SEASON'S RECORDS.

The Yokohama Yacht Club has just finished another season, making the eleventh since it was first instituted under the more modest title of the Yokohama Sailing Club. Although the past summer was unusually rainy and the wind somewhat fickle, the racing was carried on throughout with much spirit, fifty races being sailed to a finish, viz., fourteen by the 39-rating class, twelve by the 26-raters, twelve by the 17-raters, and twelve by the 12-raters. In addition to these there was a long cruising race sailed by the 39-raters, and there were also several races which failed for want of wind. Among the latter may be included the winding-up race of the season on the 2nd October, which was a failure as a contest, although some of the yachts finished the course. The record prizes in the several classes were won by the following yachts:—

39 rating Class ... <i>Mary</i>	with 12 points
26-rating Class ... <i>Molly Bawn</i>	19 points
17-rating Class ... <i>Eclair</i>	16 points
12 rating Class ... <i>Susume</i>	10 points

No races were provided for the 32-rating class, the two yachts *Daimyo* and *Swanild*, which belong to that class, being sailed with the 39-raters in the few races in which they competed. The 21-rating class, although giving a very handy-sized boat, has never been patronised, and it is now a matter of doubt whether many of the members of the Club are aware that such a class has been provided for in the Club rules. The other four classes were well represented, there being a good list of entries for every race. There are at the present time 30 yachts and sailing boats on the Club register, all but two of which competed in the races of the past season, and a large proportion of them sailed in nearly all the races arranged for their respective classes.

The following table gives a comparison of the average speeds of the record prize-winners for the past and the preceding six seasons:—

AVERAGE SPEED OF RECORD PRIZE WINNERS.

Raters.	Miles Sailed.	Speed in knots.
39..... <i>Aborigine</i>	17	3.3
32..... <i>Daimyo</i>	163	3.7
26..... <i>Molly Bawn</i>	143½	3.5
17..... <i>Fessie</i>	30½	3.3
	1892.	
39..... <i>Aborigine</i>	8½	2.2
32..... <i>Daimyo</i>	155½	3.7
26..... <i>Molly Bawn</i>	155½	3.5
17..... <i>Fessie</i>	58½	2.9

1893.

39..... <i>Maid Marion</i>	133½	3.5
32..... <i>Mary I.</i>	116½	3.8
26..... <i>Molly Bawn</i>	161½	3.5
17..... <i>Daisy</i>	42	2.9

1894.

39..... <i>Maid Marion</i>	143	4.2
32..... <i>Spray</i>	148½	4.2
26..... <i>Sea Gull</i>	157	3.7
17..... <i>Daisy</i>	42½	3.5

1895.

39..... <i>Mary II.</i>	150	4.2
26..... <i>Daimyo</i>	141	3.6
17..... <i>Sans Nom</i>	60	3.0
16..... <i>Petrel</i>	39	3.1

1896.

39..... <i>Mary</i>	214	4.5
26..... <i>Albatross</i>	101	3.4
17..... <i>Ronin</i>	115½	3.4
12..... <i>Eclair</i>	59	3.4
12..... <i>Aims</i>	—	—

1897.

39..... <i>Mary</i>	134½	4.2
26..... <i>Molly Bawn</i>	88	2.9
17..... <i>Eclair</i>	66	3.4
12..... <i>Susume</i>	—	—

Taking wind and weather into account, the speed of the 39 and 26-raters remains about the same as during the three preceding years. This is as might be expected, there having been no new fast racing yacht added to the fleet during that time. In the 17-rating class there is an improvement, the fin-keel boats lately built being undoubtedly faster than the older types, as represented by boats like *Coogee* and *Undine*, although these latter are still good enough to pick up a prize now and then. Although heavily handicapped in most of the races, *Mary* still keeps up her reputation as the fastest all-round yacht in the Club, and she won a fair share of the prizes. In strong breezes she has, however, at last found her match in *Golden Hind*, which yacht has on more than one occasion succeeded in crossing the winning line a considerable distance ahead of her. *Tori* had her lead lowered at the beginning of the season and was also rigged up with a new and improved sail plan, by which she appeared to be much improved. However, she was very unfortunate and failed to win a single prize. This yacht would very likely be faster if her spars were slightly reduced; at present she carries much more sail than any other yacht in the class and apparently without being benefited by it. The latest addition to the 39 rating class is *Riever*, a keel and centreboard yacht about the same size as *Maid Marion*. This yacht came from Kobe rigged as a lugger, but has since been greatly improved by being altered into a cutter. So far she has hardly proved a match for the Yokohama yachts, but as she is fairly speedy under some conditions she may have better luck next year than she has had so far. *Maid Marion* was in good trim and was very well sailed throughout the season, with the result that she won three first prizes. *Spray* sailed in about the same form as last year, and although only winning one first, was well in the racing and gathered eight second and third prizes. *Golden Hind* came out this season as a yawl and her new rig seems to suit her very well. Having such a small sail-plan she is, of course, nowhere in a drifting match, but with a good topsail breeze she can walk away from the whole fleet. At the end of the season she had five first and one second prize to her credit, not at all a bad record for a cruiser, particularly as she came in first in three of the races. In the 26-rating class *Molly Bawn* had pretty well her own way. In a fresh breeze she was now and then closely pressed by *Albatross* and *Surprise*, but in a light breeze they could come nowhere near her and she consequently headed the list with a string of twelve prizes. Another good boat in this class is *Ideal*. If she were bigger she would do very well in the racing; as it was, she won seven prizes though mostly by the aid of handicaps. The best racing after all was with the 17-rating class, the boats being more evenly matched than in the larger classes, and the competition was very keen. *Eclair* appears to be still the fastest boat in this class, although the fin-keel boats *Snap* (now *Devonia*) and *Bonito* are pretty nearly a match for her. *Snap* is a new boat this season and has been fairly successful. She had the honour of winning the gold cup for 17-raters on the Diamond Jubilee day. *Coogee* came out under a new rig and proved herself to be a good boat, though of an old type, her best point was in strong breezes. *Undine* also sailed very well in several races and secured her share of the prizes. The 12-rating class, represented by six boats, provided some good sport for the junior members, and at times considerable amusement to the spectators. These 12-raters are capital little boats in which to learn the art of boat-sailing, and there was a noticeable improvement in the manner in

which they were handled compared with last season. *Susume* was the most successful among them and had the luck to win one-third of the prizes, including the record.

The weather during the past racing season was rather unsettled and the winds very unsteady. Eliminating all races that were not finished on account of insufficient wind, half were sailed in light breezes the other half being about equally divided between moderate and fresh breezes. As a number of races failed for want of wind it will be evident that on the whole the prevailing breezes during the summer afternoons were very light. The following notes are extracted from Reports of the Meteorological Bureau: being made from observation made at 2 p.m. each day they are necessarily incomplete, but will give a tolerable idea of the weather. During the five months of the yachting season, say from 1st May to 30th Sept., there were 22 rainy, 22 cloudy, and 49 fair and clear days. The wind force recorded during the same period gives:—Calm 1 day. Force 1, 18 days; 2, 52 days; 3, 60 days; 4, 22 days. The wind scale used by the Meteorological Bureau is Force 1 to 6 being half of the Beaufort Scale. Force 3 therefore must be understood as equal to force 5 to 6 of the Beaufort Scale.

At the end of last season it was resolved to double the scale of time allowance in the hope that resort to arbitrary handicapping would be reduced. Handicaps have, however, been applied as much, and as heavily, as before and have given rise to discussion amongst the yachtsmen as to their necessity. It may perhaps interest them to see how the present time allowance works out when applied to the average speed of the yachts. If all the yachts had sailed the same distance together, over the same courses, this would give the value of the allowance exactly, but as the circumstances under which they sailed were in many cases different, the table below can give no more than a general idea, though perhaps sufficient to show that, given equally good boats, the time allowance is quite enough to make up for difference in rating:—

Rating	Miles Sailed.	Elapsed Time.	Actual Speed.	Corrected Speed.
		h. m. s.	kt.	kt.
<i>Golden Hind</i> ...39	75½	16 02.53	4.7	4.7
<i>Mary</i> ...39	134½	31 36.33	4.3	4.3
<i>Tori</i> ...39	68	14 50.51	4.6	4.6
<i>Riever</i> ...37½	99½	28 11.49	3.5	3.6
<i>Maid Marion</i> ...37	137½	31 53.03	4.3	4.4
<i>Spray</i> ...34	134½	34 25.59	3.9	4.1
<i>Albatross</i> ...26	78	27 36.27	2.8	3.1
<i>Surprise</i> ...26	67	20 11.21	2.6	2.8
<i>Molly Bawn</i> ...25½	88	29 52.37	3.9	3.3
<i>Ronin</i> ...22½	34½	11 49.21	2.9	3.4
<i>Ideal</i> ...21½	63	23 46.18	2.7	3.1
<i>Coogee</i> ...17	56	18 07.14	3.1	4.1
<i>Isabelle</i> ...17	35	10 57.42	3.2	4.3
<i>Violet</i> ...17	34	11 12.52	2.9	3.9
<i>Snap</i> ...16½	56	17 10.50	3.2	4.5
<i>Bonito</i> ...16½	60	18 10.31	3.3	4.6
<i>Undine</i> ...16½	49	15 17.25	3.2	4.4
<i>Eclair</i> ...16½	66	19 41.49	3.4	4.7

The above speeds are corrected throughout by the time allowance from 39 rating.

A YOKOHAMA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

It is stated that there are 150,000 blind persons in Japan—and it may be safely assumed that a large proportion of these are poor, and very poor. This unfortunate class is also credited with a low standard of morality, and it is said that there is much depravity among them. Of late years a little effort has been made in some cities by local government authorities towards the improvement of the condition of the blind; one school has been opened in Tokyo and another in Kyoto. There is also a school in Gifu; but all told the attendance numbers but a few score.

Some five years ago, a benevolent widow lady, residing in Yokohama, was moved to attempt something for the blind in this place, and under her auspices, in September, 1892, a small house at the foot of Ushizaka was hired, and a school for the blind commenced. One little girl was the first pupil, but gradually the numbers increased and the accommodation at Ushizaka was found to be too limited. In 1894, a larger place in Umegayacho was hired. The regular pupils now number twenty-seven, while many more attend for short periods. A graduate from the Tokyo Blind School teaches acupuncture, the system of dots for the reading of the Japanese alphabet, and massage. From a female teacher the pupils learn the *Koto*. Instruction is given also in the ordinary subjects of school education: this and the general charge of the school are in the hands of Mr. T. Kasahara, who also gives scriptural instructions and teaches

the pupils to sing hymns. Thus, while the school seeks to fit the scholars for their work and to help them to earn their livelihood, it seeks also their moral and spiritual welfare.

Some of the pupils are very young: the youngest at present is only nine years old. The older blind employ a number of blind children, both boys and girls, to work for them, and it would seem that these poor children are sometimes severely treated; if they fail to earn and bring home money they are beaten by their cruel masters. These masters are too often noted for their vicious lives, and the lot of the children becomes thus all the more pitiable. They are expected to work from noon to five o'clock, and again from 6 o'clock to one in the morning. Under these circumstances, education is carried on with difficulty, but the results have been such as to greatly encourage the teachers. Some brightness has been brought into many poor lives, and in one case a notably cruel master has been transformed into a true father to the children he employs. During the past years, twenty-five blind have been baptized into the Christian faith; and these converts are now seeking, out of their scanty earnings, to help the sick and the poor, and to lead others to hear for themselves the good news which has changed their own lives.

The expenses of this work have hitherto been met by donations from a few friends who have become acquainted with what is doing; but now Mrs. Draper is desirous of enlarging the sphere of operations, and especially, wishes to provide a larger house where the blind might be lodged and perhaps boarded;—not gratuitously but on payment of cost. Such a place would save the children from much of the hardship of their lot, and would be also a boon to others, especially to those who come to the school from a distance. Dr. Whitney, of Tokyo and Yokohama, Mr. A. J. Wilkin, of Yokohama, and the *Japan Mail* will be happy to receive donations from those disposed to help to maintain and expand the good work now doing.

IN H.B.M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

IN ADMIRALTY.

Before H. S. WILKINSON, Esq., Acting Judge.—
TUESDAY, NOV. 16TH.

THE "MELPOMENE" v. "PATROCLUS" CASE.

JUDGMENT.

Judgment was given by Mr. Justice Wilkinson on Tuesday morning in the suit instituted by the owners of the Austrian Lloyd steamer *Melpomene* against the master and owners of the British steamer *Patroclus* for damages alleged to have been sustained by collision of the two vessels on the 9th Sept. last. Mr. Lowder appeared for the Plaintiffs and Mr. Walford for Defendants.

His Honour said:—

This is a suit for damage by collision. The Plaintiffs are the Master and Owners of the Austro-Hungarian steamship *Melpomene* and Defendants are the Owners of the British steamship *Patroclus*.

On the morning of the 9th of September last, the *Melpomene* was lying in the harbour of Yokohama, moored to a buoy on the northern side of the harbour called the Shell Line buoy. To the eastward of the *Melpomene* the German warship *Irene* was lying at anchor. The *Patroclus* was lying to the southward of the *Melpomene*, moored to a buoy called the P. & O. buoy. This latter buoy was dragged that morning from its original position, and I was informed by Counsel at the hearing that they had been unable to ascertain exactly what that original position was, but the evidence would seem to place it south, or south by west from the Shell Line buoy and about 1,600 feet distant. Between the *Patroclus* and the *Melpomene*, and rather to the westward, lay the German flagship *Kaiser*, moored to a buoy called the Pacific Mail North Buoy.

On the 8th of September there had been variable winds from the second quadrant (S. to E.) with heavy rain. At two o'clock on the morning of the 9th the wind had freshened; by five o'clock it was blowing typhoon force, and at some time between five and six there was what is described on both sides as a terrific squall, during which the *Patroclus* dragged, and eventually came into collision with the *Melpomene*.

In the petition on behalf of the *Melpomene* it is alleged that those on board the *Patroclus* failed to take proper measures to ride out the storm. It is charged that she was moored to a buoy with only 5 fathoms of chain, and though the strain threatened to become, and eventually did become, greater than the holding power of her moorings, nevertheless the chain was not eased or slackened and no other effectual measures were taken to relieve the strain, by reason of which neglect the

Patroclus dragged her mooring and (having no steam up) came into collision with the *Melpomene*.

In the answer filed on behalf of the *Patroclus* it is alleged that at 5 a.m., when the wind had increased to typhoon force, the starboard anchor of the *Patroclus* was let go; that no chain was then or had been let out from the *Patroclus* because she was so high out of the water, and the position of the German ships was such that to have paid out chain would have greatly increased the danger of collision and must have resulted in far more serious consequences if a collision had occurred; that when about 5.45 a.m. the *Patroclus* was struck by the terrific squall which caused her to drag her moorings, ample chain was then paid out to the starboard anchor, but that both that and the buoy moorings were dragged until the *Patroclus* was brought up astern of the *Kaiser* heading nearly west, and afterwards in swinging round with her head coming to the wind she came into collision with the *Melpomene*; that the dragging of the moorings and anchor as aforesaid happened without any neglect or default or mismanagement of any person on board the *Patroclus*, and was the result of inevitable accident. And it is further alleged that those on board the *Melpomene* improperly neglected to keep a good look out; that before and during the time the *Patroclus* was dragging the port anchor of the *Melpomene* was hanging in the bridle and on the tackles, and although from the time when the *Patroclus* commenced to drag she was continuously approaching the *Melpomene* and threatening a collision, those on board the *Melpomene* improperly neglected to remove the anchor from that position, and that when the *Patroclus* was brought up as aforesaid, those on board the *Melpomene* improperly neglected to pay out chain to the buoy to which the *Melpomene* was attached: that the collision and the damages consequent thereon would have been avoided if those on board the *Melpomene* had exercised ordinary care, and would not have occurred but for their neglect and default in not paying out chain and in not removing their port anchor from its dangerous position, and that the collision and damages were not occasioned by any neglect or default or mismanagement of any person or persons on board the *Patroclus*.

It being admitted that the *Melpomene* was stationary at her moorings and that the *Patroclus* came into collision with her, it lay upon the *Patroclus* to show that the collision was not due to any negligence of those on board of her. The defence of inevitable accident has accordingly been set up, and in support of that defence it has been established, and indeed is not disputed, that the drifting which eventuated in the collision was caused by a terrific squall which caused the moorings of the buoy to drag. But it is contended on behalf of the *Melpomene* that the master of the *Patroclus* was to blame in not having taken precautions, before the squall struck her, which would have averted the collision or at least rendered it less probable. At the time the squall struck the *Patroclus* she was moored to the buoy by her port cable with about five fathoms of chain and with her starboard anchor underfoot, and it is urged on behalf of the plaintiffs that under the circumstances the master was to blame for trusting to the buoy at least to the extent he did trust to it. It appears that the buoys in the harbour of Yokohama are not laid down under the superintendence of the harbour authorities, and that no regulations have been made by the harbour authorities as to the anchoring or mooring of vessels, except to prescribe a space near the fairway for vessels entering or leaving the harbour and another space in the vicinity of the pier within which buoys are not allowed to be laid down or vessels allowed to be anchored. The buoy to which the *Patroclus* was moored was, as its name implies, a buoy belonging to the P. & O. Company. It had been laid down by them for their own steamers, but was no longer employed for that purpose, the P. & O. steamers being now berthed at the pier. It was, however, almost constantly in use by other vessels and frequently by vessels of a very large size. Except for the degree of responsibility assumed to be exercised by the harbour authorities the conditions as regards the buoys were similar to those in the case of the *William Lindsay* (L. R. 5 P.C. 338). What was considered a proper assumption from the facts in that case—that the harbour authorities treat the buoys as proper and sufficient mooring places for vessels frequenting the port—could scarcely be sustained on the facts in the present case, but the principle of that case seems nevertheless to apply to this. The Lords of the Privy Council in their decision in that case, after stating that they could not think that there was anything like negligence in the matter of the *William Lindsay* in mooring at one of the buoys there referred to without examining for himself whether there might be latent defects in it, said:—

"These questions of negligence must be decided by what a prudent and skilful seaman would do under the circumstances, and by what he is able to do. It is obvious that no man, however, prudent and however desirous to be on the safe side, would be able to examine these buoys, so as to discover whether there were latent defects in them or not. He must, to a certain extent, trust to the sanction which has been given to them by the authorities of the port. No doubt that would not absolve him from all further precaution. He ought not implicitly to trust to that which he cannot to a certainty know is a safe buoy, and he ought to take reasonable precautions, in the event of its not holding, to bring up and secure himself from danger."

If for the sanction of the authorities of the port is substituted the fact of the previous constant use of the buoy, coupled with the fact of there being no buoys in the harbour for which the authorities had assumed responsibility, the cases are alike—alike as regards the propriety of the Master mooring to the buoy, alike as regards the inability of the master to know with certainty whether it was sufficient to hold him, and alike as to the obligation upon him to take reasonable precautions in view of the possibility of its not holding him. The question as to whether there was any negligence on the part of the Master in mooring to the buoy is to be answered in the negative.

The next question is whether, having moored to this buoy, the Master ought to have taken any other precautions than he did. It was scarcely contended on the part of the Plaintiffs that the Master need have done more in ordinary weather, and so long as ordinary weather might be anticipated, than fasten the chain as he did to the buoy; but it is suggested that in view of the season of the year, when bad weather might be anticipated, and in view of the size and trim of the vessel—a vessel with a carrying capacity of 8,000 tons, with most of the cargo discharged and drawing only 14 feet 9 inches as her draft, when loaded being 25 feet—she ought not when the storm came on to have been trusting to the buoy alone, and that after the storm came on she ought not only to have dropped her starboard anchor, but to have veered chain so as to bring the starboard anchor into use, and not to hold on to the buoy with only five fathoms chain; and it was also suggested that if the fact was as urged on behalf of the Defendants, that there was not room for the *Patroclus* to veer chain, then the Master was to blame in view of the weather which at that season ought to be anticipated, in taking up a position in which he could not veer chain, or, if in that position, in not having both his own anchors down, which might have held him, instead of having one of his cables fast to the buoy. It was also suggested that he ought to have had steam up.

Upon the questions thus raised, I conferred with the Nautical Assessors, whose valuable assistance I had at the hearing, and I explained to them the law with respect to the amount of care, caution, and skill that is required in order to establish the defence of inevitable accident, and the following are the conclusions at which we arrived. First, as regards the fact of steam not having been ready, that no blame attaches to those on board the *Patroclus*, but, second, as regards the anchor, that the port chain of the *Patroclus* ought before the time she began to drag to have been veered sufficiently to bring the starboard anchor into use, and, third, that, if this had been done, the collision would have been rendered less probable. The evidence shows that four hours was the shortest time in which steam could have been got up so as to work the engines, and it appears to me, and in this I am confirmed by the Nautical Assessors, that the obligation upon the master to order steam to be got up did not arise so much as four hours before the collision. Upon the evidence it appears that, as a fact, steam was ordered about four, and was ready about eight o'clock. On the *Melpomene* it was ordered at half past two, but it was not ready at the time of the collision. If ordered on the *Patroclus* at that time or even two o'clock, which is the earliest hour suggested—it would not have been ready.

The fact, however, that steam was not up when the storm came on, and could not be got for four hours, was one of the circumstances which had to be taken into consideration by the Master in considering whether any and what other precautions ought to be taken by him to avoid danger to himself and to other vessels in his vicinity. In the opinion of the Assessors, in which I entirely concur, the circumstances in this case were so different from those in the case of the *William Lindsay* that the precaution of having an anchor ready, which was considered sufficient in that case, (or the precaution which was adopted in this case of

dropping it underfoot) was an insufficient precaution, and that the starboard anchor ought to have been brought into use to assist the moorings of the buoy, that a further precaution was necessary and that the further precaution of bringing the starboard anchor into use to assist the moorings of the buoy ought to have been adopted. It may be here right to take notice of an argument put forward by Counsel on behalf of the Defendants, although a decision upon the point is no longer essential, in view of the conclusion arrived at that the *Patroclus* had room to veer cable. It being urged on behalf of the Defendants that there was not room, Counsel for the Plaintiffs argued that if that was the case then additional precautions, which he indicated, ought to have been taken, but Counsel for the Defence contended that so to argue was to contradict the Plaintiffs' preliminary act which placed the *Patroclus* and *Melpomene* at such a distance apart that after deducting the distance which the *Kaiser* was shown to be from the *Melpomene* the distance left between the *Patroclus* and the *Kaiser* must have been ample to allow cable to be veered and he urged that the Plaintiffs having committed themselves to the statement of distance in the preliminary act, while it was open to the Defendants to show that the distance was much less they were not liable to the Plaintiff for failing to take precautions which the shortness of the distance might have rendered necessary or desirable. It appears to me that to allow this contention would in any case be carrying to its utmost limit the rule with regard to the necessity of adherence to the pleadings, but the case of the *Alice* and *Rosita*, (L. R. 2 P. C. 214) seems to show that the rule only applies where the averment is material to the issue raised, and that in the case of vessels at anchor such an averment as that of the bearing of the two vessels (and the same rule seems to apply to the distance between them) is not such a material fact to the issue, which is, which vessel caused the collision, as to bring the rule into effect. In that case, it was alleged on behalf of the *Rosita* that the *Alice* had been riding about half a mile to the south west of the *Rosita* and that she came down asthward the tide towards the *Rosita* and so the injury happened. It was proved that she was to the south east and not to the south west, and that if she had been to the south west the collision never could have taken place in the way it did. But the Lords of the Privy Council distinguishing the case of vessels in motion and vessels originally at anchor, decided that the bearing of two vessels was not an essential element in the statement of the cause of injury, and that the claim of the *Rosita* was not prejudiced by the statement that the *Alice* was lying to the south west of her before the collision. Their Lordships' remarks moreover, as to the possibility of the other side being misled, apply exactly to the present case. "With regard to the possibility of any misleading there could have been none in this case, because it is quite clear that the *Alice* stated the circumstances according to her own view; and placed the vessels in the exact position in which they were proved to be; therefore even if the possibility of being misled could have been an objection to these pleadings, the objection would have failed for want of a foundation."

The Defendants having failed to relieve themselves of the burden of showing that the dragging was due to inevitable accident, the next question to be considered is the conduct of those on board the *Melpomene* in relation to the collision and the damage caused by it.

It is clear upon the evidence that the material damage to the *Melpomene* was occasioned by reason of her port anchor being carried as it was carried, and would not have been occasioned if the anchor had been taken in board or had been lowered or let go. The damage, if any, occasioned otherwise than by the anchor was inconsiderable. Having arrived at this conclusion the question becomes, according to the judgment of the Court of Appeal in the case of the *Margaret* (6 P. D. 76) a question as to liability for the damage done, as distinct from the collision. The damage would not have been done if the *Patroclus* had not drifted down upon and come into collision with the *Melpomene*, but neither would it have been done if the anchor had not been where it was.

The Defendants say that it ought not to have been where it was at the moment of the collision. It is not contended on behalf of the Defendants that the position of the anchor was an improper position for it to be in up till the moment the *Patroclus* began to drag, but it is suggested that when those on board the *Melpomene* saw that the *Patroclus* was dragging, they ought to have prepared for the collision and if they were not able to get the anchor out of the way by taking it in board, they ought to have lowered it or dropped it.

Upon this question I conferred with the Nautical Assessors and explained to them the degree of care, skill and promptitude required under circumstances in which one vessel by its movements, places another under the necessity of taking measures to avoid a collision which without such measures cannot be averted, and I drew their attention to the doctrine laid down in the case of the *Bywell Castle* (4 P. D. 219) as to the care or skill required by the master of a vessel when placed in circumstances of difficulty by the wrongful act of another vessel.

The conclusion at which we have arrived is—that the port anchor of the *Melpomene* ought to have been lowered or dropped before the collision, and that if this had been done the damage caused to the *Melpomene* by the anchor would have been avoided.

The Defendants also contended that the chain of the *Melpomene* ought to have been veered, but it is not necessary to decide the point. If it were, I might possibly have to adopt the suggestion of counsel for the Defendants and take further evidence. Having arrived at the conclusion that the *Melpomene* is to blame, in respect of the anchor, the decision of the further question seems unnecessary.

It has been contended on behalf of the Defendants that even though the *Patroclus* may be found to blame for the dragging which eventuated in the collision, the Plaintiffs are not entitled to recover anything if the collision or the damage could have been avoided by those on board the *Melpomene* taking in or lowering or dropping their port anchor, upon the principles underlying a class of cases of which the case of *Davis v. Mann* (10 M. and W. 546), usually known as the "Donkey Case" is the best known example. The facts of this case are thus stated in Pollock's Law of Torts (3rd edition, p. 411): "There the Plaintiff had turned his ass loose in a highway with its forefeet fettered, and it was run over by the Defendant's wagon going at a snail's pace." It was held a proper direction to the jury that whatever they thought of the plaintiff's conduct, he was still entitled to his remedy if the accident might have been avoided by the exercise of ordinary care on the part of the driver. Otherwise a man might justify the driving over goods left on the public highway or even a man lying sleeping there, or the purposely running against a carriage going on the wrong side of the road. If the principle were confined to such cases as are here referred to the application would be easy enough. They are all cases of commission by persons who had an opportunity of judging what the result of their action would be, and differ from the present case where the act of negligence charged is one of omission. The principle, however, extends to acts of omission also, though its application to such cases will, I believe, be found to be comparatively rare. I find none exactly like the present in which it has been applied. But that might not prevent its application if on principle it is properly applicable. The rules derivable from the cases have been stated in various ways. I have been asked by Counsel for the Plaintiffs to apply the rules as laid down by a writer cited in Pollock's Law of Torts, which is that in cases where acts of negligence on the part of the Plaintiff and Defendant are not simultaneous but successive "he who last has an opportunity of avoiding the accident, notwithstanding the negligence of the other, is solely responsible." It is argued that the obligation of the disposing of the anchor having arisen subsequently to the dragging occasioned by the negligence on the part of the *Patroclus*, the *Melpomene* is to be held solely to blame. But it is quite clear that this rule cannot be applied without reservation, and faith in its correctness is not strengthened by the grounds assigned for it "that the law looks to the proximate cause, or, in other words, will not measure out responsibility in halves or other fractions, but holds that person liable who was in the main the cause of injury." The law in cases of collision does measure out responsibility in halves, and the problem in the present case is whether it is or is not to be measured in halves. In Marsden's Collisions at Sea, the following is given as the apparent result of the cases as applied to cases of collision:

(1) A ship A., may recover full damages against another, B., though she (A.), has been guilty of negligence contributing to the collision, provided B. could have with ordinary care, exerted up to the moment of the collision, have avoided it.

(2) A. can recover nothing though B. was guilty of negligence contributing to the collision, if A., by ordinary care, exerted up to the moment of the collision, could have avoided it.

(3) A. may recover half her loss, though she has been guilty of negligence contributing to the collision and rendering the collision unavoidable

except by extraordinary care on A's part, and (4) in the last case B. may also recover half her loss.

I think that the third rule applies in the present case, that here A. (the *Melpomene*) is entitled to recover half her loss. It appears to me that B. (the *Patroclus*) has been guilty of negligence contributing to the collision, and rendering it unavoidable except by extraordinary care on the part of the *Melpomene*.

The lowering of the anchor was a reasonable and proper precaution to take, and I agree with the Assessors in thinking that there was sufficient time allowed the Master of the *Melpomene* to take that precaution to prevent the "agony of the moment" excuse applying, but under all the circumstances I consider that the Master of the *Melpomene* if he had lowered the anchor would have been exercising extraordinary care rather than ordinary care within the meaning of the rule.

Put in another way I find that the dragging was not a remote cause, but one of the proximate causes of the damage.

On the whole then I pronounce both vessels to blame for the damage. The damages to the *Melpomene* occasioned by the collision are therefore to be borne equally by the owners of the *Melpomene* and the owners of the *Patroclus*; and the Defendants and their bail are condemned in a moiety of the Plaintiff's claim in respect of such damages. The damages will be referred to the Registrar to assess the amount. There will be no order as to costs.

IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC SPORTS.

Glorious weather favoured the autumn athletic sports of the Teikoku Daigaku Undokwai (Imperial University Sports Association) on Saturday afternoon, and the picturesque banks and knolls bordering on the play ground of the University, which were gaily decorated with garlands of flags, were crowded with spectators, comprising undergraduates of the University, boys of the Nobles' School, the Tokyo High School, etc., and foreign and Japanese ladies. Among the more notable persons present were the young sons of the late Prince Kitashirikawa, Dr. Hamao, the new Minister of Education, the Vice-Minister and his daughters, the new President and Vice President of the University, Professors Toyama and Kikuchi, etc. Some capital sport was witnessed and while in several instances the events showed rather a falling off in times from previous years, on the other hand two records were made. It must be borne in mind when considering the time made in the 100 yards race, that the track is really only 95 yards long. All the arrangements were most satisfactorily carried out by Prof. Tanakadate as Judge, with an efficient staff of stewards to assist him. At the close of the sports the prizes, useful and ornamental, were presented to the successful competitors by the President of the University. The events were as follow:—

100 YARDS RACE.

Sekinichi	1	Murata	} 4
Ishikiwaki	2	Mizuno	
Noda	3		

Twelve started, and for the first twenty yards or so Noda led, but shortly lost the lead to Sekinichi and near the tape was also passed by Ishikiwaki. Sekinichi, running in splendid form, finished between two and three yards ahead of Ishikiwaki, who beat Noda for second place only by a foot or so, Murata and Mizuno running a dead heat for fourth place. Time, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec., a tenth of a second better time than made last year at the same sports by Mr. Inouye.

THROWING THE HAMMER.

Kobayashi	1	Sato	3
Nagai	2	Sano	5
Murata			

Seven competed. The hammer, we understand, weighed 8 or 10 lbs. The winning throw was 66ft. 5in., a great falling off from last year, when Murata threw 91ft. 6in., and the record of the University, 96ft. It is possible the weight of the hammer has been increased, otherwise it is difficult to understand how it was that Murata, who was fifth in the competition on Saturday, should have been unable to beat a throw of 66ft. and a half.

LONG JUMP.

Mita	1	Matsumura	3
Sekiguchi	2	Murata	5
Tomita			

Seven competed, and though there was some fair jumping there was a sad falling off from the records of former years. Mita's winning jump was 16 ft. 5 in., while last year Tominaga cleared

16 ft. 10 in., beating the previous University record of 16 ft. 8½ in.

220 YARDS (FINAL HEAT.)

Sekinichi	1	Ichikusaki	3
Noda	2	Tomita	4
Otake	5		

Thirteen started and very soon were strung out with many yards between first and last. Sekinichi got the lead about half way round and won rather easily by five yards from Noda, who came up strong in the last forty yards and beat Ichikusaki for second place by a couple of yards. Time, 26½ secs., a full second better than last year's time.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

Naga	1	Miyako	3
Murata	2	Tominaga	4
Shinamura	5		

Seven competed, among them being last year's winner of the event, Mr. Tominaga, who on that occasion threw the ball 84 yards 2 feet. Mr. Naga, on Saturday, beat this, throwing 85 yards 4 feet 4 inch. The University record is 90 yards 2 feet 9 inches; Murata's best throw was only about a foot less than Naga's.

HIGH JUMP.

Masuda	1	Tominaga	3
Fujino	2	Tatsuka	4
Mita	5		

Five competed in this event, and some excellent leaping was displayed. Masuda's winning jump was 5 ft. 3 in., but Tominaga, last year's winner, cleared 5 ft. 7 in., breaking all former University records, but was penalised 8 inches. Fujino cleared 5 ft. 2 in., the other two being finished at 5 ft. and 5 ft. 1 in. There were enthusiastic shouts of applause from the spectators at Tominaga's fine jump of 5 ft. 7 in., after which he tried another inch, but failed to clear it.

THREE-LEGGED RACE.

Otobe and Inoue	1	Mita and Tomita	3
Hido and Sato	2	Idsumi and One	4
Oguro and Saigo	5		

Seven couples competed and ran well together, only one pair coming to grief, about half way home. The winning couple finished about half a yard ahead of the second, with about the same distance between second and third, the others several yards behind. Time, 11½ secs.

440 YARDS (Final)

Tomita	1	Ichikisaki	4
Shekiguchi	2	Ishiwaka	5
Baba	3	Otake	6

Seventeen started and after a good race Tomita won by a couple of yards, Sekiguchi, Baba and Ichikisaki finishing very close together. The time made, 56½ secs., was nearly two seconds less than last year, when Inouye won in 58½ secs.

Pole Jump.

Shinomura	1	Totsuka	3
Tominaga	2	Nambu	4
Fujino	5		

Six competed. The jumping commenced at 7 ft., and gradually increased until the winner, Shinomura, cleared 8 ft. 9 in., just a foot less than the record made last year by M. Kamio.

TUG OF WAR.

A tug of war, between the University and the Tokyo High School, not on the programme, proved one of the most interesting events of the day. The rival teams consisted of something over 60 men or boys each. All the pullers sat down to their work and tried to get a hold in the turf for their heels. The other boys of the High School, who formed a solid phalanx of several hundred, on the bank allotted them among the spectators, roared out in unison with each wave of the coaches' flag and each heave on the rope. After about a minute's tug, in which the High School boys got a slight advantage, a rest of a couple of minutes was allowed, after which the tug was recommenced. The High School champions got a steady strain on, and after about a minute the University team had to give way and were pulled over the line amid frantic cheering from the boys of the High School and the spectators generally.

MONBUSHO SCHOOL RACE.—(440 YARDS).

Rurashita	1	Moriwaki	2
Kamemura	3		

Seven starters appeared for this event—three each from the Koto-gakko and Kogio-gakko, and one from the Rijnian gakko. Rurashita won easily by five or six yards. The winner and the other two placed men were all Koto-gakko boys. Time 54½ secs.

180 YARDS (Final).

Sugimoto	1	Sakamoto	3
Baba	2	Ishisaki	4
Kobayashi	5		

This event brought out the large field of 34 starters, but of these less than half finished, the rest dropping out of the race before the last lap. At the finish there was a fine race between Sugimoto, Baba and Sakamoto, the former winning by a bare yard, while only about half-a-yard separated second and third. The time, 2m. 19s. was exceptionally good, if not a record for the University, being more than 4 secs. better than last year.

GAKUSHI (GRADUATES) RACE.

Okaki	1	Kawada	2
Imamura	3		

Seven started, over the 220 yards track. At the finish there was a very close race between Okaki and Kawada, the latter falling just on the tape; the time, 26 secs. was an improvement on last year when Imamura, the third man, won the race in 29½ secs.

HEAD LOAD RACE.

Inouye	1	Tanamura	3
Ishiwata	2	Hido	4

This event, in which the runners had to carry a small flat sandbag on the head, and finish without letting it fall or holding it on with the hand, brought out a field of fourteen, the winner covering the distance—95 yards—in 12½ secs.

SPECIAL MEMBERS (PROFESSORS)

RACE.—(100 YARDS.)

Mr. Shimizu (Secretary)	1
Prof. Okino	2
Prof. Tanakadate	3
Prof. Wadagaki	4
Prof. Konouye	5

This race was run by the Professors in their full walking costume. Prof. Konouye fell after running half the distance, and though he was up and away again very smartly, of course it threw him out of the race. After a capital race the Secretary of the University, Mr. Shimizu, won on the tape, with Prof. Tanakadate a good third.

OBSTACLE RACE.

Simo	1	Matsumura	4
Ichikisaki	2	Kobayashi	5
Ishiwata	3	Narata	6

Fifteen started and displayed wonderful dexterity and celerity in negotiating the various obstacles, which comprised a flight of five hurdles, a ladder to get through, another ladder erected overhead to be negotiated hand over hand, rung by rung, hoops and windsails to crawl through, a net to be crawled under and finally to pick up and carry home a bag of charcoal. The time made by the winner was 57 secs.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA IN CHINA.

The Vienna correspondent of *The Times* writes:—

The following particulars are contained in a letter from China published in the *Novoe Vremya* complaining of the manner in which French diplomatic representatives there exploit the friendship of Russia for their own purposes. Russia had a small strip of land at Han-kau which had been ceded by the Chinese Government. In the centre of this territory was a French Consulate. When M. Gérard, the French Minister in Peking, ascertained that the Russian Government intended to apply for the cession of this territory he first begged that the road leading from the Consulate to the quay should be ceded to France. He afterwards requested that 100 metres on the quay at the harbour should also be made over to the Republic, and finally, he asked for the third and only remaining portion of the land. Count Cassini, the Russian Minister in Peking, who was not acquainted with affairs at Han-kau and who was besides a friend of M. Gérard, was guilty of the mistake of making over the whole of it to the French. The latter put themselves into communication with a Japanese steamship company respecting the transfer to the latter of a portion of the quay. Commenting upon this incident the correspondent of the *Novoe Vremya* observes:—"It is to be hoped that the St. Petersburg Foreign Office will recognize the danger and impropriety of this whole proceeding, and enter an energetic protest against it. The Han-kau incident is only one example of the manner in which the French constantly take advantage of Russian influence in China. This exploitation is prejudicial, and is, moreover, entirely unnecessary, as France has no interests in Northern and Central China and only sends there the dregs of her population, not one of whom is capable of serious and useful work."

The Russian naval estimates for 1898 amount to a total of 68,055,420 roubles, to which must be added a further sum of 6,000,000 roubles for increased shipbuilding, and a sum of 15,500,000 roubles for the extension of Vladivostok Harbour. A sum of 3,300,000 roubles is included in the expenditure for the extension and improvement of the Vladivostok dockyard. The *Alexander III.* dockyard at Liban is to be pushed on, and as soon as the new yard is ready the greater part of the fleet will be transferred from Cronstadt.

ENGLISH CYCLING NOTES.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT).

Bicycle Polo now being played at the Crystal Palace by teams of American cyclists, is certainly obtaining public favour, and every night when these matches are held crowds of spectators assemble to see the marvellous "bicyclemanship." I witnessed a match recently and was surprised at the dexterous manner in which these men twisted their handles and so hit the ball with their front wheel which sent it spinning towards the opponent's goal. The ball used is about the size of a cricket ball and is of solid rubber, and though properly weighing about 1½ to 2 lbs., the riders are able to raise it off the ground and send it at a high rate of speed for some considerable distance, solely by means of twisting their front wheel. They are also very expert in avoiding colliding, and the ease and ability with which they mount and dismount should be copied by all cyclists.

Before witnessing the match I attended the Anerley B.C. race meeting, which was held at the Crystal Palace track. It was a 100 mile race for tandems and no less than 19 pairs sent in their entries, and out of this number only 3 pairs figured as absentees. With 16 tandems all bunched together I was constantly expecting to see a spill but it is to the credit and easy running of the track and the steadiness of the riders themselves that no mishap of this description occurred during the whole of the event. It was what might be called anybody's race till about up to the 44th mile when Lewin and Albone succeeded in riding away from the crowd, and from this point were never overtaken by the other competitors, finishing first in 3 (three) hours 53 (fifty-three) mins. 8 (eight) secs. H. H. and C. Rowe being second and C. T. Carter and J. G. Gibbs third. The Frank brothers, holders of the record for London to Brighton and back on a tandem, retired at the grand mile owing to some mishap with their machine.

It is difficult now to take up a paper which does not mention something of the tyre troubles. Some of the articles are so vehement against the leading tyre company of the world, that it must be apparent to everyone that personal feelings are involved and the various articles are written in spite or jealousy. The *Topical Times*, however, takes a rational view of the case and, in one of its recent issues, says that Mr. Harvey Du Gros comes out of the Dunlop and Amalgamated tyre storms without a scratch. He is a man who knows how to make money by remembering that he has two ears but only one tongue and gives the latter discreet rest in favour of the capacity of the former.

The National Cyclists Union on Saturday September 25th, held the last of their championships, namely that of the 50 mile amateur. There was an entry of 38 riders, 28 of whom figured as starters. The small attendance of 2 or 3 hundred expected to see a fairly interesting race, as such good men as P. W. Brown, J. Sigsworth, A. J. Robertson, E. J. Callaghan, A. J. Cherry, F. Burnand and others had entered. Such, however, was not to be the case for, soon after the 20th mile, P. W. Brown and 3 others came to grief and Sigsworth had previously fallen soon after the 5th mile. From the former distance A. J. Cherry never was passed, and he won a good race in 1 hour, 53 (fifty-three) mins., 45 (forty-five) secs. F. Burnand being second and C. A. Sedgwick 3rd.

The epidemic for arresting cyclists for furious riding has broken out amongst the police of the Lincolnshire district; in taking up the crusade against cyclists, they intimate their intention of stopping anyone they consider guilty of furious riding. As the great North Road runs through this district it is fortunate that the racing season is pretty high over, for it is along this well engineered and level stretch of highway that the principal road races are held.

Since my last letter sundry records have been improved upon by men anxious to take advantage of every favourable day before the cycling tracks are closed for the winter months. The first successful ride was that by R. P. Clark on the one mile professional tricycle record, which he brought down to 2 (two) mins. 12.15 (twelve and one fifth) secs. and on the way improved on the ¾ mile record, riding that distance in one minute 39.45 (thirty-nine and four-fifth) secs. Tricycle records do not however prove very interesting to the public, and J. W. Stocks' successful attempts on the one hour single safety record on September 27th caused much more interest in cycling circles. The hour record formerly stood to the credit of Stocks, but

on this occasion he put a further 638 yards on to the previous distance, covering no less than 32 miles 1,096 yards inside the 60 minutes. In riding he improved upon the world's records from 6 to 33 miles and also from 5 to 60 kilometres. On Tuesday night, September 28th, B. James of Cardiff, and G. A. Nelson of London mounted on a tandem, succeeded in reducing the world's record for all types of machines for 5, 6, and 7 miles, the 10 miles being covered in 17 mins. 50.3 5 (fifty three-fifth) secs. The former holders of this record were A. A. and F. W. Chase. Stocks' ride as well as the tandem pairs were accomplished on the Crystal Palace Track, Sydenham, and the riders had the assistance of the world renowned Dunlop Pacers.

Not many ladies now appear in English streets in the garb of the rational dress; their number is gradually decreasing now that the novelty of the costume has died out. There are still, however, a few trying to keep afloat the sinking ship, and these few some weeks ago held a conference at Oxford on the subject of this style of dress. They were to meet at Hyde Park Corner, London, and ride from there to Oxford, a distance of some 60 miles. Probably to a great extent owing to the bad weather, the meeting of the pioneers of emancipated clothes proved a regular farce, only a paltry half dozen or so putting in an appearance at Hyde Park Corner.

At the Oxford end of the journey things were brighter, for by means of the railway a fair muster assembled at the Clarendon Hotel, to partake of a substantial meal before launching out into such an intellectual discussion as rational dress might prove. A very strong rule was laid out that no lady should sit down to dinner unless she was in rational garb, and the appearance of ladies in rich silk blouses trimmed with frills of lace and chiffon, walking about the room in the singular lower garb of "rationals" was, to say the least, peculiar, and gave an unfinished appearance to the toilet. A lady who donned the costume simply to obtain permission to dine at the festive board, writes:—"I went down well supported and surrounded by more hardened wearers, and once at the table my feelings and experiences are best summed up in saying that a shawl would have been a desirable precaution against draughts and chills."

This is practically the season for road races but owing to the action taken by the police in cases of furious riding many clubs have discontinued their road fixtures or transferred them to the track. The Midland Cycling and Athletic Club has, however, remained true to the road, and on Saturday, Oct. 2nd, successfully carried out their 200 miles road championship, in which 7 riders started. As the race was unpaced the men kept together for the greater portion of the journey, but as the miles were ridden off the weaker riders fell behind and the virtual scratch men increased the pace. H. Chinn and A. Powell had a hard struggle for the premier position, but the former just managed to win by 2 secs, in 6 hours 15 mins., F. G. Bale being third.

At a bicycle gymkhana recently held at Rochester, the prizes were presented by Lady Harris, who spoke most highly of the sport. She remarked that she was as fond of cycling as her husband was of cricket, and considered that the sport had done more to promote health and pleasure among the people than anything else in the 19th century. Scorching she was very down on, and asked her hearers to use their influence in stopping this practice, which could only bring harm to the sport.

H. C. Horswell, the speedy Essex man, last Saturday made an attempt on the 50 miles Essex Road Record, which stood at 2 hours, 25 mins. Being admirably paced he succeeded in improving on the old time by 12½ mins, covering the full distance in 2 hours, 12 mins. 30 secs. The 50 miles record on the roads south of London stands at 2 hours 7 mins. 38 secs, which was made on August 30th by H. Green. The latter accomplishment is undoubtedly the best when the hilly nature of the southern roads are fully taken into account.

The result of the Redhill and Reigate bicycling carnival was the handing over of 31 guineas to the Provincial Police Ophanage. The Mayor of Reigate, in acknowledging this amount, remarked that it was undoubtedly returning good for evil in view of the wholesale prosecution of cyclists in that district. True, but then the cyclist would feel still more justified in running a policeman down if his orphans had been previously provided for. Still I am with the police in stopping searchers through the towns and villages.

Jimmy Michael, the ex Welshman, having washed his hands of all alliance with Great Britain by becoming a naturalized American, has at last met with defeat at the hands of Starbuck, an American rider, who gained the victory in a 25 miles race by 6 yards.

THE SEALING CONFERENCE.

Some surprise, not uncoloured by irritation, remarks *The Times*, has been expressed on the other side of the Atlantic at Lord Salisbury's refusal to enter into a proposed "sealing conference" at Washington, including representatives of Russia and Japan as well as of the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States. This feeling may be not unnatural with persons who had succeeded in persuading themselves that the British Government had been brought to its knees by Mr. Sherman's peremptory despatch of May last, and that, as it is alleged the officials of the State Department recently declared, "the object sought by the Government of the United States for the past three years had been attained by the agreement of Great Britain to take part in a conference to be held in October." The correspondence published a few days ago and commented upon in our columns furnishes abundant proof that these speculations rest upon a misunderstanding of what has taken place in this matter since the beginning of 1895. The British Government has never assented to any international conference for a revision of the rules for the restriction of pelagic sealing in accordance with the award of the Paris Tribunal. What Lord Salisbury was willing to agree to, in his despatch of the 28th of July last, is not "a conference of the Powers interested in the fur-seal fishery of the North Pacific," as contended for by Mr. Sherman, but "a meeting of experts nominated by Great Britain and Canada and by the United States," to consider the results of recent further investigations in regard to the conditions of seal life in the Pribyloff Islands. Such an inquiry by experts is plainly indispensable before the revision of the regulations laid down under the Paris Award can be considered at the expiration of the first quinquennial term next August. In the subject thus limited, however, only the Governments interested in the award can be alleged to be concerned. Russia and Japan, for whose representatives the United States claim admission, are no parties to the treaty and are not bound by the regulations. They are, moreover, concerned only in the seal fisheries of the western, not the eastern, coasts of the North Pacific.

The position taken up by Her Majesty's Government upon this point has been absolutely consistent, as the correspondence shows. Neither Lord Salisbury nor his predecessor in office has given the slightest encouragement to the project of a new international conference to reopen questions settled, as between the nations directly concerned, by the Paris award. While there was every desire to ascertain the real facts of the situation and to consider how far they justified a revision of the regulations, it was evident that such a change in the conditions imposed by a solemn treaty of arbitration could not be made dependent, in any degree, on the interference of outsiders. The difference between Mr. Sherman's proposal of an international conference, including Russia and Japan, and Lord Salisbury's offer of a meeting of experts to prepare a case for the revision of the regulations on their expiry next year is, accordingly, one of principle. It is important to observe that on this point the Imperial Government and the Government of the Canadian Dominion are entirely in accord. We should be playing fast and loose with the interests and the feelings of our colonial fellow subjects if we were to allow the Paris Award to be tampered with in an irregular way. They have already had some reason to complain of the manner in which some incidental points decided in their favour have been dealt with in the United States, and they are not very much in love with systems of arbitration the practical outcome of which appears to be curiously one-sided. The basis of the demand of the United States for an immediate revision of the rules established by the Paris Tribunal is the report of an "expert" who contends that the practice of pelagic sealing declared by the arbitrators to be perfectly legal and not controllable except by the consent of the Governments representing those interested in the traffic, should be summarily and absolutely suppressed for the advantage of the lessees of the Pribyloff Islands. This preposterous claim the British Government has declined to accept as the basis of discussion. It throws considerable doubt on the allegations as to the imminent extinction of the seal herds in Behring Sea, which have been put forward by the State Department at Washington

both before and since the proceedings in Paris, though some 30,000 seals were captured on the islands in 1896.

We are, however, as anxious as the Americans can be to prevent the destruction of the seal herds in the North Pacific. British capital is largely engaged in the trade, both on land and sea, and if the further investigations carried on this summer by Dr. Jordan and Professor D'Arcy Thompson, who has just returned to this country, should go to confirm the somewhat astonishing statements contained in the former's earlier report, the conclusions arrived at by the meeting of experts suggested by Lord Salisbury will assuredly receive the fullest consideration when the time comes for deciding whether or not a revision of the regulations is necessary. But that time will not arrive before next summer, though, of course, any changes required should be carefully discussed in the interval. The insistence of the Government at Washington either on an international conference or on the admission of representatives of Russia and Japan to the meeting of experts can only tend to delay an agreement on the basis of ascertained facts and to render it improbable that new regulations will be ready to come into force in the summer of 1898. We do not know whether or not there is any foundation for the report telegraphed from Washington "that, whether Great Britain was represented or not, a conference would be held between the United States, Russia, and Japan," but it is obvious that such a conference, into which, of course, it is entirely within the competence of the Powers named to enter, could not, in the smallest degree, affect the binding character of the Paris award. On that award this country has taken its stand. We are perfectly willing, in accordance with the provisions of the award, to consider how far the conditions of seal life in the Behring Sea, as ascertained by the most recent inquiries, demand a revision of the regulations. This, however, should be determined, as the award prescribes, "by common agreement between the Governments of the United States and of Great Britain." No other Powers, however friendly, have any right to a controlling voice in the revision of a judgment that is binding on the "interested Governments" alone. It may be added that, as the American claim was founded originally on the contention, admitted by the Tribunal, that the United States was the successor in title of all the rights of Russia in the Behring Sea, it would seem a strange proceeding to contend that Russian interests in that quarter at present justify the demand for the separate representation of a Power not implicated in the award. When this country has settled with the United States whether the regulations are to be revised, and, if so, in what way, there will be nothing to prevent the two Governments concerned from negotiating for their extension to the western coasts of the Pacific, where the sealing grounds are under the authority of Russia and Japan.

KOREAN BIBLIOGRAPHY.

The amount of work done in the world to-day by specialists to facilitate the labours of scholars and students is assuming stupendous proportions. Perhaps in no field is more of such work done than in that of bibliography. Every new interest brought before the world in a short time finds its earnest, indefatigable biographer, who with infinite pains traces all that is already known on the subject, and makes clear to those who are to study it and spread information upon it, just what is yet to be covered. A subject brought prominently before the world by reason of recent wars and new political interests is Korea (a country practically unknown to all but geographers and travellers until the recent war), and now a bibliography of Korea is already before the world. Its author, says the *Publisher's Weekly*, is Mr. Maurice Courant, interpreter for the French embassy at Korea, who was specially fitted for undertaking a work which demands knowledge not only of the Korean language, but also of Chinese, Japanese, and Hindustani. This bibliography, published in the French language, gives titles of 3,240 works published in Korea before 1890, and a detailed dissertation on the more important works, offering information on the geography, history, manners and customs, literature and philosophy of Korea such as cannot be found in any other known publication. He has brought to his vast undertaking great enthusiasm and tireless industry. He has unearthed documents and information of all kinds from all sources, beginning in Söul, or Seyool, the chief town in Kiengkei, and the capital of Korea, then in the archives of Pekin and Tokyo, and in the Bibliothèque Nationale, which is specially rich in Asiatic lore.

In a fascinating introduction the author gives an account of Korean literature as merchandise. He relates that even after a long sojourn in Korea foreigners as a rule do not believe that the country has any literature. The reason of this is that Korean books are not sold in book stores, but in general stores. Even in the capital city of Seoul one finds in little dirty alleys little stands where among hair pins, hair ribbons, pocket mirrors, tobacco pouches, cheap pipes, etc.—ink, papers, and books are kept. The salesmen are generally little, poorly-clad boys with long braided hair.

The exterior of Korean books is not tempting. They vary in size from 8vo. to 16mo. and are not thick. The covers consist of coarse, tolerably durable orange-red paper, with ornamental stampings. They are without backs, the two sheets forming the cover being turned in like hems and held together by five or six stitches of red thread. Korean paper is made chiefly from the bark of the *broussonetia papyrifera*, as is also the Japanese. The best is made in the fall, and is tough, thick, smooth, and of ivory colour, tearing like cotton, almost like cloth. The best paper is used only for Government documents. The paper in common use is grayish, very thin and very soft, with porous places in which straw, dust, and dirt find a resting place. Such paper naturally takes ink very badly. The books are printed on one side of the paper only, like the Chinese books. Printing is done from wood-blocks engraved to resemble a *facsimile* of the handwriting, although as early as 1403 the king ordered the making of movable copper type. It is difficult to determine whether books are printed from types or plates. The margins of the books are narrow, and the text is often encircled with black lines. About one-quarter down the blank side of the page is a clover leaf, a monogram by which almost all Korean books may be identified. Almost all the general literature is printed in Korean characters, and it sells at a merely nominal price, averaging 10 saepheon. One hundred saepheon equal 1 ryang, 10 ryangs equal 1 koan, and 3 koans equal about 1 dollar.

In Sōul many books are found printed in Chinese characters; but eight or nine out of every ten are printed in Korean. Of course, there are some finer and better books, but they are all incomplete, unevenly bound, dirty, badly cut, and often worm eaten. A few very valuable books are specially sold, apart from tobacco and other articles. Booksellers dealing in foreign literature have their stores in the business centre of the city of Sōul, near the above-described bazaars, in the midst of quarrelling soldiers, grain-shippers, and idle pedestrians. The bookseller is dressed in silk and generally smokes a long pipe. He looks pleasant and receives customers amiably, but does not exert himself to obtain any. He would be ashamed to sell the cheap books in the Korean language. He deals in Chinese books, new editions of the classics, antiquarian books, and manuscripts on various subjects and of varying antiquity, fine editions of books carefully printed on large paper of ivory tint, resembling Japanese paper. Printed and manuscript Korean books are also found in little circulating libraries, generally kept by poor noblemen. There is no system of payment or deposit, and the books circulated are mutilated and lost continually. M. Courant visited all these little shops, examined all their catalogues and the books remaining on the shelves, and from them, with the aid of all the great European libraries, he compiled his valuable bibliography.

European or American bibliographers can form no conception of the difficulties presented even in verifying the names of authors. Every Korean has a family name and a given name, but the latter is often changed for slight reasons, or to satisfy some ritualistic ordinance. Then all literary workers assume a name as author and often eight different pseudonyms, many of which are names of localities and lead to endless confusion. Besides this, many receive honorary names from the king during life, and after death have a death name. And all these names are used indiscriminately for one and the same person. As there is no known work that sheds light upon this chaotic confusion there is no way to get at identities, but to read and take careful notes. Just as in China the names of places are changed with every change of dynasty, and besides its official name each place has all kinds of popular names, making it almost equally difficult to verify places of publications. Unless the books bear the name of some dynasty, or have some historical facts mentioned on their title pages, the date of publication is equally difficult to determine. The Korean employ the Chinese cycle characters for dates, which admit

of about sixty different combinations, depending almost wholly upon personal interpretation.

M. Courant's introduction gives an exhaustive history of the books as literature. Of every title he gives the original, the transcription in European sounds, and a French translation. The subjects covered range as follows:—Education, 46 titles; language, 118, of which 49 relate to the Chinese language, 25 to Manchurian, 21 to Mongolian, 21 to Japanese, and 38 to Sanscrit. Not one deals with a European language. Confucianism is represented with 142 titles; literature, 738; customs and manners, 777, of which 401 deal with ritualistic rites; law and government, 376; history and geography, 510, including some very valuable maps printed in *facsimile*; arts and sciences, 234; religions, 219, of which 105 relate to Catholicism. The indexes furnished are of surpassing excellence: one of transcribed titles; one of original Korean titles; one of names; and one chronological index of dates, given in Korean and Christian form.

TENNYSON'S LIFE.

Tennyson's biography has been compiled and published by his son. *The Times* devotes five columns to a review of it. Nothing shorter would have sufficed. Five columns, indeed, are all too short. Here are one or two brief extracts:—

In 1888 he had a severe illness, which seemed to threaten his strength and indeed his life, but he recovered, and on his 80th birthday was again in good health.

"Crossing the Bar" was written by my father in his 81st year on a day in October when we came from Aldworth to Farringford. Before reaching Farringford he had had the Moaning of the Bar in his mind, and after dinner he showed me the poem written out. I said "That is the crown of your life's work." He answered, "It came in a moment." He explained the Pilot as that Divine and Unseen who is always guiding us. A few days before my father's death he said me, "Mind you put 'Crossing the Bar' at the end of all editions of my poems."

It is noticeable that in the Queen's later letters her Majesty shows the warmth of her feeling for her aged Poet Laureate by signing herself "Always yours affectionately," and "Ever yours affectionately," while he is her Majesty's "grateful and affectionate servant," "loyal and affectionate subject." It may perhaps be doubted whether it was discreet to publish, but it is certainly highly interesting to read, the correspondence that passed at the time of the first Home Rule Bill. On April 16th, 1886, at the close of a letter about Lionel Tennyson's illness, the Queen writes:—"I cannot in this letter allude to politics, but I know what your feelings must be." Tennyson replies:—"Since your Majesty touches upon the disastrous policy of the day, I may say, that I wish I may be in my own grave, beyond sight and hearing, when an English army fires upon the Loyalists of Ulster."

The poet's life should be itself a poem, said Milton. "Poetry," says Tennyson, in a beautiful and touching letter to a working man, "should be the flower and fruit of a man's life in whatever stage of it, to be a worthy offering to the world." Long as this notice already is many topics have been perforce omitted or but scantily handled which might have been amply illustrated, the poet's friendships, in particular his delightful relations with Browning, his patriotism and public spirit, especially his care for Empire, his dealing with children, his mode of working, the frequent long gestation and rapid production, the wit and humour of his conversation, the charm of his reading, his scholarship and love of language. But enough has, perhaps, been quoted to show that Tennyson fulfilled both Milton's canon and his own, that the man was as good, nay better and greater, than his work, that his poetry was the natural outcome and expression of himself and his life. As he comes before us in these pages we see his "likeness in the dead below, his kindred with the great of old;" we see a man singularly gifted in body, mind, and soul, one who "looked as if he might have written the 'Iliad,'" myriad-minded, comprehensive, catholic, ranging with equal ease from the least to the greatest, yet withal reverent and humble, ever like a little child, even "as the greatest only are, in his simplicity sublime," before all things loving truth and "loving love." Men came to him expecting to find themselves in a "palace of art"; they found themselves in a

"palace of truth." He has been called too sensitive. He cared little for the technical criticism of others on his work, for he had judged it himself, but he was exquisitely sensitive to unkindness or jealousy or spite. He was accused of plagiarism, though, as Browning finely said, "you might as well accuse the Rothschilds of picking pockets." In these pages may be read the open secret of his wealth and his workmanship, his long study and great love of nature and letters. These volumes show what great and good poetry is, and how and by whom it comes to be written. The triumph of the poet, says Dante, is as rare as that of the Cæsar. "Joy should there be in Delphi when some one thirsts for the seldom-plucked laurel." Men may rejoice, too, especially his own countrymen, that an Englishman of our day should so well have lived the life and wrought the work of a true poet.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

INDIA COUNCIL BILLS.

London, Nov. 11.

Tenders for India Council Bills have been suspended for a further minimum period of four weeks.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

The Victorians were all out for 247, and Stoddart's team won by two wickets.

Stoddart's team has beaten the New South Wales eleven by eight wickets.

ENGLAND IN AFRICA.

The Marquis of Salisbury, speaking at the Guildhall, said that negotiations, continuous and animated but always friendly, were proceeding with France, Germany, Portugal, and Italy, about our remaining in Africa. We desire to be governed in these questions by strict justice, with regard for the prosperity and interests of the empire, and due consideration for the feelings and claims of our neighbours; yet he was obliged to say that there was a limit to the exercise of that consideration, and that we cannot allow our plain rights to be overridden.

The comments of the French press on the Marquis of Salisbury's speech at Guildhall are very moderate, and express a desire for a friendly agreement between France and England on the Niger.

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

Colonel Adams, Lieutenant Lord Fin-castle and Lieut. Costello have been recommended for the Victoria Cross for conspicuous gallantry during a reconnaissance by General Westmacott, whose force was attacked whilst retiring. In this affair the casualties were: Lieutenants Waddell and MacIntire and sixteen men killed, and Lieutenant Trent and thirty men wounded, of the Northamptonshire Regiment; and Lieutenants Ingham and Mereer and six men wounded of the Dorsetshire Regiment; and eight Sikhs killed and wounded.

Thirty-five Sikhs and one native officer were cut off from their comrades in the Kuram Valley and all killed.

London, Nov. 18.

While General Kempster's brigade was returning to Maidan it was heavily attacked when near the camp, and Captain Dorrets' detachment being cut off in the darkness, Lieutenants Hales and Brooke and nine men were killed. During this time the Sikhs covered the rear-guard, gallantly repulsing the enemy, but in doing so lost Lieutenant Lewarne and Colonel Abbott killed, and Lieutenant Mann and Captain Custance wounded, besides twelve men killed and 25 wounded. Lieutenant Wylie, of the Goorkhas, was also killed.

ELECTION AT LIVERPOOL.

London, Nov. 12.
At an election for the Exchange division of Liverpool, to replace Mr. John Charles Bigham, Q.C. (Unionist), appointed to a Judgeship, Mr. Macarthur (Unionist), was returned with 2,711 votes, against Mr. Rea (Radical), who polled 2,657.

THE NILE EXPEDITION.

The expenditure on the Nile Expedition is said to be seriously crippling all the Egyptian Departments.

THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

Colonel Northcott and staff have arrived at Cape Coast and gone inland with eleven hundred carriers.

TRAVEL IN NUBIA.

Reuter's correspondent has reached Suakim from Berber.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

London, Nov. 15.
Russia has informed the Porte that if any portion of the Greek war indemnity is employed in the acquisition of armaments, she will demand the arrears of the Russo-Turkish war indemnity. It is believed that Russia's object is to prevent the reconstruction of the Turkish fleet.

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

The Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, Premier of Canada, is at present in Washington negotiating with the United States Government with a view to the conclusion of a reciprocity treaty.

COUNT CASSINI.

The Russian Minister to Peking, Count Cassini, has been transferred to Washington.

A WONDERFUL EXPEDITION.

London, Nov. 16.
The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* states that Prince Henry of Orleans is busy preparing an expedition, which will include a corps of Houssa veterans from the West Coast of Africa, with the object of assisting Lieutenant Leontieff to forestall Sir Herbert Kitchener in the occupation of Khartoum and all territories thence to Lake Victoria Nyanza, on behalf of Abyssinia. The expedition leaves Marseilles in December. Lieutenant Leontieff pays King Menelik ten per cent. on receipts in the new provinces.

ANOTHER COMPLICATION.

London, Nov. 17.
Owing to the arbitrary expulsion of M. Brazzopolli, the Austrian Lloyds' Agent at Mersina, who is accused of connivance with the local Armenians, the Austrian Government has demanded satisfaction of the Porte, which, if not given before next Thursday, will result in Austrian ships bombarding Mersina.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

The German Press is urging the Government on to the permanent occupation of Kiaochow (?) as a naval base.

The *Times* applauds Germany's energy in dealing with China, and urges Great Britain to always act similarly.

THE MANCHURIAN RAILWAY.

A Russian Volunteer steamer, with a force of Cossacks for the protection of the Manchurian railway works, has left Odessa.

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

London, November 18.
Mr. Richard B. Martin, presiding as chairman at the annual dinner of the Bri-

tish North Borneo Company, said that the company was desirous of fairly meeting any grievance affecting Mat Salleh if any such grievance could be discovered.

THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

The Emperor of Austria, in receiving delegations, in a very pacific speech reaffirmed his adhesion to the Triple Alliance and dwelt upon the friendly relations existing between Austria and Russia. The Turkish difficulty was not alluded to.

(OFFICIAL TELEGRAM.)

AFFAIRS IN BRAZIL.

Petropolis, Nov. 13th, 1897.
The Brazilian Government yesterday declared a state of siege to be in force for thirty days, in the Federal District and Niteroy. This step was considered necessary for the maintenance of authority and public peace in those parts.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT HAKODATE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hakodate, Nov. 13, 7.30 a.m.
Fire broke out here at 8 o'clock last evening in a block of houses standing between the Nippon Ginko and the Twentieth National Bank. The latter establishment suffered severely and about twenty houses were destroyed.

THE KOBE BICYCLE ASSAULT CASE.

Kobe, Nov. 18.
The case in the United States Consular Court, in which Takajiro Kurata, jinrikisha coolie, charged Mr. E. G. Ackermann with assault and battery, adjourned on the 16th, was concluded this morning, accused being acquitted. On a counter charge of assault brought by Mr. Ackermann against Takajiro Kurata, in the Japanese Local Court, accused was convicted and sentenced to five days' police detention.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

THE MURDERS IN SHANTUNG.

Chinanfu, 10th Nov.
Robber raids occurred in Yen-chou on the 1st of November in which two German priests were killed, one escaping. The robbers stole everything. The Provincial Judge has gone to settle the affair.

THE "MOYUNE."

Singapore, 10th November.
The steamer *Moyune* has arrived.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

The Chamber of Commerce report on the currency to the Straits Government states that a fixity of exchange is favourable to the importer, but a falling dollar is not advantageous to the producers of tin and gambier.

The Chamber suggests that the currency should be established on the basis of a gold sovereign of ten dollars, and that Government should receive dollars for currency notes, with which they could coin smaller token dollars.

(FROM TONGKIN PAPERS.)

THE DREYFUS CASE.

Paris, October 29.
A member of the Senate, M. Scheurekester, says he is convinced of the innocence of Captain Dreyfus (convicted of selling French war plans to foreign governments) and intends to re-open the question in the Senate. The press says he is the dupe of Dreyfus' friends, who have cleverly got a refugee in Switzerland to proclaim himself the culprit.

(FROM "LE COURRIER DE SAIGON.")

THE FRENCH ARMY.

Paris, Oct. 28.
The Army Commission has unanimously approved the division into two sections of the sixth colonial corps.

THE FRENCH ON THE NIGER.

The Chamber has decided to instruct M. Hanotaux to maintain, energetically, the rights of France in the Niger region.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

GERMANY IN CHINA.

Peking, Nov. 18.
It was in consequence of two German missionaries having been murdered in Shantung that three German war-vessels took possession of Kaichow Bay near Wei-hai-wei on the 14th inst. The Taung-li Yamén has been thrown into a state of great confusion.

THE "YASHIMA."

Hongkong, Nov. 19.
The battleship *Yashima* arrived here this morning from Singapore.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-side.

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Ichome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 345.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to K7	1—Q to Q 6, ch
2—Kt to Q 4, mate	1—Q takes R
2—Kt to K B 4, mate	1—B takes B
2—R takes B, mate	1—K to Q 6
2—B to B 5, mate	1—K to K 4
2—B to Q 4, mate	1—Kt takes P
2—Kt takes Kt, mate	1—Kt to Q 6
2—Kt to K Kt 5, mate	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., D.D., J.W.E. and T.S.T.

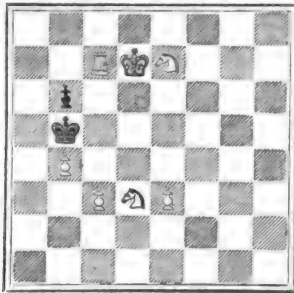
PROBLEM No. 340.

When we published Mrs. Baird's Problem, now nearly two months ago, we had no idea that it would cause so much work and trouble to our solvers, although we mentioned at the time that the problem had proved the most difficult three-mover that had even appeared in the *Morning Post* since its column commenced in 1887. Many Chess friends in Yokohama, Tokyo, Kobe, and other places tried their utmost to find the key-move, but in vain, until judging from the number of letters we received the opinion had become general that there was "something wrong with the diagram," and bets on the result of this surmise were laughingly suggested. We were therefore very pleased to receive, a few days ago, a solution from our veteran solver, W.H.S., which turns out to be perfectly correct, and we accordingly publish it in detail:—

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 340.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P takes P	1—K to B 5
2—Kt to Kt 6, ch	2—K to B 6
3—Q to Kt 7, mate	1—K to B 3
2—Kt to B 6	2—Any move
3—Q mates at K Kt 6	1—K to Q 3
2—Q to Kt 6, ch	2—K takes Kt
3—Q to Q 8, mate	if 2—K to K 4
3—Q to Q 4, mate	1—P to K 8=Q
2—R takes Q ch	2—K to B 3
3—Kt to Kt 8, mate	if 2—K to B 5
3—Q to K 4, mate	if 2—K to Q 3
3—Q to Kt 4, mate	1—P to Kt 6
2—P to B 4, ch	2—K takes P
3—Kt to Kt 6, mate	if 2—K to B 3
3—Kt to Kt 8, mate	if 2—K to Q 3
3—Q to Kt 4, mate	1—P to B 6
2—B to Kt 8, ch	2—K to Q 5
3—Q to Kt 4, mate	if 2—K to B 3
3—Kt to Kt 8, mate	1—P to Kt 3
2—P to R 8=Q, ch	2—K to B 5
3—Q to B 6, mate	if 2—K to Q 3
3—Q to Kt 4, mate	

PROBLEM No. 347.
By R. J. WRIGHT.
BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play and mate in three moves.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.
J.W.E.—If in reply to your key move, Black plays...K-Q3 and after 2.Kt x P moves a pawn, there is no mate.

P.E.F.S.—We had also noticed the flaw. Thanks for problem, which will be examined.

Nemo.—Will post reply after receipt.
W.H.S.—Both letters received with thanks. Gratitude!

BERLIN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS. PRIZE-WINNERS.

Charousek, 14½ wins	1st,	£100
Walbrodt, 14 wins	2nd,	£75
Blackburne, 13 wins	3rd,	£50
Janowski, 12½ wins	4th,	£30
Burn, 12 wins	5th,	£20
Alapin, Marco, Schlechter, } 11½ wins, tie 6 and 7		£16

OTHER SCORES.

Caro 11 Meier 9 Suetting ... 8
Tahigorine... 10½ Winawer... 8½ Teichmann... 7½
Schiffers..... 10 Cohn 8½ Zinkl 6½
Bardleben, Englisch, and Albin did not play out. Schiffers won the special prize for the best score against the prize-winners.

J. von Poppel, Lemberg, won the first prize of the minor tournament, played simultaneously with the masters' tournament at Berlin. A Heinrichsen, Berlin, took the second and C. Doppler the third. W. Brody, Budapest, and B. Huelsen, Beelitz, divided fourth and fifth prizes. D. Bleykman, Amsterdam; L. Fuchs, Munich; H. Hirschler, Nuremberg, and H. Keidanski, Berlin, took the remaining prizes in the order named.

GAME No. 347.

White—Walbrodt.	Black—Blackburne.
White.	Black.
1 P-K4	26 Kt x KBP P-B4
2 P x P	27 Q x BP Kt-K5
3 Q-Kt B3	28 R x Kt R x R
4 P-Q4	29 Kt x R Q x Kt
5 B-KB4	30 Q-Q5 Q-K sq.
6 B-Q5	31 P-B3 R-K2
7 B x Kt	32 Q-B5 P-Kt-K4
8 Kt-B3	33 P-Q5 B-Q2
9 B-K2	34 Q-Q4 ch K-R3
10 Castles	35 B-Q3 K-R4
11 P-QR3	36 K-B2 P-B5
12 B-Q3	37 P-R4 Q-B sq.
13 Kt-K4	38 P x P K x P
14 R-K sq	39 R-R sq. P-R4
15 Kt x B	40 P-Q6 R-B2
16 P-B3	41 Q-R5 ch B-B4
17 Kt-Q2	42 B x B R x B
18 Kt-B4	43 Q-K7 ch K-Kt3
19 Kt-K5	44 R-K sq. R-B3
20 B-B4	45 Q x Q R x Q
21 Q-K3	46 K-K7 R-Qt-Kt sq.
22 P-QR4	47 R-QB7 P-Kt4
23 P-K5	48 P x P e.p. R x P
24 Q-Kt4	49 P-Q7 R x P ch
25 K-B sq.	50 K-K sq. Resigns

Another game deserves special mention, namely, Marco and Englisch, played in the seventh round, in which, according to the *Berliner Tageblatt*, the two competitors after nine moves had been made and neither a piece nor a pawn captured, agreed to a "draw." No doubt these heroes were afraid of one another. But it seems a pity that the committee should have no power to prevent such an occurrence in a Tournament, in which the issue of each game not only affects the two players but every one in the Tourney.

SINGAPORE.

We heartily welcome the appearance of a chess column in the Singapore *Free Press*, and extend the felicitations of the oldest chess column in the Far East to the youngest entrant in the field. The

Editor's opening remarks are to be commended. He says:—"So far as possible, within the limits imposed, it will form a record of contemporary chess. Although no attempt is to be made to supersede recognised textbooks, examples of master play will be inserted from time to time in the belief that 'the opening and all other points of the game find their best illustrations in the published games of chess masters.' Space will also be found for local and other games of interest, and we invite contributions from players throughout the Colony, promising that all matter received will be conscientiously examined. Chess problems, especially such as will not impose too heavy demands upon the time of chess students, to the exclusion of other amusements and pursuits, will also form a feature of the Chess Column, preference, of course, being given to 'Two-movers.'"

NOTES.

Charousek, the first-prize winner of the Berlin Tournament, is only twenty-four years of age. *The Westminster Gazette* gave this opinion of him in 1896:—"We are of the opinion that since Morphy and Kolisch no more promising player has risen in the Chess-world than Charousek. We can testify that this opinion was shared by all the competitors at the Nuremberg Congress, with the exception of one, Lasker, but his evidence was somewhat biased by the fact that he lost his game with Charousek. We have so much pleasure in recording this fact since the appreciation of Charousek's genius by the large majority of the Nuremberg competitors was only a corroboration of our own opinion expressed the very first day of the tournament." Maroczy was not known among the masters three years ago. Caro, who is spoken of as "the mysterious and hitherto unknown" player, is also a young man.

Englich, it will be remembered, withdrew from the Berlin tourney soon after its commencement. A story is now going the rounds to the effect that he wrote to the committee that he had been advised by some one to take a poisonous drug for headache, with the object on the part of the adviser, he believed, of injuring his chances in the tournament. The management did not escape criticism at the hands of Lasker, and it is possible that the fact of the committee being obnoxious to him had something to do with Lasker's refusal to enter the tourney.

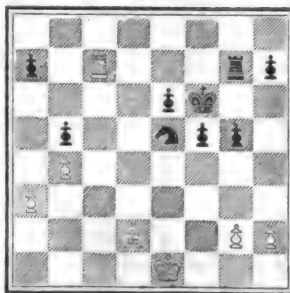
The chess season in London began in real earnest in the second week of October. There were simultaneous displays by Messrs. Gunsberg and Van Vliet at the Metropolitan Chess Club, and a successful blindfold exhibition by Mr. Blackburne at the City of London Chess Club against eight opponents. Last, but not least, the ladies played a match twenty-five a side in which the Metropolitan won by 16 to 9.

Active preparations are progressing at Vienna for an International tournament, to be held in the Austrian capital in the spring of next year. If rumours are to be relied upon, the tournament will be very richly endowed, and the amount of prize-money will be sufficient to induce all the best players to compete, probably without exception.

AN END GAME STUDY.

This ending occurred in a game played at the Nuremberg Chess Club, by Dr. Tarrasch (White) and H. Romberg:—

BLACK.



WHITE.
White to move and win.

The position is given thus by Dr. Tarrasch in the *Frankfurter Schachblatt* without solution. We append a solution:—

1-RxR KxR 3-P-Kt3 P-KR4
2-B-B3 (!) K-B3 4-P-R3 and wins.

For, if 5..... P to B 5, or P to R 5, then 6-P to Kt 4; if 5..... P to Kt 5, then 6-P to K R 4, and Black must lose the Knight ultimately. There are other variations for the reader to try.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Nov. 25
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Verona	M. Nov. 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	M. Nov. 25
America	P. M. Co.	Peru	Fri. Nov. 26
Europe	M. M. Co.	—	Sa. Nov. 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M. Nov. 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. Dec. 5
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Su. Dec. 7

- 1 Left Vancouver on the 8th inst.
- 2 Left Hongkong on the 16th inst.
- 3 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst.
- 4 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Nov. 20
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	M. Nov. 22
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Su. Nov. 22
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of Japan	M. Nov. 25
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Tu. Nov. 23
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Fri. Nov. 26
Portland, Or.	N. P. Co.	Lombard	Sa. Nov. 27
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	Su. Nov. 28
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Tu. Nov. 30
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Fri. Dec. 5

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Port Caledonia, British ship, 2,320, D. Anton, 13th Nov.—Cardiff, and Nagasaki 30th Oct., Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, De Maubenge, 14th Nov.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.
Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Le Bouthillier, 14th November.—London via ports, General.—Carnes & Co.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, F. N. Tillard, 15th Nov.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. S. Co.
Ulysses, British steamer, 2,281, R. J. Brown, 17th Nov.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 16th Nov., General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, J. Rowley, 17th Nov.—New York via ports, Suez Canal, and Kobe 16th Nov., General.—Dudwell, Carlill & Co.
Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 17th Nov.—San Francisco 30th Oct., via Honolulu 6th Nov., Mail and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Beethoven, German ship, 1,714, Thulen, 19th Nov.—New York, 26th June, Kerosene Oil, General.—Standard Oil Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 19th Nov.—Hongkong via ports, Nov. 9th, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, W. Thompson, 17th Nov.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 19th Nov.—Shanghai via ports, Nov. 13th, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Manila, British steamer, 2,371, Haddock, 14th Nov.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. S. Co.
Sarpedon, British steamer, 2,283, Grier, 14th Nov.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Melbourne, French steamer, 2,032, Duchateau, 14th Nov.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—M. M. S. S. Co.
Antenor, British steamer, 3,326, Jackson, 15th Nov.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.
Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,703, McKenzie, 13th Nov.—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, N. Ohno, 16th Nov.—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nirei, 16th Nov.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Immortalité (12), British cruiser, 5,600, Captain E. Chichester, 18th Nov.—Nagasaki.
Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 19th Nov.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, W. Thompson, 19th Nov.—Seattle Washington, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—General & Mrs. K. Shoda, Mrs. Russell, Mr. H. L. Dover, Mr. Fred Collins, Mr. K. Kanio, Mrs. Fukui, Mr. & Mrs. Ah Tai, Mr. S. Higuchi, and Mr. F. Yebizuka, in cabin; 29 Japanese, 7 Chinese and one European in steerage.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Heringlet Szaja, Mr. Nishio, Mr. Melamilar, Mr. W. B. Bandt, Mr. and Mrs. Sakayama, Mr. Nagao Ariga, Mr. Schneider, Mr. J. B. Tay, Capt. Blakeway, R.E., Mr. Hiraoka, Scours Protal, Delfand, Roconsin, Orseille, Miss Chambareaud, Mr. Marquie, Mr. Gambert, Mr. A. Tillet, Mr. A. E. Fisher, Mrs. Thull, Mr. Bouchand, Mr. Simion, Mr. E. L. Bunnal, Mrs. Reynell and infant, Mr. Levy, Mr. C. H. Crosse, Mr. J. de Micheaux, Mr. J. Yugenheim, Mr. Ak Tai, and 1 Chinese.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong and ports:—Mrs. Robinson & infant, Mr. Gillingham, Mr. Grant, Mr. Almond, Mrs. Efford, and Mr. Emery, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgia*, from San Francisco, via Honolulu:—For Yokohama:—Mr. F. E. Simpson, Mr. J. T. Hooper, Mr. Alfred J. Hart, Prof. Clay McCauley, Mr. Oscar Vortman, Mr. H. Guo, Mr. E. Blumer, Mrs. Oscar Vortman, Mr. Edwin Dun, Mr. Shinsaku Kodera, Mr. F. E. Wood, Mrs. F. E. Wood and two children, Miss Iris Wood, and Mr. S. Kennedy, in cabin. For Kobe:—Rev. Wallace Taylor, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Dr. Mary A. Fish, and Mr. P. von Rautenfeld, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mrs. M. Buchanan, Miss Marie Anderson, Dr. Mary A. Ayer, Dr. Frances A. Cattell, and Miss Susie E. Williams, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Prof. Chas. Burckhalter, Mr. E. Robison, and Mr. Hong Sing, in cabin. From Honolulu to Yokohama:—Mr. H. Stock, Mr. R. Schmitt, Mr. Y. Yamaguchi, Mr. H. W. Zano, Mr. R. Schmidt, Admr. Sir N. Salmon, R.N., Lady Salmon, and Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Horsey and infant, in cabin.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Covehill, Miss Bunnell, Mr. C. McLenarg, Miss M. C. Clark, Miss M. Cluness, Miss E. Birdsad, Mrs. H. Collbran, Miss C. Collbran, Vice-Consul M. Kameyama, Capt. Waddilove, Mrs. S. Sakaki, Mr. Lindsag, Mr. J. Bannai, and Mr. O. D. Richardson, in cabin; Mrs. Hibino, second class, and 11 in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Schwerin, Miss Schwerin, and child, Mrs. H. W. Elliott, Mr. J. E. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Howard, Mr. T. D. McKay, Mr. D. M. Clark, Mr. C. M. Sandford, Mrs. W. Kennedy, Miss M. Carr, Rev. E. B. Kennedy, Staff Eng. E. Thone, R.N., Mr. W. H. Grant, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. J. Keddie, Mrs. Cora Richards, Mr. A. W. Bash, Mr. Lee Tsan Sun, and Mr. H. Kennedy, in cabin; 84 steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Hawaiian steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. V. Summers, Mr. Frank P. Bill, Mr. M. Goldman, Mr. T. S. Stephenson, Mr. C. W. Dimock, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuka, Mr. F. H. Bagbird, Miss Abenheim, Mr. J. Guggenheim, Mr. P. D. Gerald, Mr. F. H. Noltenius, Mrs. S. Wilson Walker, Mrs. E. H. Morgan and child, Mr. Ironside's valet, Mrs. A. C. A. St. John, Mr. W. Vaughan Robinson, Mr. G. Scalen, Mr. M. Arnheim, Mr. A. Davidson, and Mr. J. D. Giorgin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—General Nodzu, Lieut. General T. Kuragi, Colonel Y. Fukushima, Majors Akashi, and Ito, Lieut. R. Saito, Mr. M. Izu, Mr. T. Utsunomiya, Mr. K. Watanabe, Prof. J. C. Ballagh, Commander H. Kawamura, Mr. Altamira, Mr. K. Kato, Mr. A. MacMillan, Mrs. Kawamura, Master Kawamura, Misses Kawamura, Mr. R. Bardsley, in cabin; Lieut. K. Nakamura, Lieut. Awada, Mr. H. Ito, Mr. H. Noyori, Mr. K. Iizuka, Mr. F. Sakurai, B.Sc., Mr. James Nicholson, Mr. D. Logan, Mr. O. Kamiyoshi, and Mrs. F. Muramatsu, in 2nd class; 42 Japanese and 4 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Edward S. Barton, Mr. Geo. W. Bannhall, Col. A. S. Bacon, Mr. Louis F. de Uriarte, Mrs. Geo. B. Elmer, Mr. J. H. Rbersole, Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Fielder, Mr. and Mrs. E. Goldschmidt, Mr. E. E. Gill, Rev. & Mrs. C. M. Hyde, Messrs. S. L. Heap, U.S.N., J. H. Jennings, Wm. S. Kahnweiler, H. D. Lazelle, S. H. Macdon, S. T. Nishimura, E. Quackenbush, S. Ohashi, O. A. Pooler, G. A. Reimer, E. R. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Leiria, Mr. J. B. Millet, Miss Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Stejneger, Mr. S.

S. Strauss, Mrs. E. Winslow, Dr. H. C. Whiting, Miss Webb, Mr. Weizel, Mr. H. Wunsche, and Prof. A. Wood, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. M. F. Yantzen, Mr. P. E. Webb, Mr. O. Pollak, Mr. A. L. J. Dewette, Mr. Savouret, Mrs. R. Y. Kirby, Mr. J. Dourell, Mr. A. J. Buckley, Mrs. Going and servant, Messrs. Y. M. Mussen, Paul Schabert & servant, A. Schaffie, M. Lennet, Ning Pae Hing, G. Bernardi, Y. W. Lee, Capt. Gay, Mr. Ushi, Rev. F. W. Doxat, Messrs. Million, V. Sato, H. Hamashima, C. Y. Keep, Messrs. K. Nakajiro, K. Kato, Y. M. Guire, Mrs. Tagawa Ilio, Mr. Graham, and Mr. and Mrs. Olsonfeff, in cabin; 1 Japanese, 1 Chinese and 1 Indian in steerage.

Per British steamer *Manila*, for London via ports:—Surg. Capt. J. J. C. Watson in cabin.

CARGO.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe 675 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 2,504 bales.

REPROTS.

The British steamer *Belgia*, Captain Hinder, reports:—Sailed from San Francisco, Oct. 30th, at 2.03 P.M., arrived at Honolulu, 5th, at 7.59 P.M., in 63, 8, 17m; sailed thence 6th, at 3.43 P.M., crossing the 180th Meridian in Lat. 26 N., arriving at Yokohama, 2,466 miles, at 11.45 P.M., Nov., 17th, 1897, in 64, 12h, 12m. Moderate to fine weather throughout.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A little inquiry has been made for shirtings but has resulted in no business of consequence, while in fancy and woolens nothing at all is doing and is not expected to be done before the end of the year. Yarns are also utterly stagnant and spinners are in difficulty, in spite of a further drop in the cost of raw cotton from America.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 h, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 h, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	2.80 to 3.35
F. Cloth—7 h, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 39 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 2.75
Cotton—Italian and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25
	PER POUND.
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 12 1/2 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 h, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 h, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 h, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 h, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.39 1/2
Common	0.25 to 0.37 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Craps, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Filate, 24 to 30 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlait and Green, 3 to 5 h	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$3.50 to 30.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38 to 42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 52, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 62, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 80, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 100, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 120, Gassed	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 200, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 280, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 300, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$10.75 —
Indian Broach	21.00 —
Chinese	20 to 20 1/2

METALS.

Nothing is doing and quotations are nominal.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.20 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.30 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Pin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.05 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.25

IRONWORK.

The market is falling and little business has been done. It is reported in Japanese papers

that a syndicate has been formed in Tokyo for the sale of tank oil at very low rates. This news has created considerable excitement among the retail dealers and as a consequence both American and Russian oils have suffered and few transactions have taken place. Another difficulty is the want of transport to the interior, the railways being blocked with goods beyond their carrying capacity.

American	\$2.08 to 2.11
Russian	2.00 to 2.15
Langkat	2.03

SUGAR.

Prices for Manila have risen five to ten cents per picul, other rates being unchanged. Sales amount to about 14,000 piculs since the 3rd inst. about half of which was Manila. Arrivals during the week amount to about 2,000 piculs of China and Manila. A small quantity of Formosa has been disposed of at a slight advance. White refined has been in fair demand at firm prices.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$3.90 to 4.15
Brown Manila	4.20 to 5.00
Brown Daitong	3.30 to 3.55
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Considerable concessions granted by holders have led to some business being transacted both for Europe and America, but sales have not been large. The *Melbourne* took 682 bales for Europe on the 14th inst. Stocks amount to about 11,000 piculs, inclusive of 1,500 piculs sold but not delivered. Prices may be taken as from \$25 to \$50 lower than quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 9 1/2 h, 10 1/2 den.	\$30 to 940
Filatures—Extra 13 1/2 h, 14 1/2 den.	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 10 1/2 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 13 1/2 h, 14 1/2 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 15 1/2 h, 16 1/2 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10 1/2 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14 1/2 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13 1/2 h, 14 1/2 den.	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 1, 15 1/2 h, 16 1/2 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 14 1/2 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 15 1/2 deniers	780 to 790
Kakadas—Extra	840 to 850
Kakadas—No. 1	850 to 860
Kakadas—No. 11	790 to 800
Kakadas—No. 11	760 to 770
Kakadas—No. 11	—

WASTE SILK.

The market is quiet and comparatively little business has been transacted. Prices are weak and inclined to fall. Settlements since Nov. 4 comprise 1,685 piculs. Stocks amount to 11,000 piculs. The *Melbourne* took 1,470 piculs for Europe on the 14th, and the *Sarpedon* 105 piculs on the same date.

QUOTATIONS.

	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Best	105 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oahu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oahu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushi, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushi, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 55 1/2
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 22 1/2

TEA.

A small business only has been done during the past week, principally in low grades, at advanced prices. Stocks are very low. No shipments have been made since the 10th inst. until those by the *City of Peking* leaving to day (20th Nov.). Total settlements for season to date amount to 211,271 piculs against 209,288 piculs at same date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal.
Choicest	\$31 to 32
Choice	31 to 33
Finest	30 to 31
Fine	28 to 29
Good Medium	24 to 25
Medium	22 to 23
Good Common	20 to 21
Common	—

RICE MARKET.

Fukagawa, Tokyo, November 16th

The market was quiet.
Sold, 4,479 hyo; arrived, 4,366 hyo; in stock, 174,859 hyo.
Retail per Fan—First quality 4 sho 9 go; second, 5 sho 1 go; third, 5 sho 4 go; fourth, 5 sho 8 go; fifth, 6 sho 2 go.

EXCHANGE.

Silver again coming lower, Rates on China have advanced, whilst there is no change otherwise.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0½
— Bills on demand	2/0½
— 4 months' sight	2/0½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0½
— 6 months' sight	2/0½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.54½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.58½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	4 7/8 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	6 7/8 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	66
— Private 10 days' sight	68
On India—Bank sight	156
— Private 30 days' sight	160
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49
— Private 4 months' sight	50½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.06
— Private 4 months' sight	2.10
Bar Silver (London)	26½

LOCAL AND JAPANESE SHARE LIST.

[Messrs. Bissert & Urs's List.]

Yokohama, November 16th.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Ltd.	\$50	200 S.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	\$100	400 N.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	240 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	150 ex dir. Sa. & S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd.	\$100	150 S.
Oriental Hotel, Ltd. (Pers.)	\$100	45 N.
North and Rae, Ltd.	\$100	185 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd.	\$100	8 S.
Langfeldt & Co., Ltd.	\$100	85 B.
Higo Gas Co., Ltd.	\$100	185 S.
Club Hotel, Ltd. Deb.	\$100	100 N.
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	110 B.
Yokohama United Club Deb.	\$100	100 B.
Brett & Co., Ltd. Deb.	\$100	104 S.

[FROM THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICIAL LIST.]

Tokyo, November 16th.

Five per Cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds	94.50
Redemption Loan Bonds	96.80
War Loan Bonds	96.50
New Public Loan Bonds	97.50
Old Public Loan Bonds	93.00
Naval Loan Bonds	96.50
Tokyo City Loan Bonds	99.50
Japan Railway Company—paid up yen 20	76.50
Sanyo Railway Company—paid up yen 33	44.30
Ryomo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	88.00
Kansai Railway Company—paid up yen 50	55.50
Kobe Railway Company—paid up yen 45	116.00
Kyushu Railway Company—paid up yen 41	56.00
Kyushu Railway Company, new—paid up yen 25	32.50
Hokkaido Coal Mining Company—paid up yen 50	94.00
Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., new—paid up yen 25	55.50
Saigo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	80.00
Kawagoye Railway Company—paid up yen 50	50.50
Chikuo Railway Company—paid up yen 50	72.00
Hantan Railway Company—paid up yen 50	40.00
Boso Railway Company—paid up yen 50	43.50
Soto Railway Company—paid up yen 50	108.00
Narita Railway Company—paid up yen 50	62.00
Nishinari Railway Company—paid up yen 44	37.00
Toyokawa Railway Company—paid up yen 35	48.00
Hokuyetsu Railway Company—paid up yen 33	28.00
Ota Railway Company—paid up yen 47.10	30.00
Seiwa Railway Company—paid up yen 5	1.30
Chugoku Railway Company—paid up yen 10.50	7.50
Kyoto Railway Company—paid up yen 20	13.50
Kozuke Railway Company—paid up yen 50	30.00
Nanso Railway Company—paid up yen 37.50	30.00
Nippon Yusen Kaisha—paid up yen 50	54.00
Tokyo Bay Steamship Company—paid up yen 25	30.00

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 27TH, 1897.

BIRTHS.

On November 13th, at Kobe, the wife of W. H. GILL, of a daughter.

On Nov. 24th, at Kobe, the wife of C. W. M. BIRCH, of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

GERMANY has despatched three additional ships of war to China.

THE funeral of the late Queen of Korea took place on the 21st instant.

THE Liberal Party will convene a grand general meeting at the Head Office, Shiba, on the 13th of December.

A GREAT fire occurred in Melbourne, Victoria, on the 22nd inst., the damage being estimated at a million sterling.

A GERMAN expert has been engaged as Adviser to the Government Iron Foundry at a salary of over 19,000 yen per annum.

THE Japanese battleship *Yashima* arrived at Hongkong on the 19th instant and is expected at Yokosuka on the 30th inst.

THE German squadron in China has landed 600 men and hoisted the German flag at Kiaochow Bay, Shantung Promontory.

A MOST extensive conflagration occurred in the Cripplegate district of the city of London on the 20th inst. The loss is estimated at four millions sterling.

On the 22nd inst. a seaman named Iwama

Amekichi, belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Kaimon Maru*, now in Yokohama harbour, fell overboard and was drowned.

THE Budget for the next, 31st, fiscal year of Meiji is expected from the printer's hands about the 20th of December. One thousand copies will be issued.

THE Communications Department has increased its estimates by about yen 3,000,000, to develop postal and telegraphic enterprise in the next (31st fiscal) year of Meiji.

THE principal *saké* brewers in Osaka, Nara, Hyogo and Wakayama held a meeting on the 16th inst. at Sakai, when they resolved to oppose the proposed tax on *saké*.

H.I.H. the Crown Prince, now staying in the Akasaka Palace, will proceed to Hayama, Miura-gun, Kanagawa Ken, early in December next and stay there for some time.

SINCE the Nippon Kangyo Ginko (Japan Industrial Bank) opened business early last month, loans of over yen 800,000 have been granted to various establishments.

THE broken cable between Foochow and Formosa, which was to have been repaired within ten days at latest, is not yet in working order owing to the rough weather prevailing on the Formosan coast.

ON the 22nd inst. the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Yokohama, drew yen 100,000 in gold coin from the Yokohama Specie Bank; the Chartered Bank yen 50,000; and the National Bank yen 40,000.

TOKUYAMA in Suwo Province, Yamaguchi Prefecture, is to be made a naval port under the control of the Kure Port Admiralty, and a dock will be constructed there for the repairing of war-vessels.

A LABOURER named Hashimoto, of Negishimura, Yokohama, while working goods on board the *Empress of Japan* in Yokohama harbour on the 22nd inst. fell from the ship on to a lighter below and received serious injuries.

SAITO HEISUKE and eleven others, who broke into the premises of Messrs. Murai Brothers, jobacconsists, at Murocho, Nihonbashi, were sentenced on the 20th inst. to fines of from yen 7 to yen 2, with 15 days' imprisonment.

THE thief who stole yen 800 in 20 yen in gold pieces from Mr. Leeman, a British resident living at Honmoku, Yokohama, a few nights ago has been arrested. He is said to be a foreigner who is not recognised by any of the Consuls.

RAW silk arrived and sold in Yokohama this season up to the middle of November, was as follows:—Arrivals 79,693 cases, and sales 65,002 cases; an increase of 20,296 cases in arrivals and 14,674 cases in sales as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

THE military manoeuvres in Kinshiu finished on the 19th instant. During the manoeuvres Lieut.-General Ibaraki, Commandant of the Sixth Army Division, had his right leg kicked by a horse, while riding. It is reported that he will soon recover, the injury being slight.

THE Toyo Kisen Kaisha (Oriental Steamship Company) has made a contract with the Pacific Mail and O. & O. S.S. Companies to open a steamship service between San Francisco, Yokohama and Hongkong. According to the plan the three Companies will run three steamers

each, the vessels leaving the three ports every 8 days by turn. The proposed service will be opened from June next year with nine steamers of over 6,000 tons.

ON the 18th inst. a Japanese junk called the *Niwo Maru* (400 *koku*) owned by Mr. Suzuki Tatsujiro of Agehara-mura, Suto-gun, Shizuoka Prefecture, while on her way from Tateyama, Boshu, to Tokyo, collided with a German steamer near Kannon-zaki and received damage to the extent of about yen 800.

ON the 19th inst., severe fighting took place between workmen of the Okura-gumi and the men of the Arima-gumi (business corporations) in the railway yard at Hikage-mura, Higashi-Yamanashi-gun, Yamanashi Prefecture. Two workmen of the Okura-gumi were killed on the spot and six others were badly wounded.

IN the Department of Communications a Railway Investigation Council is to be organised for the purpose of investigating the management and affairs of the private railway companies in the Empire. The members of the Council will include experts in the Commercial and Home Departments, officers of the Navy and Army, and some instructors in the Imperial University.

IN compliance with the request of the merchants in Yokohama, the Yokohama Railway Bureau has, since the 20th inst., placed ten more luggage cars on the line between Tokyo and Yokohama, making up a train leaving the latter Station at 11 a.m. every day. It is stated that about 100 more luggage cars are needed to convey the goods now awaiting transportation between Yokohama and Shimbashi.

JOURNALISTS in opposition to the present Cabinet held an extraordinary meeting at the Maple Club, Shiba Park, on the afternoon of the 20th inst. when it was unanimously decided that the present Cabinet has acted unconstitutionally. During the proceedings many excited speeches were delivered against the Cabinet, and the meeting dispersed after adopting a proposal to hold a grand meeting of journalists at an early date.

THE Import market remains utterly stagnant. In piece goods, fancies, woollens and yarns nothing but a few small transactions to fill immediate requirements have taken place, and there appears no prospect of any better state of affairs for some time to come. Some little business has been done in metals, kerosene, and sugar, but nothing of consequence. The spinners of Japan, who were recently in difficulties owing to the accumulation of stock and falling-off of sales, are reported to have recently had a stroke of luck in moving off some 4,500 bales of yarn to China and contracts have been entered into for further sales in February next. In Exports not much business has been done. The silk market is quiet and sales for the week amount only to some 500 or 600 bales, buyers having apparently filled most of their requirements. There is not a large stock of raw silk in the market but at present prices it will not be easy to place it. The tea season is practically finished and sales during the week have been limited to about 90,000 catty. The stock remaining, about 174,000 catty, is mostly of indifferent quality. Japanese coal has increased enormously in price, quotations being double what they were two years ago, and the output is considerably reduced. Rice is at too high a figure for export, and large shipments are being imported from Saigon and Siam. Exchange has slightly improved.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

There are two parties in the economical arena at present, writes the *Fiji Shimpō*. The one declares that the volume of the currency has been inordinately increased and that steps should be immediately taken to reduce it; the other asserts that the country is suffering from a scarcity of floating capital and that the currency should by all means be increased. It seems strange at first sight that while a large increase in the volume of the currency has unquestionably taken place, there should nevertheless be complaints about the scarcity of floating capital, but if the facts are carefully considered, the apparent incongruity disappears. During the war with China the Government withdrew large quantities of money from the capitalist classes and scattered it among the lower middle and lowest classes. Then, after peace was concluded, an extensive scheme of armaments' expansion was planned, and instead of obtaining funds to carry it out by floating a domestic loan so as to recover a portion of the money scattered among the people, great sums of the Chinese indemnity was brought out and spent. Under such circumstances, the funds at the disposal of the consuming classes continued to increase, and the rise in the prices of commodities became still more marked. A natural corrective of such conditions would be increased purchases of imported goods and an outflow of specie, but that factor was more than nullified by the Government's action, for though imports have exceeded exports by large amounts during the past twenty-two months, a still greater sum has been brought into the country from the indemnity. The want of capital has necessitated constant applications to the banks, and the Bank of Japan has endeavoured to tide over the trouble by granting large accommodation, and considerably over-passing the legal limit of its note issues. But since the increased prices of commodities necessarily led to a reduction in the amount of bank deposits, the resources available for making loans have been impaired, and it may be said that the Bank of Japan's increased issues of notes have gone merely to cover the enhanced prices of commodities. It thus comes about that men who record the feeling of the people without reference to its causes, complain simultaneously of an inflated currency and of insufficient capital. At this crisis there has arisen a cry for retrenchment of the programme of armaments' expansion, and several prominent business men are preparing to organise a campaign for the propagation of that idea. It can not be denied that, in so far as such retrenchment would diminish the expenditures of the State, some relief would be obtained. But every thoughtful person must perceive that in her present position Japan has no choice but to develop her armaments. Such a measure is, in effect, the only means to promote the development of commerce and industry by securing an era of peace for their pursuit. Neither can any thoughtful person maintain that the national resources are unequal to the burden imposed on them by the armaments' programme. The national resources have been immensely developed during recent years, and the people are unquestionably able to meet the present strain. Besides, the origin of that strain is to be found, not in the cost of armaments' expansion, but in the fact that the Government has ceased to bring in great sums from the Indemnity and is now turning to the resource of increased taxation. Of course increased taxation means a corresponding diminution of the people's purchasing power, and a fall of prices, results to which business men naturally look forward with uneasiness. But business men must be well aware that a reaction from the present state of affairs is inevitable, and must see, if they give the matter a moment's thought, that a reaction due to wholesome and well understood causes is far preferable to a reaction produced by the bursting of speculative bubbles. If among the men now advocating a reduction of the programme of armaments' expansion, there are certainly some who have the true interests of commerce and industry at heart,

it can not be denied that there are also many whose business is confined to the stock exchange, and who think only of their gambling operations in shares and bonds. The true course for all persons of sound judgment and patriotic feeling is to recognise that an unhealthy state of affairs now exists; that a remedy must be applied, even though the process be painful; that increased taxation is the only sound remedy; and that the way to promote industrial and commercial development is to persevere with the armament programme by which alone the peaceful prosecution of trade and manufactures can be secured.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* adopts a remarkable attitude. It contends that the armaments' expansion programme was divided into two periods by the Ito Cabinet with the express object of making its consummation subservient to the financial resources of the State, and it implies that the inauguration of the second period would have been deferred until the means of carrying it out were plainly in sight, had the Ito Cabinet remained in power. The total expenditures involved in the first-period works were 138 million yen in round numbers, and those in the second-period works, 154 millions. It is easy to see, therefore, what an immense difference would have resulted from putting off the inception of the second half of the programme. Count Matsukata, however, not only undertook the second part at once, without reference to the country's resources, but also committed the State to larger administrative expenditures, and has thus brought about a difficult financial situation. No more significant condemnation of his policy could be found than that furnished by the attitude of the business men. They were always his allies in former times, and he had their loyal support when he assumed the control of State affairs last year, but they have now turned against him, and are organising an attack upon his financial policy.

People talked a great deal about a few cracks in the concrete blocks of the Yokohama harbour works, but were comparatively silent about the much larger blundering over the Sasebo docks. The expenditure of a few hundred thousand yen for purposes of famine relief became an absorbing topic of parliamentary discussion, but the expenditure of many millions of yen for the building of men-of-war provokes little comment. In short, every yen spent on civil objects is carefully scrutinized, but the vast expenditures incurred in connexion with national armaments seem to be regarded as lying beyond the legitimate sphere of public criticism. Further, there is a general outcry against increased taxation, and a corresponding clamour for the reduction of State expenditures, but even those that make their voice most audible appear to shrink from clearly indicating how the expenditures should be reduced, since they are unwilling to apply the pruning knife to the naval and military outlays which constitute the larger half of the public expenses. The *Nippon*, from which we are quoting, denounces all this as most unreasonable. Many people, it says, labour under the impression that the affairs of the army and navy belong to the sphere of the Imperial prerogatives and ought to be treated with the same deference as is extended to the grant for the Household expenditures; others think that questions of armament can not be intelligently discussed by amateurs; others imagine that the results of the late war have imposed upon Japan the obligation of arming on a large scale, and that, to refuse to vote funds for that purpose would be unpatriotic; and others, finally, entertain a romantic notion that the country owes a debt of gratitude to its soldiers and sailors, and is bound to spend money on them. All these views are vigorously combated by the *Nippon*. Above all, it scoffs at the phantasy that amateurs are precluded from discussing the problem of military expansion. They are equally precluded from discussing such subjects as banking, engineering, and so forth. The experiences that Formosa has furnished of civil and military

administration, and of the methods pursued by merchants engaged in carrying out Government contracts, should in themselves suffice to prove the necessity of bringing public scrutiny to bear upon every administrative field. There is but one rational way of placing the finances on a sound footing, and that is to reduce expenditures, and since the outlays on naval and military objects constitute the major part of the expenditures, they can not be excluded from the scheme of retrenchment.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* has a powerfully written article following the lines of the *Fiji Shimpō's* editorial quoted above. The prime purpose of increasing the national armaments is to secure peace for the country. Without peace there can be no healthy development of commerce and industry. Some people appear to imagine that the programme of military expansion is a kind of national luxury, or a mere concession to the spirit of pride, or an outcome of ostentatious tendencies. There could be no greater blunder. It is a stern necessity imposed by the first dictates of national well-being. At the time of the interference of the Three Powers, the universal cry was that, whatever the effort cost, the nation must be guaranteed against any repetition of such humiliations. But two years of peace have sufficed to lull the patriotic spirit to sleep, and men are grumbling about an outlay which, did they examine the matter closely, they would find to be the best possible form of economy, for never yet did the cost of preserving peace bear any comparison to the losses entailed by war. One plea put forward by the advocates of retrenchment is that, by concluding an alliance with a certain country, Japan might abate some part of her warlike preparations. But it is precisely by completing these preparations that she can qualify for such an alliance. That she should present herself naked and helpless as an ally, would be not a proposal of alliance but an entreaty for protection. There are no great Powers in the Occident that will open their arms to such a suitor. The more complete Japan's panoply of defensive, and even offensive, armour and arms, the more confidently may she count on allies in time of need and respect at all times.

The *Shogyō Shimpō* ridicules the critics who, without waiting to ascertain the considerations influencing the business men or the calculations at which they have arrived, abuse them as unpatriotic and reckless because they are understood to advocate a reduction of the programme of army expansion. The business men are calm, long-headed persons, accustomed to handle the *abacus* carefully before they formulate any decision. It may be fairly assumed that they know what they are about. Up to a certain point—a point determined with due regard to the country's needs and resources—they are perfectly willing to endorse the Government's schemes of expenditure. But it is precisely because, as business men, they have acquired a fitting perception of accurate calculations, that they are startled to find an estimate of five million yen surplus converted into an estimate of twenty-five million yen deficiency. A surplus of five million yen was the forecast of the Ito Cabinet for the Budget of the fiscal year 1896-7. A deficit of twenty-five millions is the forecast of the Matsukata Cabinet. That kind of thing does not appeal to the mood of business men. They are indisposed to endorse such reversals of figures, and they argue that one flagrant miscalculation may be the prelude of others. But their habits of close scrutiny and careful estimate forbid them to publish any hasty criticism. They will submit their views publicly when facts and figures can be fully marshalled—until that time, their critics had better suspend judgment. Rational people do not seek to cure the chicken's ailments before the egg is hatched.

The *Meiji Shimbun*, a Liberal organ, writes in terms of withering scorn for the advocates of retrenching the armaments' programme. The

national needs call for an increase of the tax on *sake*, an increase of the tax on land, and so forth, whereupon the *sake* brewers and the land-owners at once rise in arms, and the members of the House of Representatives, fearing to face their constituencies after voting for augmented taxes, support the outcry of the objectors. At that rate the requirements of the public service must always be sacrificed to private interests, and the members of the Diet figure in the unenviable character of mere creatures of their constituents, instead of being servants of the State. Japan's experiences ought to have amply taught her the painful results of weakness. She knows what encroachments have been made on her sovereign rights in the past because she lacked strength to maintain them. Are these things forgotten? Is it forgotten that she was able to conquer her huge neighbour by the superiority of her military preparations, and that, in the very hour of victory, the inferiority of her preparations compelled her to bow her head to three European Powers? Even if she has made up her mind to endure the latter humiliation patiently, can any one be blind to the fact that she is now on the eve of a similar trial at the hands of another great Power? If she is to have peace, she must be strong enough to preserve it. The *Meiji* then vigorously attacks Viscount Tani and Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, who are said to advocate a reduction of the armaments' programme, and compares them and their fellow thinkers to men that shrink from the cost of building an embankment to prevent an inundation.

KYUSHU MILITARY MANŒUVRES.

Some details of the military manœuvres that have been taking place on the plains of Chikuhō, between the 5th and 6th Army Divisions, appear in the vernacular press. The principal idea underlying the operations, the correspondents say, was that a northern army assisted by a strong fleet were to attack a southern army—also supplemented by a squadron of ships—and drive them over sea from positions they had taken up in Kyushu, and then to follow them to Okinawa, where they were to be completely overthrown. The Southern fleet had its rendezvous at Kure and Hiroshima Bay, the troops being distributed along the points of vantage of the same coast. The Northern belligerents belonged to the 5th Army Division and had to advance on Kokura, a citadel held in force by the Southerners, as the first step in the war. The Northern troops consisted of the following:—Vanguard, 12th Regiment of Infantry (Marugame), one company of Cavalry; 1st company of 11th Artillery; 2nd company 5th Batt. Sappers; half company Sanitary Corps. Main Body, one company Cavalry; 22nd Regiment Infantry (Matsumoto); 3rd Batt. 5th Artillery; 1st and 2nd Batt. 5th Artillery; 1st Batt. 5th Artillery; 1st Batt. 43rd Infantry (Marugame); 1st Batt. 44th Infantry (Kochi); 9th Infantry Brigade (Hiroshima); 1st Batt. Sappers, less one company; half company Sanitary Corps; Commissariat, etc. An independent Battalion of the 5th Regiment of Artillery, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Kimura, acted as a flying column. The main body of troops were commanded by General Yamaguchi, Commander of the 5th Army Division; the van being led by General Sakai, Commandant of the 18th Regiment. The armies had their first brush at Hariguri, in the village of Yamaguchi. A small stream runs at the end of this village, which can only be crossed by a narrow wooden bridge. To gain possession of this structure was the aim of both parties. When the attacking force advanced, the defenders met them with a smart volley, the infantry resting their rifles on the wooden balustrading of the bridge. The foreign military attachés rode up at this moment. They were all attired in glittering uniforms and formed a brilliant group as they surrounded Prince Komatsu, Chief of the Staff. His Highness was attended by Generals Nozu, Kawakami, Hasegawa, Oshima, and Tachimi. In addition to the fight at the bridge, a skirmish was also going on between the recon-

noitring cavalry of the Southern Army and a party of troops detached from the van of the advancing force, but the cavalry finding that they were overmatched, retired towards headquarters after a short interchange of shots. They were hotly pursued by the van of the Northern Army, which eventually captured a good position on a hillock in Yamaguchi. Almost at the same time, the invading force took possession of the high land in the vicinity of the temple of Ritsumyōji, and a fierce battle soon ensued. The Northern Army, ever on the aggressive, advanced up the slope to wrest the position from their opponents, and stuck to their work despite the galling fire played into their ranks from above. Meanwhile a cavalry reconnaissance had enabled the Southerners to discover that their enemy were advancing along the national highroad, but in what strength they were unable to ascertain. Steps were taken to strengthen the position at the temple hill, the main body of the troops being collected in the vicinity of Futsukaichi, some slight distance from the hill. The forces were thus very effectually concealed from the sight of troops advancing along the road. The Northern Army, meanwhile, had been divided into three sections—a main body, with wings to the left and right; the cavalry being employed on reconnoitring work. The southern army then slowly brought in its van from the bridge, retreating to the shelter of the rising ground in good form. The vanguard of the Northern Army suffered severely from the rifle-fire poured into them by the retreating invaders, very insufficient precautions being taken to protect them. The main body of the Southern Army drew off towards Harada, a detachment from the left wing proceeding to Hagiwara, then occupied by the right wing of the Northern Army. On the way it dispersed a small body of the enemy that had taken up a position at Kagamura at the foot of Tenpaizan. Meanwhile, the right wing of the Southern Army was manœuvred in such a way as to take it completely away from the fighting. The Northern Army, however, having brought up its entire battalions of infantry from the west of Futsukaichi, made a strenuous attack upon its defenders, the central body of the Southern Army. A furious battle ensued. It should be mentioned that the Northerners had moved their artillery on to a high land covered with a dense spinney of pines, and from this shelter the guns did excellent service. As the correspondent of the *Tokyo Asahi* watched the spirited scene his blood surged with the ardour of battle and he gave his descriptive faculties full swing. "All the mountains echoed and re-echoed with the thunder of the fighting, and the rivers ran red with gore. The heavens would have been darkened and the earth filled with the stifling odour of discharged ammunition had the fight I was watching been waged but six or seven years before. But not a wisp of smoke was to be seen, despite the fierceness of the struggle." The left wing of the Southern Army eventually gave way, retreating from all the posts it had occupied during the day. The main body were not long in following suit, and within a few minutes the Northern Army was in possession of the two strongholds of Ryumeiji and Kamizaka. Just then the trumpets sounded a suspension of the battle.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

A pleasingly diversified programme was provided at the usual fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society, held at Van Schaick Hall last evening. Prof. Sharp contributed several selections from Dickens' "Christmas Carol," and was warmly applauded. Among the vocal and instrumental pieces were the following:—Overture from Symphony in C Minor (Schubert), Mrs. and Miss Poole; song, "Spring" (Becker), Mrs. James Walter; song, "The Outpost," Mr. Hayward; piano solo, "La Castiglione," Mrs. Döring; song, "The Holy City" (Adams), with piano and organ accompaniment, Mrs. James Walter; song, "Unless," Mr. A. M. Gale.

HAKODATE.

We seem to have been in receipt of very misleading information recently from Hakodate. For example, it has been publicly stated that the steamer *Rhodora* went ashore in the harbour there, whereas we now learn that she was beached purposely. Again, the Japanese papers put the number of houses destroyed in the late fire at seventy, and our own correspondent estimated it at fifty, but the real number was only seven. The most singular misstatement of all, however, is that relating to "Hatoba Charlie" and the Bonin Islander. Both of these persons have been consigned to the grave by rumour, but both are very much alive. The Bonin Islander has purged his offence by a few days' imprisonment, and "Hatoba Charlie," otherwise known as "German Charlie," is going about his business as usual, which business, we may note *en passant*, is that of keeping a grog shop, and Charlie, in his manner of conducting it, is quite as respectable and industrious as they make them in that particular line. We must apologise to Hakodate for having misrepresented it as the scene of accidents more moving than the reality.

FOOTBALL.

Y.C. AND A.C. VERSUS H.M.S. "REDPOLE."

A match was played on the Cricket-ground on Wednesday afternoon, under Association rules, between teams from H.M.S. *Redpole* and the Y.C. and A.C. When play commenced a heavy fog enveloped the ground, but after a while it cleared again and the game could be watched in comfort, but soon after half-time another series of fog-waves swept over the field making it difficult to distinguish players twenty yards away. Only a handful of spectators were present, and not a single lady. We are rather surprised at this, for of all concerted field games football is the most exciting to watch, and in other years many ladies used regularly to put in an appearance at all local matches. Surely the fair sex in Yokohama have not lost their interest in the manliest of winter's manly games! Five goals fell to Yokohama in the first half, four of which were put through by G. Watt, a new-comer to the East, and one by Mair. Watt had phenomenal luck in this matter, for in the field he muffed the ball a good deal. Yet his fault in this direction may be condoned when his front-of-goal play is taken into account. In this respect he taught the other forwards a capital lesson—a lesson they need badly—for he was always up to the front on the ball whenever a scrimmage in front of goal took place. Yokohama has a splendid back defence in Pinckney and Lias—speedy, cool, and sure kicks—but their forward play is ragged. With the exception of Mair and Libeaud, the present forwards shoot wildly, cling to the ball too long, and scatter around too much. Forrest, at half-back, plays a capital game, feeding his men well, while he is always ready to tackle a nasty rush. These were the points most noticeable during the first half of the game on Wednesday when the light was sufficiently good enough to enable the spectators to see what was going forward. When the teams changed over, no material alteration in form took place, though the Navy pulled together better. It should be mentioned that they were playing a man short, one of their half-backs retiring early in the game, having strained the muscles of his right thigh. Only two more goals were scored against them. Mair secured the first from a neat pass from A. Watt, within a few seconds of the start; and Bethell notched the other. The teams were:—Y.C. and A.C.:—K. Kingdom, goal; F. J. Lias and H. Pinckney, backs; H. E. Hayward, E. Eddison and J. Forrest, half-backs; H. R. Mair, centre; G. Watt and A. Watt, H. Bethell and S. Kuhn, forwards. H.M.S. *Redpole*: Auchinleck, goal; Dr. Jeans and Dineen, backs; Hoopell, Campbell and Samuels, half-backs; Page, Peard, Stewart, Docherly, and Trist, forwards. Mr. F. E. White was referee.

GERMAN OCCUPATION OF KIAO CHOW.

It is sometimes exceedingly difficult to fit any theory of reason to the rumours that reach us across the wires. That is notably the case with the latest story that Germany is seeking to gain possession of Kiao-chow in the Shantung peninsula. Of what use would Kiao-chow be to Germany? Nothing in her Far-Eastern circumstances suggests the advisability of having a naval station. She has no colonies in this quarter of the globe, and the very small squadron that she maintains in these waters for the protection of her trade interests certainly does not call for a special dépôt of supplies. Hongkong is always open to her ships and so also are the ports of Japan. There is, of course, the contingency of a war with England, but in that unhappy event the more speedily her vessels departed from these waters, the better for themselves, unless, indeed, she contemplates raising her Pacific Squadron to dimensions such as would enable it to cope with the British ships on the China and Japan Station. Another hypothesis is that Germany may consider it expedient to have a *piéd-a-terre* in China in anticipation of the partition of the big empire. That would be a far-seeing policy indeed, but it is obviously futile to speculate about it. Baron Reuter, however, does not concern himself about the inherent improbability of the news he circulates. It is enough for him that German men-of-war are rumoured to have entered Kiao-chow Bay, and that some exceedingly thoughtless person construes the act as one of territorial aggression. But perhaps it is over-exacting to expect that telegraph agents should pause to discriminate, and fortunately in the present case our bewilderment has been of short duration, for telegrams received independently from Peking and Shanghai make it quite clear that what Germany has done is, not to occupy Kiao-chow as a naval station, but to send her ships and marines there for the purpose of avenging another of those shocking outrages which have disgraced the Chinese in recent years. Full details are not yet to hand, but there appears to have no doubt that on the 1st instant, a mob attacked the German mission at Yen-chow and murdered two of the missionaries, the third barely escaping with his life. News of the assassination was forwarded from Tsuinan-fu by telegram on the 5th instant. The message briefly stated that two missionaries had been killed; that one had barely escaped; that the mob had looted the mission, and that the local officials were conducting investigations. The German Minister seems to have acted with extraordinary promptness, for we presume that the orders by which the Admiral was guided came from Peking. Within a few days—how many we can not determine exactly, but apparently not more than seven or eight—from the receipt of the news, German ships were in Kiao-chow and a force of marines was landed. As to what ensued we have no information yet, but it seems safe to assume that such a resolute beginning did not have a futile sequel. Nothing could be more satisfactory than to find one of the great European Powers acting in this manner. It is evident that the measures hitherto adopted to punish and prevent attacks upon foreign life and property in China have been of no avail. Outrage has succeeded outrage, and while

we do not think that the Chinese Government has been deliberately behaving with bad faith, its arm is plainly not long enough to afford the necessary protection. A very different conception of the consequences of assassinating foreigners will be formed by the provincial Chinese when they hear that the duty of exacting vengeance is undertaken promptly and sternly by foreigners themselves, and that, instead of long, half-hearted investigations which partake of the nature of a fiasco and are followed by the execution of two or three wretched dupes while the real instigators of the crime go scot free, exemplary punishment is inflicted on a scale to be long remembered. Germany deserves the thanks of all the foreigners residing within the Chinese borders for her determined and expeditious procedure. Of course there will be a great deal of thoughtless talk about the contrast between German methods and British methods, and we shall again hear the hackneyed complaint that England, once respected and feared by the whole Orient, has now ceased to be of any account, and has to be instructed in her duty by a state with only a small fraction of her resources. It will be well to remember, before uttering such criticisms, that if two British missionaries had been murdered at Yen-chow on the 1st of November, England would probably have adopted the very measure now taken by Germany. Her Majesty's Government has of late years treated China with exemplary courtesy and patience, but the measure of long-suffering was exhausted some time ago, and we have not the smallest doubt that a murdering and pillaging Chinese mob would now experience at British hands just what the Yen-chow folks are experiencing at the hands of the Germans.

The strange point about the German occupation of Kiao-chow is that it does not appear to have been preceded by any interchange of communications with the Chinese Government such as the custom of nations has hitherto prescribed. According to the information in our possession, the murder of the missionaries took place on November 1st. The German Minister had been travelling for some time in the Yangtze valley, and probably reached Shanghai about the 12th of November. It will be remembered that he proceeded to Hangkow for the purpose of interviewing the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, and that while he was absent at the Viceroy's *yamen*, sailors in the *Cormoran's* boat, which was awaiting the Minister's return, were stoned by a mob. Baron von Heyking, having obtained full satisfaction from the Viceroy, was expected back in Shanghai before the 13th instant, and we have no reason to suppose that his plans underwent any change. He was travelling in the fourth-class cruiser *Cormoran*, and there were then lying in the Shanghai river or at Woosung, the *Kaiser*—2nd class cruiser of 7,680 tons—the *Arcona*—3rd class cruiser of 1,640 tons—and the *Princess Wilhelm*—2nd class cruiser of 4,400 tons. It was on the 13th instant that three German men-of-war entered Kiao-chow Bay, and they doubtless arrived at an early hour, for by noon six hundred marines had been landed. The vessels must, therefore, have left Shanghai or Woosung on the 11th, at latest, and must have been in receipt of orders by the 10th. But telegrams published in Shanghai on the 9th, showed that the German Minister was in Hang-

kow on the 8th. It would appear, therefore, that telegraphic communications were employed both for the purpose of addressing the *Tsung-li Yamen* through the *Chargé d'Affaires* in Peking, and for the purpose of conveying orders to the Admiral in Shanghai. It is unquestionably the promptest example of a diplomatic and military combination on record—so prompt, indeed, that most people will decline to admit the possibility of any preliminary negotiations with the Chinese Government. On the other hand, except where savage nations are concerned, it has invariably been considered essential that occupations of territory or seizures of property by way of guarantee for the concession of certain demands should be preceded by due formulation of the demands, and by clear evidence that resort to force is necessary for obtaining them. We can only assume that there had been some show of hesitation on the part of the Chinese Government, and that the German Minister determined to occupy Kiao-chow for the purpose of obtaining the immediate grant of his stipulations. But was there any communication with Berlin? Can there have been any communication with Berlin? The news of the murder can not have reached the German Minister before the 3rd at the earliest, and we have seen that the German ships must have left Woosung for Kiao-chow on the 11th at the latest. Thus, in the space of eight days, demands must have been sent from the Minister in the Yangtze valley to Peking; must have been submitted to the *Tsung-li Yamen* by the *Chargé d'Affaires*; must have been rejected, or paltered with, by the *Tsung-li Yamen*; the result of the communications with the *Yamen* must have been telegraphed back to the Minister; must have been forwarded by him to Berlin, and must have elicited an immediate instruction by wire from Berlin. The record is scarcely credible. Yet the alternative is that the Minister acted on his own responsibility, and not only that, but acted with a degree of promptitude closely bordering on precipitancy. Even the "good old times" so often instanced by the surviving "pioneers of commerce," have not bequeathed to us anything so remarkable. With regard to the procedure of the German Admiral at Kiao-chow, it appears that he intimated to the Chinese General Chang the necessity of evacuating Lao-shan with all his troops within a period of 24 hours, counting from 3 p.m. on the 14th instant. The men were to carry with them their arms and their personal effects, but nothing else. Failure to comply with the demand was to entail the commencement of hostilities. Chang obeyed. He retired with his force—said to have been 2,000 strong, but that is probably an exaggeration—to Tsing-tao. It is possible that the German Minister was present at Kiao-chow when the landing of the Marines took place, for he arrived in Peking on the 18th, and might, therefore, have been at Kiao-chow up to the 15th or even the 16th. If—as seems beyond question—this occupation of a portion of the Shantung Peninsula is a direct consequence of the murder of the German missionaries—that is to say, if it is merely a guarantee for the satisfaction of certain claims—it need not be regarded as an act of war. The proceedings of the British Squadron in the *Piræus* in 1847 and even the occupation of the Danubian principalities by Russian troops in 1853,

were not considered as necessarily involving war, and, of course, the fact that the German Minister proceeded to Peking after ordering the occupation, points to a diplomatic sequel. It is suggested by Japanese journals that the incident bears the interpretation of an act of pure aggression undertaken in collusion with Russia, the plan being that the latter should gain possession of Liaotung while Germany seized the Shantung Peninsula, the two Powers thus seating themselves at the entrance to the Gulf of Petchili. We do not live in the age of such *coups*. The dispatch of men-of-war in time of peace to make a descent upon the shores of a friendly Power and seize a slice of its territory, is an act that does not fall within the range of a civilized State's doings in the nineteenth century. There is not the smallest fear of Germany's lending herself to any such performances.

Telegrams despatched from Peking on the afternoon of the 21st instant, report that instructions have been issued by the Chinese Government to the local authorities of Shantung to make vigorous preparations for defence. From the same source we learn that the demands preferred by the German Minister in connexion with the murder of the two missionaries, include a payment of six hundred thousand dollars for the support of the families of the murdered men and to replace the property destroyed; a certain sum—the amount is not named—to defray the cost of sending a naval force to Kiao-chow Bay; the severe punishment of the local officials; diligent search for the murderers and their execution, and two other points which are not set forth in the telegrams. There is evidently no demand for a territorial concession. Indeed, nothing could be more unlikely than that the German Government should seize such an occasion for seeking territorial aggrandisement. We observe that the *Chiao Shimbun* echoes the curious conjecture already formulated in the columns of newspapers which ought to judge more correctly—the conjecture that Germany has been pressing China to grant her a naval port by way of compensation for her action in the Liaotung affair, and that China having shown no disposition to accede, the German Emperor has gladly availed himself of this opportunity to get by force what he has been unable to obtain by persuasion. Considering that Germany's record is absolutely clean from such transactions, and that of all the continental Powers of Europe she is one of the least likely to violate the principles of international morality, there does not appear to be the slightest basis for these suspicions. She seems to have taken possession of Kiao-chow before receiving any final reply to the demands presented by her Minister in Peking, for the telegrams say that China has asked for the withdrawal of the German forces by way of preliminary to negotiations. A territorial seizure prior to discussion is most unusual. Indeed we can not recall any precedent in modern history. But experience shows that to obey precedents punctiliously in dealing with China is merely to create pretexts for vexatious delays and miscarriages of justice. What must strike everybody, we think, is the courage shown by Germany in her procedure. Since the loss of the *Itis* she has, we believe, only five ships on the China and Japan station. It is doubtful whether she could land a force of twelve hundred

men, all told, which means that she could not send more than eight hundred into action. Yet she has quietly seated herself on the Shantung peninsula, and now defies the tens of thousands of troops that China could easily collect to thrust her out. Of course, the little force is under the guns of the squadron, but look at the matter how we may, it is a thoroughly plucky performance. It may, of course, eventuate in a permanent German station on the Chinese coast. If hostilities are resorted to by China—a most improbable contingency, in our opinion—Germany's demands may change greatly in the sequel. It is by no means improbable that she has already approached the Chinese Government with reference to the acquisition of a naval port, however improbable it is that she should make the murder of two missionaries a pretext for seizing what she wants.

A conviction is gaining ground that the seizure of Kiao-chow by the German Squadron preceded all discussion of the demands preferred by the German *Chargé d'Affaires* in Peking. We have already discussed the question of dates in some detail, and have shown that from the time when the German Minister, then in the valley of the Yangtze, received the intelligence of the murder of the missionaries to the time when he issued orders to the ships at Woosung, there can not have been an interval of more than eight, or perhaps nine days. It is not absolutely impossible that demands may have been duly presented in Peking, with a brief limit of time for their acceptance by China, and that instructions may have been obtained from Berlin, before the naval demonstration was made. For example, the *Chargé d'Affaires* in Peking, acting under telegraphic orders from the Minister at Hankow, may have presented a set of demands to the *Tsung-li Yamen* on the 5th or 6th instant, requiring a categorical reply within 48 hours. Then, by the 9th or 10th, the Minister may have been in possession of news that no reply had been given, and he may also have been in possession of authority from Berlin to resort to force in that contingency. So far as the actual lapse of time is concerned, these things are not beyond the range of possibility. But how are we to account for the fact that among the demands presented in Peking, one related to compensation for the expense of occupying Kiao-chow? Were there two sets of demands, and did Kiao-chow appear in the second after the rejection of the first? Such a supposition involves a further crowding of events into an interval of time already packed to the extreme of imagination. It looks very much as though Germany occupied Kiao-chow first and presented her demands afterwards. Should that prove to have been the case, she will certainly be roundly condemned in Europe. To whatever degree of degradation a man may be supposed to have fallen, nothing short of the loss of his intelligence justifies us in seizing him by the throat as a preliminary to the administration of a dose of medicine. That is the method pursued with dogs and horses, not with reasoning beings. The compulsory quality of Germany's action would not have been impaired to the slightest extent had she obeyed the common usages of international intercourse by presenting her demands in due order, fixing a limit of hours or days

for the Chinese Government to make promise of satisfaction, and then, in default of such promise, placing the matter in the hands of the Admiral of her East Asiatic Squadron. Should it turn out that she occupied Kiao-chow first and presented her demands afterwards, such a reversal of the legitimate sequence of proceedings may prove unfortunately embarrassing to herself, for China would certainly be justified in refusing to negotiate under the circumstances, and what course could Germany then adopt? She could hardly send a force of marines to effect reprisals at Yen-chow, which lies fully two hundred miles inland from Kiao-chow. That would be an almost desperate essay considering the paltry number of men available, though probably, were it possible, it would be the most drastic method of dealing with the matter. She might, of course, remain in possession of Kiao-chow, but of all programmes that would be the most futile, for she can not desire to hold Kiao-chow, and its tenure would neither constitute any redress of the Yen-chow outrage nor have any effect in deterring similar outrages hereafter. All foreigners residing in China are interested in the success of Germany's resolute attempt to obtain signal reparation for the Yen-chow murders, and all would regret to find that her procedure was open to criticism, or that she had hampered herself by false steps at the outset. As for China, the measure of her humiliation is now certainly full. Not merely does she see herself placed beyond the pale of the most ordinary international consideration, but her empire with its 300 million inhabitants is invaded and defied by six hundred men.

Nothing could well be more meagre and unsatisfactory than the intelligence contained in the Shanghai journals up to the 19th instant about the complication between Germany and China. Even the details of the attack upon the missionaries in Shantung are not related by our contemporaries. The news of the outrage reached Shanghai—or, to speak more correctly, reached the Shanghai press—on the 10th of November. By the *North China Daily News* it was embodied in a brief paragraph to the effect that a German Roman Catholic priest had been murdered in Shantung, and that another had narrowly escaped. The *China Gazette* was even vaguer. It alluded to a "report" that "some of the missionaries of the German Roman Catholic Mission in Shantung had been killed," but said that no official confirmation of the intelligence could be obtained either at the German Consulate or at the headquarters of the Lazarist Mission. The same paper added, however, that "Baron von Heyking, who only returned from Hankow yesterday (November 9th), had news of some trouble but was awaiting further details which he expected would be slow in coming," and that the German war-ships *Kaiser*, *Arcona* and *Prinzess Wilhelm* had been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Shantung in the event of the receipt of intelligence requiring their presence. On the 17th, Shanghai knew that Kiao-chow had been occupied, and we find the missionary trouble then alluded to as "the recent brutal massacre of two Roman Catholic members of Bishop Anser's Mission in Meridional Shantung," but as to how the massacre occurred or who its unhappy victims were, not a word is said. Shanghai seems to have obtained

its news from the crew of Messrs. Siemens's steamer *Loongmoon*, which appears to have been acting as a kind of tender to the German Squadron, and which returned to Shanghai from Kiao-chow on the 17th. She had left the Yangtze in company with the squadron, on the 11th, the date already conjecturally assigned in these columns. The *China Gazette* account of the proceedings at Kiao-chow is as follows:—

What happened, we believe, is this:—On Sunday morning (14th Nov.) the three German warships *Kaiser*, flagship, with the Admiral on board, the *Prinzess Wilhelm* and *Arcona*—entered the bay, and the Admiral sent word on shore to the General commanding the garrison, who held three forts, one on the south point, one in the middle, and one in the northern peninsula, that he had come to obtain satisfaction for the murder of the two German Missionaries of Bishop Anser's Roman Catholic Mission, which took place on the 1st inst. at Yenchu, in the south-east of the province, and that he intended landing a strong party of men and occupying the forts. The Chinese General in command sent back an evasive answer, and tried to refer the matter to Peking, saying he had nothing to do with it. The Admiral returned a peremptory reply, saying he was landing his men in three hours, and would use force to carry out his orders, giving the Chinese garrison that time to evacuate the forts. One of the forts is armed with three old 6-inch guns, the other two with weapons of a more obsolete pattern. The rabble soldiery were composed of the usual coolie warriors, who were scared out of their wits when they saw the foreign devils' ships make ominous preparations for business by running out their guns and lowering yards, while the boats were swung out in readiness for landing men. In an hour's time those on board the German warships could plainly see that the "garrison" was on the move, having discovered urgent business elsewhere, and hundreds of *braves* were seen hurrying over the low hills, bearing their beds, bundles, bird-cages, and the usual pomp and paraphernalia of Chinese warfare, far out of harm's way. Recognizing that the German Admiral meant business the cautious and astute Chinese General sent word on board the flagship that he "yielded to superior force" and meekly bowed his valiant head to the inevitable. He begged to place his life and those of his wives and numerous family under German protection and was ready to obey the honoured commands of the German Admiral! Then about twenty boats from the German ships were lowered and some 600 men with six guns were landed without the slightest opposition and in admirable order at three points, each division marching straight to the nearest fort, which they found tenantless. The Chinese flags were promptly hauled down and the German ensign run up to the top of the flagstaff, whereupon the three warships fired a salute. There was no confusion whatever and the few country people in the neighbourhood quickly recognized what had happened, and after they had recovered from their first phlegmatic surprise accepted the situation, while many of the warriors, with their martial attire replaced by the usual blue garb of the peasants, stole back to see if they could not get a "little chance" to turn an honest few *cash* from their new masters.

The steamer *Loongmoon*, which had gone up on Monday, with despatches from Shanghai, entered the harbour Monday morning, only to find everything perfectly peaceful. She returned here to-day (17th) and leaves again to-morrow, with stores, food, stoves, cooking utensils, etc., and everything necessary for a prolonged occupation of Kiao-chow by a large number of men. The German gunboat *Cormoran* is also to leave here to-morrow for the scene.

It will be apparent that the writer of the above has indulged in some embroidery. Chinese accounts of the affair, published on the 19th of November by the *N.-C. Daily News*, allege that there were no guns in the fort (one fort, it will be observed); that only a portion of it had been completed, according to plans drawn up some years ago by Major von Hanneken, and that, at the time of its seizure, the garrison consisted of 40 or 50 men under a petty officer.

Strange to say, not one of the Shanghai papers gives the slightest thought to the question whether the occupation of Kiao-

chow preceded or followed discussion with the Peking Government. The *China Gazette* says that, according to its information, the negotiations were being conducted directly between Berlin and Peking. That, however, seems very unlikely. The *Gazette* seems to regard the seizure as a perfectly correct and necessary act, without any reference whatever to the forms accompanying it. The utterances of the *North China Daily News* are still more remarkable. For example:—

It has been known for a long time that Germany was anxious to obtain a naval station somewhere on the coast of China, and in endeavouring to settle this Germany has no doubt had to put up with the usual evasion and double-dealing in the exercise of which the Chinese officials are such adepts. On the top of this came the murder of the German priests in Shantung, and it is evident that the German Minister has made up his mind to stand no nonsense, but to take steps to obtain reparation from the Chinese Government, and a fulfilment of Germany's requirements about which there shall be no doubt. It is clear that communications have passed between the German Minister and his Government, and that orders have been received from Berlin to act with promptitude and decision. Full information as to what has actually been done has not come to hand, but it seems clear that the German men-of-war have taken possession of T'-ingtau Fort, situated on an island in the centre of Kiao-chow Bay,—which is so situated as to command the whole of the vast anchorage of the Bay—after having driven out the Chinese garrison. It is more than probable that Germany takes this step not only to secure ample satisfaction for the brutal murder of her subjects, but also to obtain the naval station she requires, and that her occupation of the port will be permanent.

It would be difficult, we think, to find a more comical specimen of perverted morality than this paragraph displays. Not for an instant does it occur to the *North China Daily News* that Germany has no shadow of right to plunder Chinese territory. Our good contemporary is entirely satisfied by the supposition that Germany is "anxious to obtain a naval station somewhere on the coast of China," and on that hypothesis does not hesitate to denounce as "evasion and double dealing" any attempts on the part of the unfortunate Chinese to avoid being robbed. The naïve rascality of such views is beyond comment. We have already expressed the opinion, from which we find it impossible to depart without the most explicit information, that Germany has seized Kiao-chow merely as a guarantee for the satisfaction of her demands in connexion with the murder of the missionaries, and that there is not the least chance of her playing the conscienceless part so calmly attributed to her by newspapers in China and Japan. It may not be without interest to allude, *en passant*, to the dilemma in which the *N.-C. Daily News* is now placed by its "Cassini Convention," so confidently presented to the world and so obstinately clung to. That wonderful document in one of its most wonderful clauses provided for the leasing of Kiao-chow to Russia, and the ultimate purchase by China of all the barracks, docks, and so on that Russia might build there during her occupation. But now that inconvenient German steps in and seizes the very same place! The Shanghai journal, however, does not surrender the Cassini Convention. It opines that "if Russia presses to a point her prior right, it may lead to trouble."

The Emperor of Germany is still too young to indulge in much retrospect. Yet he must sometimes look back to 1893 with considerable chagrin, and just now the recollection should be particularly irksome. It was in 1893 that he startled Europe by his singular picture of the coming peril—

the invasion of the Occident by the Yellow Race—, and allegorically urged all the Powers of the West to join forces for the repulsion of that awful menace, the 300 millions under whose feet the civilization of the white man and his liberties were to be trampled. But his Majesty has now concluded that six hundred German marines are sufficient to exorcise the colossal spectre, to defy the 300 millions.

THE KOREAN FINANCE ADVISER.

According to the *Sōul Independent*, Mr. Alexieff had not "been able to assume the duties of his office" as Financial Adviser up to the 13th instant. The same journal publishes the following translation of the memorial sent in by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Pak Jung-yang, with reference to the engagement of Mr. Alexieff, a document which is said to have caused "quite an excitement in the Cabinet":—

"Through Your Majesty's gracious favour your humble servant has been in charge of the Finance Department nearly a month. But on account of the lack of technical knowledge of financial management on the part of your humble servant the affairs of the Department are not yet in the most satisfactory state, for which your humble servant begs Your Majesty's gracious pardon.

"The matter of engaging foreigners in the Government service requires careful consideration and judgment. Therefore the recent proposal of engaging a Russian as Adviser to the Finance Department was not immediately decided by your humble servant and requested the Foreign Office to give the matter more careful thought before coming to a conclusion, besides, such matters must be brought before the Council of State for consideration of the whole Council. The law clearly states that all important affairs of state must be discussed by the members of the Council in its regular session and none of which becomes law unless the decision of the Council has been approved by Your Majesty. The idea of engaging the Russian was not proposed by the Finance Department and the matter was never brought before the Council. The Foreign Office ignored all the requirements of the law and concluded the agreement on its own responsibility. Your humble servant is at a loss to know upon whose authority the Foreign Office has ignored the law of the country. The Finance Department is entirely ignorant of the terms of the contract nor is it aware of the conditions upon which it was agreed. Your humble servant may be merely a figure-head in the Department therefore it may not be necessary to recognize your humble servant in such matters, but by so doing the rights of the Department have been robbed and the law of the country has been thrown upon the ground. Your humble servant is not only ashamed of himself but he fears that the people would think that there is no man in the Government who can fill the office of Finance Minister with satisfaction to the country. It is true that your humble servant is not properly qualified to fill the position, but he has the instinct of loathing the idea of doing wrong to the country for the sake of obtaining an office. However, it is probably all due to the unworthiness of your humble servant that such an affair has taken place, therefore he begs your Majesty to dismiss him from the Finance Department and punish him for his failure in upholding the dignity and rights of the Department." His Majesty replied as follows:—"You need not make such statements. We accept your resignation."

Mr. Pak's memorial has caused Mr. Cho Pyeng-sik, the Minister of Foreign Affairs to send in a counteracting memorial in which Mr. Cho severely condemned the statements of Mr. Pak by saying that the proposal of engaging the Russian Adviser was originally advanced by the Government last year when Pak was Minister of the Home Department and Acting Prime Minister. When the proposal was made by the Government Pak, then Acting Prime Minister, must have known it, but he did not make any objection at that time, now he claims that he does not know anything about it. Mr. Cho doubts the truth of Mr. Pak's statements and he considers him cunning and deceptive. His Majesty replied to Mr. Cho as follows:—"It is not the time to quarrel and it is not a matter to be opposed by each another. Do your duty and you need not take notice of the other's accusations."

TWO IMPORTANT POINTS IN THE NEXT SESSION OF THE DIET.

It is stated that the Committee engaged upon the revision of the remaining portions of the Civil Code is working night and day in order to be able to submit the Code for approval in the next session of the Diet. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, which may now be regarded as the most trustworthy source of information on official matters, adds that the Government has resolved upon carrying out various reforms in the prisons and in the police, preparatory to the operation of the Revised Treaties, and that, as the cost of maintaining the prisons will have to be transferred from the localities to the Treasury in order to effect the desired changes, a bill in that sense will be introduced in the session of the Diet. These things have very great interest for foreign residents. Unless the remaining portions of the Codes are passed before March, it will obviously be impossible to put them into force from July, and in that event the operation of the Revised Treaties could not take place in July of the following year (1899). What, then, are the prospects of these portions of the Code going through the Diet before March? According to the intention now accredited to the politicians of the Opposition, an Address to the Throne impeaching the Cabinet is to be introduced at the opening of the session. The Cabinet may then adopt one of three courses. It may suspend the session for any period not exceeding three weeks, before the Address is carried to a division, and then, if the House, on reassembling, persists in proceeding with the measure it may dissolve it. That plan would render dissolution virtually inevitable, for since a general election must take place next June under any circumstances, the threat of a dissolution could have no deterrent effect. The second course is to allow the Address to be put to the vote. Such will be the plan pursued, no doubt, if the Cabinet sees any chance of the Address being thrown out. Unlikely things often happen. A very unlikely thing happened last session, for example. The Government's supporters seemed to be hopelessly in the minority up to the very opening of the session, but when the votes came to be counted, it was found that the Cabinet had command of the situation. He were a rash man who should assert that a similar surprise may not be in store for the political prophets next January, though, for our own part, we can detect no symptoms of anything of the kind. If the Address is carried to a division, the Government is almost certain to be beaten, and then dissolution must follow. In either of these cases, all chance of the Code's being passed disappears. The third course is to take no notice of the Address even though it be sent up to the Throne, and to refrain from dissolution until the House rejects the Budget and the taxation bills. Were that plan pursued, there might be time to pass the remaining portions of the Code through both Houses before the Budget Committee's report could be presented. But to ignore such an Address would scarcely be possible, and thus we arrive at the conclusion that, should the Opposition's programme take the form of an Address to the Throne, some postponement of the Revised Treaties must ensue. It may be, however, that the idea of an Address will be abandoned, and that the Opposition

will limit themselves to rejecting the Budget and the laws for an increase of taxes. If so, the interval before the Budget comes up for final discussion can be utilized for passing the Code. It is a difficult situation.

The second great issue is the Budget itself. Strange to say, the vernacular press are silent on that point, though nothing less seems to be involved than the suspension of the *post-bellum* programme of armaments expansion. The repetition of the 1897-8 Budget would not exclude, so far as we know, the extraordinary appropriations for that year, and it is from the extraordinary appropriations that the costs of the *post-bellum* programme are defrayed. Altogether there has not been any session, since the first, so interesting as that now approaching.

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

There is no smoke without fire. We suppose that no one can persuade himself to believe in the perfect integrity of Japanese members of the Diet. Their circumstances are all so favourable to the development of the old fashioned malady *auri sacra fames*. For the most part, the men sitting in the House of Representatives are poor—perhaps we might even go so far as to call them very poor. Some of them, doubtless, have engaged in politics under the impulse of an honest desire to serve their country, and a larger number are in pursuit of the bubble, fame. But others have been tempted by the paltry stipend of eighty pounds sterling that attaches to the position, and others, though they may not confess the fact to themselves, are simply anxious to make capital out of their votes. The history of Parliamentary institutions in the West is not without examples of the uses to which statesmen sometimes put such opportunities; nor is it without verdicts palliating their corrupt methods. Thackeray, speaking of Walpole, who, "with his hireling House of Commons, defended liberty for us," says that the country "never enjoyed such a quarter of a century of peace, freedom and material prosperity until that corrupter of Parliaments, that dissolute tipsy cynic, that courageous lover of peace and liberty, that great citizen, patriot and statesman governed it." Verdicts of that kind may tempt statesmen to play to the distant gallery of future generations instead of obeying the highest principles of abstract morality, but we shall probably be nearer the truth if we conclude that men upon whom the responsibility of governing devolves, generally govern by the aid of the most facile instruments available. Probably if the average Japanese were asked to indicate which statesmen are most likely, in his opinion, to afford a practical illustration of that rule he would point to men of Satsuma origin, for, rightly or wrongly, the representatives of the great southern clan enjoy the credit of being more solicitous about the end than scrupulous about the means. Hence he would regard it as quite in the natural order of things that the name of Satsuma should be associated with the first instance of undue official interference at general elections in Japan and with the first example of parliamentary corruption on a large scale. Japanese journalists that denounce such abuses are doing meritorious work, but journals that resort to wild exaggerations of the facts furnish in their own methods another illustration of the

absence of the principle they denounce. The *Yorodau Choho* seems to be a case in point. It alleges that, in connexion with governmental interference in the general elections in 1893, the Premier, Count Matsukata, put up sixty thousand *yen* towards an expense fund and each of the other nine Ministers of State gave ten thousand, so that a total of a hundred and fifty thousand *yen* was amassed. Now, it is well known that Count Matsukata is not at all opulent: on the contrary, his circumstances have always been more or less straitened. The idea of his paying out such a sum as sixty thousand *yen* for purposes of a political campaign is quite inconceivable. Apart from that, however, there is another palpable discrepancy in the story. It speaks of "the other nine Ministers" whereas in 1893 there were only eight Ministers in addition to the Minister President. That is a very trifling point, but it suffices to throw more or less discredit on the whole tale. The *Chuo Shimbun*, again, asserts that the Government proposes to sell twenty thousand *tsubo* of land in the Kanagawa Fort to one of the noblemen and to apply the money to the purposes of an electioneering campaign. It is not to be imagined that the *Chuo* believes anything of the kind. The Government can not make away with the property of the State to suit its own convenience. A sale of public land would have to be passed through the accounts, and the proceeds could not possibly be diverted to a secret purpose. Wild inventions of that class carry their own refutation, but ignorant people are doubtless deceived by them. To a different category, however, belong the criticisms of a powerful body of representative journalists, who assembled at the Maple Club in Shiba Park on the 10th instant, and passed two resolutions declaring that the present Cabinet is undermining Constitutional Government, and that all good subjects should unite to uphold political rectitude and integrity. Whatever vagueness the language of the resolutions might suggest was removed by the utterances of their introducer, the well known Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, a man of unsullied reputation and transparent sincerity. He explicitly charged the Cabinet with bribing members of the House of Representatives. Unfortunately his speech was marred by great extravagance in other respects, for he denounced the Business Tax as unreasonable, immoral and barbarous, terms that betray passion, not reflection. Still, not a dissentient voice was raised against the charge of bribery, and we are bound to assume that men like Mr. Taguchi and his contemporary editors do not speak without reason. The bright feature in the situation is that they do speak. That is a healthy sign. It may be classed with the agitation roused by the compulsory retirement of Judge Takano. Technically the agitators are wrong, according to the verdict of competent legal experts. They are without warrant when they allege that the Government had no Constitutional right to remove Mr. Takano. But the instinct that impelled them to rebel against the exercise of such a right in such a manner, is just as sound as the instinct that impels the editors of Tokyo journals to combine for the promotion of official integrity. These evidences of wholesome public spirit are so significant that we are almost tempted to welcome the abuses by which they have been evoked.

SŌUL NEWS.

A correspondent writing from Sŏul under date of the 11th instant, says:—There have been some developments of the situation within the past few days. The British Consul-General, Mr. Jordan, insisted on an audience with the Emperor, and obtained it, on the 3rd instant, if I am rightly informed. Meanwhile, the Foreign Minister had evidently proved "inconvenient," for he was removed, and the notorious Cho put in his place. On the 5th instant, he signed an agreement with the Russian *Chargé d'Affaires*, pledging the Korean Government to accept the services of Mr. Alexieff, as Financial Adviser. The Minister of Finance made a viogrous protest—that is to say, vigorous for a Korean—against the engagement of an adviser for his Department without consulting either the Minister under whom the adviser is to work or the Council of State. He begged to be relieved of his office, and his request was, of course, granted. A protest was made by the Foreign Minister also, but it does not seem to have had any serious motive. Riding rough-shod over everything feebly expresses the impression produced upon on-lookers here by the action of Russia. What England will do, I have no means of knowing. Mr. Brown still keeps his place in the Customs office, and at the Finance Department, also, I understand. He is a man of great ability and courage, but between the peremptory demands of Russia and the pliability of the Emperor, there is not much room for any exercise of independent capacity. If Mr. Brown and Mr. Jordan are unable to stem the current, it is the conviction of people here that nobody can. What the end will be is the question that we anxiously ask ourselves. To-day (Nov. 11th), at the reception in honour of *Dai Han* by the Independence Club, Japanese, British and Americans were present, the first named especially in large numbers. Not a Russian, not a Frenchman, was on the ground. There may be nothing in this. I merely mention the fact. On your side of the water you know, of course, much better than we do what Japan is likely to do. There is not an able man now in the Korean Cabinet. If Russia proposes to take the country, as her proceedings seem to suggest, she can scarcely find better tools than the present occasion offers. At all events, it is easy to see that when any of the tools become at all refractory, away they go. I witnessed an incident to-day which surprised me as an indication of the feeling that exists against Russia. Two Russian officers passed down the street. Some Korean school-boys were drilling with improvised guns. They happened to be resting at the moment, and the Russian officers, though at some distance, looked curiously at the drill. The boys raised their imitation guns, not exactly to the aiming position, but significantly near it, and made some growling ejaculations. This was a revelation to me as reflecting a sentiment that certainly did not originate with the boys themselves. Meanwhile, our young, progressive, and urbane Governor pushes on the work of street improvement, and we may now look forward to having two good roads to the river in a short time. The construction of the Sŏul-Chemulpo Railway is also proceeding with all the vigour possible. A code of procedure for the Sŏul Courts

has been drafted by foreigners and adopted by the Government. Altogether, if some one would only send us a little Imperial back-bone, the situation would not be so desperate.

COUNT ITAGAKI.

The veteran leader of the Liberals—no longer, indeed, the nominal President of the Party but still regarded by the nation as its head—is represented as having made to a reporter of the *Fiji Shimpō* various statements, some of which appear scarcely credible. For example, the Cabinet is alleged to have offered the portfolio of Finance to Mr. Hoshi Toru on condition that he won for the Government the support of the Liberals in the next session of the Diet, and when Mr. Hoshi refused, pleading ignorance of financial affairs, the portfolio of Justice was substituted. It may well be supposed that Count Itagaki finds much to criticise in the recklessness that would have placed the finances under the care of Mr. Hoshi, despite the fact that finance was the ground upon which Count Matsukata came into office and is also the origin of his present difficulties. But the criticisms have no particular interest until we know whether their basis is true, which is just what we do not know and do not believe. It seems, however, that Count Itagaki is "very bitterly opposed to the present Cabinet," and declares that had the standing committee of the Liberals voted in favour of union with the Ministry, he would have returned to political life, and applied himself to re-organizing the party. "Happily," he added, "such a vote was not recorded." But it appears to us that although a majority of the committee voted against union, the fact that nine out of twenty-four voted in favour of it, shows the party to be sadly in want of the re-organizing abilities of Count Itagaki—speaking, of course, from his point of view. If nine committee-men approve of coalition with the Cabinet, twenty or thirty out of the party's sixty parliamentary members are not unlikely to be found in the Government's camp next session. The Liberals would then be reduced to a feeble remnant.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

The vacancies created in the presidency and ranks of the Council of Administrative Reform Investigation by the retirement of Count Okuma and resignations or removals of various Progressionist officials, have been filled up thus:—

To be President, H. E. Mr. Kioura (Minister of Justice).

To be Members H. E. Viscount Tanaka Fujimaro (Privy Councillor); H. E. Mr. Kioura (Minister of Justice); Prof. Kikuchi (Vice-Minister of Education); Mr. Hirayama (Chief Secretary of the Cabinet); Mr. Ume (Chief of the Legislative Bureau); Mr. Okuda (Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce); Vice-Admiral Viscount Nire (Privy Councillor); Mr. Ozaki Chiujii (Privy Councillor), and Viscount Kawase (Court Councillor).

The Council, as previously organized, did not include any representatives of the Army or Navy. It is probable that Vice-Admiral Viscount Nire, being no longer on the active list, is not regarded as a naval representative.

Mr. Hirayama (Chief Secretary of the Cabinet) and Mr. Ume (Chief of the Legislative Bureau) have also been nominated members of the Treaty Revision Operation Preparatory Committee.

THE GOLD CURRENCY.

The returns of silver coins and notes presented for exchange against gold from October 1st to November 15th are as follow:—

	During October. Yen.	During 15 days of November. Yen.	Totals. Yen.
Silver Coins	1,433,902	216,292	1,650,194
Notes	3,477,528	1,422,303	4,899,831
Totals	4,911,430	1,638,595	6,550,025

It may be remembered that when the Japanese newspapers were predicting the inflow of great quantities of silver *yen* for exchange—sixty or seventy millions was the figure generally indicated—we frequently expressed the opinion that nothing of the kind need be anticipated, and that operations of that nature would probably be on a very limited scale. We can not, however, claim the credit of having judged rightly, for the conditions have not been such as to test the soundness of our belief. At the time when the lugubrious predictions were published, silver stood at 24 pence an ounce, and a substantial profit might have been realized by carrying silver *yen* from China and the Straits Settlements for exchange in Japan. But the quotation having changed quickly to 26 pence, the margin of possible profit disappeared, and consequently our forecast that, in spite of the low price of silver, not more than twenty or thirty million silver *yen* would be imported for exchange from first to last, has not been tested by events. If, as now seems very probable, the Government introduces a Bill next session reducing the exchange period for the silver *yen* to three months from April 1st, and if, as seems probable also, no very marked appreciation of gold takes place during that period, the Treasury may altogether escape any considerable drain of the yellow metal. No one will import silver *yen* for exchange merely on the chance of their bullion value's decreasing at some future date. Unless there is a substantial profit directly in sight by converting the coins into sterling, they will continue to circulate in China and the Straits side by side with the Mexican dollar. Japan will have reason to congratulate herself when this element of instability is removed from her new system.

TAILORS OF YOKOHAMA & TOKYO.

There has existed for some time in Yokohama an association of tailors calling themselves the "Yokohama Japanese and Chinese Dress-making Corporation." Each member of the body is supplied with a schedule of charges, and is under strict promise to abide thereby. We have no knowledge of the cost of making ladies' frocks, but we imagine that a sovereign (10 *yen*) for the tailoring of a wedding dress and a shilling (50 *sen*) for making a corset-cover—whatever that may be—are emphatically moderate charges. The tailors of Tokyo have now joined hands with their fellow-snips of Yokohama, and announce that they will be hereafter guided by the same schedule of charges. Probably some of the fair sex will not be over well pleased to learn that the pleasant uses of competition are thus at an end. It is difficult, however, to harbour any resentment against these debilitated-looking, deferentially-moving folk who contribute so much to the embellishment of things of beauty and are so very un-

beautiful and seemingly unprosperous themselves. They make a man's dress suit for seven *yen* and a suit of ditto for five. If they could only contrive to fit one well, how delightfully cheap that would be! But we fear that the old proverb, "penny wise pound foolish," applies to most of their male customers. The most patient and penurious of men can not induce himself to wear an ill-fitting suit for more than about one-half of the time that a good fit serves, and has discomfort into the bargain. A good tailor and a good cook are among the chief economies of life. Ladies, however, seem to fare well enough with Chinese and Japanese tailors. Are they easier to please than men?

THE CABINET AND THE LIBERALS.

It is alleged by the *Fiji Shimpō* that the Government has made a strong but unsuccessful effort to secure the cooperation of the Liberals. Our contemporary says that the proposal made by the Cabinet included the appointment of Mr. Hoshi Toru to the post of Minister of Justice—the holder of the office, Mr. Kioura Keigo, being transferred to the Department of Finance,—and the allotment of another portfolio to one of the Liberal leaders. Various other conditions were also advanced, and the negotiations assumed a definite form on the 17th instant. The Liberals held a meeting at 7 p.m. on the 18th to consider the proposition. Their debate lasted until one o'clock the following morning, the result being that, out of twenty-two members present, two voted for supporting the Cabinet, seven were willing to give it their support provided that certain alterations were made in the conditions, and thirteen opposed the scheme uncompromisingly. We are not disposed to place implicit credence in the story, but we give it for what it may be worth.

It is alleged that the failure of the pro-Government Liberals to effect an alliance between their Party and the Cabinet is not regarded as final. Another attempt in the same sense will be made by the promoters of the scheme at the meeting of Liberal members of the Diet which is to be held on December 14th, and which will be followed by a general meeting of the Party on December 15th. It does not appear probable that success should ultimately be secured for the project, seeing that it has once fallen through, but insistence on the part of its advocates is not unlikely to produce another split in the ranks of the Liberals. Meanwhile, a vigorous denial is given to the rumours recently circulated in the sense that Count Matsukata, seeing no prospect of obtaining the support of the Liberals, has resolved to resign. No such intention is said to exist. The Cabinet will proceed boldly with its programme of increased taxation, and challenge the Diet to reject it.

THE EMPEROR AND THE ARMY.

The Emperor has issued an Imperial Rescript to the officers commanding the troops of the 5th and 6th Army Divisions, in which he says that he has been kept *au courant* with the details of the manœuvres through which the troops have just passed. His Majesty then urges his officers to keep in touch with the progress of the outside world in all that concerns military affairs, for by so doing they will the better be able to safeguard the throne and their country.

BALL AT THE CHINESE LEGATION.

The Chinese Minister and Lady Yu gave a brilliant ball at the Chinese Legation in Nagatacho on the 20th instant. Owing to the fact that the period of Court mourning for the late Empress Dowager has not yet concluded, no Japanese Ministers of State or high dignitaries were present, and the British Legation, being also in mourning, was not represented. With these exceptions, however, all the "rank and fashion" of Tokyo may be said to have availed themselves of the Minister's hospitality, but invitations having been issued on a somewhat limited scale, not more than two hundred guests were present. Thus the ball room, which was brilliantly lit and very thoroughly warmed—perhaps too thoroughly—never became crowded, and the dancers were able to enjoy themselves without drawback. We may note that the foreign dance seems to find more favour with the Chinese than with the Japanese, for whereas not a solitary Japanese lady and only one Japanese gentleman took any part in the performance on Saturday, the Messrs. Yu and the Misses Yu danced from first to last with every appearance of vigorous enjoyment, and with a degree of conscientious accuracy in "squares" that bespoke keen appreciation. The band, which evinced a lusty spirit, began to play at nine, and thenceforth until nearly four in the morning there was no flagging. Supper was preceded by the taking of two lime-light photographs, and followed by a *cotillon* very prettily devised and well sustained. We may add that the members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique were entertained at dinner before the ball.

THE REASON OF COUNT OKUMA'S RESIGNATION.

What we have already written on the subject of political parties and the recent crisis, probably embodies the real reason of Count Okuma's resignation. There has been much perplexity about the reason. Some have sought it in a supposed cabal on the part of the Satsuma members of the Cabinet—especially Viscount Takashima and Count Kabayama—the motive of which was to drive the Foreign Minister out of office and get the direction of affairs wholly into Satsuma hands. Others have preferred to think that the question of finance was the chief issue; and others, again, have affirmed that Count Okuma's failure to bring the Cabinet to his way of thinking with regard to administrative reforms induced him to retire. But it appears to us that none of these reasons is conclusive, and that the real cause was Count Okuma's loyalty to his Party. As a statesman he must have seen that the Cabinet had no choice but to break with the Progressionists; as a politician he must have felt that he had himself no choice but to break with the Cabinet. The long habit of opposition had created in the minds of the Progressionists a false estimate of the possibilities of power. They anticipated such large results when the direction of State affairs came under their control that disappointment was inevitable. Losing their heads in the bitterness of disappointment, they took a step fatal to continued alliance with the Cabinet, and by the inevitable rupture that ensued Count Okuma was placed in the dilemma of having to choose between his official

colleagues and his old political friends. He can not have thought that the Progressionists had acted wisely, or that their conduct left the Cabinet any alternative, but it practically left him also no alternative. Of course he is himself to some extent responsible for the false standards by which the Progressionists seem to measure the duties of Cabinets and the obligations of political parties, but he doubtless anticipates that the present lesson will have corrective effects. We strongly suspect that in the discharge of his duties as Foreign Minister he must often have wished that his political followers were better educated in the uses of moderation, and that his acts might have been left to speak for themselves without the aid of party trumpets.

REVENUE FROM TAXES.

The total revenue collected by taxation in Japan at present, according to the *Osaka Asahi*, is 90,984,459 *yen*, and its sources are as follow, omitting sums under a million *yen* :—

	YEN.
Land Tax	38,668,991
Income Tax	1,905,696
Sake Tax	29,823,852
Tobacco	2,234,146
Soy Tax	1,479,994
Trades Tax	5,874,168
Customs Revenue	6,626,829

We do not know why the Registration Tax is omitted from the list, seeing that the Government's original estimates of its yield was 6,808,449 *yen*, and though the Diet's amendments of the Bill were expected to diminish the yield by about 1½ million *yen*, the proceeds of the tax should still be over five million *yen*. In fact, we do not understand the *Asahi's* figures. They can not represent the actual collections for the current year, since no data for such a statement are yet obtainable, and they differ from the Government's estimate. The vagueness of Japanese journals in dealing with financial matters is sometimes of the most exasperating nature. The *Asahi*, for example, speaks of the above table, as setting forth the taxes "now" (*gensai*) collected, but what "now" means we are left to conjecture.

UNREGISTERED SHARES.

The Commercial Code, at it now stands, requires that the shares of all joint stock companies must be registered—that is to say, must be inscribed with the names of their holders. Of course, that provision involves considerable trouble in selling or pledging the shares, changes of registration, presentations of powers of attorney and so on being generally required. The Committee now engaged revising the Code proposes, therefore, to effect an alteration by inserting the two following clauses :—

- (1) After all the installments have been paid on the shares of a joint stock company, unregistered shares may be issued.
- (2) In order to obtain the power of taking part in the discussions at a general meeting of shareholders, the owner of unregistered shares must submit them to the company five days before the meeting.

The former clause is welcomed as likely to confer great facilities, but it is feared that the latter may prove very inconvenient in the case of shareholders whose shares, being hypothecated, can not be produced and lodged with the Company.

RUSSIA'S POLICY IN KOREA.

THE difficulty of criticising Russia's policy in Korea is that the acts attributed to her are scarcely credible. To us, indeed, they seem particularly hard to believe, for we have never been able to sympathise with the Russo-phobe disposition displayed by many of our countrymen. Russia is subject to the same law as every other State: she must grow or decline, and since she is still in her period of growth, we see no more reason to abuse her for her territorial advances than we see to condemn Great Britain for similar expansion. Above all, Russia's struggle for a route to southerly seas is so natural that we fail to understand how any thinking person can censure it. If she places herself wilfully across England's path, every Englishman would be ready to take a part in the effort to thrust her aside; but to condemn her simply because she does what our own country does, appears unjust and narrow-minded. As between the generally beneficent results of Russia's territorial expansion and England's territorial expansion, Englishmen may fairly reflect with pride that no room exists for doubt. Wherever England goes, the whole world is free to follow, and whatever privileges British arms win, all nations are invited to share equally. That is not the case with Russia. It is still her habit to impose restrictions and limitations, the effect of which is that districts occupied by her cease to be freely accessible to merchants and manufacturers of alien nationalities. But for that feature of her policy—a feature common to several States of the European continent—the southward march of her boundaries might be viewed with comparative equanimity. Englishmen that entertain opinions of the kind here set down—and there are many such Englishmen—must find themselves considerably perplexed by the doings attributed to the St. Petersburg Government in Korea, and must be correspondingly anxious to discover some reasonable explanation. As to the general question of Russia's proceedings in the feeble peninsular kingdom—now somewhat comically re-christened “empire”—the chief difficulty is to reconcile them with the position taken by her in the spring of 1895. It was avowedly to preserve the independence of Korea that Russia, Germany and France called upon Japan to restore to China the northern litoral of the Yellow Sea and the Liaotung Peninsula. The collective note of the three Powers declared that, with Japan thus posted, the independence of Korea would be illusory. In every-day life, if three men combine to drive another out of a position which, though fairly acquired by him, might enable him to interfere arbitrarily in his neighbour's affairs, the plain duty devolves upon each of the three not to become

himself an interferer in those affairs, and the equally plain duty devolves upon the other two not to permit such interference. When Russia, Germany and France took the extraordinary step of driving Japan off the Asiatic continent lest her presence there should become a menace to Korean independence, they publicly constituted themselves guardians of Korean independence. There can not be the slightest doubt about that proposition. Hence, that one of the three should, almost immediately, adopt a course leading apparently to the sacrifice of Korean independence, the other two tacitly acquiescing, is an issue so inconsistent with the rudimentary principles of interstate morality as to be scarcely credible. Before endorsing such an accusation, we have to look carefully whether the situation justifies it. There are two aspects of the question, Russia's action towards Japan and her action towards the world. Of Japan's designs upon Korea the St. Petersburg Government obviously entertains grave suspicions. The united demand for the retrocession of Liaotung was a public declaration of such suspicions. Whether they are chimerical or justified we need not consider here. Our concern is only with the fact that Russia entertains them and that they affect her dealings with Japan. That is natural. If people imagine that someone contemplates an illegal act which would inure to their own disadvantage, the measures that they take to defeat his purpose are not likely to be regulated by the strict dictates of courtesy and friendship. Russia distrusts Japan's intentions towards Korea and shapes her own course accordingly. Thus considered, her supply of drill instructors for the Korean army and of a financial adviser for the Korean Government becomes a legitimate measure. It is not in itself inconsistent with the maintenance of Korean independence. On the contrary, since financial solvency and military strength are the first essentials of national independence, Russia may fairly claim that whatever aid she lends to make Korea strong and solvent, is a proper sequel to the Liaotung intervention. But it is just to look at the matter from Japan's point of view also. Has Russia's conduct towards Japan been warrantable even on the hypothesis that it is dictated by distrust? In 1896, Prince LOBANOFF concluded with Marquis YAMAGATA a Convention which, though its language leaves much to be desired in point of explicitness, is not open to any misconstruction as to its general object. There is no KAINARDJI conundrum to puzzle diplomatic interpreters. The Convention means, and can only mean, that the signatories pledge themselves to adopt and maintain a precisely similar attitude towards Korea, neither seeking to supplant the other, and neither seeking to gain a footing in the peninsula's affairs to the other's exclusion.

Since the Convention was concluded, Russia has supplied to the Korean army a large number of drill instructors, and has also placed one of her own subjects in virtual control of Korea's finances. There can be no question that such acts are violations of the spirit, if not of the precise letter, of the LOBANOFF-YAMAGATA Convention. Indeed, there is no question. The plea advanced on Russia's behalf is that her procedure is exempted from the purview of the Convention by a promise made before the Convention was signed. It is alleged that when MIN YONG-HWAN visited St. Petersburg, he made application to the Russian Government for military instructors and a financial adviser, and that the Russian Government promised both. MIN YONG-HWAN was the Korean Ambassador on the occasion of the CZAR'S Coronation, and Marquis YAMAGATA was one of the Japanese Ambassadors. We are thus invited to believe that when Prince LOBANOFF gave to Japan a written promise engaging Russia not to interfere in Korea's military and financial affairs, he actually had in his desk a promise of exactly the opposite import which had been made a few days previously to Korea. To accept that explanation would be to convict Russia of very flagrant double-dealing and very clumsy diplomacy. If it was her intention to thrust Japan aside in Korea and to make her own influence paramount there, she need not have wantonly aggravated Japan's resentment by giving to her a promise which there was so little intention of observing that arrangements had already been made for its violation. There was no occasion to flout Japan conventionally as well as to circumvent her diplomatically. That is the point which we find so difficult to understand in Russia's procedure. We could appreciate her if she explained that the LOBANOFF-YAMAGATA Convention had no aim except to secure Korean independence, and that to lend experts for the training of Korean soldiers and the regulation of Korean finance can not reasonably be construed as a menace to Korean independence; but when she admits that such a step would have been interdicted by the Convention had not a prior engagement existed, she places herself in an exceedingly equivocal position. Unfortunately, too, the second aspect of the question, namely, Russia's action towards the world, renders it impossible to credit her with any ingenuous solicitude for Korean independence. It is one thing to come to the aid of a Power whose finances are so mismanaged as to threaten ruin at home and even complications abroad. It is another thing to force one's assistance upon a Power whose finances have already been brought under the able and successful control of a neutral expert. If Russia had sent Mr. ALEXIEFF to Seoul two years ago, and had insisted on his employment

by Korea when the latter's finances stood in urgent need of organization, the measure might have been construed as a genuine means of promoting Korean independence. But a thoroughly competent Englishman had been in charge of Korea's finance for more than a year before Mr. ALEXIEFF'S departure from Europe. Hence Russia's determination to have her own nominee employed, invests her whole procedure with a character of self-seeking. The manner of Mr. ALEXIEFF'S engagement must also be noted. His services are given to Korea under an agreement signed, not by himself, but by the Governments of Russia and Korea. That is a completely new departure. As to its significance, we need not say anything. As to its dignity from the point of view of a great Power like Russia, there can scarcely be any second opinion. Much might be written, of course, about the clauses of the agreement which declare Mr. ALEXIEFF'S engagement to be permanent, and bind Korea, for all time, not to avail herself of the financial services of any foreigners other than Russians. But we are without any guarantee of the authenticity of those clauses, as well as of the reality of a secret treaty by which the Emperor of KOREA, in consideration of the protection afforded to him at the Russian Legation, is said to have promised, first, that Korea's foreign military instructors shall be Russians; secondly, that her foreign financial advisers shall be Russians; and thirdly, that all her present foreign *employés* shall be replaced by Russians. Without attaching implicit credit either to the published terms of Mr. ALEXIEFF'S engagement or to the alleged secret treaty, we find quite enough to surprise us in Russia's procedure, and to make us think that she has embarked upon a course of diplomacy which cannot be justified in the eyes of the world, and can be justified in her own eyes only by its results.

NAGASAKI WATER-FRONTAGE QUESTION.

FALSE rumours appear to be getting into circulation about the question of the Nagasaki water-front lots. It is stated, for example, that the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs has absolutely refused the claim for compensation made by the holders of the lots, and that nothing remains for the latter but to sue the Nagasaki Local Authorities in the Law Courts. The *Nagasaki Press*, commenting on this statement, rightly observes that no direct claim for compensation has yet been advanced, but is nevertheless disposed to conclude that the Minister for Foreign Affairs has intimated his inability to entertain any claim of the kind. According to our own information, the question of compensation has not been definitely raised as yet. The discussion has turned rather upon the point whether such a

change as that contemplated at Nagasaki can be legally undertaken without previous reference to the Foreign Consuls. In the British treaty, for example, it is provided that "the place which British subjects shall occupy for their buildings, and the harbour regulations, shall be arranged by the British Consul and the Japanese Local Authorities. * * * No wall, fence, or gate shall be erected by the Japanese around the place where British subjects reside, or anything done which may prevent a free egress or ingress to the same." The position assumed, we believe, by the foreign Ministers who are connected with the matter, is that this provision of the Treaty must be read as an engagement on the part of the Japanese authorities not to make any essential change in the environment of a foreign settlement unless the foreign Consuls are consenting parties. It will easily be seen that to acknowledge such a proposition in its entirety would be difficult for the Japanese Government, since it touches the right of eminent domain which every sovereign State jealously guards. At the same time, the sole purpose of the foreign Representatives in seeking to obtain official recognition of the principle, is doubtless to guarantee the settlements against arbitrary alterations which would impair their residential convenience or commercial facilities. To that extent the Japanese Authorities must be assumed to be of the same mind as the foreign Representatives. They would not think of sanctioning a scheme for filling in Yokohama harbour, for example, or destroying the roads that lead to it on the land side. But how is a limit to be fixed? It seems to us that both parties are in a somewhat similar dilemma. If the foreign Representatives claim to be consulted about every change, they encroach at least as much upon Japan's right of eminent domain as Japan would encroach upon their Treaty right by refusing to consult them at all. The word "arrange" in the Treaty obviously carries no meaning more extensive than "determine." It was so understood by the Japanese negotiators, for we find that the corresponding term in the Japanese text is *sadamu* (to fix or determine). Hence the obligation of consulting the Consuls appears to be confined to the choice of sites for settlements. After a site has been selected by mutual consent, the Japanese are simply bound not to do anything which shall interfere with freedom of communications, or tend to isolate the settlement. But it does not appear that they are bound to consult with the Consuls before undertaking any work affecting the topographical features of the surroundings. It is scarcely possible to conceive practicable changes so extensive as to destroy the eligibility of a settlement's site, but were such changes contemplated, an obligation to confer with the Consuls would certainly devolve upon the Japanese Authorities,

for the Consuls might reasonably argue that their choice of the site had been guided by its actual features at the time when the choice was made. With regard, however, to changes that are not attended by such radical consequences, we apprehend that the Treaties can scarcely be construed as investing the Consuls with any right to be previously consulted. The Japanese are definitely pledged not to build walls, fences or gates around the settlements, or to do anything that shall interfere with facilities of ingress or egress. If they undertake works that violate those restrictions, they expose themselves to protest, but beyond that the Treaties do not go. In Nagasaki's case, therefore, the question narrows itself to this—is the projected filling of the harbour's upper end calculated to impair egress and ingress to the Megasaki and Deshima sections which have their frontage on the part of the harbour affected by the scheme? Evidently that can not be decided without examining the plan of the work. Speaking generally, deprivation of water frontage involves a loss of facilities of communication; but if the conditions of the water frontage are such as not to afford any facilities of the kind, no loss can be alleged. At Nagasaki the project is to convert into building land a mud-bank now scarcely a-wash at high water. Presumably canals or channels will be cut, in which event the facilities of ingress and egress may be improved, not impaired. As to that we can not speak. If will be seen, however, that the problem is decidedly complicated. Unfortunately for the protest of the foreign Representatives who have taken up the matter, the proposed filling is admitted to be an improvement: the settlement in general will gain by it. Hence the occasion is not opportune for asserting the consultative rights of the Consuls.

What we have written here does not touch the claims of individual land-renters: that is another matter. We are distinctly of the opinion that there may be instances where compensation is fairly due. Improvements undertaken for the general good of a community often impose sacrifices on some of its members, and it is a universally acknowledged principle that such sacrifices should receive due consideration. There is, however, a peculiar feature of the Nagasaki question. It is that the land-holders obtained their lots originally without payment. The *Kobe Chronicle*, we observe, seems to labour under a false impression as to this point. It says:—"As the scheme would deprive Megasaki and Deshima of water frontage, the foreign holders of lots purchased at a higher rate than lots not having this superior situation, naturally object to being deprived of this advantage without compensation"; and again:—"The question is one of great importance to holders of property in the settlement of Kobe, for, if it is possible, without offering compensation, to make

back blocks of the lots at Nagasaki purchased at a higher price because possessing water frontage, the same thing can be done at Kobe." Our contemporary appears to think that the lots at Nagasaki were put up by the Government for public sale, as was the case with the lots in Kobe and Yokohama. That is a misconception. The Government has never received any payment for the Nagasaki lots. Since their original assignment, however, the Deshima and Megasaki lots may have changed hands at prices higher than back lots would have fetched, and on that account their holders may fairly claim compensation; not from the Government, indeed—it would be evidently unjust that the Government, having given away the lots in the first place, should now be required to disburse money on account of changes in their condition—but from the Local Authorities who, presumably, will come into possession of the land reclaimed by the filling. It seems to us to be eminently a case for arbitration.

THE RECENT POLITICAL CRISIS.

IT appears to us very remarkable that not one of the vernacular newspapers, in commenting on the recent political crisis, makes any allusion to the feature which to foreign eyes seems most prominent. The *Taiyo* (*Sun*), for example, has a cleverly constructed article, written in the pithy, *staccato* style now affected by the best Japanese journals. The gist of it is that the impossibility of any alliance between the political parties and the "clan statesmen" has now been emphatically demonstrated, and that the parties must henceforth work alone. "The Liberals," says our contemporary, "made a failure of their attempt to combine with the Choshu clansmen and the Progressionists were equally unsuccessful with the Satsuma. Of the Liberals, indeed, it may be said that they were remarkably inferior in ability to their official allies of Choshu origin, but nothing of the kind can be alleged in the case of the Progressionists and the Satsuma statesmen. A good many Satsuma statesmen would have to be rolled into one in order to obtain a Count OKUMA, and in the ranks of the Progressionists are many men whose abilities will bear comparison with the best representatives of officialdom. Hence the general inference to be drawn from the failure of both attempts is that an alliance between the clan statesmen and the parties is out of the question." The *Sun* goes on to predict that strenuous movements on the part of the Liberals and Progressionists may be looked for at an early date, and that the final fall of the clan statesmen can not be long deferred. All that appears to us to be a most superficial review of the situation. In the first place, the *Sun's* facts are erroneous. The alliance between the ITO Cabinet and the Liberals did not

prove a failure, as our contemporary alleges. It worked satisfactorily so long as it continued in existence. The motive of the Liberals in forming a union with the Ministry was to promote the introduction of the system of party government, and they carried that aim to the very verge of achievement. In fact, they may be said to have achieved it. For if their willingness to form such a union must be construed as a confession that without the aid of some of the *Meiji* statesmen their Party was not competent to assume the responsibilities of administration, the ITO Cabinet's consent to the union must be regarded as a confession that administration without the coöperation of the Diet was practically impossible. There has been no obscurity whatever about the object for which the political parties have contended since the opening of the Diet. They want party cabinets. At the outset, that is to say, before the promulgation of the Constitution, they fought for representative institutions, but when success had crowned that much of their programme, they found that the really desired sequel—namely, the control of State business by themselves—was not yet within reach, first, because the Constitution made the Ministers of the Crown independent of the Diet in so far as concerned tenure of office; and secondly, because the parties themselves were without a sufficiency of proved administrators to qualify them for taking charge of public affairs. The latter fact has long been appreciated by foreign observers. At the very commencement of the struggle, it was pointed out in these columns that affiliation of the *Meiji* statesmen with the political parties was an essential prelude to national recognition of the latter's administrative competence. The prestige of established ability to govern belongs solely to the *Meiji* statesmen. Their opponents may seek to bury the fact under a tumulus of invective; may labour to make the country forget what the *Meiji* statesmen have accomplished and remember only that they belong to a clique of clansmen. But the country can not forget. It is not necessary to wait for the verdict of history in the matter. We have the verdict of the world. The world has emphatically declared its opinion—an opinion based on incontrovertible facts—that the statesmen who planned the Restoration of 1867 and who have managed Japan's affairs ever since, steering her safely through immense difficulties and raising her from the rank of an insignificant Oriental State to the position of a respected unit in the comity of Occidental Powers, are administrators of high qualifications. It is out of the question that such men should be thrust aside by a set of politicians whose ability has been displayed solely in the field of agitation and destructive opposition, and of whose constructive and administrative

faculties the nation is without any proof. The people of Japan would forfeit all claim to the possession of practical common sense if they endorsed anything of that kind. Therefore the absorption of the *Meiji* statesmen into the ranks of the political parties is an indispensable preliminary to parliamentary cabinets. To the credit of the political parties it must be recorded that their leaders have always recognised the fact here set down; have always hitherto confessed themselves unprepared to assume the responsibilities of administration. To return, then, to the sequence of our original argument, we repeat that the Liberals, when they joined hands with the ITO Ministry, were intelligently pursuing the purpose of their existence as a party, and that Marquis ITO, when he accepted the alliance, was simply extending practical recognition to the principle theoretically recognised by him when he framed the Constitution, the principle that parliamentary government is the certain outcome of representative institutions. That an imperial mandate and a parliamentary endorsement would have to be converted, sooner or later, into a parliamentary mandate and an imperial endorsement, every Japanese statesman must be supposed to have understood since 1890, though all Japanese statesmen have properly deemed it their duty to postpone the change until preparations for it had been duly completed. The manner of the ITO Cabinet's fall constituted another triumph for the cause of party government. Marquis ITO might have remained in office had he chosen to sever his connection with the Liberals. By quitting office rather than adopt that alternative, he confirmed the principle which had induced him to form the connection. Thus far events had moved in excellent accord with the plans of the Liberals. It seemed as though the credit not only of inaugurating but also of consummating representative government would rest with them. They were now, however, to be subjected to a new kind of trial, a personal ordeal. The MATSUKATA Cabinet applied to them a solvent that destroyed their cohesion. They deliquesced, not wholly, indeed, but to such an extent that the solid residuum became comparatively insignificant. What, then, is to be the verdict about the Liberal Party? Are we to say, with the *Sun*, that its coalition with the Choshu statesmen failed because the clan character of the Choshu statesmen unfitted them for coalition with any political party? Of course not. We are to say that the Liberal Party has shown itself unable to remain compacted on any platform of principles. Its nucleus may be sound, but its tail is evidently subject to the influence of attractions not included in the calculations of conscientious administrators. We come, now, to the coalition between the Progressionists and the

MATSUKATA Ministry, which was equally a recognition of the principle of Parliamentary cabinets. Most of our readers doubtless remember that, in the very early days of the coalition, the Progressionists issued a circular which is probably unique as a public utterance by a political party towards the Ministry with which it is associated. We may be permitted to quote the comments which we ourselves published with reference to the circular exactly a year ago (November 26th, 1896):—

The Progressionists have issued an extraordinary circular saying that the Government has sinned so as to require sharp censure, but not beyond redemption; that it may be given a chance of doing better, and that the Central Office of the Party will endeavour to make the Cabinet "adopt such praiseworthy measures as shall atone for its fault." A strange document this, to be sure, when we recall the fact that, until a year ago, Japanese Cabinets asserted absolute independence of political parties and of parliamentary majorities, acknowledging responsibility to the Sovereign alone. Things move fast in Japan, but have they really moved so fast that a political party can openly arrogate the position of mentor to the Government, graciously promise support to the Ministers of the Crown if they behave well, and grandiloquently announce that steps shall be taken to make them atone for a blunder into which they have just fallen? The Progressionists must be presumed to know that the arrogant tactlessness of their proclamations can not fail to hamper the Government, and that alliances secured on such terms are too humiliating to be welcome. It seems to us that these politicians find much difficulty in reconciling their past intemperance with the exigencies of their new role as a constructive and disciplined party. Their long habit of independent and uncompromising opposition has impaired their faculty of subordination. They are furnishing now to the nation an object lesson in the difficulties of the system they clamour to introduce, for until parties learn to trust and follow their leaders, party cabinets are impossible.

Read by the light of recent events, these words may almost be called prophetic. For it was precisely on this rock of arrogant insubordination and tactlessness that the Progressionists finally wrecked their alliance with the Cabinet. They openly challenged the Premier to dismiss certain members of the Cabinet—"alien elements" (*ibunshi*), as they called them—, although compliance with such a demand would have amounted to an admission that Ministers of the Crown hold their portfolios, not even by the mandate of the Diet, but at the option of a political party not commanding a majority in the Diet. Politicians endued with so little sense of what is due to the dignity of their Ministerial associates, of the discipline without which such association is impossible, and even of the constitutional principle which they profess to uphold, can not be regarded as qualified for alliance with any Cabinet. The Progressionists needed some training to fit them for the position they aspired to occupy, and it is to be hoped that they will profit by their recent discipline. They have a great leader, abundance of talent and apparent cohesion, but until they learn that to discharge obligations enters into the role of an ally just as much as to exact concessions, they will not find many statesmen to court their alliance. We thus arrive at the conclusion that the lesson taught by the history of the past two years is, not the

unfitness of the "Clan Statesmen" for union with political parties, but the unpreparedness of political parties for alliance with the Clan Statesmen. Possibly this conclusion will elicit from our vernacular contemporaries the old comment that foreigners are not versed in Japanese affairs. Well, we admit the general truth of the comment but altogether deny its applicability in the present case. For what we have here before our eyes is, not the evolution of some intricate problem connected with Japanese customs or character, but Japan's attempts to assimilate a system which she borrows from us. We are justified, therefore, in claiming some accuracy for the impression produced on us by the performance.

YOKOHAMA'S NEW WATER SUPPLY.

(BY OUR OWN REPRESENTATIVE.)

The official opening of the new intake of the Yokohama Water Works at Koseto, Aoyama-mura, Tsukui-gun, took place on Sunday last, the 21st instant. Invitations to attend the ceremony were issued by Mr. Umeda Yoshinobu, Major of Yokohama to a number of gentlemen, engineers, etc., interested in the works and to representatives of the vernacular and foreign newspapers of Tokyo and Yokohama. In response to an invitation to the *Japan Mail*, I had the pleasure of taking part in the expedition. The invitation stated that the opening ceremony would take place at noon on Sunday, wet or fine. The weather on Friday certainly did not promise well for the following day, when the start had to be made for the scene of action; but contrary to general expectation Saturday broke clear and fine.

It was arranged in the invitations that guests from Yokohama should be met at Hachioji station by officials from the Yokohama Water Works during Saturday afternoon, these gentlemen leaving Yokohama at the early hour of 5.20. In company with several other guests from this port, I left Yokohama station at 8.47 for Shinagawa, where a change is made and the traveller proceeds by way of Meguro, Shibuya, Shinjuku, etc., to Hachioji. It is a wearisome journey for such a short distance. We left Shinagawa shortly after 10 a.m. in a composite train composed of gondola trucks loaded with bricks, and passenger cars, and travelling comparatively at a snail's pace. At Shinjuku there is a change and a long wait of an hour—of which nothing is said on the time tables—and it was not till 1.05 p.m. that our easy-going iron steed crawled into Hachioji station, the schedule time of its arrival being 12.25.

At a tea house just outside the entrance to the station, we found Mr. T. Kobayashi, Manager of the Yokohama Water Works, and acting on the occasion for the Superintendent, Mr. Goto Tsunetake, foreman of the plumbing department, and other officers of the Water Works Office. Mr. Kobayashi welcomed the visitors, requesting us to consider ourselves thenceforth the guests of the Mayor. The joint parties of visitors from Yokohama and Tokyo numbered over fifty before the afternoon expired. The greater portion of these were distributed among two or three hotels to stay over night at Hachioji, others preferring, after dinner, to proceed on by jinrikisha or *basha* to Arakawa-mura or Yamashita and spend the night at one of these villages. Our hosts courteously found quarters for the only other foreign guest, the representative of the *Japan Gazette*, and myself at the Karoya inn, a clean and newly erected *yadoya*, where we were served with an excellent dinner *a la Japonaise* and slept comfortably. During the afternoon, a stroll through the town served to while away the time and to gather some interesting notes. Hachioji is

situated near the centre of a level oval valley surrounded on all sides but the south-east by ranges of hills, rising at various points to the dignity of mountains. The town has a distinctly thriving appearance, and is the centre of a very considerable silk-producing district. The principal cultivation all around consists of mulberry plantations, in most of which either tea bushes or vegetables are grown between the lines of mulberry trees. The town consists mainly of one long street running from east to west, as broad as the Bund at Yokohama and lined on either side by large and well stocked stores and shops containing all descriptions of goods and produce, among which several of the silk yarn stores especially are large and prosperous looking. The town, however, has not long emerged from a disastrous fiery ordeal. For nearly half a mile the buildings lining the main thoroughfare, and the short cross streets, are all new, this part of the town—the most important—having been utterly destroyed by a great conflagration early last spring, while at a point where the destruction then ceased another fire occurred only a fortnight ago, and swept away over a hundred buildings. The carpenters are still busy putting up new erections, all, or almost all, of the same inflammable character, wooden clap-board and shingle roofs. After running for over a mile the main street gradually decreases in width and in the importance of the stores and houses bordering it, until it peters out into a country road lined with cottages and rustic dwellings, from which are heard the clatter of the silk-winding frames, and the whirl of the spinning wheel, with here and there a silk dyeing establishment on a small scale. The roads, as in most small towns in agricultural districts, are simply execrable, no attempt being made to metal them in any way—mud pure and simple, and hard or soft according to when the last rain fell.

Between 6 and 7 on Sunday morning we were up, and, in company with Mr. Kobayashi, Mr. Goto, and other officials of the Water Works, esconced ourselves, six in number, in one of those antediluvian shandrigans which used to be the pride of Odawara. Other members of the party had started earlier and were ahead of us. Our destination was Yamashita, about three *ri* distant, whence the passage of the Annaitoge pass was to be made on foot. We therefore started in the lightest marching order, leaving all impedimenta behind at the inn, it being understood that on Monday we should return the same way. This plan was, however, afterwards changed, as nobody felt disposed to cross the mountain a second time. The road followed to Yamashita is known as the silk road to Kofu, another sericultural centre, and was simply abysmal in its depth of mud, and frequency of holes, and it was no wonder that some little distance from Yamashita, our *basha*, drawn by a couple of scraggy country breds, came to grief, an iron bolt attaching the hind springs snapping at the strain put upon it when the wheel got into a rather deeper hole than usual. Leaving the dilapidated *basha* and its driver at a wayside rest-house, we walked on to Yamashita and thence started the ascent of Annaitoge about 8.30 a.m., most of the party donning *waraji* and carrying their boots in their hands—a wise precaution for those who can wear sandals with comfort. The first part of the ascent is of moderate incline, the path for a couple of miles or so winding around the bases of several outlying spurs, with mountain brooks gurgling on one side or the other, the foot-hills being mostly covered with dense brushwood, the haunt, years ago, of deer and wild boar. Of the latter, it is said, an occasional specimen is now and again seen, but the deer have been exterminated. After getting half-way up to the top of the pass, a beautiful scene was disclosed behind us—a glimpse of the valley of Hachioji as a background, framed, right and left, with successive mountain spurs, gradually decreasing in height, and set like the wings of stage scenery. But we had no time to linger over the prospect behind us; it was up, up, and still up, the ascent getting steeper and steeper as we advanced. The vegetation was

now confined to low undergrowth and grasses, the bare rock breaking through the soil here and there. At last, after a few short rests to recover our breath, the summit of the pass was reached, and a glorious prospect rewarded all for their exertions. To our left the view was blocked by the peak of Annai-toge, towering a thousand or so feet above the pass, while to the right the ridge curved round behind us, leaving in front a panorama of the valley of the Sagami-gawa, backed in the far distance by another range of purple mountains, while at the extreme right or upper end of the valley could be seen the white buildings of the pumping station at the old intake of the Water Works and the handsome new bridge over the Sagami river, our first destination. The first part of the descent, along a good pathway cut along the face of the mountain, was easy and enjoyable, but when nearing the Water Works station the path narrowed to a foot in width, and at a very steep grade ran along the verge of a deep gully, down which one false step or slip would hurl the pedestrian. Here the *waraji* shod climber had a great advantage over his booted companion, as the pathway was slippery after the rain of the previous Friday. However, with rather shaky knees and a feeling of intense relief—speaking for myself at all events—the valley level was reached without mishap and the bridge close by the pumping station crossed. The first signs of an unusual event in the neighbourhood were here observable, the bridge being decorated with festoons of flags, while at a little hamlet a short way beyond a triumphal arch of evergreens and flags had been erected in honour of the occasion. Almost opposite the pumping station of the old intake, the Doshi river, from whence the new supply is drawn, joins the Sagami-gawa, and the road to the new intake at Aoyama-mura runs over the newly laid pipes beside the river Doshi. Along this path our party, led by Mr. Kobayashi, proceeded for a distance of about one *ri*, arriving at the new station about noon. Here, at the entrance to the property of the Water-Works, was erected another triumphal arch, and the compound containing the quarters of the resident officials, just above the reservoirs, was dressed with garlands of flags, in the centre of the compound a large circular awning, or open marquee, being erected for the participants in the ceremony of opening the new works. On entering the compound the guests were received by Mr. Umeda Yoshinobu, Mayor of Yokohama, and afterwards served with liquid refreshments—and never was a glass of beer more welcome than it appeared to us weary pedestrians after our tramp of three hours or more over mountain and valley. Within the compound were assembled over two hundred guests, including most of the principal residents of Aoyama-mura and the surrounding villages. Amongst the visitors was Mr. Ishiguro Isoji, Director of the Engineering Division in the Home Department, who six years ago selected and recommended the site now adopted for the intake of the Yokohama water supply. About 12.30 p.m. all the guests assembled in the marquee, and Mr. Umeda Yoshinobu, Mayor of Yokohama, in a short address formally declared the new Works opened, and Mr. Asada Matashichi, Director, Mr. Kobayashi Tadayuki, Manager, Mr. Mita Zentaro, Chief Engineer, of the Water Works, and a gentleman representing the contractors concerned in the construction of the Works, all delivered speeches. After the conclusion of the proceedings refreshments were served to all the guests, while the people of the neighbourhood half a dozen *saké* tubs were burst open and a festive time generally was enjoyed, such as the rustics had probably never experienced before in their lives.

Mr. Kobayashi very kindly conducted the representatives of the press round the works, showing us where the protected intake pipe entered the Doshi-gawa, and its course to the two new reservoirs, one of which is sufficient for present use, but a second one has been constructed adjoining the first in view of a second main supply pipe which it is proposed

to lay in the course of a year or two. The advantages of the new supply over the old are manifold. To begin with, the elevation of the intake is 60 feet greater than the old, and the extra pressure thus obtained will obviate the necessity of using the pumping station, the working cost of which was \$15,000 per annum. The supply obtainable from the new source is also 50 percent more than from the former, while the water is considerably purer, the Doshi river passing through a very sparsely populated district, and springing from the north-eastern slope of Fuji. The work of construction of the new intake was commenced in October, 1895, but it was not till the following year that any great progress was made. The iron pipes used are of 18 inches diameter and are of Scotch make, 1,078 in number. They were supplied by Messrs. Takata & Co., while the ironwork of the bridges, etc., was supplied by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. The cement used in the reservoirs, etc., came from the Asano works. The ground purchased for the erection of the station and laying the pipes amounted to 29,553 *tsubo*. The total cost of the work has been 133,500 *yen*. The supply of water from the new source is 3,077,000 gallons per diem, the old intake yielding only 1,800,000 gallons.

Having inspected the works at the new intake at Koseto, Aoyama-mura, and lingered awhile to witness the festive enjoyment of the local inhabitants, my foreign fellow journalist and self started at about 2.30 p.m. with a guide kindly engaged for us by Mr. Kobayashi—who was staying over-night at the works—for the village of Nakano, where quarters had been arranged for us for the night. The road winds round the feet of numerous low hills, through mulberry plantations, and vegetable fields, with occasional fir groves and patches of wild, uncultivated land. All along the way we met parties of country people from the neighbouring villages and hamlets wending their way to Koseto to take part in the festivities, the girls and women in their best bibs and tuckers—or, I should say gayest *kimono* and *obi*—with newly dressed and flower-decked *chepelure*. All alike seemed to be in the highest spirits and had evidently given themselves up to a thorough enjoyment of the day's outing from start to finish. It is rare indeed in this rural district for such a celebration to come their way. After a walk of about three miles we reached Nakano, a long, straggling village, but containing the great desideratum to travellers, a couple of clean, comfortable, two storeyed *yadoya*. Both of these hosteries were occupied on Sunday night by visitors to the Water Works station. The one to which my fellow journalist and myself were consigned was known as the Naruse, and is situated near the entrance to the village. From a little verandah on the upper floor at the back of the house a fine view is obtained over the beautiful valley of the upper Sagami-gawa, backed by a high range of hills. Here we were served with dinner, or supper, of purely Japanese cuisine, washed down with libations of the Japan Brewery Company's product; and we retired to our *futon*s at an early hour, somewhat stiff and worn from the day's exertions. At 8 o'clock on Monday morning, after a breakfast of soup, eggs, and fried beef, we started, in company with Mr. Goto, of the Water Works, and a number of fellow guests, including the representatives of the *Boyski Shimbun* and *Chuo Shimbun*, on foot to the Mii ferry on the Sagami, where a boat was in waiting to convey us down the Sagami and Banyu rivers to Hiratsuka, a distance of about ten *ri*. The craft in which we embarked was a flat bottomed boat of about forty feet in length and six feet beam. Mats were spread on the planking of the boat, with blankets over them, for the passengers, who numbered nearly a score, to sit upon, while thick straw mats were arranged along the sides to prevent the splash of the rapids from drenching the occupants. Our crew consisted of two boatmen in the bows—one handling a bamboo pole to direct the head of the boat through the rocky channel, and the other working a very primitively constructed

oar, formed out of a rough bit of scantling with the outer end thinned down—and another man in the stern with a similar oar, used for steering purposes. At 9 o'clock we started on our voyage and almost at once entered upon a course of magnificent mountain and river scenery. The rushing, swirling stream turned and twisted in its course, here hemmed in by precipitous cliffs on either side, and there leaving two-thirds of its expanded channel a wide stretch of boulders, covered with water only when the river is in flood. Every few hundred yards the stream formed a rapid, through some of which only a narrow channel would be left between the rocks which strewn its course above or below water. In some places the boat, although only drawing a foot or so of water, bumped on the boulders underneath till it seemed as if her bottom would be forced up, but the boatmen knew their work and safely piloted the frail craft through the ever recurring difficulties and dangers. At one rapid, where the roaring waters were rather more boisterous in their behaviour than usual, a surging wave surmounted the matting guards above the gunwale and drenched some of the occupants of that side of the boat, the use of the baling ladle being requisitioned to clear the craft of the surplus intake of water. Every turn in the winding stream disclosed some new beauty; at one time in dark and lowering gorge, where the sun could only penetrate at its zenith, then again a richly wooded slope would open up, displaying all the rich tints of autumn woodland—firs of a dozen varieties, with gradations of colour from nearly black to a vivid green, the graceful feathery foliage of the bamboo, undergrowth dressed in a wealth of colouring in all shades of browns, orange and yellow, with here and there a dash of crimson from the maples. The scene indeed was of such beauty that it elicited an extempore poem of two lines from one of our vernacular journalistic representatives, which I hesitate to turn into English lest I should mar it. Such scenery with its accessories is indescribable, as Thomson says:—

Who can paint
Like Nature? Can imagination boast
Amid its gay creation, hues like hers?

We stopped for a minute at Arikawa, a village on the left bank, to pick up a member of our party who had gone on so far the previous night. He had put in the early morning fishing and had been rewarded by securing three *af*, a kind of carp, of about 4lb. each. These fish are sometimes obtained running up to 5 or 6lbs. in weight. They are almost the only fish of consequence found in the river, though it is an ideal stream for trout and salmon, and were the *salmo* tribe once introduced and effectually protected in the close season the river would soon prove a most valuable fishing property. Near Arikawa we passed a deep bend of the river where a few years since an unfortunate policeman met his death in the zealous pursuit of an escaped prisoner who took to the water. The policeman followed him, and carried down by the current, was drowned. A little below here we pass Oshime and after this the stream widens, being in some places over 70 yards wide, and the rapids grow rarer and rarer. Through still lovely, but less wild scenery, we continue. A little past Oshime, prettily perched on the hill side 60 feet above the river, is a branch station of the Water Works; then come Tama, Isobe, and a score of picturesque little hamlets, to Atsuki, where the Nakatsu river joins the Sagami and the united stream is thenceforth to its mouth known as the Banyu river. At Atsuki we stopped and tidied, re-embarking again at 2.30 p.m. for a point near Hiratsuka. The lower reaches of the river are not particularly interesting. One of our boatmen threw up his oar on the plea of a sore hand, and as the current here is not very rapid, it was tedious voyaging during the latter part of the afternoon. By a little after 5 p.m. however, we reached the Tokaido railway bridge over the Banyu, where we landed, and walked or rickshad it to the Hiratsuka station, about a mile away from the landing place, thence taking rail for Yokohama, where we arrived by 7.30. I can-

not speak too warmly of the kind solicitude shown by our hosts for the comfort of their foreign guests. The Japanese are proverbial for the thoroughness of their hospitality, and on this occasion, to use a well known English expression, "they did us well," every arrangement that was possible in a rural district for our comfort being made by Mr. Kobayashi and his genial lieutenant, Mr. Goto, and we have to thank them for affording us a very pleasant and interesting trip.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

According to the *Mainichi*, the amalgamation of the Imperial Commercial Bank with the Japan Industrial Bank was concluded at the Imperial Hotel on the 17th instant.

The *Nippon* says that the Emperor is closely scrutinizing the estimates of the various Departments of State for next year, all outlays of over 10,000 *yen* having to be explained to him if any doubt attaches to the items.

The *Yomiuri* states that the import of foreign rice into Yokohama during last month amounted to 231,693 bags, valued at 729,823 *yen*. The amount imported at Kobe and Yokohama during the month of September was 266,622 bags, valued at 901,627 *yen*.

Mr. Teshima Seiichi, President of the Tokyo Technical School, has been appointed Director of the Common Education Affairs Bureau in the Educational Department. Professor Inouye Tetsujiro, of the Imperial University, has been promoted to the post of President of the Literature College.

The *Mainichi* states that out of 2,320 cards examined at the Silkworm Eggs Inspection Office in Tochigi prefecture from the 1st to the 10th of this month, 281 were passed, 1,283 were declared to be suitable for standard eggs, and 239 were rejected. Of 37,434 moths inspected, 3,078 were accepted, and 6,563 rejected.

The *Yomiuri* states that, on the 14th instant, several thousand *koku* of rice and beans were imported from Korea, at the port of Shimizu, in Shizuoka prefecture, for the first time since it was opened to trade. The importer was Mr. Yasuda, who has lived in Korea for some time where he engages in commercial enterprises.

The period of operation of the nine National Banks—92nd, 120th, 34th, 51st, 72nd, 87th, 95th, 109th, and 61st National Banks—will expire by the end of the year, and applications have been made by them to the Finance Department for a special charter to continue their business as joint stock corporations.

The silk market in Yokohama, remarks the *Nichi Nichi*, continues dull. On the 16th instant about 1,000 bales changed hands, but the demand was limited to purchases for immediate shipment. No large transactions having taken place of late, stock still remains at 1,900 bales. Buyers persist in forcing down prices, and sellers appear to have no power to resist the demands.

Sales of silk to foreign firms in Yokohama from June 1 to November 10 this year, as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of last year, were as follow:—30th year, 59,430 bales; 29th year, 32,756 bales; contracts broken, for the 30th year 9,188 bales; for the 29th year, 7,602 bales; settled in 1897, 48,507 bales; in 1896, 23,819 bales; amount under negotiation for 1897, 1,735 bales; for 1896, 1,334 bales.

Investigations completed at the Finance Department and published in the *Hochi* show that the foreign trade of Japan has steadily increased this year, the figures for the past ten months exceeding 309,171,566 *yen*. Last year the exports for the same period aggregated 90,852,732 *yen* in value, but this year the amount increased to 131,132,300 *yen*; while imports for this year amounted to 168,039,306 *yen*, against 143,473,519 *yen* for the previous year, making a total for

the two items of 234,326,311 *yen* and 309,171,506 *yen* respectively. Thus there was an increase of 74,845,195 *yen*, of which 40,279,468 *yen* were covered by exports and 34,395,120 *yen* by imports.

Along with the development of the foreign trade of Japan, the volume of business conducted at the various custom houses has also increased, and the Government, alleges the *Mainichi*, proposes augmenting the number of Inspectors and Appraisers, with a view to improving the general organization of the service. The expansion is to be carried out by the Finance Department in Yokohama, Nagasaki, Hakodate, Niigata, and Kobe, early next Spring.

A report from the Governor of Miyazaki, dated the 11th instant, and published in the *Yomiuri*, announces that in consequence of a strong gale and heavy rain on the 29th ultimo, the agricultural crops of the vicinity were seriously damaged, and in the districts of Morokata and Kozu, to the north of the prefecture, rice, millet, buckwheat, and cotton plantations were devastated to the extent of 1,000 *tan* (250 acres).

The tea market remains inactive. Orders, of course, have been received from time to time, but to no considerable extent and foreign firms are purchasing in small quantities only. On the 16th instant, 7,500 cattiees were sold to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. at 30 *yen* per picul, while another firm took delivery of 17,000 cattiees of inferior quality at 19.50 *yen*. Arrivals are reported to have amounted to 12,500 cattiees, and the stock aggregates 192,800 cattiees.

With regard to the raising of loans for the Osaka harbour, scheme the *Nichi Nichi* alleges that two parties were long in contention, one advocating a domestic loan and the other a foreign. The latter scheme, however, having been decided upon, negotiations were opened on the 18th instant with Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. who wired home at once. The loan is now competed for by capitalists in England, America, and France, and it is hard to determine which will get it.

Rumour says that before long some extraordinary changes will take place in the Osaka money market. Mr. Tanaka Ichibei, who holds more than 30,000 shares of the Osaka Mercantile Marine Company in the capacity of President, is now reported by the *Hochi* to have become insolvent. In wealth he was formerly a rival of Mr. Matsumoto Jutarō, who is also rumoured to be in a bad way. Mr. Tanaka is connected with Mr. Fujita Denzaburo in many extensive enterprises.

The *Osaka Asahi* states that of the amount of rice—89.53 tons—alleged to have been exported from Japan from November 1895 till October 1896, 65,054 tons was shipped in Kobe and the remaining 23,900 tons from Shimonoseki. Compared with the export for the previous year, a decrease of 28,574 tons is noticeable. On the other hand, the import of rice for the same period amounted to 172,076 tons (including Korean cereals), showing an increase of 142,353 tons over the previous year.

The *Yoroku* reports that the Bank of Japan has resolved to issue a loan of 800,000 *yen* to Mr. Matsumoto, and another of 500,000 *yen* to Mr. Tanaka, in Osaka, to prevent them from becoming insolvent. The bankruptcy of these two merchants would certainly create a panic in Osaka and lead to an utter disorganization of many important industries. In view of these facts Count Matsukata, the Premier, has personally taken the trouble to persuade Baron Iwasaki to save Osaka from its imminent peril.

The *Nippon* states that the number of mines in Hokkaido now being worked exceed 500, and when these are added to the mines with respect to which applications have been forwarded to the Government for trial working or for a lease of mining rights the aggregate is from 800 to 900. Of these mines, coal, sulphur, and gold-dust are

known to yield the largest returns. Ishikari is noted for the production of coal, while Kushiro, Iburi, Oshima, and Chishima are renowned for their abundant supply of sulphur. It is said that all the rivers in Hokkaido produce more or less gold dust.

The *Mainichi* states that certain citizens of Seoul have applied to the Korean Finance Department for permission to organise a Rice Monopoly Company with a capital of 1,300,000 *yen*, the object being to prevent the export of rice to other countries. It is said that the project is supported by Russians, and Cho, Minister of Finance, is reported to have eagerly approved of it.

Very frequently have we heard, laments the *Yoroku*, the bitter wail that Japanese Legations abroad are seriously embarrassed in consequence of the inadequate funds provided for their support. The Legation in Korea seems to be a great sufferer, being sometimes unable to discharge its bills at the buckwheat shops. Now that Russia is attempting to secure suzerainty over the whole kingdom, the Japanese Legation is overwhelmed with humiliation by its poverty. Its failure in diplomacy is therefore quite natural and inevitable.

According to the *Nippon*, Japanese residents in Seoul during last month totalled 1,913, of whom 1,131 were males and 776 females. They constituted 473 families, showing an increase of 12 families but a decrease of 61 persons as compared with the previous month. The Japanese population of Wonsan during last month was 1,480, constituting 329 families, consisting of 940 men and 540 women. The figures show an increase of 3 families but a decrease of 50 residents as compared with the previous month.

The price of cotton, which once reached 24 *yen*, has fallen to 19 *yen* in consequence of the unusually abundant crop in America this year. Japanese dealers, in the expectation that such a figure will be the lowest possible quotation for the staple, have sent orders to America which are supposed to have amounted to 1,500,000 kilogrammes. The cotton is expected to arrive in January next and the consignees are engaged in providing themselves with funds to pay for it. Various Spinning Companies are endeavouring to draw bills payable three or four months after the delivery of the cotton, in order to reap a larger profit.

Japan's trade with Korea, alleges the *Mainichi*, is in such a condition that imports are considerably in excess of exports, and vast amounts of silver *yen* are being conveyed beyond sea. The Inchon branch of the First National Bank, which now enjoys great influence in Korea as a medium for the circulation of money, received from Japan a sum of 30,000 stamped *yen* at the end of last month and 100,000 *yen* at a later date. It is reported that the steamer *Genkai Maru*, which left Kobe on the 12th instant, conveyed stamped silver to the amount of 150,000 *yen* for Inchon and Fusan. The great inequality in the balance of trade between Japan and Korea at present is ascribed to the abundance of the rice crop in the latter and the abnormal rise in the cost of cereals in the former country.

The expansion of the currency and the scarcity of capital for various enterprises are, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, the two most prominent economical facts at present. In order to meet immediate demands, the Government has granted the Bank of Japan a charter to issue an extra quantity of notes to the amount of 30 million *yen*. Economic circles, however, are presenting abnormal features and the Bank of Japan can hardly expect its loans to be repaid within this year or even by next Spring. Under the circumstances the Bank, perceiving the necessity of increasing its reserve securities, has taken further steps and the loans will now have to be secured by public loan bonds and other appreciable debentures.

Investigations carried out by the Daijima Rice Exchange and published in the *Tokyo Asahi*, show that the stock of domestic rice in Osaka

amounted, on the 15th instant, to 7,145 *koku*, indicating a decrease of 26,267 *koku* as compared with the figures for the previous month. Korean and Chinese cereals aggregated 19,743 *koku*, a decrease of 8,466 *koku* from the previous month. Such insignificant stocks have seldom been recorded in the annals of Osaka. Cleaned rice is now quoted at 17 *sen* per *sho*, and prices are steadily rising. The respective stocks for the past five years were as follows:—In November, 1893,—domestic rice 109,934 *koku*, foreign cereals, 8,166 *koku*; in 1894,—domestic rice 38,936 *koku*, foreign rice 4,196 *koku*; in 1895,—186,756 and 50,955 *koku* respectively; in 1896, 295,461 and 40,283 *koku*; in 1897, 7,145 and 19,743 *koku*.

The foreign trade of Japan during October, as investigated by the Finance Department and published in the *Yomiuri*, was as follows:—Export of dutiable articles, 11,007,146 *yen*; import, 12,995,057 *yen*; duty-free goods exported, 6,631,663 *yen*; imported, 7,529,391 *yen*; shipbuilding materials exported, 355,167 *yen*; imported, none; total exports, 17,995,977 *yen*, imports, 20,524,449 *yen*. The excess of imports thus amounted to 2,530,471 *yen*, while imports and exports together make a total of 38,518,426 *yen*. These figures, as classified according to ports of export and import, are as follows:—Yokohama, exports, 11,696,822 *yen*; imports, 8,834,142 *yen*; Kobe, exports, 4,277,186 *yen*; imports, 9,712,323 *yen*; Osaka, exports, 401,657 *yen*; imports, 409,329 *yen*; Nagasaki, 500,488 *yen* and 1,125,801 *yen* for the two items respectively; Hakodate, 130,784 *yen* and 97,853 *yen* for the same; other ports, 987,038 *yen* for exports and 344,998 *yen* for imports.

Month by month the money market grows most stringent, and considerable anxiety is entertained by the public, remarks the *Tokyo Asahi*. Balances of various banks in the capital compared with those for the previous month, give the following results:—

	Nov.	Oct.	Increase or decrease.
Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Fixed Deposits	18,334,622	18,523,088	— 188,466
Current account	21,651,664	22,251,215	— 599,551
Savings' deposits	11,886,145	12,224,451	— 338,306
Other deposits	11,102,305	12,033,680	— 931,375
Total	62,974,736	65,032,434	— 2,057,698
Loans issued	37,552,452	37,792,588	— 239,135
Over-drafts	20,322,710	19,104,495	+ 1,218,215
Discounts	27,585,029	26,527,345	+ 1,057,683
Total ...	85,461,192	83,424,428	+ 2,036,763

Thus a decrease of 2,050,000 *yen* is noticeable in deposits, but loans and over-drafts have increased by 2,036,000 *yen* over the previous month.

Since the Cabinet decided to resort to increased taxation to supply the deficit in the revenue, the Finance Department has been busily engaged in investigating the best scheme to be followed for carrying out the project. After making various experiments, the Department is now reported by the *Chuo* to have adopted a programme destined in its nature to mislead the farmers ignorant of arithmetic. The value of rice was fixed at four *yen* per *koku* at the time when the Land-tax Regulations were first promulgated; it will now be increased to eight *yen* by taking the average for the past five years. On this basis the land is to be reassessed, and 10% of the value will be levied as tax. The scheme, therefore, will have the effect of imposing 10% instead of 5% as heretofore, realizing 9 million *yen* on the whole. This, together with the increased *Sake* tax amounting to 10 million *yen*, will still be found insufficient to cover the deficit of 24 millions in the revenue. Thus further temporising schemes will be necessary, asserts the *Chuo*.

The *Shogyo* asserts that the Head Telephone Office in Tokyo and its branch in Osaka have resolved to increase their lines in 1,500 places within the present fiscal year, that is to say, up

till March next. New applicants for telephonic communication are reported to have reached 7,000, and the new lines will still leave 5,500 without communication. It is a pity that the Telephone Bureau's resources do not allow of the whole of the work being undertaken within this year. Moreover, materials are deficient, and it often happens that contractors for various appliances request the postponement of the period of construction owing to their failure to complete contract work within the time originally fixed. The work of laying subterranean lines in the vicinity of the Naniwa Office has already commenced. To outside observers the progress of the work may seem extremely slow, but no better scheme exists at present. The present telephones, consisting of but single lines, are often found to convey several voices at the same time, much confusion thus arising. In order to get rid of these annoyances a double line system is to be adopted for the new telephones.

At the welcome meeting extended by the citizens of Osaka to Mr. Takano, the ex-Chief Judge spoke as follows:—"I had scarcely time to consider my personal inclinations when I found it absolutely necessary to make a strong protest against the procedure of the Government. Men in my position are generally avoided even by old acquaintances. I can therefore find no words sufficiently expressive of the thanks I wish to extend to those who have so spontaneously come to my side and of the kindness shown me, contrary to the common experience of the world. But the thanks I offer you are tinged with the sincerity that wells from the bottom of my heart. That Formosa does come within the purview of the Imperial Constitution can be proved by a single fact—the island was transferred to Japan through the Shimomoseki treaty, which was concluded in accordance with the Constitution by Commissioners specially appointed. When I was nominated to the post of Chief Justice of Formosa I represented to the Cabinet that if the Government were disposed to render the Constitution inoperative in Formosa, steps should be taken to issue an Imperial Ordinance to that effect. But no measure of the kind was adopted. The budget for Formosa requires the approval of the Diet. This, too, shows that the Constitution is enforced in Formosa. Suddenly, however, the Cabinet placed me on the retired list. The independence of the judiciary was thus taken away and the lives and properties of the people were exposed to the utmost danger. How could I hold my tongue? I addressed enquiries on these subjects to the Premier and to the Minister of Justice, but failed to obtain any satisfactory or reasonable answer. No alternative was left me but to return the notice of dismissal to the Cabinet with a strong protest, and to resume my post by returning to Formosa. Unfortunately, however, I was driven from my post by force. Yet brute force does not determine questions of reason. It is my firm conviction, and I do not hesitate to affirm it, that I am still Chief Justice of the Formosa High Court. The necessity of maintaining the independence of the judiciary is felt, not only in the case of ordinary thieves and robbers, but in dealing with men of rank and wealth. The first scandalous case that has arisen in Formosa is now to be passed on to the High Court for trial, and it is for this reason that an attempt was made by the Government to remove me from the post, so that executive officers might be enabled to receive sentence from a judge with whom they have special relations. If the judiciary is to be disregarded in this way, how can justice be expected in Formosa?

That the "mother-in-law" terror still exists in our second-rate comic papers and music hall songs shows how far we are behind the Abyssinians, says a London daily. Among this people no mother is allowed to visit her married daughter until a year after marriage; nor is it good taste to unduly prolong a visit even then. And these are the people we have looked upon as savages.

FIRE ON YATOZAKA.

About a quarter past four a.m. on Thursday, fire broke out in a house, No. 2, Motomachi Ichome, in the village on Yatozaka (Camp Hill), almost opposite the entrance to Dr. Wheeler's residence. A party of men from the Yokohama Fire Brigade, under Superintendent Morgan, with hose reel and stand-pipe, were promptly on the scene, as well as a detachment of Police firemen. A hydrant in the road at the back of the village afforded a good supply of water, and though it was impossible to confine the fire to the house in which it originated—occupied by a harness-maker named Ohara Nisaburo—the spread of the flames was arrested and the fire extinguished with the loss of five houses destroyed, and one or two slightly damaged. It is only about five years since the village was entirely swept away by fire, and as might be expected there was on the present occasion great excitement among the inhabitants who, during the continuance of the fire, were rushing about, removing their furniture and effects to places of safety, the grounds of Dr. Wheeler's residence being selected as the depository for a considerable proportion of the *penates* of the villagers. By about a quarter past five the fire was extinguished. Its origin has not been ascertained, but is believed to have been accidental.

CARRIAGE ACCIDENT TO THE ENGLISH JUDGE.

Mr. Justice Wilkinson and his Chief Clerk, Mr. C. D. Moss, had an exciting time on Sunday. His Honour was driving into town from Negishi with Mr. Moss—to meet his Excellency Sir Ernest Satow—when the horse attached to the brougham took matters into his own charge and bolted down Jizo-zaka. The bridge at the bottom of this steep descent momentarily checked the furious career of the vehicle, at the expense of the lamp and step, and soon after the animal was pulled-up. We understand, from a pedestrian who witnessed the affair, that all through the trying escapade His Honour's judicial calm was undisturbed and he presented his usual dignified, unruffled front when the wild ride terminated. His Chief Clerk also deserves our congratulations on a similar score.

BEHRING SEA.

Here is some further matter showing what the leading American journals themselves think about Great Britain's action in the Behring Sea business:—

(FROM "THE TIMES" CORRESPONDENT.)

New York, Oct. 8.

England's course with reference to the Behring Sea Conference continues to excite comment which, if not always instructive, is seldom lacking in moderation. The *New York Tribune*, like so many other journals, thinks that Canada, "the spoiled child of diplomacy," had to be "placated and humoured," but concedes that Great Britain, while taking the cue from Ottawa, "has acted entirely within its rights and in good faith." The *Herald* after referring to Lord Salisbury's Note of July 28 as expressly stipulating that only England, Canada, and the United States should take part in the conference, remarks:—

"Mr. Foster, who runs the United States Government on the Behring Sea question, has ever since been pressing for the inclusion of Japan and Russia. Lord Salisbury declined. He stands by the conference to which he agreed. That he is prepared to enter. In what sense is this a 'withdrawal'?"

With equal good temper the leading journals accept the prediction cabled from London that the British Government will shortly reject Senator Wolcott's bimetallic proposals. "India appears to be the controlling power on this question, as Canada was with regard to the destruction of seals," says the *Tribune*. The United States, thinks the same journal, having large payments to receive for food and cotton, will profit by the continuance of the gold standard. This view may not help Senator Wolcott, but then few Americans really expected his mission to succeed.

THE RICE CROP.

Reports from the various prefectures received by the Agricultural and Commercial Department and published in the *Nippon*, show that the estimated rice crop this year, as compared with the figures in ordinary years, is as follows, only districts producing more than one million *koku* being mentioned:—

	Estimated crop for this year, <i>koku</i> .	Crop for ordinary years, <i>koku</i> .	Increase or Decrease, per cent.
Osaka	1,018,509.....	1,018,509.....	—
Hyogo	1,651,912.....	1,651,912.....	—
Niigata	1,408,274.....	2,362,892.....	-40.4
Chiba	1,070,358.....	1,427,144.....	-25
Ibaraki	1,222,940.....	1,222,940.....	—
Aichi	1,500,000.....	1,283,860.....	+16.8
Shiga	1,192,144.....	1,083,767.....	+10
Nagano	1,134,254.....	1,180,246.....	-3.9
Miyagi	1,020,547.....	1,188,403.....	-14.1
Fukushima	1,035,306.....	1,337,344.....	-22.6
Yamagata	1,023,097.....	1,278,871.....	-20
Toiyama	1,029,078.....	1,381,076.....	-25.5
Okayama	1,086,157.....	1,086,157.....	—
Fukuoka	1,331,812.....	1,522,071.....	-12.5
Kumamoto	1,341,237.....	1,094,887.....	+22.5

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 411.

Regulations for the Formosan Council embodied in Imperial Ordinance No. 89 of the 29th year of *Meiji* are hereby revised as follows:—

Art. I.—In the Formosan Government Office shall be established a Council consisting of the following members:—Governor-General, Superintendent of the Civil Administration Bureau, Superintendent of the Finance Bureau, Chief of the Military Staff; Chief of the Naval Staff; Commissioners, less than six in number; Councillors. The Governor-General may, if he deems it necessary, order other civil, military, or naval officers connected with affairs introduced for deliberation, to attend the meetings, provided that the same are excluded from voting.

Commissioners required to attend the Council shall be selected in accordance with rules established by the Governor-General.

Art. V.—No debate shall be held unless more than half the members are present.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A Havas telegram, dated 2nd November, states that 3 000 butchers' labourers employed in the abattoirs of Paris have gone on strike.

In a recent issue, the Nagasaki paper stated that, owing to ill health, Mr. St. Gabriel had been obliged to resign his position in the Russo-Chinese Bank at that port. It is now informed that this is not the case and that Mr. St. Gabriel is simply leaving Nagasaki.

An order for a new first-class armoured cruiser was signed in October by M. Kurino, the Japanese Minister in Paris, in favour of the Société des Forges et Chantiers de la Loire. The vessel will be of 9,400 tons and 17,000 horse-power, and is designed for a speed of twenty knots an hour.

While the Japanese coal-trade is languishing in consequence of inflated prices, the Hongay mines are finding that demand exceeds supply. In September about 24,000 tons were exported, and down to the 22nd of October the export for that month was over 14 000 tons. The management has had to draw upon its reserves to fill orders.

A native dairy at Shanghai has issued the following amusing advertisement:—We open at Woo-sung in the south of the Telegraph Co., for sale the foreign Milk, the taste are sweet, the milk are pure, and the price are just. We haven't put any water in it, if examine out, won't pay a single cash. If you want to buy so you will know the Foreign Cows chop.

Professor Heydeck, of Königsberg, has discovered graves of the seventh and eighth centuries, evidently of Scandinavian origin, in East Prussia. In one he found a silver pommeled cross-hilted sword, a pair of stirrups, two lances, one of them with silver ornaments, an iron shield

boss, three spurs, a pair of scissors, a grindstone, and the remnants of an iron pail. In others were found two oval dishes richly ornamented, a third of a form hitherto unknown, bronze bells like sledge-bells, and sundry other articles.

Mr. J. D. Humphreys, of Hongkong, has died at Folkestone, news of his death reaching the Colony by cable. He arrived in Hongkong in 1867 and began as book-keeper for the firm of A. S. Watson & Co., chemists, of which he afterwards became sole proprietor, before turning it into a limited liability company. He was sixty-one years of age.

Mr. Aug. Evers, representing the firm of Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co., agents for the Kingsin Line, has instituted, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, an action in the Osaka District Court against Mr. Hirome Nisaburo, owner of the *Pedo Maru*, claiming 20,000 yen damages for injuries received by the D.D.R. steamer *Gerda* during the collision at Moji on the 24th ult.

Poor Hamlet has had much to bear. Everyone who has essayed the part has thought a new reading necessary. The latest reading is that of Sarah Bernhardt, who has discovered that Hamlet had more in him of the woman than the man. Now we only want someone to discover that Ophelia had more of the man in her than the woman, and Shakespeare will stand properly corrected.

The seventh concert of the Tonic Sol-fa Juvenile Choral Society of Yokohama is to be given at the Public Hall on the evening of Friday, the 10th December, for the benefit of the Society. The programme is a full and varied one, and includes, besides numerous songs, choruses and instrumental pieces, a Cantata entitled "Queen, I love-You's Five o'clock Tea," the title rôle being taken by Miss Hilda Watson.

"Millions now and millions yet to come," we are told by the *Daily Telegraph*, will bless the ingenuity of the late Mr. Pullman. As a fact, the ingenuity of Mr. Pullman has already been blessed by millions, and will be blessed by "millions yet to come"—of dollars. The gratitude of posterity is valuable, of course, but for an inventor it must be still more pleasant to enjoy the solid fruits of his ingenuity in his lifetime.

In H.B.M.'s Consular Court at Kobe on Friday, before Mr. Playfair, acting-Judge, sitting with Messrs. A. L. Robinson and W. Styles, Associates, Richard Reynolds, an A. B. on the British ship *Claverdon*, was found guilty of stabbing and wounding John McGrath, a seaman on the same ship, on the 5th inst. He received a sentence of six weeks' imprisonment. Mr. J. Twysel Wawm acted as Crown Prosecutor.

Writing on November 11, the *Hongkong Telegraph* said:—An accident which might have resulted in loss of life occurred in the harbour yesterday evening. One of the *Undaunted's* boats, while going off to the ship, was run into and badly damaged by a steam launch from the Naval Yard. The midshipman in charge of the boat, Mr. Bate, was knocked overboard and the boat was swamped. The crew of the boat were taken to their ship by the launch which had been the cause of all the trouble, and after a change of clothes, they were none the worse for their adventure.

The following curious paragraph is translated by the *Hongkong Daily Press* from *L'Avenir du Tonkin* of the 3rd November:—"An English naturalist has just explored an island of Oceania still almost unknown, Christmas, which contains but one European inhabitant with his family and a dozen native labourers, originally from the Cocos Islands. Is it necessary to say that this island figures in the list of English possessions? If the French flag was floating there one would have found besides the single inhabitant, policemen to guard him. Magistrates to punish him, a prison, a residence, a Governor, etc., etc., and an official

journal, which, like the one of Indo-China, would have already published six or seven thousand Metropolitan laws promulgated in the new colony."

Mudie's Library took two hundred copies of Lord Tennyson's *Memoirs* of his distinguished father—an order of some magnitude, seeing that the work consists of two large and expensive volumes.

Since the break-up of the petroleum ring at Sourabaya, the price of that oil there has fallen. The decline is expected to continue from competition between two Chinese oil syndicates which strive to cut each other out.

The total "paid up" capital invested in British Railways at the close of last year was 1,029.5 millions, of which more than 10 per cent. is simply nominal, consisting of additions made in the conversion, consolidation, or division of stocks.

His Holiness the Pope has instituted an Order of St. Sulpice, and this confraternity has been charged with the conversion of England to Catholicism. Cardinal Vaughan, Archbishop of Westminster, states that the conversions in England to the Catholic Church now average 700 per month.

Another gang robbery on a large scale is reported in the Hongkong papers. It occurred about 9.30 o'clock on the night of Nov. 16th, when six armed men entered a jeweller's shop in Burd Street. They shot one of the occupants dead and after robbing the place of \$500 worth of jewellery made good their escape.

Mr. A. M. Bisbee, Coast Inspector, issues the following Notice to Mariners, No. 314, for the Yangtze River—Kiukiang District of the China Sea—Fitzroy Island Beacon Light:—Notice is hereby given that the Fitzroy Island Beacon Light has been shifted 210 yards 67° E. from its last position, in consequence of the washing away of the river bank.

A game of hockey was played on Thursday on the Cricket-ground, the teams, though incomplete, comprising several ladies. Some interesting play took place, the red team having the best of it. Among the players were Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. James, Miss McKaye, Mrs. Hyde Pearson, Mrs. Bevis, Mrs. McWilliams, and Messrs. Brockelbank, Pinckney, James, White, Gibbons and Coghill Jackson.

Any stick, remarks the *St. James's Gazette*, is good enough to beat the Turks with. A horrible atrocity was narrated in the Turcophobe papers the other day. Mr. John Burns's married sister keeps a hotel in Constantinople, and she was savagely attacked by her man servant. He seized her, forced her down, tied her wrists, and nearly gouged out her eyes, and compelled her to give him all the money in her purse. "The *Chronicle* thinks that 'this is what British subjects have to look for nowadays in Constantinople.' The only comment we have to make is that this rascally man-servant was—a Greek.

One of the men who make up the calendars used as advertisements has evolved a few simple rules to facilitate the process. They are:—No century can begin on Wednesday, Friday or Sunday. The same calendars can be used every twenty years. October always begins on the same day of the week as January, April as July, September as December. February, March and November begin on the same days. May, June and August always begin on different days from each other and every other month in the year. The first and last days of the year are always the same. These rules do not apply to leap year when the comparison is between days before and after February 29.

A recent invention for further increasing the safety of a vessel, says the *N.Y. Maritime Register*, consists in making the hatches of such a strength that they will form, for all pressure-resisting purposes, an integral of the new universal iron deck, and thus, when a compartment is pierced, the inrush of water will not be

able to blow off the hatches, as was invariably the case with the wooden ones. In this way, each deck forms a horizontal bulkhead and thereby greatly increases the subdivision. For instance, a vessel with the ordinary construction of three decks and eight bulk-heads would, with wooden hatches, have only nine water-tight compartments, a figure which is increased to twenty-five compartments if fitted with water-tight decks. The hatches slide close up under the deck beams and are secured by very simple means, which cannot be misplaced.

A protest has been entered at Labuan by the master of the steamer *Libelle* to the effect that while on a voyage from Kudat to Labuan and Singapore, on the 9th October, in lat. 5 deg. 18½ min. N. and long. 115 deg. 17 min. E. (approximate) the ship passed over a sand bank not marked on the chart and on sounding found 12 ft. of water on the bank. The ship's way was not stopped.

The *Bangkok Times* hears from Chantaboon that a French protectorate has been proclaimed there. To give a semblance of reality to this protectorate, French soldiers are put on guard in the market, although there does not appear to be any necessity for this display of force, as the town is perfectly quiet. It is reported that other steps are to be taken to the same end. It is said that several tribunals are to be established in which French officers are to take part in the investigation of cases.

What a credulous world it is after all. The *Globe* gravely announces that at the present time the idea prevails among a number of Russian soldiers and moujiks that General Skobelev, the hero of Shipka, is not really dead. According to the story, it was not the General, but a soldier resembling him, who was buried. Skobelev is thought to be living incognito in France, and those who believe in the legend say that he is ready to re-appear when his country shall have need of his sword. It is implicitly believed that the General had a hand in the Chino-Japanese War, commanding a Japanese regiment under a false name. His return was announced at Wladkavkas a few days ago, and a crowd of peasants gathered at the railway station. But Skobelev did not appear, and the moujiks went away disappointed, confident that he would assuredly return some day.

The following telegrams appear in Australian exchanges:—

London, 16th October.

One thousand boiler-makers in London have struck work in consequence of the decision of the employers to revert to the nine-hour day, but the union has refused to grant the men strike pay on account of their having repudiated the settlement arrived at between the shipbuilders and the engineering employers, in which the boiler-makers were concerned.

London, 18th October.

The boiler-makers in London, who to the number of 1,000 struck in consequence of the nine-hour day, have been ordered by the executive of their union to return to work, they having repudiated the settlement arrived at between the shipbuilding engineering employers and their workmen.

London, 20th October.

Contributions have been received from the Continent of Europe to the amount of £2,400 in aid of the engineers on strike in Great Britain.

Canon H. Scott-Holland, of St. Paul's, has published a letter, in which he declares that mediation through the Government in connection with the engineering strike is now morally obligatory.

L'Avenir du Tonkin of the 6th instant gives a long account of the burning of the river boat *Phénix*, running between Haiphong and Hanoi and owned by the Messageries Fluviales. It appears that at 8 p.m. on the 3rd instant, the *Phénix*, which had on board four first-class, two second-class, and about sixty deck passengers, and was laden with forty tons of general merchandise, had just left Lach-tray, when an alarm of fire was given, and in less than a minute's time the boat was enveloped in flames. The cause of the fire, as explained by a native eye witness, was that among the cargo on deck were 39 barrels of oil and about ten or twelve packages containing several hundreds of native palm leaf hats. A few drops of the oil leaked out of one of the barrels, and an Annamite, after

having lighted his pipe threw a burning match upon this oil. The oil instantly caught fire and the flames spread to anything that was inflammable on board. In one hour, only the blackened steel hull of the *Phénix* remained. Only three natives were reported missing, and of this number two were children.

The result of last year's census of mechanics and working people in the German Empire shows that there are over 1,000,000 persons employed in the textile industry alone. The exact number is 1,017,112, comprising males and females. In the census of 1882, 932,592 persons were enumerated. Since 1882 the fact may be of interest, says the United States Consul at Glauchau, that there has been a decrease in the number of male employés from 582,070 to 552,230, a reduction of 29,840. Their places have been filled by females, whose number has increased from 350,522 to 465,316 in the same space of time, showing that the textile industry is especially adapted to women, who appear to be neglecting all other branches of labour, particularly that of domestic service, to go into the factories. As a proof of the development of the German textile industry during the last thirteen years, it may be stated that in 1882 410,370 tons of raw material were imported for working up in this branch of trade in Germany, and in 1896 the figures reached 808,300 tons.

In the *Courrier d'Haiphong* of the 4th November the *Daily Press* finds the following:—Three missions of French engineers, of which one is already on its way, will shortly arrive in Tonkin. The one that has already left France is sent by the home Government to study the routes of penetration into China, that is to say, the railway routes of China that could be connected with those of Tonkin. Mr. Feer, chancellor of the Consulate at Szemao, has been appointed to act as interpreter to the engineers who compose the mission. As to the other two missions, one will be sent by the Government and the other by a syndicate to report on routes for railways in Indo-China. For the first two, for which the mandate is official, the cost has been estimated at 100,000 francs. This sum not being convenient to find, and the Government not wishing to expose itself to a check before the Chambers, it has been thought advisable to obtain it from the Government of Indo-China, which has, however, refused to bear any part of the charge. The Ministers for the Colonies and Foreign Affairs have probably provided the cost of the mission which has already left Marseilles; but what will happen to the other two?

A letter from Mr. W. B. Walter, Chairman of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, regarding the Silk Export Bounty, under date, Yokohama Sept. 9th, appears in the *London and China Express*. He says:—

SIR,—I have now the pleasure to inform you that it is expected the Japanese Government will at the next meeting of the Diet, in December next, introduce a Bill to abolish this Bounty.

Should this prove correct, it will be in great measure due to the active interest taken by the various European and Eastern Chambers of Commerce and the China Association, and the Committee of this Chamber desire to express their thanks for the support of your body in a question of such great mutual importance.

We do not agree with Mr. Walter in his inference. The sweeping and almost unanimous opposition of the Japanese press and the assumption of the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce by Count Okuma, were, in our opinion, the chief, if not the only, reasons for the Government's abstinence from putting the measure into operation, and for the step to which Mr. Walter alludes as now likely to be taken.

What little news is permitted to filter through private sources from Manila, remarks the *China Mail*, seems to be entirely different from the official accounts. It is usually asserted that the insurrection has been finished for a long time, and that the rebels have degenerated into scattered bands of marauders, who descend upon innocent villages and act like villainous

bandits. Private advices, dated 6th November, remark casually that the steam tram to Malabon was "stuck up" last Sunday evening, and a spy was taken prisoner. Business was as dull as ditch-water, and in eight provinces around Manila, things are stated to be still pretty much in the hands of the rebels. It was believed, however, that the people would be allowed to cut their paddy, but if the rebels meet with any more instances of the alleged cruelty and excesses laid at the doors of the hated cazadores, the crops were to be burnt *en bloc*, by order of the rebel leader, Emilio Aguinaldo. There has been a goodly amount of fighting, but the newspapers are silent. We give these statements for what they are worth, with the remark that the so-called rebellion in the Philippines cannot be put down or anything like it, if there be truth in what is stated above. The burning of the crops, however, would be an act of vandalism.

Writing on the "Evangelisation of Japan" in the *Intelligencer*, Archdeacon Warren, after pointing out the great strides of the *Méiji* era and what has been done towards Christianising the Japanese; writes:—No doubt experiences vary in different parts of the country, according to the temper of the people and the circumstances of the districts, but missionaries generally will agree that the opportunities for public preaching as well as for individual work, for special efforts amongst students, factory hands, policemen, and soldiers, for evangelistic meetings for women and children, were never more numerous or more favourable. The recent visit of Mr. J. R. Mott has led to the formation of small Christian Associations in Government as well as in Mission schools, which will keep Christian students in touch with each other, and open the way for special evangelistic efforts amongst their non-Christian fellows. Such efforts as those made by Miss Hamilton and Mr. Matsuda—the head-teacher of the Bishop Poole Girls' School—to reach the members of the Osaka Police force, which have resulted in eight or more conversions in a few months; and the work in the naval and military hospitals at Kure and Hiroshima, that amongst the factory girls in Fukuyama, and that again amongst the crews and passengers of the Osaka steamboats, all of which also have resulted in fruit unto salvation, are evidences of the fact that this is a day of opportunity.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SOCIAL QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read your remarks in your issue of to-day relative to the "Social Question."

Without entering into discussion connected with the subject of Col. Bacon's remarks, or with your own views upon them, I strongly protest against your repeated assertions concerning the streets of England after night-fall, which would lead one to think that they were full of depraved women.

Two years ago, after a long residence in this country, I had the pleasure and good fortune to get "a run home." Having no recollection of "the old country," save those pertaining to boyhood, I was prepared to find things as bad as you had repeatedly painted them.

My trip was a business one, and I visited nearly every large manufacturing city and town of England and Wales and Scotland. But I had little leisure for sight-seeing in the day-time. At night, however, I was generally out late, and visited the Theatres and Music Halls. I saw, too, many of the large cities on the Continent and in America, and always made a point of going to the theatres. I even walked along the Bowery in New York at two in the morning. Yet, in all my travels, which lasted five months, I was never once accosted by, nor did I even, to my knowledge, see a woman of the "unfortunate" class.

This, I think, puts a very different view on the subject from that which your writings would give. It is my experience, and I can only speak from that, but I believe that it would be the experience of any stranger visiting those countries, as I did, a simple visitor.

While on the subject of home life, I should like to mention that in England nothing struck me more forcibly than the true kindness and politeness of the people, especially the lower classes. In fact,

during the whole of my travels I never had one angry word said to me.

I remain, Sir, Yours truly,
Tokyo, November 18th, 1897. E.F.

(Why should an Englishman have angry words said to him in England? As to our correspondent's experiences of city streets at night, we can only say that they are very novel.—Ed. J.M.)

THE QUESTION OF SUICIDE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—If the Colonel Bacon who is made to appear ridiculous in your columns through the clumsy adulation of "A Missionary" has a spark of common sense in his composition, he will exert himself to prevent, in future, the publication of such mis-conceived eulogies upon passing travellers as can have no effect but to curtail the privileges at present extended to visitors from foreign lands. Who or what Colonel Bacon may be, nobody outside of his own circle knows, and nobody can possibly care, in spite of "A Missionary's" fervid assurances that he was a class-mate and roommate of somebody, the commander of a militia regiment somewhere, a prominent lawyer, a successful business man, and a member of that unexampled congregation of wisdom and purity, the New York State Legislature. He may be one of the most estimable of living men, with two gowns, and everything handsome about him; but as depicted by "A Missionary" he is simply a meddling prigg, whose impertinent attempts to sit in arbitrary judgment upon the people of this country while "seeing Japan hastily" for a period of six weeks, must have taxed to the verge of desperation the forbearance of those upon whom he inflicted himself. If he actually did rush about, "almost all day and late in the evening," exciting "wonder at his energy and powers of endurance," "ready to censure and urge reform where needed," "proving himself a true friend of the Japanese by telling them their faults," and "calling upon them to cleanse their flag of the dishonour that sin brings upon it,"—he probably accomplished as much mischief in the month and a half of his sojourn as any predetermined agent of malevolence could have done, even though he was at intervals "impressed with the natural beauties of this empire and also with the many admirable qualities of the people." It is true that where a man apparently begins to pronounce sentence upon everything the moment he lands in Japan, and keeps it up incessantly for forty-five days, till the time of his departure, neither his praise nor his denunciations ought to be taken too seriously; but he may nevertheless make himself extremely disagreeable, and leave a very unsavoury trail of disgust behind him. In cases like this, the evil results are almost sure to be visited upon unoffending tourists who come after the industrious fault-finder.

One of Colonel Bacon's hasty criticisms has been dealt with, editorially, by the *Mail*. With regard to another, I beg to offer a few suggestions. "A Missionary" informs us that he "rebuked most fearlessly.....the cowardly habit of committing suicide." Anybody could have told Colonel Bacon, and "A Missionary" ought to have told him, that suicide is no longer a habit in Japan. It went out with the feudal system. Apart from this, the question whether suicide, as practised by the *samurai* of the old régime, was or was not cowardly, is one that cannot be settled by an obnoxious epithet. The motive of an act must be considered before its character can be defined. Would Colonel Bacon or "A Missionary" aver that all suicides are cowardly;—that every person who dooms himself to death, or accepts death when he might escape it, is a coward? Such a proposition could not be maintained for an instant. If it could, the sacrifice attributed to Arnold Winkelried might be declared a dastardly performance; and also the magnanimous refusal of a passenger to leave a sinking ship in an over-crowded boat, although adjured to take his chance with the rest. Disembowelment was resorted to in Japan for various reasons. It was the conviction of the *samurai* that he could not in honour survive what he regarded as a personal disgrace; and this, as Emerson once publicly affirmed, was certainly not the sentiment of a poltroon. Any man of spirit, whose life was forfeited to the State, felt it a privilege to strike the fatal blow himself, rather than be degraded by the touch of an executioner. In most instances, the sufferer had the satisfaction of knowing that by voluntarily destroying himself, he could avert further disaster from his family. Often in history, and even within the memory of foreigners now dwelling in Japan, suicide has been committed solely with the hope of reforming flagrant abuses, and serving the cause of humanity. It may, or may not, have been a mistaken means to the wish-

ed-for-end, but to call it cowardly indicates a turn of mind scarcely consistent with that "nobility of character" for which, according to "A Missionary," Colonel Bacon is beloved. It is the greatest pity that this fugacious investigator could not have worked, "somehow and somewhere," a little less "late in the evening," or cut short one or two of his "twenty addresses before large audiences;" and devoted the time thus gained to a closer inquiry into the national peculiarities which he noted chiefly to condemn. The lightning calculator is altogether out of place when social and moral problems present themselves for solution.

I am, Sir, Yours truly,
ANTI-PRESUMPTION.
Yokohama, November 12th, 1897.

ENGLISH CYCLING NOTES.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT).

London, October 15.
With winter rapidly approaching, the cyclists seen on the road are naturally diminishing, therefore the police prosecutions for furious riding have been less. Yet one occasionally hears of some innocent cyclist being hauled up before the magistrate, and fined £2, and costs, simply for riding at the really moderate rate of 12 miles an hour. When quietly riding through one of the suburban towns the other Sunday, a clamour of bells and sundry shouts proceeded from the rear, and I naturally turned on to the side of the road to allow these frantic wheelmen to pass. Some 6 or 8 men travelling at a high rate of speed rushed by, and dodging in and out of the walking traffic, and using abusive language to those who failed to make way for them, hurried down the main street and were soon lost to sight. It is such men as these who have brought this persecution by the police on to the body of cyclists, and while not in any way upholding the police, I should certainly like to see these thoughtless scorchers brought to book.

There has been a great cry at different periods against the proposed tax on cycles, and though I should be sorry to see any hindrance put in the way of such a healthful and invigorating exercise, I cannot help thinking that such a regulation would in a great measure do away with the objectionable set of cyclists who career through towns and villages heedless of all pedestrians and to a great extent of their own safety. There can be no doubt that this lower class, through whom originated the term of "cads on castors," have prevented many a lady and gentlemen from cycling, as they revolt at the mere idea of being classed with them.

Though the police in many of the English counties are so stringent as to the rate of speed a rider may travel, in Scotland they seem to look upon it with a more lenient aspect, for on Saturday, October 9th, the 5 miles road race for the South of Scotland Championship was decided in the presence of a large assembly of spectators. Eight men started, and W. Hunter succeeded in covering the distance in 14 mins. 47 secs., which, with the state of the roads duly considered, must be reckoned as a fairly meritorious performance. The Stranraer Club, under whose management the championship was run, also decided their own road championship, the winner turning up in J. Luck in 16 mins. 1 sec.

Another proof that road racing is more successfully carried on in Scotland comes to hand with a report that W. Robson of the Hawick Cycling Club succeeded in improving upon the time for the 50 miles record upon the same day as the 5 miles road championship of Scotland was decided. Robson had splendid weather and the roads on the border were in fairly good condition, yet he only succeeded in knocking off 80 secs., having occupied 2 hrs. 36 mins. 40 secs. in riding the full distance.

Cycling is not only an exercise for the young but also to those well advanced in years, and though we do not hear of centenarians taking to the sport, cases of people fast approaching this period of life often come before our notice. The other day at the Liverpool County Court, a bicycle case was heard by a judge some 80 years of age, who remarked that though so advanced in years he had been trying to ride a bicycle himself and had already taken several lessons.

Now that the public and all cyclists manifest so much interest in record attempts, it might not be out of the way to glance for a few moments at the figures of the mile record which J. W. Stocks has, in a most marvellous manner, brought down to 1 min. 35½ secs. During the last seven years

this record has been improved upon by fourteen different men, who have brought the time down from 2 mins. 20½ secs., to the above, and with further improvements in tyres, machines, pacing and tracks, it is doubtful when the record will remain stationary. We, however, may now take it that the mile record will be allowed to sleep until next season under the careful protection of J. W. Stocks.

The two National Cyclists Union Championships which were held at Exeter and Birmingham will bring something like £300 into the coffers of the Union, Exeter bringing in the nice little sum of £62 17. 6.

JAPAN SINCE THE WAR.

FROM THE "MORNING POST'S" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

A great deal has been written of late years on the subject of the so-called decline of British influence in the Far East. In fact, by dint of continually repeating the statement that "Britain has lost prestige," it has gradually become accepted as an axiom by a section of the European Press that such is actually the case. There have even been apologists who have sought to explain why it was so, and others who, while deploring that such a state of things should exist, have conscientiously endeavoured to mitigate our presumably humiliated position. It by the expression "Far East" Japan and China only are referred to, and if by loss of prestige loss of power and of influence are understood, it is difficult to trace any such thing out here, although the conditions of applying our influence may have become somewhat modified by the turn of events. This boom in an imaginary loss of British prestige began, as far as Japan was concerned, with the sympathy supposed to exist between the British and Chinese Fleets at the commencement of the China-Japan War, and a certain amount of colour was lent to the humiliation theory when subsequently Japan successfully applied to the then Radical Government of Britain and obtained for themselves a revised Treaty, the wording of which, from the point of view of foreigners here, might well have been considerably modified in our favour. That such is the case is easily explained by the fact that other and less important countries who followed our lead in granting Japan revised conditions, were without any particular difficulty, enabled to secure more favourable conditions.

I do not purpose to say much about the relations of China with Britain beyond pointing out, in passing, that our influence is said to have been diminished there because we refused to co-operate with France, Germany, and Russia in restricting Japanese influence in Korea at the close of the war. It was prophesied, not once but many times, that by holding aloof from the above combination British influence would be usurped by the co-operating Powers, that, politically speaking, our voice would be unheard, and that, commercially, we, as a nation, should suffer greatly. When I had occasion, some months ago, to interview Li Hung-chang on behalf of the *Morning Post*, at the close of his round-the-world trip, he was particularly emphatic on the subject of the loss of British prestige, and bitter in his criticism of our policy in the Far East. He said that China had incurred obligations to France, Germany, and Russia which she would be bound to pay off in preference to any claim that Britain might have. If one takes the trouble, however, to study this question otherwise than superficially it becomes difficult to trace that any of the three Powers in question, with the exception of Russia, have gained any material or practical advantage from their attitude with regard to Korea. But Russia is an immediate and powerful neighbour, and has merely enforced certain concessions which she would have been quite well able to secure with or without the co-operation of France and Germany, and whether or not the China-Japan War had ever taken place. The day has yet to come when China will fulfil moral obligations to anybody. It must be clear to all who have looked into the matter that she has never taken the initiative in such matters, for the whole history of the country goes to show that any concessions she may have made have been wrung from her, either by force of arms or force of circumstances. Such being the case, the amount of influence a given foreign Power may have in China is to be measured by the capacity of the country in question for enforcing its claims. And in that at the present day Britain, practically controls Chinese foreign trade, is her most important creditor, and handles her only available and tangible asset as far as foreign intercourse is concerned, her Customs duties, there can be no question as to the paramount in-

fluence of Britain in that country. With regard to Japan, however, while the result may be somewhat similar, the conditions which surround the question of her relations with foreign Powers are not by any means identical.

Japan's financial position just now may be somewhat weak, but her pecuniary indebtedness to foreign countries is insignificant. It stands to reason that in a country which has gone ahead so rapidly, and where modern education has developed so suddenly and with such sure strides, the influence of the foreigner, generally speaking, should be on the decline. When Japan had to look to the foreigner to advise her, to educate her, to purchase for her, to fight for her, and, in short, to "run the country" as far as foreign intercourse and modern civilisation were concerned, the influence of the foreigner was naturally at its highest pitch. But such is no longer the case, for however much we may accuse the Japanese of a vain-glorious attitude, and however much the foreigner may disapprove Japanese methods, there is no getting away from the fact that her policy is on the whole logical and level-headed. Japan may have made a great many political mistakes since the war, but her head has not been entirely turned by her successes, and she is quite capable of reasoning out many of her methods. Japan always did, and does now, detest the foreigner as a class, the time-honoured and hostile designation "Ketojin," which signifies "hairy barbarian," and which applied originally to the Chinese, not only survives in the present day, but extends to all foreigners. If, however, the Japanese are too polite to make use of the expression as a rule, it is none the less a fact that the feeling which gave rise to it is as strong now as it ever was. It is only of recent years, with the development of education and their increased international intercourse, that the Japanese have come to discriminate at all between foreigners of different nationalities. There were, of course, the Chinese, and there were other foreigners. The latter class of foreigners might be British, French, German, Italian, or American, but their faces, clothes, and habits were, from the Japanese point of view, more or less alike, and in a general way they had the same sort of religion. And in that most of the foreigners who live in Japan speak the same language, English, they were mostly looked on in a hazy way as being British.

The modernising of Japan, however, has brought with it the power of discrimination to a certain extent, and while the foreigner, generally speaking, may have lost influence, the exercise of this discrimination has been distinctly to the advantage of Britain. There is no doubt that in Japan, where the foreigner is essentially unpopular, the British are at the present day less unpopular and far more influential than the rest. And this in spite of the fact that Britons proverbially do not work for nothing, and that Britain, while supplying so many of Japan's imports, is by no means a correspondingly large customer. The Japanese feel, however, that they have on the whole been more fairly treated and got better results for their money in dealing with Great Britain than with other foreign countries. There is a greater faith both in the commercial integrity of the British and in the quality of British goods. There is no doubt that at a given price and with a certainty of delivery within a given time the Japanese prefer purchasing from us than from anyone else. The Trade Returns show this, in spite of the fact that many of the foreign Legations here, usurping the rôle of the commercial traveller, use what pressure they can to divert trade from Britain. Any foreigner living here, even for a short time, and whether he is in business or not, cannot help coming to the conclusion that as far as foreign influence is concerned that of Great Britain is far and away more powerful than that of all other nations put together. The accepted foreign language is English, the methods of carrying on large businesses are based on the English system, their Naval and Mercantile Marine follow the British lines, most of the technical education is of a British nature, factories and foreign houses are built on the British principle, the foreign literature is nearly all English, and the Japanese themselves find the necessity of issuing both daily and other periodicals in the English language, and, finally, even such of the railways as were originally laid down on German and American systems are being, at great expense, transformed to the British system.

Of the other foreign Powers who might be expected to have an influence on Japan, her neighbours, China, Russia, and America, and the far-off countries of France and Germany may be named. The Dutch, the Spaniards, and the Portuguese, who formerly played so important a rôle in Japanese foreign politics, might just

as well, as far as their influence on this country is concerned, have ceased to exist.

The relations of China to Japan are so different from those of other countries that one must take them separately. The influence of China on Japan in early times can never be effaced. She educated the Japanese, gave them their method of writing, their religion, their music, and to a certain extent their arts and industries, and these are indelibly ingrained in the Japanese character. But her political influence here is nil, for while no doubt the war formed the primary reason for the active defensive preparations that are now going on in Japan, it is not China that Japan is trying to put herself in a position to face, but Russia, and possibly other Powers. What the political influence of China on Japan may eventually be it is difficult to say, but at present it is slight. Commercially speaking, she is increasingly important as being a large consumer of Japanese products. China is the historical enemy of Japan, but Russia is the present, or, at all events, may possibly be the future one. As the Chinese are looked on by the Japanese with contempt, perhaps unwarrantably so, so the Russians, collectively and individually, are looked on as spies, for it is considered that the amount of business between the two countries is too insignificant to make it worth a Russian's while to live in Japan.

Americans residing in the country have been looked on with comparative indifference until lately. They were mainly inoffensive missionaries, who made no headway, it is true, or else traders whose business it was to buy from rather than sell to Japan. America was regarded as a country which had no foreign policy worth mentioning, at all events none which touched Japan, and she was an excellent customer. The only sore point between America and Japan was the contemptuous manner in which American legislators invariably endeavoured to class the Japanese with the Chinaman in the score which is known in America by the name of "Asiatic ascendancy," which was to be crushed in the United States at any price. Within the last few months, however, two matters have cropped up which have caused Japanese feeling to become very bitter against Americans: firstly, the large increase in the Customs tariffs, which has had the effect of "boycotting" many of the Japanese industries; and, secondly, the proposed annexation by the United States of the Hawaiian Islands, in which Japan has such vital interests.

The influence of Germany, which when Bismarck was in power, was undoubtedly strong, both commercially and politically, has been on the wane for some years past. Commercially, the expression "made in Germany" carries at the present day almost as much a stigma in Japan as it does in Britain. Sirenous efforts are continually made by German manufacturers and business syndicates to propagate their trade here, and a great deal is done in certain very cheap classes of goods. But there is a growing distrust of German methods of business, and the Consular statistics, which go to show that German trade flourishes here, are unreliable, as, in order to do business that will pay them, many of the German firms dealing with Japan both here and in their own country are obliged to handle British goods to a very large extent, and these often appear in the returns as German imports. On the other hand, much of the rest of the German trade, which also goes to the credit of Germany, as far as statistics are concerned, are goods which are palmed off on the Japanese as being of British make. The Japanese, however, owe much to the Germans for efficient instruction, more particularly in medicine and military affairs. Nearly the whole of their modern medical training has been based on German teaching, though the few Japanese doctors who have been educated in Britain are at the head of their profession here. The influence of France on Japan does not go to be reckoned with, but both Germany and France have politically lost favour and confidence by their co-operation with Russia on the Korean dispute.

Doubtless the principal bond of sympathy between Britain and Japan as nations lies in the fact that in their own particular parts of the world the two countries are somewhat similarly situated. The insular position of Japan and her jealous neighbours made her politicians alive to the fact that she must adopt our system of defence. To advance her foreign trade she must encourage by all means in her power a strong mercantile marine. Her rapidly increasing population and the limited area of Japan, combined with the facility with which the Japanese adapt themselves to living elsewhere than in their own country, all seem to point to the possibility of her becoming a colonising Power in years to come. The one thing which

may militate against British ascendancy in the Far East is our neglect to watch the policy of Russia in this part of the world. In this, too, there should be a bond of sympathy between Britain and Japan, for Russia by threatening Japan undoubtedly menaces British interests. The essential point on which Japan differs from Britain is, as I think I pointed out in a previous article, that she does not treat the foreigner in the same liberal spirit as we do. In following out this policy many foresee that, apart from the question of actually clashing with the foreign Powers, she may defeat in the long run her own programme of progress and civilisation. However, it is a little premature to discuss this matter at the present stage, in view of the change which will take place when the Treaties come into operation. Then it is that the future relations of Japan with the foreign Powers will be determined, and the question, if complications are to be avoided, will require delicate handling on all sides.

THE ENGLISH ENGINEERING DEADLOCK.

HOW MATTERS REALLY STAND.

One of the most lucid expositions of the present deadlock in the engineering trades of England is contained in a speech delivered by Sir Benjamin Browne, President-Elect of the Newcastle Economic Society, which is reported in the *Newcastle Chronicle* on October 9th. We give it in full, as its interest demands:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—Our Society is one for the discussion of social and economic problems. There happens, at this time, to be one of the most serious problems of this character dislocating our chief industries, and, as such, it would seem natural that our Society should take a special interest in its merits. As I myself am, however, in no small degree responsible for the action of one side in the dispute, I had some doubt whether I, especially in my position of President-elect, ought to bring the matter forward. Having, however, taken counsel with some of the most experienced members, they advise me to give my own account of the matter, but I have asked your retiring President to hold the chair for this evening, so that, for the moment, I am before you only in the position of an ordinary member. I need hardly say that I allude to the present stoppage of work in the engineering trade. This began by a strike in London, which was followed by a lock-out in the provinces, and it is, I believe, the largest dispute that has ever taken place in this industry. It is, probably, well known to all that a succession of demands had been brought forward by the Amalgamated Engineers against the employers, the majority of which had been settled, but one of which, commonly called the "Machine Question," was still unsettled when a demand was made by the Amalgamated Engineers in London to have their hours of labour reduced from 54 to 48 per week without a reduction of wages, and this has brought about the present stoppage of work. I should do well to premise that I must be considered as putting the question forward from the employers' point of view, and, while I am most sincerely anxious to do justice to the views of the Amalgamated Engineers, still, I know how difficult it is to be absolutely impartial where one's own interests are engaged, and, therefore, it is possible there may be arguments to be brought forward on the side of the workmen to which I am not in these papers giving full weight.

THE POINTS IN DISPUTE.

Now, first of all, as to the various disputes which lead up to the present difficulty. I think they mainly fall under two heads. They are: an effort to limit the class of men that we could employ on certain kinds of work, or to enormously increase the cost of doing that work. For example, they tried to stipulate that we should only employ skilled mechanics to do what any intelligent labourer could learn to do in a very short time. We maintain that this is adding enormously to the cost of the work and is very unfair towards the labourer. This demand gradually took the alternative shape that if we employed what are called machine men, that is, more or less fully-trained labourers, on our machines, then we must pay them the same wages as mechanics. Now, the effect of this would be that an enormous number of our men would have had to receive increase of wages of 10s. or 12s. a week at once; but, besides that, it is obvious that if you pay a slightly trained machine man as much as a highly skilled artisan no one will employ the machine man as long as there are any artisans out of work, and the effect, in average time, would be to drive enormous numbers of machine men out

of work, for I would just point out that obviously you can deprive any man of his employment if you fix the scale of remuneration so high that it is worth no one's while to employ him.

In the case of trial trips and other matters, demands for increases were made, which, in some cases, would seem almost incredible. It is right to say that when these matters were brought before head-quarters in London many of the worst demands were abandoned and others very much modified, and at a Conference that was held just before Easter all questions, as far as the Federated Employers were concerned, were settled except the machine question which was, speaking broadly, how far the men were to dictate to their employers as to what men were to be put to work what machines. We hold that if an employer buys a machine he has a right to put who he pleases to work it: if the man spoils the work so much the worse for the employers, and, practically speaking, experience has brought into existence certain fairly well understood customs as to which machines might be reasonably expected to be worked by mechanics, and which might be worked by less highly-paid classes of men. The majority of employers had no wish to deviate very materially from what had been the practice in the past; but we strongly objected to incessant new demands and encroachments; and, as I would also remark, for mechanics to monopolize all such work is taking away from labourers all chance and hope of bettering their condition. Besides there are also nothing like mechanics enough in the country to fill, in busy times, all claims that would be made upon them if this principle were carried out so far as was demanded in many localities. As I have already said, I do not know how far these local demands were supported by the central authority of the A.S.E. in London; but the demands were made, strikes frequently took place, and the employers were harassed to a degree which was unexampled in the memory of any of us. It must also be observed that some of the men's authorized spokesmen, like Mr. Tom Mann, avowedly say that the demand for 8 hours is only the stepping-stone to further demands, and teach the men to look on their employers as their "organized enemies."

RESTRICTING THE OUTPUT OF MACHINES.

There was also a general spirit, which was constantly brought under our notice, that the A.S.E., unfortunately, wish to restrict the amount of work that they turn out. Much resistance was shown to every effort to run machines at higher speeds and to make them do more work. In England, as a general rule, they refused to allow one man to work more than one machine, whereas on the Continent or in America he will work sometimes as many as five or six, and that without any serious amount of labour to himself, for many machines once set will go on for a long time without being touched. In the Elswick works a body of officials were organized who are commonly called "feed and speed men." Their business was to see that all the machines in the place were turning out the greatest amount of work possible, and to see that the experience gained in one part of the factory would be at once applied to every other part. This, though it entailed no additional labour on the men, was very much resented, so much so that one of the chief officials of the A.S.E. in giving evidence before the Parliamentary Committee on fair wages, protested against it, and demanded that if it was continued the Elswick works should be struck off the list of Government Contractors. We have also been told by responsible Trades Union leaders that the more men they can make us employ to complete a given piece of work the better for them, and other instances of this doctrine that the less work they can do for their wages the better, can be readily brought forward. Now I cannot believe that these doctrines find favour with the more thoughtful and intelligent men, but they certainly are held by officials in high authority and are acted on sufficiently to have caused us very seriously increased difficulties in the management of our works. The view of the employer is that the more valuable a man's services are the better remuneration he will get, and that if we can reduce the price at which we can sell our engines and machinery we could then very largely increase our trade, and thereby make a very largely increased demand for workmen. We also believe that skilled and intelligent workmen will always command their price, and that the skilled man has nothing to fear from an intelligent labourer, who only began to learn the business after he had arrived at maturity. In every trade reduced prices means increased business; and in our business it is especially so, for the majority of our products, such as ships, railway material, machinery, &c., are simply investments of somebody's capital for the purpose of earning dividends, and the cheaper we could supply these articles the more we could

stimulate investments. I believe that if every workman simply tried his utmost to turn out the greatest possible amount of work at the cheapest possible cost we should require far more men than we can now employ; we should make good trade much more lasting and bad trade far less common; and besides that the amount of money that each man would take home at the end of the week would be very much larger than it is at present.

FOREIGN COMPETITION.

As regards the danger of foreign trade, I will give a few instances. Even in Newcastle, in many of our factories, you see rapidly increasing numbers of machines being brought in of Swiss, Belgian, or American manufacture. The new underground railway now making in London, to be worked by electric power, has accepted the contract of an American house for the whole of the electric machinery and locomotive engines, to be delivered and set to work in London in successful competition with all the English houses. A certain maker of war material, who has works both in the South of England and in the East of Europe, having received a few months ago an order for nearly half a million's worth of goods found it to his advantage to get the whole of it executed on the Continent and not in England. The Italian Government recently sent out enquiries for some torpedo-boat-destroyers, very similar to those that many of us are now building for our own Admiralty, and I was much concerned to find that the German houses offered to supply them at not more than 1/10th of the cost of the lowest English house. I may add that most of the large contracts for rails for Indian railways have been recently taken by the Americans, and I regret to say that these instances can be multiplied almost indefinitely.

THE EIGHT HOURS QUESTION.

Now as regards the eight hours. Some people would over-ride the whole of what I have said by saying that we should get as much work done in eight hours as we can in nine, and they would quote the cases of some manufacturers, who say that they have tried it and found it so. It is, of course, a very delicate thing to criticize the statements of these gentlemen, but as regards one of the works, the Thames Iron Shipbuilding Co., there is a good deal to be said. First of all, although they are somewhat prominent as shipbuilders, they seldom, if ever, make their own engines, certainly not for any of their important ships. I believe they do a large repairing business, but for purposes of competition they are not engineers at all, for there is necessarily a large repairing business in a city and port like London, and, although nobody gets repairs done on the Thames who can help it, there are a very large number of firms who can not help it, so that some firms engaged on this work can increase their charges without feeling the immediate effect of it, although, in time no doubt, it must tend still more to drive away trade. But the managing director of these works also gave out some time ago that he considered the Government ought to give him a very much larger sum for building a given ship than they would give to anyone in the North of England or Scotland, because, otherwise, he could not, being in London, compete with us, and recently, after building the *Blenheim*, he made a claim of about £50,000 on the Admiralty for money which he alleged he had lost owing to his work costing so much. Now, while it is obvious that no man ought to work, either in his own interest or even in that of his employers, for such a length of time and to such an extent as to hurt himself, there is no evidence to show that the present hours are too long. We always find an abundance of men willing to work overtime, and we are not aware that they feel any ill effects as long as the overtime is not too frequent or too protracted. When the nine hours was obtained in 1871, the men certainly did not do as much work in nine hours as they had done in ten, and the deficiency was not made up till after long years of effort in improving our organizations and the introducing of new and better machinery. On the Clyde they reduced the hours to 51, but they found they could not get on and were compelled to revert to 54. We ourselves not long ago reduced the hours from 54 to 53 by taking off an hour on Saturday. The effect of this, as far as we can judge, has been that on the first five days of the week there is no difference and on Saturday the quantity is just diminished by the amount of time that they leave work earlier; and, furthermore, such has been found the frequent experience of almost every employer of labour who has from various reasons to work his men shorter hours. And those who have recently given the 8 hour day say that the men certainly do no more work per hour than they did before. It is curious to observe that the men specially claimed the eight hours in London on account of the

distances they had to travel daily to their work, and yet at the three works where the men struck—Humphreys', Thorneycroft's, and Middleton's—there is no difficulty in getting abundance of workmen's houses close to the works, and if men live further off they do it by preference. Sometimes men work at places where, owing to trains or steamers, they can only work a shorter day; occasionally the factories are put on short time; we frequently have cases of men who, instead of starting at 5 only come at half-past 8, and the invariable experience of all of us has been that when once the hours are short enough not to injure the man's health you will not increase the output by shortening them any more. Mind, shorter hours are luxuries, and I should be glad to see hours shortened if it could be done without injury to the men themselves, and if the state of the trade would warrant it; but it is very mischievous to pretend that luxuries cost nothing, and that we can indulge ourselves without having to pay for it. Rightly or wrongly, I was one of those who was really glad to give the 53 hours instead of 54, because I found that it was a real enjoyment to the men to get one whole afternoon a week, which they could use either for their pleasure or profit, as they pleased; but it is one thing to say that I was glad for them to have the pleasure and quite another to pretend that it did not cost anything to give it. As a general rule the firms who have given the 48 hours are those that are engaged on repairing and jobbing work, and numbers of those have very little machinery, so the question affects them much less; and also in the first instance, they throw the burden on to their customers, and so do not feel the immediate effect, though, as I have before said, they may do so in the long run by the shrinkage of their trade. We are often told that we employers could afford to make this concession, but this could only be done either by increasing the cost of the goods that we sell or by paying it out of the profits. As regards the first, I have already tried to show that foreign competition is a most serious evil. I must remind you that at the time of the shortening of the hours from ten to nine, in 1871, foreign competition was for a very remarkable reason almost non-existent, because America had not become a serious competitor, and the whole energies of Europe were employed in making up for the great destruction of property caused by the Franco-German War.

PROFITS.

As regards our profits. The demand for 48 hours is a demand for a reduction in the working hours of 11 per cent. We are often told about the profits made at Elswick Works. Now, as a parallel to the case, I remember seeing in a newspaper the great profits made for its owner by the horse that won the Derby last year, and yet we all of us know that though a man may occasionally make a very large sum of money by racing, on the whole, keeping race horses is a great and frequently a ruinous expense. In Stuart Mill's "Political Economy," he tells us that whereas if a man trains his son to be a shoe-maker he is reasonably sure to be able to earn a living at that trade, yet if, on the other hand, he trains him to be a barrister, although some barristers earn larger incomes than is probably done in any other calling in the world, yet the chances are twenty to one against his son being able to support himself at all, and he further says that the entire earnings of barristers, divided among the whole number, amount to probably less than the average earnings of shoemakers. So it is the case that the largest profits are nearly always made in those investments where profits are uncertain and where the losses are almost always the largest. The day after we get the report of what was called the Jubilee Report of the Elswick Works, we get the report of Palmer's Shipbuilding and Iron Co., wherein the Chairman tells us that they have not only paid no dividend for a number of years, but that they have now paid about three millions in wages since the capital was subscribed and have not received one farthing of remuneration for the company. Now, how can a firm like this give the eight hours, and if this firm were ruined and all these men thrown out of work what would be the effect? There is only one Elswick in England, but if you look at even the share list in the Newcastle daily paper you will see that there are other firms besides Palmer's that pay no dividends. I feel that I ought to say a few words as to the position of the Elswick Works, Col. Dyer, and the amount of unjust abuse that has been heaped upon him. He, as a director of Elswick, could, I imagine, do nothing that was not approved by the other directors, such as Lord Armstrong, Sir A. Noble, and Mr. Crundas; and he certainly has gone no further than the general body of employers were prepared to follow him. It has been stated that Elswick has originated the whole thing and has forced other employers to join under pre-

sure. Now, it might easily be believed that the influence of Elswick would be powerful on the North-East Coast, but why should it be so on the Clyde? And anyone who reflects must see that it could not possibly coerce the vast industries of Oldham, Bolton, Manchester, and the Midland districts. Nor do I see any evidence of the unpopularity of Elswick among the workmen. Numbers of men have continued to work there in a way that they have done in no other factory, and, therefore, Elswick is fairly busy, while other works that I could name have no skilled engineering labour at all left except their apprentices. Whatever may be the cause of this, it is strong evidence that there is no unpopularity. Moreover, the effect of the Elswick Works has been to raise the rate of engineers' wages in Newcastle from being about the lowest in England to be one of the highest.

EFFECTS OF AN EIGHT HOURS DAY.

And now, to detain you no longer, I will state what I believe would be the effect were the eight hours given generally throughout the engineering trade of England. The first effect, especially following the long strike, would be to make things extremely busy, because there would be large arrears to work off, and especially if, as I anticipate, the men do very much less work in eight hours than they do in nine, it is evident that the immediate requirements of the world can be worked off more slowly than heretofore and as no one wants to wait for what is absolutely necessary to their existence there would be considerable bidding among customers to get their work done, which would cause a considerable momentary increase both in prices and wages. But this state of things would not last. Every rise in prices would tend to make our customers go elsewhere, and probably in two or three years at the outside, we should have such a depression of trade, or even worse than, those very serious years, 1877 and onwards, a large number of small and weak employers would probably be thrown out of work, never to be re-employed; and a vast amount of suffering caused. Those employers that were left would, no doubt, strain every nerve by the adoption of appliances and by increasing their capital to recover the ground that was lost; numbers of men being thrown out of work the men would have to submit to a severity of discipline to which they are wholly unaccustomed and probably to what might fairly be called an amount of "nigger-driving," which would be hateful both to the employers and employed, but which would only be endured in preference to the ruin of the one and the starvation of the other. This is what largely did happen after the nine hours movement. To say that the country has got over it is the same as to say that Hamburg has got over its recent terrible visitation of cholera, or to say that if you travel in France now you will see few traces of the misery and destruction caused by the Franco-German war. The world sooner or later gets over all its great calamities; but to ignore these and to forget the effects of them can only be caused either by levity or heartlessness. As I have said elsewhere, I yield to no one in my conviction as to the superiority of the British workman, when he exerts himself, to any other man living, but if he ceases to exert himself, or if he handicaps himself too heavily by trade restrictions or shorter hours, he is like a horse over-weighted in a race where the best animal may be beaten by another altogether inferior if the conditions are too unfavourable. I firmly believe that we employers are fighting this question in the interests of the workmen quite as much, if not more, than in our own.

MODERN JAPAN.

MACHINERY VERSUS AGRICULTURE.

Tokyo, August 20th.

It is only natural that while Japan is so rapidly modernising herself in a variety of ways, her newspapers should follow suit. I think the great sign that the Japanese Press is fast getting into line with that of the Great Powers is found in the fact that the Japanese editors, like most of their foreign confidants, have found it advisable "to have a go for" Great Britain and her methods whenever there was a lull in more interesting copy. Some of the mis-statements made here about England are wild and reckless enough to do credit to the most rampant of French journalists when suffering from a severe attack of Anglo-phobia.

Only a few days ago I came across a statement in the *Yorodsu Choho*, a fairly well informed daily paper of Tokyo, to the effect that Great Britain had joined the now historical coalition of Russia, France, and Germany, formed at the time of the

* This does not refer to the foreign journals in Japan but to journals all over the world run by people who are not English.

war for the purpose of checking Japanese progress. Wildly absurd as such a statement may read to an Englishman, it is none the less a fact that there are many Japanese who will give credit to this or anything else stated in their newspapers against the foreigners.

In spite, however, of these occasional outbursts against us, Great Britain just now is the most popular of the foreign Powers with the Japanese. Japan has at present too many real enemies, China and Russia, for obvious reasons, and America on the question of Hawaii, while France and Germany are looking on with an openly threatening attitude. It is, therefore, hardly likely that a spasmodic journalistic agitation will get up much genuine resentment against the only Great Power that really leaves Japan alone in her methods of conducting her commerce and politics. In fact, at the present day the feeling is generally the other way round. People are talking of the possibilities, extremely vague it is true, of an alliance between Great Britain and Japan for the purpose of guarding mutual interests in the Far East. In arguing on these possibilities, it is only natural that reasons should be given, and the journals are fond of pointing out the similarities of the situation of the two countries in their respective parts of the world. They speak of the "island kingdom," and the "island empire," and point out how both countries possess aggressive neighbours. Russia is spoken of as the common political enemy, and Germany as common commercial opponent. For while the United States does her best to boycott the products of both Great Britain and Japan, Germany, while underselling us, and counterfeiting our goods, our trade marks, and our labels, is, as far as Japan is concerned, the nation with whom she will first engage in an industrial tug of war.

For it is in the cheap German articles that Japan is mainly launching out now, and she will not be able to tackle the better class goods that are made in England for some time to come on any large scale. But it seems that there is yet another point of sympathy, or identity at all events, between England and Japan; and it was first pointed out to me some months ago by Viscount Enomoto, the then Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

In course of conversation he pointed out the rapid advance of Japan's modern industries, and expressed his belief that, while agriculture now held so preponderant a position in the revenue of the country, it would have eventually to give way in importance to the manufactured produce which was so steadily pushing to the front.

The Twelfth Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, recently published, seems to confirm very fully the opinion of the ex-Minister. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, an enterprising Tokyo periodical, analyses somewhat bombastically this official document; and, basing its calculations on the results of the last few years, delivers itself of the somewhat optimistic prophecy that by the year 1895 the annual value of Japanese manufactures will have nearly reached the figure of three thousand million yen. At the same rate of calculation the manufactures of Japan will, in the following year 1906, have equalled those of Russia. It is well to mention, however, that the latest trustworthy figures we have on this subject, take us up to the end of last year, 1896, and the value for the twelve months stood at four hundred and one million yen. Of the rate of increase up to that time account has not been very carefully kept. But it is stated that for some years past the average value of manufactures has been advancing at the rate of 25 per cent. per annum.

The fact which most bears out the probability of a largely extending industrial capacity in Japan is the rapid increase in the value of the machinery imported from abroad. For the year 1886 this amounted to 1,330,000 yen; in 1890 this figure was raised to 6,940,000 yen; and for the year 1895, no less a sum than 13,630,000 yen was reached.

The following table compares the relative values of total exports of manufactured goods with the total imports during the same period:—

	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.
1886.....	5,268,000.....	9,831,000
1890.....	11,606,090.....	20,034,000
1895.....	40,058,000.....	30,321,000

The figures in the above table are correct enough, no doubt, and show roughly that in the ten years in question the exports of manufactured articles have increased between seven and eight-fold, while the imports have trebled themselves. These results have been obtained in yen, but as the value of yen has been subsiding during that period, the proportions of increase if calculated in sterling would not be so great. In dealing with international trade, of course, it is preferable to calculate in sterling, but this would be a complicated matter owing to the fluctuations of the dollar, and it is not necessary to know the exact value of

the increase for the purposes of this article as touching engineering interests. The great point to be borne in mind is the ratio which the value of engineering imports bears to the total imports of Japan.

If the above figures are referred to it will be seen that in the year 1886 the value of imported machinery amounted to less than one-seventh of the whole. In 1890 it had increased to more than one-third; while the statistics up to the end of 1895 show that the machinery represented not far short of half the value of the whole of the imports.

Now it is hardly necessary to point out that it is the imported machinery which enables Japan to develop her modern industries, and this very rapid increase in her engineering plant will within a not very distant date transform Japan from an almost purely agricultural country, as she was a short time ago, into a modern industrial nation. Agriculture still holds the upper hand against manufactures in the ratio of six to four in value, and this in spite of the fact that only twelve or fifteen per cent. of the area of the country is under cultivation as arable land. This is not for want of enterprise, for the Japanese are almost ideal farmers, but because it will not pay to cultivate the remainder of the country. The opening up of so many new railways will no doubt enable a certain extension of agriculture, but this will bear an insignificant proportion to the extension of modern industries. On the other hand, the increase in wages, pointed out in a former article of this series, will make it increasingly difficult for the farmer to find labour at a price which will pay him to open up new land. Japan, then, is at the present time face to face with a similar situation to that in which England was placed when modern industries began to elbow out our agriculture.

We have long since accepted the fact that we must let our colonies and the foreigners supply us with most of our food, whether necessities or luxuries, and some day Japan may find herself in the same condition. It is to be presumed, however, that this cannot come about for many years, but in view of the rapid transition which is taking place here in almost all methods, I should be sorry to hazard a prophecy on the subject.

Of course, in value of products, Japan is still far behind the big European Powers, and with a view to making the situation clear, I quote below her own figures, dealing with the values, and the ratio which agricultural bears to manufacturing products of the countries in question:—

AGRICULTURAL VALUE.

	Ratio. Per cent.
Japan.....	50,000,000..... 60
England.....	251,000,000..... 23
France.....	461,000,000..... 49
Germany.....	424,000,000..... 42
Russia.....	563,000,000..... 61

MANUFACTURING VALUE.

	Ratio. Per cent.
Japan.....	32,000,000..... 40
England.....	820,000,000..... 77
France.....	485,000,000..... 51
Germany.....	583,000,000..... 58
Russia.....	363,000,000..... 39

It would seem that the limits of agricultural capacity in Japan had been very nearly reached, for want of available area and for want of cheap labour. I do not think that agricultural machinery will ever come much to the aid of the Japanese in reducing the demand for labour in this respect; as rice, the staple product of the country, does not lend itself to mechanical handling, and if it did, the country is too much cut up into small holdings to admit of machinery on any large scale. On the other hand, there is a limitless field for extending a multitude of modern industries which will pay better; and it is well for the Japanese, and for the British manufacturing engineer, that such is the case, though no doubt some of our other manufacturers will feel the effect of Japanese progress as a competitor. —*The Engineer.*

PARISIAN GOSSIP.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Paris, October 16th.

The Niger question has entered a more *sang froid* phase. It is felt that there is plenty of room in Africa for the expansion of England and her thronging hives of population, and equally so for France who has no swarms to migrate. There is room even for Germany to construct another Grand Trunk Usambara Railway, which carries its one passenger weekly with Tentonic minutiae. It is considered that there is no use in raging over doubtful claims to misty hinterlands and shadowy spheres of influence.

For the moment, the good old rule, the simple plan prevail, that they should take who have the power, and they should keep who can. Perhaps this would be avoided were Lord Salisbury and M. Hanotaux to be closeted together for a few hours, supplied with the latest map of Africa, a pair of compasses, and a book of logarithms—Nansen's copy, as that might bring luck. They would quickly dispose of what remains of No Man's Land in the Dark Continent, especially as both statesmen believe that two centuries must elapse ere the annexed territories become going concerns. That geometric solution failing, nothing remains but to continue the steeple-chase—France has had the start upon British lethargy and supineness—between the two Western nations. Often the tortoise overtakes the hare, but since France has taken to study geography, she is finding out numerous short cuts across the continent—the better to facilitate British and German commerce. Were France not protectionist, and England not a one-sided free-trader, the earth-hunger of both would be less difficult to appease.

Internationalism as applied to labour is evidently in a drooping condition. Neither France nor Germany has subscribed a centime or penny for the unhappy engineers' strike. Now the French socialists, who claim to be the bearers of the Labour Standard, are off with their love for their Teutonic brethren, since the latter have declared, and backed up their words by voting the estimates for the new cannons and small arms, they would shoot down any invaders of their country, no matter whether they came from the borders of the Seine or the Neva. The wonder was that French workmen were so naïve as to believe the contrary. The Kaiser would immediately shoot the pickelhaube that attempted to spare the skin of an invader, were he socialist or philanthropist. Peoples are more and more gravitating to live within themselves.

No one is exactly surprised at the secession of the Abbé Charbonnel from the Catholic Church. Since some time he was regarded as a combination of a free lance and a Boanerges. He never ran well in the ecclesiastical harness, but was never silenced, as were Lamennais and Didon, not being of a celebrity equal to theirs. The Abbé felt that the Pope did not keep, as it were, step with the times; he did not presume to convert His Holiness like ex-Père Loyson, nor has he any intention to start a new religion. He separates from the Church because the latter is intolerant; he prefers the free Christianity of Channing and Tolstoi, that is the trend of his book; *La volonté de Vivre*. The Abbé was also vexed that the Vatican opposed his crank, his *clou*, for the 1900 Exhibition—a "Parliament of Religions" where all religious consciences would meet on terms of equal dignity. He intends to dry-nurse that idea. The Abbé has had many a hand-to-hand encounter with the free thinkers and atheists; he never declined to attend their meetings and discuss their assertions, the only reply he often received was a chair thrown at his head, or a carafe of water; he and a body-guard of stalwarts would not be expelled from any meeting without a fierce fight. The ex abbé, for he is now in civil costume, after sending in his letter of renunciation to the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris, forwarded simultaneously a trunk to his parish priest, containing his canonicals, breviary, hat, &c. The journals already announce his marriage with a healthy widow from Chicago—the rumour was to be expected.

The banquet given to President Faure by 750 of the leading merchants and traders of Paris, of all political opinions, was a fitting wind-up to the Peterhoff fêtes. It was a very successful affair, although the Presidents of the Senate and Chamber abstained, having taken huff at the delay in inviting them after securing M. Faure. The latter was supported by the whole strength of the Cabinet, less one Minister who is doing commercial travelling for the country. The speech of M. Faure, which he read with emphasis and clearness, was to urge the business world to be up and doing, and resolve to extend the industries and influence of France abroad. The litany of the Russian Alliance was short—but had to be recited. The dinner showed that there has been no falling off in M. Faure's popularity since he returned from Russia.

Mlle. Chauvin does not appear to be very sanguine, though a regular "doctress of law," to her clients—nearly all of her own sex. The Council of the Order cannot consider her application till the Procureur receives her oath, and this he declines because no law authorises him to do so. He is of opinion that were lady barristers allowed to appear in Court there would be nothing to prevent them from sitting on the Bench. A Madame Rhadamantus would be a fearful spectacle. There can be no relief for Mlle. Chauvin save

by amending the law; no deputy feels inclined to undertake that reform, hence Mlle. Chauvin's brother, who is a lawyer, intends to win a seat in the Chamber and bring the difficulty to a head.

A large meeting has just been held in the public hall of the Sixth Mayoralty by the *feminités*, to discuss the question, "Is woman made for Conjugal life?" proposed by Mme. Piene. It was a "he crier" opened the ball; he declined to give his name, as it might involve his situation, that of "professor of boxing in a religious college." He read a short bill he had proposed to send to parliament; the first clause was to abolish marriage—that of course would end conjugal life; all persons who swear fidelity in love, to be sent to prison for fourteen days or twelve months; if habitual criminals in this respect the punishment to be five years. Every little stranger that arrived—"lumps of flesh," no matter from whence or where—would be sent to the Regional Baby House or "Ponponnière." This is only the doctrine of Jean Jacques Rousseau; he always transmitted each new olive branch to the neighbouring hospice. A Hindu lady "took the floor," and stated that in her country, the infants bore only the mother's name, as ladies knew very well a father was only "imaginary." This was too strong for the lady president, who reminded the oratrice that her proposition was not among the orders of the day. She had to sit down. Then Madame Renard moved that the State be the "Collective Father" of all babies. It took the young men, when of age, to make them soldiers during three years; instead, let the State rear the infants till three years old. One lady had the audacity to assert that love in marriage was possible but was affected by money calculations weighted by silver and gold. A bimetallic lady flew at her at once for attacking capital and the precious metals; a terrible tumult ensued when Madame la Presidente expelled both ladies, and so smashed up the meeting.

The new Prefect de Police, M. Charles Blanc, is aged 40, and a native of Gap in the Upper Alps, though reared, it may be said, in Paris. He has risen from a varied administrative career under the Home Office. He is no stranger to the Parisians and has always been popular; so he may be said to be at home. He upholds the *fortiter in re*, by blending with it the *suaviter in modo*; he takes nothing *en tragique*, and makes great allowance for human nature. He is friendly in advance with the Municipal Council, and that is the best evidence of his tact and talents. Were he to concede to the old newspaper women of the kiosques the right to obstruct the footpaths with their tables for the display of pictorial journals, magazines, &c., they would declare him to be a heaven-born Prefect, and send a deputation of their order to thank him, present him with a bouquet, and kiss him.

M. Chaffonjon, who has just returned from an exploration mission to Siberia, declares that the vast region is a veritable bonanza for trade, and that the Russians would be only too glad to see the French throw themselves into the development of the territory, now augmented by "the possession of Manchuria" by the Czar. But judge of the explorer's indignation and surprise. At every place he visited in Siberia, he found German dealers had long since preceded him, and what was worse, had flooded the markets with cheap and repulsive imitations of French outputs. He calls upon his countrymen to deliver Siberia from the commercial domination of Germany, even if aided by England,—that would be as the Americans say, "a large order."

Ten days ago, the ambulatory and sedentary indigents formed a syndicate to protest against the uncharitable treatment of the Public Charity Board. Now the charcoal and coal men have syndicated to denounce the grocers for selling firewood and packages of charcoal. But the coal huxters themselves sell wine, liquors, vegetables, fruit, eggs, poultry, fish, and newspapers—quite a *macédoine* of the necessities of life.

Lucie Jacquillart is the daughter of poor peasant farmers and came in Paris to seek her fortune, at the age of 17. She is extremely handsome, possessed of seductive manners, and of great natural talent. She ruined many dupes, and graduated in prisons—her last stay in one, was for three years. That school was the finishing of her education. Liberated, she started on the religious tack, was organizing a charity; called in state on Baron Oppenheim, the well-known banker, to solicit subscriptions: the banker being out, she finished by capitulating his confidential secretary—a married man with three children; he set her up in small apartments in the Champs Elysées, but drew on the bank for 50,000 francs. Lucie had now called herself the Comtesse de Chalon. Baron Oppenheim pardoned his unfaithful secretary, and Lucie restored the 50,000 francs. But

the secretary soon ran up the deficit to 300,000 francs. Lucie captured the Baron himself, and his letters thanked her in the "name of God and the Blessed Virgin" for inquiring after his mother. The jury at once acquitted the Secretary and the Comtesse.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

CONFERENCES AT WASHINGTON.

London, Nov. 19.

The Seal Conference and Reciprocity Conference at Washington have terminated without any result. The Hon. Wilfrid Laurier has returned to Canada.

AUSTRIA AND TURKEY.

It is stated that the Sultan has ordered full compliance with Austria's demands, including the payment of a quarter of a million on account of the debt due upon the Oriental Railway, which was an Austrian undertaking.

The statement that Turkey has complied with Austria's demands has been confirmed.

Count Goluchowski, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, in addressing the delegations, said that the honour of Europe was pledged to settle the Crete affair. He emphasised the existence of a close *entente* between Russia and Austria, based upon the reciprocal repudiation of any ideas of conquest in the Balkans, and dwelt upon the excellent relations existing between Great Britain and Austria, despite some difference of opinion upon certain questions.

London, Nov. 22.

GREAT FIRE IN LONDON.

An immense fire has occurred in the Cripplegate quarter of the City, the damage through which is roughly estimated to amount to four millions sterling. Hamsell-street, Jewin-street, Wells-street, and Nicholas-square have been destroyed, and other streets surrounding very much damaged.

The recent fire in Cripplegate is believed to be the most extensive conflagration since the Great Fire of London in 1666. It covered the space between Fore-street and Aldersgate-street, and every engine in London was engaged in fighting the flames.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

London, Nov. 20.

The *Post*, a semi-official newspaper published at Berlin, says that whatever China's reply to Germany may be, the German force at present occupying Kiao-chow will remain there a considerable time, and barracks will be built for their accommodation during the coming winter.

London, Nov. 24.

The German war-vessel *Kaiserin Augusta*, recently at Crete, has been detached from that service, and has entered the Suez Canal *en route* to China to reinforce the German Squadron in Chinese waters. It is understood that the *Gefion* and another war-vessel will also shortly be despatched to China.

The *Standard*, a Berlin journal, states that Germany informed Russia, Austria, and Italy last spring of the intention to acquire a Naval Station in China.

[Hongkong papers of the 12th inst. report the arrival there of the German war-vessel *Albatros*, which had been ordered to China from New Guinea.]

It is reported that Prince Henry of Prussia commands a squadron ordered to China. It is believed that Germany is resolved to retain possession of Kiao-chow.

Berlin, Nov. 24.

The *Kaiserin Augusta*, which has been the only German warship in Cretan waters, has sailed for the Far East. It is reported that the *Deutschland* and the *Gefion* will also be ordered to proceed to the same destination. These three ships will probably form a second German Squadron in the Far East under the command of Prince Heinrich of Prussia.

[This confirms Reuter's telegrams on the same subject. The *Kaiserin Augusta* is a 1st class cruiser of 6,331 tons displacement, with a speed of 22.5 knots; the *Gefion*, a 2nd class cruiser, 4,207 tons, 20 knots; and the *Deutschland*, a 1st class armoured cruiser, 7,310 tons, 14.5 knots.—Ed. J.T.]

ADDITIONAL DEMANDS OF GERMANY.

Peking, Nov. 25, 1.20 p.m.

Received by the *Fiji* at 11.40 p.m., Nov. 25.

Germany has made an additional demand from China, consisting of a concession for laying railways in Shantung and for working mines in that province.

CALAMITIES IN AUSTRALIA.

London, Nov. 23.

A great fire has occurred in the business quarter of Melbourne, and the damage is estimated at fully a million sterling.

North-west Victoria has been visited by a terrific dust-storm, through which several towns have been completely wrecked.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

Owing to representations by Russia, the Turkish Naval Reorganization scheme has been postponed indefinitely, Russia having presented to the Porte a Note demanding payment of the arrears of the war indemnity amounting to a million.

INDIA COUNCIL BILLS.

Tenders are invited to be sent in on the 29th instant for two and a half millions, for a period of six or twelve months, for India Bills dated December 3rd in amounts of one, five, or ten thousand.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUDAN.

Mutinous Soudanese having aided the Mahomedan brigands of Ammached, Major Macdonald's force at Isoga was repulsed after several hours' fighting, with a loss of one hundred, the British loss being sixteen killed, including Lieutenant Fielding and Major Thurston.

This news is regarded as very serious. A force of Sikhs from Mombasa is hastening to the support of Major Macdonald, and H.M. ships *Thrush* and *Phæbe* are guarding the coast.

Later news states that Uganda is quiet, the garrison there having yielded up their arms.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT HAKODATE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Hakodate, Nov. 26.

Fire broke out in Benten-machi at 2 o'clock this morning and before it was extinguished 60 houses were destroyed.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

INTERPORT CRICKET MATCHES.

Hongkong, Nov. 15.

Playing to-day against The Straits, the combined Hongkong and Shanghai team scored 86 in the first innings and 62 in the second. The Straits thus winning by an innings and 233 runs.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE.

Paris, 3rd November.

The engineers' strike in England continues to extend.

THE PARIS BUTCHERS' STRIKE.

Paris, 4th November.

The butchers' strike continues. The dispute has been submitted to the arbitration of the Juge de Paix.

ASSASSINATION AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

Paris, November 6.

At Rio de Janeiro the Minister for War has been killed by a soldier who mistook him for the President of the Republic.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

THE NEW DEPUTY INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

Shanghai, Nov. 12.

It is reported here that Mr. Robert Bredon, lately Commissioner of Customs at Canton, has been appointed Deputy Inspector-General of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs.

CYCLING ROUND THE WORLD.

Messrs. Lunn, Lowe and Foster, the three cyclists who are touring round the world, arrived safely at Chungking after a difficult journey overland from Bhamo. Through Yunnan and Szechuen they found the roads unsuitable for cycling, and had to carry their machines most of the way and at times were carried in chairs themselves.

They are in good health, and have had no adventures and no difficulties except those arising from a lack of knowledge of the Chinese language.

They say it is their intention to cycle from Chungking to Shanghai along the Yangtse Valley.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

GERMANY AND CHINA.

Peking, Nov. 22.

With regard to the occupation of Kiaochow Bay by three German men-of-war and a landing party, the Chinese Government has instructed the local troops to oppose the latter.

The claim of Germany against China is composed of six articles. They include a claim for 600,000 taels compensation to the families of those massacred, the payment of the cost of the dispatch of war-vessels, and the punishment of the local officials.

The Chinese Government has requested the withdrawal of the German force from Kiaochow Bay prior to the opening of negotiations with regard to the claim of Germany.

Peking, Nov. 22.

The six items of the German claim against China are as follows:—(1) That China shall pay 600,000 taels compensation to the families of those massacred. (2) That the cost of dispatch of three men-of-war shall be paid. (3) That the local officials be punished severely. (4) That the perpetrators of the murders be arrested and executed. (5) That payment be at once made for compensation for damage sustained by the Hennen (?) affair. (6) That the Chinese Emperor shall write an autograph message to be framed and hung in the Church. Germany does not demand any cession of land.

Peking, Nov. 23.

The German Minister has declared that Germany will never evacuate Kiaochow Bay unless China accedes to her claims.

KOREAN FINANCES.

Sōul, Nov. 25.

Owing to the still unsettled affair between Mr. Brown and Mr. Alexieff the finances of Korea have been getting out of order, and after the repayment of the loan to Japan the Treasury is exhausted. It is rumoured that Mr. Alexieff is negotiating for a loan of yen 3,000,000 from Russia.

JAPANESE NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Kobe, Nov. 26.

The war-ships *Itsukushima*, *Isumi* and *Suma* arrived here yesterday from Kure. H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, Commander of the Standing Squadron, is on board the *Suma*. The fleet will start for Shimizu on the 29th inst.

OTARU HARBOUR.

Otaru, Hokkaido, Nov. 26.

An investigation council for the construction of a harbour at Otaru will shortly be convened.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-side.

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Ichome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 346.

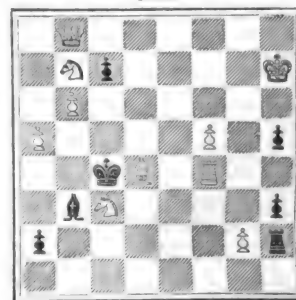
WHITE.
1—K to Q 7
2—K to B 3
3—Q to Kt 4, mate
3—Q to Kt 3, or Kt 5, mate
2—Q to Kt 4, ch
3—Q to Q 4, mate
2—Kt to K 3, ch
3—Q to Q 6, mate
2—Kt to K 3, ch
3—Kt takes P (K 4), mate
2—K to Q 3
3—Q to Kt 4, mate

BLACK.
1—Kt to B 3, ch
2—B takes Kt
if 2—Kt to Q 4
1—B takes Kt
2—K to Q 4
1—K to Q 4
2—K to R 4
1—Kt to Q 6
2—K takes P
3—Kt takes P (K 4), mate
1—Kt to B 6
2—Any move

Correct solutions received from P.E.F.S., W.H.S., J.W.E., D.D., and J.S.T.

PROBLEM NO. 348.

By OTTO FUSS, Hanover.



White to mate in three moves.

FREE INSTRUCTION CLASSES.

It seems curious that in a Foreign community of the size of Yokohama and comprising so many cultivated people, there should be comparatively few chess players. No doubt there are many folk who have never had the opportunity of learning the game and but for that chance would probably be as great enthusiasts as any of the followers of Caissa. Others again who have had an opportunity were frightened off by the silly idea that ignorant always will spread abroad, that chess is such an exceedingly difficult game to learn. True enough it is not easy to become an expert. But to acquire the rudiments of chess, to be able to play a game correctly, i.e. without offending against the laws and rules, and to enjoy such a game, this requires but little study, less in fact than is required in learning whist and other games of chance and skill.

Animated with the desire of doing the utmost to make the game more popular in the Far East, we propose giving a series of lessons next month provided that a sufficient number of pupils come forward. The lessons will be gratis, and all that is required in return is regular attendance. The committee of the Yokohama Chess Club having kindly placed one of their rooms at our Chess Editor's disposal instructions will be given there twice a week, viz., Monday and Thursday, from 6 p.m. Persons wishing to join the class are requested to send in their names at once to the Chess Editor.

OVER THE CHESS BOARD.

A correspondent requests us to call to his mind the opening moves of a neat little trap that we once tried on him successfully. Although the same is doubtless known to many players it may be new to some of our readers and come in useful in "skittle play." The game begins as follows:—

1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to B 4
4—Kt takes P

1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3
3—Kt to Q 5

This is the fatal move after which white must at least lose a piece. But as a rule he is unconscious of the danger threatening and loses the Queen

besides or gets mated in a few moves. For instance:—

5—Kt takes B's P 4—O to Kt 4 (I)
6—R to B sq. 5—O takes Kt's P
7—B to K 2 6—O takes K's P ch.
7—Kt to B 6, sm. mate
if however
5—B takes P ch the following sometimes
takes place:—
6—B takes Kt 5—K to K 2
7—R to B sq. 6—O takes Kt's P
7—O takes K's P mate
There are many more interesting variations which
will amuse the skilful player.

Equally pretty are the two following well known
little games in which mistake and the punishment
thereof are clearly traceable (with notes by
Lasker in "Common Sense in Chess"):

I.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3 2—P to Q 3
3—B to B 4 3—P to K R 3

So far with the exception of the last move, Black
has played quite well. He has opened lines for
his two Bishops and the Queen, and now should
bring out his Q Kt to B 3. Instead of that, afraid
of some premature attack, he quite unnecessarily
makes a move that does not give additional force
to any of his pieces.

4—Kt to Q B 3 4—B to Kt 5

A mistake. The Knight should be first develop-
ed, then the Bishops:—

5—Kt takes P 5—B takes Q
6—B takes P ch 6—K to K 2
7—Kt to Q 5 ch mate

II.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3 2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt takes P 3—Kt to Q B 3

Black evidently believes in the principle of quick
development, and even neglects to take White's
K P, in order to gain time.

4—Kt takes Kt 4—O P takes Kt
5—P to Q 3 5—B to Q B 4
6—B to Kt 5

A mistake; he ought to guard against the threat-
ened Kt to Kt 5 with B to K 2. Now he is over-
taken by a catastrophe.

6—Kt takes P
7—B takes Q 7—B takes P ch.
8—K to K 2 8—B to Kt 5 ch mate.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

Two of the five challenge matches in the
"Ladder" Tourney have been decided. Storne-
brink and Hodges met last week in their second
game, and another victory resulted for the latter,
thus deciding the match in favour of the challeng-
ed party, Mr. Hodges. The second game in the
match Mendelson v. Friedlander was played on
Thursday night with similar result, the challenger
losing the game and the match. Mr. Mendelson
has improved immensely since last year and
should by further challenges be able to work him-
self into Class II. before the end of the season.
The match, Thomas v. Fox, has also begun, the
first game being played on Thursday night. Mr.
Fox won after a good struggle on the part of his
opponent.

Competitors likely to enter for the Champion-
ship Tourney include Messrs. Griffin, Tennant,
Friedlander, Pullak, Fox, and Mendelson.

GAME No. 348.

FROM THE BERLIN TOURNAMENT.

RUY LOPEZ.

White.—Tschirorn.	Black.—Janowski.
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE. BLACK.
1 P K 4 P K 4	13 KixP(c) KixKt
2 Kt KB3 Kt QB3	14 OXKt(d) PxP
3 B Kt5 Kt B2	15 PxP B B3
4 Q K 2 B K 2	16 K Q 2(c) R K sq
5 P Q 3 P Q 3	17 Q B 3 P R 5
6 O Kt Q 2 Castles	18 B B 2 Q R 4(f)
7 R B sq Kt Q 5(b)	19 P Q 4 BxP
8 KixKt PxKt	20 QR Kt sq
9 Kt K 3 P B 3	(w) BxP ch
10 B QB 4 P Q 4	21 K Q sq(h) B K Kt 5
11 B K 3 P QR 4	22 Resigns
12 P QB 3 PxKP	

Notes (abridged) by Emil Kemeny.

(a) The usual play is Castles, followed by P to
Q 4, or P to Q 4 at once. The text play is more
conservative, yet in many cases leads to the win of
a Pawn. The move made, B to K 2, is also satisfac-
tory.

(b) The play causes the doubling of Black's Q
P, but it seems justified, for it prevents White
from Kt to K 3 or B to K 3.

(c) Much better was P takes P. Black could
not well continue P to Q 6, for he would finally
lose that valuable Pawn.

(d) A disastrous error, which accounts for
White's defeat.

(e) White should have played Castles, sacrific-
ing the Q B P.

(f) A powerful move, which leaves White with-
out satisfactory defence. He can not guard the
B P with B to Kt 2, for P to R 6 would follow.

(g) B to Kt 2 should have been played, followed
by Q R to K sq. It must be admitted, however,
that White's game was past recovery.

(h) He could not capture the Bishop on account
of R to K 7 winning the Queen. The text move
enables Black to win brilliantly.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	M. M. Co.	Salazie 1	W. Dec. 1
America	P. M. Co.	Pern 1	Fri. Nov. 26
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Verona 3	Sa. Nov. 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 4	Sa. Nov. 27
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 5	Th. Dec. 1
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 6	Su. Dec. 7
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Dec. 20
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Dec. 28

1 Left Hongkong on the 24th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.
3 Left Kobe on the 26th inst.
4 Left Kobe on the 26th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 24th inst.
6 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 18th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	Su. Nov. 28
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Tu. Nov. 30
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	Tu. Nov. 30
Portland, Or.	N. P. Co.	Lombard	W. Dec. 1
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Fri. Dec. 5
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Verona	Su. Dec. 5
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu. Dec. 9
Victoria, B.C. via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Sa. Dec. 11
Europe, via Hong- kong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Th. Dec. 24

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,347. S.
Kokimi, 19th Nov.—Kobe, 18th Nov., General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567. J. Wil-
son, 19th Nov.—Shimonoseki, Nov. 16th, Gen-
eral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 866. J. Nagao,
20th Nov.—Yokkaichi, 19th Nov., General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894. Ekstrand,
20th Nov.—Otaru via ports, 16th Nov., Gen-
eral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Western H. Smith, American ship, 1,908. Brown,
21st Nov.—New York, 13th June, Kerosene
Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003. Geo. A.
Lee, 21st Nov.—Vancouver B.C., 8th Nov.,
Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662. T. A. Whistler,
21st Nov.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe
20th Nov., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Car-
lill & Co.
Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433. K. Naka-
jima, 21st Nov.—Kobe, 19th Nov., General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875. Ternick, 21st
Nov.—Nagasaki, 18th Nov., Coal.—Mitsu
Bishi Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149. S. Nishi-
mura, 21st Nov.—Yokkaichi, 20th Nov., Gen-
eral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827. N. Mume-
zono, 22nd Nov.—Kobe, 20th Nov., General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556. T.
Tibbals, 22nd Nov.—Kobe, 21st Nov., Gen-
eral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692. S. Mura-
matsu, 22nd Nov.—Yokkaichi, 21st Nov.,
General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Amarapoor, British steamer, 1,619. W. D. Came-
ron, 23rd Nov.—Moodyville, 30th Oct., Lumber.
—Captain.
Germania, German steamer, 1,714. Muller, 23rd
Nov.—Hongkong, Rice and Sugar.—Simon
Evers & Co.
Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376. H. Bleeker,
23rd Nov.—Hongkong, 17th Nov., Mails and
General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,299. Bait, 24th Nov.,
—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 23rd Nov.,
General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,148. S. Nishi-
mura, 25th Nov.—Yokkaichi, 24th Nov., Gen-
eral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507. J. E.
Poole, 25th Nov.—Kobe, 24th Nov., General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,593. W. H.
Goep, 26th Nov.—London via ports, General.
—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652. G. W.
Conner, 26th Nov.—Shanghai via ports, 20th
November, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen
Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128. J. T.
Smith, 20th Nov.—San Francisco, Mails and
General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Daphne (8), British gunboat, 1,140. Captain A.
C. Galloway, 20th Nov.—Nagasaki.

Fernfield, British steamer, 2,025. McFee, 20th
Nov.—New York via ports and Suez Canal,
General.—Frazar & Co.

Yarrowdale, British steamer, 1,908. Geddes, 21st
Nov.—New York via ports and Suez Canal,
General.—Frazar & Co.

Breconshire, British steamer, 2,323. Peebles, 21st
Nov.—Kutchinosu, Ballast.—N.M. strachare
& Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507. J. E. Poole,
21st Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen
Kaisha.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656. T. Iki,
21st Nov.—Canton via ports, General.—Nippon
Yusen Kaisha.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039. F. N. Tillard, 21st
Nov.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki,
General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Thekla, German steamer, 2,363. Stehr, 21st Nov.,
—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—
Simon Evers & Co.

Elze, German steamer, 747. Peterson, 21st Nov.,
—Mororan, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

James Drummond, American ship, 1,479. Skewes,
22nd Nov.—Hongkong, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,148. S. Nishi-
mura, 22nd Nov.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nip-
pon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003. Geo.
A. Lee, 22nd Nov.—Hongkong via ports,
Mails & General.—Canadian Pacific Railway
Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 876. Ternick, 22nd
Nov.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Co.

Sophia Rickmers, German steamer, 2,048. C.
Stunk, 23rd Nov.—Hamburg via ports, Gen-
eral.—M. Raspe & Co.

Henrietta, German ship, 1,705. Seemann, 23rd
Nov.—Portland and Oregon, Ballast.—Lang-
feldt & Co.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935. Le Boutillier,
23rd Nov.—Kobe, General.—Corney & Co.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,281. R. J. Brown, 23rd
Nov.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 16th Nov.,
General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645. R. Swain,
23rd Nov.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and
General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692. S. Mura-
matsu, 23rd November.—Yokkaichi, General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662. Dixon, 23rd Nov.,
—Victoria B.C. and Tacoma Wash., Mails and
General.—Dodwell Carlill & Co.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433. K. Naka-
jima, 23rd Nov.—Otaru via ports, General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894. Ekstrand,
23rd Nov.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534. Anderson,
23rd Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen
Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168. M. J.
Curnow, 23rd Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon
Yusen Kaisha.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616. Cubitt, 24th Nov.,
—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. &
O. S. N. Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168. M. J.
Curnow, 23rd Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon
Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001. Y.
Miyamide, 25th Nov.—Yokkaichi, General.—
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 1,376. H. Bleeker,
29th Nov.—Hongkong via Kobe and Naga-
saki, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co.,
Nachf.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758. P. Cottier,

26th Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Mumezono, 26th Nov.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, S. Muramatsu, 26th Nov.—Ogasawara, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 26th Nov.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, J. Nagao, 26th Nov.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS. ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Bishop and Mrs. Awdry, Mr. W. J. Blackhall, Dr. Blackburn Mr. and Mrs. Bremner and child, Rev. Mr. P. Baillargeon, Mr. J. Dennison, Miss Fugles Kije, Mr. Hatfield Dr. D. S. Ivy, Miss M. J. Irvine, Miss H. Johnston, Mr. R. W. Little, Mrs. Little, Mrs. Y. Murai, child and maid, Mr. Mantaneli, Mr. Fred Lapan, Mr. Y. Kamada, Mr. D. McKelvie, Miss Poore, Mr. H. R. Parkes, Mr. J. C. Miller, Dr. & Mrs. Ritter, Mr. T. Richards, Mr. Sugiyama, Sir E. Satow, Mr. S. W. Smith, Mr. G. W. Stephen, Mr. Granville Sharp, Mr. H. A. Stewart, Mr. Robert Shewan, Mr. and Mrs. Silver, Mr. T. Tokugawa, Mr. A. H. Valpey and family, Mr. & Mrs. Bert E. Wertheimer, Mr. Watanabe, and Mr. M. Wolff, in cabin; 22 second class, and 455 in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Prof. D. T. Scriba, and Mr. Tintaro Takayama, in cabin; Dr. Josef Kuoer, Dr. Takahashi, Dr. T. Otori, Mr. How, Mr. Cloy Poy Kan, and Mr. C. Heitmann, in second class; Mr. Ang. Goritz and 5 Chinese in third class, and 35 Chinese on deck.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Field Marshal General Nodzu, Major General Oshima, Major General Asada, Colonel M. Matsunaga, Capt. T. Nawabata, Capt. Utsunomiya, Count Lieut. Koningsmark, Mr. J. L. von Loe, Mr. G. A. Chufeldt, Mr. David, Mr. J. A. Thomas, Rev. G. M. Cutting, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. K. Johnson, Miss Kuntogon, Mr. E. W. Kirby, Mr. T. W. Kirby, Master R. Okura, and Mr. S. M. Lay and child, in cabin; Mr. W. Telly, Miss E. Newton, Capt. Ohta, Capt. K. Uchida, Miss H. Kato, Mr. G. Okuda, Mr. and Mrs. S. Ellwanger, and Mr. Sonoda and family, in second class.

DEPARTED.

For San Francisco per *City of Peking*, Nov. 26th, departed:—Messrs. J. G. Alexerff, A. W. Bash, Nicholas Batmani, Michel Balachnin, Miss M. Carr, Messrs. George Campbell, Enoch Emery, W. H. Grant, His Ex. T. Hoshi, Japanese Minister to Washington, D.C., Miss J. E. Kirk, Rev. E. B. Kennedy, Mr. W. Kennedy, Mr. J. Keddle, Madam Lewis, Mrs. C. Richard, Mr. Lee Tsan Sun, Staff Engineer E. Thorne, E.N., and Mr. J. B. van Holz in cabin.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong and ports:—Mr. C. Preston, Mr. R. Anderson, Mr. P. H. Howard, Mrs. Goldstein, Mr. J. Smith, Mr. J. Grant, Mr. Chan Hon Tai, Mr. Ah Kwei, Mr. & Mrs. C. Brier, Mr. John North, Mr. J. W. Crowe, Mr. M. Baggallay, Mr. A. Kahn, and Mr. L. Kahn, in cabin; 8 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong and ports:—Mrs. H. and Miss A. C. Rose, Mr. H. & H. A. Rose, Messrs. Chas Hart shore, and Miss Anna C. Hartshore, Mrs. G. B. and Miss A. Harris, Mr. G. B. Harris, Mr. Moulton Barrett, Mr. V. H. Deacon, Rev. D. & Mrs. E. Bartum, Mr. J. Oange, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wilson, Mr. Cuminghaw Rankin, Mr. J. Lyons, Mrs. Horsey's Governess, child and infant, Mr. E. A. McGlew, Mr. Chas Rogers, Mr. E. Kahn, Mrs. H. C. Reynell and infant, Mr. J. H. Fertig, Mr. J. S. Happer, Mr. C. D. Cooke, Mr. K. A. Stevens, Mr. J. Kahn, Mr. F. H. Bugbird, Capt. Crawford, Mr. G. W. Middleton, Mr. W. H. Behrens, Mr. J. Somerville, Prof. Hamilton Sharp, and G. Thomas, in cabin; Mrs. Horsey's Japanese boy, Mr. I. Yoshida, and Mr. Chang Kai Chi, in second class.

Per British steamer *Formosa*, for London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fraser two daughters, four sons and European nurse, Master Pearson E. Steele, Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Cooke, Lieut. Allen, Mr. John Somerville, and Mr. J. Chester Mott, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk 609 bales, and Waste Silk 89 bales.

The following are the shipment of Tea and Silk per steamer *Kagoshima Maru*, which sailed on November 19th:—

TEA.—From Shanghai, 1,051; from Kobe, 3,809; from Yokohama to New York, 702, to Chicago, 977, to Pacific Coast, 1,259, to Other Cities, 315; Total, 8,113. SILK.—From Yokohama, 129 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

	SHANGHAI	HIKGO	YOKOHAMA	HONGKONG	AMOI
TEA	1,051	—	—	—	—
SILK	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1,051	—	—	—	—

	SHANGHAI	HIKGO	YOKOHAMA	HONGKONG	AMOI
TEA	1,051	—	—	—	—
SILK	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1,051	—	—	—	—

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Wash.:—

	SHANGHAI	HIKGO	YOKOHAMA	HONGKONG	AMOI
TEA	1,051	—	—	—	—
SILK	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1,051	—	—	—	—

	SHANGHAI	HIKGO	YOKOHAMA	HONGKONG	AMOI
TEA	1,051	—	—	—	—
SILK	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1,051	—	—	—	—

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Nothing doing in imports except a few small sales to meet immediate requirements. Raw cotton from America has suffered a further drop of about 25 cents a picul and spinners are recovering a little from their difficulties owing to the clearance of several thousand bales of yarn to the Chinese market. Rates are nominal.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

	PER PICUL
Grey Shirts—8 1/2 lb, 38 1/2 yds, 33 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirts—9 lb, 38 1/2 yds, 33 inches	2.80 to 3.35
F. Cloth—7 1/2 lb, 21 yds, 33 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirts—12 yds, 11 inches	1.95 to 2.00
Prints—Assorted, 21 yds, 10 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattins Black, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 11 inches	7.75 to 9.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 12 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reels—2.0 to 2.4 lb, 2 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reels—2.8 to 3 lb, 2 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reels—3.8 to 4 lb, 2 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reels—4.8 to 5 lb, 2 1/2 yds, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS

	PER PICUL
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32

	PER PICUL
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27
Common	0.15 to 0.22
Aloussine de laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scot and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$38.50 to 39.50
Nos. 18 32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38 42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 2 60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	78.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL
American Middling	\$19.75 —
Indian Broach	21.00 —
Chinese	20 to 20 1/2

MARKETS.

Nothing doing, and quotations are purely nominal.

	PER PICUL
Round and square 4 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.20 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized iron sheets	9.20 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Pin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.05 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.25

KEROSENE.

A fair business has been transacted at slightly falling rates.

	PER PICUL
American	\$2.08 to 2.11
Russian	2.00 to 2.15
Langkat	2.03

SUGAR.

Some business has been done in Brown, at current rates, supplies arriving being fully up to requirement. White refined is in fair demand at former rates.

	PER PICUL
Brown Fakao	\$3.90 to 4.15
Brown Manila	4.20 to 5.00
Brown Waitong	3.80 to 3.35
Brown Canton	3.30 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is very quiet and sales for the week only amount to about 500 or 600 piculs. Stocks on the 27th amounted to 8,250 piculs of all sorts. Shipments have been, for America, 129 bales by the *Kagoshima Maru* on the 19th, 1,131 bales per *City of Peking* on the 22nd, and 529 bales per *Tacoma* on the 24th; and for Europe, 609 bales per *Rosetta* on the 22nd, and 429 bales per *Hohenzollern* on the 26th. Prices are slightly lower.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 9 1/2, 10 1/2 den.	\$30 to 90
Filatures—Extra 13 1/2, 14 1/2 den.	90 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 10 1/2 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 11 1/2, 12 1/2 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 14, 15 1/2, 16 1/2 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10 1/2 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 11 1/2 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13 1/2, 14 1/2 den.	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 14, 15 1/2, 16 1/2 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 11 1/2 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 24, 11 1/2 deniers	780 to 790



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PRICES: 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 5s., 10s. 6d., 21s. per BOTTLE.

This EXTRACT is INVALUABLE TO LADIES, as it restores the Colour close to the Skin.

June, 1896.

Re-reels—No. 3, 1 1/20 deniers.....	—
Kakedas—Extra.....	840 to 850
Kakedas—No. 1.....	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 11.....	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2.....	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 21.....	—

WASTE SILK.

Sales have been small and stocks amount to about 8,800 piculs: the *Hohensohn* shipped 367 bales on the 26th, and the *Rosetta* 89 bales, for Europe, on the 22nd. Rates are nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best.....	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good.....	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best.....	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good.....	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best.....	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good.....	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushi, Best.....	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushi, Good.....	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good.....	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair.....	55 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best.....	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good.....	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair.....	20 to 22 1/2

TEA.

Business during the past week has been very quiet, a few small transactions only having taken place. Sales amount to about 90,000 catties, principally low grade Teas, and stocks are reduced to 174,000 catties; shipments comprise 3,250 packages by the *Kagoshima Maru* on the 19th, 2,650 packages per *City of Peking* on the 22nd, and 3,444 packages by the *Tacoma* on the 24th, for the United States and Canada. Prices remain nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest.....	Nominal.
Choice.....	\$31 to 32
Finest.....	31 to 33
Fine.....	30 to 31
Good Medium.....	28 to 29
Medium.....	24 to 25
Good Common.....	22 to 23
Common.....	20 to 21

EXCHANGE.

There is no change to report, Silver showed no alteration and rates continue steady.

Shanghai—Bank T.T.....	2/0 1/2 to 1 1/2
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0 1/2 to 1 1/2
— — 4 months' sight.....	2/0 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2/0 1/2 to 1 1/2
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/0 1/2 to 1 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2 5/8
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight.....	2 5/8
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	3 1/2 d
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	5 1/2 d
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	74 1/2
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	76 1/2
On India—Bank sight.....	156
— — Private 30 days' sight.....	160
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	48 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	50 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight.....	1.05 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	1.10
On Silver (London).....	27 1/2

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.	
SHIMBASHI—4.40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.	

969



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Sold throughout the world. British depot: F. NEWBERRY & SONS, 1, King Edward-st., London. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A. Send for our "Treatment of Baby's Skin," a book of 64 pages, fully illustrated, containing all that every intelligent mother should know about the Skin, Scalp, and Hair, post free.

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MOTHERS!

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48ins.

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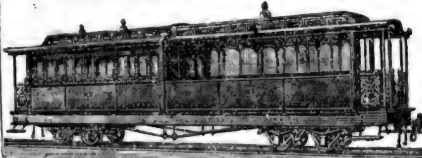
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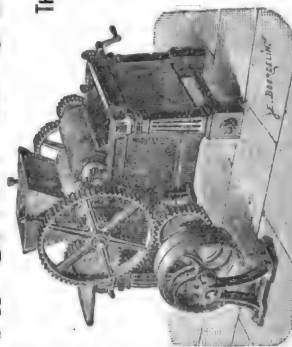
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Sir Samuel Baker, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the druggist Mahomed to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 23.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DEC. 4TH, 1897.

月三年五十二九第 Vol. XXVIII.
西曆一千九百零七年十一月三十日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 4TH, 1897.

MARRIAGES.

On 5th November, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Cheloo, by L. C. Hopkins, Esq., and afterwards at St. Andrew's Church, by the Rev. H. Mathews, FRIDERICK WILLIAM, eldest son of the late Capt. John Godsil, of the Chinese Navy, and formerly in H.B.M.'s Navy, to JANE FANNY, eldest daughter of the late Edward Finch Outaway, of the Imperial Maritime Customs Service.

On November 23rd, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General Shanghai by Sir Nicholas J. Hannen, and afterwards at the Cathedral by the Rev. H.C. Hedges, M.A., HARRY CLAPP, of Shanghai, to AGNES BESSIE, second daughter of John Youngs, GOULD of Shanghai.

On the 23rd Nov., at Union Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. G. J. Williams, DUNCAN CLARK to DAIST, Daughter of D. R. Crawford, Esq.

On the 24th November, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, Shanghai, by Sir Nicholas J. Hannen, and afterwards at the Cathedral by the Rev. C. J. Symonds, M.A., FRIDERICK ALBERT, youngest son of the late Antony Fred. Sampson, of Hongkong, to MARGARET LUCAS, second daughter of James Phillips, F.C.S., of Clifton, Bristol.

DEATHS.

At Singapore, on the 19th Nov., ROBERT TRISILLIAN, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 24th November, 1897, EDWARD ROSQVIST, Yachtsman Pilot, aged 56 years.

On the 28th inst., at the International Hospital, Kobe, H. F. SOMMER, late Captain China Mutual Steamship Navigation Company's steamer *Oopack*.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

RINDERPEST has broken out among the dairy cattle at Shinagawa, Tokyo.

Two men were killed by a landlip at a brick factory in Ikuta-mura, Kanagawa Ken, on the 25th ult.

A FIRE occurred at Rijiri-gun, Teshio province, Hokkaido, on the 19th ult. by which 120 houses were destroyed.

MR. DE SPREYER, formerly Russian Consul-General at Seoul, has been appointed Russian Minister to China.

SIR HENRY ARTHUR BLAKE, K.C.M.G., Governor of Jamaica, has been appointed Governor of Hongkong.

THE total amount of gold exchanged from the 1st of October to the end of November last was yen 10,266,655.

WILLISON'S CIRCUS opened in Yokohama on Thursday evening, the 2nd instant, and will perform for ten days.

THE British Vice-Consulate in Tokyo has been closed, all the Consular business having been transferred to H.B.M.'s Consulate at Yokohama.

THE demands of Germany on China include the payment of a large indemnity, the erection of a mission, the punishment of local officials, &c.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha has lost 400,000 yen on the working of its foreign lines in the last six months and has been unable to pay any dividend.

A DEPUTATION of *saké* brewers presented a petition to the Minister President on the 30th ult., protesting against the proposed increase of the tax on *saké*.

THE Akiha Prefectural Assembly proposes to construct a harbour at Funakawa at a cost of 10 million yen, 9 million of which it expects to get from the Government.

FROM January to October last, 92 companies in Japan were dissolved, while those obliged to reduce their capital owing to non-payment of calls on shares exceeded 50 in number.

JANUARY 11th of next year being the first anniversary of the death of the late Empress Dowager, religious services will be conducted at the Palace and the Senzan Mausoleum, Kyoto.

THE battle-ship *Yashima* arrived at Yokosuka from England on the morning of the 30th ult. She is of 12,517 tons displacement, with a speed of 19½ knots, and is reported to have cost yen 10,910,970.

A TERRIFIC gale has swept the British coasts, resulting in the loss of two vessels with all hands, besides thirty others being wrecked. The piers at Broadstairs and Sheerness have been destroyed.

A meeting of influential merchants was held in Tokyo on the 1st inst., when a resolution was passed to instruct their Representatives in the Diet to oppose the proposed increase of taxation on land and *saké*.

THERE has been a very sensational scene, ending in a free fight, in the Austrian Reischrath, and the Austro-Hungarian Ministry has resigned and Baron Gautsch, late Minister of Education, has been entrusted with the formation of a new cabinet.

THE graduation exercises of the Military College at Ushigome, Tokyo, were held on the 29th of November in the presence of H.I.H. Prince

Kan-in; Marshal Marquis Yamagata; General Takashima, Minister of War; and many other distinguished personages.

THE Crown Prince is to take possession of Prince Arisugawa's Palace at Kasumigaseki, the latter Prince probably removing to the late Count Goto's residence at Shiba, which has been purchased by the Imperial Household Department.

SOME people at Kamakura, Sagami Province, are planning the erection of a museum to be called the Kamakura Museum at a cost of yen 3,000. According to the plan, all the rare curios now stored in temples and shrines, etc., in that neighbourhood will be exhibited in the museum.

It is reported that the remaining portions of the Civil and Commercial Codes, now in the hands of the Legislative Bureau, will be laid before the coming session of the Diet as its first business and will be put into force from about the 1st of May next year, should they pass both Houses.

In response to an agitation raised by the jinrikisha owners and coolies in Yokohama, the Governor of the Ken has submitted a measure to the Prefectural Assembly to reduce the tax on 'rickshas from 1.65 yen and 1.35 yen for double and single vehicles respectively, to 1.20 yen and 1 yen.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Treasury, coins in circulation in Japan at the end of October last amounted to yen 87,387,114, showing a decrease of yen 3,362,655 as compared with the figure for the previous month, but an increase of yen 8,018,823 over the corresponding month of last year.

DEPUTATION of fishing corporations of Yokohama and Kanagawa visited the Kanagawa Prefectural Office on Monday and presented a petition against the proposed reclamation of the foreshore at Hommoku, Yokohama, on the ground that the waters in that vicinity are rich and productive fishing grounds.

SOME of the promoters of the Tōyō Kisen Kaisha (Oriental Steamship Company) are now desirous of dissolving the Company, having learned that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has lost heavily on its foreign services, no dividend having been declared for the past six months, while the Kansai Steamship Company has become bankrupt, and several smaller steamship companies are in great difficulties.

THE Import market still continues utterly stagnant, nothing at all being done in cotton piece goods, fancies, yarns and woollens, with the exception of a few small sales of grey shirtings. There is a small demand for some lines of meta's, but at considerable reductions from quotations. Kerosene should be selling well now, but the block on the railway lines impedes business. There has been a steady moderate business doing in sugar, the only import which shows any vitality. In the Export market there have been fair purchases of silk, at slight reductions from former prices, but the market closes firm. A little has been done in tea of the lower grades, but it is reported that the Canadian Government has put a veto on the import of the commonest qualities and this has had the effect of stopping purchases to some extent. The cotton spinners have fortunately been relieved of some of their surplus stock of yarn, and though one bank in Osaka has suspended payment and others are shaky, there appear to be better prospects of tiding over the difficulties in economic circles than looked probable a few weeks ago.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The Kiao-chow incident naturally engrosses the attention of the vernacular press. The latest utterances of the *Fiji Shimpō* on the subject are of the most scathing character. Our contemporary assumes that the demands said to have been preferred by Germany are rightly reported, and describes them as beyond all reason, but of course attaches little importance to them in comparison with the method adopted by Germany to enforce them. Here, also, the *Fiji* accepts the theory that the seizure of Kiao-chow was not preceded by any negotiations with Peking, and reviewing the incident in that light, compares Germany to a creditor who, without calling upon his debtor to pay or giving him any intimation that pressure was about to be employed, should repair to his bed-side, armed with sword and spear, and demand the immediate settlement of the claim in whatever form the claimant chose to present it. The inference to be drawn from the affair is that the provisions of international law and the tenets of international morality have ceased to be anything more than specious pretences in the eyes of Occidental Powers, and that the rule by which their conduct is really regulated is "the flesh of the weak for the food of the strong." Germany has thrown off the mask and shown herself in her true colours. It is of use for onlookers to bewail the fact, however shocking they may find it. Their duty as sensible persons is to recognise the unsightly truth: to recognise that Western Powers, in the fierce struggle for existence, have long turned greedy eyes towards China, and are only waiting for an opportunity to devour her. How does that conviction concern Japan? It is true that the conflagration is on the other side of the river, but it is also true that the river is a narrow one and that the sparks may easily fly across. The lesson for Japan is that a country's security depends solely on its strength to resist aggression, and that aggression has come almost to her own gates. Neither will it suffice that she should merely be able to act on the defensive. To preserve what one has already, it is sometimes necessary to add to it. There is no doubt that something very like a crisis in the affairs of the Orient now confronts Japan. She has no longer time for petty struggles between so-called "clan statesmen" and popular leaders; between political and official cliques. Her whole undivided strength must be devoted to guarding against the perils that menace her.

The *Nichi Nicht Shimbun* also believes that Germany has seized Chinese territory by way of preliminary to preferring demands at Peking, and points out, in emphatic but comparatively moderate terms, the marked departure from the law of nations that such a course indicates. It ceases, in fact, to retain the semblance of international obligations and assumes the character of armed aggression based on a mere pretext. If China complies with Germany's demands, thereby removing the latter's excuse for the occupation of Kiao-chow, and if Germany withdraws her squadron, the matter will cease to have any direct concern for other nations. But if reasons are evolved for the permanent occupation of Kiao-chow or some other position, it will be impossible for the world to look on silently. Considering that Russia had already made some kind of arrangement with regard to the use of Kiao-chow Bay, there is strong reason to suspect that Germany and Russia are acting in concert on the present occasion. However that may be, Germany's action must be viewed in the context of the aggressive spirit shown during recent years by European nations; a spirit that has led and is leading to gradual and steady encroachment upon the East. Whether by actual acquisitions of territory or by military demonstrations, the Occident plainly displays its mood toward the Orient, and the significance of such a step as that now taken by Germany is not merely that it places her in possession of a part of China, but that it gives her a basis for undertaking further aggressions. It is Japan that has the

greatest interest in these things, and the Japanese Foreign Office should lose no time in obtaining from Germany a clear *exposé* of her views and requirements. Passing on, then, to examine the circumstances in which European Powers find pretexts for their eastward movement of aggression, the *Nichi Nicht* concludes that the maladministration of national affairs and the domestic disturbances that torment and paralyse Oriental countries, furnish the principal, if not the sole, grounds for Occidental interference; from which conclusion our contemporary naturally advances another step to urge upon Japan the advisability of strengthening her military resources and striving for national unity.

There is nothing in this crisis, according to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, that should alter the views of the nation with regard to its own armaments. If the discussion now prevailing were directed towards reducing the *post bellum* programme of expansion as a whole, then the aggressive action of Germany in China would put an argument into the mouth of the advocates of expansion. But the *Mainichi* claims that its own contention is directed solely to the want of equilibrium between the scheme for the Army and the Navy. So far as the Navy is concerned, its development to a higher degree than that contemplated by the present programme, is approved by those that urge the advisability of reducing the scheme for the Army. Two years' trial has proved that the national finances will not bear the strain to which they are subjected by this large plan of Army expansion. (The *Mainichi* does not explain how the finances would be relieved by cutting down the Army programme if a still larger development of the Navy is to be simultaneously undertaken). Moreover, all experience goes to show the superior utility of a navy. Germany has an immense army—four hundred and ninety thousand men on the peace footing and three millions for belligerent purposes—yet it is by means of her naval squadron that she has made the present *coup*. France, also, is conspicuous for military strength, yet, in her struggle with China twelve years ago, she was unable to use her soldiers and made a poor business of it through want of a more powerful fleet. Again, the pressure brought by the Three Powers to compel the retrocession of Liaotung was a naval pressure. Everything, in short, points to the value of a navy for offensive and defensive purposes. The nation must not allow its reasoning powers to be obscured by the alarm of the present moment. Whatever weight the arguments in favour of reducing the Army expansion programme possessed a month ago, they possess the same, or even greater, weight to-day.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* speaks in very eulogistic terms of the advantages offered by Kiao-chow as a naval port. Its possessor can effectually oppose the union of northern and southern China; can cut the Middle Kingdom's strength into two separate parts; can make easy descents upon the coasts of Tsushima and Korea, and is in close touch with Port Arthur, Talien, and Wei-hai-wei. Whether Germany seized Kiao-chow before preliminary negotiations with Peking for the satisfaction of her claims, seems difficult to determine accurately. (The *Kokumin* here sets down the dates and the sequence of events so far as they are yet known.) But there is strong reason to suppose that Germany is not acting alone. She has no means of exerting her military strength efficaciously at such a distance from Europe, and her Navy is comparatively weak. The plain inference is that she does not rely on her own resources alone. Then, again, it has to be remembered that Kiao-chow Bay had been lent by China to Russia, and its seizure by Germany without a previous understanding with Russia, would be incomprehensible. The *Kokumin* is disposed to conclude that this incident is a sequel of the Three-Powers' interference in the Liaotung affair, and that Germany, France and Russia are acting in collusion. Great importance, it thinks, attaches to England's attitude,

though rumour says that her Minister in Peking has refused China's appeal for assistance as a mediator. Under any circumstances our contemporary thinks that the significance of the affair must not be underrated by Japan, and that she must diligently prepare herself for all emergencies.

The *Nippon* finds in this crisis an opportunity to preach on its familiar text of the virtues of a resolute foreign policy. It asks the nation to consider two recent events. The first occurred in Manchuria. On the 6th of October, the crew of the Japanese ship *Chitose Maru* were attacked by Manchu bandits, five Japanese subjects were murdered and a quantity of Japanese property was stolen. On the following day, the crew of the Japanese ship *Eiju Maru* were similarly assaulted and stripped of all their goods. On November 1st, a mob of Chinese roughs attacked a German mission in Shantung, killed two of the missionaries and purloined or destroyed the property of the mission. What procedure was adopted by Germany and Japan respectively under these circumstances, precisely similar in character though different in degree, the outrage in Japan's case being much the more flagrant? Germany promptly sent a naval squadron to seize an important part of Chinese territory and hold it by way of guarantee for redress, thereafter preferring a set of drastic demands (the demands are here quoted). Japan simply instructed the Manager of the Trading Company in Vladivostok to require that the offenders should be arrested. She did not even open international negotiations as Germany did, nor did she send so much as one man-of-war, or one gun-boat. The answer she received was that the locality where the outrage had occurred was in the Nicolaieff jurisdiction, and that during the cold of the present season any attempt to search for and arrest the assassin and robbers would be attended with much hardship. Whereat she bowed meekly, and said, "pray take the necessary steps then, at your good convenience." Now Germany's procedure, continues the *Nippon*, is not for a moment to be approved in its entirety. On the contrary, it seems to have been in some respects flagrantly opposed to international law. But it was dictated by a resolution to protect the lives and property of German subjects in every quarter of the world; a resolution that contrasts most favourably with the indifference that the Japanese Government shows to that elementary obligation. The *Nippon* protests against being suspected of any desire to stir up international discord. It claims to be eminently desirous of establishing and preserving inter-state amity. But it avers that nothing tends to impair amity more than tame submission to insult and wrong, for genuine friendship is impossible without mutual respect. The point is cleverly elaborated so as to constitute a seemingly strong indictment against the present Cabinet.

The *Chuo Shimbun* does not concern itself to discuss the propriety of Germany's action from the point of view of international law. It passes immediately to the broader question, what interpretation must be put upon the incident? Four reasons combine to show that this is no sudden step on Germany's part, and that, although the murder of two missionaries has supplied an immediate pretext, she is in reality pursuing a long premeditated policy. The first reason is her jealousy of England's commercial preponderance. She is straining every nerve to cut into trade fields monopolized by England, and she thinks that the possession of a good basis of operations in China is essential. The second reason is to be sought in considerations of European policy. Not only does she look to provide in the Orient diversions which shall occupy the attention of the rival States in Europe, but she also hopes to establish in the East *ententes* and communities of interest that shall act as solvents of Western enmities. In the third place, there is the affair of the Liaotung Peninsula. The action of the Three Powers on the occasion seemed to be directed against Japan, but was in reality direct-

ed against England. It was inspired by a deep purpose, having for its end the gradual annihilation of British trade and maritime supremacy by means of a series of *coups* on the part of the three strong allies. An essential feature of such a programme was that each should reap some substantial reward for the doings of that time. Russia and France obtained their reward, but Germany did not, and she is now about to take it. Finally, the German Emperor's night-mare about an invasion of Europe by the yellow race must be included in the account. He seeks to strike timely blows which shall avert that peril. Arguing thus in a manner too detailed to be reproduced exactly here, the *Chuo* arrives at the conclusion that Germany and Russia are in collusion, a certain momentary coldness having sprung up between France and Russia in China, and that Russia will finally step in as mediator between Germany and China, Germany receiving a naval basis as she desires, and Russia obtaining a substantial reward, perhaps Liaotung, for her services. The *Chuo* sees no safety for the East except in an alliance between England and Japan.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has no doubt that the time for the partition of the Chinese empire has arrived. The catastrophe, it says, has long been foreseen. Japanese that went to Europe in the early part of the *Meiji* era, hastened home, in many cases, two or three years earlier than they had originally intended because they discovered the opinions prevailing in the West with regard to the partition of China, and were persuaded that Japan must lose not a day in adopting a positive policy of aggression, which would carry her into the ranks of the ruling Powers from the position of a helpless country inviting aggression. Many Japanese whose contact with European peoples opened their eyes to that fact, and who were consequently moved to deep solicitude on account of Japan, are now leaders of thought and of society. In France, in Russia, in England and, above all, in Germany the fate awaiting China has been understood for a long time. It is a mistake to say that the step taken by Germany in seizing Kiao-chow is due to the youthful impetuosity of the Emperor of Germany. It is, on the contrary, part of a deliberate policy entertained by Europe. If, indeed, the proximate cause of Germany's action be sought, it will be found in her disappointment that she alone of the Three Powers associated to bring about the retrocession of Liaotung has hitherto remained without reward. France has had her reward; Russia has had her reward; even England, which took no share in the proceeding, has reaped substantial gain. Only Germany remains out in the cold. An idea was recently promulgated by shallow publicists that Germany had appreciated her mistake in the Liaotung business, and was determined henceforth to be Japan's friend. There was no ground for such a hope. Germany merely bided her time, and it has now come. As for her behaviour towards China, it is beyond all discussion or condemnation. She has disregarded the most elementary principles of international law; has treated China as though no such thing as a Chinese Government or Chinese independence existed. Even if she had not shown that she deems the empire of China unworthy of the commonest consideration by seizing a portion of its territory and driving away its troops before any grounds of complaint had been formulated, her demands in connection with the murder of the two missionaries are extravagant. Nothing could be more unreasonable than to require that the Emperor of China shall openly extend to the Christian religion, an alien creed, the same mark of public approval that he bestows upon the teachings of Confucius and Mencius. The indemnity, also, demanded on account of the two deaths is of preposterous dimensions. It might be expected that other Occidental Powers would protest against the perpetration of such deeds. But they raise no objection, and are even disposed to encourage Germany. China's hour seems to have come. What shall Japan do? Shall she join in the scramble for pieces

of the doomed State, or shall she oppose its partition? It is most regrettable that at such a crisis in the country's foreign policy, a crisis the like of which has not occurred since the Restoration, the portfolio of Foreign Affairs should be in the hands of a man who does not know the nation's mind and in whom the nation has no confidence.

The *Tokyo Shimpō* concludes that the boasted civilization of the Occident is material civilization only: it does not extend at all to the region of morals. Western peoples call themselves Christian, but their Christianity is simply a convenient pretence. Right and justice are mere names in their dealings with the Orient. There is no parallel in history for the violent lawlessness perpetrated by Germany in seizing Kiao-chow in a time of peace without any preliminary discussion with China, and as for the demands that have been formulated in connexion with the murder of two missionaries—the demands for a great sum of money, for the privilege of building railways and working mines, and so on—, they defy comment. It is to be earnestly hoped that China will take heart. Let those two or three cruisers work their will. Let the German marines remain at Kiao-chow. Decline to hold any parley of any kind with Germany until she has abandoned her attitude of unpardonable aggression. She will tire of the game. To play it from such a long distance will soon exhaust her patience and her resources. Nothing, however, will wipe away the disgrace of her acts. The Chinese nation is not guilty because a band of robbers have committed a crime. If we come to consider where guilt really lies, it lies with Germany. For not merely has she met lawless violence by lawless violence, but whereas the sin on China's side was the sin of a body of bandits, the sin on Germany's side is the sin of Germany. To talk of the sacredness of human life is a farce. Suppose that the Chinese troops occupying Kiao-chow had not been cravens. Suppose that instead of avoiding a fight by running away, they had stood to their guns and defended their native soil against aggression. How many lives would then have been sacrificed by way of supplement to the deaths of the two missionaries? As for Japan, it is her neighbourly duty to succour China at the juncture. She fought China because the big empire's aggressions on weak, helpless Korea threatened to destroy the latter's independence. Can she now stand idly by while a Western Power takes advantage of China's weakness and helplessness to destroy her?

A much more moderate article appears in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It can not understand such procedure on the part of a Power usually so moderate as Germany in its dealings with the Orient and having such small interests at stake. After all, the murder of the missionaries in Shantung and the plunder of the mission house was the act of common bandits. Such incidents are happily unknown in Japan, but they are common enough in several other countries, and they are not regarded as calling for steps of the kind taken by Germany. Briefly speaking, the *Yomiuri's* attitude is one of hesitancy. It awaits Germany's explanation of her act. But it thinks that Baron Nishi is not showing sufficient vigour in seeking that explanation.

Several other journals discuss the same subject. The *Osaka Asahi* does not devote any attention to the phase of international law. It simply expresses the opinion that Germany, in view of her rapidly increasing commerce in the Orient, naturally desires to have a basis of operations, as England, France, Russia, Spain and even Portugal have, and has seized the present pretext to obtain such a base. The *Tokyo Asahi*, however, denounces the seizure of Kiao-chow in strong terms, but thinks that such lessons may possibly open China's eyes. The *Shogyo Shimpō* adopts a line radically different from that taken by any of its contemporaries. It recites the heavy debt of gratitude that Japan owes to Germany, from

which she borrowed her military system, her medicine, a great part of her constitution, and her system of local government. When she conquered China, she could not fail to remember that her victory was largely due to German instruction; and as she sees her medical men winning fame, her representative institutions working satisfactorily and her local government gradually getting into satisfactory condition, her debt to Germany is constantly recalled to her mind. She has only congratulations to offer Germany in connexion with the expansion represented by the seizure of Kiao-chow. She has also contracted thereby another debt to the Great Western Power, for by taking possession of Kiao-chow, it has given permanency to Japan's tenure of Wei-hai-wei.

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for October, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1896.	1897.
	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	13,544,662.820	17,993,977.190
Imports	15,264,424.400	20,524,449.020
Total exports and imports	28,809,087.220	38,518,426.210
Excess of imports	1,719,761.580	2,530,471.830

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	317,836.560
Imports	506,103.010
Miscellaneous	28,140.118

Total

852,080.297

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
China	1,305,706.490	3,783,191.670	5,088,898.160
Hongkong	243,491.890	1,484,368.670	3,227,860.560
British India	586,116.210	1,510,377.750	2,096,493.960
Korea	753,880.730	835,474.480	1,589,355.210
Annam & other French India	8,977.340	1,407,210.870	1,416,188.210
Russia & Asia	20,575,950	2,078,970	22,654,920
Philippine Islands	3,001.910	380,603.990	383,605.900
Siam	2,069.180	65,317.100	67,386.280
Great Britain	681,760.810	5,128,083.310	5,809,844.120
France	3,006,123.380	1,066,780.870	4,072,904.250
Germany	187,133.640	2,151,454.430	2,338,588.070
Belgium	27,167.840	418,838.100	445,995.940
Italy	415,843.830	14,331.400	430,175.230
Switzerland	95,769.350	12,048,000.000	12,143,769.350
Austria	17,217.750	18,041.900	35,259.650
Russia	9,598.880	5,062.770	14,661.650
Holland	8,092.470	6,031.580	14,124.050
Spain	3,794.310	5,138.760	8,933.070
Sweden and Norway	—	7,393.480	7,393.480
Turkey	3,066.150	—	3,066.150
Denmark	1,306.000	379.380	1,685.380
Portugal	—	1,216.300	1,216.300
United States of America	7,310,657.990	8,111,180	15,421,837.970
Canada and other British America	147,017.470	10,153.310	157,170.780
Persia	120.000	—	120.000
Australia	288,530.010	173,186.860	461,716.870
Hawaii	12,123.830	12.800	12,136.630
Other Countries	45,350.230	71,788.440	117,138.670
Total	17,628,809.990	30,524,448.000	48,153,257.990

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	1,606,828.380	8,324,142.350	9,930,970.730
Kobe	4,177,186.000	9,713,381.670	13,890,567.670
Osaka	401,652.730	409,398.100	811,050.830
Nagasaki	500,488.080	1,125,801.640	1,626,289.720
Hakodate	239,784.600	97,833.950	337,618.550
Niigata	1,158.070	5,908.260	7,066.330
Shimonoseki	281,957.380	361,289.590	643,246.970
Moji	399,039.000	—	399,039.000
Hakata	1,561.000	6,484.000	8,045.000
Karatsu	43,159.000	—	43,159.000
Kuchinotsu	137,070.000	6,376.870	143,446.870
Idzumi	15,173.440	12,179.770	27,353.210
Shiomi	8,668.750	3,480.120	12,148.870
Sasura	1,589.070	871.600	2,460.670
Hanada	13,601.200	—	13,601.200
Sakai	5,879.870	321.230	6,201.100
Fushiki	—	14,068.800	14,068.800
Muroran	46,189.140	—	46,189.140
Otaru	36,986.000	9,734.740	46,720.740

Specie and Bullion { Exports

Imports

2,535,628.430

4,669,873.430

Total

7,205,501.860

Excess of imports

2,134,244.700

By Japanese Merchants { Exports

Imports

4,646,839.460

5,995,340.640

Imported by Government

973.420

VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED AND IMPORTED EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
January	11,848,712.030	73,391,222.780	85,240,934.810
February	11,087,793.400	73,158,888.490	84,246,681.890
March	14,482,469.770	71,190,000.800	85,672,470.570
April	11,555,413.430	70,103,514.910	81,658,928.340
May	14,528,243.800	80,394,405.120	94,922,648.920
June	11,038,901.690	70,498,009.130	81,536,910.820
July	10,616,311.670	71,400,009.350	82,016,321.020
August	14,606,931.750	80,518,879.770	95,125,811.520
September	12,994,102.780	78,954,645.800	91,948,748.580
October	17,993,977.190	80,524,449.020	98,518,426.210
Total	121,302,818.310	777,808,658.460	899,111,476.770

COMBINATION OF THE LIBERALS
AND PROGRESSIONISTS.

There appears to be a tolerably strong movement in favour of uniting the Liberals and Progressionists on the old platform, the overthrow of the so called "clan statesmen." We can not say what degree of earnestness the project is likely to develop. So far as a campaign against the present Cabinet is concerned, we presume that the Liberals and the Progressionists will be found in the same camp without any preliminary arrangements on either side for coöperation. But the nation is getting pretty tired, we imagine, of temporary coalitions for purely destructive purposes, and of parties differentiated by persons only, not by principles. Something more than a brief *rapprochement* of the Liberals and Progressionists is needed to convince the public that a political machine capable of running the Administration has come into existence. We should expect that an appreciation of that necessity would present itself to the minds of business men first, and such seems to be the case, for nineteen business men of Miyagi Prefecture, headed by Mr. Sato Tsunejiro, have prepared and forwarded to the branch office of the Progressionists in that prefecture the following document:—

As business men we have hitherto stood aloof from political parties, and devoted our energies to the promotion of trade and industry. But the condition of affairs at present forbids us to keep silence any longer. We desire to urge the advisability of uniting the two parties of Progressionists and Liberals. Political parties, it appears to us, are a public instrument under representative government, and are not formed for selfish purposes. The differences that keep them apart should be differences of purpose and policy. But it appears to us that the procedure of political parties in our country is sometimes dictated by personal considerations, with the result that mistakes are made in grave national affairs, the peace of the provincial communes is disturbed and the progress of trade and industry is hampered. Unless an end is put to such a state of affairs, the future of the country can be foretold. Above all, at a time like the present when so many important problems press for solution, we can not but regard it as a source of profound regret from a national point of view that parties which have the same aims and the same policies should be held asunder by mere faction squabbles. We therefore entreat that, in deference to these considerations, the two Parties should lose not a day in uniting to secure the reality of representative Government.

A similar document, which we need not translate, was drawn up by the North-Eastern League (*To-hoku Domei kai*), and another in the same sense by the North-Eastern Anti-clan League (*To-hoku Hihambatsu Domei-kai*). On receipt of these documents, the Miyagi Branch of the Progressionists held a general meeting to deliberate upon the course to be pursued. The chairman pointed out that combinations of political parties being forbidden by law, the above letters could not be received or replied to by the Progressionists as a corporate body, but might be answered by individual members. He added that a radical union of the parties would call for consideration, but a union on the basis of anti-clan policy should not be attended by any obstacles. Much discussion followed, and it was finally decided that the duty of answering the documents as well as of arranging affairs in general, should be entrusted to the Managers of the Party.

COUNT MATSUKATA AND HIS
ADVISERS.

On the 26th instant, three prominent members of the National Unionists, Messrs Motoda, Wada and Saeki, waited on the Prime Minister, who received them very civilly. They handed to him a document of great length. Count Matsukata unrolled the portentous communication, and having glanced at its closing remarks, said:—"This appears to be a very lengthy document, but I have scarcely leisure to read it accurately. From the last clause, however, I infer that its gist is to recommend my resignation. Am I right in my conjecture?" Being answered in the affirmative, Count Matsukata added:—"I have undertaken the responsibility of administering the country's affairs, and I shall go on till I fall. I am sorry to render your visit fruitless, but I can not accede to your wishes."

To the above brief and becoming reply, may be added a statement attributed by the *Yiji Shimpō* to Count Matsukata:—"I have not the smallest intention of resigning, though rumour credits me with the idea. As for my policy towards the Diet, I am firmly resolved that no unworthy means shall be employed to obtain votes. Straightforward and unimpeachable courses alone shall be pursued. The Government will act in accordance with its convictions. The measures for increased taxation shall not be laid aside merely to humour the Diet. With affairs tending to dangerous developments as is now the case in the East, we shall not hesitate to ask for 30 millions, or even 40 millions if necessary. We shall be guided by our convictions of what is right in our management of the finance and of the administration, and, avoiding everything unconstitutional, we shall appeal to the verdict of thoughtful men throughout the empire. If we can not obtain the approval of a majority in the Diet, we shall have to dissolve it, but in the event of dissolution, the local governors will be summoned to the capital before the general elections, and will be explicitly instructed that the Government intends to maintain a strictly neutral attitude; that the slightest interference must be avoided, and that every political party must be treated exactly alike." There utterances of the Premier will be universally applauded.

THE WELCOME SOCIETY'S ADVISER.

It is said that nothing contributes less to the continuity of a correspondence than that one of the parties should post his letters in a disused pump. We may add that nothing contributes less to the intelligence of criticism than that the critic should fail to read the work criticised. Of the latter fact an instance is furnished by a Kobe journalist who recommends the Welcome Society to furnish information to tourists about the character of the various hotels and the scale of legitimate charges leviable by innkeepers. That is exactly what the Society does and what it has always done. If the Kobe critic had read the second article of the *Kihin-kai's* prospectus, he would have discovered that his advice, however well intended, was somewhat superfluous.

THE CAREW CASE.

We observe that one of our Yokohama contemporaries reproduces a paragraph from a journal (or periodical?) called the *Eastern World*, which, in a sentence of a hundred and forty-nine words broken by commas only, accuses the *Saturday Review* of having been bribed to re-open the Carew case. The editor who thus breathlessly pours out his sparkling scandal is, of course, not an Englishman. No Englishman is the victim of sufficient ignorance to originate such silliness. But why are these vulgar lies re-produced in an English local newspaper? Even those most confident in the justice meted out to Mrs. Carew must find their faith shaken when they observe the extraordinary prejudice against her that sways a section of this community. Not the slightest attempt is made to controvert the arguments that have been advanced in her behalf. Not the smallest notice is taken of the extraordinary gaps in the chain of circumstantial evidence on which she was condemned. But when a leading London journal ventures to express doubt whether her guilt has been fully established, it is at once sneered at for fatuousness or reviled for ignorance. These merciful critics, to whose sympathies no appeal is made by the thought of a most unhappy lady separated for ever from her children and doomed to pass the remainder of her life in a convict prison, seem to think that the only duty of an Englishman is to stand up for the infallibility of his courts of law, and to shout down any suggestion of a possible miscarriage of justice where British Judges and British Juries are concerned. The duty of an Englishman, forsooth! It is impossible to conceive anything more thoroughly un-English. Englishmen owe the excellence of their courts and the capable administration of their laws precisely to the habits of bold scrutiny and frank judgment that have characterized them for so many generations. The bare possibility that an injustice may have been done in such a case as that of Mrs. Carew—the alleged murder of her husband, the father of her young children, by a woman who had always showed herself, to him at least, an affectionate wife and to them a fond mother—the bare possibility of such a horror must be intolerable to every Englishman, and so far from denouncing those that desire to have the question probed and tested to the utmost, he should be ready to coöperate with and assist them. But there appears to be a kind of fanatical conviction among certain folks in Far Eastern settlements that to cast any shadow of doubt on the infallibility of a British judicial tribunal is a capital sin, a supremely unpatriotic act. They are quite ready to tear to shreds the reputation of their own diplomatic officials, to accuse them of sacrificing British prestige and pursuing a ruinously craven policy; they are quite ready to copy with apparent approval the wretched lies of foreigners who accuse leading English journals of accepting bribes to defeat the ends of justice, and who pretend that money can gild the blackest sin in England, but they insist that British Judges and British Juries shall be worshipped with the blind trust that a savage reposes in his fetiches. If such men happen to be empanelled upon a jury, our reverence for "the palladium" becomes a vanishing quantity.

MR. TAKANO'S ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF.

Mr. Takano has been interviewed in Osaka by a representative of the *Kobe Herald*, and the statements made by him to his interviewer occupy a column and a half of that journal. We confess to a feeling of regret that Mr. Takano does not better appreciate the value of silence, for if he publishes many accounts of the kind furnished to our Kobe contemporary, he will fatally impair his cause. The cause itself is good. Apart from the question of the applicability of the Constitution to Formosa, the Government would have been wise had it refrained most carefully from such a measure as the removal of the Chief Judge, for everything calculated to impair public confidence in the independence of the Judiciary is to be most strenuously deprecated. Friends of Japan are consequently disposed to hope that Mr. Takano's resolute attitude and the agitation produced by his resistance to the Authorities will have the effect of finally guaranteeing judicial officials against administrative interference. They must therefore regret to find him defeating that hope by displays of indiscretion and credulity. His story of himself is briefly this:—The devotion shown by common soldiers during the war with China had made him ashamed of drawing a high salary and doing so little work as devolved on him in his capacity of chief judge at Niigata. He was glad, therefore, to accept the more arduous post of chief judge in Formosa when the appointment came. Proceeding to Tokyo, he found that Mr. Mizuno, Director of the Formosan Civil Bureau, was recommending the Government to fill the judicial posts in Formosa with *shoki no furute gurai* (men of the type of worn-out clerks). He (Mr. Takano) protested, and contended that the Constitution must be considered to be in force in the island *de jure* and *de facto*—*de jure* from the moment that the Bagan Treaty was signed, and *de facto* because the expenditures and laws for Formosa had been submitted to the Diet. He claims that his opinion prevailed. At all events, he organized a judicial system for the island. After a time, corruption in official circles reached a climax, and Baron Nogi, the Governor-General, wanted to have the offenders punished, but Judge Takano wished to defer any punitive step until evidence could be collected against the principal offenders. Matters were precipitated by the arrest of some petty delinquents, and then seizure after seizure followed in quick succession. In the course of the examinations that ensued, conclusive testimony was obtained pointing to the guilt of at least one official of *Choku-nin* rank, but at that juncture Judge Takano was abruptly summoned to Tokyo and deprived of his office. In short, he was removed in order to prevent the inconvenient disclosures that would have resulted from the uncompromising steps he had inaugurated. He then describes how he declined to respect the order of removal; how he returned to Formosa; how he was directed to quit his court peacefully; how, on his refusing to do so, he was "pulled out by brute force;" and how, on his way down to Formosa prior to these final incidents, Mr. Kirkwood was a fellow-passenger. We think it worth while to quote exactly what he says about Mr. Kirkwood:—

Mr. Kirkwood, Adviser to the Judicial Department,

went by the same ship as I did to Formosa. The Premier seems to have entrusted him with the duty of finding some pretext, though with great difficulty, for insisting that the Constitution did not hold good in Formosa. Another mission of his (Mr. Kirkwood's) was to make a tour of the island, and somehow or other to dispose foreign residents in that island, who nearly all sympathize with me, to change their attitude. This I was able to gather from his interpreter and from other sources.

Now there is one part of this story that tells powerfully in Mr. Takano's favour, if he has not fallen into any misapprehension. We mean the reason that he assigns for his dismissal. Was he really dismissed lest his continuance in office should lead to inconvenient disclosures? If so, the public will support him. But we find great difficulty in believing anything of the kind. Even though we were disposed to believe it, the credulity and want of judgment that Mr. Takano displays in this interview would make us doubt the value of his testimony. Putting aside that point for the moment, however, every thoughtful person must at once ask how the removal of the chief judge alone could have the effect of checking the judicial inquiry. There were 22 judges in Formosa, and four of them sat in the High Court with Mr. Takano. According to the latter's account, he and his four colleagues were engaged investigating the question of corruption at the time of his summons to Tokyo. It follows, then, that the other four judges, equally with Mr. Takano, were in possession of the "conclusive evidence implicating at least one official of *Choku-nin* rank." Truly we do not perceive how the removal of the chief judge alone could put an end to the inquiry, especially since Mr. Takano alleges that his colleagues also were "resolved to punish the guilty, even if the guilt was brought home to men in the upper and highest circles." Then there was the Governor-General, Baron Nogi, whom Mr. Takano describes as "a man of upright nature," who "wanted the offenders arrested" and who pressed for speedy action against them. Are we to suppose that the Governor-General also was paralysed by the removal of Mr. Takano? These are obvious reflections that force themselves upon the attention of every reasoning person. With regard to the value of Mr. Takano's testimony, we pass over his remarks about his own motives in going to Formosa, over his very incredible charge against Mr. Mizuno, over the ignorance that he displays when he alleges that conquered or ceded territory necessarily comes within the scope of the Constitution's operation, and over the strange inaccuracy of his assertion that laws applicable to the island have been submitted to the Diet when within the past few days a whole body of such laws have been promulgated without any reference whatever to the Diet. We pass over all these things and come at once to his account of Mr. Kirkwood's mission. Mr. Kirkwood's mission to Formosa has no more to do with Mr. Takano's affairs, or with the operation of the Constitution in the island, than it has to do with the depths of the craters in the moon. If Mr. Takano can be so egregiously misled as he has been in this matter, if he has so little discrimination as to credit such foolish stories, and if he is so wanting in discretion as to publish them, we fear that his inferences about the reasons of the Government's action towards himself and even about the guilt of *Choku-nin* officials must be accepted with great caution. It is very far from our wish to make a case against him, for our sympathy is strongly with the

cause for which he is fighting and we admire the courage he shows. But common sense rebels against the conclusions he asks us to accept, and he destroys his value as a witness by his evident defects of insight. If he would adhere strictly to the simple fact that, whether the Constitution be operative in Formosa or not, the particular violation of it which is involved in the arbitrary dismissal of a chief judge calls for vigorous national condemnation, he would be pleading a fine case before a sympathetic tribunal. But a few more interviews like the above will convince the public that if the Government erred in removing him, it erred almost as much in originally appointing him.

MR. ISHIGURO & MAJOR-GENERAL PALMER.

In a report published by a local contemporary with reference to the new intake for the Yokohama Water Works, we notice that Mr. Ishiguro, an engineer of the Works, claims to have recommended the site now chosen at the time when the Works were planned, and alleges that his advice was over-ruled by Major-General Palmer, the engineer-in-chief. Mr. Ishiguro adds that the selection of the site advised by him, in conjunction with Professor Burton, would have saved fifteen thousand *yen* annually, as well as an initial outlay of a hundred and sixty-five thousand *yen*. It appears to us that Mr. Ishiguro's statements must have been wrongly reported, and since Major-General Palmer can not answer these misrepresentations from the tomb, we deem it a duty to correct them. It is to be noted, in the first place, that Professor Burton had nothing whatever to do with the Yokohama Water Works originally and was not consulted about them. The reason is very simple: he had not yet arrived in Japan. We are strongly disposed to think that Mr. Ishiguro himself never visited the intake until some years after the completion of the works, and that his knowledge of the matter was obtained entirely from the plans and researches of Major-General Palmer when they went before the Home Department, to which Mr. Ishiguro then belonged. As to that, however, we can not speak with absolute certainty. What is certain is that a Dutch expert, Mr. J. de Rijke, was the consulting engineer of the Home Department at the time, and that any comments referring to the plans of the Water Works came from him. Major-General Palmer gave the fullest consideration to the question of a site for the intake. He was naturally most unwilling to resort to a pumping station, and his first idea was to have the intake on the Doshi River, at, or near, the place to which it has now been transferred. But the difficulty was that the Doshi River—which we may remark, is a mountain tributary of the main river on the banks of which Major-General Palmer reluctantly located the intake—seemed to be subject to floods of such magnitude and violence that its variations of level defied any calculations within reason. In fact, all the evidence obtainable at the time assigned to the Doshi a character of such turbulence and mutability that no engineer would have been justified in relying on the stream for the purposes of an intake. Major-General Palmer was consequently compelled to choose a site free from dangers so serious. Since the opening

of the Water Works, however, the behaviour of the Doshi has been under constant observation from the pumping station which stands in the vicinity of its junction with the main river, and the records of eight years have shown that it is by no means such an untrustworthy stream as local tradition suggested. Events may prove, of course, that local tradition was right, but the point is that the placing of the intake on the Doshi River would not have been justifiable without the experience which has been collected since Major-General Palmer planned the works. We may add that no engineering enterprise of the kind having ever before been undertaken in Japan it does not appear probable that any Japanese engineer can have been competent to express an opinion such as Mr. Ishiguro, erroneously we imagine, is supposed to claim the credit of having advanced.

A Japanese engineer, Mr. Ishiguro, has seen fit to publicly claim for himself knowledge superior to that possessed by the late Major-General Palmer. His statement is that whereas he, in conjunction with Professor Burton, recommended a certain position for the intake of the Yokohama Water Works, Major-General Palmer over-ruled them, and chose a site which needlessly entailed not only an immediate outlay of over a hundred and sixty thousand *yen*, but also a yearly expenditure of some fifteen thousand *yen*. Mr. Ishiguro made this statement to a reporter of the *Japan Gazette* on the occasion of a recent celebration connected with a change in the site of the intake. That such a statement would never have been made had Major-General Palmer been alive, is practically certain. That it is a gross violation of the rules of professional etiquette observed among gentlemen, is absolutely certain. In view of these considerations, it seemed to us probable that Mr. Ishiguro had been misunderstood by the reporter. Such a hypothesis was far more conceivable than the idea that any engineer should have behaved with so scant courtesy towards a deceased colleague. The *Japan Gazette* declares, however, that Mr. Ishiguro's statement was made in writing and in the English language. On Mr. Ishiguro, then, rests the responsibility, for it would be idle to remind a newspaper like the *Japan Gazette* of the elementary principle that the memory of a distinguished Englishman ought not to be publicly traduced on the evidence of a Japanese who has not established any title to public confidence. So far as we are concerned, our hope that Mr. Ishiguro might be found to have been wrongly reported proves delusive. That is to be regretted for Mr. Ishiguro's sake, but it has nothing whatever to do with the accuracy of his allegations. It shows simply that he made the allegations. Yet so unjust are the local evening newspapers towards Major-General Palmer that the *Japan Gazette*, which published the libel, dismisses our explicit refutation of it as mere "copy," and the *Japan Herald* attempts to discredit our explanation by showing that we were mistaken in charitably conjecturing the possibility of Mr. Ishiguro's having been misrepresented.

Professor Burton had not yet come to Japan at the time when a site for the intake of the Yokohama Water Works was chosen. Mr. Ishiguro consequently fell into an error when he coupled Professor Burton's name with his own

alleged recommendation about the intake. Mr. J. de Ryke was at that time the foreign adviser of the Home Department, which had ultimate control of the enterprise. We therefore wrote:—"What is certain is that a Dutch engineer, Mr. J. de Ryke, was the consulting engineer of the Home Department at the time, and that any comments referring to the plans of the Water Works came from him." We did not say that comments had actually come from Mr. de Ryke. Our meaning was that if any comments were made, Mr. de Ryke, not Professor Burton, was the person to make them. Mr. J. de Ryke now writes to a contemporary:—"I never had anything to do with the Yokohama Water Works, and never have seen the intakes or the Doshi-gawa." We need scarcely point out that this disclaimer does not improve Mr. Ishiguro's position. He has now to show who the foreigner was that he confounds with Professor Burton. With regard to the general question, we may explain that Major-General Palmer was living in the house of the editor of this journal at the time of planning the Yokohama Water Works, that the subject of the intake was frequently discussed, and that the editor visited the site in company with Major-General Palmer. One would suppose that the desire of English local newspapers should be to guard the reputation of a distinguished fellow-countryman against aspersions of the nature in question, but the principles obeyed by Yokohama journalists are not to be gauged by any recognised standards of morality or patriotism.

TENURE OF LAND BY FOREIGNERS IN JAPAN.

One might be tempted to suppose, were such an idea conceivable, that a conspiracy exists among a certain number of foreign local journalists to shut their eyes, and induce the public also to shut their eyes, to the provisions of Japanese law applicable to foreigners after the Revised Treaties go into operation. The *Kobe Chronicle's* latest remarks on the subject of the tenure of land illustrate our meaning:—

Unless leases for a minimum term of fifty years can be obtained, the right to engage in manufactures and industrial undertakings, granted to foreigners by the new Treaties, will be to a large extent illusory. We understand this question, with others of a similar nature, has recently been under the consideration of the British Foreign Office, and now that Sir Ernest Satow has returned to Japan, something may be done in the direction of making the advantages obtained by a surrender of extra-territoriality of a more solid and substantial character than is promised by the somewhat vaguely-worded provisions of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty. It is certainly very important that a stand should be made against any restrictions by secret instructions to officials of rights conferred either by the present Treaties, or by those soon to come into force, and it is to be hoped the matter will form the subject of close investigation by the Foreign Representatives.

We need scarcely remark that when "secret instructions to officials" are brought upon the tapis, the question is removed from the realm of intelligent discussion into the sphere of suspicion and conjecture, whither we shall not attempt to follow it. As to the law, however, and the terms fixed by it for land-leasing, the whole subject was discussed exhaustively more than a year ago in connexion with Dr. Lönholm's synopsis of the New Japanese Civil Code. There ought, indeed, to have been no room for discussion. From the point of view of logic and reason, there was no room. But the doubters appeared to have resolved from the

outset that their own fancies must be substituted for the terms of the law which they undertook to discuss, and to deal exhaustively with their fancies demanded some space and involved some trouble. We nevertheless undertook the task, because it seemed important that the foreign residents should not be misled about a matter so closely concerning their industrial and commercial prospects after 1899. With apologies to our readers, we reproduce here one paragraph from our columns of October 1896, which sets forth the gist of the law in clear terms:—

The Civil Code, according to the interpretation of a thoroughly competent German expert, who has himself translated it from the original Japanese, creates a right called "superficies," which right foreigners will enjoy after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. A "superficiary" is a person who has acquired a title to occupy and use the land of another, for the purpose of erecting buildings or planting trees on it, such buildings and trees becoming the actual property of the superficiesary. As to the time of occupation, it may either be indefinite or fixed. If indefinite, the occupant may surrender his title whenever he pleases, subject to certain provisions concerning rent; moreover, either the occupant or owner, should the conditions of tenure prove practically irksome to either, may apply to a law court to have the period of occupation limited, and the court, on receipt of such application, is competent to fix the period at not less than twenty years and not more than fifty. If, on the other hand, the owner and the superficiesary agree at the outset to fix a period of occupation, they are perfectly free, so far as the Civil Code is concerned, to put that period at any number of years they please.

Surely it becomes almost phenomenal that, with access to perfectly clear information like the above, local journalists should still talk of the illusory character imparted to foreign manufacturing enterprise in Japan by the impossibility of obtaining land under a fifty years' lease. The law is there in black on white. Why do they not consult the law instead of clinging to a delusion long since exploded?

In this context we may note an interesting fact, namely, that a reaction has begun to manifest itself among educated Japanese against the restrictions hitherto imposed by public opinion on the ownership of land by foreigners and on their participation in the development of the country's industries. It is not easy, of course, to produce chapter and verse corroborating such a conviction, but the indications can not be mistaken by any one that has means of ascertaining the trend of general thought. In the years immediately preceding the war, the persistent reluctance of foreign nations to admit Japan to their comity created among the Japanese a morbid feeling of umbrage which gradually extended into every sphere, political, commercial, industrial, and educational, producing an unreasoning aversion to foreign aid or interference in any form. Then, when a victorious war suddenly raised the country to an unexpectedly high position among the Powers of the world, there naturally grew up a mood of over-weening self-confidence, and, at the same time, the large sums of money distributed among the lower-middle and lower classes, as well as the artificial stimulus that enterprise and speculation always receive at such times, helped to convince the people that they had no need either of foreign capital or foreign coöperation. But, on the one hand, Western States have abandoned their attitude of exclusion, and, on the other, the receding tide of unreal prosperity and fictitious affluence is now beginning to lay bare the hard facts of the situation, so that thinking men perceive that material expansion without capital is not more possible in Japan than it is anywhere else,

and that capital must be sought abroad. Whichever of these reasons be chiefly responsible for the wholesome change, we deem it certain that a more liberal sentiment is growing up with reference to foreign ownership of land and foreign exploitation of Japanese industries. There has, of course, been a great deal of very thoughtless and very silly writing on this subject; writing certainly not calculated to soften Japan's prejudices. It has been contended, for example, that the Revised Treaties embody a one-sided arrangement, inasmuch as the Japanese, while themselves enjoying the privilege of owning land in Occidental countries, withhold that privilege from every Occidental subject or citizen in their own country. Persons possessing any knowledge of such matters will not require to be told that the ownership of land by aliens is not permitted by all Occidental States, and that if, in certain cases, Japan can be charged with lack of reciprocity, in others she is only doing as she is done by. She ought, however, to emulate the example of the most liberal instead of deriving precedents from the narrowness of the least enlightened. Her whole experience of the foreign merchant and manufacturer shows conclusively that, while he does not work for love or set too low a price on his own capacities, incomparably the larger part of the fruits of his labour goes into Japanese pockets or inures to Japanese advantage. Whatever capital, intelligence or energy he can be induced to devote to the development of Japanese industries, is so much solid gain for Japan. The industries are hers and can not be taken away from her. Nobody inquires how much foreign money or how much foreign enterprise has contributed to build the huge fabric of British manufactures. They are British manufactures and they constitute a factor of British wealth—that is all that concerns Englishmen to know. The Japanese, we are glad to think, have begun to regard these questions in a manner consistent with the spirit of their modern progress.

ARMAMENTS EXPANSION AND THE BUDGET.

Supposing that the Budget for 1898-9 is thrown out by the House of Representatives next session—supposing that it does not "come into existence," as the Constitution says—the question that people are asking somewhat anxiously is, what will become of the Armaments Expansion Programme. The Constitution provides that, in such a case, the Budget of the preceding year shall be again adopted. But the expenditures contemplated for the expansion of the army and navy fall under the "extraordinary" section, and it has never been suggested that when the Budget of the preceding year is re-adopted under the circumstances we are now conjecturing, its extraordinary appropriations may be repeated in the same way as its ordinary. In opposition to such a course there is the general principle that the object of giving the Government power to adopt the Budget of the preceding year is merely to provide means for carrying on the ordinary business of the Administration; and there is the consideration that extraordinary expenditures are usually incurred on account of some special objects limited to the year for which the appropriations are made. We read in the *Fiji Shimpō*, however,

that the official view of this question is very definite. The Finance Department holds that the Diet has already passed the Expansion Programme *en bloc*, and that the outlays to be made from year to year until the end of the term are in the nature of "continuing expenditures," which do not require to be re-voted unless some change is desired to be made in them. That theory disposes of the difficulty effectually. The total expenditures on account of Armaments Expansion during the fiscal year 1897-8 are 80,645,721 yen, and the expenditures during 1898-9 are to be 63,256,225 yen.

DARING ROBBERY IN SENDAI.

There are some facts of a very startling nature that do not reach the ears of newspaper correspondents. Such is the incident we are about to relate. In October, 1890, the house of Rev. W. E. Hoy, of Sendai, was entered in the middle of the night by three armed men, who ordered him to open his money safe and allow them to take its contents, which amounted to 7,000 yen. Seeing that resistance was hopeless, he complied with their demand. It will scarcely be believed, however, that Mr. Hoy for over six years kept the robbery a profound secret, not even telling his wife of the terrible experience that he had undergone, and heroically bearing the loss without a murmur. Until last year he acted as the treasurer of his mission. The large sum of money stolen was to have been devoted to the building of a Mission School. The erection of the school was not interrupted by the misfortune, and the handsomest brick building in Sendai, the Tohokugakuin, was opened without a hitch of any kind, Mr. Hoy having borrowed money to make up the loss. Last year, however, before leaving for America, he had to hand over his books and affairs to the Rev. S. S. Snyder, and it became necessary to inform the latter of what had happened. This gentleman considered it his duty to acquaint the Mission Board with the whole affair. The Board held a special meeting at Harrisburgh, Pa., to consider the question, and by a unanimous vote took the following action:—

"Whereas, It has recently come to the knowledge of the Board that funds in the hands of Rev. W. E. Hoy, amounting to 7,000 yen and belonging to our mission in Sendai, were violently taken from his possession by armed robbers at night in October, 1890; therefore,

Resolved, That the loss which the mission sustained through the robbery of Rev. W. E. Hoy, as treasurer of the mission, be assumed and paid by this Board.

Resolved, That the treasurer be authorised to ascertain of Rev. W. E. Hoy the amount of the loss and pay the same.

Resolved, That a full statement of the case be made by the officers of this Board to the church, together with the action of the Board in the premises."

For the above particulars as well as for Mr. Hoy's letter herewith appended we are indebted to the *Christian World* of September 30th.

Sendai, Japan, May 19th, 1897.

Dear Dr. Callender,—Your sympathetic letter of April 22nd reached me this morning. I wish I might remain silent. Of the mission, Mrs. Hoy, Brother Schneider, Brother Gerhard, Dr. Moore, and Brother Layder, are the only ones, I think, who are aware of my misfortune; and in America a few confidential friends bear the matter on their minds. Mrs. Hoy was the first to be told of the affair, and that not till Feb., 1896. The facts are few, but they remain burned deep into my mind.

In October, 1890, one day, late at night, I heard

the familiar call, *Yubin*—mail—at the front door. As usual, without a thought of danger, I went to the door. There stood three masked men, each with the deadly Japanese sword thrust into close proximity with my head and breast. They demanded access to the mission safe. Refusal must mean death, and even obedience might mean the same fate. Nervous as I naturally would be under such circumstances, it took me some time to work the safe combination. During this ordeal I expected to be cut down any moment. After the door was opened the robbers soon helped themselves to the 7,000 yen—partly building fund, and partly mission funds, which I had placed there in various sums from time to time, as at that time there was a general scare about the banks in Japan. The men left without doing me any harm. Then, there I sat for hours before the safe. Words fail me to describe my feelings. For years I had toiled so hard and sacrificed so much for our school, and now in a moment all hope was gone. What would the Mission say? What would the Board be able to do? What effect would this loss have upon the church at home? And so on. At last I cried out, "Oh Lord, put the burden on me. Put the burden on me. The work must not suffer. I will bear the burden."

Thus for nearly seven years I have laboured on, and it has not been without its blessing. For some time I have realised the blessing of unreserved service to God. As my wife, several dear friends, and now the Board, assure me that it is not right for me to go on alone in this matter, I reluctantly give these facts. As to the exact sum to cover it all in gold, I cannot answer accurately. At the time exchange averaged about 80. This would make the 7,000 yen \$5,600 gold. But that does not express the real amount I have used to gradually reduce the sum, because since that time exchange has varied very much—once falling to .47. For some time it has been from .51 to .63. Just now it is .50. So the 7,000 yen just now would mean only \$3,500 gold. I have worked off all but about 2,000 yen, or as exchange runs about \$1,000 gold.

Your offer to help me and to reimburse me is certainly very kind, but, dear Doctor, if these facts should bring any obstacle whatever to the income and work of the Board I had rather toil on alone. The effect may be injurious to the cause, if you make the affair public; for, without discriminating, people may cry out, "Oh, the Japanese are not to be trusted," especially in the light of the Doshisha, and of our own present troubles in the evangelistic work. Consider first the good of the cause. I am not afraid to tread the wine-press alone. I see the end of it all. Be sure the work as now constituted will be carried on before you think of me.

Sincerely yours,

W. E. HOY.

There is a certain similarity between the above case and that of the ill-fated Dr. Large, who was killed in one of the residences attached to the Methodist Mission in Tokyo during the night of April 4-5th, 1890. The ostensible purpose of Mr. Large's assassins was burglary. Doubts were subsequently suggested as to their real motive, one suspicion being that they sought the life of Mrs. Large on account of some complications in connexion with the management of the girls' school over which she presided. But there has never been any solid reason to set up a theory other than that indicated by the conduct of the murderers themselves. They intended to rob the safe, in which there happened at that moment to be a sum of nearly seven hundred yen. They tied up the watchman and threatened to kill him unless he handed over the keys of the safe. The watchman having explained that the keys were in Mr. Large's keeping, and having indicated the latter's sleeping chamber, the burglars proceeded thither, and entered the room with drawn swords. It is the custom of Japanese burglars to carry their swords unsheathed when they possess such weapons, their idea being that the sight of the naked blade is calculated to intimidate and prevent resistance. As the two men entered the bed-room, Mrs. Large awoke, sat up and asked what was the matter. Immediately afterwards Mr. Large awoke also,

and springing up, rushed at the intruders. There was no interval of parley, no opportunity for intimidation. The burglars suddenly found themselves confronted by a desperately brave man who came at them open-handed but with all the strength and confidence that the best armour and the most effective arms could have inspired. Thenceforth it was simply a struggle on Mr. Large's part to seize the robbers, on theirs to disable or kill him. The end was inevitable. Mr. Large received eleven wounds, four of a fatal character, and his murderers made good their escape. In all this there is nothing to suggest that the original purpose of the two men was anything but robbery. Had they found only the timid obedience generally shown by unarmed persons in the presence of deadly weapons, there would not have been any killing. Their first impulse was to retreat, and it appeared from the evidence collected at the time that had not Mr. Large persisted in pursuing and attempting to grapple with them, he would have escaped unscathed, always supposing that he had been willing to give up the keys of the safe and, perhaps, to open it. We refer to the Large tragedy at this length because we are strongly tempted to suspect that the perpetrators of the Sendai burglary and the assassins of Mr. Large are identical. The two events were separated by an interval of six months only, and the methods in each case were singularly similar. Burglary with intimidation can scarcely be called uncommon in Japan, but burglary with intimidation where foreigners are the victims is limited, we think, to the two cases now under consideration, that of Mr. Large in April 1890 and that of Mr. Hoy in October of the same year. That fact alone would suggest a connexion between the two incidents. But there are other points of resemblance. In each case the treasurer of a mission was the victim. Is it not a fair inference that the burglars had some special relations with missionaries, and that they thus acquired knowledge enabling them to discriminate between the ordinary missionary, whose money-box is the last place in the world to attract a thief, and the missionary who happens to be in charge of mission funds? Then again the timeliness of the two crimes is remarkable. As a general rule the safe at the Methodist Mission in Tokyo would not have been worth robbing. But on the night of April 4th, 1890, it happened to contain the fees paid in by the scholars during the preceding three days. The burglars must have been well aware of that fact. In the Sendai case, although doubts as to the security of Japanese banks induced Mr. Hoy to keep in the safe a sum probably of such dimensions as to be always tempting, it chanced that a large part of the money lying there when the burglary took place would have been paid out on the following day. Thus the accuracy shown by the burglars in selecting their opportunity seems to indicate collusion with some of the *employés* of the Mission, and the same may be asserted with equal confidence in the Tokyo case. That the two incidents are not connected appears difficult to believe. From that point of view we think that Mr. Hoy's silence was singularly regrettable. Had he communicated the facts at once to the police, it is very possible that they might have obtained the very clue for want of which the apprehension of Mr. Large's murderers could not be effected. Indeed, from no

point of view is his silence defensible. To say nothing of the suspicions to which it will certainly expose the unfortunate gentleman himself, it evinced a singular indifference to public duty, since the immunity thus ensured for the burglars was more than likely to prompt fresh crimes. Even at this distant date, however, it is not impossible that the Sendai incidents may put the police on the track of the Large assassins.

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS IN TOKYO.

The vernacular press has a good deal to say about the three companies which are competing for the privilege of laying electric street-railways in Tokyo. There is the Ame-Kei clique, whose head is Mr. Amenomiya; there is the Fukuzawa clique and there is the Yoshida clique. The three may be said to have now joined forces, and various stories are told about the ways in which they came together, but we do not discover anything either interesting or extraordinary in the tales. The gist of the matter has been a partition of shares. Of course the shares will be very valuable: a 100-yen share may be expected to sell for 300 yen even before the cars are running. There is one obstacle, or possible, obstacle, namely, that the City Assembly may give permission for the building of ordinary street railways. We do not perceive that the prospect need greatly perturb the electric-car projectors, for there can be little doubt as to which system would command public patronage. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, however, attributes to the Ame-Kei clique the intention of allotting three thousand shares to 30 members of the Assembly in order to prevent them from passing the railway bill. It ought to be mentioned that the same paper and other Opposition journals endeavour to connect Viscount Takashima in a discreditable manner with the electric-car project, and the whole business is thus enveloped in an unwholesome atmosphere, fictitious or genuine.

BRIbery IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

If a writer, having laid against the male residents of Yokohama the charge that they habitually go about naked, were to justify his accusation subsequently by pleading that some of them sometimes transact business in their shirt-sleeves, he would scarcely be accounted a person of very accurate deductions. The *Kobe Chronicle* takes pretty much the line of such a writer. A few months ago, it declared that "scarcely a single transaction takes place in Japan, from the sale of merchandise to appointment to official position, without squeezes being expected and paid," and that "the employment of bribery in the House of Representatives provokes stormy discussion only when all do not get their share." In other words, it laid against all Japanese merchants, all Japanese officials, and all Japanese members of the Lower House a charge of corruption. And now it finds justification for its wholesale accusation in the fact that a section of the Liberal Party are supposed to have "ratted" last session in consideration of monies paid to them by the Cabinet.

Another bad habit of the *Kobe* journal is the use to which it applies an opponent's

assertion. Recently, Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, a member of the Lower House, addressing a meeting of fellow-journalists and fellow-representatives, charged the Cabinet with bribing members, and as the meeting tacitly endorsed the allegation, we inferred that reason existed for the charge. The *Kobe Chronicle* "congratulates our contemporary on its conversion, seeing that it is only a few weeks since, commenting on inferences to a similar effect drawn by ourselves, it declared that 'such accusations do not require refutation.'" Yes, we did employ the words "such accusations do not require refutation," but we did not by any means employ them in the sense now alleged by the *Kobe Chronicle*. We employed them explicitly with reference to a charge that "the whole House of Representatives is corrupt." Our *ipsissima verba* were:—"We fail to see how the *Kobe Chronicle's* paragraph can be read except as an assertion that the whole House of Representatives is corrupt; that provided all the members get their share of a bribe, no protest is raised against bribery. * * * Such accusations do not require refutation." So, then, according to the *Kobe Chronicle's* logic, to admit that some members of the House may have been bribed is to be converted to the belief that the whole House is corrupt. It becomes a sort of philanthropic duty to warn our contemporary that it will do itself a serious injury in public estimation unless it tries to be more ingenuous. People do not care for controversial chicanery as an every-day dish: it palls upon the palate. They tolerate it now and then, just as they will sometimes visit a tent to see a juggling performance, but for common work-a-day existence they don't want butterfly tricks and thimble-rigging all the time.

THE SOCIAL EVIL IN JAPAN.

In publishing a letter from Mr. C. E. Garst on the above subject in our issue of the 1st instant, we were content to append a foot note expressing strong dissent from the figures quoted by him with reference to the number of prostitutes and *geisha* in Japan. Since, however, Mr. Garst's views are the views of a writer whose contributions to economical science lead us to expect some evidence of accuracy and reflection when he undertakes to deal with statistics, we do not feel justified in dismissing his criticisms with a mere note of exclamation. To us, indeed, who have devoted some attention to the subject, the error of his figures is at once apparent, but others may be disposed to accept with less scrutiny the arithmetic of a man conspicuous for love of calculation and analysis. To save such persons from being misled we propose to discuss the matter a little more fully. Mr. Garst writes as follows:—

As to the number of prostitutes in Japan, has the Editor of the *Japan Mail* ever read, "How is the Social Evil regulated in Japan"? The author seems to have studied the question. He calculates the regular licensed prostitutes at 500,000, and adds to this, at least a million *daruma* and *meshimori*, and 500,000 *geisha*, making a total of about 2,000,000, or 10 per cent of the female population of all ages of the entire country. I do not know about the quantity in other countries, but if the above doesn't fill one with horror, nothing will.

It would be a small matter, of course, that Mr. Garst, or any writer on Japan, should be misled by the figures of an investigator who has had the courage to challenge con-

tradition by publishing a book. But when the figures are of such a nature as to be absolutely startling, and when the most superficial examination shows them to be monstrously absurd, Mr. Garst's responsibility in accepting them and republishing them with apparent endorsement, becomes only a degree less than the responsibility of their original compiler. We have never seen the work entitled "How is the Social Evil regulated in Japan," but the extract selected by Mr. Garst, is quite sufficient to prove the worthlessness of the publication. Mr. Garst himself is a little astounded when he discovers that the estimate of two million prostitutes and dancing girls means one in every ten of the female population of all ages in Japan. But even that discovery does not make him pause. He, a statistician and economist, the apostle of the "single tax" doctrine, a man accustomed to put himself before the public as an expert in figures, finds no difficulty in accepting the idea that for every nine virtuous, decently living females in Japan, babies, children, mothers and grandmothers, there is one adult woman that lives by the wages of sin. We should not have imagined that the veriest tyro in statistics could have failed to look a little more deeply into a conclusion involving such an ethical curiosity. The first question that any ordinarily careful man would ask himself must be, how many females are there in Japan of ages adapted for the profession of prostitute or dancing girl, and how many males are there in Japan of ages adapted for consideration in this context. There is no difficulty whatever in making these calculations. We should have imagined, indeed, that Mr. Garst, who busies himself with problems of taxation and population in Japan, would already have made the calculations and would have been quite familiar with the results. There are 6,754,207 males in Japan from 18 to 45 years of age, and there are 7,845,538 females from 15 to 40. Thus, according to the figures accepted so implicitly by Mr. Garst, there is nearly one prostitute or *geisha* for every three men in Japan, and there is more than one woman living a life of shame for every three women that lead a decent life. It appears to us that Mr. C. S. Garst and the author of "How is the Social Evil regulated in Japan" may fairly claim the honour of being the most courageous statisticians that have ever addressed themselves to the public. Their credulity is beyond comment. Two million prostitutes and *geisha* represent a greater number than the total populations of the three cities, Tokyo, Osaka and Kyoto. Mr. Garst believes that if the prostitutes and *geisha* were collected from all parts of Japan the three capital cities of the empire would not suffice to contain them! What adds to the wonder of such silliness is that accurate, or, at any rate, fairly accurate, statistics are accessible to everybody. The total number of *geisha* in Japan is 55,359 and the total number of prostitutes, 114,430. Thus the aggregate is 169,789. It is a large number in itself, but by no means a large number in comparison with the figures for other countries. Besides, many persons will be disposed to question the justice of grouping the *geisha* with the prostitutes. Certainly a large proportion of them should not be so grouped. We need not discuss that point here, however.

Mr. Garst denies that when Colonel Bacon discussed this matter he "was

making comparisons between countries." Our original correspondent, "A Missionary," describing Colonel Bacon's speeches said:—"Notably he rebuked most fearlessly the shameful prevalence of the social evil." If that does not mean that Colonel Bacon declared the social evil to be conspicuously prevalent in Japan, it certainly suggests such a meaning and no other. Knowing that, in point of arithmetic, the social evil is no worse in Japan than it is in any Western country, and believing that Colonel Bacon had been sufficiently conscientious to ascertain the facts before he undertook to discuss them publicly, we imagined that the "shameful prevalence" of which he spoke, referred to the licensing of prostitution and to the peculiar conditions under which it is carried on in Japan. But it now appears that Mr. Garst was his companion on the tours of investigation which revealed such a shocking state of affairs, and we must therefore assume that Colonel Bacon shared Mr. Garst's remarkable faith in the two millions of abandoned women. He might well talk of "shameful prevalence" if he believed anything so prodigious. As for Mr. Garst himself, if he knows anything at all about the subject, he must know that two millions of abandoned women in a country of forty million inhabitants is phenomenal, unprecedented. We do not know how long he has been in Japan, but a directory of 1886 contains his name, so that he must have been here in 1885. Now he writes:—"The shameless exhibitions in the Yoshiwara and at Nagoya are things that almost petrified me when I first saw them a few weeks ago." It appears, therefore, that this "shamefully prevalent" social evil remained absolutely hidden from Mr. Garst's observation for twelve years. As a missionary, he must have been going about here and there among the people, yet he saw nothing of the social evil for twelve years, and would apparently never have seen it at all had he not gone to look for it. Is there no inference to be drawn from that fact? It seems to us that there is. It seems to us that the Japanese system must at least be credited with the advantage of not thrusting itself on the observation of any one unless he goes out of his way to observe it. Can the same be said of the social evil in any Occidental country? Mr. Garst speaks, however, of "the shameless exhibitions" that he witnessed. What were these "shameless exhibitions?" He saw a number of women, beautifully dressed, sitting in a row, talking, reading or possibly warming their hands at braziers; women behaving with perfect modesty. Apart from the purpose of their presence, not the smallest fault could be found with them; "shameless exhibition" appears to us a misleading term. Especially is it misleading when Mr. Garst couples it with denunciation of the "quality" of the Japanese prostitute. We are not entirely clear as to his meaning, but if he refers to the unhappy women themselves, he is very greatly mistaken. A few inquiries will convince him that a Japanese female condemned to lead a life of shame, manages with wonderful success to preserve herself from moral degradation except in so far as her very calling involves it, and maintains, with rare exceptions, a degree of modesty that deserves to be applauded.

We must ask Mr. Garst not to misunderstand the position we take in this matter.

It is not for one instant our purpose to deny that there are terrible abuses in Japan, and that earnest men like Mr. Garst and his fellow-workers may do much good by their efforts to effect reforms. Our own firm conviction is that the licensing of prostitution is the only sound system. We are further persuaded that the Japanese plan of relegating the evil to remote quarters of the cities and confining it there, is excellent. But the method of ranging handsomely apparelled women in rows behind latticed windows to be gazed at from the street is indefensible, and should be interdicted. Mr. Garst probably entertains a different opinion about the whole question. He may be right and we may be wrong. But assuredly he will never accomplish anything with the Japanese so long as he shows himself palpably unacquainted with the conditions of the problem as they exist in this country.

THE INSURANCE QUESTION.

Once more the insurance question troubles this community. The insurance agencies have combined to raise their rates, and of course they have the public at their mercy. In Kobe, also, complaints are heard. A correspondent of one of the Kobe journals draws a contrast between the excited protests penned and uttered when the Japanese washermen combined to increase their charges by fifty per cent., and the tame submission with which the conduct of the insurance clique is received. In Yokohama, however, there is a revolt. Some public-spirited men have invited fellow-thinkers to meet, and devise a scheme for becoming their own insurers. A few years ago, a similar effort was made by owners of Bluff property, but it failed to mature. The difficulties that stood in the way then will be equally formidable on this occasion, we imagine. A majority of the leading firms are agents for insurance companies and will, of course, set their faces resolutely against private competition of the kind contemplated. Yet there is unquestionably room for independent action. The case of the Meiji Fire Insurance of Tokyo shows what can be effected with a small capital and humble beginnings. The Company was established eight years ago with a capital of a million *yen*, two hundred and fifty thousand being paid up. Its statement of accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1896—the latest in our possession—showed that the premia collected during the year amounted to 217,210 *yen*; that the dividend paid was 10 per cent.; that 174,000 *yen* was carried forward and 67,000 added to the Reserve; that the company's investments and assets aggregated 584,000 *yen*, and that its expenses of management for the year had been 16,082 *yen*. That is the record of a company which works at rates presumably based on Western schedules. At all events it is a company ready to accept risks on foreign-owned houses and stores at the rates which the foreign companies now find too low. We do not understand the situation. Evidently the foreign agencies do not entertain any apprehension of Japanese competition, and, so far as we can learn, the Japanese companies have no particular desire to compete.

LESSONS IN MORALITY.

SOME lovely lessons in international morality are being preached in connexion with the Kiaochow incident. On all sides the worst possible aspect is attributed to Germany's procedure and the most preposterous defences are then put forward to justify acts of which we have no right to assume her guilt. So far as we know, the situation is simply this:—Two German subjects were massacred in Shantung; Germany demanded that certain measures of redress should be taken by the Peking Government; not obtaining immediate satisfaction, and being amply warned by the experience of other Powers that ordinary processes of diplomatic negotiation are futile in bringing China to book, she sent a naval squadron to seize the nearest port to the scene of the outrage, and she is now occupying that port as a guarantee for the execution of justice by the Chinese Authorities. That is the only view of the case that we have any right to take. There is some difficulty in understanding how negotiations with Peking can have preceded the seizure of Kiaochow, but the dates, as we have them, are not absolutely inconsistent with that sequence of events, and most assuredly unless we possessed incontrovertible evidence of the fact, we should be uttering a gross slander did we accuse Germany of having forcibly seized the territory of a friendly Power in time of peace without any manner of warning. The practical recognition of such a principle of action would at once put an end to the peace and security of international relations. It would expose every State to have its possessions plundered at the caprice of any other State which deemed itself strong enough to engage in depredations. The nature of the pretext would be entirely a secondary consideration, for if the aggressing Power is not to be under any obligation to formulate its grievance before having recourse to an armed raid, the quality of the grievance descends to about the same rank as that occupied by honour in *Joseph Surface's* conference with *Lady Teasle*. It is incredible that Germany should have set any example of that kind, but her alleged admirers have no hesitation whatever in believing that she has done so, neither does it seem to them at all libellous to assume that the murder of two of her missionaries by a party of bandits or fanatics in a remote region of China has been seized by Germany as an opportunity to consummate an act of territorial aggrandisement which, without a particle of right, she had for some time been endeavouring to accomplish in spite of the Chinese Government's natural reluctance to have its property annexed by a foreign Power. If these things were laid to Germany's charge by hostile writers of alien nationality, fair-minded people

would simply have to repudiate them as gross slanders under existing circumstances. But the curious point is that they do not take the form of accusations. They are recited as fine and proper performances; acts entirely consistent with the duty of Occidental States in their dealings with the Orient, and they are justified by arguments so pretty, so ingenuous, that we beg our readers to consider them briefly. Thus, one of the international moralists says:—"It is evident that Germany struck first and explained after, just as the Japanese did with the *Kowshing*, and no doubt Germany will be equally successful in finding eminent professors of International Law to prove that the novel is not necessarily the illegal." Was ever such a wild analogy set up before by a sane writer? The relations between Japan and China had long been strained to the verge of rupture; the question directly in dispute was China's arbitrary interference in Korean affairs; Japan duly warned China that if the latter sent any further re-inforcements to her troops in Korea, the act would be regarded as an open declaration of hostilities; China sent re-inforcements, and Japan, intercepting the ship that carried them, sunk it. There never was the slightest question about Japan's right to prevent the reinforcement of an army evidently destined for use against herself, above all after she had given notice of an intention to prevent it. The only question was whether, in deference to the British flag which the hired transport flew, her sinking was justifiable. And that is the incident quoted as a parallel for the seizure of a friendly Power's territory in time of peace without warning of any kind! It is not surprising to find that the same moralist is quite content to conclude that "the German Authorities have long been premeditating a blow, and that the murder of the missionaries formed a convenient pretext." "The German Authorities have long been premeditating a blow." A blow for what? What has China done to deserve a "blow"? Nothing whatever. Her sole fault is that she happens to own territory which other Powers would be pleased to possess. A pretty character to assign to one of the most civilized Powers of Europe, and a pretty insight this interpreter of German's conduct gives us of his own moral standards. Still, we doubt whether ever that *exposé* of the motives supposed to guide European nations is quite so striking as the following, which we quote from another local contemporary:—

By making war on the neighbouring empire on the preposterous pretence of "securing the peace of the East," which was so much dinned into our ears at the time the Japanese hostilities were in progress, it is probable that no more effectual means could have been taken to breed a future crop of trouble than the all too successful effort of Japan to conquer China, the result being to convince the world that the latter, by its weakness, offers itself an easy prey to the spoiler. * * * * But after what we have witnessed with respect

to Japan's expulsion from the Liaotung Peninsula by a confederacy of three only of the European Powers, any participation of Japan in the general scramble is not likely to be permitted by these and other nations which will be then interested.

Now had Japan curbed its ambition and its cupidity by refraining from making war on China, the feebleness of the latter to defend itself against outward attacks would not have been so completely exposed as to invite aggression.

The writer of the above is a most unhappy victim of the anti-Japanese mania, and much allowance must be made for him on the score of his malady. Incapable of resisting the temptation to abuse Japan, he yields to it even though it betrays him into a wholesale slander of European Powers. He naïvely writes down all Western States as bandits whose plundering propensities are restrained solely by the dread of inconvenient resistance on the part of their victim. Let them be once assured of a victim's inability to struggle, and they will proceed to despoil him without delay or compunction. Japan, in fair warfare, demonstrated China's weakness. If other Powers profit by the demonstration and tear China to pieces, not they but Japan is to blame. A most ingenuous proposition! The spectators at a fight, perceiving that one of the combatants does not possess the thews hitherto accredited to him, go in, after the combat, steal his goods and cut his throat. Not theirs the fault, however. The sole sinner is the wretched sufferer's original antagonist. If he had not proved the other fellow's weakness, no one would have been irresistibly tempted to resort to knifing and robbing.

ENGLAND IN THE EAST.

AS a rule the Tokyo newspapers, in commenting on the present crisis in China's affairs, place Great Britain entirely outside the complication. Some speak of collusion between Germany and Russia; some of an understanding between France, Germany and Russia, but with the exception of the *Fiji Shimpō* we have not found that any vernacular journal suggests complicity on the part of England. The exception is important, however, for the *Fiji Shimpō* is the most influential newspaper in Japan, and what it says many persons will believe. The suggestion to which we allude is not, indeed, advanced editorially by the *Fiji*: it is put forward, as the view "said to be taken by Japanese and foreign observers." But that does not detract from its weight; rather adds to it, on the contrary. Great Britain, according to this estimate, has entered into an agreement with Russia and Germany, the gist of the compact being that Germany is to take Shantung, Russia to have Liaotung, and England to appropriate whatever portions of southern China she pleases, no one of the three interfering with the designs of the other two, but rather promoting them if necessary. Perhaps we ought not to be sur-

prised however profound may be Japan's ignorance of England and her ways, seeing that even Englishmen themselves sometimes display a correspondingly stupendous want of knowledge of their own country's history and their own nation's disposition. Still we confess that we should not have looked for such a statement in the columns of the *Fiji Shimpō*, and we beg the editor of that journal to give us his attention for a moment while we explain that with difficulty could there be found any proposition more preposterous than that assigned by him to "Japanese and foreign observers." There is something positively laughable in the notion that any English statesman could be induced to enter into a compact of the kind described by our Tokyo contemporary. If Lord SALISBURY became a party to such an agreement, his reception at the hands of the British Parliament and the British public, when the fact became known, would be about the kind of reception that the Archbishop of CANTERBURY might expect if he announced that he had entered into an agreement with the POPE for the stamping out of Home Rule doctrines by establishing an Inquisition in Ireland. The *Fiji Shimpō* may reply, of course, that our assertion on such a subject is not worth more than the opinion of any one else. We admit the justice of the rejoinder, and proceed to support our position by historical facts, which are doubtless within the knowledge of our Tokyo contemporary though they seem to have escaped its memory for the moment. The Emperor NICHOLAS I. of Russia enjoyed at one time extraordinary popularity in England. He visited that country in 1844, and his splendid presence, his wonderfully winning manners, and his obviously sincere expressions of desire for a friendly alliance, produced a most favorable impression. There is little doubt that he himself had a genuine admiration for England, and it is on record that when he wished to convey his impression of the highest degree of personal loyalty and honour, he always spoke of the word of an English gentleman. NICHOLAS was a great statesman. One of his sagacious insights had reference to what he called "the sick man of Europe." He was persuaded that the Turkish empire must fall to pieces, sooner or later, and he believed that the only way to prevent a disastrous conflict among European Powers in connexion with that event was to establish a previous understanding between Russia and England as to the disposal of the sick man's possessions. The notion does not appear very immoral. Were it submitted to a dozen unbiassed persons, probably six of them would pronounce it practical and not unworthy of a civilized State's consideration. NICHOLAS certainly regarded it in that light, and imagined that in making the proposition frankly to England, he was acting an honorable, no less

than a far-seeing, part. He conveyed the idea verbally to the British Ambassador in St. Petersburg, Sir E. HAMILTON SEYMOUR; the Ambassador conveyed it to Lord JOHN RUSSELL, Her Majesty's Foreign Secretary, and from that hour the British estimate of NICHOLAS underwent a complete change. His proposal was curtly but emphatically rejected, and "the English Government and most of the English people"—we quote from "The History of Our Own Times"—"ever after looked on NICHOLAS as a determined plotter and plunderer, who was not to be made an associate in any engagement." That incident is so apposite that it might be suffered to stand alone. A still more recent case may be added, however, from the annals of the year 1859, when the Emperor of the FRENCH, after conquering Austria at the instance of Count CAVOUR, obliged Sardinia to compensate his services by the surrender of Nice and Savoy. Probably there are among our readers some who can recall the irrepressible storm of indignation that swept over England on receipt of the news. Here was another of those base compacts of partition which respectable people imagined to have been banished from European politics. Of LOUIS NAPOLEON it may be said, as it has already been said of NICHOLAS, that by that transaction he irrevocably forfeited every claim to English confidence. In truth, it would scarcely be possible to imagine anything more repugnant to the genius of the English nation and to the canons of British statesmanship, than collusion with a foreign Power for the partition of another State's territories. We have said, however, that monstrous as is such a misconception of the English character, even Englishmen fall into it occasionally, and we have an instance before us in the editor of the *Japan Gazette*, who, referring to this very talk of an agreement between Germany, England, France and Russia for the partition of China, finds the idea quite conceivable, in view of the fact that the European Powers, including England, came to an understanding about their spheres of influence in Africa. It is wearisome to have to deal with a proposition so strangely lacking in discrimination. Africa's case is in no sense parallel with China's. In Africa the various Powers already possessed colonies which were gradually expanding, and their mutual expansions threatened to result in collisions. To guard against that danger, the process of delimiting the various spheres of influence was undertaken. A precaution of that kind is no more comparable with a secret agreement between England, France, Germany and Russia to steal the Chinese empire and divide it among themselves, than the allotment of seats to passengers in a railway carriage is comparable with a plot among burglars to break into a strong room and share the contents in fixed proportions. If there is anything certain in

the world, the fact that England has not put her hand to any compact relating to the partition of the Chinese empire, may be accepted as certain.

THE SHANGHAI REPORTERS.

IT is not surprising that folks are beginning to regard the recent action of the Shanghai newspaper reporters in its true light. The reporters were treated with discourtesy, as they supposed, in not being allowed to take their tiffin at a place reserved by the Race Stewards for special persons. By way of resenting the alleged rudeness, they decided to abstain from preparing any report of the races during the remainder of the meeting. Now without pausing to consider here whether the reporters were or were not discourteously treated, let us just see how the method of demonstration resorted to by them would work under different circumstances. Suppose that a special correspondent despatched by *The Times* to report operations of war in some foreign country, should find that a slight had been put upon him at the mess of the head-quarter staff of the army to which he was attached, and should thereupon protest against the indignity by withdrawing from the field and sending no more news to *The Times*, would he not be regarded as totally disqualified to discharge the duties of a correspondent? Would not his employers and the public at large say that the assertion of his personal dignity might be very desirable from his own point of view, but that to assert it at the expense of *The Times* and its readers was much as though a father should deprive his family of food because butchers and bakers did not behave towards him with sufficient deference? The behaviour of the Shanghai reporters betrayed a singularly perverted conception of the first duty of journalism. The first duty of journalism, we take it, is to supply news to the public; to publish accounts of all important events that happen to occur. Fancy a subscriber to the *N.-C. Daily News* taking up the paper, looking for a report of the Shanghai Races, and finding that no report was published, because, forsooth, the reporter had not obtained access to a certain luncheon-room. Naturally the subscriber would say:—"Why am I to be punished because the arrangements for the reporter's tiffin were not satisfactory? I have nothing to do with his tiffin. I want to hear about the races." The theory evidently underlying the action of the Shanghai reporters was that they paid a compliment to the Stewards and the Committee of the Races by publishing full accounts of the events, and that the general body of the public need not be considered at all. Precisely the same topsy-turvy idea seems to prevail to a certain extent in Yokohama. There are people here who evidently imagine that the chief feature

of an advertisement is the monetary gain it brings and the interest it imparts to the newspaper in which it is inserted. Hence, if the politics or the tone of a newspaper offends them, they withhold their advertisements from its columns, quite irrespective of the facilities for publicity that it may afford. That is a complete perversion of the object of advertising. The object of advertising is to attract attention to some commodity or some project for which the advertiser seeks purchasers or patrons. In short, the advertisement is intended primarily to promote the interests of the advertiser; he has nothing to do with the interests of the newspaper. He chooses the latter, or ought to choose it, solely with regard to its advantages as a medium of access to the eye of the public, and in inserting or withholding an advertisement from a particular journal, his sole consideration should be the quality of the journal for advertising purposes. The editor of a newspaper seldom knows anything about the advertisements that appear in his columns. It would never occur to him to compare his journal's advertisements one by one with those of another journal, and the notion of writing so as to propitiate this advertiser or that strikes him as ludicrous. There are exceptions, of course. We have had in Yokohama an editor publicly lamenting that such and such an advertisement was not inserted in his paper, and even announcing that his system is to make things hot for any advertiser discriminating against him. But that kind of thing is as foreign to genuine journalism as London smuts are to sunshine. An ordinary editor devotes himself simply to making his paper as "newsy" and readable as may be, and if he can not raise his circulation to such a point as to attract advertisers, he attributes the failure to his own incapacity, not at all to any romantic and unbusiness-like discrimination on the part of advertisers. Probing the matter a little more deeply, we are disposed to think that the Far-Eastern communities are themselves to some extent responsible for the eccentricities of journalistic morality sometimes witnessed at this end of the world. There is not the slightest doubt that many leading companies, merchants and agencies advertise in all the local papers solely for the sake of impartiality. They know well that the expense incurred can not be justified by results, and that equal publicity might be secured though only one or two papers were employed. But they travel outside sound and simple business considerations lest they should seem to show favour or affection. Whether that singular state of affairs is a consequence of the perverted canons of Far-Eastern journalists themselves, or whether it has contributed to pervert them, we do not know, but the conduct of the Shanghai reporters certainly reached the climax of "un-newspaperly" journalism.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

IT had been well understood for some time that the Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha would not find themselves in a position to propose any dividend for the half year ending Sept. 30th, unless they decided not to place any sums to the reserves for insurance, depreciation and repairs. The Company's business in home waters is prosperous, but it is losing heavily on its foreign lines, that is to say, its lines to Europe, America and Australia. Its total losses on account of these services during the half year under review were 400,000 yen, in round numbers, but as the corresponding losses during the preceding half year—ended March 31st, 1897—aggregated 632,000 yen, a marked improvement has evidently taken place. It may seem strange that whereas much larger losses were incurred in the half year ended March 31st than in the half year ended Sept. 30th, a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. was paid for the former, and no dividend has been declared for the latter. The explanation is that, in making up the accounts for the half year October-March a sum of 427,000 yen was taken from the Reserve for the Equalization of Dividends, a sum of 190,000 yen was brought over from the previous account, and a further sum of 168,000 yen became available from the Deterioration Fund. No such arrangements were possible in connexion with the last accounts. A dividend might have been declared, indeed, had the directors refrained from making due additions to the various Reserves, but they preferred the latter course, and their choice was doubtless wise. The estimated value of the Company's fleet at present is 12,084,425 yen, and as 4 per cent. of that figure was added to the Reserves for Insurance, Repairs, &c., a sum of 483,377 yen was thus absorbed. The Insurance Reserve now totals 2,296,832 yen, and the Repair Fund, 454,313 yen. The Company's difficulty is that, whereas it has opened the foreign service mentioned above, it has not yet succeeded in obtaining the bounties contemplated by law. In order to qualify for the receipt of bounties ships have to satisfy certain tests, and it would appear that during the half year under review the Company succeeded in securing a bounty on two steamers only, the sum that stands in the accounts being 111,691 yen. Several other steamers, however, are understood to be now qualified, so that a very substantial addition will doubtless be made to the revenue during the current half year. It is somewhat of a hardship that these foreign services should have been undertaken at the instance of the Government, and that the resulting losses should fall on the shareholders. But the trouble is temporary. Last session, the Government asked the Diet to grant a special annual subsidy of 2,918,974 yen,

for 10 years, on account of the company's European and American lines. The Bill did not come up for discussion, and there exists an idea that the Diet's failure to make the grant is responsible for the present ebb in the tide of this Company's prosperity. But according to the terms of the Bill, no disbursements could have been made under it before April 1st, 1898, and its passage would consequently have afforded no relief during the present year. The plain fact is that the European and American services were inaugurated with full expectation of a heavy loss during the first year. That prospect was distinctly unfolded to the shareholders, and they agreed to face it. After the war with China, the Company found that its earnings in connexion with the transport of troops justified it in devoting a sum of three million yen towards the acquisition of steamers for the proposed lines. It ordered twelve vessels in England, but without waiting for their completion, organized the services to Europe and America with vessels not possessing the qualifications prescribed by the Laws for the Encouragement of Navigation and Ship-building. In short, the enterprise was commenced before the conditions requisite for obtaining State aid had been fulfilled. We do not mean to suggest that such a course was unwise: we merely state what appear to be the facts. The laws are sufficiently liberal. A steamer of 6,000 tons displacement, capable of developing a speed of 14 knots, is entitled to a bounty of 70 sen per ton for every thousand miles run in the year. Hence, if she covers fifty thousand miles, she receives "encouragement" to the extent of 210,000 yen. Were the Company in receipt of that bounty on account of seven steamers, instead of two, as is the case at present, there would be no difficulty in paying a dividend of ten per cent. annually on the capital (12,000,000 yen), and carrying substantial sums to the Reserves. There is, indeed, no complaint against the laws on the score of parsimony. Rather is there an apprehension that the liberality of their provisions may inspire the Diet to effect some alteration which will err equally on the other side. That fear is one of the chief reasons that impelled the Directors of the Company last year to ask the Government for a fixed subsidy during a fixed term of years. They naturally contended that to start a great enterprise on the strength of promises seemingly so unstable as those contained in the Law for the Encouragement of Navigation and Ship-building, would be rash. Another difficulty is that the bounty payable to a ship decreases rapidly with the latter's age, and the Directors deemed it necessary to be insured against a loss of revenue on that account for ten years at any rate. There is, of course, no hope at present that the Diet will pass the Special Subsidy Bill next session. On the other

hand, there is no fear that any change will be effected in the existing laws. Hence, the Company should be able to increase its "encouragement bounty" from 111,000 *yen*, which appears to have been the amount received during the past twelve-month, to a million and a half or two millions.

The most interesting question in connexion with the Company's account is to determine what would be the result of its operations were it not in receipt of any State aid whatever. It received during the six months under review 720,045 *yen* as payment for carrying the mails and as special service bounty, and it drew 111,691 *yen* under the Encouragement laws, its total aids thus being 831,736 *yen*. Omitting these items, we find that its disbursements aggregated 4,954,336 *yen*, and its earnings, 4,964,124 *yen*. There is thus a small surplus on the side of income. If, then, the loss of 400,000 *yen* had not been incurred in connexion with the European and American lines, there would have been a balance of 1,241,024 *yen* available for the payment of a dividend, and for appropriations to the Reserves. A ten-per-cent. dividend absorbs 605,000 *yen*, and if to this we add 4 per cent. of the value of the fleet for insurance and repairs there still remains a surplus of 121,623 *yen*. Evidently were the company not burdened with its foreign lines its affairs would be very flourishing.

It will readily be supposed that the chief trouble to the shareholders in connexion with the present state of affairs is not loss of dividend but depreciation of the shares. These—50 *yen* paid up—stood at 74 *yen* on December 1st 1896, and are now quoted at 55 *yen*. Hence the total market value of the shares has fallen, in the space of a year, from 17,760,000 *yen* to 13,200,000 *yen*: a difference of 4,560,000 *yen*.

ANOTHER DEMAND.

In an "extra" published by the *Fiji Shimpō*, it is stated that Germany has preferred another demand to the Peking Government, namely, the privilege of building railways and working mines in Shantung province. The news appears to us very apocryphal. Altogether there seems to be considerable uncertainty about the claims put forward. For example, it was originally asserted that Germany had asked for a guarantee against the recurrence of such outrages, but the report has not been confirmed and is now, apparently, discredited. Such a demand would not, in itself, have been unnatural, and would also have been very convenient if there was really any idea of converting the incident into an opportunity for territorial aggrandisement. Then, again, there is much difficulty in believing that such a sum as six hundred thousand taels was named by way of indemnity for the deaths of two missionaries, so that, on the whole, there is nothing for it but to wait until full information reaches us.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In No. 51 of Dr. Katō's essays, published in the *Taiyō*, the subject of religious liberty is dealt with. The clause in the Constitution which grants this is founded on similar provisions in the Constitutions of Western countries, but Dr. Katō has his doubts as to whether the law will work as smoothly here as it does in countries where practically the religion professed is Christianity or Judaism. It is not at all improbable, says Dr. Katō, that the jealousies, bigotry and zeal of the sects represented in this country may render the law very difficult of application. It took Buddhism a long time to become a national religion. At first it caused no end of dissension throughout the country. But it eventually showed itself capable of adapting itself to its new surroundings. Will Christianity prove to be equally plastic? I think not, says Dr. Katō. It insists on belief in one God only. It condemns the worship of idols, which condemnation is extended, by some Christians, to obedience before the Emperor's picture. It refuses to respect or to recognise the rites and observances of non-Christian sects. In some Christian schools not even national holidays are observed.* In all this we discern material for future discord, and therefore think that there was great need for inserting in the conscience clause words that define the limit beyond which liberty will not be allowed. The public peace and our duties as subjects are not to be sacrificed on the altar of religious liberty.

Nos. 55 and 56 of Dr. Katō's essays also discuss religion and morality. The title of the first of these is *Karada no dorei to Kokoro no dorei* (Slaves in body and Slaves in Mind). Among the latter Dr. Katō reckons those Buddhists and Christians who have not the courage to free themselves from the trammels of tradition. As regards ethical teaching, Dr. Katō comes to the conclusion that it has effected little. It differs according to the creeds which give it authority. Great attention has been given in China and Japan to instruction in the feelings that relations should bear to each other, but a calm survey of humanity as it actually exists in the two countries shows that mothers-in-law are seldom liked, and that an enormous deal of friction exists between other members of the family, which no amount of lecturing will suffice to remove. The gist of Dr. Katō's essay is that the practical results of instruction in morals are out of all proportion to the labour spent in teaching.

The Niigata Normal School affair, reported in our last Summary, through the mediation of the Prefect, has been brought to a satisfactory termination. The Director has reversed the decision in which a student was disqualified from pursuing a higher course of study on account of his Christianity. Commenting on the case, the *Taiyō* says that it is a mistake to think that the conscience clause in the Constitution grants unlimited liberty to the subject in the choice of a religion. In the notion that the teaching of Christianity is antagonistic to state interests, we quite agree with the Director, says the *Taiyō*. The only mistake made consisted in confusing the *in posse* with the *in esse*. His action was premature, but not altogether illogical. That the student's belief will prove injurious is certain, but while unable to point to the actual injury committed, the Director should have kept silent.

The *Taiyō* has taken up the cudgels on behalf of Dr. Hozumi, whose ancestral worship theory was very severely handled by the *Rikugō Zasshi* a short time ago, as shown in our last Summary. The *Taiyō*, under the editorship of Mr. Takayama Rinjiō, figures as a champion of ultra-nationalism. According to this organ, the Japanese possess a moral superiority to other nations, which they will do well to guard against all foreign (especially Christian) undermining influences. While Dr. Hozumi's doctrine, as it stands, says the *Taiyō*,

* We know of no such schools.—Writer of Summary.

may not afford a suitable basis whereon to found a religious creed, if, instead of making ancestral identity the foundation, we rely on nationalism, we shall obtain something solid on which to build. In an article on "Formosa," the *Taiyō* argues in favour of "Nipponising" the Formosans, and says that in the refusal to bow to the standards of other nations and in insisting on their adoption of Japanese institutions and modes of thought, lie the secret of Japan's colonial success. In proof of this theory the *Taiyō* quotes largely from the history of the fall of the Roman empire. The doctrine of the equality of all men, as taught by Christianity, is a target at which the *Taiyō* shoots vigorously. Starting with the theory of Japan's moral superiority to its neighbours, it concludes by affirming that in Formosa her only function is to instruct, enlighten and lead—to stamp her own nationalism on the subject race.

The birthday of Confucius was celebrated in Tōkyō by the holding of a public meeting at which various ethical subjects were discussed. Dr. Nakajima replied in the affirmative to the question, "Can Ethics become a Science in the strict sense of that term?" Professor Toyama took up the subject of authority, that of government and that of learning, especially dwelling upon its abuses. The meeting lasted from 1 to 8 p.m. and was considered the most successful ever held. But a full report of the speeches has not yet been published. The annual recurrence of these celebrations forms an interesting landmark in the progress of thought on the great ethical subjects whose importance to the world was so strikingly shown by the life and teaching of the great Chinese sage. We hope to be in a position to furnish fuller information on the subject in our next summary.

In a recent number of the *Shūkyō* the editor discusses two current notions respecting religion; one being that it is a mere device for controlling unenlightened people, the other that it is one of the many forms of superstition. To the first view it is objected, (1) that were such a theory to be accepted, the necessity of a number of religions, with doctrines directly opposed to each other, could not be denied, and hence the attainment of religious truth would be impossible. (2) This theory implies that when, as the world progresses, religion is no longer needed as a political organ for the control of the uneducated, we can afford to dispense with it altogether, which cannot be admitted. Those who regard religion as a mere superstition are guilty of three errors. (a) They confound the true elements of religion with the superstitious elements that are mixed with it. (b) They are mistaken as to the nature of what is called science, giving definitions of it that exclude religion. (c) Their psychology is faulty. They fail to recognise that the soul has an existence all its own. Religion, as defined by the editor of the *Shūkyō*, consists of the morally harmonious blending of the soul of man and the soul of the universe *Ningen no reikon to uchū no reikon to no dōtoku teki chokwa* (調和) nari.

In another editorial in the same number the degraded position assigned to woman by Buddhism, Confucianism and Shintō is alluded to and the necessity of raising her by means of Christianity to a higher level socially, intellectually and morally is urged. The evils resulting from the Japanese practice of retiring into private life at about the age of 40 are pointed out and contrasted with the vigour of our western octogenarians.

The Unitarian college, the Senshūgakkin, has just commenced a new year, with Dr. Nakajima Rikizō, Dr. Kanai Yen and other well-known professors as lecturers, in addition to the principal members of the old staff.

The *Fukuin Shimpō* is alarmed at the inroads of secular influences manifested in Mission schools and Mission churches. It condemns the movement, now so popular, in favour of placing Mission schools under the control of the Department of Education in order to enable them to rank as Middle Schools. It regrets the

tendency shown among evangelists to pander to vulgar taste by preaching nationalism and loyalty to the throne in the place of the gospel of Christ. Even theological seminaries, according to the *Fukui Shimpō*, are not exempt from the worldliness of the age, nationalism being rife among the students to an extent never before known. While all this is going on, men who have been evangelists for years are taking to secular callings. The worship of money, rank and fame and the love of personal ease are conspicuous on every hand within the pale of the Christian Church.

In another article on "Loyalty and Patriotism and the Corruption of the Political World," the *Fukui Shimpō* shows that in proportion to the loud protestations of nationalists concerning their loyalty to the throne and the like they have shown moral unscrupulousness never before witnessed. Japan's success in the late war was wholly owing to the lessons she had learnt from Western teachers, and the after-attempt to represent matters as though it was her patriotism that ensured victory for her is absurd.

The Nihon-Kirisuto-Kyōkai lately held a celebration of the 25th anniversary of its establishment. On that occasion the Rev. K. Ibuka gave an account of the history of the mission; from which we extract the following:—Twenty-five years ago, the well-known government notice "strictly forbidding the wicked Christian Sect" was to be seen everywhere. At that time there were only 11 Christian converts attached to our church. They were young and their faith was of the simplest kind, which was summed up in a few articles. The name they assumed was the Nihon-Kirisuto-Kyōkai. In 1877, a union of the North American Presbyterian and the Scotch Presbyterian converts with those belonging to the American Reformed Church took place, the united bodies taking the name of the Nihon-Itchi-Kyōkai. From 1887 onwards, for several years attempts were made to effect a union with the Kumiai churches. In 1890, our articles of faith and our constitution went through a thorough revision, the confession of faith being recast so as to represent actual belief at that time. During the 25 years under review, the whole of the Old and New Testaments have been translated. Mission schools have been established in various parts and numerous Christian periodicals and books have been published. To the above remarks Dr. Thomson added that, from the early days of the Presbyterian Church in Japan, it had been the aim of Mr. John Ballagh, Dr. Brown and himself not to burden the native churches with articles of faith that were not essential, nor to require them to observe all the rules to which Western Christians were expected to conform. These missionaries looked forward to the time when the native church should legislate for itself and draw up its own confession of faith, and this expectation had been realised. Mr. Ishihara further stated that the Nihon-Kirisuto Kyōkai now has over 150 preaching places, a membership of 12,000, pastors and evangelists numbering about 200, and a Missionary Society that owes its existence to native zeal and support.

In connection with the above it may be well to mention that Messrs. Ibuka and Kawada have just published a history of the Nihon-Kirisuto Kyōkai, which is for sale at the Meiji Gaku-in at 15 *sen* per copy. This little volume furnishes a full account of the progress of the mission from its earliest days and records facts which are only known to very old residents. It is said that the Methodists and other bodies purpose issuing similar works, so that before long materials will be at hand for an exhaustive history of Protestant Missions in Japan.

The *Shūkyō* (No. 73) has articles on "The Reorganisation of the Christian Church," "The Relation of Ideas to Action"; "Buddhist Psychology," "Ten Discoveries of Prehistoric Men," and "Social Life and Morality in India," in addition to two editorials, one on "The end of Social Existence," the other on "Ideal Mar-

riage." The article on the "Reorganisation of the Christian Church" is an attack on the whole system of propagating Christianity now in vogue—the payment of certain agents to teach certain doctrines. The writer maintains that this system is responsible for much of the hypocrisy and lukewarmness that exists in the Christian church. He says that in the case of every ninety-nine persons out of a hundred it is difficult for non-Christian Japanese to dispossess themselves of the idea that the preaching of the missionaries is a trade, to be ranked on a level with the selling of articles of merchandise. By the ordinary man they are regarded as pushing certain wares in consideration of the receipt of a fixed salary. The history of Christianity and Buddhism resemble each other as regards methods of early and later propagation. In the early ages, the principal part of the work of propagandism was done by unpaid agents whose hearts were full of zeal for the cause. With a regular paid priesthood or ministry come formality, hypocrisy and other evils. That the number of Christian ministers to whom the office is no more than a means of obtaining a living is very large in the West is an undeniable fact. It was stated not long ago that in America several hundred ministers of Christ had been convicted of heinous crimes. The same may be asserted of Buddhist priests. In saying this, continues the writer we are quoting, I do not wish to be understood as condemning missionaries as a class, but only as denouncing the system which maintains them as paid agents to preach certain fixed doctrines. To me the method of evangelisation adopted seems to be quite wrong. Instead of forcing the gospel on people who have no desire to hear it in the way that some evangelists do, I would have teachers wait in their houses for the arrival of inquirers. Those who are really anxious to be instructed will not fail to call on the missionary. By the number of converts made in this way a man's real capacity for missionary work could soon be tested. If he failed to attract inquirers, he should infer that he is not suited to the calling he has adopted, and should resign, and not receive the church's money for work that he is not performing. The effects of the present system on freedom of thought and inquiry are very manifest. The endowment, as it were, of certain doctrines is a serious obstacle to investigation and progress. Among the missionaries there are no doubt men who in their innermost souls do not believe that the Bible is without errors, do not believe in the doctrine of the Trinity, the atonement, and miracles, but as long as the present system is maintained, such men are not at liberty to express their real convictions while remaining agents of the Societies that provide them with money. Hence the temptation to compromise is very strong. Religious agency that is paid for undoubtedly ranks lower than an agency that is free and whose power depends alone on mental conviction. Along with the progress of science, theology is undergoing a thorough renovation. Criticism, historical, philological and scientific is undermining the foundations of the old orthodox citadel. The grosser elements of Christianity are being removed year by year. Men's ideas in reference to the whole system of Christianity have been transformed, and it is my earnest hope that the new belief will beget a new church organisation and that we may soon see the abolition of a practice that is responsible for so many evils. Why should not Japan take the lead in this matter? In return for all the benefits she has received from the West, is it not in her power to show to the world a form of Christianity that shall be free from the alloy with which it has been mixed for so many centuries?

In the article on "Ideal Marriage" it is maintained that the happiness of married life depends on identity of feeling, taste, and intellectual interest and on compatibility of temper.

It seems that Mr. Takahashi Itchi—whose contribution to the *Japan Times* on Christian hypocrisy in America led to a discussion with the Rev. E. Snodgrass—after graduating at

the Imperial University, entered the Michigan University and took a degree there. He afterwards settled in Canada as a bookseller. He spent thirteen years in foreign countries and is said to possess a knowledge of English that is quite exceptional. Having challenged Mr. Snodgrass to discuss the subject of American Christianity in public, it is now stated that the two gentlemen are to confront each other in the Kanda Seinen-Kan, or some other large building, during the month of December.

An often felt want has now been supplied by the publication of a Dictionary of Christian terms, called the *Kirisutokyo-Ji-i*, which is for sale, at 1 *yen* 50 *sen* per copy. The foreign compiler is the Rev. C. B. Mouely, of the Kōbe Kwansai-Gakuin, who has been assisted by Messrs. Yoshioka and Miyake.

Among other articles the *Shinri* has one entitled "How should the Gospel be preached in a non-Christian Civilised Country," by Dr. Lipsius. The answer to this question briefly stated is as follows:—(1) The gospel should be represented as a special revelation from God, and not as an embodiment of human wisdom. (2) It should be shown that the revelation is perfect. (3) Christianity should not be represented as a new civilisation, but as a salvation from moral evils that had sprung up in the world prior to its existence. (4) It should not be represented as the product of a religious sect, but as designed to manifest the character of Christ. (5) The gospel should not be made to appear as an astounding doctrine; but rather as a way of saving mankind chosen by God. (6) The gospel should be represented as a power in the hearts of believers rather than as mere history.

In the number of the *Shinri* from which we have just quoted is an article from the pen of the Rev. R. Minami on "Responsibility Connected with Christian Theology in Japan." Mr. Minami is of opinion that great use should be made of the religious ideas which the Japanese have derived from Shintō in teaching Christianity. To Mr. Minami the difference between Shintō believers and Christians concerns the stage of development of religious ideas and nothing more. The Christian idea of monotheism was preceded by polytheism. It is not necessary to regard the polytheistic stage of religion as absolutely antagonistic to monotheism, but as preparatory thereto. The Christian teacher finds in Japan a profound respect for the gods and also ideas respecting sin, which he will do well to utilise. In reference to the latter the Shintō term *harai* and the prayers of emperors even, asking for purification or cleansing, are a sufficient proof that the pious Japanese has always been conscious of sin. The warm Christian sun shining on these germs will soon quicken them into a life and vigour hitherto unknown. The reason of Christianity's accomplishing more as a religion than Shintō is to be attributed to the fact that in the former religion has reached a higher stage of development. But in seeking to propagate Christian doctrines here they should not be represented as altogether new and foreign to the Japanese mind, but as embodying truths with which it is already more or less familiar.

The *Taiyō* a short time ago accused Christians of compromising themselves by the support given to the national movement. The editor of the *Taiyō*, while being an ardent nationalist is anti-Christian and hence does not regard with complacency the support given to "Nipponism" by professing Christians. The *Rikugō Zasshi*, in an article entitled, "What is Opportunism?" shows that the movement in the Christian Church in favour of the independence of Japanese churches preceded by several years what is now called the "Nippon Shugi" movement, and that therefore it is quite incorrect to speak of the attitude of certain leading Christians in reference to the establishment of a church independent of foreign control as "opportunism." The Editor of the *Taiyō* needs "eyes to see himself as others see him," says the *Rikugō*. To

others the course of trimming that he has adopted in order to gain the ear of the public, the way in which he has tried to bolster up a cause which never can succeed is "Opportunism" of the most pronounced type. If Christians wish for a lesson in "Opportunism" the editor of the *Taiyō* is well qualified to give it.

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No. 362 of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* publishes a long article by Mr. Ukita Kazutani entitled "Religion and Government," of which the following is the gist:—In all countries and in all times religion and government are closely allied to each other. The former deals with the relation of man to God, the latter with the relation between man and man. In endeavouring to insure the fulfilment of man's duties to God government has to be relied on. The idea that the authority of rulers is received from God prevailed in Europe for many centuries and prevails in some Eastern countries even now. Just as all religion must be monotheistic, polytheistic or pantheistic, so all government must assume one of three forms; either a country must be governed by a monarch, or by a body of men of acknowledged superiority, or the governing power must rest with the masses. We must have monarchy, aristocracy or democracy. Just as religion has its idols, material and mental, so has government its objects of worship which change but little from age to age. The great sects of Christendom, like great political parties, each emphasise some special truth and in a large measure complement each other. No form of government, no sect, no political party can claim a monopoly of truth. There is a great mixture of elements to be found in both politics and religion, and names by no means represent in every case what are the guiding principles and motives of the chief actors. Despotism in name, there are some elements in the Russian government that are quite democratic. Democratic in name, there are characteristics of the American government that are ultra-despotic. And so with religions. There are Protestant elements in Roman Catholicism and Roman Catholic tendencies in Protestantism. The conclusion we reach, says Mr. Ukita, is that there is no special merit in forms of government or religion, that all depends on administration. He concludes his essay by quoting the well-known lines of Pope:—

For forms of government let fools contest;
What'er is best administer'd is best;
For modes of faith, let graceless zealots fight;
His can't be wrong whose life is in the right.
In faith and hope, the world will disagree;
But all mankind's concern is charity.

At a large Christian lecture meeting held in the Seinen Kan, Kanda, Tōkyō, on the 12th ult., by the Fukuin Dōmeikai, which was attended by over 1,000 people, Mr. Miyoshi Taizō, formerly President of the Supreme Court, gave an account of the manner in which he was converted to Christianity. In 1882 he accompanied Count Ito to Europe and while there came into contact with several Christian scholars whose conversation convinced him that it was his duty to study Christianity, which he did on his return to Japan under Mr. Kosaki, with the result that he joined the church. His feelings as a believer were, he said, quite different from what they had been before. In former days he had sat in judgment on men's crimes, and now he was engaged in a somewhat similar work. He was distinguishing between the right and the wrong in the lives of men. But while practising as a barrister, he no longer felt indifferent to the crimes of his fellow-men. It troubled him to see men going astray. His heart was full of compassion. Some years ago M. Boissonade was present in Court when torture was being administered to a criminal and was so moved that, after shedding tears in the presence of the judge, he hastened to the Minister of Justice and informed him that no country claiming to be civilised retained the practice of torture, with the result that not long after the cruel custom was abolished. Though matters have improved much, even to-day any one who is minutely acquainted with the way in which human beings are treated on certain

occasions knows that things are going on which no merciful man could witness without pain. One of the chief benefits derived from a belief in Christianity is the knowledge of the real value of human beings.

At the same meeting Mr. Kosaki gave an address on earnestness and sincerity of heart, which he said were the foundation of all true religion; Mr. Hiraiwa Kempo spoke on "the Blessedness of compassion;" and Mr. Tatekawa Umpei, the well-known member of the Diet, under the title of "My Confession," informed the meeting that he regarded his espousal of the cause of popular rights and liberty as a mistake. The liberty which he had so earnestly proclaimed had been interpreted as liberty to do evil. The doctrine of the liberty of the subject had developed into the most unqualified egoism, involving all manner of corruption. Every man was a law unto himself, and moral obligations were utterly ignored by a large class of modern politicians. It was plain that the principle of liberty had been pushed too far and the speaker was determined to do his best to remedy this evil.

Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki also dwelt on the wide-spread corruption of the age and of the need that there is for earnest Christian effort.

There is a great absence of activity in the Buddhist world. The excitement over the Otani dispute and the Kōya-san disruption has subsided. Even the subject of mixed residence is attracting little attention. Amid the general stagnancy one subject only is causing a slight stir. This is the proposal among certain Buddhists to abolish the canons which forbid priests to marry and to eat meat. It is justly observed that these rules are contrary to nature and hence are constantly transgressed. Buddhist priests are placed in a very disadvantageous position *vis-à-vis* the teachers of other sects by being obliged to profess a celibacy which they cannot practice. The *Bukkyō* approves of the measure and states that all sensible Buddhists are in favour of it. Those influential Buddhists who refrain from expressing an opinion for or against the proposal are afraid of drawing attention to their individual practices, which are by no means in accordance with the commands of Shaka Muni.

The *Shinkokugaku* and the *Yuitsu* (Shintō) both call attention to the lack of education among Shintō priests. The *Shinkokugaku* asserts that Shintō has more to fear from the ignorance of its teachers than from Buddhism and Christianity combined. Many of these men do not fulfil the condition required by the educational Bureau of the Home Department, and hence they should no longer be allowed to hold office. Some of these priests were originally illiterate bankrupt gentlemen or useless officials. Not a few of them are unable to read Shintō prayers even, to say nothing of learned works. The support received from outsiders in aid of the "Nippon Shugi" movement will do little good as long as the chief representatives of the Shintō cult are so far behind the age in which we live, say the Shintō magazines we are quoting.

The *Kyōrin* (Shintō) in an article entitled *Nihon no Kokutai to Yasokyo* (Japan's National Constitution and Christianity) contends that it is the almost universal custom for a state to have a religion of its own and that this religion is an essential part of the state. It is so in England and Russia at the present time. Now the question is, can Christianity ever become a state religion in Japan without undergoing a thorough transformation? We are sure that it cannot, says the *Kyōrin*; and since Christianity as it is now taught in Japan is injurious to state interests, it is our duty to oppose it in as far as the law allows. The same organ under the heading of "Shintō defects" enumerates five particulars in which Shintō is deficient. (1) The lack of sincere and earnest men among her priests. (2) General stagnancy throughout the past thirty years, which is in marked contrast to

the part she played in the overthrow of the Bakufu and the re-establishment of Imperial power in the realm. (3) The dearth of young men who are sufficiently interested in the creed to become exponents of its doctrines. (4) The want of union among existing devotees. The Kōkugaku-ha, the Shinkan-ha and the Kyōkai-ha are at loggerheads with each other and engage in mutual recrimination. (5) Shintō lacks the means to make herself felt in the world. She has neither a great educational establishment, a book publishing Association, nor powerful newspapers to represent her.

We find in the same publication among the reviews of recent books the notice of a German translation of Mr. Iida Takesato's *日本紀通釋 Nihonki-tsūshaku*, a copy of which is to be found in a Berlin Museum. The *Kyōrin* is gratified to find that a book which alongside of the *Kojiki* constitutes the Japanese Bible should attract the attention of foreigners. It is much to be desired, says the *Kyōrin*, that a work on Shintō resembling the Buddhist *Kakushū Kōyō* should be published, giving an account of the principal doctrines of the sect, instead of allowing the uninitiated to grope their way amid the historical and theological intricacies of our sacred books.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The regular half-yearly general meeting of shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was held at the Young Men's Christian Association Hall, Kanda, Tokyo, on the afternoon of the 28th November. The meeting was attended by 2,036 shareholders or representatives. Mr. Kondo, President of the Company, took the chair, and in the course of his address, is reported by the *Nichi Nichi* to have said:—During the past six months the receipts of the Company amounted to yen 5,790,000, showing a development of our shipping business, and during the term 27 steamers were in service, their aggregate tonnage amounting to over 1,523,000 tons. It is a matter of great regret to me not to be able to declare any dividend, in spite of such prosperous business in the coasting trade. The cause is entirely due to the fact that the Company has lost over yen 400,000 in the European service during the term, while all commodities rose considerably in price this year, so that it has been the hardest period experienced by the Company. However, the majority of the new steamers bought abroad have satisfied the regulations for the navigation encouragement subsidy and moreover the Government will submit to the coming session of the Diet a bill for a special subsidy to the Company. Under these circumstances he trusted all present would be satisfied with the future prospects of the Company.

As soon as the President had finished his address many questions were showered upon him, some members declaring that it was quite uncertain whether the Company could obtain a special subsidy from the Government, should the coming Diet be dissolved, which is extremely likely. Another shareholder stated that the Company would never be able to compete with foreign vessels on the European line, when the N.Y.K. vessels are inferior in every point. Others called for a full account of the loss sustained on the European route. Thus the meeting was thrown into confusion. After a time, order being restored, the following report was declared:—The net profit during the period amounted to yen 56,082, to which yen 2,561 brought forward from previous account were added, making a total of yen 58,644. Of this sum yen 10,192 were written off for expenses for the construction of premises, yen 2,804 were passed to reserve and yen 45,647 carried forward to next account. The meeting dispersed after passing a resolution desiring some dividend to be paid for the term, which will be fully discussed at a special general meeting to be convened at an early date.

JAPANESE LILY BULBS.

Some months ago the *Kew Bulletin*, with all the solemnity attaching to such a deeply serious magazine, announced that a disease had broken out among recent consignments of lily bulbs imported into England from Japan. It inferred that the disease was infectious and originated in Japan. Coming from such an authority, the horticultural world paid heed to the warning and the word was passed on by newspapers to all quarters of the globe. We notice that the South Australian Government took immediate alarm and prohibited the importation of lily bulbs from Japan on the ground that they come from "an infected area." It can readily be imagined that the allegation has serious consequence for Japanese lily-growers, for the bulb export trade has attained large dimensions in recent years. With this idea in mind a representative of this journal recently interviewed Mr. Alfred Unger (of Messrs. Boehmer & Co., the famous nursery-men of Yokohama), and asked if there was any truth in the *Kew Bulletin's* statement. Mr. Unger readily gave the information desired. First he denied—and supported the denial by practical demonstration—that any disease whatsoever existed among the lily farms of Japan. What has happened is this. Some Japanese exporter, anxious to secure a bigger profit, or perhaps insufficiently versed in the trade, must have shipped to England a large quantity of lily bulbs at the wrong season of the year: perhaps, too, these said bulbs were also insufficiently matured and damp at the time of shipping. The lily bulb is a delicate tuber and will not bear handling except in the autumn, when, properly matured and hardened, they can be safely packed and shipped abroad. The reckless Japanese shipper, however, ignored these facts, and as a consequence some of his bulbs must have been bruised and injured before they reached the ship. An injured, unmatured, damp lily bulb going through the tropics naturally develops, by fermentation, a white fungus: this fungus spreads, and in a little while the whole case is irretrievably ruined. Then, when the box is opened in England, it is found that the bulbs are useless, and the cry goes forth that they are diseased. But that disease arises from a very different cause from that assigned by the *Kew Bulletin*: it is not an infectious disease acquired while the bulb is growing, as the English journal imagines. No such disease exists in Japan and the sooner this is known the better.

"YOMIURI" ON THE CURRENCY.

Comments have been made from time to time, says the *Yomiuri*, with regard to the necessity of increasing the reserve securities of the Bank of Japan. The importance of this is also recognised by the Finance Department, which seems to have decided to grant a charter for an increase of the issue of notes from 85 to 100 million *yen*, with the proviso that the amount so increased shall be taxed. To that end a bill for the amendment of Article VI. of the Banking Regulations is to be presented in the 11th Session of the Diet. Public opinion now attributes the appreciation of commodities to the expansion of the volume of currency, holders' of shares alone opposing these assertions. To expand the currency by the increase of reserve securities to a still greater extent is a very risky economic policy, and is open to severe criticism. But the grounds for increasing the reserve securities to 100 millions appear to differ widely from those propounded by shareholders. It is now alleged that the required amount of currency for Japan is 180 millions. At the end of the 26th year of *Meiji* (1893) 170 millions were in circulation, but as this amount tended to bring about an excess of imports, it may be taken as evidence of a superabundance of currency. As it is quite natural, however, that coins or notes circulated as media of exchange should increase in accordance with the progress of society, it may be supposed that the proper increase of currency from the 27th to the 30th year of

Meiji was not less than 4 millions per annum, the total increase for the past four years being 16 millions. The economic world, after the war, included Formosa within its calculations, and as this new territory requires a sum of 4 millions, the total requisite amount for the current year may be taken as 180 million *yen*. A reserve of 60 millions, or one, third, ought to be provided against 180 millions of currency. If the augmentation of reserve securities is to be attended with a corresponding increase in the issue of notes, the currency will considerably expand, and tend to increase the excess of imports and decrease the specie reserve.

BURGLARY IN MAIN STREET.

A little after 4 o'clock on Friday morning the store of Messrs. Brett & Co., No. 60 Main Street, was broken into and an attempt made to loot the till. At pane of plate glass on the left hand side of the entrance was smashed, and a hole made through which only a boy or a very slight man could enter. The front door however, was opened from the inside, and it is probable that the thief himself entered that way. There were chisel marks on the till showing that an attempt had been made to open it, but the thief was scared away before he had effected his purpose. It appears that a Japanese employé was aroused by the fire bell ringing and hearing a noise in the store called Mr. Thomas, who came down and unlocked the door leading into the shop. The police were at once summoned by Mr. Thomas, and they took charge of the store till daylight. It is believed that the burglars attempt was made by a former employé of the firm, and the police are confident that they will find him. It is not, however, comforting to know that such acts can be committed with impunity in a store lit up all night and in our main thoroughfare, but the fact is no patrol throughout the night is carried out in this street. A policeman may generally be found at the corner by Messrs. Cornes & Co.'s but one may walk Main Street all night without meeting any police on patrol.

TRADE OF THE YEAR.

In a previous issue we announced that the imports from January this year amounted to 177,860,000 *yen*, being an excess over exports of 46,560,000 *yen*. We now take from the *Shogyo* the comparative figures for the various staples of import for two years, as follow:—

	COMMODITIES INCREASED.	
	Imports, 1897. Yen.	Increase, 1896. Yen.
Cotton	39,190,000	10,870,000
Machinery, &c.	10,923,000	5,856,000
Locomotives and cars ..	4,174,000	2,705,000
Kerosene oil	6,511,000	1,211,000
Railway materials ..	1,558,000	533,000
Rice	14,491,000	10,866,000
Sugar	16,225,000	5,787,000
Beans, peas, &c.	4,121,000	1,363,000
Rails	2,911,000	766,000
Iron, bar, and	2,293,000	392,000
	COMMODITIES DECREASED.	
	Imports, 1897. Yen.	Increase, 1896. Yen.
Muslin de laine	3,148,000	2,435,000
Cotton fabrics	739,000	1,746,000
Italian cloth	1,445,000	9,200
Shirtings	3,048,000	493,000
Iron nails	1,148,000	116,000
Watches	1,503,000	56,000
Cotton yarns	7,344,000	2,165,000
Cloth	1,678,000	1,463,000
Flannel	1,994,000	734,000
Oil cake	2,566,000	386,000
Wool	784,000	60,000

It will be seen that in spite of imports having increased on the whole in such items as materials and machines, a marked decrease is discernible in articles of luxury. The imports of cotton and rice show an increase of over 10 million *yen* each in value over the figures for the previous year. The failure of the crops and the decrease in the imports of articles of luxury are unmistakable signs of the universal decline in the trade prospects of the interior.

THE TORI-NO-MATSURI.

We are confronted by another of those extraordinary libels of which the Japanese are occasionally the victims, not of deliberate intent, perhaps, on the part of the libeller, but because he will not take the trouble to inform himself of facts before framing accusations. The instance to which we now allude is particularly unfortunate because it occurs in connection with American Thanksgiving Day, and the accusation against the Japanese is introduced with the apparent object of enhancing the beauty and purity of the Western observance, though, it must be confessed, the libeller is obliged to drag in his materials neck and crop in order to effect the desired contrast. As is usual wherever recklessness and ignorance are concerned, the columns of the *Japan Gazette* are responsible. Having explained that Thanksgiving Day is a fête inaugurated by the Pilgrim Settlers at Plymouth, in New England, to express gratitude for their first abundant harvest, and having noted that the Japanese festival of *Nii-nama*, in honour of the new rice, bears a resemblance to the American observance—a somewhat "thin" remark seeing that harvest celebrations are common to nearly all countries—the writer in the *Japan Gazette* goes on to say:—

The manner of its observance for the last thirty or forty years is far from comforting to lovers of purity, and of the permanent prosperity of the country, especially as seen among the lower and even the middle classes of Society. That is if Wednesday's exhibition in Yokohama be at all a criterion of its observance elsewhere. What is referred to is that it consists in nothing more nor less than the worship of the God of prostitution—if it be not a profanation of language to associate two such words together! It is possible that this being *Tori no toshi*, or the "Year of the bird," and yesterday being the second *Tori no hi* or "Day of the bird" may have accentuated this worship. "The bird" is chosen as the sign of the zodiac favourable for increase of gain in places of prostitution. *Tori* means to take, clutch; and *tori*, bird, is one that clutches in its claws whatever it can get hold of for its use. The eagle is the King of birds, hence the god's name is *Washi no Dai-myōjin* or Great Eagle God. It does not seem to be far removed from the worship of *Kompira*, the Crow God of Sanuki. In the Yoshiwara-ward there is a temple at the end of one of the principal streets running through that quarter, that can be seen from a distance without the ward, this is for the benefit of the inmates of all the big establishments there located. Questionable as all that may be even for them, what would be thought of crowds of well-dressed people—men and women leading their little daughters by the hand in bright garments flocking there to worship too! This was actually the case to the extent of thousands on Wednesday; the streets in that part of the city were thronged by those coming and going. There was nothing reprehensible in appearances outside. The people were orderly, with a few exceptions of low fellows, who either had bought or were selling the *papier-mache* symbols of the seven Gods of luck, cartloads of these were to be seen in certain quarters on Wednesday and the attendance kept up till midnight.

In refreshing contrast to such impurity and childish puerilities was the course of lectures held Wednesday afternoon and evening at the *Shioh Church*, Onoyecho, under the auspices of the Evangelical Alliance of Japan, &c.

It is difficult to make out from this confused statement whether the writer intends to suggest that the harvest celebration in Japan is connected with some Paphian observances or rites. If he has any such idea, he may dismiss it from his mind at once, for it is a complete delusion. There is no obscenity, however, about his remarks on the subject of the *Tori no Matsuri*, or *Tori no Machi*, as it is commonly called. He says that a bird (*tori*) is selected for worship as being "the sign of the zodiac favourable for increase of gain in places of prostitution," and he then indulges in some fine morality about the horror of "crowds of well-dressed people—men and women leading their little daughters by the hand in bright garments—flocking there to worship." The writer of this silliness—for truly we know not what other term to apply to it—seems to be connected with the Evangelical Alliance of

Japan, which he proceeds to eulogise vicariously by referring to certain eloquent addresses delivered by its members. We take him, therefore, to be an honest and well meaning man, not one of those that delight to misrepresent Japan merely for the sake of discrediting her. Hence he will be sorry to learn that his idea about the "bird" being "the sign of the zodiac favourable for increase of gain in places of prostitution" is mere moonshine. There is no such Paphian sign of the zodiac, and the "Bird Festival" has no more to do with prostitution than the Evangelical Alliance has. We quote here for his information and for that of any whom his statements may have misled, an extract from the work "Japan" which is now in process of publication in Boston:—

Some time in the middle ages, a great eagle made its appearance at Ajiki, in the province of Shimosa, which lies on the eastern shores of Edo (Tokyo) Bay. The eagle, of course, signifies everything that is majestically aggressive and tenaciously acquisitive. It thus becomes to the Japanese a symbol of good fortune. The Shimosa people built a shrine in honour of their visitor, and covered the walls with votive tablets, depicting an eagle bestrid by a man in official robes—"a commoner rising to rank and office by the aid of wings that soar and talons that capture." By-and-by, the capital of the Tokugawa grew so big that it drew to itself whatever was notable in the neighbouring provinces. The eagle's shrine found its way to the suburbs of the metropolis, and in the Shitaya district, within sight of the Paphian quarter, became a place of pilgrimage for every one craving the gifts of fortune—the wrestler, the courtesan, the actor, the dancing girl, the jester, the *racqueur*, the musician, the tradesman and the apprentice. Nothing that can be called a ceremony is associated with the eagle's fête—the *Tori-no Machi* (abbreviation of *matsuri*), or worship of the bird, as the people call it. Only on the "bird days" in November—perhaps two days, perhaps three if the calendar is kind—tens of thousands of people flock out to this shrine among the rice fields, and, after a brief act of worship, purchase harbingers of luck in the shape of big cakes, parent potatoes, millet dumplings, and bamboo tea-whisks. Stalls for the sale of these homely articles occupy all available spaces within the temple enclosure and along the avenues leading to the gate, and as the etiquette of the eagle requires that there shall be no bargaining—when did the great bird stop to discuss the preliminaries of a capture?—the hucksters drive a roaring trade, especially at the close of the day when their wares are nearly sold out and belated worshippers see a risk of returning empty-handed. The rake, as part of the paraphernalia of a pursuer of gain, explains itself. But there is a strange feature about these eagle rakes. Their teeth are said to be made from the wood of coffins. At cremations, if economy has to be practised, the corpse is removed from its casket and exposed to the direct action of the flames. The casket then becomes the property of the crematory and is purchased by the rake-makers. There is no explanation of such a singular custom, nor any evidence that it is observed on principle. The parent potato typifies humble ambition. Buried underground and growing in oblivion, it is at all events the head of a family. "Better be the comb of a cock than the tail of an ox." Millet dumplings are associated with the orthodox group of lucky articles by a play upon words. To "clutch millet with wet hands" is a popular metaphor for greed. *Mochi*, which signifies a dumpling, signifies also "to hold." Thus "millet dumpling" becomes a metaphor for grasping largely and holding firmly. The strength of the people's faith in these pilgrimages, prayers and purchases is evidenced by the crowd that the city pours out to the *Tori-no Machi* every Fall, and by the eager happiness of the worshippers' mien. But if any members of the upper classes go, it is only to look and to laugh.

We shall be curious to see what course the writer in the *Japan Gazette* will now pursue. Will he allow his slander to remain unretreated—his libel upon the "well-dressed people that lead their little daughters by the hand in bright garments" to worship at the shrine of his imaginary sign of the zodiac, or will he frankly confess that he has been misled?

A London telegram dated October 28th, says:—Two Greek officers are being tried by court-martial on charges of permitting contractors to supply useless torpedoes for the navy during the late war with Turkey.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL.

The St. Andrew's Ball given in the Public Hall, Yokohama, on Tuesday evening, will be recorded in the social annals of our treaty port as one of the most successful of a very successful series. To begin with, the Committee wisely and courageously cut down the list of invitations to reasonable limits, thus doing away with the dreadful crush that in recent years spoilt the function for so many. Last night the hall was never inconveniently crowded, not more than 300 persons being present at the busiest time—a most delightful state of things. Another significant feature was the large increase in the number of killed dancers. Among the tartans worn by these gentlemen were to be noticed the Clan Duff, the Clan Stewart, the Clan Fraser, the Clan McArthur, the Clan Grant, and several "crosses"—whatever that they mean. The kilts added brilliancy to the gathering, being effectively set off by the many handsome gowns worn by the ladies. But when are we to have the bag-pipes at the Scots' Ball? The Committee in charge were, President, Mr. W. Ross; Vice-President, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Committee, Messrs. C. W. Ure, G. Philip, R. W. Borthwick, J. McArthur, H. R. Mair, R. C. Ross, W. G. McVicar, C. M. Duff, R. B. McKinnell, J. Steven, C. I. Fraser, and H. W. Fraser, Secretary. It would be unfair, perhaps to particularise where all worked so hard in the interests of the guests, but Mr. Duff's labours cannot be passed over without mention. He threw himself into the affair with all his accustomed ardour, and complete success crowned his efforts.

The decorations, as usual, were very pretty. Flags were largely used both on the walls and in the alcoves, while big banners were suspended from the roof. The arms of many old Scottish families of credit and renown were used as mural decorations, and the red lion of Scotland, with the silver cross on a blue ground, the emblem of St. Andrew, were conspicuous everywhere. The stage was made into a wistaria bower, the exits into the rooms behind being through clever representations of baronial hall-ways. The work of decorating the hall and its adjuncts was in the hands of Messrs. G. Philip, H. R. Mair, C. M. Duff, and G. McVicar, and they carried out their work very pleasingly. Some trophies of arms were arranged here and there in the Hall by sailors from H.M.S. *Redrole*. Dancing began, on a capital floor, shortly before 9.30 o'clock and the Town Band were kept going till an early hour this morning. The programme of dances was as follows:—

MARCH.

- 1.—Highland Schottische
- 2.—Waltz
- 3.—Polka
- 4.—Caledonians
- 5.—Waltz
- 6.—Highland Schottische
- 7.—Lancers
- 8.—Waltz
- 9.—Reel
- Extras { I.
- II.
- 10.—Waltz
- 11.—Caledonians
- 12.—Reel
- 13.—Waltz
- 14.—Lancers
- 15.—Waltz
- 16.—Barn Dance
- 17.—Waltz
- 18.—Two Step

This was ostensibly the full programme, but several "extras" were worked in, though eventually "Auld Lang Syne" was sung by the assembled company, and the band packed up their instruments. Still the joyous dancers were loth to leave, so a lady pianist improvised some beautiful waltzes, using as her *motif* the haunting, plaintive airs of bonny Scotland, a climax being reached with "Scots wha hae." Then, and then only, did the dance break up, the last few ladies leaving about 3 o'clock.

Supper was served in the smaller hall, which also was nicely decorated. The "great chieftain

o' all the pudding race—the haggis," duly made its appearance and was properly received with all the honours due to its ancient merit, more especially at that peculiarly convivial assembly, popularly known as the second supper, which took place after the ladies had retired.

SUPPER MENU. "SCOTLAND YET!"

Roast Turkey.	York Ham.
Pheasant.	
Game Pie.	
Ye Haggis. (A Donal.)	Mint Sauce.
Roast Mutton	Corned Beef.
Roast Beef.	Corned Tongue.
	Salad.
Cream Jelly.	Gelée aux Fruits.
	Charlotte à la Russe.
Gelée au Kirsch.	Lenon Jelly.
	Pastry.
Vanilla Ice Cream.	Strawberry Ice Cream.
	Beef Tea.

During the evening Mr. Duff played one reel, and Mrs. Wheeler the other, some 16 couples taking part in them. We should not forget to mention that the following telegrams were attached to the bulletin board just before the dance began:

From Kobe:—

Brother Scots in Kobe send congratulations—Hutton.

From Hongkong:—

Chief Bell Irving and brother Scots send greeting to Yokohama Scots—Wood.

Altogether it was a memorable St. Andrew's Ball, enjoyed by all who participated in its fun and frolic.

WILLISON'S CIRCUS.

The "Circus has come to town," and opened on Thursday night under considerable difficulties, as announced by the management during the course of the evening. The seating accommodation, and the general mounting of the show were not what the public of Yokohama have been accustomed to, but this was to a great extent accounted for by the fact that some eight car loads of gear and outfitings belonging to the Circus, *en route* from Oauka, have not yet been delivered, while we understand that a Japanese contractor who had engaged to provide a number of chairs, failed to carry out his contract at the last minute. If the surroundings were not all that could be desired however, the programme of the evening's entertainment was sufficiently full and varied to suit the taste of the most exigent of spectators. Passing over the performance of "Our Band" without comment—for we don't go to a Circus to hear music—the various acts presented from the Jockey Entrée at the start, to the Wild West Quadrilles at the conclusion of the entertainment, were excellently performed. The four "Lilliputians," two little mites of girls and two boys, apparently of from five to seven years of age, were wondrously dexterous and amusing in their performances. Miss Ida Vernon, Miss Elsie St. Leon and Miss Alice Walllett, in their various equestrian acts deservedly won the enthusiastic plaudits of the spectators. The Royal Amazonian Indian Club act, winding up with the swinging of flaming torches in place of clubs, was very effective, and the wonderful evolutions of the Virets in their contortion act, "Legmania," was in itself well worth a visit to the Circus. Miss Freda Willison was most successful in her dashing four horse riding and driving act, and Mr. Harry Dixon performed the bounding jockey act with some additions never before witnessed in Yokohama. The two clowns Selvini, as usual provoked plenty of hearty laughter and amusement by their antics and jokes, and in addition there were amusing performances by trick ponies, a donkey, Ceylon bull, and an African monkey, who solemnly imitated many of the most difficult feats of accomplished human riders on pony back. There were many other acts in the programme which we have not space to enumerate, but which our readers will doubtless see for themselves during the course of the next ten days.

BAZAAR AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

A bazaar under the auspices of the Yokohama Temperance Society (Japanese) for the benefit of the Society's brass band, was held in the Public Hall on Thursday afternoon and evening. The Hall was decorated with bamboo sprays and shrubs in pots, while the stage was carpeted and furnished as a drawing-room or lounge, the Band being accommodated in one corner, while a selection of piano-forte music was also given by the bluejacket of H.M.S. *Redpole* who rendered such efficient service at the entertainment recently given by the musical troupe of that vessel. The centre of the Hall was occupied by a large stall in the shape of a horse-shoe, which was devoted to the sale of articles contributed by members and friends of the Society. These comprised fans, lanterns, toys, carvings, silk handkerchiefs, artificial flowers, and a host of fancy nic-nacs of all kinds, besides some more useful articles of ladies' attire, etc., presided over by half a dozen Japanese ladies and girls. Round the sides and at the end of the Hall, were arranged a number of stalls, conducted by various storekeepers, we believe, in which a vast variety of Japanese wares and fancy articles were exhibited for sale, such as slippers, handkerchiefs, and other silk goods, plaques, *netsukes*, carvings, photos and curios, flowers, fruits, cakes and confectionery, etc., in profusion. In the small Hall a collection of *kakemono* and water colour drawings was displayed, the prices for which ranged from \$2 to \$10, and some very pretty little "bits" of landscape might be found among them. Here was also to be found a fishing well in which the little ones angled for toys at 5 cents a head, and a kind of parlour Aunt Sallie in which, instead of sticks, soft balls were thrown at the figures to be knocked over. During the course of the afternoon and evening several exhibitions of jugglery and dancing were given at the back of the stage, and at 10 p.m. there was an auction of unsold goods. The attendance in the afternoon of foreign ladies and children, and of Japanese, was fairly large and was considerably increased in the course of the evening, and it is to be hoped the Society have netted sufficient to keep the Band in wind for some time to come.

FORGERY OF CHEQUES.

On Thursday morning, about 11 o'clock, a young Japanese named Yokoyama, employed by M. de Micheaux, went to the Van Tai Exchange Shop, No. 72, Settlement, and succeeded in cashing a forged cheque on the Specie Bank for *yen* 600 made out in the name of Strome & Co. In the afternoon the *banto* of the Exchange Shop took the cheque to the Specie Bank, where it was at once found to be a forgery. The *banto* went to No. 12, Messrs. Strome & Co., and on making inquiries learnt that the firm had not drawn the cheque. The matter was at once reported to the Kagacho Police, who from the description given them by the people at Van Tai's, succeeded in identifying and arresting the culprit during the course of Thursday afternoon. The money was also recovered, and another forged cheque, for 200 *yen* was found upon the person of the prisoner. An accomplice of Yokoyama, named Takikawa Ichizo, was also arrested and is undergoing examination at the Kagacho Police Station.

A SHANGHAI "BUNDER."

The *Fiji Shimpō*, in an extra this morning, publishes the following telegram:—

Shanghai, Dec. 1.

According to a report from trustworthy sources, the three Powers, France, Russia and Germany are about to plunder territories in the Far East in combination. Russia is to seize Korea and North China; Germany Shantung, and France Formosa and Fuhkien.

NAVAL COURTS MARTIAL IN HONGKONG.

We take from the *China Mail* the following reports of naval courts martial held in Hongkong on November 17th:—

A court martial assembled on board the *Victor Emanuel* this morning for the trial of the C. E. West, A.B., for desertion from H.M.S. *Alacrity*. The court was constituted as follows:—Capt. H. T. Dudding, *Iphigenia*; Commander R. C. Sparkes, *Linnet*; Commander C. J. Kingsmill, *Archer*; Commander Henderson, and Lieutenant Plumer, *Tamar*. Mr. V. A. Lawford was Judge Advocate, and Lieutenant Bellairs, of the *Tamar*, was prisoner's friend. The prisoner, who gave himself up on board the *Rainbow*, at Yokohama, stated he deserted from the *Alacrity* on 30th June, 1894. He said that he wished to return to England, as his warrant for apprehension had been withdrawn, to take out English certificates. Since he deserted he had served in several American sailing ships. The prisoner begged the Court to take into consideration the fact that he had been detained on H.M. ships *Grafton* and *Tamar* for a period of five months, and hoped that his previous good character in the service might be taken into consideration in mitigation of sentence, and also the fact that he voluntarily gave himself up to the authorities in order to rectify as far as possible the charge of desertion, and in doing so gave up a good position as second officer of the *R. D. Rice*, at Yokohama. The Court imposed sentence of ninety days' imprisonment with hard labour.

Two A. B.'s from H.M.S. *Peacock* were tried by Court martial to-day, on board the *Victor Emanuel*. The following officers comprised the Court:—Capt. H. T. Dudding, *Iphigenia*; Commander R. C. Sparkes, *Linnet*; Commander C. J. Kingsmill, *Archer*; Commander Henderson and Commander W. H. F. Taylor, *Tamar*. Mr. V. A. Lawford was Judge Advocate. The prisoner's friend was Mr. E. Innes, Assistant Paymaster of the *Peacock*. The first prisoner, W. J. Brangan, A.B., pleaded guilty to charges of desertion and theft. When the ship was at Yokohama, prisoner stole 175 *yen* from the box of a petty officer. He was afterwards arrested, dressed in plain clothes, at the Yokohama railway station, with a ticket for Kobe in his possession. He was sentenced to be imprisoned for twelve calendar months, with hard labour, and to be dismissed the service. Charles Hodgson, A.B., was charged with similar offences and also refusing to obey orders. The circumstances of the case were exactly similar, he having assisted in the theft. He was found in company with last prisoner. Sentence of two years' imprisonment, with hard labour, was imposed, and prisoner was also dismissed his ship.

SILK EXPORTATION FROM KOBE

Once again the project of making Kobe a centre for the export of silk produced in the Sanyo and Sanin districts is on the tapis. It is urged that too great a delay is incurred in sending silk from these districts to Yokohama, and consequently heavy losses are incurred. This is more particularly the case with Japanese silk houses who export silk direct, and the Hisuisha, a silk company in Shimaue Prefecture, has abandoned that branch of its business entirely, finding it very unprofitable. But if Kobe is made a silk centre the prospects of direct export would be improved, urge the vernacular papers, and steps should be taken to provide proper facilities at once.

JAPANESE BONDS.

The Finance Department notifies the issue of Five-per-cent. Bonds to the amount of ten million *yen*, at 94.20 *yen* per 100 *yen* Bond. The issue was made on the 26th ultimo, and as the Bonds were not placed upon the open market, the exact nature of the transaction remains to be explained.

It is stated that the officials of the Finance Department have resolved to abolish the different varieties of public loan bonds, and to have two kinds only, namely, War Bonds and Five-per-cent Bonds, the full designation of the latter being *Dai Nippon Teikoku Gohu riisuki Kosai* (Great Japan's Imperial Five-per-cent Bonds).

DANGERS TO NAVIGATION.

Captain Farquhar, of the steamer *Benledi*, which arrived at Yokohama from Kobe on Wednesday afternoon, reports passing the wreckage of a Japanese schooner between Rock Island and Vries Island. Apparently the schooner had been run into by some other vessel and was dismantled and water-logged. He passed close to her but saw no signs of life. Captain Farquhar also passed another capsized schooner inside of Sagami.

CHINESE NEWS.

Shanghai seems to be singularly apathetic about the Kiao-chow affair. The last received batch of the *N.-C. Daily News*, from the 23rd to the 26th of November, contain no editorial word about the incident. A complication that may involve most momentous international results appears to awaken little interest.

The recent trouble at Hankow, when German man-of-war's men were stoned by a mob, appears to have produced a good effect, owing, doubtless, to Baron Von Heyking's vigorous action. The Viceroy Chang has caused proclamations to be posted at Wuchang, Hanyang and Hankow, exhorting the people to treat foreigners courteously and promising that any neglect of his exhortation will be severely punished.

The mausoleum which is to serve for the Empress Dowager of China, has been in process of construction for ten years, and is not yet completed. It lies at some distance from Peking, and the Emperor is understood to be desirous of having a railway built to communicate with it.

The Chefoo correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says that, according to rumour, considerable purchases of land in the neighbourhood of Kiao-chow have been made by German residents of Shanghai, Chefoo, and so forth.

"A Shaohsing, Chêkiang, despatch of the 18th instant," writes the *N.-C. Daily News*, "states that on the 14th instant, Fu, the prefect of that city issued a proclamation informing the people of the prefecture that Governor Liao had given power to two syndicates to collect subscriptions for the building of a railway between Ningpo and the first named city. The proclamation further explains to the people that the proposed railway will be entirely built with native capital and that this is 'not a case of encroachment and seizure of land, and giving special advantages to foreigners, nor will any foreign shareholders in the company be permitted. The only foreign element in the affair will be the employment of a Western Engineer to survey the country. The proclamation winds up with calling upon the people to treat the Surveyor of the proposed Railway properly.'"

The Chungking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, speaking of the return of Mr. Kato, the Japanese Consul, says:—

We are anxious to hear what Mr. Kato has to say about the introduction of steamers on the upper Yangtze by his fellow countrymen. It will be to the everlasting credit of the Japanese if they take up this matter and push it through to its logical end. As for Britain or America or other Powers attempting it, one might as well expect the conservative Chinese to undertake the business. In spite of all the loud talk of sending steamers here on the part of European merchants it is a fact that the river has not yet been adequately surveyed! There does not appear to be very much enthusiasm about that. Hope is now centred in the enterprise of the Japanese. May they not fail us! And may their reward be great!

The second ordinary meeting of the E-Wo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company has been held. It appears that the total cost of procuring land, erecting buildings, and providing plant, has been 1,014,732 *Tls.*, and that there are nearly thirty thousand spindles at work. The mill opened with 4,000 spindles on the 10th of May. A dividend at the rate of

7 per cent. per annum has been paid. The Company owes to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. a sum of 246,822 Tls., but that amount is more than balanced by the cotton yarn in stock. Care was taken at the meeting to preserve secrecy with regard to the salaries of the employes and the cost of cotton. We notice that the buildings involved an outlay of 371,224 yen, approximately; a figure that will look very large in Japanese eyes.

The Shanghai Bicyclists' Association has been dissolved. The first task that it had to undertake was that of road-repairing, and it soon found that funds sufficient for such a purpose could not be collected.

A correspondent writing from Wen-chow to the *N.-C. Daily News*, says:—

A week or two ago the Japanese gunboat *Oshima* was here. It fell to our lot to go 50 miles inland immediately afterwards and we heard with amusement the wondrous yarns told, increasingly big the further we went, of the four, six, eight, nine foreign gunboats which had just arrived in Wen-chow, and of the thousands of foreign soldiers parading the streets. We heard in place after place how the forts all down the river had been handed over and how the Taotai, prefect and *hsien* had all given over their seals of office. The story of the man who disgorged the three black crows pales into insignificance in China. What the local yarn spun out to be by the time it got to the borders of the next prefecture forgetfulness of the rules for working out a geometrical progression prevents our stating.

One or two things we do know however; that the *Oshima* was the only gunboat here while all these rumours were flying; that her sailors numbered only a hundred or so and when ashore behaved themselves far better than the representatives of higher civilisation; that some funny English was lisped with bated breath; that the Japanese Vice-Consul went through the elaborate ceremonies connected with recognising the Wenchow *Chên'ai* (Brigadier General) as his adopted father, and himself stood in a like relationship to the *Chên'ai*'s grand-nephew, whereby they all became happily related together. Do the Japanese do this kind of thing wherever they go in China now? And is this a new method of cementing national relationship—the Japano-Chinese form of the modern Franco-Russian embrace-all-round-national *entente cordiale*?

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

We learn from the *Kokumin* that a scheme is on foot in Tokyo to institute a library of medical works for the use of physicians. Mr. Toyama and two other promoters of the enterprise are engaged in obtaining subscriptions and donations of suitable books, and their efforts have already been rewarded by subscriptions from many medical practitioners and booksellers. The proposed library will be located in the premises of the Young Men's Club, at Kanda, and will be kept open to visitors day and night. The scheme is a useful one and well worthy of support.

The export of Japanese fans to Europe is, the *Osaka Asahi* says, increasing year by year, and fans are now classed among staple exports. Statistics compiled in Kobe show that the number exported this year has increased by 4,886,569, or 73,093 yen in value, over the figures for the previous year. Of late, Spain has engaged in the manufacture of fans in imitation of the Japanese products, and has succeeded in realizing considerable profits by their export. These circumstances show that the utmost precaution must be taken by the native dealers to retain the trade.

At Nishinomachi, in the town of Kako, Hiroshima Prefecture, lived a man named Nakao, with his wife and three children. He formerly belonged to the Forestry Office in the town, but was some time ago transferred to the Mine Superintendence Office at a monthly salary of twelve yen. In September last he resigned his post and went to Formosa, but had very bad luck and shortly found himself reduced to extreme poverty. His relatives, to whom he had applied for assistance, declined to aid him and he was moreover required by his father-in-law to

separate from his wife. Thus overwhelmed with misfortunes, the unhappy man killed his wife and three children, and then committed suicide by *seppuku*.

The term "strict discipline of officials" sound rather strange in connection with the procedure of the present Cabinet, says the *Yoroku*. The councillor's room in the Home Department is virtually an editorial office of the *Kokumin Shimbu*, where three or four representatives of that journal are daily in attendance. What is more strange is that two hangers-on from Count Kabayama's house and one from Viscount Takashima's are daily employed in the *Kokumin Shimbu* Office in editorial work. The *Yoroku* is rapidly qualifying to be called the "boss" sensationalist of Tokyo.

According to the *Chuo*, a scheme is maturing for the cutting of a canal from Osaka to lake Biwa and from Biwa to Mikata in Wakasa, so that through communication may be effected between the northern sea and the Chingoku straits. Funds needed for the work will be obtained by appropriating nine million yen set apart for the repair of the river Yodo, and prisoners will be employed as labourers under the supervision of sappers. Applications in the above terms have already been presented to the Ministers of War and of Home Affairs over the signatures of certain enterprising men in Ibaraki prefecture.

Not a little anxiety has been felt by the economic community as to the organisation of the Formosan Railway Company. However, by the exertions of Messrs. Shibusawa and Okura and a few other influential merchants, most of the remaining shares of the Company have been disposed of, and schemes have been formulated for the introduction of foreign capital. A meeting of the Organisation Committee was held at the Imperial Hotel on the 29th ultimo, when it was decided that Mr. Mizuno should be appointed President of the Company. It is reported, says the *Hochi*, that the organisation will be completed within this year, and that the delivery by the Government of the existing railway will be effected so that traffic may be commenced under the supervision of the company from the 13th January next, as originally stipulated.

Mr. Takano is reported by the *Yomiuri* to have presented the following note to the Premier on the 22nd ult.:—"Some time ago I returned to Formosa to resume my post, but was prevented from doing so by the police by brute force. On making enquiry I was told that this force was applied to me in accordance with instructions from the Central Government. I now beg to request to be furnished, in the presence of the various Ministers of the Cabinet, with the precise instructions given to the Formosan Police, and being desirous of expressing my opinions on the subject, I further beg that a day be appointed for my interview." To the above representation no answer was received from the Premier up to the 29th ultimo. It is supposed that no notice will be taken of Mr. Takano's communication. Should this be the case, Mr. Takano will forward an address to the Throne insisting upon the independence of the Judiciary.

The present Government, remarks the *Yomiuri*, being deserted by all the political parties, has fallen into a state of serious embarrassment and is apparently destitute of means for carrying out its policy. Young tacticians connected with the Government, however, are holding secret meetings to deliberate upon the policy to be pursued in the next session of the Diet. Some of them advocate the purchase of members, and with that end in view have sought access to members overwhelmed with debts or anxious to obtain an official position. But the opposition has been found too strong. None of the members of the Diet dare to reveal their real intentions and they refuse to meet the overtures made by their tempters. The tacticians, however, are not at all disappointed, for they are still in possession of a delicate scheme by which the Government's antagonists may be subdued. Their ultimate aim, in the

case of failure, is to dissolve Parliament twice, and exercise their influence in the following elections to the full extent of their means. We (*Japan Mail*) reproduce this merely as a sample.

Between Iriyamoto in Nikko and the Kawamata hot springs in Kuriyama, a silver mine has been worked for some time by Mr. Takahashi, a citizen of Nikko. This gentleman failed, the *Chuo* says, to obtain satisfactory results from the enterprise, and nearly exhausted his resources. His perseverance, however, has eventually been crowned with success by the discovery of a vein containing a great quantity of gold. Specimens of the ore having been forwarded to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce for analysis it proved to contain gold in considerable quantities. Other samples were also sent to England, France, and Germany, for a closer examination. It is said that 1,000 *kwamme* of the ore contains 13,200 *monme* of silver and 500 *monme* of gold. The daily output of ore exceeds 2,000 *kwamme*.

Loans issued by the Japan Industrial Bank since its organisation up to the 25th of this month amount to 340,150 yen, of which 130,150 yen were delivered in two sums to public corporations and the remaining 209,000 yen in seven sums to private individuals. Of these private loans three were granted to manufacturers and the balance to agriculturists. Some of the loans were for a fixed period of ten years, or to be repaid in ten yearly instalments, the rate of interest being 9 per cent. for the former and 8 per cent. for the latter. Other applications have been received and are now under investigation. Among these are two spinning companies at Amagasaki and Wakayama and two other companies in Okayama and Fukuyama. It is expected that the amount of loans issued by the Bank will considerably increase by next month.

The *Yoroku* remarks that for some time past Japan's policy in her dealings with Korea has been characterised by lethargy, while the ascendancy of Russia in the Peninsula has reached a climax. The Koreans, supine and enervated as they are, have at last taken fright at Russia's action, fearing the loss of their independence, which they have come to believe can only be secured by the aid of Japan. The Court and Ministers are therefore doing their best to cultivate a greater intimacy with Japan. It might, to the casual observer, appear that this was a matter for congratulation to Japan; but no faith is to be put in Korean friendship. Koreans are as unstable as water; yesterday they flattered Russia, to-day they seek favour with Japan, and to-morrow they may turn to some other nation for friendship and support. Their present leaning towards this country is therefore not to be relied on.

According to the *Tokyo Asahi*, the currency of Formosa consists of Japanese silver yen, convertible notes, and subsidiary coins, besides the four others classes known as *Soryo*, *Sogin*, Mexican dollar, and Formosan *monsén*. The first mentioned coin is virtually a silver yen stamped at an exchange office, while the second is also of the same nature, the difference being that the coin has been stamped—"chopped"—at two or three exchange offices. It is also called the Tamsui dollar and is used in both public and private payments. These coins, however, are liable to serious fluctuations, and are far from being uniform in value. No investigation has yet been completed as to the amount of coins in circulation in spite of officers having been specially despatched by the Finance Department to report on the subject. It is said that the amount of silver yen which passed the Formosan Custom House for exchange during the past two months reached 3 millions.

Mr. Matsumoto Taikichi, manager of the Nihonbashi branch of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Company, was arrested on the 22nd ultimo on a charge of embezzling the company's funds to the amount of 16,300 yen between the 24th year

of *Meiji* and June this year. He is reported to have squandered the money in rice speculations and gambling.

Mr. Hamasaki, ex-Judge of the Formosan High Court, is reported by the *Yorodsu* to have returned the notice of dismissal sent him by the Cabinet, with a note stating that his dismissal was contrary to Article LIII. of the Constitution and he declined to accept it.

It has already been reported by a telegram dated the 25th ult. that a tunnel on the Central Railway, now in course of construction, collapsed, causing the death of several persons. The scene of the disaster, according to the *Yomuri*, was No. 5 tunnel in Tamakawa, Kasugai district, Aichi prefecture, about ten *cho* west of the boundary between Owari and Mino. The tunnel is about 50 *ken* long and the work of bricklaying was in progress when the calamity occurred. On the afternoon of the 21st ultimo, stones and rocks from the hill above the eastern entrance suddenly fell in and blocked a space of about five *ken*. Some of the men working inside, six in all, were crushed to death, the debris extending over an area of fifty *tsubo*. As it was found impossible to remove the fallen stones and rocks by human labour, 300 dynamite cartridges were employed to assist in the work, and no less than 300 coolies were engaged day and night in clearing the tunnel. On the 5th day the bodies of the six victims were dug out, some with the heads and ribs broken, while others were battered beyond all recognition.

The *Shogyo* states that a united meeting of the three emigration companies—Hiroshima, Japan, and Morioka—is shortly to be held in Hiroshima to discuss the means of obtaining personal security from emigrants to Hawaii and also of increasing the charges for dealing with them. The principal subjects to be presented for deliberation will be as follows:—(1) Agents engaged in the emigration business shall collect from each emigrant a sum of fifty *yen* as security against his desertion. (2) The fees have hitherto been limited to twelve *yen*; immediate payment for each person shall be increased to eighteen *yen*. (3) Suitable means shall be adopted for the appropriation of security money at the discretion of agents in cases of desertion or other extraordinary occasions. (4) If it is found that serious difficulty exists in collecting the security in places where emigration is for the first time undertaken, no security shall be received, provided that a fee of 20 *yen* be paid by each emigrant. (5) Agents are under obligation to afford relief to the emigrants in times of illness or other special distress, during the term of contract. (6) The savings and security of emigrants shall only be paid after their return to Japan. (7) The agents for immigration in Hawaii shall be required to adopt a uniform system in dealing with immigrants.

At the meeting of *saké* brewers lately held in Tokyo the following resolutions were passed:—(1) Should the bill for increased taxation be passed in the next session of the Diet, steps shall be taken by the *Saké* Brewers' Corporation to organise a company for the import of alcohol, with a capital of one million *yen*. (2) The registration of securities to be given for payment of the tax shall be effected according to Article XXXI. of the Registration Law. (3) All the *saké* brewers throughout the empire shall for this year produce only half the amount brewed in ordinary years. The members present at the discussion numbered 105. On the morning of the 29th ultimo, representatives of the *Saké* Brewers' Corporation repaired to the Finance Department, and having obtained an interview with Mr. Tajiri, the Vice-Minister, enquired whether the rumour as to the proposed increase of the tax on *saké* was true or not. "No definite answer could be given," was the reply. "Such a thing," added the Vice-Minister, "might possibly happen, investigations for the proposed increase having been completed." The Vice-Minister also stated that the laws passed by the Government in combination with the Diet could in no way be changed; that if the

saké brewing bill is to be revised, it must be revised radically, and that any scheme calculated to prohibit the import of foreign alcohol can only be effectually carried out after the enforcement of the revised treaties. The representatives are said to have left the office resolved to oppose the Government to their utmost.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The *London and China Express* regrets to learn that the health of Sir Ernest Satow's mother, which occasioned his Excellency's visit to England, does not show any improvement.

Russian papers complain that the Siberian Railway, instead of civilizing the regions through which it passes, is teaching the natives the art of robbing trains, which is greatly in vogue.

A Hongkong contemporary understands that Mr. R. E. Bredon, whose appointment to the position of Deputy-Inspector-General of the Chinese Maritime Customs, has just been announced, will become Chief Secretary to Sir Robert Hart.

The Japanese Imperial Household Department, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, presented a pair of silver incense burners as a token of respect to the Korean Imperial House on the occasion of the recent obsequies of the late Queen of Korea.

Captain Chichester, officers, and Ship's company of H.M.S. *Immortalité*, entertained the residents of Nagasaki at a very enjoyable smoking concert on the board their ship on November 25th. The celebration of the anniversary of the second year of the commission of the vessel was the occasion for the concert.

Mr. Wilkinson heads the Kobe batting averages, with Mr. W. D. S. Edwards second. Wilkinson had 6 innings, made 237 runs, had a top score of 101, with 2 not outs = 59.25. Edwards had 5 innings, made 166 runs, had a top score of 78, one not out = 41.50. G. Braess was the best bowler—510 balls, 26 maidens, 263 runs, 44 wickets, = 5.98. Townend comes next with an average of 6.23.

"Is Great Britain drifting into conscription?" is a question that might well be prompted by the recent trend of military politics at Home, remarks the *China Mail*. Speaking to his constituents at Faires a month ago, Sir R. B. Furlay, Solicitor-General, stated that it would be necessary to largely increase the expenditure on the British Army and Navy, and it was also probable that resort would have to be had to the ballot to select citizens to serve in the militia.

Bishop Awdry, the new Bishop of South Tokyo, in succession to the late Bishop Bickersteth, took a first-class at Balliol College, Oxford, and was also Ellerton Theological Prize-man. He has been successively Fellow and Lecturer of Queen's College, Oxford; second master at Winchester College (where he was educated); headmaster of St. John's College, Hurstpierpoint; and principal of Chichester College. He was Suffragan Bishop of Southampton until he accepted the Bishopric of Osaka.

A new steamship, the *Cymric*, for the Liverpool and New York service of the White Star Line, was successfully launched recently from the yard of Messrs. Harland & Wolff, Belfast. This vessel, whose gross tonnage is 12,300 tons and displacement 23,000 tons, is the thirty-sixth vessel constructed by the same builders for the White Star Line, and by far the largest cargo-carrying steamer in the world. Her dimensions are:—Length, 600ft.; breadth, 64ft.; depth, 42ft.

It is stated that before the King of Siam left England he wrote to her Majesty, in reply to a letter previously received from Balmoral, assuring her that the memory of the hospitality which had been accorded to him in England would ever be treasured by him. It was, perhaps, beyond the bounds of probability that he would

ever be accorded the opportunity of reciprocating her Majesty's personal kindness by extending to her a welcome in his own kingdom; but he assured the Queen that, should any members of her house visit Siam, they would find its King proud to be their host.

Mrs. Eliza Saunders, the mother of the two young lady missionaries who were massacred about two years ago in Fuhkien, China, is herself shortly to proceed to China on mission work, under the auspices of the Dublin Missionary Association. Mrs. Saunders is a Melbourne lady.

The Hottentots in German South Africa have been severely punished by German colonial troops for robberies committed upon British soil. It is said that extreme poverty caused the natives to attack their neighbours, for, as every where in South Africa, the cattle there have succumbed to the dreaded rinderpest. By way of illustration, it is stated that one farmer in Namaqualand lost 388 head out of 400. Another has only 5 left out of 280. The rich chieftain, Lapalia, has lost over 2,000.

Some months ago, the German public was surprised to hear that the whole of the artillery had been quietly provided with new guns. Now a similar surprise is impending with regard to the arms of the infantry. It is understood that the experiment made with the new six-millimetre rifle, model 1896, has given the most excellent results, and the new weapon is said to surpass those of all other States. Its introduction will most probably take place before long, and it is confidently believed that the German army will again have the start of all Powers in the question of armament.

Captain Cubitt, Master of the P. & O. *Formosa*, made the following report to H.B.M. Consulate on his arrival at Kobe on Thursday from Yokohama:—At 7 a.m. this day, about six miles W.S.W. of Simo-Misaki Lighthouse, observed a Japanese cutter-rigged craft of about 70 tons lying water-logged right in the track of shipping. Stopped alongside her for twenty minutes and had a complete view of her deck and hatchway; but saw no sign of life. She appeared to have been recently abandoned. The distress signal, "N.C.," had apparently been flying, but was hauled down close to the deck. One water-logged boat was attached to her.—*Higo News*.

In the U.S. Consular Court at Kobe, on the 29th inst., before Mr. S. S. Lyon, Consul and Judge, William Mathews and J. W. Drew, seamen on the ship *Commodore J. H. Allen*, were charged with assault and battery and resisting arrest on the 23rd inst., also with inflicting wounds upon Inspector Sakamoto, of the Kobe Police Station, during the assault. Both men, we learn from the *Kobe Herald*, pleaded guilty, and his Honour, after examining the witnesses for the prosecution, sentenced them to 60 days' imprisonment, and at the end of that period to be shipped on an American vessel if there should be one in port at that time. If there is not, the sentence is to be extended for 30 days or until such an opportunity occurs.

The *Kobe Chronicle*, writing on Monday said:—The many friends of Captain H. F. Sommer, who for many years has been in the service of the China Mutual Steamship Company, will regret to learn that the illness from which he has recently been suffering terminated fatally yesterday. It will be remembered that when the *Oopack* was here about two months ago, Captain Sommer had a paralytic stroke and was taken to the International Hospital. He was found also to be suffering from Bright's disease and other complications, we believe, and death resulted yesterday. Captain Sommer was married, and the sympathy of the deceased's many friends will be extended to his widow in England.

Mr. Robert Bowles, in the "British Journal of Dermatology," concludes that blindness and sunburn caused by snow are due to violet or ultra-violet rays of solar light reflected by the

snow. Sunstroke is also caused by these rays. Electric lights rich in violet rays, such as the arc light, produce similar effects. Mr. Maunde has pointed out that sunlight produces fevers in India, which, however, may be prevented by wearing double clothing and a head-gear of orange yellow stuff. Just as gold leaf is a protection against the burning action of Röntgen rays, some pigments, especially those containing red and yellow, arrest or alter the violet rays reflected from snow. Apparently the gaudy yellow and red turbans of negroes and Orientals have not been adopted for mere show.

Although it has frequently been stated that Mary Anderson, now Mrs. de Navarro, permanently quitted the stage when she married, she still sings for charity at concerts given at her village home situated in one of the most beautiful spots in England. To all appearances she leads an ideally happy life, she and her husband entertaining all the members of the artistic world who are personally worth knowing. This year Mr. Navarro organized a cricket match with art on one side and literature on the other. On the side of literature were Conan Doyle, Anthony Hope and others, and on art's side appeared Plunkett, Greene, Mr. Herkomer, a young American artist, and others to make up the eleven.

The imports of raw silk at the ports of New York and San Francisco, up to October, 1897, included:—

	Bales.	Lbs.	\$ Value.
New York	1,132	249,308	800,017
San Francisco	3,932	515,970	1,560,458

Total..... 5,071 765,278 2,360,475

The imports of Waste in the same period were:—

New York	705	215,700	68,263
San Francisco	300	3,500	875

Total..... 1,005 319,300 69,131

The imports of Japanese piece goods and handkerchiefs from July 1st to October 5th, 1897, were silk piece goods, 14,916 piculs; handkerchiefs, 98,395 dozen.

Mr. T. Ryding Green appeared in H.B.M.'s Court on Tuesday morning, before the Assistant Judge, Mr. Jas. Troup, on a summons taken out by Wing Hing Loong, a Chinaman, who sued for the recovery of \$40 alleged to be due for two months' rent of a house on No. 121 Settlement. Plaintiff stated that defendant had occupied the house from the 20th October, and had agreed to pay in advance, but had paid nothing. He claimed for two months' rent, from Oct. 20th to Dec. 20th. He had no agreement in writing for payment in advance. Defendant, who appeared to be very ill and feeble, and quite unfit to appear in Court, said he had made no arrangement to pay his rent in advance. He acknowledged the debt of one month's rent, but had been laid up ill in bed with pleurisy since the 14th, otherwise he would have paid it. As soon as he was able to get about he would be able to settle with the plaintiff, who had acted towards him like a regular Shylock. His Honour adjourned the case for one week to given an opportunity to defendant to settle with his creditor.

From conversation with one of the foreign military attachés who witnessed the manoeuvres in Kyushu, the *Kobe Chronicle* learns that the foreign officers present formed a very high opinion of the troops which took part in the operations, particularly of the infantry. The discipline of the men was excellent; there was no hurry or disorder, no disorganisation either in advance or retreat, but the various movements were conducted with a skill reflecting great credit on the officers and all concerned. The courtesy extended to the foreign officers was, as is customary with the Japanese on such occasions, all that could be desired; everything was done to make them comfortable, and they were given every opportunity of witnessing the evolutions and understanding the plan of attack and defence. It appears to be the general opinion of the officers that though Marquis

Yamagata was doubtless justified in his criticism of the cavalry, the discipline and organisation of the Japanese infantry would do credit to any troops in the world.

To-night the Scotsmen of Yokohama—a more loyal and hospitable band can not be found anywhere—celebrate their Patron saint's anniversary with a ball at the Public Hall. Everything promises a most enjoyable evening. From the *China Mail* we learn that a pleasing feature at the St. Andrew's Ball in Hongkong will be the music played to the last item on the programme, viz.:—Waltz and Galop. Mr. Bentley, the popular Bandmaster of the West Yorks, has completed, and dedicated to the President and Members of Hongkong St. Andrew's Society, a Waltz to be henceforth known as "Auld Lang Syne." Considering that this may be the last Hongkong St. Andrew's Ball at which H.E. The Governor, and also the West Yorks will attend, the intention is to play the Waltz, then break into the Galop as usual, and then the whole Company will sing "Auld Lang Syne" in slow time. The Waltz contains the following airs:—"Auld Lang Syne," "Auld Robin Gray," "Scots wha hae," the Galop,—"Auld Lang Syne," "Keel Row" and "Merrily danced the Quaker's wife."

Hongkong has been trying to explain away her defeats in the recent colonial Interport Matches—more particularly at cricket. "Ionic" in the *China Mail* drops into verse in attempting the matter, and we give his last three stanzas:—
But we've grown here too ultra exclusive and cricket goes down before class,
(Even Ranji would find himself out in the cold in a set where he scarcely could pass.)
For cricket no more levels all things—the Upper Dockyard only play:
And people who're not in the Dockyard, are told to get out of the way.

In the Straits, the pavilion's a platform where all ranks and all classes meet—
In Hongkong the pavilion is taboo to all who've to earn what they eat.
Hence it is that the Straits beat us badly, and hence Rudyard Kipling is wrong,
For he'll note the distinction of breed and of birth should he ever turn up in Hongkong.

Well, let be, to the Straits, God bless them, though they've beaten us all round the place,
And most will assert that defeat such as ours can not be decreed a disgrace,
But I say, and I stick to it roundly, and this is the gist of my song,
That if class had been put on one side for the nonce 't would have much better been for Hongkong.

We learn from the *New York Shipping Register* that a reception was tendered on the 21st Oct., by the Board of Underwriters at their room 51 Wall-street, to Capt. E. D. P. Nickels, of the ship *May Flint*, who, as reported by us before, brought his vessel safely into port, under very trying circumstances. The *May Flint*, from Philadelphia Aug. 22 for Hiogo, encountered a cyclone on Sept. 8, when about 400 miles off the Azores. She was severely damaged, but Capt. Nickels with rare judgement and courage brought her back to New York. Mr. A. A. Raven, President of the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Co., and the Board of Underwriters, in a neat speech, congratulated Capt. Nickels for the bravery and ability shown on this perilous voyage, assured him of the appreciation of his services by the Board of Underwriters, and presented him with a beautiful gold watch and chain. The captain thanked Mr. Raven, and remarked, that he had done nothing but his duty. After a short speech by Mr. W. A. Walker, of Walker & Hughes, referring to the excellent work done by the captain and to the captain himself as a man of deeds and not of words, the meeting adjourned.

The Rt. Hon. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain was installed as Rector of Glasgow University on November 4th. His rectorial address was devoted to patriotism. He condemned the representatives of universal philanthropy who clutched at every accusation of perfidy and cruelty against those that risked life and reputation in the British service, and said he was convinced that the nation would maintain, com-

plete and splendid, the edifice of British greatness. Subsequently at luncheon he remarked that our relations with South Africa were more satisfactory than they had been for many a day, and he believed really that a United Empire was becoming a question of practical politics.

Kobe seems to have out-done Yokohama in one feature of its St. Andrew's Ball—it had pipers. Mr. Gordon Browne headed the procession and introduced a country dance called "The Flowers of Edinburgh." Kilted dancers were present in great number.

The crew of the Siamese barque *Charon Wattana*, recently wrecked at the mouth of the Yangtze, were shipped to Hongkong on Nov. 23rd. By the wreck of the *Charon Wattana*, Siam, so far as sailing vessels are concerned, disappears from Lloyd's Register.

L'Avenir du Tonkin calls attention, says the *China Mail*, to the excessively high death-rate amongst the European civil servants in Tonkin and Annam. Out of a personnel of 706 functionaries, there have been 21 deaths this year—one due to suicide and one to an accident. The mortality has been heaviest amongst the officers engaged in the Telegraph Service on the Upper Mekong.

Thus the *Sydney Morning Herald* of the 9th Oct.—"Miss Vivienne Dagmar and her husband, Mr. Willis, both members of the ill-starred Adair Company, sailed for India by the *Armand Behic* on Thursday. The home of these artists is in Calcutta, and that they were able to return was due to the friendly exertions of the recent matinee committee, with the added assistance of Mr. Todd, who collected a considerable sum on their behalf." Yet Miss Elsie Adair told Hongkong people that her Australian trip was a huge success.

A Toronto telegram, which appears in American papers under date Oct. 27, says:—The World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union Convention ended with a meeting of the executive committee this morning, Miss Willard presiding. The dissentient voices in the organizations were dropped. The first business was the appointment of several round-the-world missionaries. Miss Jessie Ackerman and Mrs. Hellen Bullock of the United States and Miss Vincent and Miss Cummings of Australia were selected to fill such positions. Miss Shafer and Miss Ericsson were appointed European missionaries, all under the direction of the world's general officers. The resignations of Miss Kate Bushnell and Mrs. Bushnell and Mrs. Kate Andrews, three round-the-world missionaries, who were bitter opponents of the attitude of Lady Henry Somerset on the contagious-diseases question, were sent in. They were forthwith accepted. The world's banner for the largest increase in membership went to Japan; Miss Tomo Inouye will take it home. Requests for missionaries from Syria, Spain, Italy and Mexico were left in the hands of the general officers to be filled at the first opportunity. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union will be commemorated in 1898.

The Scottish Oriental steamer *Taichow*, which arrived in Hongkong on November 22nd, reports that the day before, at six o'clock, a junk flying distress signals was sighted 100 miles south of the port. A boat was sent away in charge of the chief officer, Mr. Martin, and the occupants of the junk, consisting of 7 men, 3 women, 4 girls, and 1 boy, were rescued. The master of the junk stated he left Macao on 26th October, and on the 17th Nov. bad weather was encountered, the vessel losing her rudder, spars and sails, and leaking badly. The crew had been without food or water for five days, and were in a wretched condition when rescued. The junk's crew, with an inhumanity one could scarcely believe possible, wished to leave behind a half-dead crone, said to be 90 years of age. Mr. Martin, however, in spite of the difficulties under which the rescue was effected, refused to desert the poor woman, and she was ultimately

rescued from the junk and taken on board the *Taichow*, where Capt. Primrose and his crew attended to the wants of the shipwrecked people. There was a strong northerly wind blowing and a high sea running, so that the position of the junk and her human freight was perilous in the extreme. Capt. Primrose is of opinion that the junk sank some 12 hours later, basing his opinion on the statements of the junk's crew of the rate at which the water gained upon them. Otherwise she would be a danger to navigation. She was abandoned in lat. 21 degrees N., long. 113 degrees E.—*China Mail*.

In H.B.M.'s Court for Japan, on Tuesday morning, E. A. Simmons, a coloured seaman belonging to the Japanese steamer *Tai-chu Maru*, was brought up before Jas. Troup, Esq., Assistant-Judge, on a charge of being drunk and creating a disturbance on board the vessel, in Yokohama harbour on the 29th Nov. Accused admitted having been intoxicated and professed to know nothing of what had taken place. Evidence given by Watanuki Kitaro, a constable in the Water Police, and George MacFarlane, third officer of the *Tai-chu Maru* showed that on Monday afternoon, the accused, whilst in a state of intoxication, assaulted the man in charge of the winch, while cargo was being worked, and created a great disturbance on board. He was seized by the second and third officers and shut up in a room, but broke the panels of the door and got loose again, eventually having to be put in irons and the police sent for. He used the most offensive and threatening language to the officers and caused a great deal of trouble. Captain Gope, the master of the *Tai-chu Maru*, explained to the Court that the vessel had been brought out for the Osaka Shosen Kaisha and would be transferred to that company when they arrived at Kobe, after discharging their cargo for Yokohama. The crew, mostly consisting of coloured men, would be discharged at Kobe and arrangements had been entered into to send them home. The men had been mutinous and given a great deal of trouble on the voyage out. His Honour sentenced accused to five days imprisonment with hard labour, or to be put on board his ship should she leave before the expiration of the term, and to pay the costs of the case.

Baron von der Goltz has an interesting article in the *Deutschen Rundschau*, Berlin, entitled the "Strength and weakness of the Turkish empire." The Turkish army was reorganized by General Goltz a few years ago and the effect of his work is clearly demonstrated by the result of the late war with Greece. Perhaps no foreigner is better acquainted with the real situation in Turkey than this German officer. In his article he says the strength of Turkey is still to be found in the natural qualities of her remarkable race. The men are brave, content, modest, and obedient. From the beginning, and during all the various epochs of Turkish conquests their appreciation of mutual interests has always been a characteristic feature and is still very noticeable of the people. The great loss of territory during the past two centuries is no positive proof of degeneracy or absolute weakness. The weakness of Turkey lies by no means in this, but rather in the fact that she still has more land than she is able to hold with the power at her command. She has only one people, in number about as large as the people of South Germany, from whom to draw her soldiers, and with this limited number she occupies as much territory as Germany, France and Spain put together, while she has to guard against strong and dangerous neighbours at her borders. Her military strength has not decreased numerically. Another element of weakness is her present system of government. The introduction of railways and other modern improvements would greatly improve the situation, and if the government were constituted on different lines this could be done without serious opposition from Mahomedan fanatics.

WORKSHOP REGULATIONS.

The *Keisai Zasshi* publishes a draft of a bill for labour regulations to be presented in the next session of the Diet, which we translate as follows:—

Art. I.—These Regulations are to be applied to workshops or factories where more than 50 artisans or apprentices are employed for working machines propelled by hydraulic power, steam, electricity or wind.

Art. II.—Institutions other than those prescribed in the foregoing article shall be placed under special restrictions by the issue of an Imperial Ordinance, provided that the same are considered dangerous in nature or injurious to health.

Art. III.—Youths under the age of ten are not to be employed in any factory or workshop.

Art. IV.—Youths below fourteen years of age shall not be allowed to work for more than 10 hours a day.

Note.—In factories where night work is undertaken, 8 hours shall be the limit for work during the day.

Art. V.—Workmen shall be granted more than an hour of rest during the day, and more than two days within one month, three national holidays being strictly observed.

Art. VII.—The employer is under obligation to provide means of education for work-people below fourteen years of age.

Art. XIII.—In case of the injury, illness, or death of artisans in the course of their duties, a proper amount of remuneration or compensation must be made to the artisans themselves or their families.

Art. IX.—A working contract may be annulled by either party at any time after the expiration of one year, or, in the case of apprentices, after three years, provided that notice of the annulment be given 15 days previously.

Art. X.—Workmen are entitled to have their contracts dissolved in any of the following cases:—

1. When they have been required to suspend work for more than two weeks for the convenience of the employer.

2. When acts of violence or obscenity have been committed upon workmen or members of their family by the employer, overseer, or members of their families.

3. When they are forced to engage in work calculated to risk their lives or to impair their health.

4. When wages are not paid or work is not provided for them in due time.

Art. XI.—Any employer who knowingly secures the services of another's artisan is responsible for payment of damages incurred by the injured party.

Art. XII.—Any person receiving a labourer for apprenticeship shall strictly conform to the regulations specially established for the purpose, and obtain the local Governor's sanction.

Art. XIV.—In every factory or workshop suitable arrangements shall be made for protection against accidents and for preserving health.

In case it is deemed that danger is imminent to adjoining houses, or public interests are impaired, by a factory or workshop, the local Governor may issue orders for protective measures to be taken or for the suspension of work wholly or in part.

If the proprietor of a factory or workshop fails to make such arrangements, the work shall be undertaken by the local Governor and the proprietor in question shall be required to pay all the expenses incurred in connection therewith.

Art. XV.—Overseers may impose restrictions or alteration of work if it is considered to be of a dangerous nature, or injurious to health or public morality.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"THE SOCIAL EVIL" ETC.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Kindly permit me a few words on the above subject from my point of view. But before I give my views, I may be allowed to say concerning Colonel Bacon's remarks on the subject that I was with him when he visited the prostitute quarters of Nagoya, Osaka, Kyoto and the Yoshiwara, and that I heard his speeches also. He was not making comparisons between countries; because other countries are filthy is no reason that Japan should be filthy. Japan is below the ideal. As to the number of prostitutes in Japan, has the Editor of the *Japan Mail* ever read, "How is the Social Evil regulated in Japan"? The author

seems to have studied the question. He calculates the regular licensed prostitutes at 500,000, and adds to this, at least a million *daruma* and *mushimori*, and 500,000 *geisha*, making a total of about 2,000,000, or 10 % of the female population of all ages of the entire country. I do not know about the quantity in other countries but if the above doesn't fill one with horror, nothing will. The shameless exhibitions in the Yoshiwara and at Nagoya, are things that almost petrified me when I first saw them a few weeks since. The quality in Japan is bad. Now my impeachment is not that of the *unfortunates* themselves, nor of the country that produces them, but of the conditions that make this awful evil possible. Perhaps Mr. Editor thinks Japan the best country in the world on this question. Be it the best or the worst, it is bad. The question is not one entirely of lust nor of race, but has a financial element in it that is well worth considering. One kind of regulation may be better than another but can not it be blotted out? The parties concerned are 1, the parents, 2, the girl, 3, the brothel keeper, 4, the patrons 5, the public. Why do parents sell a daughter? Because they have to do so in order to live. Why does the girl go to a brothel? Because there is more money in it than in any other employment. Why is a man willing to keep such a place, when it gives him such a low standing? He has hard work to make money in other ways. Why do men patronize such places? Well, the places are there and invite them, they are authorized and no great stigma is attached to going, etc.; but the difficulties that confront thousands of young men who would gladly bear the responsibility of families, prevent them, they become disgusted with the world and desperate and run into vice. The revenue derived from the tax is a balm to the public, or government, conscience on the matter. Till the financial question is settled right, the evil will be apt to continue growing rather worse than better as conditions become harder with the awful downward competition in life. Certainly we must solve the problem, how can we live before we can solve the problem how can we live decently? We must solve this problem abstractly before we can concretely. As a social question it does not belong entirely to the Japanese but to all of us. Let us not wrap ourselves in the *ermine* of purity and let on it is no concern of ours, as much as to say "we are pure, be like us." We must help solve the problem of keeping the people alive. My solution is this:—Give the people their land rights, then they can sustain life easily, then the parents will not send their daughters; the brothel-keepers will go into other businesses, the patrons will not patronize them, and the public will not be troubled with the question. But alas! The missionaries are not in politics, and can't say anything about men's right to land, the business men are not in religion or politics, and pay no attention to the subject, the politician pays but little attention because he is all in politics and doesn't mix in religious subjects, the editors come in just enough to make their papers sell and so the wickedness goes on. The solution of the problem must take account of all the factors—one is the money factor.

Yours etc.,
CHAS. E. GARST.
(The figures quoted by our correspondent are monstrously absurd. The *geisha* of Tokyo do not total two thousand. Where are the remaining four hundred and ninety-eight thousand to be found?—Ed. J.M.)

THE CONCERT AT THE CENTRAL TABERNACLE

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I do not know whether the projectors of the concert held at the Central Tabernacle on Saturday night would like to see any untoward incident that occurred at it publicly noticed in a newspaper. But I am sure that no sensible Japanese present at the concert will hesitate to express his sincere sympathy for the distressed lady who acted on the night as ticket-receiver, trying in vain to persuade her alarmed friends and visitors that nothing extraordinary was happening,—a lady, European, but, it deserves mentioning quite Japanese, as far as her mastery of our language goes. Neither can he forbear feeling infinitely *kinodoku* for a portion of the European audience who were literally frightened out of the hall by the loud yellings uttered by the boys in the galleries at the first pathetic sentence recited by the *Biwa* player. And the fear, shared by many present at the scene, that similar experiences repeated might convey a very mistaken notion of Japanese sense of music, makes it but incumbent upon any one who can to say a word in explanation of the affair. Every one knows, as no doubt do the Japanese gentlemen directly concerned in the project, that the wording of all *biwa* songs is highly excitable, especially

with sensitive Japanese boys, but also that these boys, even while crying themselves hoarse at every pitch of the player's voice, are conscious that they are prompted by pure love of drollery. If they pay their small admission, it is not for music, for which they have no appreciative ears, but for the hoisterous account they find for themselves in the *biwa* performance. Their manner is anything but decent and ought to be cudgelled, but that is a question apart. The wonder is why the Japanese section of the projectors had allowed the *biwa* to be included in the programme of a concert essentially polite in purpose. As matters stand, the *biwa* is avowedly the music of *satsuma* (not *Satsuma*, please mind) men, as the *koto* is that of the polite Japanese, and a Tokyo paper's synonym for *satsuma* is barbarism. Ask an intelligent Japanese what is his opinion of the *Satsuma Biwa*, and he will answer that it is no music but a relic of the feudalism such as flourished in the dominion of Lord Shimazu. It must be observed, therefore, that a concert that appeals to the purses of *shosets* whose nomenclature of musical instruments begins with the *Satsuma Biwa*, is, to say the least, a very low-toned concern and practically intercepts the patronage of the gentler Japanese.

Yours respectfully,

TEMPLE.

Tokyo, November 28th, 1897.

(The *Satsuma-biwa* is to the Japanese pretty much what the harp was to the Welsh of old. The songs sung to it are full of passionate patriotism, and we have ourselves experienced emotion in listening to them. We do not think that the term "barbarous" is applicable in any sense to the *biwa*. It may be called the "music-hall" instrument of Japan, and many of the popular ditties shouted by music-hall audiences in London belong to a lower range of sentiment than the compositions for the *biwa*. But the concert on Saturday seems to have approximated to a bear-garden at one time. The disappointment of the students when there seemed to be a chance of their being deprived of the promised *biwa* performance made them vociferously intolerant of everything that appeared to stop the way. A little more of that kind of thing would effectually deter foreigners from lending their assistance at concerts for Japanese.—Ed. J.M.)

BRITISH CONSULAR REPORT FOR HYOGO AND OSAKA.

In his report on the trade of Osaka and Hyogo for the year 1896, Mr. Hall, Her Majesty's Consul at Kobe, writes:—

The trade of this port in 1896 continued to increase at its usual rapid rate, as a comparison with the previous year shows.

	1896.	1895.
Imports	£ 9,461,263	£ 6,180,250
Exports	4,434,594	4,219,333

Total

£13,895,857 £10,399,583
Difference about £3,500,000 sterling, being an advance almost exclusively in imports of over 33 per cent. Ten years ago, in 1887, the total trade of Yokohama was under £61,000,000, and last year it had grown to somewhat over double that amount, about £135,000,000, whereas the trade of this port, which, in 1887, was under £27,000,000, had grown in last year to more than four and a-half times that amount, about £123,000,000. It seems pretty clear, then, that this port is fast catching up to Yokohama in the volume of its trade, and is bound, unless some totally unforeseen change occurs, to become before long the leading port of Japan. In fact, Kobe has already definitely outstripped Yokohama as regards imports. Ten years ago the imports into Yokohama were double those of Kobe; five years ago they were hardly more than equal; for the last four years Kobe has kept steadily ahead. It is only in exports that Yokohama excels Kobe, and as half the export trade of Yokohama consists of raw silk, hardly any of which goes to England, it is obvious that, as regards the interests of British manufactures, this port is the most important in Japan.

Kobe is, in fact, the third in importance amongst the ports of Eastern Asia. Shanghai is, of course, by a long way first, Yokohama comes second, Kobe a close third, being, as regards trade, shipping, and foreign population, considerably ahead of such ports in China as Tientsin, Canton, Hankow, Fenchow, or Amoy. From having been, as regards trade and importance, an intermediate port, Kobe has now definitely taken its place as one of the three leading emporia of the Far East.

TRADE SURVEY.—During the first half of the year trade was brisk, during the latter half, owing mainly to excessive rains and agricultural disasters from floods throughout the country, trade was nearly stagnant. A sure sign of dullness in trade in Japan is an increase in the number of applications for surveys of goods alleged to be not equal to sample, and there were twenty-seven such applications made to this Consulate last year, mostly in the latter half, as against a previous yearly average of less than a third of that number. When the Japanese merchant finds that the goods he has

ordered through a foreign merchant resident here will arrive on a falling market, he becomes very exacting as regards perfect correspondence between the goods and the sample, attaching great importance even to a minute variation in the shade of a colour. He therefore objects to take delivery of the goods unless an abatement is made in the price on account of the alleged inferiority to sample. The foreign merchant is consequently obliged to apply to the Consulate of the home manufacturer's nationality for a survey by experts in that line of goods, with the general result that the manufacturer has to stand the loss of the abatement allowed, as well as of the surveyor's fees. Annoying as this practice must necessarily be at times to the home manufacturer, it is obvious that the cure for it is not to be sought in the direction of dealing at first hand with the Japanese import merchant.

TEXTILES.—By far the largest increase has been in the textile fabrics, especially cottons. In 1896 cotton manufactures, inclusive of yarn, were imported to the amount of over £1,000,000 sterling, as against less than £700,000 worth the year before. Moreover, this increase in the manufactured article was coincident with a still larger increase in the import of raw cotton, of which about 86,000 tons were taken, value close on £3,000,000 sterling, as against £2,000,000 sterling worth, 75,000 tons, the previous year. Five years ago—i.e., in 1891—the cotton manufactures were under £700,000 in value, whilst the import of raw cotton had risen to over £1,100,000 sterling. This rapid development of manufacturing energy in this country was mainly owing to the stimulus of cheap silver, now enhanced by the abolition of export duty. Now that Japan has, in the course of the present year, shifted the basis of her currency, in the hope of permanently securing the enormous advantage thus undesignedly bestowed on her by the monometallic legislation of the West, it may be confidently predicted that if silver continues to fall below the par of exchange, 1 to 32, which Japan has fixed, the advantage she has hitherto enjoyed will pass to other silver-using countries, such as China and India. The improvement was very marked in yarns of the higher and costlier counts—twofolds and gassed—and that in spite of the fact that the imports from Bombay have rapidly dwindled away. It is worth noting, too, that American cotton, raw, is in growing demand, the long stapled variety being indispensable for the better grades of yarn. The value of this American import was about £360,000, nearly double that of the previous year.

WOOLLENS.—In woollen textiles the increase has been even greater proportionally than in cottons, £865,000 worth having been imported last year, as against £443,000 the year preceding, an increase of about 90 per cent., principally in the leading woollen staple, mouseline de laine. But there was much over-speculation in this article, for the statistics of consumption show a bare increase of 6 per cent., whilst the increase of importation was 70 per cent. The import of wool was over 1,300,000 lbs., value £26,000, as against 867,000 lbs., value £12,000, in 1895.

METALS.—Iron and steel manufactures were imported to the value of just £750,000 sterling, as against £588,000 worth in 1895, an increase of over 21 per cent. Fully half this increase is due to rails, of which over 20,000 tons, value £90,000, were taken, being more than double of the figures of the preceding year. It is in fact worth specially noting that for the first time rails made in America were imported to Japan during last year, the value thereof being about £37,000. In bar and plate iron increased imports of some 12 and 23 per cent. respectively are shown. The increase in plates is due to the demand for mild steel plates for ship, bridge, and boiler building. Of pig-iron there was an import of nearly 54,000 tons, as against 38,000 tons the year previous. This staple has hitherto been imported entirely from England, but there are indications that the United States is preparing to cut in as a competitor. The steady increase in wire nails must be placed entirely to the credit of the American article, German nails showing a falling-off as compared with 1895. Of galvanised sheet-iron the import was almost treble that of the previous year, the increase amounting to about £10,000. Very large quantities were required by the Government, particularly for Formosa. In the metal trade of this port England takes a close place, Belgium being first, and Germany second.

Of SUGAR nearly 44,000 tons, value £518,060, came in, as against over 44,000 tons, value £455,000, in 1895. There was thus an advance of nearly 19 per cent. in value upon a decrease of 2 per cent. in quantity. The decrease took place in white sugar, and the movement was concurrent with an advance in the import of beet sugars from Germany, of which some 6,400 tons

were sold at prices averaging about £12 per ton.

The total export trade shows an increase of only 5 per cent.

RICE.—The largest in value of the exports from this port last year was rice, to the amount of over £500,000 sterling. Notwithstanding the high rank of Japanese rice—second only to that of South Carolina—and the unrivalled skill of the Japanese cultivator in growing it, the export increases but slowly. All the rice that leaves the country goes from two places, this port and Bakan (otherwise better known as Shimonoseki).

The raw or unhulled rice is valued at £8 per ton, the polished at £10. The comparative export for the past four years is as follows:—1893, 67,583 tons; 1894, 117,918 tons; 1895, 84,052 tons; 1896, 84,200 tons. Every ton of this is for culinary use, none being employed for manufacturing, starch, &c., as is the case with the tropical rice exported from Saigon, Siam, and Burmah. The export is not likely to increase very much, the increase of the farming population being steadily drawn away from the land by the attraction of higher wages obtainable in the nascent manufacturing industries, or by emigration. The area under rice cultivation, therefore, increases but slowly, keeping pace with the requirements of home consumption. Three-fourths of the exports go to Europe, the remaining fourth being nearly equally divided between Australia and America.

MATCHES.—The second place in the list of staple exports is taken by matches, of which 17,654,000 boxes, value £531,000, were exported, an increase of about 14 per cent. on the preceding year. The market for these is virtually the whole of Eastern Asia, where the far superior but higher priced foreign article is driven out of competition. An attempt has been made to introduce Japanese made matches into American markets, but it is a field in which the parsimonious consideration which sway Asiatic populations have little or no place.

COTTON YARNS.—The third place in the list of exports was taken last year by Japanese cotton yarns. I append the values of this new staple export for the last four years:—1893, £516; 1894, £73,600; 1895, £81,116; 1896, £332,420. Other cotton manufactures, piece goods, flannels, and crapes, were exported to the value of £176,000, and putting these along with the yarns, the total, £508,030 gives to cotton manufactures a close third place in the list of the staple exports of the port.

Next comes MATTING, of which only £322,000 worth were exported as against £374,000 the previous year. Nearly all of this goes to the United States, and the falling-off is due entirely to the manufacture. Neither as producer nor consumer is British trade much concerned with this commodity, but the cognate manufacture of carpet, hemp, and cotton is deserving of some notice, notwithstanding that the export of these likewise shows a slight decrease, the number exported being about 660,000 pieces, value about £150,000, for each of the last two years. The seat of this industry is the town of Sa'kai, about eight miles south of Osaka. The rugs are made principally of jute. There are 2,400 looms to each house, and each loom is attended by four persons. The warps of the rugs are of cotton, but the welt is thick jute yarn, and the filling thin jute yarn. The designs are mostly Turkish and Persian (imitated), very few of the old flower (Japanese) designs being now made. The price ranges from 2d. to 4d. per square foot, according to the quantity of material used. When the weavers are fully employed in filling orders, they can turn out 4,800 square yards daily. The yarn used in this manufacture is principally imported from Calcutta.

WOOL RUGS.—In the course of last year the Sa'kai weavers have made a step forward by turning their attention to the manufacturing of wool rugs, and they are now able to turn out a very creditable article, which in appearance and durability, is almost equal to a Turkish carpet. The warps and welt are cotton, the filling wool yarn, and the prices range from 6d. to 1s. per square foot. Most of the wool yarn is manufactured from Chinese raw wool spun in Osaka. An important improvement in the rug business is the attention now paid to dyeing colours.

COPPER comes next to matting in value, the export in 1896 being over 7,000 tons, value £350,000, as against 6,600 tons, value £316,000 in 1895.

TEA.—The export of tea was 7,000 tons, value £240,000, a falling-off of over 30 per cent. from the previous year. Direct export of this staple by Japanese merchants is slowly increasing, amounting to nearly one-fifth of the total. Fully half the crop is brought into this market in the months of May and June, giving employment under the foreign merchants to over 10,000 Japanese in firing, sifting, sorting, and packing

the leaf. The fliers are principally women and children, earning about 4d. a day; the silters, sorters, and packers, men and women, earn about 8d. a day.

STRAW-BRAID continued to expand, the export amounting £130,000 worth, nearly double of the previous year; the higher grades have been in great demand for both the American and European markets.

CAMPOR, for which this port used to be the leading market of the world, fell off last year to under 1,000 tons, value £118,000, barely a third of the figures of seven years ago. The supply from Formosa was shipped to Hongkong, which is now likely to become the permanent depot for that island.

DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE.—It appears that half of the total imports are British, and of those more than half are from the mother country; Chinese come next, amounting to nearly a sixth; American next, nearly a tenth; German next, over a twelfth; French, about half the German. As compared with the figures of the preceding year imports from the United States show the largest increase, 86 per cent.; next come French imports, increase over 49 per cent.; next comes the British, increase, over 46 per cent.; then the German, nearly 40 per cent.

Only one-tenth of the exports goes to Great Britain, but almost four-tenths more goes to British dominions. China receives a fifth of the exports, the United States rather less than a fifth, leaving about a seventh for all other countries, the share of Korea being nearly equal to that of France and Germany combined.

Though the total increase in the export compared with 1895 was only 5 per cent., the fluctuations in the trade with the various countries were so considerable as to be well worth noting. The largest increase was in the exports to China, amounting to 68 per cent.; to Great Britain an increase of 22 per cent. The greatest decrease was in the exports to Germany, amounting to 58 per cent.; those to the United States fell off to the extent of 30 per cent.

SHIPPING shows an advance of nearly 7 per cent. in the number of ships, and nearly 13 per cent. in the tonnage. The most notable feature in the movements of shipping was the increase under the Japanese flag from 116 ships, 685,29 tons, in 1895, to 397 ships, 411,935 tons in 1896, due to the return of the transports to the commercial service consequent on the conclusion of the war with China, and the starting of new lines with the ships bought during the hostilities and since. The shipping under various foreign flags therefore shows a decrease, amounting in the case of British shipping to over 4 per cent.; of German shipping to over 30 per cent.; of French, under 4 per cent. On the other hand, American shipping advanced from 56,587 tons in 1895 to 77,159 tons in 1896, an increase of over 36 per cent. Notwithstanding this new Japanese departure, however, British shipping retains its wonted preponderance, being fully 60 per cent. of the total tonnage of the port, whilst Japanese is only one-third of the British.

FOREIGN POPULATION.—There are now well over 2,000 foreigners, including children, residing at this port, the Chinese furnishing more than half and the British more than a quarter. Next to the British, 515, come the Germans, 141, then the Americans, 126. In Osaka, where the foreigners number over 500, the Chinese furnish four-fifths, and there are 70 Americans as against 40 British, most missionaries. Of foreign firms there are in Hyogo 68 British, 28 German, 23 American, and 7 French, few of which have branches or even agencies in Osaka, as the tendency of business is to gravitate more and more towards this, the better seaport. Five-sixths of the business of the port passes through the hands of these foreign middlemen, to the mutual benefit of the Japanese buyer or exporter and the European or American manufacturer or importer. The Japanese Customs returns show a much larger proportion of so-called direct trade; but in many cases the foreigner finds it convenient to transact business in the name of a friendly Japanese firm, while retaining the substantial interest and the control of the documents in his own hands.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

ENGLAND AND FRANCE IN AFRICA.

London, Nov. 26.

Reuter has received a despatch from Lagos to the effect that a French expedition had arrived at Nikki, and that the

Governor of Dahomey had started for the hinterland with a considerable force.

Further news has been received from Uganda of a reassuring nature.

A rumour has reached the Colonial Office to the effect that a conflict has taken place between 400 British and a French force near Nikki, but it is officially discredited.

The rumour, contained in a recent Reuter's despatch from Lagos, of a conflict between British and French forces near Nikki, is unfounded.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

The statement that Prince Henry of Prussia will command a squadron of cruisers bound for China waters is confirmed. He will probably sail on the 10th of December.

It is reported that Russia has acquiesced in the occupation of Kiao-chow by Germany, providing that she is allowed a free hand in Korea.

The demands of Germany on China include the payment of a large indemnity, the erection of a cathedral, the punishment of officials, a railway monopoly in Shantung, and the cession of Kiao-chow as a coaling station.

China refuses to discuss the matter until Kiao-chow is evacuated.

CONFLICT IN THE AUSTRIAN REICHSRATH.

Indescribable scenes of violence have occurred in the Austrian Reichsrath, culminating in a quarter-of-an hour's hand-to-hand fight.

Thirteen deputies of the Austrian Reichsrath have been suspended. They were removed by the police, after storming the platform of the President, who fled during the tumult.

The Austrian Cabinet has resigned, and this afternoon Dr. Baron P. Gautsch, Minister of Public Instruction, has been charged with the formation of a new Ministry. Renewed demonstrations have occurred in front of the Reichsrath, and a force of Police and Hussars having charged the mob with drawn swords, many were wounded. The demonstrations ceased when the resignation of the Cabinet became known.

MORE TROUBLE FOR TURKEY.

The Albanians have revolted, and in the severe fighting with the Turkish forces that followed heavy losses were incurred by both sides.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

The meeting of Parliament has been fixed for February 8th.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

London, Nov. 29.

Stoddart's eleven, playing a team of thirteen in Queensland, scored 636 in the first innings.

The Queensland thirteen made 316, with eight wickets down, when the game was drawn.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

Russia, supported by France, urges the Porte to commence the evacuation of Thessaly.

THE GERMAN NAVY.

London, Nov. 30.

The German Naval Bill has been published, and provides for the building of seven battleships and nine cruisers before the close of 1905, increasing the annual

expenditure by four million marks, but without any new taxation.

NEW RUSSIAN MINISTER TO CHINA.

London, December 1.

Mr. de Speyer, Russian Consul-General at Seoul, has been appointed Minister to Peking.

INDIA COUNCIL BILLS.

The total applications for India Council Bills amount to 1,233,000 pounds sterling. Tenders of £98 11s. 6d. receive about twenty per cent. above that in full, the average realised being £2 15s. 2d. discount.

NEW GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG.

Sir Henry Arthur Blake, K.C.M.G., Governor of Jamaica, has been appointed Governor of Hongkong.

HEAVY GALE AND LOSS OF LIFE.

A terrific gale has swept the British coasts, resulting in the loss of twelve vessels with all hands, besides thirty others being wrecked. The piers at Broadstairs and Sheerness have been destroyed.

(FROM TOWERS PAPERS.)

THE PARIS BUTCHERS STRIKE.

Paris, November 10.

The butchers' strike has terminated.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND IN AFRICA.

Lord Salisbury in a speech said that England aimed at freedom for trade on the Niger, the Nile, and the Zambesi, and that she would maintain her rights in her negotiations with the Powers.

Paris, November 11.

The French journals express themselves fairly well satisfied with Lord Salisbury's speech. They say the ideas developed by the speaker with respect to commercial freedom in Africa are those which have always been entertained by France.

ABOLITION OF SECRECY IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS IN FRANCE.

Paris, November 13.

The Chamber has adopted the proposal for the abolition of secrecy in criminal proceedings. An advocate will assist at the preliminary examination.

TRAIN BLOWN UP BY CUBAN REBELS.

Paris, November 14.

The Cuban rebels have blown up a train with dynamite near Nuevitas. Twenty persons were killed and twenty-seven wounded.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

Paris, November 15.

Great excitement has been caused by the publication in the *Figaro* of an article stating that the report which M. Scheuer-Kestner has sent in to the Government shows that the acts charged against Captain Dreyfus continued after his condemnation and that some other officer must have been guilty. The papers call upon M. Scheuer-Kestner to state the name of this officer, as it is impossible to allow suspicion free play.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

THE EXPORT OF RICE FROM KOREA.

Seoul, Nov. 29.

The regulations for prohibiting the export of rice will not be issued.

NO MORE BAD TEA FOR CANADA.

Kobe, Nov. 29.

According to a telegram from New York received by the Tea Exporting Company yesterday the Canadian Authorities have prohibited the import of low class tea, the same as the United States have done. If the report is true exporters will suffer greatly.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Sapporo, Nov. 29.

To-day a man was accidentally run over and killed by a train at the Sapporo Station.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek side.

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Ichome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 347.

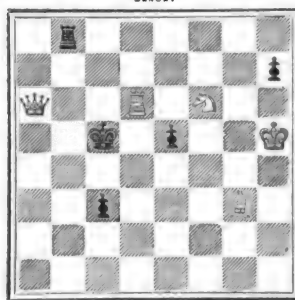
- WHITE. BLACK.
 1—Kt to KB5 1—K to R3
 2—K to B6 2—P to Kt4
 3—Kt to Q B5, mate 1—K to R5
 2—Kt to Q4 2—K or P moves
 3—R to R7, mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., J.W.E., D.D., T.S.T., and M.W.

PROBLEM No. 349.

By WILLIAM O'HARA.

(First Prize Belfast News Letter Tourney.)



White to mate in two moves.

GAME No. 349.

Lasker declares that the K B Gambit is unsound. He says: "The idea of the gambit, if it has any justification, can only be to allure Black into the too violent and hasty pursuit of his attack." The following game, known as "The Immortal Partie," is given by Lasker in his "Common Sense in Chess." He says that it is unsound in the highest degree, and yet of an exceptionally brilliant character.

- White—Anderssen. Black—Kieseritzky.
 1—P to K4 1—P to K4
 2—P to KB4 2—P takes P
 3—B to B4 3—Q to R5, ch
 4—K to Bsq 4—P to Q Kt4
 5—B takes P 5—Kt to KB3
 6—Kt to KB3 6—Q to R3
 7—P to Q3 7—Kt to R4
 8—Kt to R4 8—P to QB3
 9—Kt to B5 9—Q to Kt4
 10—P to K Kt4 10—Kt to B3
 11—R to K Kt sq 11—P takes B
 12—P to KR4 12—Q to Kt3
 13—P to R5 13—Q to Kt4
 14—Q to B3 14—Kt to Kt sq
 15—B takes P 15—Q to B3
 16—Kt to B3 16—B to B4
 17—Kt to Q5

"I have not dwelt on the constant violation of principle by Black," says Mr. Lasker. "The consequence of his imaginative schemes is that none of his pieces are developed."

- 17—..... 17—Q takes P
 18—P to Q5 18—Q takes R ch
 19—K to R2 19—B takes R
 20—P to K5

"Obstructing the line from QR8 to K Kt 2. A glorious finish."

- 20—..... 20—Kt to QR3
 21—Kt takes P ch 21—K to Q sq
 22—Q to B6 ch 22—Kt takes Q
 23—B to K7, mate

HONGKONG.

We learn from the *Hongkong Telegraph* that the Hongkong Chess Club will in future meet every Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoons, at the Public Library in Bank Buildings (No. 18), instead of the Grill Room as hitherto. The moribund chess clubs of the Japan ports will no longer be able to call us "Salamanders," remarks our contemporary. We don't know how the Kobe Club is progressing, but we can assure the *Telegraph* that the Y.C.C. is far from moribund now that new blood has come along "to stir the lees."

"Black Bishop" taunts us with depending too

much upon scissors and paste in filling our column, and extends his gentle commiserations. We return our grateful thanks. Of late we have done our best to remove such a slur—if it ever really existed—by giving as much local news as we could gather together. But Yokohama players are very devoted to their "ain firesides" in the cold, cheerless winter evenings and it is impossible for men who have their bread to earn to foregather of an afternoon as they do down south. Hence local topics are scarce and difficult to come by.

WOMEN'S CHESS TOURNAMENTS.

Mr. Buckley, chess editor of the *Birmingham Weekly Mercury*, writes on the recent Ladies' International Chess Tournament as follows:—We promised to tell our friends about the ladies' tourney, but last week we lacked the space. The Masonic Temple of the Hotel Cecil never looked so fairy like before. There at the ten tables sat the twenty competitors, all dressed in tasteful summer robes, many of them distractingly pretty, each and every one with some particular charm. It was like wandering in a garden of roses, and the humble representative of the *Mercury* for once felt like a thirteen-stone butterfly flitting from flower to flower. We name no names, dreading invidiousness, but we noted that the prettiest women, and not necessarily the strongest players, had the largest group of masculine lookers-on. One delightful creature, with a killing hat, and a complexion like a peach, was particularly favoured in this respect; and, truly, she was worth looking at, whether as a chessist or in any other character. Her calmness was exemplary, and the sweet way in which her fan undulated, while the clever brain thought out subtle combinations, was of itself sufficient to place the Ladies' Tournament among the classical events of chess. Presently the jewelled hand came forth with decision, and a knight swooped down on a pawn. The antagonist winced and said:—"O, how stupid of me!" from which it will be seen that the fair sex, like the unfair sex, are apt to attribute misfortune rather to their own oversight than to the superior strategy of their opponents. At another table a sweet creature played a move, and then, perceiving that the move would be disastrous, took it back with a caressing "Do you mind?" to which the other sweet creature replied:—"O, dear, no. Certainly not!" from which it would appear that some ladies are unable to see that agreeable laxities under such circumstances constitute a gross injustice to the other competitors. Taking the quality of the chess, by and large, as the sailors say, it was decidedly poor as compared with any masculine tournament whatever. Two or three of the competitors were tolerable players, and one or two really good—for ladies. But, as a whole, the games were not worth serious notice, which fact we regret to place on record. One feature of the contest was eloquent of the players' lack of experience and skill. It was the lengthy protracting of utterly hopeless games. What of the players who calmly continued when, with the worst position, she was also a queen and a knight to the bad? What of the lady who went on with the lone king against a bishop and two united pawns? What of the fair chessist who, having lost the queen for a rook, proposed to recommence, as the calamity was "quite an oversight?" And what of the foreign representative who explained to the lookers-on that she lost her games because she had not sufficient time to practise with strong players? The occasion was memorable as the first international chess tourney for ladies only, but the interest attaching to this unique circumstance was unable to extend itself to the chess, and, despite the Right Hon. Horace Plunkett, we do not expect that ladies will ever be able seriously to compete with men in open tournaments for both sexes. We remember the famous mates in thirty-six moves or so, which Mrs. Gilbert, a score of years ago, sent to us over the Atlantic, but correspondence play, with its facility of exhaustive experiment, is a very different matter from competition in a public arena; and we repeat that we do not expect to see the day when ladies will be able to seriously dispute the palm in international tourneys open to both sexes, nor do we wish to see it. Of one thing we are absolutely sure. Should any lady succeed in beating Lasker, Tarrasch, Pillsbury, and the rest, no man on earth, chess mad or otherwise, could ever be persuaded to marry her.

We (*Japan Mail*) desire to supplement these remarks. Just thirty-one years ago there was a lady in Hongkong who played a really fine game provided that the Evans' Gambit was always chosen. She had studied that particularly fine system of strategy for years, and what she did not know about it, no one need have cared to know.

The following is a specimen game in the Ladies'

International Tournament which reached an abrupt termination:—

WHITE—Miss Field.		BLACK—Miss Hon.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K3	6 Kt B3	P B4
2 P Q4	P Q4	7 B Kt5	Q B4
3 Kt QB3	PxP	8 PxP	BxP
4 Kt xP	Kt KB3	9 Q Q8 mate.	
5 Kt xKt	QxKt		

"PAWN AND MOVE."

He escorted her home from a party,
 Together they had joined in the dance;
 Mamma gave a welcome quite hearty,
 And he—he was killed by a glance.
 She told him she doted on chess,
 It was such a delightful old game;
 This was pleasing to him, you may guess,
 As he challenged the young lady's fame.
 He inquired, "Pray, do you love men?"
 Of course to the chess he referred;
 But—Papa, just coming in then,
 Kicked him out, without saying a word.
 Most chess players a moral will find,
 No doubt, in these verses fantastic:
 If ladies they play, let chess be combined,
 With a knowledge of matters gymnastic.

T. R. DARRY.

NOTES.

In an old book on chess, printed in London, 1650, the moves are given after this manner:—
 White king's pawns one house (P to K3).
 Black king's knights pawns two houses (P to K Kt4).

White queen to the contrary king's rook's fourth house (Q to K R5).

A Vienna telegram dated 20th October announces the death of Berthold Englisch. The cause of death was brain affection. Englisch withdrew from the recent Berlin tournament, declaring that his head was not clear. Rumour accused him of accepting a bribe from a weak opponent to withdraw, but his death disproves the report remarks Black Bishop.

We have received, says the *Literary Digest*, a number of original problems lately, requiring Castling as the key-move. We have expressed ourselves on this subject; but it seems that many of our friends did not see the article. There has been considerable discussion over the legality of Castling as the key-move; and, while there are those who believe it to be perfectly legitimate, the majority is against it. We do not consider it legitimate simply on account of the fact that it is impossible to demonstrate that White has the right to Castle. You can not prove to a certainty that neither the Rook nor King has been moved.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. Dec. 7
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Tu. Dec. 7
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Su. Dec. 13
America	P. M. Co.	C. of R. de l'Iro	Tu. Dec. 10
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Belgia	Fri. Dec. 27
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Dec. 20
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenollern	W. Dec. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Dec. 30

1 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 28th Nov.
 2 Left Shanghai on the 24th Inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Verona	Su. Dec. 5
Portland, Ore.	N. P. Co.	Lombard	Su. Dec. 5
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Satsuma Maru	Tu. Dec. 7
America	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Dec. 9
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Sa. Dec. 11
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Salazie	Su. Dec. 11
America	O. & O. Co.	Belgia	Sa. Dec. 18
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Dec. 20
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenollern	Th. Dec. 24
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Fri. Dec. 25

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA AND SHIMBASHI.

YOKOHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.
 SHIMBASHI—4.40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 27th November—Otaru via ports, 23rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F. Allen, 28th Nov.—Kobe, 27th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pectan, British steamer, 3,123, Hocken, 29th Nov.—Batoum via Suez Canal and Singapore 14th Nov., Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, F. W. Horton, 29th Nov.—Kobe, 28th Nov., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Woosung, British steamer, 1,109, Clegg, 30th Nov.—Hongkong, 22nd Nov., General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Benledi, British steamer, 1,481, Farquhar, 1st December.—London via ports, and Kobe 30th November, General.—Cornes & Co.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,692, R. Nivison, 1st December.—London via ports, and Kobe, 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, E. W. Haswell, Australia via ports,—Kobe, December 1st, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 2nd December.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 1st December, Mails & General.—C. P. R. Co.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, D. C. Gregor, 2nd December.—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 2nd December.—Otaru via ports, 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idsumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, R. Nume, 2nd December.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 1st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salasia, French steamer, 2,089, Paul, Marseilles via ports,—Kobe December 2nd, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 3rd December.—Kobe, 2nd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nivei, 3rd December.—Shanghai via ports, 27th November 27th, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, December 3rd.—Otaru via ports, November 29th, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenhai, British steamer, 3,016, G. W. Long, December 3rd.—Liverpool via Kobe, December 2nd, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Lombard, British steamer, 1,658, C. W. Raison, December 4th.—Kobe, December 2nd, General.—Dodwell Carill & Co.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, December 4th.—Portland, Oregon, Nov. 12th, Mails and General.—Dodwell Carill & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,600 T. Tenn, 27th November.—Seattle Wash., via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 29th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 29th Nov.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, T. Tibbals, 29th Nov.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,209, Bait, 29th Nov.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 30th Nov.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 30th Nov.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F. Allen, 30th Nov.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, J. Rowley, 1st Dec.—New York via ports, and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Olympia, British steamer, 1,691, Truebridge, 1st December.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, Ekstrand, 2nd December.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bayard (24), French flag ship, 5,880, Capt. Fortin, 2nd December.—Hongkong.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki,

3rd December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 3rd December.—Vancouver B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,663, Von Binzer, December 3rd.—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong and ports:—Mr. C. J. Mitchell, Mr. A. Owen, Comdr. A. Henderson R.N., Mr. N. B. Everest, Miss E. Everest, Mr. and Mrs. Tracy C. Drake, Mrs. W. C. Watley, Mr. J. Goodnow, Mr. E. L. Mondon, Miss L. Goble, Miss L. J. Kay, Mr. and Mrs. N. A. J. Macroy, Mr. A. J. Lambert, Mr. N. Claret, C.M.G., Mr. A. Macmillan, Mr. J. H. Longford, Lt. Basil Taylor, Prof. Tavernier, Mr. and Mrs. P. Vautier, Mrs. Tilden, Mr. G. Sutherland, Mr. Gantar, Mr. T. A. Serglee, and Mr. L. Logareth, in cabin; 2 in intermediate, 157 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Canton*, from London via ports:—Mr. A. R. Patteson, and Mrs. Patteson and child, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. & Mrs. K. Sonoda, Dr. K. M. Henitt, Mr. T. Parker, Mr. W. Treglene, Mr. J. Will, Mr. B. Hara, Mrs. N. Ogata, Miss Y. Ogata, Mr. K. Shimoda, and Mrs. S. Iwama, in cabin; 20 Japanese and 5 Chinese, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu Nov. 30th:—Mr. A. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Lars Anderson, Rev. Wm. M. Bell, D.D., Captain J. V. Blakeway, R.E., Mr. H. R. Blenheim, Mr. J. W. Brown, Miss Bunnett, Mr. F. S. Burgess, Miss Carlson, Mr. John Carroll, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Cavanhill, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Cooke, Mrs. J. H. Pettig, Sir Theodore Fry, Bart., Miss M. B. Griffiths, Lieut. W. de Heendigalzen, Mr. Wm. Harper, Mr. H. Hiron, Mr. A. W. Hoyt, Dr. and Mrs. C. F. Johnson and three children, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Johnson, Captain J. Koch, Mr. M. B. Komatsu, Mr. J. L. van Laer, Mrs. W. C. Longdon and six children, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Loring, Mrs. E. H. Marshall and infant, Mr. and Mrs. G. Marshall Allen, Miss Mesney, Miss L. Oldham, Mr. G. G. Peters, Lieut. Petroff, Mr. A. Pinckemelle, Mr. C. M. Sanford, Mr. J. Schiffer, Mr. M. Schikewitch, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Rev. and Mr. H. B. Schwartz and two children, Miss M. A. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. H. Stowell, Mr. S. N. Symmetinkor, Mr. K. Tosawa, Miss Fauny Wand, and Mr. W. Wescott, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Vice Admiral, Mrs. and Master Ainoia, Mr. and Mrs. Yasunaga and children, Mr. and Mrs. Okami and 2 children, R. Hara E-q, Capt. Yezoe, Messrs. L. Grill, T. H. Hellver, F. H. Olmsted, C. I. Irikawa, C. Hills, S. E. Lucas, T. B. Pocklington, Mrs. Yezoe, Messrs. U. Iwase, R. O. N. Anderson, J. Dempster, E. Half, and Miss T. Shioda, in cabin; Messrs. P. Hunson, Y. Machida, J. J. Munford, Von Ruffin, C. To ii, Lieut. Yokota, and Mrs. T. Arai, in second class, and 35 Japanese, 3 Chinese, 1 European in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver B.C.:—Miss Lillian Cobb, Mr. J. Evans, Mr. H. B. Everest, Miss Esther Everest, Miss Lydia J. Kay, Lieut. J. T. Kerr, Mrs. J. T. Kerr, Mr. D. J. Lambert, Mr. H. A. J. Macray, Mrs. H. A. J. Macray, Mr. C. J. Mitchell, Mr. T. Morimura, Mrs. Roland Pope, Mr. S. Shimizu, Mrs. S. Shimizu, 3 children and maid, Rev. E. C. MacKenzie Stewart, Mrs. E. C. MacKenzie Stewart, and Lieut. Basil Taylor, in cabin; 4 in second class, and 157 in steerage.

CARGOES.

Tea and Silk per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.					
CHICAGO NEW YORK PACIFIC OTHER	TOTAL	CANADA & WEST. & EAST. COAST. CITIES. PACKAGES.			
Hongkong	—	—	35	6	41
Colombo	774	—	220	—	994
Poochow	2,216	—	873	—	3,089
Shanghai	2,145	1,018	152	—	3,125
Calcutta	535	—	255	—	790
Kobe	886	—	—	—	886
Yokohama	1,725	352	257	70	2,334
Total.	8,281	1,380	257	1,535	6 11,459
SILK.					
NEW YORK.					
Hongkong and Canton	185	—	—	—	185
Shanghai	340	—	—	—	340
Yokohama	410	—	—	—	410
Total	845	—	—	—	845

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

With exception of a few small sales of grey shirtings at a low figure, nothing is doing, the market for fancies, yarns and woollens being utterly stagnant.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
P. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italiana and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.35
PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 42 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawn, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—4.0 to 2.4 yds, 2 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 2 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 2 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 2 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Medium	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 2 1/2 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Clothes—Filata, 5 1/2 yds 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Clothes—Prasidonta, 5 1/2 yds 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Clothes—Union, 5 1/2 yds 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Hosiery—Scarllet and Green, 3 yds, per lb	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$18.50 to 39.50
Nos. 18 32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38 42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 31, Doubles	40.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 160, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 280, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2100, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 280, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$19.75 —
Indian Hioach	21.00 —
Chinese	20 to 20 1/2

METALS.

Very little demand at reduced quotations.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.10 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized iron sheets	9.20 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 1	2.05 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 1/2 to 1 3/4 inch)	5.00 to 5.15

KEROSENE.

A fair business has been transacted at slightly falling rates, the market being rather weak.

	PER GALLON.
American	\$2.08 to 2.11
Russian	2.00 to 2.15
Langkat	— 2.03

SUGAR.

A fair business has been done in Brown at from 15 to 30 sen higher prices for China, 10 sen for Manila and 5 to 10 sen for Formosa. Sales of China and Manila amount to 19,600 piculs, and of Formosa 12,000 piculs, arrivals of the former being 18,070 piculs. White Refined is in fair demand for delivery before the New Year holidays.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$3.50 to 4.15
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.50
Brown Daitong	3.40 to 3.55
Brown Canton	3.45 to 4.20
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a moderate amount of business transacted during the past week, at slightly reduced prices, but the holders of stock are combining to prevent any further fall in rates and as a consequence at the close the market is dull. Total settlements from Nov. 18th to Dec. 1st amounted to 2,522 piculs, and stocks were put down on the 1st instant at 11,300 piculs all kinds. Shipments during the week have been 804 bales by the M.M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Europe; 1,131 bales per *Doric* and 410 bales per *Empress of India*, for America.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	930 to 940
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910

Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers.	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers.	—
Kakidas—Extra.	840 to 850
Kakidas—No. 1.	820 to 830
Kakidas—No. 11.	790 to 800
Kakidas—No. 2.	750 to 770
Kakidas—No. 24.	—

WASTE SILK.

The market is fairly active at strengthening prices, dealers holding out for an advance for the best grades, of which there is little in stock. About 2,000 piculs have been sold during the week and stocks are estimated at 11,000 piculs. The *Ernest Simons* shipped 626 bales for Europe on the 28th ult.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best.	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good.	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best.	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good.	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium.	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best.	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good.	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best.	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Good.	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Medium.	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good.	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair.	55 to 57
Kibiso—Filature, Best.	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good.	35 to 40
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair.	20 to 25

TEA.

A small business only has been done during the week, comprising about 60,000 catties of low grade teas at former rates; stock on the 3rd inst. amounting to 243,000 catties. Shipments comprise 12,120 lbs per *Doric*, 62,624 lbs per *Sikh*, and 2,334 packages per *Empress of India*, all for the United States and Canada.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest.	Nominal.
Choice.	\$31 to 32
Finest.	32 to 33
Fine.	30 to 31
Good Medium.	28 to 29
Medium.	24 to 25
Good Common.	22 to 23
Common.	20 to 21

EXCHANGE.

Firm at improved rates.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 1/2
— — Bills on demand.	2/0 1/2
— — 4 months' sight.	2/0 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.	2/0 1/2
— — 6 months' sight.	2/0 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight.	2/54 1/2
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight.	2/58 1/2 to 3
On Hongkong—Bank sight.	1 1/2 d
— — Private 10 days' sight.	3 1/2 d
On Shanghai—Bank sight.	74
— — Private 10 days' sight.	76
On India—Bank sight.	158
— — Private 30 days' sight.	163
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	49
— — Private 4 months' sight.	50 1/2 to 51
On Germany—Bank sight.	2/06
— — Private 4 months' sight.	2/10 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	27 1/2

369

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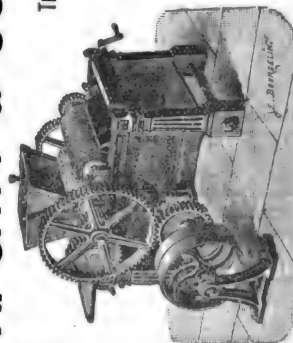
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 11TH, 1897.

BIRTHS.

On the 28th of November, 1897, at Sans Souci Terrace, Bubbling Well Road, the wife of A. D. Lowe, of a son.

DEATHS.

At No. 9, Seward Road, Shanghai, on the 2nd instant, CATHARINE SOPHIA, widow of the late Robert Joseph Arnold of Southampton, aged 70 years.

At Tokyo, Hongo, Kiga-yashiki, No. 1, on Thursday, December 9th, MARGARET THERESA, beloved wife of EDWARD DIVERS, M.D., F.R.S.

At Anoy, China, on the 11th of November, 1897, from aneurism of the heart, FREDRIK WILNAU, Chief Light keeper, I.M. Customs, aged 40 years.

MARRIAGES.

At Shanghai, on the 1st December, at Trinity Cathedral by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., JAMES GIBSON of Chinkiang, eldest son of the late Daniel Gibson, merchant, Glasgow, to Lydia, eldest daughter of the late Henry Martin of Canterbury, Victoria.

On 2nd Dec., 1897, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, by Sir Nicholas J. Hansen, and afterwards at the Cathedral by the Rev. H.C. Hodges, M.A., ALFRED FULLERTON, of Shanghai, to MARY MAUDE QUELCH, eldest daughter of Charles Bewick Quelch, of Shanghai.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

GERMANY is re-inforcing her forces at Kiao-chow Bay, bringing up the number to 4,500 men.

THE Ministers of State will proceed to Yokohama on the 12th inst. to inspect the battle ship *Yashima*.

THE Korean officers who came to Japan to

witness the military manoeuvres were received in audience by the Emperor on the 7th inst.

POLITICAL quidnuncs say that the next Cabinet will be headed by either Count Saigo or Count Kabayama.

THE new Palace at Mozawaryo, Nikko, for H.I.H. the Crown Prince will occupy an area extending over 10,000 *tsubo*.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY is very much disturbed politically, constant quarrels breaking out between the German and Czech elements.

A FRENCH expedition, under Major Marchand, bound for the Nile, has been massacred at Bahr Ghazal, and only a remnant escaped.

AGITATION against the Business Tax is being busily fanned by various Chambers of Commerce in different parts of the country.

MARQUIS ITO will leave Oiso during the course of this month for the Ise Shrines, whence he will return to his native province, Yamaguchi.

A PROJECT is on foot to establish a horse and cattle market in Tokyo, at a cost of 25,000 *yen*. An office has been opened in Shiba, Tokyo.

FIGHTING still continues in the hills of the Indian frontier, though General Lockhart is gradually restoring peace and order among the tribes.

THE Meiji Fire Insurance Company, at its half-yearly general meeting to be held in January next, will declare a dividend of 15 per cent. per annum.

A MOST important memorandum upon the financial affairs of Japan has been handed by Count Matsukata to the Business Men's Association during the week.

COUNT MATSUKATA, Premier, proposes to issue Loan Bonds of small denominations, ranging from *yen* 20 to *yen* 50 to meet the requirements of small investors.

IT is reported that the silver *yen* now accepted by the Formosa Authorities in payment of taxes and Customs duties, will cease to be legal tender after the 1st of April next.

JAPANESE tailors of Tokyo and Yokohama have made, to the order of Messrs Illies & Co., some 700 suits of warm clothing and over-coats for the German force at Kiao-chow Bay.

THE members of the *Kokumin Kyokwai* (National Unionists) held a general meeting on the 5th inst. and decided to present a note to the Cabinet suggesting its immediate resignation.

THE opinion in favour of shortening the term of exchange of silver *yen* is increasing largely among the Authorities and a Bill in that sense will be laid before the coming session of the Diet.

AN extensive coal bed was recently discovered at Yokuyama, Ibi-gun, Gifu Prefecture. The examination of the mineral proved that its quality is excellent and the seam extends deep under ground.

THE authorities received a telegram on the 6th inst. to the effect that the revised Treaty between Austria and Japan was signed at Vienna on the 5th inst. by the respective plenipotentiaries of the two countries.

THE Governor of Niigata Prefecture, where the rice crop has utterly failed, has entered into negotiations with Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. of Yokohama for the speedy delivery of 5,000

tons of foreign rice to be distributed in the distressed districts.

On the 6th inst. the Spanish Minister in Tokyo presented to the Emperor a high Order bestowed by the Queen of Spain on the Crown Prince. His Imperial Highness was subsequently invested with the Order by the Emperor.

SOME 120 Korean students who have been studying at various colleges in the capital since the termination of the China War, were recently called home. Many of the students left Shimobashi for the Peninsula a few days ago.

THE estimated prison expenses this year are set down at about *yen* 3,600,000. The proposal will be laid before the Diet by the Home Department, but the Authorities are said to be inquiring as to where the money is to be obtained.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM WADDILOVE, for many years Master of the steamer *Yuen Sang*, running between Hongkong and Manila, committed suicide in the Club Hotel, Yokohama, on Thursday morning by cutting his throat with a razor while temporarily insane.

COUNT INOUE, who has now recovered from the carbuncle from which he suffered, will leave the capital in a few days for Shichirigahama at Kamakura, and after a short stay there will proceed to his villa at Okitsu, Suruga Province, where he will pass the cold season.

On the 6th inst., fire broke out in Higashimoto-machi, Fukagawa, Tokyo, and over 80 houses were reduced to ashes. About 3 a.m. on Monday, another fire occurred in Higashiryukan-cho, Kanda, Tokyo. The flames spread rapidly and over 40 houses were destroyed. During the fire four firemen are reported to have been injured more or less severely.

REUTERS says that it is understood that China regards the occupation of Kiao-chow as unjustifiable and contrary to international law. China will never consent to the Germans remaining on her territory, and will regard as an unfriendly act the recognition by the Treaty Powers of any annexation of territory by Germany without China's acquiescence.

BUSINESS prospects are not improving as the year draws near to its end. Indeed, matters look anything but promising in nearly all branches of the import trade and importers seem generally to have made up their minds to be content with a small hand-to-mouth business until such time as present stocks are worked off and the Japanese money market assumes a more tranquil appearance. A little business was done during the past week in yarns, at nominally the same prices as have been ruling for the past few weeks. Nothing was done in shirtings, fancies, or woolsens. The metal market was stagnant, but quotations are reported nominal. Considering the time of year, the kerosene market is abnormally quiet, and offers have been made by dealers at rates considerably below the market. But holders remain firm and refuse to budge. Sugar has seen a steady business, most being done in Brown at slightly increased rates. Stocks are low and the market firm. White refined was steady. Towards the end of last week and beginning of the seven days under review, quite a boom took place in raw silk, about 6,000 piculs changing hands at gradually hardening prices. Stocks are now down to 6,500 piculs. In Waste, similar activity prevailed, but quotations remain the same as before. Tea is almost finished now, only a few small purchases being recorded. Exchange remains steady.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

Foreign politics occupy the attention of a majority of the Tokyo journals at present. On the side of newspapers favourable to the Cabinet there is a disposition to regard the Kiaochow incident as a serious menace to the tranquillity of the East, and as a reason for abandoning internal dissensions and uniting the strength of all parties in the cause of the empire. On the side of the Opposition prints there is an emphatically declared conviction that such a view is not inspired by genuine solicitude for the national interests, but that it has origin in the crafty hope of diverting public notice from the faults of those in power. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, for example, writes in that strain. Count Okuma, it says, fortunately for himself, was not called upon to deal with any international crisis. Minor matters did, indeed, demand his management, and he made more than one failure in connexion with them; but he escaped anything like a really serious situation. Baron Nishi, therefore, has been able to succeed to his predecessor's policy without making any marked change. But this apparent absence of trouble is very deceptive. The course of events in Korea is calculated to inspire profound uneasiness. A foreign State has managed to obtain control of the sword and the purse in the little kingdom, and unless Japan can do something to change the situation, she might as well step out of the field of foreign politics altogether. Her attitude towards China is also a matter of the greatest importance. Much depends on it. Here, then, are two regions in which Baron Nishi is required to show energy and sagacity. The Japanese are loyal and patriotic. In the face of a national peril, they forget everything but the interests of the State. Their representatives abroad, too, are worthy of the country. But there is one national fault: the people do not know their own value. They are apt to be perturbed by rumours that have no real importance. Advantage seems to have been taken of that defect at the present juncture by journals that support the Government. They magnify the German occupation of Kiaochow into something much greater than it professes to be, and employ it as a device for diverting men's observation from the faults of the Cabinet. Such a stratagem is most unpatriotic. It signifies that the interests of the empire are subordinated to those of a group of statesmen. It is to be sincerely hoped that the prestige of the State and the cause of peace will not suffer. In such a strain does our contemporary write at considerable length, being evidently uneasy lest this agitation, connected with Germany's occupation of Kiaochow, should weaken the arguments of those that deny the need of expanding the Army to the dimensions at present officially contemplated.

The *Fiji Shimpō* writes in a very different strain. It discusses, with an evident tendency to belief, the latest rumour, namely, that Russia, Germany and France have made a secret agreement to partition China, and that France's share of the spoil is to include Formosa. Such a programme seems difficult to credit, but, on the other hand, it must not be dismissed as incredible simply because it sounds astonishing. It would certainly be in strict accord with the spirit that animates the nations of the west at present. They stand watching each other, armed to the teeth. Might is right. International law is evidently considered to have lost all real influence as a guide of interstate action. We have to remember, too, the friendly meetings that recently took place between the Emperors of Russia and Germany and the President of France. Who will venture to assert that some understanding was not then come to with regard to the policy that the three Powers should pursue thereafter in the Far East? The occupation of Kiaochow may be the opening of the ball. At all events, Japan can not be too watchful. There is absolutely nothing for her to rely on but her own ability to defend herself. At such a crisis the squabbles of political parties

and the jealousies of cliques of statesmen are conspicuously inappropriate. The empire stands in urgent need of all the administrative talent it possesses. It will not do for Marquis Ito to look on unconcerned. It will not do for Count Okuma to wait smilingly until the mistakes of his opponents create an opportunity for his return to power. To these men and the other *Meiji* statesmen the country turns. Let them hold a grand council and organize a government worthy of the occasion. A man's sons may differ in their views about this question or that; may even be on hostile terms with one another; but when their father lies sick, they waive all personal considerations, and combine to minister to his sufferings. The *Fiji* urges this, its familiar advice, with much eloquence and persistence.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* asks its readers to consider the real causes that make Turkey and China the object of so many foreign aggressions and interferences. In China's case it will probably occur to every one to speak at once of her disorganised condition, of the inefficiency of her troops, of the absence of patriotism among her people, and of the incompetence of her administration. Such factors undoubtedly have their influence. But the most important of them cannot be said to exist in Turkey's case. There is no want of patriotism among the Turks; the administration of the country cannot be called radically defective for purposes of national defence, and the bravery and high quality of the soldiers are beyond question. What, then, places Turkey in the same category with China so far as concerns the treatment extended to her by foreign States? It is the fact that Turkey and China alike persist in remaining outside the pale of Western civilization. They are absolutely unprogressive. They differentiate themselves from all the nations of the Occident by turning their backs upon the enlightenment and advantages of Western moral and material civilization. That is the prime reason of the special attitude assumed towards them by the Great Powers of Europe. If the fact be clearly recognised, people will, at the same time, recognise the error of falling into a state of perturbation because Germany has seized a portion of Chinese territory by way of pledge that satisfaction shall be given for the murder of two missionaries. Such incidents are always liable to occur so long as China remains in her groove of stagnation; they do not indicate any new departure. Some people cry out that this Kiaochow affair is a warning to Japan, and that it shows the necessity of at once carrying out her programme of military expansion in all its entirety, and the necessity of proceeding vigorously with the fortification of Formosa. As to the fortification of Formosa, every one is agreed. Those that are opposed to military expansion on the basis now adopted, were precisely the persons to insist from the first on the advisability of rapidly pushing on the defences of the new territory. But so far as the general question of military expansion is concerned, the situation is not in the least altered by the Kiaochow incident. The causes that expose China to such misfortunes have existed always, and were taken fully into account by the publicists who contend that the doubling of Japan's Army is a needlessly large expansion.

While not placing implicit confidence in the rumour of a partition treaty under which France would take Fuhkien and Formosa, the *Nippon* nevertheless thinks that the mere circulation of such stories is significant. Japan flattered herself that she had gained admittance to the company of conquering nations, and that, in any future division of Oriental territory her claims would receive full consideration. But it now appears that she herself is included among the spoils to be divided. The advocates of military expansion point to this conjuncture with an air of triumph. They claim that it justifies their contention and demonstrates the importance of extensive warlike preparations. Do they, then, imagine that the march of events is to be sus-

pended until all their preparations are complete? On the contrary, everything points to the fact that Western Powers are determined not to wait for the consummation of Japan's *post bellum* programme. They will strike before large capacities for resistance have been developed. The lesson really taught by these incidents is that Japan should prepare herself to meet at a moment's notice the powerful forces already at her disposal. When she went into the war with China the Treasury had a large reserve ready to its hand. It was chiefly owing to that fact that the early operations of the war could be undertaken with the celerity so essential in these days of swift strokes and rapid collapses. None the less the nation had to be asked to contribute a hundred and twenty million *yen* for military expenditures. The people are patriotic. They will spare no effort on behalf of their country. But they can not give what they have not got to give. They were able to contribute in 1894 because they had the means to contribute. If, however, the resources of the state are to be exhausted for the purpose of expanding armaments which can not be ready for use in the time of emergency, and if the financial strength of the people is to be wasted by increased taxation in the interest of such military development, the country will find its arm paralysed at the supreme moment by that most enervating of all maladies, impecuniosity. Better a small force that can be utilized, than a big host that can not be employed for want of the sinews of war.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* writing is dictated by the conviction that the preservation of peace in the Far East depends, not upon the division, but upon the union of China and Japan. The war undertaken by Japan against China in 1894 was not prompted by a desire to weaken the Middle Kingdom or to obtain possession of any part of its territory. Apart from the questions that directly precipitated the struggle, the two main purposes of the undertaking were to rouse China from a lethargy that must eventually render her an easy prey to any strong State with aggressive ambition, and to demonstrate to her in the most convincing manner the superiority of the civilization that she despised. The interference of Germany, Russia and France opposed an obstacle to the achievement of those objects, but Japan did her part. It may indeed be said that the object lesson furnished by her successes has received a rude extension at the hands of the Three Powers which, under pretence of preserving the integrity of the Chinese empire, are seeking in its dismemberment a reward for their protective benevolence. In the affairs of individuals a temporary falling out generally preludes the renewal of stronger friendship. Such ought to be the case with rational men and such ought also to be the case with nations. Japan's aim now should be to re-cement amicable relations with China, and to extend a helping hand to her neighbour in the latter's hour of need. The advisability of such a policy points also to the advisability of so strengthening Japan's armaments that her voice shall have weight in the councils of peace. She must follow up her original purpose, too, by impressing upon China the significance of the Kiaochow incident. It is palpable that the sympathies of the Occident are with Germany. All the foreign journalists in the Far East write in support of Germany. They scarcely pause to consider whether her procedure has been opposed to, or consistent with, the principles of international morality. It is enough for them that her hand is raised against China. What is the explanation of that fact? It is to be found unquently in China's unprogressive policy and in her anti-foreign prejudices. The civilized world is against her because she is against the civilized world. She ought to be able to learn the lesson so plainly taught by events and to profit by it. Even Japan, too, may derive advantage from such instruction.

The statement now industriously circulated, that the Cabinet intends to invite all the *Meiji* statesmen to a conference for the purpose of discussing the situation created by the Kiaochow

chow incident, furnishes a text to the *Chuo Shimbun* (National Unionist organ). It ridicules the incapacity that drives the Ministers of the Crown to have recourse to the clan statesmen in the hour of emergency, and to seek to shift the burden of responsibility from their own shoulders. If they are not competent to deal with a crisis like the present, let them stand aside and surrender the management of affairs to the hands of abler men. There is nothing novel or unexpected in the situation created by Germany's action at Kiao-chow. Such an incident might have been anticipated at any time during the past two years. It merely emphasises the indications long ago apparent to careful observers. The question was not whether China's integrity would be maintained by the Three Powers which had put themselves forward as its ostensible guardians, but how long they would refrain from becoming themselves its assailants. Let one stretch out its hand and the others would surely hasten to follow suit. Germany, Russia and France are the three Powers that now menace the East. As for England, it would be a great mistake to interpret her apparent quietude in the sense of either indifference or unpreparedness. England is never precipitate. She acts deliberately, is unfailingly watchful of her own interests and strikes hard when she does strike. Her action with regard to the Transvaal last year is an illustration. The Emperor of Germany attempted to interfere between Great Britain and the Boer Republic. He apparently thought an opportunity had arisen to make a display of German prestige and that England would not be moved from her pacific attitude. But England suddenly mobilized a powerful squadron and despatched it at almost a moment's notice to South Africa. It was like a thunderbolt in a clear sky, and the Emperor of Germany drew back at once. England is not asleep in the Far East. The recent movement of her China Squadron to Sansha was full of significance. But her hands are pretty full at present. She is confronted by possibly serious complications with France in Africa. She is conducting a difficult campaign in the Soudan. She has just grappled with a terrible famine in India. She is in the act of quelling a formidable revolt of frontier tribes on the northern marches of her Indian empire. It is a good opportunity for those that seek an opportunity to steal a march on her. But the fact is that England, Japan and China are in the same boat. England and Japan are vitally interested in maintaining and developing the commerce of the Chinese empire, and in repelling aggressions that would interfere with it. What is needed is a clear understanding between the three. There lies the key of Japan's foreign policy. If the present Cabinet Ministers are unable to comprehend the situation and to deal with it, let them make way for better men.

THE CIRCUS.

Willison's Circus still continues to receive a fair share of public patronage, in spite of several counter attractions in the way of entertainments. The programme on Tuesday evening contained several new acts, which proved the versatility of the leading artistes of the troupe. Amongst other novelties little Elsie St. Leon gave a pretty exhibition on the high trapeze, Silveni the Silly caused much amusement in his act with the Jerusalem Cuckoo, Miss Ida Vernon and Alf. St. Leon performed a double act of equestrianism on bareback steeds; the Virets brought down the house with their wonderful contortions, and Miss Freda Willison performed with skill and grace on the slack wire. The clowns Silveni were as funny as ever and in conjunction with their three well trained "mokes" gave the spectators many a hearty laugh. We understand that there will be no public performance this evening, Wednesday, the ring being given up for a grand rehearsal of amateur equestrians and gymnasts who are to take part in Mr. Bert Willison's benefit performance on Friday evening.

THE KIMBEI RAILWAY.

This line, which is now in course of construction, is the shortest route between the central part of the Kiushiu collieries and the port of Moji (the port of export). It crosses two valleys separated by a mountain pass, known as the Kimbei Pass, which necessitates a tunnel of 1,300 metres in length.

Six years ago, several Railway Companies, such as the Kinshiu, the Hōshiu, and the Chikuhō, were rival applicants for a Government charter to build the line; but the Authorities being uncertain as to the progress of the collieries, and moreover apprehending great difficulty in cutting such a long tunnel, refused to grant a charter.

Since then, the coal-mining industry having received a great impetus on account of the marked appreciation in the price of the mineral, the numerous mine-owners situated on both sides of this line have been anxiously looking for its completion, as it will provide an easy and cheap route for the carriage of the mineral, the daily export of which will then certainly exceed 6,000 tons.

The apparent difficulty attending the making of the long tunnel has been removed by a discovery—after boring two intermediate shafts—that the portion of the mountain to be cut through is a continuous stratum of limestone of the softest kind, so that the work can be executed much more easily, rapidly, and cheaply than was at first anticipated.

The total length of the line is 27 miles (43 kilometers), the gauge, 1m. 06, the maximum gradients (on the side of the heavier trains) 0.013, and (on the side of the lighter trains) 0.025. One locomotive of 34 tons, with 3 coupled axles will pull up a train of 220 tons dead-weight on a gradient of 0.013 at a speed of 30 kilometers an hour. On a single line the quantity of outgoing coal that can be carried is estimated at 2,600 tons per day; and with passengers and incoming goods, the gross daily receipts will amount to 1,527.56 yen. The present scheme is only for a single line, but when the necessary resources are obtained, the line will be doubled.

The capital is 3,000,000 yen and the annual profit is expected to be 13.6%; should the capital be increased to 4,000,000 yen so as to admit of doubling the line, the expectation is that a profit of 20 per cent can be realized. It will be observed that the former of these estimates is based on the calculation that the working expenses of the line amount to only 27 per cent. of the gross earnings. From another point of view, however, the figures are probably reasonable, since they allow 5,600 yen per mile, in round numbers for working expenses. At all events, the projectors are so confident in the soundness of the enterprise that they are pushing it vigorously, despite the exceeding tightness of the money market at present. We make special allusion to the matter because it seems to offer a sound and profitable investment for foreign capital. In our opinion Japan has reached the end, or very nearly the end, of her domestic stores of capital. Indeed, the wonder is, not that she has reached the end now, but that she did not reach it long ago, for she has been carrying out all kinds of enterprises during the past thirty years almost without foreign aid, and the majority of observers imagined that she would be obliged to turn to the money markets of the West about the year 1887 or 1888. She has outlasted expectation by some ten years, but the time of pressure has finally arrived, and with it the opportunity for foreign capitalists. The stock of the Kimbei Railway ought to be very valuable, one of these days. We should add here, lest we appear to be puffing a special enterprise, that we know nothing of the matter beyond what has been set down above, and that the particulars have been furnished by Japanese interested in the line. They are, however, men of high reputation.

TRIAL TRIP OF THE "SANUKI MARU."

On Monday, in beautiful autumn weather, the trial trip of the *Sanuki Maru* (Capt. W. Townsend), one of the magnificent 6,000-ton ships that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have had specially built for the European trade, came off over the measured course on the Boshu side of Tokyo Bay. The *Sanuki Maru*, which was built by Messrs. Napier, Shanks, and Bell of Yoker, is of 6,117 tons register, with a gross displacement of 9,610 tons. She is 455 feet long, with a beam of 49 feet, a depth of 29.7, and her two sets of triple expansion engines develop an indicated horse-power of 3,500 (nominal 550 horse-power). The day was perfect for such a trip, the strong north-easterly breeze that was blowing when the *Sanuki* left harbour at 10.40 a.m. dying away almost to a calm before the measured mile was reached. The vessel was drawing 13 ft. 2 in. forward and 16 ft. 8 in. aft.; she was loaded with 1,488 tons of coals, 350 tons of water, and 158 tons of provisions. The conditions attaching to the trial-trips of vessels that seek to qualify for the Government subsidies awarded under the Navigation Encouragement Act are rather severe, the ship being required to keep steaming at full-speed—no allowance being made for turning—for six hours, and the three-mile marks have to be passed six times. The *Sanuki Maru* acquitted herself well, however, developing an average speed of 14.58 knots per hour. The revolutions made by the port engine totalled 83, those of the starboard engine 88, with a pressure of 200 lbs. per square inch. The first mile was started at 11.26 a.m., and the last mile was notched at 2.53 p.m., the vessel being back in harbour by 4 o'clock.

A very large company assembled to witness the proceedings, including Mr. Kondo, President of the Company, who was accompanied by sixty guests; Mr. Tamio Hayashi, Manager of the N.Y.K. in Yokohama; the N.Y.K. agent in Hongkong; Capt. Kimotsuke of the Imperial Naval Bureau; the examining board of the Teishinsho; Mr. Tanaka, Mr. Kagami; Capt. Efford and Mr. A. F. McNab, Lloyd's surveyors in Yokohama; Mr. Shibata, and many others. These gentlemen sat down to a splendid luncheon served in the pretty saloon, after the trip was over, under the presidency of Capt. Townsend, and afterwards the usual toasts were given and responded to.

We have already given a full description of the sister ships of the *Sanuki Maru*, so we need not detain our readers with a *resumé* of her passenger accommodation and internal fitting. Suffice it to say that she is one of the handsomest boats trading between London and Yokohama.

SENATOR PETTIGREW AND THE GOLD STANDARD IN JAPAN.

Senators Pettigrew and Dubois are now in Hawaii—or were there at the date of our latest advice, Nov. 12th. Interviewed by a representative of the *Hawaiian Gazette*, Mr. Pettigrew said:—"The change from a silver to a gold standard in Japan was forced by the banking or creditor element. The manufacturers now see that they have been hit hard. Their trade with China has been ruined and their commerce as a whole will be seriously injured." This dictum is a little perplexing. Senator Pettigrew seems to place the creditor class in Japan in the same category with the creditor class in England. It is very distinctly to the interest of Englishmen who have made large investments of capital in silver using countries that the interest and principal of the debt should be payable in gold, which is a constantly appreciating medium. But Japanese capitalists have no investments abroad. Their investments and loans have been made in silver and they are not interested in having either the interest or principal paid in gold. It can not be truly said, we think, that the creditor class had anything to do with the adoption of the gold standard in Japan.

THE KIAO-CHOW AFFAIR.

Now that China's consent to open negotiations has been announced, Germany remaining at Kiao-chow the while, public interest centres mainly on the course that the Berlin Government will decide to pursue after all its demands have been conceded. We say "after its demands have been conceded," not "if they should be conceded," because it is beyond doubt that China, having descended from the position originally assumed by her and having agreed that her opponent shall retain his clutch upon her throat, during the conversation, will confine herself to very small talk. She will do what Germany asks her to do. We assume that the occupation of Kiao-chow will then come to an end. Indeed, we have assumed throughout the whole affair that Germany's procedure has been regulated by the elementary tenets of international law. It is difficult, certainly, to construct a working theory altogether consistent with that assumption, but on the other hand, no newspaper has a right to prefer charges of uncivilized conduct against a civilized state without conclusive evidence. In this case the evidence is far from conclusive. It is quite within the range of possibilities that Germany convicted Peking of a shuffling, equivocating mood before she sent her squadron to Kiao-chow, and since if she reversed that order of action, she was guilty of a flagrant outrage, we are bound to believe that she did not reverse it—bound to believe it, at all events, so long as belief is possible, though so many commentators have showed no manner of hesitation in accepting the opposite hypothesis. It remains now to be seen whether she will quietly evacuate Kiao-chow after the satisfaction of her just demands. If she does, the manner of the place's original seizure will not be very closely scrutinized, and she will emerge from the complication with full honours. As for the demands themselves, many of the tales circulated about them are probably nothing more than wild rumours. That is especially presumable with regard to the story that mining, railway-building, and cognate privileges in Shantung have been asked for, and that a permanent naval station is also among the requirements. The murder of two missionaries by a band of robbers or bandits could not be made a basis for territorial and industrial demands without such a forfeiture of dignity as the German Emperor is not at all likely to contemplate. It may be presumed that the demands are a substantial indemnity, the arrest and execution of the leading assassins, the degradation and punishment of the local officials who failed to protect foreign life and property, the rebuilding of the mission house, and, perhaps, an Imperial proclamation denouncing such outrages and declaring that the missionaries are under national protection. Of these demands, the only one likely to cause any special difficulty will be the degradation and punishment of the local officials. The Chinese Government has always shown much hesitation in taking measures of that kind at the dictation of foreign Powers. Yet the fundamental principle of Chinese administration is the responsibility of individual officials. The central Authorities never show the slightest hesitation about applying that principle in the con-

trol of domestic affairs. An admiral is degraded if he loses his ships, a general is decapitated if he bungles a campaign, a diplomat is thrown into prison if he misconducts a negotiation, and a governor is sent to work on the post roads if he fails to preserve order in his district. Precedent of that nature has been piled upon precedent during the past two thousand years and it would be idle now to tell the inhabitants of a province that their governor had acted in opposition to the Imperial wishes if he were suffered to remain unrebuked in the discharge of his duties. We may be permitted to hope, therefore, that Germany will insist on that condition. As to the amount of the indemnity, a great deal of indignant surprise has been expressed by Japanese journals. Six hundred thousand taels, they say, is a monstrous sum to demand by way of *solatium* for the families of two missionaries. With regard to that, our vernacular contemporaries appear to forget that there is such a thing as imposing a monetary fine on a State as well as levying compensation on a locality. It is not necessary to look beyond the pages of Japan's modern history for an example. When Mr. Richardson was killed and Messrs. Clarke and Marshall were wounded by armed *samurai* at Namamugi on the 14th of September, 1862, her Majesty's Government exacted a sum of £100,000 from the Japanese Government by way of penalty on Japan, and a further sum of £25,000 from the Satsuma Fief for the relatives of the murdered man and for those that had escaped the swords of the *samurai*. A hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds sterling is the equivalent of \$1,250,000 at the present rate of exchange, and Germany's demand is only \$850,000 (600,000 Tls.). There is nothing extravagant in the amount. The very much smaller sums hitherto levied from China in like cases have not been felt.

The Kiao-chow incident occupies the attention of Japanese journalists almost to the exclusion of any other topic. We have summarized leading articles only in our Summary of the Vernacular Press paying no attention to paragraphs and notes. To attempt any epitome of these minor utterances would be to overtax the patience of our readers. It is noteworthy that the rumour about France's designs upon Formosa has found considerable credence among the Japanese, especially from the *Fiji Shimpō*, a newspaper which certainly might have been expected to discriminate more wisely. We venture to say that not half-a-dozen foreigners in Japan attached the smallest importance to the story. Every one dismissed it as a veritable "bunder." Some curiosity may have been felt about the author of the tale, but the assertions it embodied were not even thought worthy of ridicule. The *Fiji*, however, says that the source of the information imparts to it undeniable importance. What the source is we are not told, and on the whole our impression is that the *Fiji* owes its credulity to the propensity which the retailer of a story so often develops, the propensity to become its champion instead of merely its transmitter. The French were the chief demonstrators of the value of the *Pescadores* as an anchorage; they carried on a painful and fruitless campaign against Formosa, and the tomb of their brave Admiral Courbet stands on one of the

little islands. All that is very true, and it is equally true, as the *Fiji* remarks, that many Frenchmen have not yet learned to discriminate clearly between China and Japan, that a still greater number regretted their country's failure to obtain possession of Formosa at the time of the "Three Powers' intervention," and that all would rejoice to see the tricolour floating over the island. But there is an immense gulf between such facts and a deliberate scheme on the part of the French Government to brave a war with Japan by attempting the seizure of Formosa. It is not worth while to discuss the *canard*.

Another point which occupies attention is the Japanese Government's abstention from sending a man-of-war to Kiao-chow Bay. That is explained by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It says that if a foreign man-of-war went there, it would have to choose between saluting the German flag which floats over the fort, and mortally offending Germany. The former course would seem like a recognition of the German occupation. The latter is to be avoided, as a matter of option. Thus all Powers alike are careful not to send a ship.

Now that China has agreed to negotiate, leaving the Germans in possession of Kiao-chow pending a settlement of claims, allusion may be made to a phase of the affair which seems to have either escaped attention or been left purposely unnoticed. Suppose that China had declared war in consequence of the violation of her territory, and then quietly folded her hands and left Germany to work her will. What could the German squadron have done? Its potentialities for raiding the coast of China would have been strictly limited to the quantity of coal now in the bunkers of the ships. Fresh supplies could not have been obtained. Moreover, the *squadron* of German cruisers now *en route* for the Far East must have stopped on the way: all the coaling stations would have been closed to it. It is at a crisis like this that the immense advantages possessed by a Power like England in the East become appreciable. People talk of a combination on the part of France, Russia and Germany to partition China. Assuredly the presence of France in such a combination would be essential, for without her Tonquin mines, the ships of the allies would be powerless. Even with her Tonquin mines, however, the coadjutors would fare ill. To have to go such a distance for coal would be bad enough, but much worse would be the fact that access to the solitary coaling station could easily be prevented by Great Britain. If, at the same time, England and Japan were allies, sorry indeed would be the plight of their enemies. The Germans at Kiao-chow appear to be drawing their supplies from Shanghai at present—an extraordinary phase of modern naval operations, it must be confessed: a foreign Power making a foreign settlement in China its basis of operations for a hostile seizure of Chinese territory. How the steamer, or steamers, that act as tenders for the German Squadron manage to obtain their clearance from the Imperial Chinese Customs, we are at a loss to conceive. The ineffable contempt for China that all these proceedings evince is paralleled only by her own utter incapacity to resist them. Will she ever awake? One imagines that a slumber so troubled as hers must have quite ceased to be enjoyable.

TREATY REVISION.

The revised Treaty with Austria-Hungary was to have been signed yesterday. A very long time has been occupied in the negotiations, partly owing to delays incidental to the dual nature of the Austro-Hungarian Administration, and partly because Austria-Hungary showed a persistent desire to conclude a Conventional Tariff on her own account, whereas the paltry dimensions of her trade with this country did not seem to warrant any such arrangement, according to the view of the Japanese negotiators. Japan, however, finally yielded to the wishes of her *vis-à-vis*, probably thinking that the same reason which made her unwilling to concede an independent tariff on account of a trade of four or five thousand pounds sterling, constituted also a reason for not showing much obduracy. The issues at stake were too small to be a serious obstacle. We learn, further, that the committee of the French Senate has reported favorably on the revised Treaty with France. Our readers are aware that the Treaty has already received the approval of the Chamber of Deputies. Its endorsement by the Senate also now seems certain, and the work of Treaty Revision will then be consummated, for the ratification of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty is not likely to involve any delay.

Concerning the prospect of the revised Treaties going into operation in 1899, as originally contemplated, we see no reason to anticipate a difficulty. The remaining portions of the Civil and Commercial Codes have still to be passed by the Diet, it is true, and if, as seems very probable, the Diet is dissolved, there may be no time for these bodies of law to receive the attention of the Legislature until the re-assembly of the Houses after the general elections. But the dates are practically subject to the control of the Government. The only constitutional provisions bearing on the subject are that the new House of Representatives must meet within five months at latest from the day of dissolution, and that an interval of forty days must separate the meeting from the issue of the rescript convoking it. If dissolution takes place in January, there is nothing to prevent the holding of the elections in March, and the re-assembly of the Diet in April. Even though the full interval of five months were allowed, the Houses would come together in May, and since the remaining portions of the Codes need not go into force until the middle of July, there will evidently be ample time for their adoption and promulgation. At first sight it may seem a somewhat precipitate procedure to carry such a body of laws into effect within a few weeks from the date of their promulgation. But two things have to be remembered in connexion with that apparent difficulty. They are, first, that there is question, not of the whole Codes, but only of the remaining portions, the larger part having already become the law of the land; secondly, that these Codes have been in the hands of Japanese judicial officials and barristers for nearly eight years, and that their provisions may be said to have been applied during all that time. The bench and the bar alike are perfectly familiar with them. We may take it for granted that every possible effort will be made by the Japanese Government to complete all the preliminaries essential to the operation of the Treaties

at the appointed time. After so many years of persistent effort, the nation would be bitterly disappointed by any postponement. Besides, there is the practical consideration that the work of revision would have to be undertaken with countries which, like America and Spain for example, have concluded treaties to become operative from a fixed date, independently of any contingencies connected with the Codes. Such treaties could not go into force if the operation of the treaties with other Powers were still in abeyance.

It may be worth while to repeat here what we have already stated more than once, namely, that Japanese journalists and Japanese officials do not speak, and never have spoken, of "enforcing" the Treaties. The word used is *jissshi*, which means "actual carrying out," i.e. "operation." Last year when a committee was appointed to make preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties, one of the local English journals, misled by a defective translation, complained that the Japanese were taking a step which indicated their animus in the matter: they were preparing to "enforce" the Treaties. What they were really doing was devising measures to remove anything that might prove irksome to foreigners, or give cause for complaint, when the time arrived for putting the Treaties into operation. The reality was exactly the opposite of the fiction suggested to the local newspaper by its translator's imperfect knowledge of English. We pointed out the misapprehension at the time, but the newspaper in question took no step to correct the false impression produced by its previous writing. Another local English newspaper, speaking in a recent issue of the Revised Treaty, calls it an "objectionable instrument which the Japanese press delights in telling us will be enforced." The Japanese press does nothing of the kind. It has never used with reference to the Revised Treaties an expression bearing any resemblance to "enforced" in the sense of our local contemporary's version.

FRANCE AND FORMOSA.

It really seems to be a fact, incredible though it be, that an editor, or sub-editor, or paragraphist of the *Yiji Shimpō* attaches credit to the absurd rumour recently circulated about France having entered into an agreement with Russia and Germany for the partition of China, France's share to be Fokien and Formosa. The *Yiji* remarks that the foreign residents of Formosa—chiefly French and German—have been for some time occupying themselves busily with investigations into the administrative mistakes committed by the Japanese, and that the officials of the Government were disposed to suspect them of seeking to obtain materials for organizing a campaign against the operation of the Revised Treaties in 1899. It would now appear, however—in view of the aggressive designs attributed to France—that the real object of the investigators has been to find a pretext for the annexation of the island by that Power in the interests of civilization and humanity. It may interest the *Yiji* to hear that the query suggested to foreigners by this story about France and Formosa is, who can the Pinto be that manufactures such "bunders."

A FOREIGN LOAN.

There is a very strong movement among the business men of Tokyo in favour of a foreign loan. A similar idea seems to prevail in Osaka, but at a meeting of merchants and manufacturers held in that city on the 2nd instant, it was decided that the project of obtaining foreign capital for the Industrial Banks throughout the empire should be postponed, and that the need of the moment ought to be met by extending the note-issuing power of the Bank of Japan. In Tokyo, however, it would appear that unanimity virtually complete exists in mercantile and manufacturing circles as to the advisability of at once raising a foreign loan of 200 million *yen*, and applying the money to redeem bonds now held by the people. Some fifty-four of the most prominent business men of the capital assembled in the Imperial Hotel on the 2nd inst. to discuss the financial situation—not the financial condition of the Treasury but that of the people. Several speeches were delivered—by Messrs. Oye Taku, Manaka Chuchiyoku, Suyenobu Michinari, Inouye Kakugoro and Umakoshi Kyohei—all in the same strain, namely, that the country has urgent need of foreign capital. The general contention was that the Government had withdrawn a large sum—150 or 160 million *yen*—from the capital owning class for warlike purposes, and instead of restoring the money by means of the Indemnity, had applied the latter also to unproductive ends. Practically that was the whole argument. Arguments, indeed, were not needed, for the meeting had evidently made up its mind from the first. It unanimously passed a resolution in favour of a foreign loan, and appointed a committee of twenty to promote the project. A still more influential gathering of prominent merchants and manufacturers took place on the 5th instant, when an essay of great interest and weight was read, advocating a reduction of the military expansion programme, and the raising of a foreign loan of two hundred million *yen*, the proceeds to be devoted to redeeming War Bonds and other State securities. This movement is now developing such importance that the Government will scarcely be able to resist it. In our opinion, the sooner steps are taken to introduce foreign capital, the better. It must be confessed that the time is not very favourable. We doubt whether Japan could place a five-per-cent. loan on better terms than 94 or 95 in the London market at present if she offers only the national credit as security. But if she could persuade herself to lay aside all sentiment and to approach this purely business question in a purely business spirit, she might get what she wants much more cheaply. On the security of the customs duties, which will reach some twelve million *yen* annually when the new Tariff goes into operation, she could doubtless raise a four-per-cent. loan of two hundred million *yen* at par. That security, supplemented by her national credit, would be unimpeachable. It would be a most hopeful sign did the leading merchants and manufacturers advocate the floating of a loan on that basis. Japan can not afford to be romantic just at present. The time will come—before many years, too—when her credit will suffice without any tangible security to attract foreign capital, but she is at a crisis of her career now, and she ought to

put her pride in her empty pocket and face the situation bravely. It would be incomparably more creditable for her to place a 4-per-cent. loan at par on the security of the customs than to float a 5-per-cent loan at 94 on the security of her national faith. In every-day life men offer their personal security only when they have nothing else to give, and they have to pay correspondingly dear for accommodation. There is no valid reason why the conduct of States should be different.

DEVELOPMENT OF JAPAN.

The growth made by Japan since she began to receive the sunshine of foreign material civilization has very naturally surprised the world and furnished an interesting theme for many pens. During the first twenty years of her remarkable progress, she was regarded chiefly as an entertaining phenomenon, which Europe and America might contemplate without any disturbing thought of competitive contingencies or other troublesome eventualities. People looked at her, in short, much as indulgent parents or guardians look at a precocious lad who rapidly outgrows his frocks and jackets and develops capacities disproportionate to his years and opportunities. But just as the youth gets into man's garb, one fine morning, and becomes a disturbing factor in the life of his elders, so Japan has suddenly attained such a stature that she now obtrudes herself inconveniently upon the observation of the world instead of remaining an object of unconcerned though interested scrutiny. What people ask themselves now-a-days is, how far she may be expected to go, not how much she has already accomplished. Surprise that she has already done so much has been replaced by anxiety lest she should do a very great deal more. The *Shogyo Shimpō*, which, under the direction of its new and able editor, Mr. Saito Shuichiro, is now not only one of the most instructive but also one of the most thoughtful journals in Japan, looks back eighteen years, and marvels a little at the retrospect. It recalls how people opened their eyes in 1880 when the Mitsubishi firm invested a million *yen* in the Takashima coal mine, an example of enterprise that nearly took away the breath of the public of that era. A few years later, the Mitsui House paid four million *yen* for the Miike coal mine, and more recently the Iwasaki House (Mitsubishi) purchased the Sado and Ikuno gold and silver mines and the Osaka Smelting Works from the Imperial Household at an outlay of some three millions. All these incidents familiarized the people with big transactions, so that the recent investment of 17 million *yen* in Osaka Harbour Works Bonds by the Third Bank has failed to elicit any special comment. It has been the same in nearly all directions. Thus, the foreign trade of the empire, which totalled 73 million *yen* in 1880, rose to 289 millions in 1896; in other words, the volume of trade quadrupled in sixteen years. Turning to the question of facilities of communication, we find that whereas the tonnage of the mercantile marine in 1880 was 41,215 tons, and the mileage of railways in operation was 72 miles 98 chains, the tonnage in 1896 was 224,509 tons, and the length of railways in operation was 2,290 miles 41 chains. The

mercantile marine had quintupled and the length of the railways had been multiplied by thirty during that period. The *Shogyo* includes in this retrospect the figures relating to the revenue and expenditure of the State. In 1880, the public income and outlay stood, respectively, at 63 million *yen* in round numbers, whereas in 1896 the corresponding figure in each case was 239 millions. But such a cursory statement, as we have frequently pointed out, is quite misleading. In our review of post-bellum finance, published some months ago, we showed that the country is now engaged carrying out a programme of extraordinary expenditures which aggregate 555 million *yen* in round numbers. The portion of these expenditures and the income provided to meet them that appear in the Budget for each year, must be eliminated before we regard the Budget as a statement of normal public finance, or compare its figures with those of years antecedent to the inception of the programme. Apart from that criticism, however, we are compelled to endorse the conclusion of the *Shogyo Shimpō* that the progress of Japanese industry, commerce and finance during the past sixteen or seventeen years has been such as to dispel any apprehension of a seriously retrogressive movement. Periods of stagnation there will be, of course, but a regular set-back need not be feared. The real question is, where will it all stop.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

It appears that Mr. Arai Shogo is at the head of the clique of shareholders who desire to reduce the reserve appropriations of the Company in order to provide funds for paying a dividend. Mr. Arai made a considerable mark in the first session of the Diet. He had acquired a great reputation during the years of pre-Constitution agitation, and when the Diet met, he showed himself to be a debater with a remarkable command of language and a strong determination to harrass the Government. Then he suddenly lapsed into silence, and remained silent. Session after session the House heard his voice no more. Such phenomena are not altogether infrequent in Japanese political life, but how to explain them we do not know. The Reserves of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are of three kinds, and the amounts that have to be added to them annually before any dividend is paid are fixed by the rules. There is the insurance reserve, to which 5 per cent. of the value of the fleet has to be carried each year; the repairs reserve, which takes 3 per cent., and the deterioration reserve, which calls for 5 per cent. Thus a total of 13 per cent. of the value of the fleet has to be set aside from the profits before any dividend is declared; which means a sum of 1,560,000 *yen*, taking the value of the fleet at 12 millions. Mr. Arai is reported to advocate reducing the reserve appropriations from 13 to 6 per cent., and he has found a sufficient number of supporters to warrant the calling of an extraordinary general meeting on the 22nd instant. Of course, if he succeeds in carrying his point he will ruin the Company. It would at once become an unsound concern.

THE TSUKIJI LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

A very successful meeting of the Tsukiji Literary and Musical Society took place from 8 o'clock on the evening of the 4th instant. The hall was crowded, and an excellent programme was rendered. Miss A. Page and Miss G. Page opened the proceedings with a duet on the piano, which was followed by a song from Mr. Arnold, a new arrival, happy in the possession of a fine baritone voice. Miss Spencer, of the Ei-wa Gakko, then recited a humorous piece—the adventures of four American children in the absence of their parents—and delighted the audience by her really skilful rendering of this ideal page of nursery naughtiness. A violin quartette by Miss Page, Miss A. Page, Miss H. Page and Master Page, the piano accompaniment by Mrs. Page, was given with admirable taste and finished execution, and the programme concluded with a song by Mrs. Garst, whose beautiful mezzo-soprano voice it is always a treat to hear. His Excellency Colonel Buck, the United States Representative, then took the chair, and after a few appropriate remarks expressing his sympathy with the objects of Society and the pleasure it gave him to assist at the meetings, announced that the pastimes of the evening having now been concluded, the business would be proceeded with. A somewhat desultory discussion ensued, in the course of which it was explained that the association had hitherto existed as the Tsukiji Literary and Musical Society, and that a desire to extend its scope so as to make it the Tokyo Literary and Musical Society was the main object of that evening's meeting. Some of those present were in favour of then and there elaborating a scheme of reorganization, the difficulty of impromptu work being counterbalanced, in their opinion, by the advisability of taking advantage of such an unusually large gathering of actual and possible members. It was finally decided, however, that a committee of three should be nominated by the President, Colonel Buck, with instructions to prepare a revised constitution and set of rules for submission to another meeting on Saturday the 18th instant, those present being invited, however, to signify at once their conditional willingness to join the new Society. The President named Mr. R. T. Kirby, the Rev. E. Leavitt and Captain Brinkley to serve as a committee of organization, and the Committee subsequently added to its number Miss Terry.

JAPANESE AFFAIRS IN ENGLAND.

An examination of the British journals reaching Japan by each mail, shows that the affairs of this country attract wide and intelligent notice in the United Kingdom. From time to time the flippant editor of a society journal or the jaunty paragraphist of a serio-comic periodical, tells us something wonderful and startling about the "Japs," but, on the whole, it may now be confidently asserted that in no part of the world is Japan taken more seriously or considered more soberly than in Great Britain. By way of illustration, we may refer to the notices appearing in the newspapers of England and Ireland between the 14th and the 19th of October, the interval covered by our last batch of exchanges.

No less than twelve journals devote a part of their columns to Japan, and the great majority of them write in an appreciative and intelligent manner. The *Bury Guardian*, the *Birmingham Post*, the *Cork Constitution*, the *Cork Weekly News*, the *Dublin Express*, the *Dundee Advertiser*, the *Hull Eastern Morning News*, the *Liverpool Journal of Commerce*, the *Manchester Courier*, the *Newcastle Leader*, the *Nottingham Express*, the *Southport Visitor*, all believe that their readers are sufficiently interested in the Far Eastern empire to welcome any new facts about it. The Nagasaki Consular Trade Report evidently attracted much attention in consequence of the statements it contained about strikes among Japanese labourers and mechanics. It was a surprise to people in England to learn that "the 'gentle Jap' had now become truculent, arrogant and exacting as any of his fellows throughout the world." It is somewhat of a surprise to us also to learn that such is the case, but the Consular Trade Report is responsible for the exaggeration, not the journals that comment on it. We observe with some amusement that several of these journals speak of "Mr. Consul Lowther" in connexion with the trade reports for several places. The idea that H. M. Chargé d'Affaires does not necessarily write the documents forwarded by him, has evidently not entered the conception of these newspapers. The *Cork Weekly News* is the only one of the twelve that takes a bold flight of fancy. We quote a paragraph from it, and recommend the Emperor's translators to submit it for his Majesty's amusement:—

The Mikado of Japan is bent on improving the native strain of horses, for his agents, who have recently been all through Europe for the purpose of buying horses, are now travelling in the United States with a view to purchasing twenty more horses for the Imperial stables. His Majesty is passionately fond of horses and racing, and owns about 3,000 animals, 2,000 of which are kept at the Imperial farm in Niccap, 600 at Simoussa, and the remainder at Sotoyama. Racing, however, is pursued solely in the interests of sport, for no betting rings are allowed on any of the courses, as the Emperor is opposed to gambling. Horse racing evidently remains the sport of kings in the land of the chrysanthemum, for only the upper class attend the races, admission to the course being fixed at three dollars, a sum which probably represents many weeks' wages of the average workman.

"ENFORCEMENT."

It is urged, we observe, by a local contemporary, that "it was not at all worth the while of the *Mail* stating (*sic*) that the word 'enforced' was not really used by the Japanese newspapers with reference to the Treaties." That is a quaint kind of rejoinder. If it was not worth our while to make the correction, why was it originally worth the while of our contemporary, as well as of another local English journal, to call attention to the fact that such a word had been used? To accuse a man of employing a harsh expression, to invite the public to take the expression as an indication of his mood, and then to declare that it really is not worth his while to deny having employed any such expression, is a variety of logic to which folks in general are not accustomed. We are also accused of having made the correction merely because we saw "an opportunity to have a pick at our contemporaries." Our contemporaries are nothing to us. Our sole object in this matter is to correct a false impression from which mischievous consequences might ensue. All foreign journalists in Japan are more or less at

the mercy of their translators. When a newspaper finds that it has been misled by its translator, and that it has thus been betrayed into unjustly attributing to the Japanese an unfriendly disposition towards foreigners, we should imagine that its straightforward course would be to acknowledge that error and seek to correct the injustice. But that is not the way with some journalists.

THE KAGA YASHIKI THIEF.

It appears the dishonest cook who abstracted a large sum of money and several thousand yen worth of bonds from the bureau of Dr. Divers some time ago, and whose arrest was effected last month, has not yet been sentenced, fuller investigation of the details of his crime being necessary before bringing him up for final trial. The statement that he had been condemned to only ten months imprisonment came to us from a source which ought to have been eminently trustworthy, and accepting it with implicit confidence, we commented in strong terms on the inadequacy of such punishment. We, of course, withdrew our comments and express regrets for their injustice though since the man had not been tried, the strictures that we expressed now prove to have been without applicability to any tribunal. No one was libelled since no one was concerned.

THE RISE IN WAGES.

According to the *Mainichi*, the wages of artisans and labourers appear to have been raised in proportion to the prices of commodities, which rose considerably for a while, but now begin to show some signs of falling. Investigations show that the wages of work people in the capital have risen more than 30 per cent. since 1895. The following comparative table shows the differences between daily wages paid in November this year and in November of the year before last:—

Occupation.	Nov. 1897.	Nov. 1896.
Carpenter	70	40
Plasterer	80	60
Mason	80	50
Sawyer	70	60
Roofer	70	50
do (tile)	70	50
Bricklayer	60	40
Tatogu-shi (maker of doors, screens, etc.)	60	50
Mat maker	70	60
Paperer	75	60
Joiner	70	50
Cooper	40	25
Clog-maker	40	25
Show-maker, first class	1.20	.90
do second class .....	.80	.60
do third class .....	.50	.40
Carriage-maker, first class .....	.60	.50
do second class .....	.50	.40
do third class .....	.40	.30
Tailor (Japanese dress) .....	.60	.30
do (foreign dress) 1st class	1.50	1.20
do do 2nd class	1.00	.80
do do 3rd class .....	.80	.60
Ribbon-maker	1.30	1.00
Fukuromono-shi (maker of purses, etc.) first class	1.00	.80
do second class .....	.70	.50
Weaver .....	.40	.25
Blacksmith .....	.60	.45
Gold and silver-smiths	1.00	.80
Foundry-men .....	.90	.65
Tobacco-cutter .....	.50	.35
Ship-carpenter, first class	1.00	.70
do second-class .....	.80	.60
do third class .....	.60	.50
Gardener .....	.50	.30
Coolie .....	.40	.30
Book-binder .....	.70	.50
Sculptor, first-class	5.00	3.00
do second-class	1.50	1.00
do third-class	1.00	.70

RELIANCE WHEELMEN'S SMOKER.

For the second time since their organization the Reliance Wheelmen of Yokohama have entertained the community right royally with a smoking concert of a more than usually high grade of merit. Some days before the concert came off, tickets—which could only be obtained on the personal invitation of a member—were at a premium. Consequently on Saturday evening the Hall was filled with a crowded and appreciative audience who appeared to thoroughly enjoy the good things—whether of song, music, recitation, or those pertaining to "the creature comforts," that were laid before them. The choral singing in the first half was exceptionally good, displaying to the full the care and attention that had been bestowed upon the training of the voices. The "side-talks" of the corner men were very up-to-date, the local topicalities being very acceptable, though at times the personalities were limned with a board-pointed brush. But the utmost good humor prevailed and the older the joke—in some instances—the better its reception. Of course, *encores* were the order of the evening from the beginning, but some performers were specially honoured. Mr. R. C. K. Johnson was recalled so heartily that he responded with a favourite of other days, "In Old Madrid"; the string quartette was so taking in its first selection that the performers had to return twice, when they gave the "Jesamine Polka." Then Mr. E. H. Morse's inimitable characterization as an Irish railway-ganger was applauded time and again: applause in which the "ball-pup" shared—and apparently also enjoyed. Lack of space precludes our noticing the concert at greater length, but we give the programme in full:—

PART I.

RELIANCE MINSTRELS.

Interlocutor H. K. A. Onderdonk.
 Tambos L. E. McChesney and H. Gunn.
 Bones F. M. Gowey and C. H. Bain.
 Chorus W. R. Matteson, M. L. Ellis, R. C. K. Johnson, I. J. Cohen, B. J. Jackson, and H. Goldman.

The Coon Overture M. M. Ellis.
 1.—Opening Chorus... "In the evening by the moonlight" Chorus.
 2.—"I'm happy, my baby's come to town" L. E. McChesney.
 3.—"We'll have a Jolly time" End Men and Chorus.

4.—Serenade B. J. Jackson.
 5.—"When Miss Maria Johnson married me" F. M. Gowey.
 6.—"Carry me back to Old Virginia" Chorus.
 7.—"A hot time in the Old Town" H. Gunn.
 8.—Medley Chorus.

PART II.

1.—Reliance Wheelmen March M. M. Ellis.
 2.—Recitation... "The Fireman's Wedding" F. L. Elliott.
 3.—Song... "The Old Brigade" R. C. K. Johnson.
 4.—Reliance String Quartette. "Andalusia" W. C. Vaughan, L. E. McChesney, M. L. Ellis, I. J. Cohen.

5.—Song... "Bowery Girl up to date" F. M. Gowey.
 6.—Recitation... "Flannigan to Finnigan" E. H. Morse.
 7.—Song... "No more Fancy Balls for me" B. J. Jackson.
 8.—Boxing Kay Smith, H. Gunn, M. L. Ellis, C. H. Bain.
 9.—Song... "What dy'e think of Houghnan?" L. E. McChesney.

Before concluding we cannot help extending our congratulations to the Club on their obtaining the services of such an accomplished pianist as Mr. M. M. Ellis, a new arrival. His accompaniments were perfect in every way, while the March of his special composing that introduced the second half was very spirited and excellently conceived. We hope to hear him again very soon.

Says the *Daily Press* of November 29th:—The passenger list of the P. & O. steamer *Mirapora* contains the names of six Russians, who, we hear, have come out to join the Chinese Customs Service. This, if correct, may be taken as a sign of the times.

JAPAN'S ARMAMENTS.

THE discussion now going on with reference to the expansion of Japan's armaments seems to be vitiated by a certain confusion of ideas between the feasibility and the utility of the programme. It will have been perceived, of course, that there is no difference of opinion as to the necessity of increasing the Navy up to the full limits of the Government's scheme. All parties are agreed upon that point. The question centres solely upon the Army. Should the Army be doubled, or is an increase of fifty per cent. sufficient? That is the only matter in dispute, and it is there that the confusion of which we speak presents itself. The opponents of military increment appear to question, not the possibility of using an army of such dimensions as the Government's programme contemplates, but the possibility of utilizing any considerable army at all. In support of their argument they point to the fact that France, despite of her immense military forces, was unable to make any serious impression on China in the "state of reprisals" twelve years ago, and that Germany, though she possesses a colossal army, has been obliged to rely on her Navy for the Kiao-chow *coup*. We confess that we do not clearly understand this contention, and may, therefore, be misrepresenting it. But if such illustrations have any significance, it appears to us that they point to a conclusion diametrically opposed to that deduced from them by some Japanese writers. There can be very little doubt that had France been able to place thirty or forty thousand men in the Far Eastern field in 1884, she would now be in possession of Formosa and of a materially "rectified" Indo-Chinese frontier. She made nothing of the war—nothing, we mean, in comparison with what a Power like France ought to have achieved—simply because she had no troops available for land operations. At sea she was absolute mistress of the situation. The Pei-yang Squadron, nearly just as powerful then as it was when Admiral ITO entrapped it into a combat ten years later, lay carefully *perdu* in Wei-hai-wei and Port Arthur, contributing nothing to the defence of the country unless, indeed, we place to its account the occasional disturbance that its potentialities produced in Admiral COURBET'S plans. In short, France achieved nothing tangible or memorable, not because there was no occasion for her to use both arms, but because the occasion demanded the use of both and she was unable to use more than one. As for Germany at Kiao-chow, it is true that the affair has hitherto involved ships only, but that is precisely where the weak point of the situation exists for both sides. If China possessed an army of even the most moderate capacity, the Germans could not have essayed such a *coup* as the invasion of her empire with a

band of six hundred men. The fact is that the weakness of Occidental Powers for belligerent purposes in the Orient consists in the almost insuperable difficulty of conducting military operations at such an immense distance from their prime base. France and England, uniting their strength in 1860, managed to land twenty thousand men at Peitang for a campaign against Taku, Tientsin and Peking. England supplied nearly two-thirds of the force, drawing upon her Indian Army for the purpose, and England also supplied the greater part of the transport. The dimensions of that effort furnished a tolerably accurate gauge of the offensive capacities of Occidental States in the Far East. What such experiences teach Japan is, not that she has no need of a powerful army, but that her situation gives her an opportunity to be strong where her competitors are weak. Were her organization such that she could land an army of a hundred thousand men at any point on the continent of eastern Asia, and maintain it at that standard throughout the course of a campaign, she would be mistress of the situation. No other Power could compete with her. We do not here take into account the question of preserving maritime communications. That is a necessity vital to the safe prosecution of all over-sea enterprises, whatever be the numerical strength of the land force employed. Our point is that if Japan aims at exercising a really potent influence over the destinies of the Far East, she should have an army of a hundred thousand men ready for use beyond her own borders, and that ability to launch such a force in any given direction at brief notice would give her an immense advantage in all complications at present conceivable. On the other hand, any greater effort not only seems superfluous but would overtax her capacity. To transport a hundred thousand men to the opposite continent and keep them supplied with munitions, reliefs and provisions would require a fleet of at least eighty steamers. It is not impossible, at any rate it will not be impossible a few years hence, for Japan to get together such a fleet. But suppose that the expeditionary force were a hundred and fifty thousand strong, and that a hundred and twenty transports were needed. Where are they to be obtained? There are no signs at present of any preparations to provide them. It appears, in short, that Japan is organizing an army in excess of her means to utilize it. For home defence, including the garrisoning of Formosa and Yezo, an army of a hundred and twenty thousand men would be amply sufficient. Thus, allowing eighty thousand men as a casualty reserve for the two armies, the army of offense and the army of defence, the conclusion is that if Japan's programme aimed at a war footing of three hundred thousand men, or three hundred and fifty

thousand at most, she would be amply prepared for all contingencies. Her present programme, however, is four hundred and sixty thousand.

Of course, no discussion of this character would have any value unless it included the question of finance. Can Japan afford a naval and military equipment of the dimensions now contemplated? The difficulty in answering such a question is to find a basis of calculation. It will not do merely to say that Japan spends so many million *yen* a year, and England so many sovereigns, or France so many francs. We must know something about the spending capacities of the various Powers before we compare the amounts spent by them. There are two ways of looking at the problem. One is to consider what ratio the military and naval outlays bear to the income of the State; another is to examine the cost per head of population. According to the Government's estimates, the annual outlay on account of the Army when it is raised to the contemplated strength of twelve Divisions and the Imperial Guards, will be 27 million *yen*, in round numbers; and the annual outlay on account of the Navy (when its establishment is 67 ships with an aggregate displacement of 258,300 tons, 11 torpedo-catchers and 115 torpedo-boats) will be 16 millions. To the latter figure, however, we must add 13 millions as a maintenance fund, so that the total naval expenditures become 29 millions, and the outlays on account of the two services aggregate 56 millions. The corresponding revenue of the State—that is to say, the revenue that will be available, on the present system of taxation, when the armaments expansion programme is consummated—will be at least 160 millions. Hence we find that the total expenditures for the two services will be $\frac{56}{160}$ of the State income; the Army expenditure being $\frac{27}{160}$, and the Naval $\frac{29}{160}$. Now the expenditure on account of the English army is 18 millions sterling, in round numbers, and the expenditure on account of the Navy, 19 millions, the State revenue being 100 millions, approximately. Hence the expenditures for the two services are $\frac{37}{100}$ of the State revenue, the Army expenditure being $\frac{18}{100}$, and the Naval, $\frac{19}{100}$. This comparison does not show any startling contrast. The advantage is on Japan's side. It will be observed, too, that as between the Army and Navy, Japan spends proportionately more on the latter service than Great Britain does. We need scarcely point out, of course, that we are dealing with ratios only. If a direct comparison be instituted, it appears that England spends 6½ *yen* upon her Navy and nearly 7 *yen* on her Army for every one *yen* that Japan contemplates spending. Turning, now, to the second method of comparison, it will be seen that Japan's naval and military expenditures amount to 1.33 *yen*

per head of her population, and Great Britain's to 9.75 *yen*. Each inhabitant of the United Kingdom has to pay a little more than seven times as much on account of military and naval expenditure as each inhabitant of the Japanese empire. Is that a proper ratio? To answer intelligently we must know something about the comparative wealth of the two countries. In England's case information on that point is easily accessible. We know that the accumulated wealth of the nation may be set down as nine thousand millions sterling, without much risk of error. But in Japan minute and trustworthy statistics are still difficult to obtain. The latest estimate formed by competent calculators gives ten thousand million *yen* as the sum of the national wealth. We are disposed to think that the figure is below the truth. It is obtained by assessing the value of the agricultural and building land at eight thousand million *yen*, and adding two thousand millions on account of all the remaining property of the people. For the moment, however, we must be content with the estimate as the closest approximation immediately procurable. Our comparative figures then become nine thousand million pounds sterling for the United Kingdom and one thousand millions sterling for Japan. In other words, a British subject can afford to spend nine *yen* for every one *yen* that a Japanese subject spends. If that be a correct contrast, it follows that the Japanese subject over-taxes his financial capacities when he devotes to his Army and Navy one *yen* for every seven *yen* devoted by a British subject to the same purpose. The discrepancy is not great, however.

We may refer, *en passant*, to the empirical notion which has long prevailed among foreigners residing in Japan that a *yen* in this country is the equivalent of a sovereign in England. Our statistics show, it will be observed, that the comparison is remarkably accurate. The accumulated wealth of the United Kingdom represents 237 pounds sterling per head of population; the accumulated wealth of Japan, 238 *yen* per head.

There is another point calling for notice in connexion with this problem. It is that whereas immense sums of floating capital are always available in Great Britain for the conduct of a war, Japan's resources in that respect are comparatively meagre. Fortunately when the war of 1894 broke out, she had in the Treasury accumulations of surplus revenue aggregating more than thirty millions of *yen*. But she is threatened now with deficits rather than surpluses, and it is important to consider whether, in the event of a war, she could hope to raise a domestic loan with anything like the ease that marked her last transaction of that nature. Her people will not put up any money now on account of the Railway and Public Undertakings Loans that

ought to be floated during the current year. A large fleet and a great army would be useless affairs without money to support them. Some retrenchment in the case of the Army would appear desirable, for a small army and a full purse are incomparably more efficient than a big army and empty coffers.

THE COLONIES AND THE TREATIES.

WE observe that the question of the British Colonies and the Revised Treaties has been taken up by a newspaper of this settlement, which writes as follows:—

Article 19th, states that the stipulations of the British treaty shall be applicable to all British Colonies and possessions, excepting "India, the Dominion of Canada, the Cape, Natal, and Tasmania, Australia, and New Zealand." Some trouble having been experienced by the mother country in consequence of the Colonies having responsible government, claiming a free hand to deal with Oriental, more particularly in respect to Chinese immigrants, however conflicting Colonial action might be with Imperial policy in regard to China, the framers of the treaty concluded to leave to the Colonies mentioned the option of declaring whether they would agree to bind themselves by the stipulations generally contained in the British treaty, and two years from the time of the exchange of ratifications, was the period fixed within which the necessary declaration had to be made. We believe we are correct in stating that not one of the Colonies mentioned accepted the opportunity offered, as apart from other considerations that, if they did so, they might find themselves hampered in resorting to legislation to limit or exclude altogether the admission of Japanese in common with Chinese who perhaps would be found availing themselves of the advantages which the Australian group of Colonies offer to emigrants from the East who might flock in in such numbers, as would be considered to be unadvisable to admit. Had such an option been given to British residents in Japan,—for quite a number of cogent reasons,—of declining to accept the in several respects objectionable instrument which the Japanese press delights in telling us will be "enforced," they would gladly have availed themselves of the opportunity of rejection.

The Japanese seem to have taken umbrage at the Colonies mentioned holding themselves aloof, and as far as indicated, appear to desire to vent their spite on any Colonist presuming to make application for the granting of letters patent to protect from piracy any invention deemed to be sufficiently valuable to require it. Already we know of one refusal on the above ground, and there may perhaps have been more for aught we know to the contrary.

Turning to the first Article of the British treaty, we find, that British and Japanese subjects "shall have full liberty to enter, travel, and reside in any part of the dominions of the other contracting Party, and shall enjoy full and perfect protection for their persons and property." Now because it has not pleased the Governments of the Colonies previously adverted to, to accept the provisions of the treaty, the position is taken up, which we hold to be untenable, that the rights conceded by it to British subjects in general, shall be withheld if any of them chance to reside in the Colonies mentioned, and we fore-see that in attempting such distinction much trouble will ensue, and it serves no rational purpose whatsoever. It is surely the merest folly to discriminate against individual Colonists, as though it could make any possible difference whatsoever as to a British subject's nationality by the place he happens to reside in. He cannot be deprived of his birth-right by any such flimsy plea, and he surely cannot be held to be personally responsible for the act or default of a Colonial Government, any more than for the conduct of the mother country.

It appears to us that the Japanese Government is exceedingly ill-advised to raise the petty-fogging plea which has been advanced in bar of the granting a Canadian's application for a patent, for which, as a British subject, he has a right to have awarded him, should no objection be found to his application. Are we to understand by the present complexion of this affair, that British subjects coming from the Colonies have no treaty rights whatsoever, and that such persons are to be relegated to the position of strangers from any country which has no treaty with Japan? for that appears to be the predicament they will find themselves to be placed in. Is it likely that trade will be increased between Japan and the Colonies referred to by the pursuit of so paltry a policy of exclusion. If the restriction is persisted in, it will be easily evaded, which alone furnishes a forcible argument against its adoption. It most assuredly is of infinitely more importance to Japan that its people should have freedom of access to those Colonies, and be permitted to reside

and trade in them, than the new fangled treatment, is to the Colonists who when they discover that such a narrow and altogether illiberal spirit is displayed in interpreting and applying the provisions of the treaty, will most likely be moved to make reprisals in the shape of restriction on the immigration of Japanese subjects, and the levying of increased duties on imports from this country.

These paragraphs contain some errors of fact and several strange theories. In the first place, it is incorrect to say that none of the British colonies has come into the new arrangement. Two of the Australasian Colonies have done so. In the second place, it is not true that the Colonies are deterred by a fear lest they should be "hampered in resorting to legislation to limit or exclude altogether the admission of Japanese in common with Chinese" who might flock into the colonial territories in inconvenient numbers. That difficulty has no existence. Japan has treated the question with liberality. In concluding treaties with the colonies, no obstacle is offered to the insertion of a clause reserving to each of the contracting parties the legislative right of limiting or forbidding the immigration of labourers or artisans. Such a provision appears in the treaty with the United States and in the treaties with the two Australasian Colonies referred to above. Under the circumstances, we are unable to understand why all the Colonies do not subscribe to the Revised Treaties. The reason of their hesitation is not discernible.

As to Japan's attitude, very little reflection is needed to show that the charges brought against her in the article quoted above have no basis of fact. It is not Japan that adopts an exclusive policy; it is the colonies themselves. They refrain from establishing with her the same friendly relations that their mother-country and the other great Powers of Europe have established. Is it fair then, to accuse her of a petty-fogging and illiberal spirit when the difficulty is wholly on the side of the colonies and not at all on hers? Is it reasonable that she should be expected to extend to the colonists privileges for the enjoyment of which they decline to qualify themselves? The writer of the paragraphs reproduced above declares Japan's position to be untenable if she contends that the privileges conceded by the Treaty to British subjects in general do not extend, *ipso facto*, to inhabitants of British colonies. He apparently forgets, though he himself states at the outset of his article, that this discrimination was made by the British Government itself, not by Japan. Japan was perfectly willing that the Treaty should be operative for the whole British empire. It was by the wish of the British negotiators that the colonies were excluded. England does not undertake, and, indeed, has not the power, to make commercial treaties on account of her colonies. That is a right reserved for their own independent exercise. There is not the smallest obstacle to their joining the States that have concluded revised treaties with Japan. They can do so without forfeiting any part of

their legislative competence to restrict or suspend Asiatic immigration. But so long as they are explicitly excluded from the scope of the treaty, and so long as they refrain from any steps to bring themselves within its scope, no one can reasonably contend that they are entitled to its privileges. It is quite true that to discriminate against them altogether is practically impossible, even if it were desired or desirable. For all ordinary purposes of residence or travel in this country after the abolition of the settlements and of Consular Jurisdiction, no effective scrutiny can be made into the nationality of any one coming from over-sea. The country will be open to all strangers alike. But imports from British colonies that have not entered the treaty circle will, of course, be treated as imports from a non-treaty country, and wherever official recognition of nationality is necessary for the enjoyment of a treaty privilege, such privilege will not be enjoyable by a non-treaty national.

Among privileges of the latter nature the registration of patents and trade-marks is included. It is essentially a reciprocal concession. Japan promises to protect the patents and trade-marks of Western nations which, in turn, engage to give similar protection to Japanese trade-marks and patents. Manifestly if a British Colony has not entered into any engagement of that nature *vis-à-vis* Japan, Japan can not be expected to treat the colonists exactly as she treats the subjects or citizens of States that have entered into such engagements. It is really very silly to accuse her of "venting her spite" on the colonists because she discriminates against them under these circumstances. A Japanese could not register a trade-mark or take out a patent in Canada. Why should a Canadian inventor be entitled to do so in Japan?

We should probably convey a false impression if we dismissed this subject of patents without repeating what we stated several months ago, namely, that the privilege of taking out a patent in Japan is of extremely limited value to foreigners at present. The Japanese Law of Patents and Trade Marks was framed entirely for Japanese subjects. At the time of its enactment, there was no thought of extending its scope to foreigners. The result in that, pending some alteration of its provisions, the Law can not be invoked to secure protection for a patent which has been already registered in a foreign country. The framers of the Law, thinking solely of patents to be taken out by Japanese subjects, inserted a provision that no patent which had already been registered in a foreign country would receive recognition in Japan. and this provision, the original purpose of which was to protect foreign patents against plagiarism by Japanese, now

operates to prevent foreign patent-holders from registering their patents in Japan. It is a curious and unfortunate position. Much disappointment and misunderstanding will certainly result, for the average foreigner will count it little short of a farce that unless he takes out his patent in Japan first of all, he can not obtain protection for it. But here again the fault is not Japan's. She has merely yielded to the premature pressure put on her by European Powers. They did not wait until her law could be revised so as to adopt it for the full protection of foreign patents, and the result is an equivocal situation. Of course the amendment of the law is only a question of time. We believe that the revised draft is already complete. But, on the whole, it might have been better to await until revision was effected before applying the law to conditions not contemplated by its framers.

COUNT MATSUKATA'S MEMO-RANDUM.

Count Matsukata has delivered a long reply to a deputation of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association which waited on him with reference to the financial situation. The Minister having reduced his views to writing, it is possible to lay them, *in extenso*, before our readers. We proceed to do so, at the same time acknowledging some indebtedness to the *Japan Times*, with regard to the translation of the first part of the Memorandum:—

There exists between social phenomena, especially economical, a relation so close that to separate any one of them and examine it independently is likely to lead to deceptive results. Hence, in examining the economic condition of Japan, it is necessary to take account of the vicissitudes of the public finance; above all in view of the fact that the *post bellum* undertakings of the Government constitute one of the causes of the present economic disturbance.

As the result of the war of 1894-5, which was an affair of unprecedented magnitude for this country, the public expenditure, which had hitherto been about 80,000,000 *yen*, increased to 190,000,000 *yen* in the 29th fiscal year (1895-96), and in the next year to 250,000,000 *yen*. Moreover, in order to meet the exigencies of the war, a sum of over 130,000,000 *yen* was taken from the floating capital of the nation in the form of a War Loan, and devoted to purposes other than productive, the inevitable result being that the purchasing power of the masses was suddenly increased. On the one hand, in order to meet the increase in the ordinary expenditure of the Government, various taxation measures were introduced in the ninth session of the Diet, namely, the Business Tax (estimated to yield 7,500,000 *yen*), the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly (10,000,000 *yen*), the Registration Tax (6,000,000 *yen*), and the *Saki* Tax Amendment (9,000,000 *yen*). On the other hand, large items of extraordinary expenditure were required for the manufacture of arms, am munition, and warships, the construction of barracks, the erection of offices and stores connected with the Tobacco Monopoly, the building of Naval Depot Offices, and so forth. These items footed up to such a sum that, after employing all the money raised by the War Loan, it was necessary to bring over a part of the Indemnity. Even then a deficiency still existed. The extraordinary expenditures actually exceeded the ordinary, and, in addition, the outlays on account of Formosa proved much larger than had been anticipated. The money re-

quired up to the time when the island was placed under civil administration in March, 1897, reached over 30,000,000 *yen*. The sum needed for the 29th fiscal year (1896-97) was 22,000,000 *yen*, while that of the current fiscal year is put at 24,000,000 *yen*. Then again, the fund for the Encouragement of Navigation, originally estimated at about 1,000,000 *yen*, had to be raised to over 6,000,000 *yen*. Thus it has been necessary for the Government to provide appropriations much larger than those originally fixed.

In presenting the Budget for the current year to the Diet in its tenth session, the necessity of providing a large extraordinary revenue to meet the expenditures caused much anxiety. The plans that had already been settled could not be hastily altered, and only a very brief interval had elapsed since my assumption of office. Under these circumstances, I considered that the heavy responsibilities of my office would best be discharged by pursuing a policy of gradual adjustment. What caused special anxiety at that time was the raising of loans. The amount of loans that had to be floated in order to meet the requirements of the increased armaments and other *post bellum* measures, was 8,000,000 *yen* in the 29th fiscal year (1896-7), 60,000,000 *yen* in the 30th fiscal year (1897-8), and 49,000,000 *yen* in the 31st fiscal year (1898-9). Whether the resources of the people would permit the raising of such large sums, was a point very difficult to determine. The only thing that afforded some solace was the fact that the sums to be raised would show a gradual decrease after the 31st fiscal year, and would cease altogether with the 36th year (1903-4). Persuaded, then, that no course offered except to maintain the *post bellum* schemes of finance, despite the addition they involved to the pressing burden of the nation, I adopted that policy. But the action of the Diet in the tenth session led to a decrease in the revenue, namely, 1,300,000 *yen* by the amendment of the Registration Tax, and some 2,300,000 *yen* by the abolition of contributions to the warship construction fund by Government officials. Moreover, the actual yield from the Business Tax shows a decrease of 2,000,000 *yen* as compared with the estimate. Similarly, the income from the tobacco monopoly may show a decrease of over 3,000,000 *yen*, because, owing to the delay in putting into operation the new Tariff, the importation of foreign manufactured tobacco tends to increase. Thus, while increased outlay is necessary on account of Formosa and the Encouragement Bounties, the revenue shows considerable reduction. Farther, owing to the rise in the prices of commodities, any considerable reduction of the administrative expenses is not possible. In short, the management of the public finances at the present juncture is no light task, whoever be placed in control of them.

Shall we, then, alter the *post bellum* programme which received the universal consent of the nation in the ninth session of the Diet, and shall we adopt the policy of reducing the military expansion? This question was undoubtedly worthy of serious consideration before the scheme of expansion was approved by the Diet in its ninth session. But to introduce a change in the national policy at the present juncture not only would be prejudicial to the credit of the country, but is also inadmissible under the circumstances of the time. Even supposing that a reduction of the scheme of military expansion were undertaken, the economy thereby effected would be found to be smaller than is imagined, the greater part of the programme having been already carried out.

How, then, is the discrepancy between the expenditure and income of the State to be adjusted? No one that has the real and permanent interest of the country at heart will approve the adoption of a temporizing policy, such, for instance, as the appropriation of the fund set apart for purposes of armaments expansion, or the postponement of the period of the redemption of loans, or the raising of a new loan. Of these expedients, that of meeting the deficiency by borrowed money is particularly objectionable, as its effect would be to aggravate

the origin of the malady. Its immediate result might possibly be to alleviate the suffering, but a relapse to the old state would be inevitable, especially as the floating of a loan in the present condition of the home and foreign markets seems to offer little prospects of success. It might not be altogether impossible to obtain the required amount, if the loan were issued at a low rate; but the result of withdrawing a further sum from the nation's capital fund would impair the progress of productive undertakings, and would at all events be followed by a sudden depreciation of even the best securities, thereby increasing still more the embarrassment now experienced by a section of the industrial world.

Under these circumstances, it is beyond dispute that the only course to be pursued is to increase the taxes. If recourse were had to the creation of new taxes, it would take some time before their incidence could be equitably arranged, and moreover, the multiplication of taxes producing small yields not only causes confusion but is disadvantageous to both Government and people. The sources on which we can rely for the future increase of income are only the Land Tax and the *Saké* Tax. Not only is the Land Tax the principal source of revenue in this country, but also, there is reason to believe that the price of rice will be maintained at about 10 *yen* per *toku* as the result of the adoption of the gold standard. It is but reasonable, therefore, that a certain increase should be made in the amount of agrarian taxation. As to the *Saké* Tax, an increase was only recently effected, but since the burden does not fall on the shoulders of those who pay the tax, it cannot be asserted that they are unable to bear a further increase. Besides, the increased income of the lower classes in consequence of the rise of various industries and undertakings has been followed by an increased consumption of *saké*. The quantity brewed this year, for instance, shows an increase over that of last year, notwithstanding the fact that the incidence of taxation was raised since 1896. It therefore seems justifiable to effect a further increase in this tax, at the same time taking steps to exercise proper checks upon the brewing of liquor for family consumption, and to correct any other circumstances that tend to decrease the demand for *saké*. It has to be borne in mind, too, that the increase of these taxes will have the effect of reconverting into capital the money now distributed among the lower classes, and also of checking the growth of luxurious habits of living. A further result of the proposed taxation will be to avert any increase of burdens upon those engaged in productive industries. I believe that these measures will prove of no small benefit to the national economy. If the tax-payers sacrifice their self-interest for the sake of the permanent good of the country, and if the Diet be impartial enough to give consent to these taxation measures, an addition of about 20,000,000 *yen* will easily be made to the Revenue. If, also, the revision of the Treaties be carried out as anticipated, it will be practicable to put the new Tariff into operation from July, 1898, the consequence of which will be an addition of 7 or 8 million *yen* to the Revenue, and by effecting some improvement in the method of levying the Business Tax and managing the Tobacco Monopoly, while, at the same time, the tax paying capacities of the people improve, a general augmentation of the public revenue may be not unreasonably expected. Even the adjustment of household economy requires time: how much more must that be the case with regard to the reform of national finance? If both Government and people be united, if no errors of procedure be made, if the difficulties of the situation be patiently encountered, and if the exigencies of the time be recognized, there is no reason to fear that the *post-bellum* measures can not be consummated though the effort will be severe, especially since, unless unforeseen emergencies arise, the volume of the extraordinary expenditures will gradually decrease, and the difficulty experienced in drawing up yearly estimates will proportionately diminish. If it be alleged that the people's resources are not adequate to bear an increased burden of 20,000,000 *yen*, the question would

be different. But if not, I am convinced that the best course under the existing circumstances is an increase of taxation.

This expansion of the *post-bellum* finance has led to an increase of various works under the Government, and these, supplemented by a general development of private industries, have produced great disturbance in the economic condition of the country. One of the most conspicuous consequences has been a sudden and extraordinary increase of the purchasing power of the people. This circumstance, together with the fall of silver, has brought about an unprecedented rise of prices. Believing that such an abnormal rise of prices was injurious to a healthy and permanent economic development of the country, the Government carried out the monetary reform, so that the national finances might be placed on a sound basis. Since then, there have been constantly accentuated fluctuations in the price of silver. It dropped at one time from 29 pence as far as 23 pence per ounce, and rose again to 27 pence. Although these fluctuations have not ceased, our foreign exchanges have remained almost invariable since the coming into operation of the new monetary system. As a consequence, almost unprecedented activity is noticeable in the silk trade. It was urged by the opponents of the monetary reform that under the new system our silk trade would be stolen from us by China; but the point of chief importance in foreign trade being stability of exchange, there does not appear to be any sign of our silk trade's being invaded by China. Altogether our export and import trade has made rapid progress. It is true that imports continue to be in excess, but it must be borne in mind that the excess is in a large measure caused by the purchase of machinery and raw material, which will in course of time materially contribute to increased production and export. There is, therefore, nothing in the condition of our foreign trade to cause any anxiety. The depreciation of silver has caused more or less disturbance in our export of cotton yarns to China and other silver countries, but the disturbance will subside with the cessation of exchange fluctuations (*kawase hendo no shisumaru to tomo ni kuwafuku subashi*). Not only that, but since we shall be able to buy raw material cheaply from silver-using countries, our temporary loss will be compensated. Already, indeed, there are signs that trade with these countries is beginning to recover. As to the redemption of silver *yen*, no large sums have been presented for exchange such as were foretold by some excited persons. Not only has the amount exchanged not yet reached the estimated limit, but there is even a tendency toward the coming in of foreign gold.

It is a matter of public knowledge that more or less inconvenience is felt at present in the field of national economy, the prices of commodities having been forced up by a sudden increase of the people's purchasing power, the prices of shares having depreciated owing to the fever for new enterprises, and the demand for capital having produced a tightness in the money market. Three remedies only suggest themselves in such a situation. They are:—

- (1) To refrain from interference and leave matters to right themselves.
- (2) To raise the rate of interest and reduce the volume of the currency.
- (3) To increase the volume of the currency and satisfy the demand for capital.

It is essential that economical plans should not be based merely on theory. One of the above three courses has to be selected and vigorously pursued. But before fixing upon a future policy in a matter of such great importance, we have to consider the causes that have brought about the present state of affairs; we have to examine the state of society; and we have to take care that we are in touch with the time. The origin of the present malady seems to consist in:—

- (1) An increase of the people's purchasing power.
- (2) A sudden development of industrial fever.

- (3) Deficiency of capital for various enterprises.

These seem to be the only causes. It follows, therefore, that the objects upon which attention must be fixed are the utmost possible reduction of all unproductive expenditures, apart from the outlay on account of armaments which are essential to the very existence of the State; the prosecution of efforts on all sides to restrain purely speculative enterprises; the provision of capital to meet the needs of profitable undertakings; the adoption of measures such as shall avert undeserved misfortune from necessary enterprises that have already been established or are on the point of being established, to say nothing of new schemes; and the protection of the general credit against disturbance. To consummate these aims we have to ask for the co-operation of the Diet in several matters of which the following are the most important:—

The work of revising the Treaties with France and Austria-Hungary has made rapid progress and the exchange of ratifications may take place during the year. That being the case, it is necessary that the Diet should lose no time in giving its assent to the new Codes which are essential to the operation of the Treaties in 1899. Without that assent, the new Treaties can not go into operation; a result that would be humiliating to the country in the eyes of the world. Not that alone, but if the Treaties become operative, the new Tariff also will go into force, as already explained, bringing an increase of public revenue; the present extravagant expenditures of the people will receive some check, and—which will appear much more important to many people—facilities for the inflow of foreign capital will be afforded, to the great profit of the country. It is a matter of course that foreign capitalists should hesitate to invest any large amount of money in Japanese industries under treaties that impose so many restrictions as the present do. A market was indeed found abroad for a considerable quantity of Loan Bonds, after the introduction of the gold standard; and even before the Revised Treaties go into operation there will be more or less demand in foreign markets for Government Bonds and for the shares of trustworthy companies, especially those of the Industrial Bank, which give their holder a right to a part of the profits. Still, so long as the present Treaties remain in force, foreign capital is not likely to come in large quantities. It is thus plain that the Diet's consent to the remaining parts of the Codes in its next session is almost an essential step towards supplying the future demand for capital. Some people affirm that the Government's credit should be pledged for the purpose of bringing in a large sum of foreign capital, but such precipitate devices, conceived in the interest of individuals, are to be avoided as much as possible; for it must not be forgotten that they involve a serious risk of causing economical disturbance, and that foreign capital, unless wise measures be adopted for introducing it, may produce effects the reverse of beneficial. Briefly speaking, unless an occasion offers for obtaining foreign capital in a suitable way and employing it in productive enterprises, its introduction may produce incalculable disturbance, may bring about a panic, and may simply have the effect of augmenting the borrowers' burdens without contributing anything to their advantage. If order be introduced into the State finances, if the national economy be firmly based, if credit be sound and if the fiscal system be duly arranged, capital will come to us without our going in search of it.

In the next place, were a redundant currency responsible for the appreciation of the prices of commodities, some reduction of the volume would doubtless be necessary. Now, speaking in terms of the new gold coin for convenience of comparison, the volume of hard money in circulation in June 1890 was over 330 million *yen*, whereas the volume in circulation in June of the current year was about 300 millions. Again, the paper money of various kinds in circulation at the end of 1894 aggregated 185 million *yen*, and at the end of last month (Nov.)

it aggregated 215 millions. Thus there has been no marked expansion of volume. Even if there had been more or less increase, it certainly could not be held entirely responsible for the appreciation of prices, in view of the augmented demand for currency produced by industrial development, and of the fact that no small quantity of coin has gone to Korea, to China, and to Formosa. The only trouble is that the ownership of the currency has changed. It has gone out of the hands of productive manufacturers and passed into the possession of the labouring classes—no less than eighty thousand men are employed upon one branch of works—and of the consuming classes. To collect it and bring it within reach of productive enterprises is of prime importance at present. For that purpose, it is proposed to issue public bonds of small denominations, so as, on the one hand, to increase the supply of capital available for industrial purposes, and, on the other, to promote a spirit of thrift among the people. Thus not only will relief be afforded to the present stringency of the money market, which is due not so much to the want of capital as to its defective circulation, but the purchasing power of the labouring classes will be somewhat diminished and the interests of the producing classes promoted.

Nothing conduces so much to economic progress as credit and confidence. At present, however, issues of convertible notes in excess of the legal limit has become an ordinary occurrence. Business men live in constant apprehension lest the Bank of Japan should raise its rate of interest, a state of affairs very far from being conducive to the development of enterprises the maintenance of which presents any difficulties. The reason that a necessity arises for thus exceeding the ordinary limits is that the point fixed by the present Convertible Note Regulations, namely 85 million *yen*, is too low, especially in view of the fact that large quantities of cheap money are needed for the purpose of foreign bills of exchange. It consequently appears necessary to effect some amendment of the present Convertible Bank Note Regulations.

All the above projects call for the enactment of new laws or the revision of those now in force, and can not, therefore, be carried out without the co-operation of the Diet. If, on the other hand, that co-operation be obtained, I believe that the condition of the national economy will be greatly improved and the present embarrassments removed. If may possibly be questioned whether this programme is not inspired by a desire to increase the volume of the currency. By no means. Is it to be supposed that the error would be committed of needlessly swelling the currency and thus producing an appreciation of the price of commodities? This point was elaborated more than once in connexion with the change of the monetary standard. It is governed by the same considerations that forbid as highly injurious such proceedings as the sudden introduction of a large quantity of foreign capital or the investment of money in vast enterprises without making any inquiry into their nature or soundness. It is sufficient to promote profitable enterprises and to provide necessary capital. I can not possibly agree with those that advocate an increase of the volume of the currency. Nay more, I consider that every effort should be made to restrain extravagant enterprises and to maintain sound and profitable undertakings, and that nothing is more to be avoided than the production of a new access of industrial fever by suddenly augmenting the circulation. At the same time, I am fully sensible of the great injury that may be caused by running to the other extreme of contraction, and thus causing the failure of profitable enterprises and destroying credit. It is necessary to avoid both extremes, that of restraint and that of impulse, and to strive after the happy mean.

Finally, there is one point demanding close attention. This is a time of demand. Care is therefore taken that the resources of supply shall not fall behind. The fact that machinery and raw materials are being vigorously imported is

well known. But demand will gradually grow less hereafter, and if producers, carried away by the prosperity of the moment, take no precautions and fail to reduce supply in due proportion, they may be overtaken by embarrassment greater than that now suffered by one class of industrials owing to the decline in the market price of shares. It is most desirable that manufacturers and bankers should unite in adopting precautionary measures, so as to guard against the evil of excessive supply. For the purpose of averting that great calamity, leading business men should agree to subject to the severest scrutiny all new projects, and should be content to devote their strength to the consummation of such undertakings only as can be certainly trusted to mature. There may be cases at present in which the temporary suspension of projects involves more or less difficulty; but to shrink back to-day is to stretch out to-morrow, whereas to advance recklessly now may mean complete ruin hereafter. Arguments of this kind may perhaps be called inconsequential, since they have no connexion with any of the three propositions advanced above. But to be guided by mere rules, to attach prime importance to quibbles of irresponsible controversy, to apply moribund principles to living economical society with all its changing phases, is not merely to stultify oneself but also to incur the risk of working grievous injury. Thus, though the general policy of the Government is positive, it will, at the same time, be an object to restrain anything hurtful, to encourage everything profitable, above all and before all to prevent failures, and to promote general economic progress. It must not be forgotten that this is a time demanding the sacrifice of selfish considerations and personal aims, the circumspect avoidance of rash enterprise and steady advance in safe directions.

PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT OF FINANCES.

The following essay was presented to the united Chambers of Commerce of Japan at their last meeting:—

The expenditures for the administration of our country after the war of the 27th and 28th years of *Meiji* increased very considerably. In the 28th year of *Meiji* (1895), the gross expenditures did not exceed 89 million *yen*, but in the 29th year the amount rose to 190 millions and by the 30th year to the enormous sum of 240 millions. The expenses for the 31st year have not yet been accurately ascertained, but they are estimated at no less than 230 million *yen*. Under these circumstances it is alleged that a deficit in revenue of several tens of millions can be made up only by resorting to increased taxation. Should the question be asked how a successful war with a foreign Power could have brought about such an unexpected increase of expenditures for administration, it must be answered by the statement that the scheme of *post bellum* armaments expansion is the direct cause of the augmentation of expenditure. The expansion may be indispensable, but the question of the period during which it can be carried out has to be considered. The most important *post bellum* undertaking should be to strengthen the national resources exhausted by the war; the question of armament expansion being of secondary importance. Unfortunately, however, the various schemes adopted by the Government have reversed this order of things. We gained a splendid victory, but now find ourselves destitute of sufficient means to carry on the administration. We obtained 300 million *yen* indemnity, yet the national finances are still in a state of disorganisation, and the business community is fast sinking into a grievous condition. All this must be attributed to the ill-advised policy of the Government. Some persons are disposed to entertain the notion that since the greater portion of the cost of the expansion of armaments is to be supplied by the indemnity, the scheme has no connection with the vicissitudes of national resources. Such a notion must be regarded as resulting from ignorance of the general course of events; inasmuch as the financial resources of our country have not been increased by the late war, but decreased. The public is aware that the actual outlay for war expenses exceeded 200 million *yen*, but the losses indirectly sustained by the people in connection with the war were incalculably greater. For instance, a large number of young men having been sent out of the country to serve as soldiers and army coolies, the productive power of the nation was considerably decreased, while various domestic manufactures were utterly neglected in order to supply stores for the war, and increase of imports was the inevitable result. If the losses arising from these circumstances were calculated, the amount would be far larger than is imagined. The injuries thus sustained remain still unremedied. If before providing a remedy for these injuries the whole amount of the indemnity is appropriated to unproductive expenditure for the expansion of armaments, when can we expect to see the national resources consolidated? There is a natural growth in the development of national strength, and it is necessary that the amount of expenditure for administration should correspond with this growth of national strength. The sudden augmentation of expenditure in the 29th year of *Meiji* to double the amount of the previous year was a serious blunder in the administration of the country. The measure evoked much adverse criticism at the time from the more enlightened members of society, but the Government having taken no notice of these criticisms, the administrative expenditure was allowed to expand far beyond the revenue before two years had elapsed. According to the Budget issued in the 30th year of *Meiji*, showing the estimates for the ten following years, the revenue for the 31st fiscal year was fixed at 211 million *yen* and the expenditure at 206 millions, the balance indicating an excess of five millions in revenue. Contrary to these calculations, we now find a deficit in revenue of over twenty millions, showing that the future of our financial administration is extremely precarious.

The anomaly thus noticeable is the result of our having failed to keep the administrative expenditure within the limits of the national resources. Unless the finances are properly adjusted at once, Japan can not escape the calamity which appears about to befall her. We therefore beg to express our opinions on the subject to the authorities concerned.

1.—The administrative expenditure should be arranged in proportion to the national resources. Extravagant state expenditure, beyond the resources of the nation, invariably endangers the foundation of financial administration. Is there no cause for anxiety on this point at present? It is of course impossible to show all the actual financial details, owing to the want of accurate statistics, but it is beyond question that no nation can double its resources in one or two years. Nevertheless the expenditure in the 29th year was doubled and in the 30th year trebled. Even supposing that the amount of expenditure for the previous years was proportionately small, its sudden enormous augmentation could hardly fail to impede the progress of the nation. Still more must this be the case when it is known that the former expenditure was far from being regarded as small in proportion to the national resources. The wealth of our country cannot be shown by statistics; but as it is a general rule that the larger portion of national wealth consists of immovable property, an agricultural country like Japan is sure to have most of its resources in land. Even granting that the actual value of land is five times the nominal rate assessed, the country's wealth in this respect does not exceed eight thousand million *yen*. This, added to the cost of buildings, and movable properties, will hardly reach a total of ten thousand millions. In Europe and America the ratio of administrative expenditure to wealth is 1 or 1½ per cent. only. A rate of over 2 per

cent. is seldom reached. England, with less than 1 per cent. of her wealth devoted to State expenditure, is predominant in the world, both in power and opulence, while Italy, which appropriates over 2.3 per cent. of her wealth to State expenditure is in a grievous state of decline. From these facts it may be inferred that the State expenditure ought not to exceed 1 or 1½ per cent. of the national resources, and that any excess of that limit is likely to be attended with a decline of national strength. Thus it is plain that the State expenditure for our country is far in excess of the legitimate amount. Unless it is curtailed in proportion to the national resources, it will be impossible to secure a perfect adjustment of the finances, while the progress of the nation will be impeded.

2.—In curtailing the administrative expenditure it is absolutely essential to decrease the expenses for armament. When the army and navy acquire excessive influence through victory in war, it often happens that persons holding high positions in them exceed the proper bounds of influence and endeavour to interfere in the administration, the result being an increase of unproductive expenses for armaments. Instances of that nature abound in the history of various nations. They are by no means matters for congratulation. Is our country at present free from this abuse? That an army and a navy are indispensable for the maintenance of independence is beyond all doubt, but at the same time it is necessary that as the administrative expenditures ought to be fixed proportionately to national wealth, so the expenses for armament must be determined in such a way as to be in equilibrium with other State expenditures. The present military and naval expenses of our country amount to more than 50 per cent. of the total State expenditure. The ratio which armament expenses bear to the State expenditure in Europe and America is less than 20 per cent. and seldom exceeds 40 per cent. at most. Each nation has a peculiarity of its own, and a single instance can not be taken as a standard for general adoption. But the excess of expenditure for armaments in our country is clear. Advocates of the expansion scheme are disposed to assert that the extravagant excess of armament expenses as compared with those in Europe and America is but temporary, and that when the fixed period expires the ratio will considerably decrease. That theory may be true, but it is also to be borne in mind that armament being unproductive, its expansion, when once undertaken, requires additional expenditure each year for maintenance. The heaviest augmentation in the armament expenditure has been caused by the excessive expansion of the army. Japan being surrounded on all sides by seas and oceans, it may be indispensable for her to devote her energies to her coast defence. But how can we justify the extraordinary expansion of the army as at present planned? We do not pretend to be perfectly familiar with affairs connected with the army, but we need not hesitate to assert our views on the general merits of the question. We consider that the armament for our country ought to be based on defensive principles, inasmuch as the resources of the nation do not yet permit the adoption of any schemes for offensive operations. We believe this to be a fact, and we suppose that the authorities directly concerned in the armament scheme are also fully sensible of it. The excessive expansion now undertaken not only tends to impair the financial strength of the nation, but excites the suspicion and jealousy of other Powers. There can be no ultimate good in such a course. Moreover, the extravagant expansion of the army not only directly increases unproductive expenditure to a very large amount, but also lessens the productive power of the people by the enlistment of a great number of youths for military service. A reduction of the number of troops in actual service has the effect of increasing the productive power of the people.

3.—Appropriate distribution of State expen-

ditures:—To assist the development of national resources by adjusting the finances of the country, it is not only necessary to curtail the State expenditure, but also to distribute the same in proper proportions. The existing system is greatly prejudicial to our development. The armament expenses, for example, are extravagantly estimated, little attention being given to the means of raising the money. Railways, postal, telegraph, and telephone services, which are conducive to the development of the national resources, lack proper improvement or extension in consequence of the insufficient appropriations allowed for them, the result being delays and great inconvenience in communications. We mention only the most prominent facts, but these we believe will suffice to show that the administrative expenditure is not properly distributed. The immediate reform of the administration is therefore of paramount importance, in order that by placing the State expenditure on an equitable footing, unproductive expenses may be curtailed, productive enterprises developed, and the progress of the country stimulated to the fullest extent.

4.—The necessity of simplicity as well as accuracy in the annual accounts:—The budget of a State ought to be so simple and clear that any person may at once understand its contents. The budget of our country at present is not only extremely intricate, but also, owing to the improper system adopted in its compilation, an enormous amount of surplus sums brought over from the previous account appear each year, though these amounts can not properly be included in the next year's resources. Any deficiency in the estimates of revenue for the coming year must always be supplied from an entirely distinct source of revenue.

The annual estimates, as the term clearly indicates, are nothing but a forecast of the amount of State expenditure required for the twelve months. Any extraordinary difference arising between actual revenue and expenditure must be attributed to defective knowledge on the part of the authorities concerned.

That a surplus is allowed to lie idle in the vaults of the Treasury for months or years is evidently the result of an improper system adopted in the settlement of accounts. Greater simplicity as well as accuracy in the budget can be secured, and greater facilities afforded in the management of national finances. The genuine system of accounts is to regard receipts during the 12 months as revenue and the disbursements for the same period as expenditure, and the accounts being balanced at the end of the year, any surplus or deficiency which may exist should at once be adjusted. That is to say, if there is a surplus, public bonds may be purchased, and if there is a deficiency bonds may be sold to make it good. By the adoption of this system the Government will be enabled to escape the embarrassment of allowing a surplus to lie idly in the vaults of the Treasury or having to find means of supplying a deficit. As for continuing expenses, the general programme at the outset to explain their purpose is sufficient, and there is no necessity for securing a vote for the total expenditure in the first year: the amount needed in each year can be submitted for the approval of the Diet that year.

5.—The necessity of securing simplicity in dealing with national finances.—The means of securing credit in financial administration lie in making the details publicly known to the people. If, apart from the Central Bank, the Central Treasury, or Deposit Department, which resembles in nature a banking institution, is conducted solely by the Government, the people are likely to entertain feelings of suspicion. So far as the Central Bank is concerned, it is advisable that the management of business relating to the receipts and payments, as well as deposits, of the Treasury should be entrusted to the Bank, no interference or restrictions being allowed. Should any restriction be imposed for the convenience of the Treasury, the advantages of the system of convertible notes will be lost, and instead of securing beneficial results by its operation, incalculable evils will arise.

6.—The advisability of raising a foreign loan with a view to liquidate domestic loans:—

The main cause of the distress into which our economic community has fallen is to be found in the fact that the people were required to bear all at once an enormous increase of expenses, while the indemnity was entirely appropriated for the expansion of armaments. It is obvious that if the Government had from the outset endeavoured to restore the national resources by liquidating domestic loans with a part of the indemnity, the financial embarrassment of the country would not have been so serious. It is no use arguing the point further. The best scheme is to raise a foreign loan of 200 million yen to be appropriated for the redemption of domestic loans. The amount defrayed directly as war expenses has not yet been ascertained, but it is said that it will be no less than 200 millions. The introduction of foreign capital and the redemption of domestic loans will not only enable the people to become possessed of funds, but will have the effect of placing them in a situation to meet any sudden burden of war expenses. Thus they can be relieved from the present distress, while the amount of national debt is in no way increased. Indeed, the scheme under notice is destined to restore activity in financial circles and to secure further development of productive industry, without entailing loss to the Government. We do not advocate the introduction of foreign capital except from urgent necessity. It is worth while to note that the loan so obtained should, under no circumstances, be appropriated for armament expenses or other unproductive expenditure, but should exclusively be employed in the liquidation of domestic loans. Any appropriation for armament expenses would have the effect of throwing the financial administration into disorder, for a foreign loan must be raised for the sole purpose of securing the development of national resources. As regards the process of redeeming domestic loans, the work may be consummated by purchasing the same, or accepting bonds for redemption the period of maturity of which has arrived. There is no necessity for selecting bonds in regard to classification. Some persons labour under the apprehension that a foreign loan is attended with serious danger. Such a notion, however, is simply the outcome of ignorance. If the national resources of our country are fully cultivated and our financial foundations firmly consolidated, there can be no cause for apprehension. The most urgent need at present is to promote the country's progress. The introduction of foreign capital being requisite towards that end, the plan ought to be undertaken without a moment's delay. The conjoint operation of the schemes enumerated above will alone secure proper financial adjustment. The consummation of our schemes of coast defence is, of course, a matter eagerly desired. Thus there are three things most needed in our country. The first is money; next comes a navy; the army ranks third.

Unless these three things are taken in due order the practical development of the nation's armament can never be expected. Some sections of the public clamour that the armament scheme has been considerably expanded; yet whether its efficiency has not been reduced is a question. In the late war with China a great army of six Divisions was maintained over seas for more than half a year, yet our public bonds were not suffered to fall below 95 yen. We wonder if we could do the same thing at present. Possessed of an army of 500,000 troops, we can not rely upon them unless we are convinced of our financial strength and are supported by a strong and efficient navy. We would rather maintain an army of 200,000 men than fail to obtain at a moment's notice a loan of several hundred of millions from the people. It is certain that what other Powers regard is not the magnitude of our armament but our financial strength. If, in utter disregard of these circumstances, the extravagant expenditure proposed for the expansion of the army—which the geographical position of Japan seems in no way to demand—is adhered to, and if we fail to adopt any schemes for the promotion of national resources

as well as for the extension of our commercial power outside the limits of our country, the day on which such an aimment is perfected will be the moment when the country will fall into a state of decline. In short, the proper measure to pursue is to curtail the administrative expenditure, facilitate financial adjustment, and so lead to the promotion of national resources. Without recourse to such a scheme, the so-called *post bel'um* undertakings can in no way be brought to perfection.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

A railway clearing house for the whole Empire will shortly be established in Osaka after the style of similar clearing houses in Europe and America.

Census returns completed at the end of last year and published in the *Hochi* show that the number of families throughout the empire tallied 8,004,849; the total population was 42,708,264, of which 21,561,023 were males and 21,147,241 females.

Owing to the scarcity of stocks in Yokohama, quotations for sugar have risen considerably. Information has lately been received, however, from Luzon stating that the probable export for this season will reach two million cetties, so that rates will soon fall again.

The tea market, which opened so briskly this year, is now approaching its close. No orders have lately come from abroad and transactions are almost at a standstill as most of the buyers have left for America. Dealers in Yokohama are in no way pressing sales, and quotations remain as firm as ever.

The business of the Tokyo Tramway Company since July has been exceedingly prosperous. The figures for this year show that 11,810,940 passengers were carried, an increase of 27 or 28 per cent. over last year; while the receipts, amounting this year to 261,925 yen, have increased by 37 or 38 per cent. over last year.

Statistics of longevity in Japan published in the *Tokyo Asahi* are as follow:—

Age.	Men.	Women.	Age.	Men.	Women.
100	10	65	101	12	33
102	6	36	103	7	18
104	4	7	105	2	4
106	—	5	107	1	1
108	1	1	109	1	1
110	—	—	111	1	—

The *Mainichi* quotes a paragraph from a Chinese journal insinuating that the pro-Chinese party in Formosa recently despatched a representative to the Russian Minister in Peking, with a message to the effect that should negotiations be opened by the Chinese Government with Japan for the restitution of Formosa, efforts might be made by the Minister in question to aid China in consummating her object.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* states that Mr. Takenouchi, who lives at Minami Nakadori, Yokohama, recently entered into contracts for the direct import of rice, and 3,000 bags of Rangoon cleaned rice, out of 15,000 bags, arrived on the 29th ultimo, while 2,000 more were received on the 1st instant. The grain, it is said, is saleable at prices ranging from 4.80 yen to 4.84 yen per picul.

Count Okuma is reported by the *Chuo* to have enquired of the Premier in a recent interview, whether the latter would resort to the scheme of dissolving Parliament in order to ascertain the real feeling of the nation at the present juncture. The Premier replied that he would resign his post if the increased taxation scheme was not approved by the Diet. He is also said to have made a similar statement to Marquis Ito. But, adds the *Chuo*, the Premier's statements as to his action under certain circumstances are scarcely to be relied on.

Since regulations were promulgated by the *Daijokwan* in the 13th year of *Meiji* (1880), with regard to the imposition of the butchery tax, each prefecture, asserts the *Yorodsu*, has

collected from 50 sen to 1 yen per head on cattle, besides which the town or village tax was also leviable on the beasts. Butchers and sellers of meat were also obliged to pay the trade tax. Persons following these occupations were therefore required to pay taxes twice over. Steps are now being taken to present a petition to the Government urging the necessity of abolishing the butchery tax.

Counterfeit silver yen, asserts the *Shogyo*, are being imported for exchange. The spurious coins detected by the Yokohama Specie Bank are reported to be of exactly the same size and quality as the genuine yen, the only difference being in the characters borne on the face. Whether these coins were manufactured with a view to realizing the profit from the difference in the relative values of gold and silver or to facilitate circulation in districts where there may be a scarcity of silver yen, is a question still shrouded in mystery. Nevertheless, it seems probable that the counterfeiting was undertaken somewhere near Canton.

According to the *Mainichi*, silver and notes exchanged for gold during the month of November at the Bank of Japan and its branches in various parts of the empire amounted to 5,115,225 yen, showing an increase of 203,795 yen over the previous month. The aggregate total of exchange undertaken since the enforcement of the gold system on the 1st October reaches 10,266,655 yen. The figures for last month were as follow:—Tokyo, silver exchanged, 77,845 yen; notes, 25,840 yen; Yokohama, silver 54,579 yen; notes, 1,735,851 yen; Osaka, 182,000 yen and 2,167,100 yen respectively; Bakan, notes, 37,350 yen; Nagoya, 11,880 yen; Hakodate, 7,390 yen.

According to the *Fiji*, foreign rice imported through Yokohama amounted during November to 241,717 bags, equivalent to over 9,100 koku, valued at 888,866 yen. The total import from January this year for Yokohama alone exceeds 430,450 koku, valued at 3,447,600 yen. The import of cotton aggregated 2,295,640 cetties, valued at 421,066 yen, which, added to the sums paid since January this year, makes a total of 4,919,000 yen. The figures for spinning, electric, and locomotive machinery were also considerable, showing an excess in the middle of November of two million yen. The export of silk reduced the excess of November imports to about 500,000 yen.

Referring to the transfer of capital that may take place during this month, the *Osaka Asahi* says that while receipts at the Treasury will be limited to the mining tax alone, outgoings will amount to 8,812,173 yen. The figures are as follow:—Salaries, 1,780,846 yen; pensions connected with decorations, 527,522 yen; interest on Consols, 4,301,543 yen; interest on War Bonds, 1,982,812 yen; yearly installments of old loans, 219,455 yen. Payments on shares in various railway companies will be as follow:—Sanuki, 60,000 yen; Sanuki (6th payment) 30,000 yen; Hankoku (6th payment) 240,000 yen; Sanyo (new shares) 1,080,000 yen; Karatsu Industrial Railway (6th payment) 120,000 yen; total 1,530,000 yen.

The amount of convertible notes in circulation, remarks the *Mainichi*, was considerably reduced about the middle of last month. Subsequently the number again increased, and at the end pressing demands for loans brought about an enormous augmentation. On the 29th ultimo, these notes aggregated 200,743,601 yen and the issue above legal limit did not fall short of 20,289,810 yen. That convertible notes have been steadily increasing since the late war is not to be denied, but the amount never exceeded 200 millions, except in August this year, when it reached 20,015,000 yen. At the end of last month an abnormal excess of 740,000 yen was noticeable, and it may reasonably be expected that as pressure increases towards the close of the year the issue of notes above legal limit will exceed 40 millions.

The annual increase of students in primary schools is not met by a corresponding increase

in teachers. The Educational Department accordingly ascertained the views of the High Education Council and have now fixed the number of teachers at one per seventy students. But Normal Schools have hitherto been conducted on a much smaller scale and are therefore unable to accommodate from 120 to 200 students. Another step in advance had thus to be taken, and it has now been determined that the accommodation for students in Normal Schools will be doubled, except in four or five prefectures. Iwate will be required to increase its scholars from 120 to 250, and Tokyo from 160 to 320. It is estimated that should the present scheme be successful 3,500 or 3,600 graduates will be available from the fourth year after its going into force.

Marquis Ito is reported by the *Hoshi* to have made the following remarks upon the Kiao-chow affair when a certain gentleman called upon him at Oiso:—"The recent telegram touching upon the Kiao-chow affair seems to have taken the public by surprise. But it is beyond question that a secret alliance such as is shadowed in the telegram can by no means be concluded. There is nothing in the rumour worthy of credence." On being questioned how the Kiao-chow affair was progressing, the Marquis replied:—"China has but two courses to adopt at the present juncture. The first is assume an implacable attitude towards Germany, urging that no negotiations can be opened until the troops are withdrawn. Steps would, in that case, be taken to prepare the army for action, and a note sent to the commander of the German troops urging him to evacuate the forts and withdraw his fleet, with the proviso that failure to comply would immediately be attended with open hostilities. If this plan be deemed hopeless, there can be no alternative but to open negotiations in the form of a diplomatic question and to grant appropriate concessions. I suppose China will adopt the second course. As to the probable issue of the affair, it may be remarked that so far as actual conditions indicate, the complication can scarcely be a cause for aggression or rivalry among various Powers or create an incentive for the dismemberment of China. Presumably China will pay a certain indemnity for the barbarous deeds of her people and so settle the affair amicably with Germany. Japan, as a friendly neighbour to China, ought to expostulate with the latter against repeating these horrible massacres of foreigners."

The proposed welcome meeting in honour of Mr. Takano came off on the 1st instant at the Nakamura Restaurant, Ryogoku. The *Mainichi* introduced its report by observing:—"Among the various unconstitutional proceedings of the present Cabinet, the most prominent was the order placing Mr. Takano on the retired list. But the candour and steadfastness of the ex-Chief Judge have had the effect of strengthening the public spirit of the people. Many distinguished personages, indignant at the Cabinet's procedure, took part in this meeting without previous appointment. They numbered altogether 160. Evidently they had come, not for the sake of Mr. Takano alone, but with the intention of supporting the Constitution and also to demonstrate that they valued the honour of the country in all matters in which aliens are concerned, by urging the strict maintenance of the safeguards provided for the independence of the Judiciary. Mr. Iida Kosaku, projector of the meeting, delivered a short address. Then Mr. Takano introduced Mr. Hamasaki, ex-Judge of the Formosan Court. This gentleman spoke about the condition of Formosa and then passed on to the real object of the meeting. He said that the present Cabinet had not only trampled the Constitution under foot but also destroyed the security provided for the independence of the Judiciary; it issued a notice of dismissal to him (Judge Hamasaki) without pursuing the proper procedure—trial before a Disciplinary Court. If these unconstitutional acts were allowed to pass without protest, Japan's honour as a constitutional country would certainly be impaired, and the personal safety and well-

fare of the people would be in constant danger. Viscount Soga then rose and spoke as follows:—"The amount of corruption and demoralization that exists at present among the people is really startling. The whole population is given up to the pursuit of temporary profits. No one is brave enough these days to sacrifice himself for the cause of the country, or to propound his views for the empire's good. When the Tokugawa Shogunate, after maintaining peace for three hundred years, found itself without power to remedy the general dissipation of the people, the upright *samurai* of Aiko rose in the Genroku era and by their noble deeds revived the knightly spirit. Mr. Takano's conduct in the present case may fairly be compared to that of the champions of the Genroku period. It is in this spirit that I partake in the present meeting." Mr. Taguchi was the next to speak. He said:—"The influence of the late war is not limited to Formosa alone. Unfortunately the island is overwhelmed with abuses brought about by maladministration, and odious habits of corruption have set in. The attention of the Foreign Powers is apparently concentrated on this newly-acquired territory, and owing to these lamentable circumstances adverse criticisms are coming in from all parts of the globe. Mr. Takano virtually sacrificed himself with a view to effecting a cure, but his efforts brought serious misfortune upon himself. He was looked on by the Cabinet as an obstacle that must be got out of the way. The intention of the Cabinet, it seemed, was to allow Formosa to decay. When, in the days of Lord Palmerston, war was about to break out between England and China, John Bright justly observed that China was an arrogant, barbarous country, and suggested the necessity of inflicting severe punishment. "As for me, I would like to say," remarked the speaker, "that the Cabinet, being so arrogant and barbarous, ought to be destroyed by all means." These words excited the laughter and applause of the whole audience.

According to investigations completed by the Bank of Japan and published in the *Shogyo*, the prices of domestic staples in October and November this year compared with those for November last were as follows:—

Commodity.	Nov., 1897.	Oct., 1897.	Nov., 1896.
Timber	309	309	227
Eggs	250	240	227
Oil	243	238	212
Barley	227	200	155
Matting	221	211	206
Copper	207	205	184
Wheat	205	186	—
Wood	204	170	—
Miso	200	189	163
Flour	198	188	151
Leather and skin	184	181	169
Charcoal	180	175	195
Window glass	179	166	134
Manure	156	144	141
Say	156	151	128
Sugar	141	138	107
Tea	127	125	116
Lacquer	115	113	106
Nails (foreign)	108	108	—
Dried bonito	257	281	199
Salt	242	245	236
Shittings	202	202	201
Iron	188	196	164
Oil cake	185	191	179
Cotton (for spinning)	138	142	145
Silk	134	137	107
Cotton yarn	130	131	117
Wax	125	126	121
Bleached cotton stuff	123	130	95
Silk thread	121	125	125
Silk floss	120	124	107
Cotton thread	117	126	123
Kerosene oil	109	112	122
Lining stuff	103	104	102
Rye	—	258	—
Rice bran	—	178	—
Cut tobacco (Japanese)	—	142	116
Hemp	—	—	133
Average	174	173	152

(In the above table 100 is taken as the standard of value for the 20th year of *Meiji*). It will be seen that the prices of commodities in November this year rose 74 per cent above those for January, 1887; one per cent over the previous

month, and 22 per cent over the corresponding period of last year. The annual average of prices since 1887 is as follows:—1887, 103; 1888, 107; 1889, 112; 1880, 117; 1891, 109; 1892, 115; 1893, 119; 1894, 126; 1895, 135; 1896, 146. From those figures it can easily be seen that prices have been steadily rising ever since 1893. The appreciation was slow but steady, although investigations as to each individual article show that five have fallen since September; eight fell in October, and fifteen or sixteen in November.

DYNAMIARDS IN TOKYO.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* says that, on the 3rd instant, a *soshi* presented himself at the police station in Tokyo, and made a strange confession. He called himself Horikawa Masao and explained that the conduct of the Ministers of the Crown had for some time been a source of dissatisfaction to him. He therefore planned to kill Viscount Takashima, and for that purpose manufactured a bomb with the intention of using it against the Minister of War on that day. But when the time came to consummate his murderous project, something—he does not seem to have explained what—let him to change his mind, and to proceed to the police-station carrying with him the bomb, which, as well as his own person, he surrendered. He also indicated as his accomplice one Takigawa, an assistant clerk in the post office. The latter was immediately arrested, and the two are now undergoing examination. Such is the story.

CONSUL-GENERAL KENNY IN HONOLULU.

Mr. Kenny has been received with all the honors in Honolulu. The *Hawaiian Gazette* writes thus of his arrival:—

Her British Majesty's new Acting Consul-General and Commissioner to Hawaii arrived quite unexpectedly yesterday. He came direct from Japan by the steamer *Rio de Janeiro* and is temporarily domiciled at the Hawaiian Hotel. W. J. Kenny is his name and he is an affable young man of very pleasing personality. Thos. Rain Walker, the present popular acting local representative of the Queen's Government, will doubtless present his successor at the Capitol in a day or two. Mr. Walker will then be able to make the journey abroad which was postponed on account of the sad and untimely demise of Capt. A. G. S. Hawes, who came here from Tahiti to act for Great Britain.

After it was learned that Mr. Cusack-Smith, who had been British Consul at Samoa was unavailable for this post, Mr. Kenny was instructed by cable to report here without delay. He said last evening that when his marching orders came he was up-country riding himself of Formosa fever. He was one of the few white men on the Island who fell a victim to the ailment, but fortunately was about recovered when the message sending him to Hawaii were received. He is now quite well again and with his graceful height and fine figure looks like an athlete.

For nearly twenty years has Mr. Kenny been in the service of his country. For ten years he was registrar and interpreter of the Consular Court at Yokohama. Then he was attached to the consulate at Hakodate and from there was sent to Tainan, Formosa. He speaks Japanese beautifully and has a valet in a kimono who understands scarcely a word of English. The new official says he is pleased to make a change and is certain he will like Hawaii. He cannot say whether he is to be in Hawaii indefinitely or not. His instructions were to come here as "acting" Consul-General.

Mr. Kenny was not expected before the 19th by Mr. Walker. He says he packed up on the instant and took the first steamer. If the first impression is to count, Mr. Kenny will be satisfactory to the resident Britishers and from his experience in Japan and his knowledge of the men and language of that country will be an especially capable man for Great Britain here at this time.

Assistant Paymaster Reginald C. Baker has been appointed secretary to Rear-Admiral Charles C. P. Fitzgerald, the new second-in-command of the British fleet in this station.

THE NEW MINISTER TO GERMANY.

We read in the *Yiji Shimpo* that it has been decided to send Mr. Tsuzuki Keiroku as Minister to Germany in succession to Viscount Aoki, who recently returned. Mr. Tsuzuki was Vice-Minister of Education while Marquis Hachisuka held the portfolio of that Department. He is one of the "coming men" of Japan.

CHINESE NOTES.

The death is announced of M. Imbault Huard, French Consul at Canton. M. Huard had been 19 years in China. He served as assistant-interpreter to the French Legation in Peking, as interpreter to the Shanghai Municipal Council, for the post of Captain-Superintendent of Police in Shanghai. The *N.-C. Daily News* is inclined to doubt the wisdom of the selection, on the ground that the Irish Constabulary is a semi-military body. We should have regarded that as a recommendation in a place like Shanghai, where the police may have to act at any moment in combination with the Volunteers.

Mr. Pierce B. Pattison, now on the staff of the Irish Constabulary at Clonmel, has been recommended by the Inspector-General of the Royal Irish Constabulary and by Mr. A. G. Wood, formerly Chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Council, for the post of Captain-Superintendent of Police in Shanghai. The *N.-C. Daily News* is inclined to doubt the wisdom of the selection, on the ground that the Irish Constabulary is a semi-military body. We should have regarded that as a recommendation in a place like Shanghai, where the police may have to act at any moment in combination with the Volunteers.

A correspondent writing to the *N.-C. Daily News* from Linching in Shantung, says under date of Nov. 3rd:—

The grain fleet has returned from the north and has reached Tungchang-fu, 110 li to the south-east of us. The experience of last year has brought them along in good time not to get shut in over winter. Here at Linching it is necessary to unload the boats and drag them over land, a hundred men or more tugging at the ropes of each boat. It is at such times that one gets an inside view of Chinadom. One view is not a cheering one; for along the bank are laid scores of coffins, each with its occupant, victims of the long journey. Passengers in the steamers from San Francisco are accustomed to such sights, but as the said coffins are either air-tight or their inmates have been embalmed, his reflection is solely confined to the fact that the Chinese have a longing for the mother country equalled by no other people. Here on the banks of the canal it is different, the chief thought being to get "betwixt the wind and their nobility" as soon as possible.

Mr. Gervais Cooke, who has been prospecting for minerals in Kiangsi and Anhui provinces, reports the discovery of extensive coal fields in the former province contiguous to the Yangtze. He has also found a six-foot seam of good quality close to the surface in Ningkuo prefecture, Anhui. Facilities of carriage are alone wanting to make these deposits valuable.

"General Chang Kao-yuan," says the *N.-C. Daily News*, "who was in command at Kiaochow Bay at the time of its seizure by the Germans has, according to a Peking despatch, been denounced to the Throne by Li Ping-heng, the retiring Governor, for cowardice in not resisting the invaders. General Chang is one of the most popular officers in the Northern army and our Newchwang correspondent wrote very highly of him during the war with Japan. It is said by the friends of General Chang that when the Germans appeared they notified him that the Emperor of China had handed Kiaochow over to the former and dared him to resist on pain of being denounced as a rebel."

China furnishes a good many surprises from time to time. The latest is an organized emigration of paupers from Kiangpoh to Soochow and Changchou. These people, some twenty thousand in number—men, women and children—, finding themselves without means of subsistence owing to the destruction of their crops by floods last summer, quietly migrated to more fortunate regions, and are now living

on the simple principle of helping themselves to whatever they can find. "They follow military rules in forming an encampment, such as posting guards, etc., at various points. When they arrive at a district two-thirds of the women and children at once spread themselves over the fields and pull up by the roots anything planted there—at the present time, generally vegetables, beans, etc.,—while a strong force of men form a covering party, armed generally with clubs and staves. The remainder of the women, children, and men in the meanwhile approach the villages and "beg" for rice or wheat, although in many cases it is not begging but actual taking what they can without asking "by your leave." In two hours after the arrival of the refugees at a village they are able to get rice and vegetables *ad libitum* and feed themselves to the full. They rarely stay more than forty-eight hours at any one place, moving from village to village, and going in a north-easterly direction with the intention, they declare, of appealing personally to the Governor at Soochow for the wherewithal to tide over the cold weather."

We take the following paragraphs relating to Kiao-chow from the *N.-C. Daily News* :—

On Saturday last (26th Nov.) a number of junks, belonging to local native hongs, which had loaded for Kiao-chow returned to port (Shanghai) with their original cargoes on board, and reported that they had been prevented by the Germans from entering the harbour limits of Kiao-chow, while Tientsin junks already in Kiao-chow harbour loading for the north were also prevented, according to the story of the local junkmen, from leaving the harbour.

Since the seizure of Kiaochow Bay by the Germans, a great increase of activity has been observed in the interior in the way of recruiting troops, says a native correspondent, and it is intended to double the number of battalions by the end of this Chinese year in all the maritime provinces. A telegram from Peking stated that the Emperor has been receiving no less than forty-eight secret memorials on the subject of the defence of the empire, not only from the Censors but also from the high military and civil officials in the empire. A change of policy will certainly be the outcome of all this, as great indignation is felt in the interior provinces at the action of the Germans. Not even during the late war with Japan was there such a united feeling that something must be done for home and country, as may now be observed everywhere amongst the educated people and the masses. This patriotic spirit is said by the same writer to be greatly due to the reading of the books published by the missionaries since the late war.

A decree has been issued by the Throne forbidding Li Ping-heng, the Viceroy designate of Szechuan, to leave his Governorship of Shantung until the case of the murder of the two German priests at Yenchen is settled satisfactorily. Another decree, issued shortly after, commands Chang Ju-mei, the Governor-designate of Shantung, who happened to be in Peking for his audience at that time, to start at once for Chinanfu, the capital of Shantung, to assist Li Ping-heng. Regarding the late decree a Tientsin dispatch reports that H. E. Chang Ju-mei passed through that city en route for Shantung on the night of the 20th instant, called upon Viceroy Wang the next morning, and had a conference with him which lasted all day and part of the night. At daybreak of the 22nd instant, H.E. Chang started for Chinanfu via the Grand Canal route. The same dispatch also reports the arrival at Tientsin on the 20th of Dr. von Prittwitz, Secretary of the German Legation, bound for Kiaochow Bay. It is further stated that Dr. von Prittwitz intends to visit the scene of the late murder in Yenchen prefecture.

Our German contemporary *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd* published in its last issue the account of the occupation of Kiao-chow Bay, together with a detailed description of the topography of the neighbourhood, from which we translate the following extract :—

Regarding the taking of Kiao-chow by forces from the squadron of cruisers we learn that it took place in the following manner :—

On Sunday, the 14th inst., at 8 a.m. a landing party was sent ashore to take possession of the heights surrounding the bay. At the same time the order was given to the *Cormoran's* landing party, she being farthest inside the bay and commanding the passes to the interior, to take the powder

magazine. Towards 9 o'clock these points having been secured, the Flag Lieutenant was sent to the Chinese General with an ultimatum that within three hours he must clear out of the camps. The soldiers were permitted within the same time to depart with their weapons and possessions.

The two ships *Kaiser* and *Princess Wilhelm* were so anchored outside of the port that they commanded the forts, the order having been given to fire on the same on a certain given signal.

After delivery to him of the ultimatum the General withdrew, as resistance, especially as his ammunition had been seized, would have been futile; the same was done by the soldiers, saving their goods and chattels as far as possible.

Toward 2 p.m. the German flag was hoisted on the East fort; the Admiral made a speech to the crews, these saluted and gave three cheers for the Kaiser.

While the flag slowly ascended a salute of 21 guns was given by the men-of-war.

The inhabitants behaved quite peaceably, in reality they were satisfied to be free of the native soldiers. The native soldiers withdrew behind the hills and erected a camp at a distance of 7 to 8 kilometres (about five miles).

The forts were then all occupied and measures taken to guard the country against plundering.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Hawaiian steamer *China*, belonging to the Pacific Mail Company, has made another record, coming up from Kobe in the splendid time of 20 hours 14 mins.

Sir W. J. W. Bayne, who was chairman of the Old Oriental Bank Corporation previous to its liquidation in 1884, died on 26th Oct. at his residence, Forest Lodge, West-hill, Putney, at the age of seventy-seven, after having been for some months in declining health.

The new gun-boat *Surprise*, of the French navy, arrived at Colombo on the 3rd November. The *Surprise* is one of the vessels ordered out to augment the fleet in the Far East, but was delayed as she was ordered to proceed to Madagascar before coming on to her new station. From Madagascar she left direct for Galle.

It is reported that the British dollar is growing in popularity on the East African coast. According to the Bombay Mint statistics, in ten months from the institution of the British dollar, it had delivered 3,316,000 coins; but since the adoption of the gold standard by Japan, this mint has turned out British dollars at the rate of 200,000 a day—at a gross profit of 4,000 rupees per diem.

Pensioners are proverbially long-lived and we think that the palm must be given to one that died in America the other day. His name was Osea Brown, and he secured his pension for service in the war of 1812. At the time of his death the old man was 105 years of age, and it is said that up to the end his health was good and his memory remarkably clear.

The Monte Carlo budget, which has just been issued, shows that the profits for the year ending October 31st, were 5,000,000 francs below those of the previous year. No reasons are assigned for this falling off. The bank's outlay included 2,000,000 francs to the Prince of Monaco; police and grounds, 1,500,000 francs; salaries, 1,000,000 francs; orchestra and sports, 800,000 francs; payments to ruined gamblers, 100,000; and for the prevention of suicide, 100,000 francs. The number of suicides was thirty five.

It may be of interest to state, remarks the Nagasaki journal, that several hundred thousand roubles worth of new coinage has just been shipped from Marseilles for Vladivostok to the order of the Russian Government. The new currency has been specially designed for circulation in Manchuria and for the payment of labour employed on the Russian and East China Railways. On the one side the inscription is in Russian and on the other in Chinese.

Of many curious expresses that have appeared in Kobe the following, which emanates from the "Kobe Baker's Band," announcing that the

price of bread is now to be 7 sen per pound, is surely one of the best, remarks the *Hogo News* :—"Notice.—Dear Sir, We respectfully revision here that of the Bread value, because to add to materials rate henceforth 1st December, should be supplied on the following price."

A circular has been issued at Singapore, under the auspices of the local Engineers' Association, inviting the assistance of the engineers in the Straits towards the funds of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers in their prolonged struggle with the Federated Employers. A substantial sum has already been subscribed on the list placed in the Marine Club, says a southern contemporary.

Fire broke out in an unoccupied house in Yamamoto-dori, on the Hill, at Kobe, at 2 o'clock on Sunday morning and quickly spread to an adjoining house occupied by Messrs. Young and Grimble, who had to effect a rapid escape, and lost not only their furniture but most of their personal effects, none of which, according to the *Kobe Herald*, were insured. Another house, occupied by a Japanese, was also destroyed.

Kobe Reading Circle has started upon another season of work with splendid prospects. There are now 128 members on the roll, and a cash balance of yen 28.77. The office-bearers are :—President, Mr. T. W. Hellyer; Vice-President, Mr. C. Crowther; Hon. Sec. and Treas. Mr. R. H. Woolfall; Committee, Miss Atkinson, Mr. Bardens, Mrs. Lightfoot, Mr. F. Grimble, Mr. Hazeland, Mr. Feast and Dr. Atkinson.

Fire broke out in the waiting-room of the main block of buildings at the Suma Hospital at 8 a.m. on Thursday, says the *Hogo News*. Damages estimated to amount to over 10,000 yen were done to the property ere the fire was got under at 10.30. The outbreak is attributed to some defect in the fitting of one of the stoves that have been recently put in. Fortunately no person was injured. We are informed that the Hospital is insured, but that the present accident is not covered by the insurance.

The Marine Court of Inquiry, sitting at Singapore, has delivered the following finding in the *Moyune* case :—"We find that the steamer *Moyune* grounded on an uncharted shoal in the Sulu Sea on October 2nd, 1897, in about lat. 8° 6' N. and long. 118° 6' 30" E. The ship was navigated with proper care. The Captain and second and third officers took part in the navigation. They kept a proper record of all their observations, which agreed with one another. We hold the Captain and officers entirely free from blame, and consider that everything was done for the safety and benefit of all concerned after the stranding of the ship."

The *Times of Ceylon* of the 4th November says :—"We said recently that Mrs. Carew, the adjudged poisoner of her husband in Yokohama, would be passing through Colombo in the P. and O. steamship *Sumatra* now in our harbour. Mrs. Carew is going home second-class, and she is allowed liberty as far as coming up on deck is concerned. But it was noticed by a visitor that she had a police male warder on her left, and a female attendant on her right, and when the former found that someone was on board desiring to converse with his charge he signalled to the latter, who promptly took the prisoner below. Mrs. Carew, though, looked well after her Hongkong treatment.

Englishmen are interested in the fact that insanity is on the increase in Great Britain, and naturally discuss questions bearing upon the subject. In the last report of the Commissioners of Lunacy suggestions were made as to the effect of the segregation of lunatics. The asylums are increasing in size, and, while there have been great improvements in the methods of caring for the patients, results seem to show that the massing together of persons mentally diseased diminishes the percentage of cures. The recovery rate of 1896—38.53 per cent. of the total admissions—was actually 0.48 below

the average annual rate for the last ten years. It is becoming recognized that the innocent and healthful exercises and amusements provided for inmates of asylums in no wise compensate for the contact with the sane and the ordinary homely relations of life of which they are deprived.

The *Hai-Yung*, a cruiser just launched at Stettin for the Chinese navy, has a displacement of 2,950 tons, engines of 7,500 horse-power and a speed of nineteen knots. The battery is composed of three 6-inch and eight 4-inch quick-firing guns, and a secondary battery of 1.4-inch Hotchkiss and six machine guns.

A correspondent in Formosa writes, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*:—"The south is dead, but the north is booming. Building is going on on all sides, rates double and treble the old rates, and Jardines are erecting a place which will be the largest foreign hong in the island. Smith, Baker & Co. are also enlarging their quarters.

Messrs. Vickers & Company tested a newly designed six-inch quick-firing gun on October 21st, with satisfactory results. The projectile, weighing 100 pounds, started with a muzzle velocity of 2,784 feet per second and exhibited a power, according to ruling formulas, of penetrating 11½ inches of Harveyized steel armour.

For his new book entitled "Following the Equator" it is said that Mark Twain will receive \$40,000 (gold), the whole of which he will turn over to his creditors, to whom he owes about \$20,000 more. He has been invited by an English publishing-house to write his autobiography, and is said to be considering the offer.

The cruiser to be presented by Spanish residents in the Argentine to Spain is to be built at Havre. She will be of 1,775 tons displacement, 250 feet in length, 36 feet beam, and with 7,100 horse-power is expected to make a speed of twenty knots. The armament will be rather light and composed of small calibre guns.

At Foochow on the 13th November a cricket match was played between the *Alacrity* and the Foochow Cricket Club. The *Alacrity* scored 112, while Foochow made the small total of 36 in their first innings, but in the follow on made 131 for the loss of seven wickets. A return match was played on the 16th, when the *Alacrity* made 125 and Foochow 171 for nine wickets.

A Shanghai humorist has circulated the following topical express:—

"A private wire from Hongkong gives the following details of the Partition of China:
 "Germany: Shantung.
 "Russia: Korea, Manchuria, and Chili.
 "France: Formosa and Fukiien.
 "Japan: Hongkong.
 "The China Association HAS met."

Bert Willison's benefit takes place at the Circus this evening. We understand that the strength of the troupe has been augmented for the occasion by the addition of a dozen or more amateurs in various acts of athletics and equestrianism, and the new element introduced may confidently be expected to provide a fund of amusement, while the troupe itself will produce several novelties. A bumper house is expected.

In the course of his quarterly address to the Blackburn Chamber of Commerce the President (Mr. Henry Harrison) referred to the deputation appointed to the Board of Trade to obtain the adjustment of the preferential shipping rates to China given to America over England. It was stated that the difference in freight was so enormous that instead of being sent direct Lancashire goods were actually sent to New York and reshipped to Shanghai, *via* Liverpool, and money saved over the transaction.

An extraordinary condition of affairs has arisen, remarks *The Times*, in connection with the Atlantic mail service for next year. The Government have not received a single tender complying with the terms of the advertisement—namely, that the terminus west both in winter and summer should be at a Canadian port. The Allan and Dominion lines are willing to

continue their present service for another year, provided vessels are allowed to make Portland, Maine, their winter terminus. Public sentiment, however, is strongly opposed to building up an American port at the expense of Canada. The impression in official circles is that the Government will require the Beaver line to carry the heavy mail—parcels, newspapers, &c.—from St. John to Liverpool during the coming winter, and will send letters *via* New York until the proposed fast service is in operation.

The *Musical Standard* says that in the south walk of the old cloisters of Westminster Abbey there is an old simple gravestone lying flat on the ground, bearing this inscription:—"Muzio Clementi, called the father of the pianoforte; his fame as a musician and composer, acknowledged throughout Europe, procured him the honor of a public interment in this cloister. Born at Rome, 1752. Died at Evesham, 1832." The writer goes on to say that this tomb, which should be held dear and sacred by every musician, is so worn and dilapidated that the inscription is difficult to decipher. Thus runs the world away. The best man living, let him die to-day, to-morrow may be forgotten and his tombstone cracked and covered with moss.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* translates the following paragraph from the *Comercio*:—"The steamer *Churruc*, which arrived at Manila on the 21st November from North Luzon, brought in tow the new steamer *Tungkong*, recently acquired in Hongkong by the Compania General de Tabacos, which was picked up eight miles West of Matalvi Bay, without water, without coal, and with damage to her boilers that rendered her completely unmanageable. The vessel was commanded by a captain of the British mercantile marine, her crew being Chinese. We congratulate the captain and officers of the *Churruc* on the seamanship they displayed in getting the vessel into tow after the cable had broken three times owing to the heavy sea running and on having rescued the crew from certain death.

The first election of Greater New York is reported to have cost \$2,374,000. It cost the four boroughs constituting the new municipality \$497,000, and the cost to political organizations is thus stated by the *New York Herald*:—

Republicans.....	\$510,000
Democrats.....	412,000
Citizens' Union.....	318,000
Jeffersonian Democracy.....	120,000
All others.....	155,000
	\$1,515,000

The estimated cost to candidates is placed at \$362,000. There were 200 offices involved in the election and 854 candidates for them. The average cost of the election for each office is placed at \$11,870, and for each candidate \$2,662.

Among some Canton Notes contributed to the *Hongkong Daily Press*, we find the following:—

The four robbers who ransacked a nunnery named Po-Hing-um, in Ku-yan lane, as reported some time ago, and were arrested afterwards in a house in the neighbourhood, were decapitated in Tintaz-ma-tau on the 25th ult. The woman who knocked at the door under the pretence of engaging the nuns to go to her house to hold a mourning service was also arrested and was sentenced to death by strangulation.

A junk having no passengers on board was observed several days ago by a Chinese cruiser in Kuchow. The appearance of the junk aroused suspicion and the cruiser at once steamed up to her. On reaching her the captain of the cruiser wanted to make a search of the hold, which was nailed up, but the crew of the junk refused to open it. The hold was at last broken open by the captain and there were found three young women, four girls from ten to thirteen years old, and a baby. The crew were all arrested and on making enquiries one of the women said that she and her companions were kidnapped from Kuchow district. The captain of the cruiser took all the kidnapped persons back to Kuchow and delivered them to the local Magistrate, who will deliver them to their relatives and friends.

For some years past, remarks an exchange, the record drive at golf has stood to the credit of Lieutenant F. G. Tait, the amateur champion in 1896, who on a frosty day in Scotland managed to drive the ball a distance of about 328 yards. This record has, however, recently

been broken in the most complete and convincing manner by an amateur on the Blackpool links. While driving to the eighth hole this gentleman pulled his ball in the direction of the road which runs close to the links, and before the ball had ceased moving a distance of three miles had been covered. It is only right to explain that the ball in question was not bewitched; it only happened to drop in a passing open carriage, much to the consternation of the occupants, who retaliated by taking it on with them to Blackpool, three miles along the road.

About 8 o'clock on Friday morning, while rice was being discharged in Yokohama harbour, from the Mitsui Bishi Company's steamer *Fuyo Maru* into lighters alongside, the chain of one of the cranes suddenly broke, and striking a Japanese coolie on the head, killed him on the spot, and also severely injured an officer of the steamer, a German subject, necessitating his immediate removal to the German Naval Hospital.

The Finance Department having decided to exchange the Railway Loan Bonds hitherto issued for bonds of a new form, a Notification of the Department appeared on the 1st instant, directing the holders of old bonds to make application at the Bank of Japan or its branches in order that the exchange may be effected. In the case of unregistered bonds, various particulars have to be furnished in writing, but the process of exchanging registered bonds is very simple.

The Committee appointed at the meeting of British residents of Yokohama held on the 22nd March last, to carry out the resolution for the rebuilding of Christ Church, have issued a circular appealing for subscriptions and showing what has been done so far. About \$20,000 will be required, towards which sum rather more than \$7,000 has already been subscribed. Mr. Cecil Guinness is the Hon. Treasurer, and Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, Hon. Sec. of the Fund, and will be glad to receive the names of subscribers.

A Washington despatch under date, Nov. 10, says:—"The President has decided on the appointment of Charles Page Bryan of Chicago as Minister to China in succession to Col. Charles Denby. Mr. Charles Page Bryan is a native-born Chicagoan. He is a son of Thomas B. Bryan, a well-known local capitalist. The young man had his early education in Chicago, and completed his studies at the University of Virginia. He graduated later from Columbia Law School, and was admitted to the bar in 1878. He then went to Colorado and engaged in newspaper business in both Colorado Springs and Denver. Then he became president of the Colorado Editorial Association and served several terms in the State Legislature. Returning to Illinois, he engaged in politics, being elected to the State Legislature in 1890, and has been a member of it ever since. Colonel Bryan, as he is known, is a popular militiaman and served on the staffs of four different Governors. He was prominently associated with the working-up of foreign interest in the Columbian Exposition. Secretary Gage is given credit for the selection, the Gage and Bryan families being neighbours in Chicago.

"We have frequently heard," says *Industries and Iron*, "of the impending supersession of the chain in bicycle construction which would occasion something like a revolution in this important industry. A number of tests carried out under the supervision of Professor Carpenter at Cornell University do not, however, point to the probability of any general change in this direction taking place. The conclusion which has been arrived at is that no form of gearing can possibly equal the best chain for efficiency and durability. As a result of tests of chains which had been in severe use, it was found that friction varied from 2 to 5 per cent. The friction of a complete wheel was tested under working condition in several instances, and was found to vary from 5 to 40 per cent. of the power applied. For high-class wheels the value

ranged from 5 to 8 per cent. Tests were also made of bevel and other gears, but in every instance the chain gearing was found more efficient than any other form. A feature in the chain-gear bicycle which gives it an advantage over other forms lies in the fact that the friction in the former is practically constant at all loads, while in bevel gearing, for instance, the friction increases with the load."

We are asked to state that the opening day of the new Yokohama General Hospital has been postponed until Monday, the 13th at 4 p.m. Ladies are cordially invited to attend and inspect the handsome new wing and appointments generally.

At Hongkong Police Court on Nov. 27th, says an exchange, the hearing of a rendition case brought out the facts of an atrocious murder which was committed on the 14th June last in the village of Ko Chiu lin, district of Haifong, prefecture of Hueui. The victims were twenty-four men, two women (one of whom was *enclave*), and four children between eight and ten years of age. It appears that on the evening of the day in question the villagers were quietly reposing after their meal, when a band of robbers, 1,000 strong, led by a man named Lam Tai Kau, swooped down upon them from a neighbouring hill, murdering all those that came in their way. They then sacked the place and took away with them property and money to a value of twenty thousand taels. The matter was reported to the mandarins at Haifong, and soldiers were sent out to arrest the bandits. A reward was likewise offered for the capture of the leader of the band, Lam Tai Kau, but that personage mysteriously disappeared, and it was not until quite recently that information was brought to the official at Haifong that Lam Tai Kau was in hiding at Hongkong. Two lieutenants were instantly sent to the colony and they informed Hon. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police, of the presence of the murderer in the colony. A warrant was issued, and Lam Tai Kau was arrested by a Chinese detective at Yaumati on the 19th November. Rendition proceedings were thereupon instituted.

The *Kobe Chronicle* says:—"It appears that the discovery of the defalcations which are reported to have taken place in the Kobe Customs arose from inquiries made by Messrs. Macy & Co. as to why a certain shipment of tea did not appear among the items in the Daily Report of Exports and Imports. They sent a Japanese employé to inquire how the omission had occurred, and it is alleged that he was "squared" by the Custom-house clerks in the conspiracy, who feared that any inquiry set on foot might result in inconvenient disclosures. He thereupon returned to his employers, it is said, and was able to satisfy them by some specious story why the particular shipment was omitted from the returns. It would be interesting to know whether the recent endeavour by the Customs to suppress the publication in the returns of the names of firms had any connection with this affair; the circumstances are certainly very suspicious. It is stated that to ensure the success of such a scheme, which is supposed to have been in operation since April or May last, there must have been a confederate in almost every department of the Customs, and quite a number of stamps must have been forged. An exactly similar case to the present has, it is said, never occurred in the Japanese Customs Department, and the case appears to be one more proof of the widespread corruption of the Japanese public service, and a remarkable corroboration of the views expressed in these columns that matters are getting worse rather than better. Messrs. Christensen & Co., one of whose employes was said by a vernacular contemporary to have been arrested in connection with the scandal, desire us to state that the man in question, who occupied the position of banto, is not now in their service, having been dismissed at the beginning of last month."

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE "SOCIAL EVIL IN JAPAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with much interest the assertions that have been made, and the discussions that have taken place lately in your paper upon this subject, and should be glad to be afforded space for a few facts that have come within my own experience.

During the course of a long married life in the city of Melbourne, I have frequently heard my husband remark when he has returned from his office at night, or from any place of entertainment, that he could not walk from the street to the railway station without being accosted and solicited at every turn, by the women who frequented the streets at those hours. That is one experience that need never be met with in Japan. Also my female servants frequently complained to me that when returning home at 10 p.m. after their weekly evening out, they were continually accosted and followed by men, and even by gentlemen (to outward appearance) and they very justly remarked, "It is very hard that a decent girl cannot be out at that hour without being insulted. Surely there are enough bad women about the streets—the men might leave a girl alone that they see is respectable!"

That is another thing that need never happen in Japan under existing circumstances.

A few years ago, I returned to Melbourne, taking with me a Japanese man-servant; and as he was an intelligent fellow I was naturally anxious that he should have an opportunity of being shown anything that I thought would be a novelty to him, such as the pneumatic parcels post, telephone, etc., etc.; but to all that was shown him he only remarked with the greatest sang-froid—"Oh! yes, I understand before—have got in Tokyo!"

At last I asked him in despair "Is there anything you have seen here that you have not got in Tokyo?"—to which he replied "Yes, there is one thing I see every Sunday morning which I never saw in Japan." (I must explain that I procured him a lodging with another Japanese settled in Melbourne, who followed the occupation of wood carving in a small house in a lane connecting one of the first streets of the city, at one end, with the Chinamen's quarter at the other, his landlord's house being at the more respectable end of the lane). To continue—"I never have seen in Japan, big police cart come round every Sunday morning, and take away nine or ten girls very drunk; and before policeman can catch and put in cart, girls scream, and use very bad talk, and fight, and scratch, and kick, and bite, and all clothes and hair nearly torn off, and at last policeman take and throw into cart, and lock door, and take away to prison. That is a sight I never see in my country! In Japan are plenty bad girls and women, but never fight and scream in street; if bad, must keep in house."

Considering that my servant was, of course, a "heathen," I think his first experience of a Christian city on Sunday morning, when the bells of a hundred churches were ringing to prayers, was not a very edifying one; and as doubtless similar experiences have come under the notice of all travelled Japanese, it may easily help to solve the problem of the evident distaste shown by the more reflective classes to embrace Christianity, if by doing so they would have to adapt their ways to those they have been witness to in so called "Christian" countries—a reluctance for which no one can blame them, especially as they have always shown themselves ready and willing to assimilate anything they consider for their interest or advancement.

And I am not alone in thinking that if the globe-trotters who come to criticise, and the missionaries who come to convert, the Japanese people, would only stay at home, and expend their superfluous energies in endeavouring to cleanse their own cities, instead of coming to countries where the conditions are totally different, leaving the latter to be altered and improved where necessary, by the laws of the country, as will happen naturally and in due course, they will be doing a better work, and would show more satisfactory results than they will ever achieve amongst a people whose minds are both critical and analytical.

Excusing my card, I am Sir, Yours,

E. S. P.

Dec. 4th, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In what I wrote the other day on this subject I simply expressed my opinion about Colonel Bacon's addresses, I did not believe he was making comparisons, nor do I intend to take

his (supposed) place and do it. I have been in Japan since '83 but have never studied the "social evil" either here or elsewhere and have never claimed to be an authority on it. The statistics I quoted fell into my hand by chance and Colonel Bacon never saw them, and I had paid no attention to them till you brought up the question of quantity. Naturally I looked to the statistics that happened to be at hand, and quoted it expecting it to be taken for what it is worth. I am informed it can be had at Maruya's in Yokohama and if the Editor wants to deal with it he can get one. I take as little interest in the question of comparative prostitution as I would in the question about which of six "niggers" might be the blackest. The "shameless exhibition" I referred to was, not that of the unfortunates but to that of his wares by the proprietor. I never saw any of the prostitute quarters till October of this year, in the large cities of Japan. I do not care to discuss the subject of the systems of dealing with the question. Yet I do not see that segregating it will prevent it being everywhere there may be a demand and supply.

The point I did refer to was this, that in reforms the cause must be dealt with rather than the effects, "From my point of view" prostitution is an effect, not only a "social evil" but a symptom of a social disease, and it must be corrected by constitutional treatment. A factor in the problem is the financial question, which is belittled and ignored by many would-be reformers. Their plan of reform is too limited, and not basic enough.

As I mentioned before, the money question is a large factor, with the parents, the unfortunates, the proprietors, the patrons, and the public. In nothing am I an individualist, or a socialist, but a "composite" of the two. In order that there may be an ideal condition we must have individual rectitude and social righteousness. These two act and react on each other. The Church till the present has paid little or no attention to social righteousness. Again, I am a believer in political righteousness, that is I think that laws establishing and fostering evils should be repealed. Every person who deserves the good and true, should help by his vote to outlaw evil.

So far as I have any standing before the public as a reformer, it is in connection with the twin subjects of proportional Representation and the Single Tax. The former is the "Golden Rule" applied to the representative body, the latter the same Rule, applied to the common inheritance. They both go to the root of matters, dealing with primary causes which when corrected will clear the atmosphere and permit further advances. I have never met an opposer of the Single Tax who showed by his statements on the subject that he understood it, and, Pro, Rep, almost immediately commends itself to any one who studies the subject for half an hour. Speaking about the length of time I have been in Japan I may add that I haven't been here long enough to know of any one reform that the Editor of the *Japan Mail* stands for. Is he one of those who are willing to let well enough alone "as the case may be"? Does he think that "whitewash" will cure all diseases? And in graciously warning me about careless statistics weakening my position with the Japanese, does he speak from his experience in being so widely disbelieved by foreigners and Japanese alike? The questions that I deal with both S.T. & P.R. are live questions in Japan to-day and attracting wider attention every day. Henry George's death is mourned like that of Moses was, because it took place on the eve of victory. Land is necessary to life, and we must be able to live, otherwise we can not live decently.

Yours truly,

CHAS. E. GARST.

44, Tsukiji, December 6th, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I had hoped not to take up my pen again on this subject, but one of your correspondents, "E. S. P.," a lady from Australia, has a good deal to say on the subject from the point of view of the Southern Cross. The gist of what she says is, the same evil in Melbourne is worse than in Japan and that it is bad taste for missionaries to come here to preach, etc. The "social evil" is black anywhere and nothing can be blacker than black. The issue I take with the lady is in her style of logic. She seems to think that Christians should do work at home exclusively. As a matter of fact, about 97 per cent. of all money spent in Christian work is spent where it is raised, the small sum of 3 per cent. seems little enough for foreign fields to us. I wonder if the critic is a Christian. I met a young man at the world's fair in Chicago who criticised my being a missionary in Japan, saying the Japanese were on a higher moral plane than the Americans. I asked him if he were a Christian and he replied "no," to which I remarked, "you are

opposed to the thing itself, not to its geography," he was like the boy run over by a calf—had nothing more to say. Comparisons should be logically made; the heathenism or infidelity of Christian countries should not be put down as Christianity and compared with the best pagan countries can produce. We are willing to compare, if logically done. Compare the God idea in all religions. Compare the exponents of religion, Christ, Buddha, and Mohammed. Compare cosmogonies, compare codes of morals, compare moral life of professed adherents. Compare fruits, as scholarship, charities, action on government and human liberty. Compare sacred books, "the Bibles," of different religions, compare Churches, the Christian Church, the Buddhist Church, the Mohammedan Church, etc. There can only be one outcome, Christ is above them all as Fuji is above the plain. But there are some things in which all nations are alike. They all have an atheistic system of land tenure, for if God made the land for the few and not the many, then he is the God of the latter and not the former. This is the point that Henry George has made as clear as a sun-beam. Man as man and woman as woman, in our cruel, atheistic economic system, to which Christians and heathen alike give their assent, are worth nothing. The rent of land is the measure of what can be extracted from the users of land without the return of any equivalent. This is the "nigger in the wood pile"—the neglected factor that perturbs all social calculations. All the progress of society serves to accentuate the evils of landlordism. Until we take this factor into account, with others, we will reach false conclusions. The trouble with comparative statistics is there is so much that is false in it all it is impossible to obtain absolutely accurate figures. However, it is clear to my mind that Christ has elevated all but woman, and I believe he has elevated her most of all; by this I do not mean that the "social evil" is the sin of one sex, but of both. In this connection in all the brotherhoods of Japan there are shrines of one of the two religions of the country. I am persuaded that in England and America, the reading of the Bible and morning and evening prayers are not regular features of such places.

I respectfully sign my name,

CHAS. E. GARST.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The annual meeting of subscribers to the infectious and charity wards of the Yokohama General Hospital was held at Keil's Building on Friday afternoon, Mr. A. O. Gay, hon. treasurer, was in the chair, and there were also present Messrs. A. J. Wilkin, A. Dumelin, P. Colomb, and H. Grauert, members of the Committee.

The Chairman read the report of the Committee, and presented the accounts as follows:—

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 31ST, 1897.

Receipts.	
Nov. 1st, 1896.	Yen.
To Balance	1,024.70
Oct. 31st, 1897.	
To Patients in Infectious Ward	1,000.50
" Donations	1,815.00
" Interest, H. & S Bank	23.28
	3,863.48
Disbursements.	
Oct. 21, 1897.	Yen.
By Wages and Expenses, Infectious Ward	1,192.07
" Medical Attendance, Infectious Ward	265.00
" Medicines, Infectious Ward	42.00
" Repairs and New Constructions, Infectious Ward	239.10
" Furniture, Infectious Ward	16.10
" Patients, General Ward	913.60
" Fire Insurance	65.00
" Petty Disbursements	14.75
	2,752.82
By Balance to new account	1,110.66
	3,863.48

E. & O. E.

A. O. GAY,
Hon. Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.

O. KEIL, Auditor.

Yokohama, 25th Nov., 1897.

ANALYSIS OF THE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCT. 31ST, 1897.—INFECTIOUS WARDS.

Receipts.	
From 13 paying patients.....	\$1,000.50
" Subscriptions	1,815.00
" H. & S. Bank for interest	23.28
Expenses.	
For wages of staff	\$ 532.00
Charges for food, fuel and other supplies.....	690.07
Medical attendance	265.00
Medicines	37.45
Repairs of fences, etc.	255.40
Prem. Fire Insurance	65.00
Advertising meeting, etc.....	14.75
	\$1,859.67
Charity.	
Fees for indigent patients sent to the General Hospital	\$888.60
Medicines for out-side patients	4.55
	\$893.15
Balance of account Nov., 1896	\$2,752.82
" " 1897	\$2,838.78
	\$1,024.70
	\$1,110.66
	\$3,863.48
Balance to new account.....	\$3,863.48
	\$1,110.66

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, Nov. 25th, 1897.

A. O. GAY, Hon. Treasurer.

The accounts for the year ending October 31st, are now submitted. An analysis of the account is added, which shows in detail receipts and expenses for the infectious wards and the charges for indigent patients sent to the General Hospital upon the recommendation of resident physicians.

The usefulness of the infectious ward is shown by the number of patients admitted during the prevalence of small-pox last winter, and the substantial sum received from first and second class inmates, has greatly helped to maintain this branch of the Hospital. Besides the paying patients there have been a number admitted upon charity.

The condition of the Hospital funds did not necessitate a call upon the community until July last. This realised \$1,815. The previous subscription list was calculated from and after Nov. 1895.

The additions and improvements at the General Hospital under the direction of Dr. Munro, to defray the cost of which special subscriptions were obtained, are now nearly completed and an inspection of the premises will soon be invited.

Mr. Dumelin proposed that the report and accounts as presented, be adopted. Mr. Wilkin seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. R. HAY proposed that the retiring Committee be re-elected. Mr. Quinton seconded the motion, which was carried *nom. con.*

A vote of thanks to Mr. Keil for the use of the room for the meeting, proposed by the Chairman, was carried and brought the proceedings to a close.

SOME NOTES FROM FORMOSA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Tamsui, Formosa, Nov. 20th.

THE TEA SEASON.

The tea season has closed. The total production for the season runs about 450,000 half chests, which is about the same as last year. The duty question in America disturbed the market considerably and it is reported that there have been some serious losses in consequence. Japanese as yet have made no serious attempts to enter the tea business either as planters, packers, or exporters, with the single exception of one company which packed some 12,000 half chests and exported *via* Kelung and Japan some 800 half-chests to America. The Japanese Government rendered great assistance in officially endorsing a movement made by the merchants to prevent the export of impure teas. It has been the custom of an occasional unscrupulous Chinese dealer to import inferior Amoy teas, mix them with Formosa and then export the product as pure Formosa Oolong, also to add extraneous matter to Formosas. But the Government has now vested a Committee, consisting of three foreign merchants and four Chinese merchants, with authority to confiscate and burn all such teas found on the market, while the salesman of the same will be fined a sum double the amount named as the value of the teas. Several

seizures of spurious teas were made during the season, and it is quite reasonable to believe that there will be but few attempts made to dispose of false goods on this market during the coming season.

A CHINESE "JOB."

Previous to the arrival of the Japanese, the Chinese Mandarins at Taipei commenced the construction of a wooden steamer at Twatutia with the idea of allaying the suspicions of the Chinese authorities, at Peking who were unable to understand why it was that the Formosan returns were debited a large amount, year after year, for a ship-building yard which built no ships. Without the assistance of foreigners the hull was constructed, and, according to popular report, the Mandarins who desired to make amends for the long non-productiveness of their establishment, were especially anxious that the vessel be a swift craft, and ordered that she be fitted with twin screws with the idea that if one screw would drive the ship at a certain speed, two screws would double it and convert their boat into a regular scorcher. Foreign engineers were then invited to inspect the craft and bid for placing the machinery. Two gentlemen from establishments in Hongkong and Shanghai accordingly visited the island, and after examining the hull put in their estimates in which it appeared that they could promise no more than five knots. This created considerable consternation among the mandarins, who had evidently reported that their off-spring would "make walkee" at a very rapid gait. Extravagant offers, pleadings, prayers were alike of no avail. The engineers were agreed that five knots was the maximum speed to be obtained, and as the Chinese were dissatisfied with that, they returned without either having obtained the order. Work however was continued on the craft by the Chinese until stopped by the arrival of the Japanese. A few weeks ago the vessel was put at auction and sold for some 3,500 yen. It is estimated that at least 30,000 yen had been expended on the hull by the Chinese builder. The affair was launched some days ago and it is reported that she is to be taken to Hongkong in a few weeks.

FOREIGNERS AND THEIR RIGHTS.

The Japanese officials are at present in a quandary as to the advisability of applying the new treaties to Formosa. The inhabitants of the island consist of Chinese and aborigines with a few thousand Japanese and a handful of foreigners. The direct application of the code compiled for civilized nations would work great injury to the Chinese here and no doubt result in continual disorders. In commercial affairs, transfers of land and other civil matters, it is absolutely necessary that the former customs of the Chinese be taken into consideration and that the new order of things be not enforced upon them before they are able to understand them. It might be well that a special code suited to the conditions of the island be framed, but with less than three years experience the Japanese are not yet sufficiently familiar with the conditions of the Chinese to know just what is required. A prominent official informs me that it is very evident that the time has not yet arrived when the inhabitants can to their own advantage be placed under the laws and regulations which the new treaties will bring into force in Japan, and it is not unlikely that the Powers will be asked to take into consideration the present condition of affairs and enter into a supplementary treaty applying to Formosa. This is to be but a temporary agreement, as I understand it, in which foreigners will be granted the same rights and privileges as are contained in the new treaties, but that so far as the native subjects and Japanese are concerned the old conditions will prevail.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL NOGI.

The opposition to Lieut.-General Baron Nogi as Governor-General appears to have subsided. To foreigners who admire his many excellent qualities his retirement from office would be looked upon as calamity to the island. The frequent exchange of officials and shifts of policy to which the island has been subjected, have kept Formosa in an unsettled condition, and now with the establishment of administrative reforms and the appointment of new officials it is to be sincerely hoped that the Cabinet and the Diet will keep their hands off for a sufficiently long period to permit of the present administration being given a fair trial. Many Japanese merchants are especially opposed to Governor Nogi, and it is supposed that they are responsible for the numerous tales which have been circulated ridiculing his Excellency on account of his strict views as to the conduct of his officials. He does not believe that it conduces to official dignity that the Chinese should see drunken officers reeling home from *Geisha* speer, nor does

he believe that Japanese merchants should be permitted to partake of Government funds without full value received. He is outspoken against dishonesty and reckless dissipation. Both exist in Formosa and it is not possible for him to oppose them without making enemies.

OPIMUM.

The Government are at present erecting a very large laboratory fitted with all modern appliances and machinery for the preparation of opium. It does not appear, as has been sometimes reported, that the sale of opium is to be considered as a source of revenue, but that the income thus derived is only expected to be sufficient to cover the Government expenses incurred in controlling the purchasing, manufacturing, and sale. So far the Government expenditures along this line have been greater than the income. It is the desire of the Government to first obtain complete control of the drug throughout the Chinese portion of the island and to restrict its sale by issuing licenses only to those addicted to its use. It is hoped in this way that the next generation will, to a large extent, be freed from the opium habit. It has been suggested that the Government gradually increase the price, thus decreasing the consumption. But such a plan would only be partially effective, as smuggling of opium, which is now not frequently attempted, would be prevalent, and with the lengthy coast line it would be difficult to prevent. That opium is essential to the good health of the Chinese in the island has not yet been proven. The Hakkas, the strongest and healthiest of all Chinese in the island, are rarely opium smokers, and while it would no doubt create great disorder in the island to prohibit the smoking of opium to all, the Government are to be commended for their desire to lessen the consumption whenever practicable. Mr. Montague Kirkwood legal adviser to the Japanese Government, is at present in the south of the island on a tour of inspection.

PROF. BURTON'S WORK.

The investigations of Prof. W. K. Burton, C.E., throughout the island were very complete and resulted in a voluminous report on the sanitary requirements of the island. The Governor-General has shown great interest in the work, and has agreed to put into effect the plans of Prof. Burton as far as funds can be obtained for that purpose. The first work of importance will be the construction of the Kelung and Tamsui (Hobe) water works.

IN THE U.S. CONSULAR COURT.

Before F. J. GOWEY Esq., Consul-General and Judge, and Associates.

MONDAY, December 6th.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED,
v. MACONDRAY BROS. and LOCKARD.

In this case the National Bank of China, Limited, claimed a sum of yen 16,727.69 from the defendant firm in settlement of balance of account.

The petition of the National Bank of China Limited, the plaintiff, showed as follows:—

1.—The said plaintiff company is constituted under the laws of the United Kingdom, carrying on business as Bankers in London and at Yokohama and elsewhere.

2.—The defendants are a firm of merchants carrying on business at No. 30 in the Settlement of Yokohama and of which firm the members are citizens of the United States.

3.—The defendants kept an account with the plaintiff and became indebted on such account for money lent by the plaintiff to the said defendants in the sum of Eighteen thousand dollars.

4.—To secure the payment of the said sum the defendants on 21st Jan., 1894, made and gave to the plaintiff their promissory note by which they promised to pay to the plaintiff on demand eighteen thousand dollars with interest at 8 per cent. per annum and as collateral security for payment of the said sum hypothecated to the plaintiff certain goods and merchandise and office furniture specified in a list thereof dated 23rd January, 1894, valued at \$6,198 49.

5.—The goods and merchandise in the said list specified were with the consent of the plaintiff sold and other goods from time to time were hypothecated to the plaintiff in the place thereof.

6.—The defendants are now indebted to plaintiff in the sum of sixteen thousand seven hundred and twenty six yen and sixty-nine sen of Japanese currency for money lent as aforesaid by the plaintiff to the defendants and on the 4th of June, 1897, the defendants as collateral security for the payment of the said sum acknowledged that certain goods in their warehouse as stated by them to be of the value of \$3,888.88 were hypothecated to the plaintiff.

The plaintiff therefore prays this Honourable Court:—

1.—That the defendants be decreed to pay to the plaintiff the said sum of sixteen thousand seven hundred and twenty seven yen and sixty-nine sen.

2.—That the plaintiff be decreed to have a lien on the goods, merchandise and office furniture hypothecated by the defendants, and that the said goods and merchandise and office furniture be sold, and the proceeds thereof paid to the plaintiff in part payment of the debt aforesaid.

3.—That the defendants be decreed to pay the costs of this suit.

4.—That the plaintiff may have such further and other relief as the nature of the case may require and this Court may direct.

There was no answer to this petition by the defendants.

Mr. Litchfield appeared for the plaintiff Bank, and stated that the defendant had failed to file any reply to the plaintiff's petition, and plaintiff now applied for decree. Under the Rules of the Court it was required that in suits for sums above \$500, Associates should be drawn to sit with the Judge and he would ask His Honour to draw Associates, and to adjourn the hearing until such an hour as the latter could be in attendance.

The following names were then drawn:—Capt. J. W. Lee, Mr. G. W. Bramhall (absent from port) Mr. R. Abenheim; and as alternatives Messrs. M. Z. Wheeler, H. J. Davidson (in Tokyo) and R. M. Varnum.

The hearing was then adjourned till 2 p.m.

Upon the Court re-assembling in the afternoon, Capt. J. W. Lee and Mr. R. Abenheim were sworn in as Associates.

Mr. Litchfield briefly opened the case for the plaintiff and called Mr. P. C. Potts to prove the claim.

Witness deposed he was accountant to the National Bank of China, with which defendants had an account. Witness identified the signature of Macondray Bros. and Lockard to a promissory note dated 21st Jan., 1894, given for a loan of \$18,000, with a stock list attached. He received the documents from the firm. At that time the firm had only one account, but later on another, No. 2 account, was opened for daily business. The Bank presented a statement of account to their clients every half-year. Witness also identified the signature of defendants' firm to two letters dated 31st December 1896, acknowledging indebtedness to the Bank on that date to the amount of \$16,000 on No. 1 account, and \$1,100 odd on No. 2 account. Witness also proved the statement of account rendered by the Bank for the period from 1st Jan. to 30th Sept. last, which showed the indebtedness of the defendant firm to the Bank on the latter date to be 16,727.69 yen. Nothing had since been paid off this sum and the amount was still owing to the bank.

The documents referred to by witness were filed in Court as exhibits.

To the Court.—The stock set down in the list was now in the defendants' godown and Macondray had the keys. The Bank, however, held a lien on it as security for payment of the loan. Witness thought it probable some of the goods originally hypothecated had been sold.

Mr. Litchfield said he asked for judgment for yen 16,727.69; he did not ask for the lien to be enforced.

Judgment was given for the amount claimed and costs.

BRITISH NAVAL COURT AT YOKOHAMA.

A CHIEF MATE DISCHARGED.

A Naval Court of Enquiry consisting of Jas. Troup, Esq., Assistant Judge, H.B.M.'s Court, President; and Commander Grafton, R.N., H.M.S. *Redpole*, and W. D. Cameron, master of the steamer *Amarapoor*, was convened at H.B.M.'s Court on Tuesday morning to consider certain charges laid by David Anton, master of the British ship *Port Caledonia*, against Thomas Roil, chief mate of the same vessel. The charges were comprised in three counts:—1st, defendant was charged with being intoxicated and disorderly on board the ship on the night of the 1st instant, with disobeying the lawful commands of the master, and being intoxicated, on the 2nd inst.; and, that after having been locked up in his room by the master, on the 1st inst., he broke open the lock of the door with an axe; and 3rd, with being absent without leave and under the influence of drink on the 2nd inst. Accused pleaded guilty to going on board the ship in a state of slight intoxication and to disobeying the commands of the master in the

first count, and also to the second count, but not guilty on the third.

David Anton, the prosecutor, master of the *Port Caledonia*, deposed:—When I went on board at 9 p.m. on the 1st Dec., I asked the steward to get me some supper. Shortly afterwards the mate came into the saloon. I at once saw that he was considerably under the influence of drink. He told me that he had been on shore prosecuting certain members of the crew in the Consular Court and that he would leave the vessel, and had all his effects packed, as it was a made-up job that I should leave the vessel all day in order that he would have to appear to prosecute the members of the crew. I told him there was no job in it, and to come and see me in the morning when he was sober. He denied being under the influence of drink, so I called the second mate and steward as witnesses, and they both admitted that he was. He then said that I was under the influence of brandy. I again called the second mate and steward, who both frankly said I was not. I then ordered him to leave the saloon. He refused and I called the second mate and steward to get him out. He returned, however, and repeated his statement about the made-up job, and said I was a d—d cur. I again called the second mate and steward, who got him as far as the door of his room where he and the second mate stumbled. As soon as he got on to his feet I shoved him into his room and locked the door. He immediately got an axe and hammered at the lock of the door; calling me a son of a —. To prevent the door being smashed, I requested the second mate to unlock the door, which he did with some difficulty, as the lock was injured. A few minutes afterwards the second mate came to me and asked me for \$2 to give to the mate to go on shore. The mate then came to me and asked me for \$5, and permission to go on shore, which I granted, to have peace, but told him to be on board at 8 a.m. on the 2nd. The second mate sent the steward on shore with the mate to try and get a respectable house for him to stop in. He returned on board about 2.30 p.m. on the 2nd and left again about 4.30 to 5 p.m. without permission. During that afternoon Mr. Lowder, who is conducting the defence of Cutlbert in the stabbing case, came on board to collect further evidence. When he went to the fore-castle he found the mate sitting there, under the influence of drink, and made some remarks about it to the second mate.

Accused had no questions to ask the witness.

Witness, to the Court—I was not present when the remarks were made by Mr. Lowder to the second mate regarding the mate's presence in the fore-castle. I was told by the second mate.

Hans Wilhelm Daehner, second mate of the *Port Caledonia*, examined by Capt. Anton—I remember the evening of the 1st Dec. You came on board about 9 p.m. and called me into the saloon to testify as to the condition of the mate. He was under the influence of drink. I did not hear him say that you, the master, were under the influence of brandy. You asked me if you were, and I said you were not. I heard you tell the mate to go out of the saloon. You called me to assist in putting him out. I saw you shove him into his room and close and lock the door. I heard him hammer at the door with some heavy instrument, but could not see what it was. While he was hammering at the door he repeatedly called the master a son of a —. You ordered me to unlock the door. I had to push it open as the lock would not work. I remember coming to you and asking for \$2 to give to the mate. I sent the steward on shore with the mate to find him respectable lodgings for the night. I heard the mate had got permission to be ashore till 8 a.m. on the 2nd. He returned on board some time in the afternoon. When Mr. Lowder came on board the mate was in the fore-castle. He was not quite sober.

Accused had no questions to put to witness.

To the Court.—There was never any difference or quarrel between the first mate and myself. It was an unusual thing to send the steward on shore with the mate. I was not told to do so. I sent him because the mate was slightly under the influence of liquor and I was afraid he might get into trouble.

Francis Rafferty, steward of the *Port Caledonia*, gave evidence corroborative of that given by the second mate, and added that he was ashore all the time with the mate after being sent ashore with him on the night of the 1st. He had a little drink himself and did not like to go back on board till he was quite sober.

Capt. Anton, recalled by the Court—I am not aware that accused has been in any Court previous to this case. The mate was engaged in Liverpool on the 3rd May. The relations between myself and the mate have been generally good during the voyage; there have, perhaps, been some

slight differences, such as might arise between any two men.

This closed the case for the prosecution and the hearing was adjourned till 2 p.m.

Upon the Court reassembling at 2 p.m., accused was asked if he desired to produce any evidence in his defence. He stated that he did not desire to do so, nor to make any statement, beyond what he had said in answer to the charges.

The Court was then adjourned for an hour or so, when the following finding was read by the President:—

The Court finds the said Thomas Roil guilty of disobedience to a lawful command, while under the influence of liquor, and also guilty of disorderly conduct on the 1st Dec. 1897, on board his ship, and that again on the 2nd Dec. he was under the influence of liquor on board.

The Court orders that in accordance with the powers contained in Sec. 483 of 57 and 58 Vic., c. 60, Thomas Roil be discharged from his ship, the *Port Caledonia*, of Glasgow, and that in accordance with the powers contained in said Sec. 483 the costs of the proceedings before this Court be paid by David Anton, the master of the *Port Caledonia*, and he is hereby ordered to pay the said amount accordingly, but he is hereby empowered to deduct the same from the wages of the said Thomas Roil.

Thomas Roil is further cautioned to be more careful as to his conduct for the future.

The expenses of this Court, fixed at £4.17.3, are approved.

THE STABBING CASE ON THE "PORT CALEDONIA."

William Cuthbert, a seaman belonging to the British ship *Port Caledonia*, was brought up for trial in H.B.M. Court for Japan on Thursday, the 9th inst., before Mr. Justice Wilkinson, on the charge that he, on the 20th October last, on board the *Port Caledonia*, then lying in Nagasaki harbour, did feloniously, wilfully and with malice aforethought kill and murder Jules Jerrard.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty, and the following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. F. E. White, P. C. Potts, F. W. Thomas, C. V. Schmidt, and W. W. Campbell.

Mr. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor, prosecuted and Mr. Lowder appeared for the accused.

Mr. Litchfield, in opening the case for the Crown, said the prisoner was charged with wilful murder and it was for the jury to decide from the evidence produced whether the crime committed amounted to wilful murder or whether they could find that the crime was less heinous than that and could be classed as manslaughter. The circumstances were that previous to the 18th October there were no quarrels between the prisoner and Jerrard. But on the 18th October Cuthbert was in the port fore-castle in the forenoon, about 11.30, and it was deposed by a Frenchman who was lying on his bunk in the fore-castle, that Cuthbert was sick there. The man Jerrard came to the port fore-castle about 3 p.m. The accused also came into the fore-castle and there was a dispute about the mess made by Cuthbert in the fore-castle. It appears from the Frenchman's statement that Jerrard accused Cuthbert of making the mess and a quarrel took place in which Jerrard threw Cuthbert down. On getting up again Cuthbert renewed the fight, and again got the worst of it. After that Cuthbert sat down for a couple of minutes on his chest and then went on deck. Soon after he returned to the fore-castle and after abusing Jerrard struck him in the stomach with a knife. The men then closed, Jerrard trying to defend himself by holding Cuthbert's hand which held the knife. Medical evidence would tell of a second wound but there was no direct evidence to show how it was done. The fatal wound was the one in the abdomen. After the two men were separated by the second mate and others Cuthbert picked up a hammer and tried to strike Jerrard, but was prevented from doing so. Evidence would be given by the first and second mates as to the behaviour of the accused that day. Counsel then proceeded to explain to the jury under what circumstances unlawful homicide amounted to murder, and when the crime only constituted manslaughter. The Crown Prosecutor then called:—

Thomas Roil, who deposed:—On the 18th Oct. last I was first mate of the *New Caledonia*. I have now left the ship. I am a British subject. On the 18th Oct. last the *Port Caledonia* was in Nagasaki harbour. The accused was an able seaman on board the ship. There was another seaman named James Jerrard, who was generally called Jim. On the afternoon of the 18th Oct. I saw the prisoner on deck, bleeding from the nose and one of his eyes. The bleeding was just stop-

ping. I examined his face particularly and asked him what he had been doing and he said he had been fighting with Jim. His face was covered with coal dust, and I told him to go and wash his face and then go down the hold about his duty again. He was watching the natives trimming coals. After I told him to go and wash his face he went on the starboard side of the house. I saw him go towards the fore-castle but did not see him go inside. I went about my own duty. Shortly afterwards, perhaps nine or ten minutes, I heard a scream. It might have been more or less than ten minutes. I had checked off some cargo after Bill left me—one lighter. When I heard the scream I was close to No. 2 hatch. I ran forward on the starboard side and looked aft. I saw the man Jerrard, who sung out "Mr. Roil, I'm stabbed." I went to Jerrard's assistance; he was on deck, close to the fore-castle door, on the outside. I saw the accused near Jerrard. I did not see any one else near him but did not take any particular notice, my attention being given to Jerrard. Accused was standing just inside the fore-castle door with a hammer raised in his right hand; he was just on the point of coming out. It was a long-handled ship's hammer like that produced. (Exhibit No. 1). I laid Jerrard down on the deck and looked at his wounds. As soon as his shirt was pulled up his entrails began to fall out from the wound in the abdomen. I sent for the doctor of the *Immortalité*. Jerrard had his belt, sheath and knife on him. I took the knife from the sheath and gave it to one of the men to keep, and when the doctor came gave it to him. I also got the prisoner's knife afterwards and handed it to the Consul. I recognise the prisoner's knife; have seen it dozens of times on the voyage. Bill and Jim were both in my watch. There had been no quarrels between them before to my knowledge. Both were quiet men. There were nine men in the port watch.

Cross-examination—The prisoner when he told me he had been fighting with Jim may have complained that the deceased had assaulted him without cause. He made some remark but I don't remember the exact words except that he had been fighting. I did not see any bruise on prisoner's forehead. His face was covered with coal dust. I saw one eye was damaged. I was examined at Nagasaki at the inquest and at the preliminary examination of the accused. (Counsel for the defence here read extracts from witness' evidence at the preliminary examination and inquest).

Witness—I did not say at the inquest at Nagasaki that I saw accused go into the fore-castle door when he left me. I saw him go to the door but not enter it.

Mr. Lowder proposed to put in the deposition on this point taken at the inquest, to the effect that the witness saw the accused go into the fore-castle.

Witness—If it is down there so it is probably right, as my memory was fresher then. The prisoner could have gone from where he left me to the fore-castle in about half a minute.

A plan of the deck of the *Port Caledonia* was handed to witness.

Witness—This appears to be a correct plan as far as I can judge. (Copies of the plan handed to the Court and Jury as Exhibit 4.)

Cross-examination continued—I don't know whether deceased had been ashore that morning. I saw him come over the rail on board but could not say whether he had been ashore. I don't know whether he brought a bottle of whiskey with him. I did not notice if he had anything under his shirt or jumper. I went forward. There were two canvas screens on deck. I was standing forward of both when the deceased came up the gangway. I could not say what time this was. I don't remember whether it was before or after the men's dinner, which was about 12.30 that day. I can not say what time elapsed between the coming on board of the deceased and the time Cuthbert's nose was bleeding. I don't know whether the deceased had been drinking on the previous day. He did not smell of liquor when I attended to him after he was wounded. I may have had a drink myself that day, and if so should be less likely to smell the breath of another.

To the Jury—When I saw the prisoner with the hammer in his hand he appeared to be just on the point of coming out of the fore-castle, I judged with the intention of striking Jerrard.

Louis Valesland, whose evidence was interpreted by L. Martinolich, examined:—I am a French citizen and a seaman on the *Port Caledonia*. I was on the ship at Nagasaki on the 18th Oct. I was sick and off duty for three days. My bunk was on the port side, right forward. I was in the port watch. The port and starboard sides of the fore-castle are separated by a partition with a little door in it. I saw the prisoner in the port fore-castle at about 11.30 on the 18th Oct.; there was

nobody in the fore-castle then except Bill and myself. Bill sat down next to Jim's bunk and was sick there. Jim was not there then, he was ashore. Bill remained sitting down till 12.15 and then went and lay in his bunk till called out to work by the chief officer. Jim returned on board in the afternoon and came down into the fore-castle about 3.10 or 3.15 p.m. When Jim came into the fore-castle Bill was not there; he came in about five or ten minutes afterwards. When Bill came into the fore-castle Jim said something to him. I understood what he said. Jim wanted to know who had been making a mess by his bunk. Bill says "It's not me." Jim says "There is no one else in the fore-castle who could have done it only you." Then Bill took Jim by the shoulder and gave him a shaking, Jim said, "What you want," and struck Bill in the eye, and got him down on the chest. Bill sang out, "let me go." After Bill got up Jim went to his bunk to go to sleep, but Bill was after Jim again. Jim says, "What do you want? I think you want to fight, if you want to I'll fight you," and struck Bill a blow with the hand and then took him by the throat and threw him down on the chest, where he kept him a couple of minutes. Bill again shouted, "let me go." Jim said, "I'll let you go this time, but look out for yourself if you come again." Bill went on deck. Jim went to his bunk and put on his belt and went on deck. About two or three minutes passed from the time Bill went on deck and Jim got his belt to go on deck. Jim put one leg outside the threshold of the door, as Bill was coming in. Bill passed inside and then said to Jim, "Look here, you kicked my two eyes, you son of a b—," and then took his knife out of his sheath with his left hand, swung it round and struck Jim in the abdomen. Olsen was at the fore-castle door and came into the fore-castle and took the knife from Bill, saying at the same time, "No fighting here with a knife." Bill then picked up a hammer and raised it to strike Bill, perhaps, I don't know, but Olsen took the hammer from him. The mate and second mate then came up, and Bill lifted a scraper from the deck, but was seized by the second mate who put him in irons. (Scraper put in Exhibit C). I was in my bunk all the time the fight was going on. There was another man in another bunk, a German, who was a little drunk, and asleep. The German got out of his bunk the second time Jim threw Bill on to the chest. When the cutting took place there were only Bill, Jim, and myself in the fore-castle. There had been no quarrels in the port fore-castle during the voyage.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned till 2 p.m. Upon the hearing being resumed the last witness was cross-examined by Mr. Lowder.

Shown the port division of the fore-castle on the plan, witness said:—I recognise the doorway of the fore-castle. My bunk was the one thwartships in the corner, marked with a cross. Mine was the top bunk. Saturday, Sunday and Monday I was laid up, sick with cold and fever. I had not had any whiskey to drink, I never use it, nor spirits of any kind. Jerrard did not give me any spirits to drink that day. He brought a black bottle with a little gin in it to me asking me to take charge of it for him, while he went ashore. I took it and put it under my pillow, and gave it back to him when he came on board again. It was about 10.30 a.m. when Jim gave me the bottle, and about 3.15 p.m. when he received it back again. He offered me a drink in the morning but I told him I did not take spirits. I did not see him drink anything in the morning. When he took back the bottle with the gin in it, he gave a drink to another man. He may have taken a drink himself but I did not see him. I think he gave a drink to a man named Barry, who was in the fore-castle for a time. I lay in my bunk with my head to starboard. When the fight took place I was lying with my head to port. During the time I was laid up I sometimes lay head to starboard. I jumped out of my bunk when I heard the words, "I'll kill you," and saw the knife. When I jumped out of my bunk my head was to port. (Witness here marked on the plan the position of the prisoner and the deceased when the witness jumped out of his bunk).

Mr. Lowder—It is quite impossible for you to have seen the position from the bunk, and I suggest that it was after you jumped out of your bunk you saw it.

Witness—No, I saw both accused and Jim quite well from my bunk. It was about a quarter past 2 when the mate called the accused. Accused had been sleeping in his bunk from about 12.15. His bunk was a top one. He came back to the fore-castle about 10 or 15 minutes past 3. It was 5 or 10 minutes after Jim had come in. I was examined in Nagasaki two or three times. When Jim asked who had made the mess by his chest I did not tell him Bill had done it. I told him I did not know, as I did not want to cause trouble. I

don't know who was "peggy," or clean-up-man, that day. Bill said, "I'm not peggy, and won't clean up the mess." Bill then seized Jim by the arms and shook him. I was then in my bunk with my head to port. Jim was on the bench getting ready to get into his bunk at the time. He came down from the bench on to the floor when he struck Bill and capsized him on to the chest, with his head down on the chest. (Here about half an hour was occupied in cross-examining the witness upon the plan of the fore-castle put in, which he did not appear to understand.)

To the Court—There is only one door from the fore-castle to the deck, and it was over the combing of that door that Jim was standing when Bill came into the fore-castle.

Cross-examination continued—When I heard Bill say, "I'll kill you, you son of a—" I jumped out of my bunk, and it was then I saw the position of Jim, half in and half out of the fore-castle. The blow with the knife was struck as I was getting out of my bunk, immediately after Bill said "I'll kill you." Olsen came in by the port door from the deck and took the knife from the prisoner. The door of the fore-castle is about three feet wide. The whole quarrel arose over Bill's refusal to clean up the mess in the fore-castle.

To a Juror—I did not say anything about it. Jim was a heavier man than the prisoner. He was an Englishman.

To the Court—When I used the work kick I meant a blow with the hand. When Bill threatened Jim he said, "You kick my two eyes." I did not see Jim use his foot on Bill only his hands. When I used the name Bill I meant the prisoner. It was the only name he was known on board the ship. When I used the word Jim I meant the man who was killed. I saw him after he was dead.

To a Juror—Jim was standing on the bench or seat, about 15 inches high, when Bill seized him by the sleeves of his coat and shook him.

To the Court—On entering the fore-castle one must go through the corridor to see the bunks.

David Anton, examined—I am master of the ship *Port Caledonia* and a British subject. The vessel arrived in Nagasaki on the 8th and was there on the 18th Oct. There was a seaman named Jerrard on board. He is now dead, he died on the 20th Oct. I was present at his death. I was away from the ship on the 18th Oct. from 9 in the morning till 5 in the afternoon. Proper attention had been paid to the man after he was wounded.

Cross-examined—I should say that the prisoner was of a kindly disposition, judging from the fact that he had a small kitten on board to which he paid great attention. The stature of the deceased would be, I should say, quite 5 ft. 10, and strongly built; undoubtedly a much stronger man than the prisoner, who would not have much chance with him in a fight.

To the Court—My ship belongs to Glasgow and is under the British flag.

John Olsen, examined—I am a Norwegian subject and am a seaman on the *Port Caledonia*. I was on board the ship at Nagasaki on the 18th October. I belong to the starboard watch. On the afternoon of the 18th I was walking the deck, when I heard Jim sing out "I'm cut!" I ran to the fore-castle door on the port side and saw the men there, Jim and Bill. Jim is the man who is dead and Bill is the prisoner. The two men were inside the fore-castle, Jim nearest the door. They were standing side to side with about half a foot distance and a knife between them. Bill had the handle of the knife in his right hand and Jim had hold of the blade with both hands. I separated the two men, and the knife fell down on the fore-castle floor. I picked up the knife afterwards, when the trouble was over. When the knife fell from Bill's hand he picked up a hammer and held it up, threatening Jim. I grabbed Bill's arm and the hammer fell on the deck. The knife produced (Exhibit 3) is the one I picked up—Bill's knife.

After a very brief cross-examination by Mr. Lowder, conducted almost in the dark, the Court adjourned till 2 a.m. on Friday, it being also arranged that before that hour the jury should visit the *Port Caledonia*, taking the plan of the ship with them to compare.

DISTRESSING SUICIDE IN YOKOHAMA.

HONGKONG MASTER-MARINER CUTS HIS THROAT.

A very sad case of suicide occurred in Yokohama during the early hours of Thursday morning. Capt. Waddilove, late of the *Yuen Sang*, a well known steamer running between Hongkong and Manila, who came to Japan about the 19th of November in a shocking bad state of health, was found by the bed-room boy lying in bed, with his

throat cut and both wrists hacked about. Life had been extinct for some hours. Jas. Troup, Esq., H.B.M. Consul General and Assistant-Judge, acting as Coroner, summoned an inquest, which sat at the British Consulate at 2 p.m., when the following jurymen investigated the circumstances attending the sad affair:—Messrs. F. H. Bull, W. K. W. Wilson, and A. R. G. Clarke. Having been sworn they viewed the body, removed from the Club Hotel to Messrs. Sibbitt's mortuary rooms, after which the following evidence was taken:—

Dr. Stuart Eldridge, sworn, deposed—I saw the body of William Waddilove in the presence of the jury. I was called to see the body about six o'clock this morning at the Club Hotel. I was taken to see deceased by Mr. Sizem. He did not know whether the man was actually dead or not. I found the body in a position of repose, undressed. There was a deep wound in the front side of the throat, which had severed the large vessels on the left side. Upon the front of both wrists were incisions of such a character as to convey to my mind the impression that the man endeavoured to sever the vessels of the wrists first, but this was not fully resorted to because of the shorter and quicker method of cutting the throat. Upon both arms above the incisions in the wrist were numerous slight superficial cuts that were evidently made by a very unsteady hand. Upon a small table to the left of the bed, at the head of the same, lay a bloody razor, open, which I now produce. (The razor was handed to the jury.) The left hand of the deceased, as he lay on his back, with arm extended, being very near the razor. From all the circumstances of the case and the position of the body, especially the nature of the injuries inflicted, I have no doubt that death was of a suicidal character.

Mr. Bull—I should like to ask whether the cuts on the arms could not have been inflicted in self-defence.

Dr. Eldridge—That could not be possible.

Mr. Wilson—Could you say whether the cuts were inflicted with the left or right hand?

Dr. Eldridge—They might have been done with either hand, but I really could not say. The cut in the neck might have been inflicted by either hand.

Mr. Clarke—The razor, judging from the cuts, may have been in both hands?

Dr. Eldridge—A man may be ambidextrous. Then again, death from a cut throat is not so quickly brought about that it would be impossible to shift the razor from one hand to the other. Still death would have occurred very rapidly after the incision on the throat. Life had been extinct three or four hours when I saw the body—the man having been well wrapped up in bed. I saw it about 6 o'clock.

The Coroner—Might it have been double that time?

Dr. Eldridge—I think not. The time I allow is three or four hours.

Mr. Wilson—How were the bedclothes? Disturbed?

Dr. Eldridge—Undisturbed. He lay in a position of repose. The right arm was partly extended, lying on the bed-clothes; the left arm, almost at right angles with the body, extended, so that the hand was just above the front edge of the small table at the head of the bed.

The Coroner—Was there any smell of intoxicating liquor about?

Dr. Eldridge? I noticed nothing.

Mr. Wilson—How was he dressed?

Dr. Eldridge—Partly undressed; in the same condition in which we saw him at the mortuary.

Mr. Bull—Death was undoubtedly caused by that wound in the throat?

Dr. Eldridge—Yes, undoubtedly.

Eugene V. Sizem, sworn, deposed—I am manager of the Club Hotel. The deceased, William Waddilove, came to stay at the Hotel about the 17th November. He was away three days, about the 29th November; with that exception he was living at the hotel regularly. I last saw him alive about 3 days ago. He came into the bar and remained there till 12 o'clock. When he left the bar he was so shaky that the European on watch asked him what was the matter. He said, "From to-morrow I won't drink any more."

The Coroner—Did you hear that?

Witness—The European, Mr. Ham, reported this to me next day. I forbade the servants to give him any more drink. Last night, about a quarter past eight, while I was in the bar, the boy brought in a chit from the deceased, the signature of which was quite illegible. I then forbade the boy to give the deceased any more beer. I did not see the deceased then. The chit was for stout, and the number of the room was legible under the signature. It was room No. 39. This morning, at half-past five, the bedroom steward entered my room and told me that the

visitor in room No. 39, had committed suicide. I wrote immediately to Dr. Eldridge, and to Mr. Sharp, who had introduced deceased to me as Capt. Waddilove. Mr. Sharp came first and then went to meet the doctor. When Dr. Eldridge came I entered the room for the first time. Another visitor, Mr. Marques, who was leaving for Kobe by train, passed through the office when I was writing to the doctor and Mr. Sharp. I accompanied Mr. Marques to the room. He looked in and when I asked what had happened, he said he could not enter the room, as he was foreigner, until the doctor came. I did not look into the room then. After that Mr. Sharp came and then the doctor came up alone, Mr. Sharp having missed him. I accompanied the doctor to the room, and remained at the door. As soon as the doctor's examination had finished, Mr. Sharp arrived. We left the room together. I only saw the body as I stood looking in from the door-way.

Mr. Bull—I should like to know how the watchman found the matter out?

Witness—It was the room boy who discovered the body. He is present in the Consulate. The boy reported to the steward, and the steward passed the report on to me.

Mr. Wilson—Was the light burning when you went to the room?

Witness—Yes. When I asked the boy why he had entered the room, he said it was because he saw the light burning.

Mr. Bull—We do not know anything of deceased's movements from 8 o'clock.

Witness—I do not know anything after the chit was brought to me. This chit was for one bottle of stout; but the boy brought back two empty bottles. On the chit I therefore wrote "2" instead of "1" and I initialed it "E.V.S."

Mr. Clarke—Can you tell whether he left his room yesterday?

Witness—I think he did not.

Mr. Clarke—Did you send up his meals?

Witness—He could hardly eat anything. For the last few days he had hardly anything to eat.

Mr. Clarke—Except refreshments?

Witness—Yes. The liquors that he ordered were taken to his room. I think it was four or five days ago that he got up and came to the office and asked me to let him have a glass of whiskey. Following the orders that I had received from Mr. Sharp, I refused.

The Coroner—He was usually in bed then?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Clarke—Did he then appear in a rational state of mind.

Witness—No. He appeared as between two liquors.

Mr. Clarke—Did he appear as if his mental equilibrium was upset?

Witness—He did not appear like a sober person. It was forbidden that he should have liquor except soda-water or beer.

Mr. Bull—Did he after this incident five days ago, have any liquor?

Witness—No, not to my knowledge. A'l the liquor—beer—he had was served by me. He has not been in the dining-room for the last nine or ten days.

The Coroner—Was solid food served to him in his room?

Witness—Very little.

The Coroner—Any?

Witness—I saw food going to his room sometimes.

Mr. Bull—Can you give us any idea of the quantity of beer served to him, during the last five days?

Witness—There might have been 6, 7 or 8 bottles of beer a day.

Mr. Clarke—And no solid food?

Witness—No. He also was allowed soda-water. Mr. Wilson—Was there only one boy serving that room?

Witness—Yes, that is so. The boy that will give evidence is the one who served him and found him in the room this morning.

To Mr. Wilson—I believe deceased went out of the Hotel the day he asked me for whiskey.

Ban Hyokichi, bed-room boy employed at the Club Hotel, sworn, deposed:—I attend on rooms 36 to 43 at the Hotel. I last saw the occupier of Room No. 39, alive last night. At 7.30 o'clock he had some English beer. He ordered it through me. Deceased signed a chit for it. He wished to leave the chit to sign till the morning, but I insisted on it being signed at once. Deceased signed for two bottles, I believe. He had one bottle at six o'clock, another at 7.30. I was not called any more after that, and did not see deceased again. This morning, I was up early in order to wake up the visitor in No. 36, who was leaving for Kobe by train. I knocked at the door of No. 36 a little before half-past five. I then started cleaning up the passages. Every morning I was in

the habit of going to room No. 39, as the occupant always ordered something to drink. I usually knocked at the door, and he would say, "Come in." On this occasion, I knocked at the door and there was no reply; so I opened the door and saw the deceased lying in a pool of blood—the bed was covered with blood, a lot of blood. I shut the door and ran straight down to tell the steward. The steward told the manager, and then he told me to go back and have another good look. I was afraid, but I knocked, opened the door, looked in, and said, "Danna danna," but there was no reply. The doctor came shortly afterwards, and I went in with him. I lit the candle and held it up while the doctor examined the man's throat. After this I locked the door and gave the key to the manager. The gas was burning when I first knocked at the door this morning.

Mr. Bull—Did you always find the gas burning when you went to the room?

Witness—I was always left burning every night.

Mr. Wilson—Was he in bed when you went there at half-past seven last night?

Witness—He was always in bed.

Mr. Wilson—Had you seen this razor in the room before?

Witness—No, I had never seen it before.

The Coroner—Well, did you see it this morning?

Witness—I have not noticed a razor before, but when the doctor came in the razor was discovered, covered with blood. The doctor took up the razor, which was lying on the night table by the bed side, and put it in some paper.

Mr. Clarke—When did you last take food to him?

Witness—About 12, noon, yesterday. deceased rang, and I went upstairs. He asked for whiskey, but I said I was forbidden to supply that. Then he asked for beer and added, "Boy, bring me some bread and butter and soup." I took those things up.

Mr. Clarke—Was the deceased in the habit of shaving? Did you take him hot water?

Witness—I never saw the razor before. I never took shaving water to him. I never saw him shave.

Mr. Wilson—Do you know what quantity of food and drink were supplied deceased during the past three days?

Witness—I know what food and drink were supplied. Yesterday four small bottles of beer were taken up, and also bread and soup. The day before he neither drank nor ate anything. Possibly he may have had a whiskey and soda which the small boy under me may have taken up. For the last three days he has practically eaten nothing. I saw him eat the bread and soup yesterday. The night before last, the deceased got up, about half past six, and went out. About half past five yesterday afternoon, I was called to room No. 39 and told to turn the sheets. I did so, and found them all wet. I offered to change the sheets, but deceased said "Never mind, can do."

To Mr. Wilson—I do not know if deceased left the hotel when he went out of the room the day before yesterday.

Mr. Clarke—Can you tell us whether deceased was visited in his room by any one except Mr. Sharp.

Witness—I did not see anyone there, except Mr. Sharp.

Harry James Sharp, sworn, deposed—I am a resident of Yokohama, living at No. 60, Main Street. I knew the deceased, William Waddilove. I last saw him alive on Tuesday evening, between 5.30 and 6 o'clock. He was then in his room at the Club Hotel. He was not completely dressed, but was not in bed. He was a master mariner, formerly in the employ of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., master of the *Yuen Sang*, running between Hongkong and Manila. He was thus employed until the 5th of October, this year. He arrived here by the *Kobe Maru*, three weeks to-morrow, and put up at the Club Hotel. I saw him in the shell at the mortuary to-day. I was sent for by the manager of the Club Hotel this morning, by note. It ran:—"Dear Mr. Sharp. Please come round at once, I have bad news of the Captain." I went round immediately, saw Mr. Sioen and asked what was the matter. He said, "The steward tells me that he is covered with blood." I asked if a doctor had been sent for, and he said yes. I thought to myself that it would be as well if I went and saw Dr. Eldridge, and so I went round to his house. In the meantime he had gone to the Club Hotel. On my return he told me he had seen the body, and that the deceased appeared to have been dead some hours. I did not enter the room to see him. The doctor said the deceased had committed suicide. The body viewed by the jury, I recognize as the body of William Waddilove.

Mr. Wilson—Was he a man likely to commit suicide; was he depressed at all?

Witness—Yes, he has been very much depressed during the past few days. He has been drinking, but not so much the past few days. He has not been in good health, having been much broken up. I have only seen him five or six times during the past few years. He has been in trouble lately, I well tell you what it was. He received a notice of dismissal from Jardine, Matheson's soon after he arrived here, and that worried him a great deal, as he had been with them for some 18 years. He was quite rational on Tuesday when I saw him, and much better than when I had seen him before. I was there several times on Tuesday, the last time about 5.30. He then told me that he would be round to see me next morning. I was expecting him all day yesterday, and should have been round to see him except for pressure of business. Yesterday was the only day I missed seeing him since he has been staying at the Club Hotel. I do not know whether he had a razor of his own, but should think it very likely, as he had a dressing bag. I have never seen a razor in his room.

The Coroner said he would not detain the jury by summing up, the evidence being so fresh in their minds. They had to find when, where, how, and by what means the deceased came by his end.

The jury retired, and after a short interval brought in the following verdict:—

We find that the deceased William Waddilove came by his death in the early morning of Dec. 9th, at the Club Hotel, Limited, No. 5, Bund, by cutting his throat with a razor whilst in a state of temporary insanity.

BRITISH CONSULAR REPORT FOR NAGASAKI.

Mr. Gerard Lowther has transmitted the following report on the trade of Nagasaki for 1896 drawn up by Mr. Consul Longford, to the British Foreign Office:—

VALUE OF TRADE IN 1896.

The value of the foreign trade of Nagasaki during the year 1896 amounted to 1,623,740l., consisting of:—

	VALUE.
Imports	£1,087,703
Exports	536,037

The aggregate value and that of imports both considerably exceed those ever heretofore attained in any one year, and show that Nagasaki has had its full share in the increase of the whole foreign trade of the Empire during the past year. The export trade has not increased in the same ratio, its sterling value in 1896 having been substantially surpassed in some previous years; and while in the course of 10 years the value of imports in local currency has grown fully seven-fold, that of exports shows very little advance on the value of 1887. The character of the foreign trade of the port of Nagasaki has, in recent years, changed to a considerable extent. Until 1893 the value of exports always exceeded those of imports, in some years very considerably.

INCREASE OF IMPORT TRADE.

In 1893 that of imports for the first time gained a slight advantage; in the two following years this advantage increased in each year to about 2,000,000 dol., while in 1896 it has still further grown to nearly 5,000,000 dol. In their productive capacity, as far as it can be testified by what they are able to spare for abroad after their own requirements are satisfied, the people of the port of Nagasaki remain almost as they were 10 years ago. Their requirements from abroad have at the same time so increased that to satisfy them they find it necessary to spend seven times the amount of their own currency that they did 10 years ago, the result being that in 1896 their purchases exceeded their sales by over 5,000,000 dol.

The difference against Japan has, however, no real existence. Nagasaki is, of all eastern ports, perhaps that which is most frequented by foreign men-of-war of all nationalities, and it would not be an excessive estimate to say that fully 1,000,000 dol. are annually spent in the port by their crews and on the purchase of supplies, a great portion of which goes into Japanese hands directly or indirectly. Large sums are also disbursed by mail and other merchant steamers for supplies, and by tourists and other temporary residents, especially by Russians, large numbers of whom from Vladivostok are now making the port a winter residence.

But in addition to Nagasaki there are other ports which furnish an outlet for the productions of southern Japan, the principal being Shimonoseki,

Moji, and Kuchinotsu, all of which are largely visited by foreign shipping, though closed to the foreign import trade, and all three may be considered as subsidiary ports to Nagasaki. The value of the exports from these ports in 1896 was:—

FROM	VALUE.
Shimonoseki	\$3,315,156
Moji	2,811,924
Kuchinotsu	1,808,545

Total.....\$7,935,625

Equivalent in sterling to 839,692l.

When this amount is added to that previously given of the exports from the port of Nagasaki, alone, it brings the total value of the whole export trade of southern Japan in 1896 up to 1,395,729l.; of the whole foreign trade to 2,483,432l., and it leaves a balance of trade in favour of Japan of 308,026l.

The value of the direct import trade of Nagasaki amounted in 1896, to 1,087,703l.

During the five preceding years the values were:—

YEAR.	VALUE.
1891	£488,689
1892	438,237
1893	458,301
1894	579,064
1895	680,852

The value in 1896, therefore, exceeded that of the immediately preceding year by nearly 407,000l. and the average of the preceding four years by 596,630l. There appears to be every reason to hope that the present increase may be permanent, the items in which it is most marked being of such a nature that a continuing demand may be looked for them, a demand which cannot be met by Japan herself, and one also which is not likely to be crushed by heavier import duties than have heretofore been levied.

Of the whole increase, that in goods of Western (European or American) production amounts to 285,000l.

The import of English coal shows a marked decrease, caused principally by heavy stocks carried over from the preceding year, but with the exceptions of this and cotton and woollen manufactures, every item mentioned in this section of the import list was imported to a greater value in 1896 than in 1895.

The import of cotton and woollen manufactures has always been insignificant in Nagasaki, and it may now be said to be almost non-existent, while with Japan more and more supplying her own requirements in cotton yarns, there can be very little expectation of any demand for English cotton spinnings or weavings in the near future. And while much is said, in Australia especially, as to the hope of some day creating a demand in Japan for wool and woollens, so far the people in Nagasaki fail to display the slightest tendency to abandon their own cottons and silks either for clothing or bedding purposes in favour of woollen productions. In 1896 they were satisfied with 7,000 yards of cheap flannel and 18,000 yards of cloth, while if they use blankets at all they must be obtained entirely from other ports in Japan. With a damp treacherous climate, such as is characteristic of Nagasaki to a far greater degree than the northern ports, and with a people, the greater part of whom are fairly prosperous, it might have been expected that here, if anywhere, the superior sanitary merits of wool as bedding and clothing should become apparent, but the people here are more conservative both in customs and ideas, it might be added in superstitions also, than in other ports, and what has been good enough for their fathers remains equally so for them. In miscellaneous textiles (satins, silk piece-goods, and crapes) there has been some increase, but the whole import, as compared with that of Yokohama or Kobe, is very trifling. In kerosene oil there was a substantial increase in the import; the same was the case in flour from the United States, and in provisions, while four steamers were sold at the port during the year.

But for the main increase we must look to metals, and what may perhaps be termed the kindred items of machinery, boilers, and locomotives, and it is in their case that expectation may be held of any permanent increase in the value of imports.

The local industries are coal-mining, cotton spinning, and ship-building. The few others pursued, with the exceptions, of course, of those of agriculture and fishing, such as the manufacture of porcelain and the weaving of floor matting, are, though both capable of much development, still very insignificant, but the three first-mentioned are both flourishing and increasing. Two of them will always require renewals and additions to machinery, and in the third both machinery and metals will have to be furnished in greater quantity

if the industry continues to grow as it is doing at present.

The extension of the railway system in Kiushiu is proceeding slowly, but still proceeding, and locomotives, railway materials, and rail iron will therefore continue to appear among imports for some years to come. The whole value of metals imported in 1896 amounted to 225,629*l.* as compared with 49,712*l.* in 1895, an increase 175,917*l.*, and that of locomotives, machinery, and boilers to 75,910*l.* as compared with 28,928*l.*, an increase of 46,982*l.*

The greater part of all these articles were obtained from Great Britain, and the total increase in the whole import trade of Western productions in 1896, as compared with 1895—the increase in those from England alone amounted to over 290,000*l.* Imports from France and Germany to Nagasaki are very insignificant, and while those from the United States reach a fair figure, the main items are kerosene oil and flour. So far as Western manufactures are concerned, Nagasaki has hitherto satisfied its requirements to so large an extent from England that it may be said to do so entirely.

The increase in the value of the import of goods of Eastern production amounts to 122,000*l.*, the principal items in it being raw cotton, sugar, and oilcake. There are five cotton spinning factories in Kiushiu which take their supply of imported raw material from Nagasaki, and six on the mainland which do so to a limited extent. The whole import is practically from Bombay and China, the quantity obtained from America being infinitesimal. White sugar is obtained entirely from Hongkong, and forms the bulk of the imports from that colony.

The exports trade of Nagasaki shows small signs of advance, its values for the past six years having been:—

EXPORTS.

Year.	Value.
In 1891	618,358
In 1892	481,480
In 1893	413,339
In 1894	374,406
In 1895	459,787
In 1896	536,037

The values, however, in local currency, which to the native is the sole standard, present a better aspect; the exports in 1891 having amounted to 3,842,222 *dol.*, and in 1896 to 4,948,028 *dol.*, and as before remarked, much money has been brought into the port from abroad which does not appear in the customs returns.

On the whole, the people of the district can have no reason to feel dissatisfied with the results of their commercial dealings with foreigners. All classes are characterized by an air of prosperity far beyond that which appeared in former years, and while prices of both the necessities and the luxuries of life have risen during the past three years by leaps and bounds, the wages of the working classes have risen at the same time in full proportion, and employment for all at the increased rates is never wanting.

The export of coal, still as heretofore the principal product of the district, has reached 404,215 tons, and to this must be added that from the subsidiary ports, viz:—

From.	Quantity.
	Tons.
Shimonoseki.....	427,536
Muji	647,350
Kuchinotsu	439,339

making a total export from the whole Consular district of Nagasaki of 1,999,440 tons. It may be doubted whether this export can continue to its present extent.

LABOUR DIFFICULTIES.

The increased cost of labour is being so acutely felt at the principal mines, that a movement is now on foot to replace all the Japanese workers by coolies imported from Korea, and it is not only in its increased cost that the labour difficulty is making itself apparent both in the mining and in other industries. The docility, patience, and subordination, which formerly were so characteristic of the Japanese workman, are now not only things of the past, but they have been replaced by the opposite qualities to an extent which is rapidly making him as truculent, arrogant, and exacting as any of his fellows throughout the world. Strikes, formerly unknown and unheard of, are now of by no means infrequent occurrence on the part both of skilled workmen and labourers in all trades. They are accompanied by the worst features of those in Europe, boycotting, picketing, and assaults on black-legs, and in one very recent instance, in the immediate neighbourhood of Nagasaki, a considerable force of police and strong measures were required to restore order and quiet among a large body of labourers, half of whom had struck and half were willing to accept their employers' terms.

An increasing quantity of coal is being required for industries in Japan itself, and greater local demand accompanied by increased cost of production combine to raise the price so much that now but a small margin of difference is left between the cost at which coal can be laid down in Manila, Singapore, and Hongkong from Australia and from Japan. Were it not for the protection that will be shortly afforded by a heavy import tariff, a further advance of the present price of Japanese coal would enable that from Australia to compete advantageously with it in the open ports of Japan itself.

(To be Continued.)

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE AUSTRIAN TROUBLES.

London, Dec. 2.

The Ministry formed by Dr. Baron Gautsch is looked upon only as a stop-gap Cabinet.

Serious riots have occurred in Prague, originating between the Germans and Czechs.

London, Dec. 3.

There has been renewed serious anti-German rioting in Prague and at other places in Bohemia. Twelve battalions of infantry have been requisitioned for the purpose of preserving order, and in frequent collisions between the mob and the military, the latter have fired upon the people, killing several of them.

London, Dec. 4.

Martial law has been proclaimed in Prague and the garrison has been largely reinforced.

London, Dec. 6.

Although Prague is quiet at present, outbreaks occur in other towns in Bohemia, sometimes by Germans and sometimes by Czechs, in accordance with the preponderance of the nationality of the place.

The political situation at Vienna has but little improved, and it is believed that something approaching an absolute Government is pending.

OPENING OF THE GERMAN REICHSRATH.

London, Dec. 2.

The Emperor William, speaking at the opening of the Reichsrath, declared that the German navy as at present constituted was entirely inadequate to the requirements of the empire, and that, though they had no desire to compete with the first-class naval Powers, Germany must have a navy sufficiently strong to enable her to maintain the prestige of the empire abroad. Continuing, he said that a force had been landed at Kiao-chow to obtain reparation for the murder of two German subjects in China and to prevent the repetition of similar lamentable occurrences in the future. After the reading of the Speech at length, the Emperor again spoke, urging upon the deputies the necessity for co-operation in obtaining an increase in the navy, thus assisting to uphold the honour of the empire abroad, for which purpose he had not hesitated to offer his only brother.

London, Dec. 7.

The German Naval Bill has been introduced in the Reichstag, strongly supported by the Government. Foreign Minister von Bulow, in referring to the Kiao-chow affair, alluded to the constant grievances with China, with whom, nevertheless, Germany desired to preserve friendship, but could not allow China to think that she can be permitted to treat Germans differently from any other Europeans. Germany was also desirous of respecting the interests of other Powers, as she was confident of their desire to respect hers.

MORE GERMANS FOR CHINA.

London, Dec. 4.

The squadron of cruisers shortly leaving for China will probably take extra complements of Marines for the occupation of Kiao-chow.

London, Dec. 6.

The squadron of German cruisers shortly leaving for China will take 1,400 extra Marines for Kiao-chow, also field artillery and a number of machine guns.

London, Dec. 7.

The German force for Kiao-chow has been increased to 4,500 men.

London, Dec. 8.

It is understood that China regards the occupation of Kiao-chow as unjustifiable and contrary to international law. China will never consent to the Germans remaining on her territory, and will regard as an unfriendly act the recognition by the Treaty Powers of any annexation of territory by Germany without China's acquiescence.

ANOTHER STORM.

London, Dec. 4.

Another heavy gale has visited the British coast, during which the lifeboat at Margate capsized and nine of the crew were drowned.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

London, Dec. 6.

The Treaty of Peace between Turkey and Greece has been signed at Constantinople.

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

The Kurram Valley Force has advanced into the Chamkaum Hills, where, in the sharp fighting that took place, Lieutenant Battye, of the 6th Bengal Cavalry, was killed, and three officers and fourteen men wounded.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

Lord Reay (Baron Donald James Mackay, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.), has been elected President of the London School Board.

GERMANY AND HAYTI.

London, Dec. 7.

Two German cruisers have arrived at Hayti and have presented an ultimatum demanding payment, within eight hours, of an indemnity to a German subject named Lueders, for wrongful imprisonment. The population became greatly excited, and the French and German residents took refuge on the ships lying in the harbour.

London, Dec. 8.

Hayti has complied with the German demands.

MR. MCKINLEY'S MESSAGE.

London, Dec. 7.

Mr. McKinley, in his Message to Congress, insists upon the absolute necessity for reform in the currency and banking system of the United States, and says that Spain must be given a reasonable chance of realizing her proposed reforms, and that the United States will not intervene forcibly unless the necessity for so doing is manifest. Continuing, the Message says that the whole world hoped that the labours of Mr. Wolcott would still result in an international agreement on the silver question that has been recommended, and announces the definitive annexation of the Hawaiian Islands.

THE FRENCH IN AFRICA.

London, Dec. 8.

A French expedition, under Major Marchand, bound for the Nile, has been massacred at Bahr Ghazal, and only a remnant escaped.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-side.

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Ichome (next to the Tokyo Club).

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 348.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to B3 1—P to R 8=Queen
2—Q takes P ch 2—K to Q Kt 5, or [takes B
3—Q to B 5 mate 1—K takes B
2—Q to Q 8 ch if 2—K to K 4
3—Q to R 8 mate if 2—K to B 5
3—Q to K R 4 mate 1—K to Kt 5
2—Q to K B 8 ch if 2—K to B 5
3—Q to B 5 mate if 2—P to B 4
3—Q takes P mate 1—P to B 3 (or 4)
2—B to Q B 5 (or takes P) 2—Any move
3—Q to K Kt 8 mate
etc., etc.

Correct solutions received from P.E.F.S., J.W.E., and D.D.

A correct solution of Problem No. 334 reaches us from our good friend, O. Balk, from far off New Zealand. Our ex-Champion is doing good work in his new Club—the Otago C. C. of Dunedin—of which he is now the Vice-President. In the Championship tourney that is now in progress he is also showing up well although opposed to very much stronger players than our local cracks.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

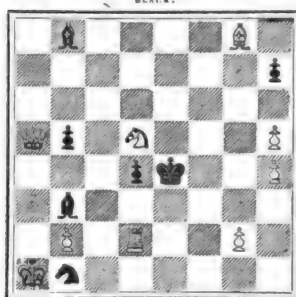
S. T.—Will let you know immediately the copy arrives.

F.—An interesting position, but we have seen it in *Hoffer's Monthly* for May 1895.

PROBLEM No. 350.

By SCHIFFER.

(From Wiener Schachblatt.)



White to mate in three moves.

NOTES FROM ABROAD.

A chess match is now being played in Berlin, between D. Janowski and Carl Walbrodt for 1,000 marks a side. The contest grew out of a challenge which followed the recent international tourney held in the German capital, in which the two contestants were prize-winners. The match is for six games. The first game, played on the 4th Nov., resulted in a draw after forty-four moves had been made. The second game, played on the 6th was won by Walbrodt after forty-five moves. The third game, was drawn, while the fourth game, was won by Walbrodt and the fifth game, by Janowski. The score now stands:—Walbrodt 2, Janowski 1.

D. Janowski is of Polish extraction, but has been a resident of Paris so long that he is claimed by France. He is of the dashing, impetuous style, and has played some very brilliant games. He won fifth prize at Nuremberg, was unplaced at Hastings, and secured sixth prize at Leipzig in 1894. Carl August Walbrodt was born November 28, 1871, in Amsterdam, but he has been a resident of Berlin since he was a child, and as he is of German parentage he is claimed by Germany. He is in business with his brother, and does not depend upon chess for a living. Walbrodt has been characterized, as a natural player, not a book player. He joined a chess club when he was 19 and won first prize in the club tournament without any preparation. He divided fourth and fifth prizes at the Dresden tournament of 1894, not losing a game. He was unplaced in the Hast-

ings tournament of 1895. He divided seventh prize in the Nuremberg tournament of 1896 with Schlechter. Hoffer said of him then:—"His strength is passive; somewhat similar, but in a lesser degree, to the form of Tarrasch. Powerful in defense, but without initiative, he keeps his game together and shapes it safe and sound."

The following rather comical story is told of the two comedians, Sothern and Florence. The pair dropped into a New York coffee house, and observing that a couple of chess players had abandoned a game as drawn and left the room, they sat down at the deserted table and silently gazed at the board. In a short time it was whispered around that the two famous actors were playing a game of chess, and the table at which they sat was speedily surrounded by interested spectators. Ten minutes rolled by without a move being made, though both gentlemen seemed to be deeply interested in the game. Florence assumed a look betokening great mental effort. His hands clutched his forehead with a violent pressure, and his corrugated brow showed how fierce was the mental struggle within. Sothern, too, put on a puzzled look, as if Dundreary was suffering from a withered incumbered diet. The spectators waited patiently for half an hour for a move, but finally one, who had fidgeted around and looked at his watch a dozen times in ten minutes, timidly asked:

"Whose move, please?"

At this interruption Florence scowled, and Sothern looked up with a countenance stupidly grave and remarked:

"Oh! we do not play Chess: never learned the moves."

And each one of the deeply interested spectators, upon this announcement, had business that called them hurriedly away, and the faces of the sedate jokers speedily relaxed into smiles as they agreed to move up to the bar. The game was well played and the pair evenly matched.—*Sunday Call*.

The Steinitz Testimonial netted about \$500 (gold).

"Pillsbury and Charousek, the winner to play Lasker;" this is the latest Chess item of special interest.

Washington possesses a blind chess player in Walter L. Campbell, who hails from Youngstown, O. He lost his sight completely at the age of 5, but since has learned the game of chess, and in point of ability ranks nearly first class among the players at the capital.

The great international Vienna chess congress to be held on the occasion of the Emperor Francis Joseph's jubilee next year, will begin in April or May next. There are to be twelve prizes, the first to be of the value of 4,000 guildens, about *yen* 4,000. Each competitor will have to play two games with every other competitor. The entrance fee will be 100 guildens. The congress is to be on an unprecedentedly grand scale, and will be the most important one ever held.

One of the events of the London chess season just opened was a team match between the East and West of Sussex on ninety-three boards.

"JAPAN MAIL" CORRESPONDENCE TOURNEY.

Our readers will remember that this Tourney concluded a month or so ago, "Pakeha" winning the prize, but that Game 10, Nemo v. Fardel had not then finished. This game has just been decided in favour of Nemo his opponent resigning on the 22nd move. Below is the score:—

GAME No. 350.

White—Nemo.		Black—Fardel.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	12 R x Kt	B x R ch
2 P Q4	P x P	13 K x B	Q B3
3 B Q3	P x P	14 Kt B3(d)	P B3
4 B Q4	Kt Q B3	15 K Kt sq	B Q2
5 Kt x P	Kt B3	16 R B sq	P K K4
6 K Kt K2		17 B x Kt	Q x B
(a)	B B4	18 Q Q4	R K2
7 Castles	Kt K4	19 R K B sq	B K3
8 B K3	Kt(B3)K5	20 Q K3	B x B
9 B K B4	P Q3	21 R B5	Q K3
10 P K R3	P K R4	22 Kt Q4	Resigns (e)
11 Kt R4(b)	Kt x P(c)		

NOTES.

(a) Nemo is evidently a book-player, but his knowledge leads him here astray. His move although correct in some variations of this opening, is here out of place and subjects him to a strong attack as will be seen.

(b) Refusing the proffered piece for fear of opening up the Rook's file, thus:—11—P takes Kt, P takes P, 12—B to Kt 3, Q to B 3 followed by Q to R 3.

(c) Q to B 3 perhaps a better move.

(d) Quite sound. For if now P to K Kt 4, 15—Kt to Q 5 (!)

(e) A pretty game broken off at an interesting stage. Nemo suggests the following ingenious continuation that might have occurred had the game been carried on a little longer:—

22—.....	22—Q to R 3
23—P takes B	23—P to B 3
24—R to K 5	24—K moves
25—Kt to B 5	

and White remains with a piece to the good and a formidable attack.

A RUY LOPEZ STUDY.

COMMENTS AND NOTES FROM THE "WESTMINSTER GAZETTE."

The following game played at the Graz Chess Club, is an instructive specimen of the weakness of the King's Fianchetto Defense in the Ruy Lopez. Without any palpable oversight, Black gradually drifts into a losing position through Professor Berger's steady position-play:—

RUY LOPEZ.

White.—J. Berger.		Black.—A. V. Paniz.	
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4	15 B Kt3 ch	B K3
2 Kt KB3	Kt QB3	16 B x B ch	R x B
3 B K5	P Q R3	17 B x B	K x B
4 B R4	P Kt3	18 P B4	Kt B2
5 P Q4	P x P	19 P B5	R K4
6 Kt x P	B Kt2	20 P x P	P x P
7 B K3	Kt K2	21 Kt Q5	P K B4
8 Kt QB3	Castles	22 P x P	R x P
9 Castles	P Q3	23 R x R	P x R
10 Kt x Kt	Kt x Kt	24 Kt K7	Q Q2
11 Q Q2	R K sq	25 Q B4	R R sq
12 Q R K sq	B Q2	26 R x P ch	K B sq
13 B Kt5	P B3	27 R K B sq	Resigns
14 B R6	Kt K4		

4....., P to K Kt 3 is an unsatisfactory defense, of which, however, cautious Prof. Berger did not make the most in the opening by playing 6—Kt takes Kt instead of the more forcible 6—B to Kt 5, as Black gained a move with 6—B to Kt 2, and so got fairly out of it with a less cramped position, and if he had played 11—P to K B 4 he would have had quite an even game. The game afterward takes its regular course, White improving a more favourable position step by step. There is only one point to notice, viz., that Black could not gain a Pawn with 12....., B takes Kt because of 13—Q takes B, R takes P; 14—B to R 6 with advantage, nor could the Pawn be gained with 13....., B takes Kt. 14—Kt to K 4 allows White to advantageously advance the KBP, after which Black's game can no more be saved; although he might have made a somewhat better defense, if he had not bared his King entirely with 21....., P to K B 4.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta 1	Su. Dec. 11
Europe	M. M. Co.	Saghalien 2	Th. Dec. 16
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Belgie 3	Fri. Dec. 17
America	P. M. Co.	C. of R. de J'iro 4	Th. Dec. 26
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 5	M. Dec. 30
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohensohn 6	W. Dec. 30
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Fri. Dec. 30
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Dec. 30

1 Left Hongkong on the 3rd inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 9th inst.
4 Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 27th Nov.
5 Left Vancouver on the 19th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Salazie	Su. Dec. 19
Victoria, B.C. via	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Tu. Dec. 14
Tacoma, Wash.	N. V. K.	Kobe Maru	Tu. Dec. 14
Shanghai	O. & O. Co.	Belgie	Sa. Dec. 18
America	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Su. Dec. 19
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. Dec. 30
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohensohn	Th. Dec. 21
Portland, Or.	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Sa. Dec. 25
America	P. M. Co.	Peu	W. Dec. 29
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Fri. Dec. 31

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Soyeda, 4th December,—Hakodate, 1st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, 4th December,—Yokkaichi, 3rd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Kubota, 5th December, —Mororan, 2nd December, Coal. —Mitsui Bishi Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Miyagi, 5th December, —Kobe, 4th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 6th December, —Yokkaichi, 5th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. Mumezono, 6th December, —Otaru via ports, 2nd December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Kawamura, 7th December, —Kobe, 5th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 7th December, —San Francisco, 18th November, and Honolulu, 26th November, Mails and General. —O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kee Long, Japanese steamer, 1,672, 8th December, —Muji, 5th December, Coal. —Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, Moses, 8th December, —Seattle, Washington Ter., 20th November, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, J. E. Poole, 8th December, —Otaru via ports, 4th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, J. Giese, 8th December, —Kobe, 7th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, 8th December, —Yokkaichi, 7th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, Moore, 9th December, —Australia via ports, and Hongkong 2nd November, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, M. Hamada, 9th December, —Kobe, 7th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Minamide, 9th December, —Yokkaichi, 9th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,816, I. Robinson, 9th December, —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 8th December, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Claverdon, British ship, 2,462, Kelway, 10th December, —Port Blakely via Kobe, and Kobe 5th December, Lumber. —R. Isaacs & Bro.

Yochigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Yagi, 10th December, —Kobe, 8th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 10th December, —Shanghai via ports, 4th December, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kara, British steamer, 1,507, Wm. Walsh, 10th December, —Sagami, Ballast. —Samuel Samuel & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 10th December, —Yokkaichi, 9th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 10th December, —Kobe, 9th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pak Ling, British steamer, 2,875, H. L. Allen, 11th December, —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 9th December, General. —W. M. Strachan & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Iwanaga, 4th December, —Kobe, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, 5th December, —Yokkaichi, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 5th December, —Otaru via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Suyeda, 5th December, —Hakodate, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,593, W. H. Cope, 5th December, —Kobe, General. —Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, Y. Minamide, 9th December, —Yokkaichi, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 6th December, —Kobe, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, J. Nisei, 7th December, —Shanghai via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Teruick, 7th December, —Nagasaki, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 7th December, —Yokkaichi, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,567, I. Miyagi, 7th December, —Otaru via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, N. Mumezono, 7th December, —Kobe via Yokkaichi, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Teenkai, British steamer, 3,016, G. W. Long, 7th December, —Portland, Oregon, Ballast. —W. M. Strachan & Co.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, D. C. Gregor, 8th December, —London via ports, Mails and General. —P. & O. S.S. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 9th December, —Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. —O. & O. S.S. Co.

China, Hawaiian steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 9th December, —San Francisco, via Honolulu, Mails and General. —P. M. S.S. Co.

Hokoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Kawamura, 9th December, —Otaru via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tohoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, E. W. Haswell, 9th December, —Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, 9th December, —Yokkaichi, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kara, British steamer, 1,507, Wm. Walsh, 10th December, —Mororan, Ballast. —Samuel Samuel & Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, J. W. Ekstrand, 10th December, —Kobe, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Minamide, 10th December, —Yokkaichi, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, A. E. Moses, 10th December, —Hongkong via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benledi, British steamer, 1,481, Farquhar, 11th December, —Hongkong via ports, General. —Corney & Co.

Pectan, British steamer, 3,123, Hocken, 11th December, —Marseilles and London via ports, and Manila, General. —Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kara, British steamer, 1,507, Wm. Walsh, 11th December, —Mororan, Ballast. —Samuel Samuel & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer **Kobe Maru**, from Shanghai via ports: —Mr. W. R. Townsend, Mr. P. M. Clarkson, Mr. H. G. Greathex, Mr. R. D. Kidd, Mr. Kent Greathex, Mr. T. Yamanaka, and Surgeon Yamashita, in cabin; Mr. E. B. Hanson, Mr. K. Wm. Little, Mr. J. Kawa, Mr. T. Kusakari, Mr. T. Nagata, and Mr. J. Kazimoto, in second class, and 54 in steerage.

Per British steamer **Coptic**, from San Francisco via Honolulu: —Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Byrne, Miss Daisy B. Byrne, Master John M. Byrne, Mr. J. C. Hanna, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Stone, 2 children and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Squire, Capt. G. W. Coffin, Mrs. Frank Anderson, and 2 daughters, Mr. Johannes Muller, Mr. S. Fujita, Mr. J. S. Day, Dr. and Mrs. W. O. Johnson, Mr. Julius Bryner, Mr. W. G. Hockridge, Mr. Camillo Torrella, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar J. Kron, Mr. Max Vopelius, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Anderson, and Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Baringer, in cabin. For Nagasaki: —Miss Mary E. Malton, in cabin. For Shanghai: —Miss Elsie M. Garrettson, Dr. N. Isabella French, Miss Anna Erickson, Miss Lona Van Valkburgh, Miss Ellen M. Lyon, Miss M. Baaver, Miss Anna K. Goddard, Miss Kate C. Woodhull, and Miss Anna C. Woodhull, in cabin. For Hongkong: —Mr. and Mrs. Lam Ching Wah, Miss Harriet Lewis, Miss Amber Crocker, Mr. A. B. Ross, and Mrs. Finch, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Myrmidon**, from Liverpool via ports: —Mr. and Mrs. Playfair and daughter from Shanghai.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer **Canton**, for London via ports: —Mr. James Clapperton, Mr. Robert Ferguson, Mr. George Laug, and Mr. Edward Huxery, in cabin.

Per British steamer **Coptic**, for Hongkong via ports: —Mrs. N. J. Blackwood, Miss Ethel Azbell, Mr. R. F. Eastlake, Mr. W. R. Eastlake, Dr. N. J. Blackwood, U.S.N., Mrs. Jas. Farey, Mr. E. J. Shaw, Mr. John Goodnow, Mr. T. D. McKay, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Dodwell, Mr. F. Henderson, Mr. J. Guggenheim, Mr. Thos. Davenport, Mr. Lam Pak Tsun, Mr. A. Nicolle, Mr. C. F. Heinlein, Captain P. H. Prosser, Mr. Chin Low Chin, Mr. F. Kiene, Mr. Wm. Howarth, Mr. A. N. McConnell, Mr. M. Pors, Mr. H. L. Dorn, Mr. R. P. Flynn, Mr. R. Hotchand, and Captain Wilson Walker, in cabin.

Per Hawaiian steamer **China**, for San Francisco via Honolulu: —Mr. M. Baggallay, Mr. W. A. Behrens, Miss Birdsall, Miss Marie Chambareau, Rev. Dr. S. H. Chester, Mr. Henry Cloete, C.M.G., Miss Cluness, Mr. and Mrs. Tracy C. Drake, Mr. Robert Denneth, Mrs. E. J. Dove, Mr. W. B. Dunning, U.S.N., Mrs. H. W. Elliott, Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Faries and 3 children, Mr. R. S. Freeman, Mr. A. E. McGlew, Mr. C. M. Gunwaldt, Miss M. L. Halstead, Mrs. Walter C. Hatley, Miss Marie Hatley, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Hillis and child, Mr. K. Ikeda, Rev. and Mrs. McIlwaine and 3 children, Mr. J. M. Jackson, Mr. W. B. Jones, Captain and Mrs. Linquist, Mr. T. A. Lloyd, Mr. Louis Longin, Mr. H. Cam. Lucas, Mr. C. Mackintosh, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Mordhorst, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Osborn, Mr. J. M. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Putnam, Miss J. R. Ransome, Mr. Chas. W. Richards, Miss S. F. Richardson, Mr. D. H. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Schwerin, Master F. Shea, Mr. K. Shieno, Mr. J. W. Silverston, Mr. J. E. Smith, Mr. J. E. Thompson, Master J. A. Thompson, Miss J. H. Thorndyke, Mr. John L. Tough, Mr. A. Walte, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Willis, Mr. John S. Wright, and Miss Young.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No life has yet displayed itself in the piece goods market, either in shirrings, fancies or woollens, but a little business has been done in yards of the finer kinds. Quotations are nominally the same.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 35 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7 yds, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 21 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattens Black, 32 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Common	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 32 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Prints, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Prints, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scotch and Green, 3 to 5 yds	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles	\$3.50 to 39.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 2/60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER POUND.
American Middling	\$19.75 —
Indian Broach	21.00 —
Chinese	20 to 20 1/2

METALS.

Stagnation in the market still continues and quotations are nominal.

	PER POUND.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized iron sheets	9.20 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Pin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, 44 lb.	2.05 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.25

KEROSENE.

For this time of the year the market is very quiet. Offers have been made by dealers at rates below current quotations but holders remain firm and only a small business has been transacted.

	PER GALLON.
American	\$2.05 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.10
Langkat	— 1.90

SUGAR.

A small, steady business has been done in Brown at slightly increased prices. Stocks are low and the market is firm. In White refined there has been a small demand at former rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takan	4.50 to 4.55
Brown Manila	4.50 to 5.35
Brown Daitong	3.90 to 4.00
Brown Canton	4.00 to 4.50
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 7.00
White Refined	7.30 to 8.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Towards the end of last week and at the beginning of the current week quite a boom took place in the Raw Silk market, about 6,000 piculs being placed at gradually hardening prices. At the close the market is quieter, stock having been reduced to about 6,500 piculs. Shipments include 587 bales per *Verona* for Europe, 799 bales per *Coptic*, and 802 bales per *China*, for America.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	890 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	920 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakadas—Extra	840 to 850
Kakadas—No. 1	820 to 830
Kakadas—No. 11	790 to 800
Kakadas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakadas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

Waste silk shared to some extent in the boom in Raw, some very considerable sales having been effected at the beginning of the week. Quotations remain about the same as before. Shipments have been 296 bales per *Verona* for Europe.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshi, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	55 to 57
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshi, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 25

TEA.

Only a few small purchases have been made during the past week, and arrivals from the producing districts are getting smaller. Prices are nominal and stocks amount only to about 246,000 cattiees at the close. Shipments have been 2,043 packages per *Lombard* for Portland, Or., and 259 packages per *China*, for San Francisco.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$31 to 32
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	24 to 25
Good Common	22 to 23
Common	20 to 21

EXCHANGE.

Rates on China are more or less nominal owing to a further drop in Silver, which has caused sterling in China to fall $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ to-day, whilst other rates main steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$
— Bills on demand	2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 4 months' sight	2/0 $\frac{1}{4}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 $\frac{1}{4}$
— 6 months' sight	2/0 $\frac{1}{4}$
On Paris—Bank sight	2/54 $\frac{1}{2}$
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2/58 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/6 d.
— Private today's sight	3/0 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	74
— Private 10 days' sight	76
On India—Bank sight	160
— Private 30 days' sight	165
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49
— Private 4 months' sight	50 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3
On Germany—Bank sight	2/06
— Private 4 months' sight	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bar Silver (London)	26 $\frac{1}{2}$

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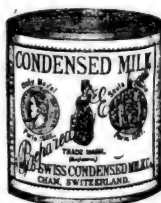
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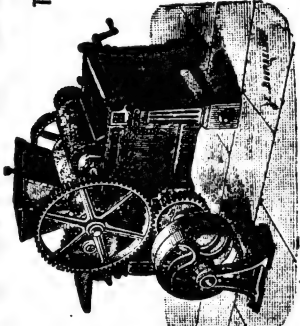
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 25.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DEC. 18TH, 1897.

月三年五十二拾第 Vol. XXVIII.
西曆一千九百零八年

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

*NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 18TH, 1897.

BIRTH.

On the 13th inst., at No. 168-A, Settlement, the wife of R. RUSOGG, of a son.

DEATH.

On the 16th inst., at the General Hospital, of typhoid fever, HENRY SWINBURNE ADAMS, in his 30th year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Norwegian steamer *Tancred* is a total wreck on the Yayeyama group.

WILLSON'S Circus performed for the last time in the tent at Yoshiwara on the evening of the 15th.

APPLICATIONS for charters for two proposed electric railways in Yokohama were rejected by the Authorities.

A GRAND social meeting of journalists in opposition to the Cabinet was held at the Maple Club, Shiba, on the 14th inst.

THE graduation exercises of the Military College for Staff Officers took place on the 13th instant, when diplomas were granted to fifteen officers.

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR ERNST SATOW, K.C.M.G.,

British Minister to Japan, proceeded to the Palace on the morning of the 10th instant and was received in audience by the Emperor.

THE Budget for the coming fiscal year, which was printed some days ago, will be distributed to the members of the Houses about the 8th of January next.

RUSSIA has offered to lend money to China to repay the indemnity due to Japan, in order to remove the Japanese garrison from Wei-hai-wei as soon as possible.

THE Kyoto Imperial University, opened in September last, will add Colleges of Law and Medicine next year, at an estimated cost of about yen 70,000.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR EDWARD SEYMOUR, C.B., has been appointed to succeed Sir Alexander Buller as Commander-in-Chief of the British squadron on the China Station.

SEVERAL influential members of the House of Peers will present a question to the Diet with regard to the dismissal of Mr. Takano, ex-President of the Formosa High Court.

THE Russian Press, in dealing with the subject of the capture of Kiao-chow, gives vent to profound dissatisfaction at Germany's action, but the Russian Government remains impassive.

MR. ALFRED WOOLLEY has been installed Worshipful Master of the Yokohama Lodge for the ensuing year. At Kobe, Mr. P. M. Skinner has been re-installed Master of the Rising Sun Lodge.

BARON ROSEN, the Russian Minister to Japan, gave entertainments at the Legation on the 10th and 15th inst., to which most of the Ministers of State and officials of the Imperial Household were invited.

THE coming session of the Diet being very near, the Codes Investigation Committee are at work day and night finishing the compilation of the remaining portion of the Commercial and Civil Codes.

THE temporary epidemic inspection bureaux at Kanagawa, Chiba, Niigata, Shizuoka, Nagano, Shimane, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Ehime, Kumamoto and other districts are to be closed on the 20th inst.

A VERY successful Christmas Bazaar was held at the Public Hall on Wednesday afternoon and evening under the auspices of the German ladies of Yokohama, for the benefit of the German Mission.

THE COMMITTEE of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce have decided to petition the Government to abolish the regulations passed last session for subsidising the direct export of silk by Japanese dealers.

THE formal opening of the eleventh session of the Diet will take place on the 24th instant. As in ordinary years His Majesty the Emperor will honour the occasion with his presence in the House of Peers and give an Imperial Rescript to the Diet.

A CONTRACT between the Niigata Prefectural Office and Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., of Yokohama, for the supply of Rangoon cleaned rice to Niigata district, was lately effected for the delivery of 35,000 bags in March next at yen 4.30 per bag.

THE British steamer *Lady Furness*, chartered by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, which left Japan for Singapore on the 8th of November last with 3,200 tons of coal from Moji and 1,300 tons from Kuchinotsu, has not been heard from up

to date and fears are entertained as to the safety of the ship. The cargo is insured by the Marine Insurance Company.

THE M.M. steamer *Saghalien* met with a severe injury to her intermediate engine, one of three, on her voyage up from Kobe, on Thursday last. The engine was practically wrecked, owing to the breaking of the connecting rod, and it is reported that the steamer will be sent back to Marseilles for repair.

THREE steamers of the Oriental Steamship Company, to the port on the San Francisco line, are now being built in England and will be completed about next May. They are to be called the *Nihon Maru*, *Hongkong Maru*, and *America Maru*, and are each of 6,000 tons gross register.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Liberals was held at the Party's Office in Tokyo on the 13th inst. After several fiery speeches directed against the Government, it was resolved that at the opening of the coming session of the Diet a bill declaring want of confidence in the present Cabinet should be laid before the House with a full explanation.

A VERNACULAR paper reports that though the telegraph line between Kiao-chow and Tientsin was seized by the German force at the time of the occupation of Kiao-chow, the line between Kiao-chow and Shanghai remained in the possession of China, so that not a single message from the German force at Kiao-chow was received at Shanghai.

WITH regard to the revised Treaty between France and Japan, Mr. Kurino, Japanese Minister to France, has forwarded a despatch to the Foreign Office stating that the draft of the Treaty will in all probability pass the Senate at no distant date, as the French Authorities are making all possible efforts to facilitate its passing.

IN H.B.M.'s Court for Japan, on the 11th instant, before Mr. Justice Wilkinson and a Jury, William Cuthbert, a seaman on board the British ship *Port Caledonia*, charged with the wilful murder of a shipmate named Jules Jernard, was found guilty, after a three days trial, of manslaughter, and sentenced to five years' penal servitude.

THE Import market continues stagnant, with no immediate prospects of improvement, as money is hard to get and a general feeling seems to exist that financial matters will become still worse before they mend. Some small transactions in woollens and fancy cottons, for the New Year holidays, have been effected, but yarns and piece goods are unsaleable even at considerably reduced quotations. The same remarks apply to metals, in which nothing whatever is doing. There have been the usual purchases of kerosene, for immediate demands, but no considerable business, and the same may be said of sugar. Although there has been a drop in quotations for raw cotton, both Indian and American, spinners are not in a position to take advantage of it, most of the companies being in difficulties, and a movement is on foot to petition the Government for a subsidy to tide over the exigencies of the season. In the Export market there has been a fair business in silk, both for Europe and America, at gradually increasing prices, as stocks remaining on hand only amount to half the quantity at the same date last year. The tea trade is almost finished for the season, and there is very little left on the market of anything like fair quality. Exchange closes firm.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The financial situation is very generally discussed by the Tokyo journals. Opinions differ greatly as to the causes of the present embarrassment, but, of course, there is a pretty general consensus that the Government is to blame. No nation has ever found itself economically distressed without attributing the fault to its rulers. The *Fiji Shimpō* appears to think that the Bank of Japan is largely responsible. Some months ago, as our readers doubtless remember, the Bank decided to lend money to individuals and not merely to other banks. It was unquestionably impelled to adopt that course because the Directors saw that the demand for capital to start or consummate sound enterprises could not be met by the sources of supply hitherto accessible. A plain confirmation of the soundness of that view has been furnished by the fact that wide advantage was taken of the facilities thus afforded, and that the Bank was ultimately compelled to issue notes far in excess of its legal limit—some thirty million yen is the present measure of the excess. Theoretically speaking, such a step was natural and proper, but the *Fiji* thinks that the notes thus issued have not served to meet the call for capital, but have merely gone to satisfy the need for additional media of exchange that has resulted from enhanced prices. Our contemporary advocates increased taxation as a means of checking the extravagant tendencies of the people, and, at the same time, urges the Bank of Japan to review its policy.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks that the Occident has plainly begun to extend hands of aggression towards the Far East, but, at the same time, rejects as chimerical the notion that China is about to be partitioned. What Powers are to undertake the division and how is it to be effected, our contemporary asks. The fact is that the organs of the Cabinet exaggerate the situation in order to divert the mind of the people from inconvenient topics. The *Nichi Nichi* sees no reason why Japan should take any action because Germany has occupied Kiaochow. It suggests that what has to be done is to acquire a more intimate knowledge of everything relating to China, her topography, her resources, her economy, and her general condition. Such knowledge is required not for purposes of future aggression, but in order that Japan may work with her neighbour (*tomo ni undo suru*). The article has a singularly apathetic tone. It gives no echo of the excited writing that the Kiaochow incident has evoked from other journals.

The *Nippon* essays to prove that the present Cabinet is quite unsuited to discharge the responsibilities of the time. The line of argument is somewhat tortuous, but its gist is that the strength of the nation must be united at this crisis, and that it never can be united so long as the Matsukata Ministry is in office. The practical uselessness of the army and navy in the hands of such incompetent statesmen is the *Nippon's* principal theme. Looking at European nations, it concludes that the purpose of their huge armaments is offensive defense. They prepare themselves to be ready to attack instead of waiting to be attacked. England builds a navy strong enough to fight the navies of France and Russia together. France and Russia, in turn, measure their own requirements by England's standard. Germany increases her sea force that she may compete with England in distant fields of commerce. France gets together a huge army because Germany is on her frontier. Germany acts similarly for the sake of France, and Russia organizes great hosts in order to overawe Germany and push her own boundaries southward. If Japan had decided to pursue a purely defensive policy, an army of a hundred thousand men and a fleet of a hundred thousand tons would have sufficed. But she raised her land forces to half a million men and her squadrons to a quarter of a million tons, because she wanted to be able to send three hundred thousand soldiers to the Asiatic continent, if her safety

demanded such a course, and to obtain maritime supremacy in Far Eastern seas. She might just as well have saved herself the expense and effort entailed by these expansions for she behaves as though she possessed no such means of asserting herself. In Korea, she has simply stripped herself of the influence that she once possessed there. It has not been taken from her. She gave it up herself: a piece to-day, a piece to-morrow, until there is nothing left. The policy of all Western Powers now-a-days is to work in union. No one of them takes a step in advance without consulting and, if possible, obtaining the coöperation of another, or, perhaps, two or three others. To be able to cement a union of that kind in seasons of emergency, preparations must be made for it in ordinary times. A man may have a hundred acquaintances visiting his house and enjoying his hospitality, but among them all there are not more than two or three to whom he thinks of turning in his hours of trouble, and those two or three have been near his heart at all seasons. No precautions of that kind are taken by those to whom the direction of Japan's affairs is entrusted. They go through the form of sending representatives abroad, but their representatives can not even contrive that Japan shall not be abused, misrepresented and held up to Western peoples as a nation to be tabooed and dreaded. No steps are taken to cultivate friendships that may be relied on in seasons of stress. In short, the *Nippon* concludes that the country's best interests are neglected and its strength wasted all because the Matsukata Cabinet is in office.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* reads a lecture to members of the Government and to politicians generally. It appears to think that morality is at a discount in these times of struggle and stress. Ever since the first meeting of the Diet, seven years ago, the contest between the political parties and the Cabinet has continued without cessation. In the early days of parliamentary institutions the political parties were swayed by an honest desire for reform. Any whisper of corruption provoked, at that time, strong indignation, and if a man was found to have sold his vote or changed his opinions for the sake of material gain, he became an object of public execration. But the public conscience has apparently lost much of its tenderness since then. The purchase of members of the Diet is now spoken of openly as though it were a contingency to be regularly reckoned with, and bargains are struck between Cabinets and political parties, the Ministers of the Crown agreeing to mould their policy so as to obtain the support of a majority, and the parties agreeing to sell their support for the sake of office and reward. If we turn to England, where the models of constitutional Government are to be sought, we see that statesmen's changes of opinion are the result of conviction not of expediency, and that as Peel fell from power because he repealed the Corn Laws which he had been chosen to support, and Gladstone was thrown over by his Oxford constituents because of the gradual development of his liberal tendencies, so, down to the rank and file of politicians, integrity and steadfastness of view are valued as the first essentials of a public man's career. But in Japan we have a general tendency to trim and compromise, an unhappy readiness to strike bargains and conclude compromises. Moral virility appears to be the great need of the time.

A well-reasoned article appears in the *Kokumin Shimbun* complaining of the confused and nebulous condition of party platforms. There are three parties in the field, the Progressionists, the Liberals and the National Unionists. The Progressionists recently severed their relations with the Cabinet and definitely adopted an attitude of opposition. A large section of the Liberals have also declared themselves hostile to the Ministry. So have the National Unionists. Naturally it is to be supposed that these three bodies would join forces, declare clearly the grounds of their hostility to the Government, and attack it in concert. Nothing of the kind is apparent. The Liberals are understood to have prepared an Address to the Throne im-

peaching the Cabinet. They intend to introduce the Address at an early stage of the Diet's session. But the Progressionists can not support such an Address. They can not possibly impeach the Cabinet for acts committed while they themselves were coöperating with it. They must, therefore, vote against the Address, or else the latter must be framed so as to refer only to official procedure subsequent to the Progressionists' rupture with the Ministry, an obviously paltry alternative. On the other hand, the Progressionists seem to have only one substantial ground of dissatisfaction with the Cabinet, namely, its taxation measures. Whether they really think that the finances of the country can be managed without recourse to additional taxation is very doubtful. The strong probability is that their opposition to increased taxes is dictated by a desire to conciliate the constituencies. Be that as it may, the Liberals can not conscientiously vote against increased taxes since that measure is necessitated by the Cabinet's adherence to the post-bellum programme mapped out by the Ito Ministry and approved by the Liberals themselves in the ninth session of the Diet. In truth, if the Liberals vote against increased taxation they will be preparing for themselves a very embarrassing situation when that very measure has to be adopted hereafter by a Cabinet with which they are allied. As for the National Unionists, their action in the ninth session of the Diet is fresh in the mind of the public. In order to recover something of the reputation they had forfeited, they introduced a sham Address to the Throne which they well knew there was no chance of passing. What course they really intend to pursue now, nobody knows. Thus the three parties have apparently taken the field for campaign against the Government, but neither can the legends on their banners be deciphered by the public, nor can any semblance of unanimity be found in their mottoes. They are not parties for country but parties for party.

The *Osaka Asahi* writes under the title "Friendship between Japan and China." It says that had it openly advocated such a policy three years ago, the office of the paper would probably have been wrecked. But calmer counsels prevail now. Men see things in a truer light. It is gradually coming to be understood that China, Japan and Korea must unite to repel Western aggression. That two persons should clasp hands of friendship after a fight, is the common custom of the world. It ought to hold equally in the case of countries. Japan's sole reason for going to war with China was the latter's arbitrary interference in Korean affairs. That cause of friction finally removed, there is nothing to keep the two nations apart. China's long hesitation over the commercial convention provided for in the Shimonoseki Treaty, afforded an indication of her reluctance to place her relations with Japan once more on a friendly footing. But she came round at last, and not only concluded the convention, but also conferred honours on its Japanese negotiators. The experiences gained by her in the war must have shaken her somewhat in her conservative groove, and subsequent events cannot have failed to push her still farther in the direction of progress. The Liaotung affair has been a bitter lesson. Three European Powers combined ostensibly to preserve the continental integrity of her empire, and they have been engaged ever since exacting substantial rewards for the services rendered by them on that occasion. The Chinese statesmen must have been wishing heartily that they had never accepted aid from Russia, when suddenly Germany, who had figured as the leader of the "conservation league" in 1895, made the murder of two missionaries a pretext for seizing Chinese territory. Let the Chinese be never so devoid of political insight, they must now see clearly that the Three Powers interfered in 1895 not to preserve Chinese territory for China but to preserve it for seizure by themselves at the convenient moment. An immense responsibility devolves upon Japan: the responsibility

of deciding what shall be the future of the Far East. Shall China and Korea be left to fall a prey to Western aggression, or shall they be conserved for the Chinese and the Koreans? That is the problem which Japan has to consider and to solve, for its solution must depend to a great extent upon the course that she decides to adopt.

MR. BROCKELBANK'S PICTURES.

A PRIVATE VIEW.

A cursory glance round the room in Keil's Building in which Mr. G. Brockelbank displayed his pictures—the work of 1897—was sufficient to show that he loves the sea. That is, he delights in catching the varying moods of the great world of heaving waters and having secured them, with clever, facile brush conveys to the idlest looker-on some idea of its mystery, its witchery, its terrors, or its pleasures. He is happiest, perhaps, when he finds the sea in its calmer moods, when the sky above looks down and smiles at its reflection in the green-blue bosom of the vasty deep. Yet many of his stormy pieces are very attractive and arrest attention for the skill the painter shows in his handling of the sterner tones. Mr. Brockelbank, in our humble judgment, is a splendid colourist, and one who has thoroughly grasped the deeper principles underlying the painter's craft: the result is an exhibition of a very uncommon order. Nearly 50 pictures are ranged about the spacious room, and every one possesses an individuality of its own. It speaks well for the versatility of an artist when this can be truthfully said of a roomful of one season's work. Of course we do not wish to allege that every subject has been equally well treated; that would be bathos. Some have evidently been the result of labourious days when the brush dragged heavily, as it were; others have been struck off when the creative faculty was at full tide, and these consequently are instinct with a higher art than that imprinted upon some of their fellows. 'No. 1, is a familiar view at Chituzenji, showing an old fellow engaged in net fishing. It is a happy idea, skillfully carried out. The next picture (No. 2, His Evening Work), though fuller in contrasting detail and requiring more careful handling, is scarcely likely to prove so taking. Yet the modelling of the ancient net-maker's figure is excellent and the idea altogether very poetical. A pleasing study is No. 3, entitled Canal, Honmura, Sunset. It is our old familiar Creekside, with the rising ground of the Bluff, but all transmogrified by an artist's fancy, ugly Van Schaick Hall being lost in a delicate mist of twilight blueiness. The neutral tints of a very pale sunset show to advantage in No. 9, Junks, sunset, though the picture loses half of its individuality by contrast with its neighbour, No. 7, Up Channel. This is an animated piece of brush work redolent of a wet sheet, a flowing sail, and a wind that follows fast. Even better in conception and workmanship is No. 8, Barges, Yokohama, showing the entrance to the Bentsen creek filled with the cumbrous but picturesque sea-going junks of Dai Nippon with their peculiar lines and quaint stern-post furniture. A spirited sea-piece, No. 11, entitled Squally, is a little gem; and even prettier is, 16, Sunshine and Shower. Mr. Brockelbank has been wonderfully successful in his treatment of the opalescent lights that render the atmosphere of Japan so baffling for the painter who wishes to transfer it to canvass. His distances are delightfully suggested and instinct with the charm that still hangs in the natural haze of Japan—the haze that knows nothing of the smog of English air. And so through sunlight and shadow Mr. Brockelbank takes his gazers from the creeks and lanes of Yokohama to the pretty places in, near, and around Nikko; then back to the seashore of Tokyo Bay, or else far out to sea; carrying away their thoughts from the weary grind of a treaty-port's work-a-day monotony to places where one's feet delight to wander when the rare—and growing rarer—holiday hours come round. But the exhibition is not

solely confined to Japan. Here and there are pictures that take us back to dear old England; 21, Gravesend Beach; 30, Barges off Erith; 31, A foggy morning; 36, Thames Barges; 37, Scarboro Head; 34, Sunset, Salcombe, Devon; 39, Storm Brewing, Yorkshire Coast—these all tell the tale of Erasmus that exiles the world over repeat to themselves in their hours of weariness—"it is a very fair land this land of England; very beautiful and good to live in."

Strolling round the small picture-gallery with Mr. Brockelbank as *cicerone*, was very pleasant, especially to hear him tell of his work and the conditions under which some pictures came to be painted. No 38, Hongkong, is the finished study of a sketch made by him from the deck of the P. & O. *Verona*, the day after Christmas two years ago. It is a pretty little thing and a faithful rendering of that crowded harbour-colony that nestles so snugly beneath the frowning mass of Victoria Peak. The last four pictures of the collection are black and white crayon sketches of no mean merit. No. 40, A Stormy Sunset, tells the tale of a brig running for shelter along the rocky Yorkshire coast. But alas, the storm breaks before it reaches its haven under the hill. The tale is finished by No. 41, "The Morning After"—a dismal wreck lay ashore. The spirited manner in which the story is told appeals strongly to the imagination.

THE HAKODATE CASE.

A correspondent writes to the *London and China Express* as follows:—

"A highly interesting case of international law has arisen in Hakodate. A number of Chinese employed on board a British man-of-war, for the time stationed at Hakodate, were caught in *flagrant*, gambling on shore, and brought up for trial before the Japanese Magistrate. The British Chargé d'Affaires at Tokyo, Mr. Gerard Lowther, protested against this action, and demanded the surrender of the Chinese gamblers, asserting, it is reported, that as they formed part of the crew of a British man-of-war, they were both by international law and by treaty only amenable to British jurisdiction. The Japanese Government declined to accept this view, and it seems that the Japanese judicial proceedings took their course. The question stands thus—Chinese subjects in general are, by the new Japan-Chinese treaty, clearly amenable to Japanese jurisdiction for actions committed on Japan soil, whilst, on the other hand, by the consent of nations, a foreign man-of-war is considered as extra-territorial. Therefore there could not be any doubt that the Japanese Courts would have been incompetent to have exercised jurisdiction over Chinese members of the crew of a British war vessel for any offences committed on board the ship, being by a fiction of international law supposed to be not within the dominions. As the offence, however, was committed on shore—i.e., on Japanese territory—there can be no doubt, again, that the Japanese authorities were right in assuming jurisdiction, provided always that the Chinese in question were not British subjects, for instance, registered in Hongkong. In this case the clause of the British Treaty would undoubtedly apply also to Chinese who are British subjects, and they would be exempted from Japanese law. It is generally recognised that the officers and men of a foreign ship of war are not extra-territorial persons by themselves when apart from their vessel, like, for instance, Ambassadors, who are even outside the Embassy, though by the comity of nations the ship of war itself being a public vessel of the foreign state, is considered as extra-territorial.

A somewhat similar case happened many years ago in the British Legation at Yokohama, when Sir Harry Parkes was British Minister. His Chinese boy had forged and uttered Japanese Government bank-notes, and had been caught also in *flagrant* inside the Legation, by Sir Harry Parkes himself. In this case Sir Harry Parkes decided, however, that the culprit should be handed over to the Japanese author-

ities, who eventually punished him in conformity with the criminal code then in force. It is not unlikely that the archives of the British Legation may contain some records of this case, which with some reason might be quoted by the Japanese authorities as a precedent in the in the present controversy, for it would scarcely be reasonable to claim for the crew of a foreign man-of-war greater privileges and immunities than were admitted in the case of the inmates of a foreign Legation. Sir Harry Parkes would have been the last man to give up a right, particularly after his well-known intrepidity shown in the *Arrow* case in Canton. He evidently thought that the privileges of a Legation were not framed for the purpose of shielding a Chinese criminal, and he therefore voluntarily surrendered him to the territorial jurisdiction which at that time was scarcely remarkable for its leniency or judicial competency."

This correspondent introduces a wholly new factor—registration as British subjects in Hongkong. Moreover, he appears to be quite satisfied that any Chinaman so registered is entitled to claim the rights of a British subject outside Hongkong. That, we need scarcely say, is a mistake. Her Majesty's Chinese subjects in Hongkong possess the status of British nationals within the limits of the colony only. They do not retain that status after they have left the colony. Thus a Hongkong Chinese passes under the jurisdiction of the Chinese Authorities so soon as he sets foot on Chinese soil. He is not judicable by a British Consular tribunal for offences committed by him in China. The question of Hongkong registration did not come up at all in the case of the Hakodate Chinese. As to the incident related of Sir Harry Parkes, its relevance is more than doubtful in the sense related by the correspondent. A British Consular Court would not have been competent to punish a forger of Japanese bank-notes for the obvious reason that British law does not concern itself with forgeries of foreign media of exchange. Chinese Consular Courts would have laboured under precisely the same disability, and, at any rate, they did not exist in Japan at the time. Hence the forger must have escaped scot-free had not the Japanese been invited to assume jurisdiction. But there can be no question that had his offence been cognizable by a British Consular Court, Sir Harry Parkes would not have surrendered him to the Japanese. In short the Minister's action was determined by the nature of the crime, which point did not figure in the discussion of the Hakodate case. Yet it so happens that a precisely similar element was connected with the Hakodate affair, though the correspondent of the *London and China Express* either fails to see it or fails to make it clear. The Chinese found gambling in Hakodate could not have been punished by the British Consul, for their act was not an offence under British law. Their surrender by the Japanese would therefore have involved immunity from all penalty, though they had broken a law which has to be strictly enforced in Japan in the interests of good order. Indeed, one of the local English journals of Yokohama based a complaint on that very fact, namely, that the immunity which the gamblers would have enjoyed under the British flag was violated by the action of the Japanese in assuming jurisdiction! Doubtless that was the only consideration that caused Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to regret the duty which he deemed himself bound to discharge in demanding the surrender of the men.

THE IMPERIAL COURT.

A notification has been issued by the Imperial Household Department to the effect that as the third period of mourning for the late Empress Dowager will not have terminated by the close of the year, the usual visit of high-class officials, peers, holders of orders, &c., to the Palace on the 1st of January, will be dispensed with.

THE NEW TARIFF.

It is difficult to see how Count Matsukata's forecast about the new tariff's going into force next July can be verified by events. The Austro-Hungarian Treaty presents no special difficulty, for though it has still to pass the Reichsrath and the Reichstag before ratifications can be exchanged, provision has been made that the Tariff attached to it may become operative a month after the exchange. But the French Treaty has to come to Tokyo, and the ratifications have to be exchanged in that city, after which an interval of six months must elapse before putting the Tariff into force. Supposing that the Treaty has now been despatched from Paris, it may reach Japan by the end of January or the early part of February, and allowing a week for the exchange of ratifications, it appears that the six-months' period can scarcely begin to count before the middle of February. On that hypothesis—which seems to us as favorable as Japan can reasonably expect—the Tariff can not go into effect before the middle of August. We ourselves should be disposed to name the 1st of September, if we were invited to make a prediction. But whether the date be August or September, there is much reason to doubt whether the Treasury will receive any considerable addition to its income owing to the operation of the new Tariff during the fiscal year 1898-9—i.e., the fiscal year ending March 31st 1899. Unless the merchants engaged in Japan's import trade are very different from merchants in other countries, they will discount the effects of the Tariff, certainly for half a year, probably for a year, in advance. Some people are disposed, indeed, to attribute partly to that fact the marked excess of imports noticeable during the past eleven months. But that idea does not appear to be well founded. The foreign merchants in Japan are very wide-awake folks. They are not at all likely to do anything clumsily precipitate. Despite the wild assertions published from time to time by a local English journal in Yokohama, there is a perfectly clear idea in commercial circles as to the earliest date when the operation of the Tariff may be expected, and to pile goods into storehouses nearly a year in advance of that date, paying insurance, rent, and interest, and risking deterioration, all the while, would be a proceeding not at all after the fashion of the businessman of the Settlements. But during April, May and June next we may expect to see such a "balance of trade" against Japan that journalistic economists will be in despair. The adoption of the gold standard is eminently convenient for such far-sighted operations. So long as fluctuations of exchange exposed the import trade to an element of uncertainty representing from five to fifteen per cent. in a few months, the financing of a transaction might have involved considerations more important to a merchant than the question of avoiding a small increase of duty. But with an absolutely immutable exchange, precautions against Tariff charges can be taken without any of the old risks.

We are charged, we observe, with describing the rates imposed by the new Tariff as "a small increase." Need we say that we have done nothing of the kind? Referring to the influence of exchange fluctuations as compared with im-

port duties under the new Tariff, we wrote:—"So long as fluctuations of exchange exposed the import trade to an element of uncertainty representing from five to fifteen per cent. in a few months, the financing of a transaction might have involved considerations more important to a merchant than the question of avoiding a small increase of duty." Our point was simply one of comparison between exchange fluctuations and increased duties. The ingenuousness of separating the words "a small increase of duty" from the context in which they were used, and instancing them as a general description of the new Tariff rates, is, at all events, diverting, and might be overlooked with pity as a fresh instance of the vertigo which we have already commiserated, were we not averse to being represented, even by irresponsible writers, as making light of the heavy addition that the new Tariff will make to the burdens of the import trade.

RECIPROCITY IN THE MATTER OF LAND OWNERSHIP.

Referring recently to the sweeping charge which has several times been preferred against Japan by local foreign journalists—the charge that while the privilege of owning land is permitted to her people in all the countries with which she has treaties, she does not extend the same privilege to the subjects or citizens of those countries within her own borders—we said:—"The ownership of land by aliens is not permitted by all Occidental States, and if, in certain cases, Japan can be charged with lack of reciprocity, in others she is only doing as she is done by." The *Kobe Chronicle* challenges us to name any Occidental countries except Russia where such a restriction exists. We reply that, when making the statement, we had in mind the United States of America, Australia, and Russia. Our *Kobe* contemporary alleges that "in the United States landed property can be purchased as easily by an alien in his own name as by a son of the soil." That is not the case, however. There are, indeed, a few States of America where such liberty of tenure exists, but in some, and in the territories, it does not exist at all; in others it is permitted to an alien so soon as he has declared his intention of becoming naturalized, and in others it is permitted on a limited scale only. In Australia, also, restrictions are imposed. It can not be urged, therefore, that in the case of the United States, or of the two Australian Colonies which have come into the Treaty arrangement, or of Russia, Japan is lacking in reciprocity. We must again repeat here what we have already stated over and over again, that we do not for one moment endorse Japan's attitude in this matter of land ownership. We do indeed hold that the facilities for long leases granted by the new Civil Code will obviate any difficulty so far as concerns the mere tenure of land, but we have not the smallest sympathy with the exclusive spirit which imposes a veto on the ownership of land by aliens. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the arguments repeatedly put forward by us in the past on this subject. We allude to the matter here only because the *Kobe Chronicle* writes as though we defended Japan's general position, whereas we condemn it most thoroughly, as our contemporary must be well aware.

THE DIET AND THE CODES.

Public anxiety appears to be increasing with respect to the fate of the remaining portions of the Civil and Commercial Codes, the promulgation of which before July 19th of next year is essential to the operation of the Revised Treaties in 1899. We have already pointed out that even though the House of Representatives be dissolved before the Codes are passed, there should not be any insuperable difficulty in convening a new House in time to pass them before June. But that forecast is based on the assumption that the new House consents to abstain from the conduct which led to its predecessor's dissolution. Should the new House also persist in passing a vote of want of Confidence or an Address to the Throne at the beginning of its session, a second dissolution may possibly take place, and in that event the Government would have no recourse but to promulgate the Codes by Imperial Ordinance independently of the Diet—a step not to be lightly taken. Such are the fears expressed by Tokyo newspapers. But it need scarcely be anticipated, we imagine, that the Cabinet will resort to dissolution twice. What seems more probable is that if the new House of Representatives proves refractory, the Cabinet itself will dissolve.

THE LIBERALS AND THE ARMY.

The Liberal Party having voted for the programme of armaments expansion as mapped out by the Ito Cabinet, find themselves, apparently, somewhat perplexed now to escape the responsibility of their act. So, at least, we gather from the *Hochi Shimbun*, though it must be confessed that what the newspapers tell about the doings or intentions of political parties can seldom be implicitly trusted. The *Hochi* publishes a statement, avowedly made by a Liberal, to the effect that the Party's endorsement of the scheme for increasing the Army to twelve battalions was given under the belief that no additional taxes need be imposed to consummate the undertaking. They now see, however, that the estimate was erroneous and while admitting their own precipitancy in accepting it, they censure the Cabinet of the day for having deceived them. Whether that is a suggestion made by the *Hochi* to provide for wavering Liberals an excuse to attack the Government, or whether it is really an opinion of the Liberals themselves, we can not tell.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

Several months ago we noted that a powerful ice-crushing vessel had arrived at Vladivostock from Denmark, and that, judging from the performances of similar machines in the North Sea and the Baltic, there could be little doubt that the days of Vladivostock's winter isolation were at an end. The interesting fact seems, nevertheless, to have escaped journalistic attention at the time, but the *Nadeshuia* having now proved her ability to perform the task assigned to her, people have suddenly awoke to Vladivostock's new character. The ships of the Russian Volunteer Fleet are now advertised to carry on their service right through the winter months.

THE KIAO-CHOW AFFAIR.

The unfortunate missionaries, whose deaths have caused the present international complications in the Far East, seem to have been almost forgotten, so effectually has their fate been overshadowed by its consequences. Now only, more than a month after their murder, are we in possession of any details. Two accounts are published by the Shanghai local press. The first is from the Chinan-fu correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*. He writes under date of Nov. 13th:—

Word reached the city the day before yesterday of some disturbance in Yenchow-fu, four hundred li south-west of Chinan-fu, but your correspondent failed to elicit any reliable information about the affair until yesterday, when the Roman Catholic Bishop was so thoughtful as to send a man around to tell me that word had just been received of a robber raid in Yenchow-fu, county of Kuyie, in which the German Catholic Mission premises had been attacked at about eleven p.m. on November 1st and two German priests killed. Their foreign names I failed to get, but their Chinese names were Han and Neng. The robbers sacked the premises, carrying away everything except a few clothes, but did not set fire to the buildings. One priest managed to hide himself and escaped later to Chining-chou, less than a day's journey distant, from which place word was sent up to Chinan-fu. Why it should have taken ten days for the word to reach the *yamens* here I do not understand as there is telegraphic communication with Chining-chou, and even by courier it is only four days distant. As soon as the Governor received word of the occurrence he despatched the Provincial Judge to Yenchow-fu to manage the affair, with orders, according to one of the telegraph clerks who wrote me about the matter, to "kill the murderers freely." The region in which this sad occurrence took place is noted for its turbulence. Scarcely a year passes without there being serious trouble with bands of robbers. Some of your readers will remember the robber raid which took place in Chining-chou nearly two years ago, in which a band of desperadoes attacked the premises of the American Presbyterian Mission, shooting the Rev. Mr. Bent and destroying the safe in their search for silver. It is a very unhappy region for missionaries, especially those with wives and children.

This information, it will be observed, is based on facts furnished by the German Roman Catholic Bishop himself. It must therefore, be accepted as accurate, in the main at all events.

Another account is given by the *Shanghai Mercury*—an account naturally more sensational than that of the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

Gradually something approaching accurate information of the terrible murder of German priests at Yenchow-fu, Shantung is obtainable. It appears that a troublesome band of ruffians, the *Tatao Hui*, or "Great Sword Society," had been manifesting a threatening attitude for some time past and had on several occasions shown decided signs of hostility to the missionaries, but not such as to lead them to suppose that any unusual violence was meditated. However, the Superior in charge of the Mission felt it necessary to warn the missionaries, and it was found that his words had not been unheeded. No trouble had been experienced with the officials, and the people were generally well disposed. Somewhat over a year ago this "Great Sword Society" looted the Mission premises and assaulted the fathers in charge. The attack became a matter for Peking, and it was settled more or less satisfactorily, and without recourse to any naval demonstration. The robbers were most of them arrested and were severely punished, and the matter was believed to have been settled once and for all. Nevertheless, not very long afterwards, it became painfully evident that the gang was too powerful, too well-organised, to be overawed by such feeble measures as the officials were able to put into operation or to enforce. There were many subterranean meetings and premonitory signs which, though causing the fathers some temporary anxiety, failed to influence them sufficiently to cause the abandonment of their work, in which they were progressing with much encouragement.

Then came the murder of November 1, when the Mission premises were surrounded by a howling mob only too evidently bent on mischief. It was

late at night and the small community had retired long before and were only awakened by the excited natives bursting into the Mission. While the plundering was being carried out by one party another but less numerous band made for the fathers themselves. In the excitement one of them, an elderly man, managed to get away, but Fathers Henle and Nies were knocked down, and murdered as they lay on the ground.

When their bodies were discovered by their terrified native servants they were lying almost where they fell. There was very little clothing left. This had not been deliberately torn off so much as cut to pieces by the countless stabs which had been inflicted. When the blood-soaked remnants of clothing were removed it was found that there was scarcely space to lay a shilling on any part of the body without covering a wound. From head to foot both bodies had been stabbed through and through. This in itself seemed to show that not only was the murder fully premeditated, but that revenge, and not mere murder was the motive. Plunder was a secondary consideration, and it is not at all improbable that the rowdies and loafers of the place, as distinct from the *Tatao Hui*, shared in the looting. Rarely has mutilation been carried to such an extreme, indeed the next and the last would have been dismemberment; beyond that barbarism could scarcely go.

Bishop Garnier, S.J. of Shanghai, was at the time, as now, on a visitation to North Kangan, and it had been arranged that the murdered fathers should meet Dr. Garnier in a friendly manner, as they were working in South Shantung and the Bishop was travelling in North Kangan, the adjoining province. This was not to be.

That the officials are to blame less for their impotence is clear, as Bishop Garnier, approaching near to the Shantung frontier, states in a letter received here that he has been received by officials and people in a singularly kindly manner, and demonstrations of good feeling all along the route have been most effusive and apparently sincere. And the French priests and their native Christians experience no difficulty in the free exercise of their faith and intercourse with the people generally.

The German Foreign Mission is under the charge of Bishop Anzer, an opulent Bavarian, who has devoted the whole of his large private fortune to the establishment and maintenance of the Mission, of which he was one of the two founders. At present he is in Europe and by a singular coincidence he was—and may be now—in Berlin at the time of the murders in Shantung.

The murdered missionaries were comparatively young men. Father Henle had been seven years in China, and was 35 years of age. Father Nies had only come to China late in 1895, and was 26 years of age. They were both very zealous men, broad-minded, and tolerant in their views, and natives of Bavaria.

The outrage has caused profound sorrow among all missionaries working in the province, but long distances separate them and even up to now it is quite possible that many are working in their respective districts in ignorance of all that has taken place.

Even if we accept the latter and more sensational of the two versions, it becomes evident that the Yenchow-fu incident is an unhappily vivid illustration of the old difficulty that has so often disturbed the relations between China and the Occident. These German missionaries were living in a district notoriously exposed to bandit raids and well known to be exceedingly perilous for foreign residents or travellers. Why were they there? What necessity was there for them to endanger the peaceful relations of two empires by thrusting themselves into needless dangers? The Chinese authorities are apparently incompetent to protect the lives and property of their own nationals in Yenchow-fu. Surely it is unjust that they should be required to protect the lives and property of foreigners the purpose of whose presence greatly enhances the perils of the locality. Since China has signed treaties with Western Powers she must be required to implement her engagements. As to that, all are agreed. But is no manner of consideration due to her difficulties? Are the propagandists of

the gospel of Jesus justified in stretching their treaty privileges to a point far beyond the limits of proper prudence and charitable sympathy? Does there not devolve upon them any responsibility to aid in preserving peace upon earth and goodwill among men? Side by side with these accounts of a bandit outrage comes intelligence that, at the very time of its occurrence, the French priests on the Shantung frontier and Bishop Garnier himself were receiving most kindly treatment from Chinese local officials and people. How often within the past fifty years have English, French, and German travellers been seized by Grecian bandits and held up for ransom, if not cruelly murdered? It is certain that if the Mahomedan missionaries established a post among the mountains of Thessaly, and were attacked, robbed and massacred by bandits, Europe would not tolerate the notion of Turkey's seizing Marathon and formulating a series of demands upon the Government in Athens. That side of the question certainly deserves consideration, but receives none from the general public. It deserves consideration, not in the interests of justice alone, but also in the interests of Christianity, for if one thing be more calculated than another to make Christianity hateful in Chinese eyes, it is these displays of force in connexion with its propagandism. History will have scathing verdicts hereafter for all such doings. The other side of the question is easy to see and easy to state. We do not overlook any feature of it. But we say that if a maximum of vigilance is to be exacted from the Chinese some measure of circumspection should be required of the missionaries themselves.

The following item of intelligence is published by the Shanghai paper:—

A despatch received by the local mandarins from Chinanfu, capital of Shantung, reports that nine of the bandits concerned in the murder of the German priests have been captured, and a quantity of the plunder recovered.

The *N.-C. Daily News* publishes the following telegrams from a Chinese correspondent in Peking:—

Peking, 29th Nov.

The German Minister has formulated his demands on the Tsung-li Yamèn under six heads:—

"(1) The 200,000 indemnity for the two German missionaries killed at Yenchow. (2) The rebuilding of the chapel destroyed in the riot. (3) The payment of Germany's expenses incurred in the occupation of Kiaochow. (4) Li Ping-sheng, retiring Governor of Shantung, to be cashiered and dismissed from the public service. (5) The severest penalties upon the murderers of the German priests and upon the local authorities where the riot took place. (6) a. German to be given the sole right to open coal mines throughout Shantung province. b. Special privileges to be granted Germans in the matter of railways in the said province, and c. Germany to be given the privilege of storing coal at Kiaochow in perpetuity; i.e., Kiaochow to become a German naval coaling station.

The Imperial Government has, so far, refused to negotiate with Germany, and demands the withdrawal of the German forces before consenting to any of the above demands.

30th November.

In the Grand Council this morning his Imperial Majesty declared that he was willing to grant articles 1, 2, and 5 of the German demands, but as for Articles 3, 4, and 6, His Imperial Majesty is said to have announced that he would rather lose life and throne itself than give way to such preposterous demands. It is further stated at the Palace that the Imperial Government will ask the Dual Alliance and Great Britain to mediate and has decided not to proceed to extremities with Germany at present. Confirmation is given to the above report by the daily conferences the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamèn have been having with the Ministers of France and Russia of late. There is also a rumour, the source of which cannot be traced, to the effect that the Russian Minister has

declared his inability to give any help to China in the present crisis.

We know, however, that the Peking Government has consented to negotiate on the basis of the German demands, but, of course, it does not follow that the above statement is accurate. We ourselves can not credit it. We can not believe that a great, self-respecting Power like Germany has preferred such a demand on such an occasion as the sixth in the above category.

"His Excellency Li Ping-heng," says the *N.-C. Daily News*, "is anti-foreign and conservative, but he has the reputation of being an honest man, and there will be many regrets among the opponents of corruption in China if he has to be sacrificed." The question that will at once occur to every one is whether Li deserves such punishment. Is there any evidence of contributory negligence on his part?

We re-produce the following from the *N.-C. Daily News* :—

A proclamation in Chinese issued by the German Admiral has been handed to us, a translation of which we give below :—

"Von Diederichs, Commander-in-chief of the Imperial German Eastern Fleet, hereby issues the following proclamation :—

"Be it known to all concerned that I have come in obedience to the commands of my sovereign, H.I.M. the German Emperor, who has instructed me to land at Kiao-chow Bay at the head of my forces, and seize the said Bay and all the islands and dependencies thereof. Having performed this duty it now behoves me to mark out the boundaries of the region held by me which are as follows :—

(1) From a straight line drawn from the seashore to the eastern hill to a spot distant, at high water mark, 18 li from Kiao-chow.

(2) From thence a straight line drawn northwards to the Likin station at Tapot'eng; thence back of this to the meeting of the waters of the Kiao-chow river and the Taku river.—Note: *Taku* means "Great Ancient"—Translator).

(3) From thence eastwards to the seashore as far as an imaginary line cutting Laoshan Bay in the middle.

Note—The colloquial term for Laoshan Bay is *Laowan* or *Lao Bay* which is also used in this proclamation.—Translator.

(4) The eastern line commences from a northerly point to the midway point of Laoshan Bay, thence southwards as far as the shores of the island of Kuanti Miao, Tsailien island, etc.

(5) The southern line is drawn from Tsailien island to the southern point of Tiloshan island.

(6) From the north it is drawn to the seashore on the western side where the two places meet.

"The above noted places and thence are comprised within are to be held by the German forces, until the case of the murder of our German missionaries in Shantung be settled.

"In consideration of the above, therefore, I find it necessary to exhort you all, *viz*: the inhabitants of Tsingtao island and dependencies thereof, to peaceably continue your several avocations, and avoid listening to the words of the disreputable and rowdy classes to create disturbances. As a matter of fact Germany and China have always been friendly and at peace, and formerly when China was at war with Japan, Germany used her utmost efforts to rescue China from her dilemma. This was to prove our friendship as a neighbouring Power. We are now here not as enemies of China, hence you need not hesitate and entertain suspicions about us. Moreover, it will be the duty of the German officers to protect the law-abiding inhabitants of this place in order to preserve the peace. But if there be any discontented characters who shall endeavour to create disturbances, they shall surely be dealt with according to Chinese laws to the extreme (*i.e.*, beheaded—Translator). Further, if any German subjects here be killed the murderers will be dealt with according to German military law (*i.e.*, shot—Translator). Hence I consider it my duty to earnestly exhort all to abstain from breaking the peace, and avoid resisting whatever the German authorities shall decide to do hereafter here. You should calculate the exigencies of the case, and you will see that you are too weak to resist. Not only will you find it to be of no ad-

vantage to you, but you will find that you will have invited destruction upon yourselves.

"Furthermore, be it known that where German troops shall be encamped, Chinese officials will still be permitted to go on with their usual duties. But if in the future these Chinese officials should receive orders from their superior which they should find beyond their powers, they communicate the circumstances to the German Governor, General Chu (?) or to Brigadier-General T'sai (?). As for the buying or selling of land hereafter, permission should first be obtained from the Governor to become legal. Let all obey. An important Proclamation."

14th day of November, 1897, (*Imperial German Reckoning*). 21st day, 11th moon, 23rd year of Kuang Hsu—(*Chinese Reckoning*).

The *N.-C. Daily News* of the 9th inst. says thus :—

To secure the evacuation of Kiao-chow Bay, China has agreed to Germany's demands as far as regards (1) the indemnity for the two German missionaries who were killed; (2) the erection of a memorial church at the scene of the murder; (3) the payment of the expenses incurred by Germany in the occupation of Kiao-chow; (4) the permanent dismissal from the public service of Li Ping-heng, retiring Governor of Shantung, and lately appointed Viceroy of Szechuan; (5) the severest punishment of those who murdered the priests and of the local authorities where the crime was committed. As regards the special privileges to be granted to Germany with reference to coal mines and railways in Shantung, the precedent is to be followed that is set in the fifth article of the supplementary convention between France and China, signed by M. G6rard at Peking on the 20th of June, 1895, by which it was provided that when China undertook the exploitation of mines in Yunnan, Kuangsi, and Kuangtung, she might apply to France for skilled assistance.

This solution of the difficulty is a happy one for China, and will remove the doubts of those who had made up their minds that the murder of the two German missionaries was a pretext for the seizure of Kiao-chow Bay, not a reason. In thinking this they were evidently doing an injustice to Germany; but the punishment followed so quickly on the crime, not even leaving time to see whether the Chinese Government would themselves punish the criminals and give what other reparation was demanded, that it could not but seem to the ordinary man that the punishment was decided on even before the crime occurred. It must not be overlooked that explanations of the descent on Kiao-chow Bay, which without explanations international law must characterise as an act of piracy, have been made at home and reported to us by Reuters. A telegram of the 2nd instant from London gave us the explanation that "forces had been landed at Kiao-chow to obtain reparation and to prevent the repetition of similar lamentable occurrences." We could not pay much attention to this, because it requires so much explanation itself; it is unusual to seize a material guarantee before negotiations for reparation have been opened with the offending party, and unless there is good reason to fear that these negotiations will be otherwise fruitless. It may be said that Germany knows by experience that negotiations with Peking are generally fruitless, but at any rate international law and custom demand that they should be undertaken before force is resorted to. The treaty between Germany and China made at Tientsin in 1861 is still in force, and its thirty-sixth article says :—"The Chinese authorities shall always accord the most complete protection to the persons and property of German subjects, and particularly when they may be subjected to any insult or violence. In every case of burning, pillage, or destruction the local authorities shall send in all haste an armed force to disperse the rioters, to arrest the guilty and deliver them to the full rigour of the law." etc. Now, there is no suggestion that H.E. Li Ping-heng, the Governor of Shantung, neglected his duty when news of the murder of the missionaries reached him. Our correspondent at Chinanfu, a perfectly independent witness, wrote us on the 13th ultimo, before any news of the descent on Kiao-chow had reached that city :—"As soon as the Governor received word of the occurrence he dispatched the Provincial Judge to Yenchofu to manage the affair, with orders, according to one of the telegraph clerks who wrote me about the matter, to 'kill the murderers freely.'" There was no patent reason then for this hurried seizure of a material guarantee. But we have since had another explanation in a telegram dated London, the 7th instant, in which the German Foreign Minister is reported to have said that the reason for the descent on Kiao-chow was to be found in Germany's "constant griev-

ances against China, with which country, nevertheless, Germany desired to preserve friendship, but Germany cannot allow China to think she can treat Germans differently from other Europeans." This is a very remarkable statement, because it seems to most of us that China has been for some years, and sometimes to her cost, remarkably amiable to Germany and Germans, and the cynic might say that in murdering two German missionaries the Chinese mob were clearly proving that they did not want to treat Germans differently from other Europeans.

We have no reason to doubt the truth of the above statement except the fact that news of it does not appear to have been officially telegraphed as yet to Japan, which certainly ought to have been done were the complication at an end. However, a telegram did reach Tokyo on the 14th instant, announcing that the ex-Governor of Shantung had been degraded, and as the Chinese Government would not have been likely to take that step pending a settlement of the trouble with Germany, we shall perhaps be justified in accepting our Shanghai contemporary's version.

Meanwhile it is very diverting to observe the *North-China Daily News*' attempt to shuffle out of its own responsibilities. "This solution of the difficulty," it says, "will remove the doubts of those who had made up their minds that the murder of the two German missionaries was a pretext for the seizure of Kiao-chow Bay, not a reason. In thinking this they were evidently doing an injustice to Germany." That is really quite delightful. The idea of getting outside one-self, so to speak, and gravely censuring one's own misdoings in language phrased as though it were addressed to some one over the way, is the prettiest kind of journalistic dodging we have ever noticed. The *N.-C. Daily News* wrote, on December 2nd :—"One thing appears to be certain, that Germany intends to hold Kiao-chow Bay permanently, and that she is providing that if the partition of China is to come, she will have the province of Shantung for her share, or a part of her share." The same *N.-C. Daily News* writes on December 9th :—"Those who had made up their minds that Kiao-chow Bay was to be held permanently were evidently doing an injustice to Germany." As a matter of fact, the only journal in the Far East that refused to believe in the possibility of Germany's having any permanent designs upon Kiao-chow was the *Japan Mail*.

Still more amusing is the Shanghai journal's desperate struggle to cling to its faith in that offspring of its own credulity, the Cassini Convention. "There were some," it says, "who saw the hand of Russia in this seizure of Kiao-chow Bay, as they see it everywhere in Far Eastern politics. But there is good reason to believe that the intended coup was as great a surprise to Russia as to any other Power, and that when announcing it at St. Petersburg, Germany made skilful use of Russia's official denials of the existence of the Cassini Convention." Russia's "great surprise" is excellent silliness, and so also is "Germany's skilful use of Russia's official denials of the Cassini Convention." Our contemporary outdoes itself, however, in the following paragraph :—

As an instance of the very shallow views that some journalists take we may note the glee with which the *Japan Mail* jumps on us in its remarks on the seizure of Kiao-chow Bay by Germany. This seizure, it says, is a proof of the non-existence of the Cassini Convention, which it has always dis-

credited. It is really just the opposite. Russia considers that Kiao-chow Bay is her property, and that if anyone is to feel aggrieved at the German action, it is she and not China. We learn that when the news of the seizure was made public at Peking, the action of the Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* was as characteristic as it was dramatic. He posted off to the Tsung-li Yamén with an assumed air of indignant astonishment. "Here's a nice state of things," he said to the stupefied Princes and Ministers; "you gave us Kiao-chow Bay, and now you've given it to Germany!" "Given it! Why, it's been stolen from us, and we were just going to ask you to help us get it back!" "What! Help you, after such treachery as that! It was sheer treachery to us; you never fired a single shot! If you had fired one shot against the Germans, I might believe that you didn't give it. If the Germans had attacked you on the sea, I could understand your giving in, as I know you have no fleet now; but to let them attack you on land, and not fire a single shot in your own defence, of course it was treachery, and you will get no help from us." And thus Russia is able to oblige Germany, and at the same time get jauntily out of her undertaking to come to China's assistance when she is in difficulties. It is obvious that with Korea in possession and Port Arthur in prospect, Russia has now no farther need of Kiao-chow Bay.

That story indicates a bland and beautiful knowledge of the ways of inter-state diplomacy. The Russian Representative pretending to believe that China had voluntarily surrendered Kiao-chow to Germany, and alleging her act of treachery as a pretext for not carrying out the Russian part of the Cassini Convention, namely coming to China's assistance in the latter's hour of difficulty, is not that quite a unique page of diplomatic doings? It should be noted, too, that the editor of the Shanghai paper penned the above paragraph when he believed in the permanent occupation of Kiao-chow by Germany. In short, he believed that Kiao-chow had been ceded by China to Russia; that Germany nevertheless seized it permanently; that Russia offered not the slightest protest to Germany but confined herself to simulating indignation against China for a breach of faith of which he could not possibly have pretended to think her guilty; and, finally, that Russia finds no further need of Kiao-chow since she has Port Arthur in prospect, though she had Port Arthur equally in prospect under the Cassini Convention when she obtained Kiao-chow under the same Convention. 'Tis all a magnificent muddle.

TINGHAI AND KIAO-CHOW.

Reading of the unopposed occupation of Kiao-chow by a little band of German marines and contrasting it with the story of the seizure of Chusan in 1840, one is disposed to ask whether the Chinese of to-day are the same men that showed such a very different spirit fifty-seven years ago. The German Admiral had only three ships and could land only 600 men when he proceeded to capture Kiao-chow. Yet he experienced not the slightest resistance and was not obliged to fire one shotted gun. Sir Gordon Bremer, when he summoned Tinghai to surrender, had fifteen ships-of-war, four steamers, and twenty-five transports with 4,000 troops on board. Yet the Chusan officials utterly declined to yield. They declared that their duty to their Sovereign and their sentiment as soldiers forbade them to surrender any part of Chinese territory. It was necessary to bombard Tinghai, and not until the greater part of it was levelled with the ground could possession be obtained. The Chinese have certainly changed with the times.

TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The long period of mourning for the late Empress Dowager will terminate on the 10th January, and we learn that the Committee of the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society are exerting themselves to put an end, at the same time, to the inactivity that the Society's relations with the Imperial Court have compelled it to observe throughout that period. The position is difficult, for no public steps, such, for example, as a meeting of the Committee or the employment of the Hall of the *Shorei-kai* can be taken before the tenth of January, and, on the other hand, preparations for a representation on any considerable scale are, of course, impossible without such steps. Thus the alternatives are to defer the first performance until the end of February, perhaps even the middle of March, or to organize something on a small scale, holding the rehearsals in private houses, and then, while avoiding all premature publicity, to avoid simultaneously any needless prolongation of the twelve months' idleness. The latter course has naturally been chosen, not merely for its own sake, but also out of consideration for the members who have contributed financially to the maintenance of the Society but have been prevented by official etiquette from enjoying any compensation for their support. No subscriptions were collected during the year of enforced inaction, and it may be presumed that the Committee are unwilling to make any collection pending a renewal of the dramatic and musical performances, or to undertake anything that would encroach upon the resources which will presently be available for more ambitious representations. Under these circumstances we hear that choice has been made of a piece which involves a minimum of scenic arrangement, admits of rehearsal in private houses, and does not make any extensive demand upon the histrionic resources of the community. It will thus be possible to open the dramatic season at least a month sooner than would otherwise have been the case. There is a report, which we trust may prove accurate, that this inaugural effort will be shortly followed by a performance affording an opportunity to witness once again the delightful acting with which the French amateurs of the capital have made us familiar. As to the play which will be put upon the stage at the opening of the season, we are unable to say more than that it is rumoured to be a most happy choice, that it has been adapted by a *littérateur* of well-known dramatic ability, and that the cast includes ladies and gentlemen of four nationalities.

FOREIGNERS AND JAPANESE SECURITIES.

When the Revised Treaties go into operation, foreigners will be entitled to hold movable property anywhere throughout Japan. In view of that change, the various railway companies, says the *Tokyo Asahi*, are discussing the advisability of amending their rules in the sense of removing all restrictions upon the holding of their shares by foreigners. Railway shares, in the opinion of the companies, are movable property, and there is nothing in either the Treaties or the Commercial Code to prevent foreigners from becoming

shareholders. The same is true of the scrip of the Bank of Japan and, indeed, of all other commercial or industrial undertakings. Application will therefore be made to the Authorities for permission to effect the necessary alterations in the laws of the various companies. This move, if it be really on the tapis, which we have no reason to doubt, is a tolerably effective answer to the predictions of pessimists who maintain that the object of the Japanese after the Revised Treaties go into operation, will be to keep foreigners at arm's length as far as may be. The plain fact is that the Japanese will open every possible avenue to foreign capital. The shares of all enterprises that have been established on a profitable footing are selling in Japan at prices greatly below the figures that similarly sound and successful enterprises would command in England or America, and Japanese shareholders will naturally be anxious to invite operations which would have the effect of appreciating their property. Racial prejudice, if any exist, will have no value in comparison with that prospect.

JAPAN & THE BRITISH COLONIES.

It is, perhaps, scarcely charitable to treat seriously the comments of the *Japan Herald* on the subject of the British Colonies and the Revised Treaties with Japan. Such remarks appear to have been penned under the influence of some vertigo which is to be pitied rather than censured. The facts are too simple to permit the slightest misunderstanding. Her Majesty's Government, when revising the Treaty with Japan, explicitly excluded the Colonies from its scope, since the right is reserved to them of managing these matters on their own account. The chief purpose of the reservation was, of course, well understood. Of late years, certain of the Colonies have adopted, or shown some inclination to adopt, an exclusive policy towards Asiatics. It is an illiberal policy. If Japan attempted to adopt it towards Europeans or Americans, she would be denounced as uncivilized. Still, there are reasons, more or less valid, for its adoption by the Colonies, and at any rate the admission or exclusion of aliens is among the sovereign rights of every self-governing community. If Japan made any difficulty about the free exercise of that right by the Colonies towards her subjects, the Colonies, on their side, might prefer to remain unhampered by any treaty stipulations whatever. But Japan makes no difficulty. She consents to the insertion of a clause reserving to each of the contracting parties absolute freedom in the matter of restrictive legislation. Two of the Colonies have concluded treaties embodying such a clause. Two, we believe, have concluded treaties without the clause. Seven remain outside the pale. It is plain that whether the Colonial governments make or do not make treaties with Japan, the colonists will have free access to this country for purposes of trade, travel, or residence. They can not be discriminated against in those respects, nor is there, so far as we know, the smallest desire to discriminate against them. But with respect to the Tariff or any other matters forming the subject of special Conventional arrangement, the Colonies, so long as they choose to remain outside the treaty circle, must have the status of non-treaty states. It is their

own choice. To place the responsibility upon Japan's shoulders is childish. The Colonies can lose nothing whatever by entering into treaty relations with her, and if they do not think it worth their while to do so, that is their own affair. Much excitement is shown by the *Japan Herald* because a patent has been refused to a Canadian applicant. It denounces the refusal as illiberal and impolitic. But Japan is merely doing as all Occidental States do. No Western State gives protection to the patents and trademarks of a foreign nation unless the latter makes a reciprocal concession. Canada not having concluded a treaty with Japan, can not exercise reciprocity in this matter. No nation in the world would recognise Canadian patents under the circumstances. Even that discrimination, however, will probably disappear soon, for when Japan has amended her Law of Patents and Trade Marks so as to remove the limitations recently explained in these columns, she will enter the union of States formed for the mutual protection of the products of inventive genius, and Canada being already a member of the union, will incur the obligation of protecting and acquire the privilege of being protected. It is all perfectly simple and perfectly reasonable.

DEATH OF MRS. DIVERS.

The death of Mrs. Divers removes a lady whom long acquaintance and many amiable qualities had endeared to the Tokyo community. Mrs. Divers had not enjoyed robust health for some time, but the first indication of any cause for serious uneasiness did not present itself until the Fall of last year, when, during a visit to Kobe, she was attacked by an illness that produced temporary paralysis. Symptoms of heart trouble then declared themselves, and although the succeeding months were passed without any special aggravation of the malady, it was fully recognised that the final break-up could not be long delayed. Mrs. Divers had not reached the confines of old age, and her numerous friends must be shocked and grieved to think that the pleasant companionship which, in the natural course of events, they looked forward to enjoying for many years, has been suddenly and sadly terminated. We need scarcely add that the keenest sympathy is felt with her bereaved family.

The funeral of Mrs. Divers took place on the 13th instant, the cortege leaving the residence of Dr. Divers punctually at nine o'clock a.m., as announced. It was one of the most numerously attended ceremonies that have been witnessed in Tokyo during the past thirty years. The chapel at Sarugakuchō was filled to overflowing, and the wreaths and other floral tributes sent by sorrowing friends required about a score of bearers in addition to being piled within and on the hearse. Père Everard, assisted by two other Priests, performed the service, which was choral, and the pall was borne by present or past Professors of the Imperial University. The President of the University and all the Professors, the whole of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, almost the whole foreign lay community of Tokyo and many Japanese friends visited the residence before the starting of the procession, and were subsequently present at the chapel, the majority also proceeding to the cemetery at Aoyama, which was not reached until half-past eleven.

BARON NOGI'S RESIGNATION.

It appears to be accepted as beyond question that the Governor-General of Formosa has resigned—definitively and irrevocably resigned. People bear freshly in mind the fact that his retirement was talked of everywhere some months ago. For reasons never clearly set forth, a section of the Cabinet decided that the administration of the island would fare better in other hands. But the Emperor appears to have withheld his consent, and possibly the difficulty of finding a suitable successor was not without effect. At all events, Baron Nogi having taken a prominent part in drafting the new scheme of administrative organization, it seemed natural that the task of putting it into operation should be entrusted to him. What complications have now arisen, we do not know. Indeed, we have no authority except that of the vernacular press for saying that the Baron has resigned. But the fact is spoken of with every appearance of certainty. It is certainly regrettable that such frequent changes should take place. A Governor-general can scarcely become familiar with the peculiar conditions existing in Formosa until he has studied them for at least a year. Thus Baron Nogi leaves his post at the very time when he has qualified himself to discharge its duties intelligently. Among foreigners he has won favorable opinions, and we are at a loss to understand why any change should be necessary.

APPRECIATION OF LAND IN TOKYO.

There has been a very marked appreciation of the market price of houses and land in Tokyo since last year, especially in the Kameido, Sunamura, Shinagawa, Meguro and Shibuya districts—that is to say, in the chief suburbs of the city. Various reasons are assigned for the change. One of the most prominent, of course, is that as all commodities have risen in price, buildings, which represent labour and material, and building sites, which represent one of the first elements of productive enterprise, have followed the general trend. But there are other factors almost exactly analogous with those that produced a similar result in 1885. Whenever stocks, debentures and public securities fall in price, land invariably rises. The vicissitudes that depress the former class of investments do not threaten the latter. In 1885, when the Consols stood at about 90, when shares of the Japan Mail S.S. Company could be bought for 35 and shares of the Japan Railway Company for 87, land was rapidly booming upwards. In 1885, also, Treaty Revision was believed to be in sight, and the inauguration of mixed residence has always been associated by the Japanese with a large exodus of foreigners from the Settlements into the interior of the country. That same idea prevails now. The suburbs of Tokyo enumerated above are just the places where enterprising men would be disposed to erect factories, and the Japanese are persuaded that factories will spring into existence so soon as ever the foreigner can get out of his present prison. It is a very erroneous notion, in our opinion. Foreigners will be extremely cautious about starting new enterprises after Consular Jurisdiction is abolished. They will wait to see how the new system

works, in the first place, and they will want to assure themselves, in the second, whether partnerships with Japanese can be arranged on a satisfactory footing, for assuredly they will not take the field alone, thus exposing themselves to the combinations which the Japanese have proved their ability and disposition to form. The tendency will be in the other direction, we think: that is to say, the Japanese will be more likely to come into the Settlements than the foreigners to go out of them. The price of land within the Settlements will consequently rise, but why the price of land outside the Settlements should go up, we fail to see. If there was money to be made by starting industrial enterprises solely under foreign management, they would have been started long ago within the Settlements, just as cotton mills have been started in Shanghai. But although cotton mills in Shanghai, projected, owned and run by foreigners, may succeed very well, since differences of nationality count for nothing with Chinese where money-earning is concerned, that is not the case in Japan. The wide-awake foreigner will look with immense care before he leaps.

THE FORMOSA RAILWAY.

The projectors of the Formosa Railway have now carried their programme to such a point that consummation is in sight if the Treasury will agree to subscribe for 45,000 shares, representing 2½ million yen. The Treasury hesitates to dip its hand so deeply into the enterprise, doubtless feeling that it would occupy a position involving considerable responsibility towards the public but not carrying with it any sufficient right to control. According to present appearances, however, there is no alternative except to accede to the projectors' proposal, always supposing that the line is to be built. The whole story of this railway seems to us most significant. Almost all the strongest men in the business field are associated with it. If any enterprise, be entitled to public confidence, surely that should be the case with an enterprise projected by capitalists and merchants whose names have never yet been linked with any failure, and whose resources are known to be as large as their shrewdness is above proof. The enterprise itself is full of promise. It has a State guarantee of six per cent.; exceptionally favourable conditions and facilities are offered by the Government, and from the day that the Company becomes a going concern, it will receive a gift of a railway already completed and running at a substantial profit. Yet the nation will not put up twenty millions to carry out the project. Evidently it is a case not of "will not" but of "can not."

A PANACEA.

Mr. Charles Garst's panacea, the single tax, fills us with admiration. It is apparently capable of curing all the ills to which flesh is heir. All land-owners are robbers, says Mr. Garst. Only take their stolen property from them in order to convert it into a public chattel, and you will have no more social evil, no more international aggression, no more of anything disagreeable. So large is Mr. Garst's faith that he even finds a mandate in the Biblical anathema, "Cursed be he

that moveth his neighbour's land-mark." We infer, therefore, that if the single tax were introduced, there would be no more "cuss-words," since there would be no more land-marks to remove. There would be an awful interval of cursing while Mr. Garst's process of wholesale removal was going on, but when it was over, a holy calm would ensue.

DIVIDEND BONDS.

The Minister of Finance, in his long and interesting statement to the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Union, speaks of issuing "dividend bonds" (*Wari-mashi-kin-zuki Kosai*) of small dimensions, as an expedient for collecting the money now scattered among the consuming classes and bringing it within reach of industrial producers. It is alleged that the idea of these bonds has been entertained for some time, but the exact details of the scheme are not as yet very clear. Speaking broadly, Count Matsukata's plan is to sell bonds of from ten to fifty *yen* denomination bearing interest at the rate of from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent., and to apply the money thus obtained for the redemption of the five-per-cent. bonds now in circulation. The sum saved in interest would form a dividend fund, and the project is to distribute this fund among the petty bondholders. That explanation is vague, but it represents all that we know for certain. It will be at once evident that unless the quantity of five-per-cent. bonds redeemed be greater than the total face value of the petty bonds to whose holders a dividend is distributed, the latter can't gain more than they would by buying five-per-cent. bonds in the first instance. Let us reduce the case to arithmetic. A thousand *yen* worth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ -per-cent. bonds are sold and a corresponding amount of 5-per-cent. bonds redeemed. The Treasury gains 15 *yen*, by way of reduced interest, on the transaction. Now if that sum be distributed equally among the petty bondholders, the result is that each receives altogether 5 per cent. on his bonds—viz., $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. by way of interest and $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. by way of dividend. But suppose that the distribution is limited to a section of the petty bondholders, a section selected by lot; then the interest on the petty bonds supplemented by the dividend may represent much more than 5 per cent. For example:—A thousand *yen* worth of petty bonds are sold and a thousand *yen* worth of large bonds redeemed. There results a dividend fund of 15 *yen*. Now suppose that three hundred *yen* worth of petty bonds are to be redeemed by lot, and that the dividend is to be divided among the bonds on which the lot falls. Then each of the fortunate bondholders receives $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.—namely, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. by way of regular interest and 5 per cent. by way of dividend. Obviously that course might be pursued each year, the sum accruing from the redemption of large bonds being distributed to the holders of the petty bonds drawn for amortization in that year. The programme would practically amount to one of conversion, for unless human nature be different in Japan from human nature elsewhere, the petty bonds would be eagerly bought by all classes for the sake of the gain that might accrue to their holders in the yearly lottery, and after a few years the whole of the public debt would be converted to

a $3\frac{1}{2}$ -per-cent. basis. Some critics would probably find a good deal to say about the element of chance pervading the scheme, and the consequent danger of demoralizing the people. We remember that, in 1881, a distinguished English banker, well known in the East, submitted to the Japanese Government a plan for resuming hard money payments, the main features of the idea being borrowed from the Parisian municipal lotteries. Count Okuma, who then held the portfolio of Finance, would have nothing to do with the project, one of his chief reasons being the lottery adjunct. We may have wrongly interpreted this novel term, *wari-mashi-kin-zuki kosai*, but if our rendering be correct, hostile politicians will find in it a new weapon of attack.

"GREATER JAPAN."

The above is the title of a magazine which appears to have added an English section to its contents now for the first time, though it has reached the fifteenth number of its second volume. What is meant by "Greater Japan" we do not know. The Japanese title is *Da-Nippon*, or "Great Japan," which we have always understood to be the name of the main island of Japan as distinguished from the smaller islands of the group that form the Japanese empire. The adoption of the qualificatory "Great" as a prefix to the whole group, is not explicable on geographical grounds, and has usually been regarded as a vagary more courageous than artistic. But "Greater Japan" is still more perplexing. Mr. Matsumoto Kumpei, the editor, places himself at the feet of Mr. Stead, and Mr. Stead, among whose qualities assurance is not lacking, appropriates the homage without embarrassment, in the following words:—

"The latest offshoot of the numerous publications which may be said to have been raised from the seed scattered over the world by the publication of the first number of the *Review of Reviews*, is to be found in Japan. Unlike most of the other magazines which adopted not only the idea but the title of the *Review of Reviews*, our new Japanese contemporary has taken the title *Greater Japan*. It is an interesting publication, and one that does credit to the enterprise and editorial capacity of its editor and proprietor, Mr. Kumpei Matsumoto, whose portrait I am privileged to publish here-with. Mr. Matsumoto has been spending a few months visiting Europe, and during his stay in London did me the honour of calling upon me and explaining his ideas and aspirations. The accompanying portrait is reproduced from the photograph sent to me from Paris, inscribed 'To my Venerable Friend, Mr. W. T. Stead,' from which it may be inferred that Mr. Matsumoto is comparatively a young man. His journal, the *Greater Japan*, like all Japanese periodicals, begins on the last page, and is copiously illustrated. There is a frontispiece, a Chronicle—an article corresponding to 'The Progress of the World': then come selections from the caricatures of Asia, Europe, and America, from which I hope to be able to quote in future issues of this *Review*. We have then long articles by the editor, followed by a survey of the political and periodical literature of the world. Mr. Matsumoto is a Japanese of energy and intelligence, and I am glad to have been able to make arrangements with him which will enable me month by month to lay before the Western world the ideas of the most progressive and enterprising section of the Japanese people."

What is signified by "selections from the caricatures of Asia, Europe and America" we do not know, and we are still more perplexed to understand how Mr. Stead can have persuaded himself to believe that *Greater Japan* has been "raised from the seed scattered over the world by the *Review of Reviews*." However, Mr. Stead's comfortable convictions are neither here nor there. What we have to note is the quality of *Greater Japan* itself, and with regard to that we can honestly offer our congratulations to the editor. But he is

not strong at proof-reading. He says that Baron Yamada "has hitherto *col* but an insignificant figure in politics"; that Cambridge University, some years ago, conferred on Mr. Hamao the honorary degree of "L. L. D."; that while this number of the magazine was going to press, "a startling news was brought to *no* across the water," and that when the Germans hoisted their national flag at Kiao-chow, "they fired a statute." This last typographical curiosity may be less innocent than it looks, for inasmuch as Mr. Matsumoto's calls the Kiao-chow affair "Germany's outrage in China," he possibly shares the opinion of those who think that a statute was indeed fired into space on that occasion—a statute of international law. Apart from printer's errors, however, the English section of the magazine is good reading. The editor is bitterly opposed to the Matsukata cabinet. He does not merely join the general hue and cry: he tries to lead it. The Matsukata Ministry, in his opinion is "one of the worst governments ever formed," and the adoption of the gold standard is "the most serious blunder ever yet recorded on the pages of our financial history." Count Matsukata has the misfortune to be in charge of State affairs at a time when no Cabinet could possibly satisfy the nation. He is the victim of the time. If good, solid, vigorous abuse could overwhelm him, *Greater Japan* would contribute materially to that catastrophe. But we do not think that his political grave is yet dug.

CHINA'S SINS.

The Kiao-chow episode has been the means of eliciting some admirable expressions of opinion from the local foreign press of the Far East. One and all of the Treaty-port journals, assuming, without the least difficulty, that Germany seized Kiao-chow before making any kind of demand upon China, and that she seized it with the intention of getting final possession of Shantung—two hypotheses which, were they tenable, would invest her conduct with the character of an unprecedented violation of the principles of civilization—, unhesitatingly applaud what she has done and hold it up as a fine example for Occidental Powers in general. Thus far, however, the *N.C. Daily News* has "taken the cake" with its declaration that China's reluctance to be robbed of her territory was another example of her proverbial tergiversation and evasiveness. Another Shanghai journal now makes a bold bid against the *N.C. Daily News*. It writes:—

We understand that the Peking Government has resorted to its usual armament of lies and deception to hoodwink the Chinese people over the sad humiliation which Germany has inflicted upon China. The Central Government has instructed the provincial authorities to notify the people that the occupation of Kiao-chow is only of a temporary nature, and to warn them not to be perturbed by the occurrence.

Is not that lively? Germany herself represented the occupation of Kiao-chow as a temporary measure only. Even if she had not done so, the Chinese Government would have been perfectly justified in assuming that the occupation was not intended to be a lawless and final seizure, but that it would terminate when the negotiations about the missionary outrage were concluded. Yet because it makes that assumption the Peking Government

is denounced for "resorting to its usual armament of lies and deception." It would have been impossible, we think, for the greatest enemy of Western public morality to plan any object lesson so humiliating as the attitude of the local foreign press, with very rare exceptions, has been in this instance.

TOKYO LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

We desire to remind our readers that a meeting of the Tokyo Literary and Musical Society takes place this evening at 8 o'clock in the Hall of the Parish Buildings opposite the Episcopal Church in Tsukiji. This Society has already existed, for two years we think, under the name of the Tsukiji Literary and Musical Society, its membership being limited to forty. Its success was such that the enlargement of its scope so as to admit all residents of Tokyo without limit of number seemed desirable, and with that object a meeting was held on the 4th instant to make preliminary arrangements. More than sixty persons enrolled themselves then and there; Colonel Buck, United States Representative, was chosen President, and a Committee was appointed to draw up working and constitutional rules for presentation to the second meeting which is to take place to-night. The Society is not intended to encroach in any way on the sphere of the larger and more important association, the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society. Its object is merely to occupy the ground left vacant by the latter; to provide fortnightly opportunities for the residents of Tokyo to hold musical and literary *réunions* not requiring any of the rehearsals or other preliminary arrangements essential to dramatic representations. No reason suggests itself why Tokyo should not possess such a society as well as Yokohama. There is an abundance of musical ability in the capital, and the foreign community is exceptionally rich in specialists whose contributions to a discussion on any topic would possess great interest and value. It seems to us that the Society ought to succeed, unless, indeed, the effort of supporting it overtaxes the apathetic, one-groove mood into which foreigners residing in the East appear so prone to lapse.

THE OLD AND THE NEW.

Not many of our readers, perhaps, are familiar with a book that came like an oasis in the desert to students of the Japanese language seven-and-twenty years ago. It was called *Koyeki Mondo*, and it embodied a conversation supposed to take place between two Japanese economists—Saisuke, a man of the new school, and Gwanroku, a stiff-backed conservative. Translated into English, the book possessed no value. It became, then, a mere primer, an elementary primer, of political economy. But in Japanese it was a jewel of great price, for it brought the student into colloquial contact with two native controversialists, discussing, in pure, idiomatic vernacular, topics that belonged to the new life upon which the nation was just entering. Old fashioned subjects, genuine Japanese subjects, could be read about in a hundred-and-one little left-handed volumes, and the forms of expression used at *cha-no-yu réunions* or lovers' meetings could be acquired without great difficulty. But the novel issues of that novel time, the philosophies, the sciences, the systems, and the ideas of the Occident—how

were they to be put into a Japanese dress, and how, without such drapery, could they be introduced upon the conversational stage? No one sitting down to study Japanese by the light of the aids now available, can form any adequate idea of the perplexity and despair that beset the efforts of the unhappy student at the beginning of the *Meiji* era, when he had to talk with men who had never thought his nationals' thoughts, and to employ a language that had never been moulded to the ideas with which alone he was familiar. The *Koyeki Mondo* was a veritable god-send to him. He committed carefully to memory all Saisuke's sayings, and longed to encounter some Gwanroku whom he might astound by the perfection of his linguistic attainments and convert by the logic of economic doctrines. If any now grey-headed man recalling that page of his early experience, reads Count Matsukata's recent reply to the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Union, he can not but be astounded by the development that the Japanese language has undergone in the past five-and-twenty years. There is not the slightest difficulty now in talking about bonds and shares, about joint-stock companies, and demand, and supply, and purchasing power and convertible notes, and circulating media, and fluctuations of exchange and productive enterprises and a thousand things which had not entered the conception or the vocabulary of the Japanese when Hepburn's dictionary was compiled. If the men that died when Japan was on the threshold of her new life could be raised from the grave to-day and placed in the Diet, or in the hall of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, during a debate, they would be as much much puzzled to understand their country's new language as the foreign student in the early seventies, was to construct it.

GERMAN CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

A Christmas Bazaar, in aid of the funds of the German Mission in Yokohama, was held at the Public Hall on Wednesday afternoon and evening, under the auspices of the German ladies of Yokohama, kindly assisted by several English and American young ladies. The committee of management consisted of Mrs. Meier, Mrs. Holm, Mrs. Pors, Mrs. Kleinwort and Mrs. Strahler. The small hall, in which the Bazaar was held, was draped with bunting and tastefully decorated with evergreens, with the various stalls arranged around the sides and ends, while a couple of fine Christmas trees, with their branches bowed down with imitation snow and scores of Christmas toys and bon-bons for the little ones, filled up the corners at the upper end of the hall. All the fancy articles exposed for sale on the stalls were sent from Germany, as gifts, by friends of the Mission and were especially selected as suitable for Christmas presents. The various stalls and the ladies presiding over the same, were as follow:—Tea and Refreshments: Mrs. Strahler, Miss Thomas and Miss Voigt; Bavarian Beer and Lemonade stall: Mrs. Büller, Miss Tripler, and Miss Focke; Bonbons: Miss Poole and Miss H. Tripler; the Gypsy's Grotto: Miss Smith; Toys: Mrs. Orth and Miss Moss; Fancy Work: Mrs. Pors, Miss Meier, and Miss Retz; Fancy Work, No. 2 stall: Mrs. Holm; Woollen articles: Mrs. Kleinwort; Flowers (in pots): Miss Carst. During the afternoon there was a considerable attendance of ladies and children and in the evening, when the Town Band was in attendance and played a selection of music, the hall was well filled and a thriving business done by the fair saleswomen, the unsold toys, etc., being raffled off towards the latter part of the evening. The total results of the Bazaar we understand were most satisfactory.

The *Shogyo* states that a sum of 500,000 yen repaid by the Korean Government through the 1st National Bank having been remitted in a bill payable at ten days' sight, and received by the Bank of Japan on the 13th instant, the same will be paid to the Treasury about the 22nd inst.

YOKOHAMA LODGE INSTALLATION.

The regular installation meeting of the Yokohama Lodge, No. 1092, E.C., was held at the Masonic Temple, Yokohama, on Wednesday evening, when Wor. Bro. Alfred Woolley was duly placed in the Chair by the Rt. Wor. the District Grand Master of Japan, Bro. W. H. Stone. There was a considerable attendance of visiting Brethren. After the Worshipful Master had been installed he invested his officers as follows:—

Wor. Bro. E. Flint Kilby.....I.P.M.
Bro. E. C. FoxS.W.
Bro. V. BowdenJ.W.
Wor. Bro. E. C. Irwine, M.A.....Chap.
Bro. P. Launay.....Treasurer.
Wor. Bro. Harry, J. SharpSecretary.
Bro. L. Ph. von HemertD. of C.
Bro. H. B. Haskell.....S.D.
Bro. G. SchneiderJ.D.
Bro. F. J. LiasI. G.
Bro. H. IvisonTyler.

After the ceremony, a banquet was held at which Wor. Bro. Woolley presided, being supported by the Rt. Wor. the District Grand Master, Wor. Bros. E. Flint Kilby, Dr. MacDonald, Rev. E. C. Irwine, A. R. G. Clark, A. Bellamy Brown, A. Patterson, G. Hay, J. W. Hall, Stuart Eldridge, and others. The customary toasts were given and cordially received. During the evening feeling reference was made to the loss sustained by the death of Wor. Bro. R. N. St. John, the late W. M., and his memory was duly honoured.

ACCIDENT TO THE "SAGHALIEN."

We learn that the M.M. steamer *Saghalien*, which arrived here from Kobe on Thursday morning after a passage of nearly two days, met with a serious accident to her machinery on the way up from Kobe. The vessel is fitted with three engines and, owing, so far as we can learn, to the breaking of the connecting rod, the intermediate engine was completely crippled, the piston, cylinder cover, and other portions of the machinery being broken. The *Saghalien* finished the voyage under her other two engines—the injured one being disconnected—and the help of her sails, arriving only 14 hours late. The necessary repairs are of considerable magnitude but the company has resolved to merely patch up the defects here and send the *Saghalien* home to Marseilles, where she will probably be condemned. The despatch of the mails from Yokohama will in no way be delayed, we understand.

KOBE.

A correspondent of a Hawaiian journal, writing from Kobe, says:—

Kobe is a pleasant place for home or for business, the large foreign population having some part in the management of the municipality. But judging from appearances on the street there is a large consumption of whiskey and soda. It is the same sad story all through these Eastern ports. In the foreign cemeteries are the graves of many young men of dissipated lives that might have been honoured and useful were it not for this blight of alcohol, more to be dreaded than the bubonic plague or the cholera in such instances. The city streets are wide and the buildings substantial in the foreign settlement. There are more and finer new Japanese buildings than I have seen elsewhere and of two stories. So with the stores, several of them are of brick and two stories in height. But in this country of fires and of earthquakes, one hardly knows which to fear the more, the toppling bricks or the tinder box of wood. I have never noticed till I arrived in Kobe that what I supposed was a smearing of the house with lampblack instead of oil paint is really charring of the outside of the wood for preservation against the weather. The "cock-tail" has doubtless driven many a nail in many a coffin but we did not know that its results are so much *en evidence* in the settlement cemeteries.

TENURE OF LAND BY FOREIGNERS AND THE "BU" QUESTION.

EVERY one, we presume, is acquainted with the fact that although the articles of the Japanese Civil Code relating to the leasing of land are not yet operative as regards foreign residents, they are in full force among the Japanese themselves. Every one ought also to be aware, in view of the repeated explanations published in these columns, that although leases for an indefinite period are not forbidden by the Code, power is reserved to the Courts of Law to fix a period for such a lease at not less than 20 and not more than 50 years, on receipt of application duly made in that sense by lessor or lessee. In other words, a lease originally made for an indefinite period may be converted into a finite lease, whereas a lease originally made for a finite period cannot be altered. These provisions will apply to leases concluded between foreigners and Japanese after the Revised Treaties go into operation. But pending that event, a lease for an indefinite period between a foreigner and a Japanese would obviously be a violation of the Code, since the Law Courts are not competent to enforce against a foreigner the reservations prescribed by the Code with regard to such a lease. Hence the Local Authorities decline, at present, to register leases for an indefinite period where a foreigner is the lessee. We read in the columns of the *Kobe Chronicle*, however, that the Hyogo Local Authorities go a good deal farther than that: they decline to register leases for a longer period than 25 years, and our contemporary says that they are acting on secret instructions received from the Japanese Government. Secret instructions, as we have already said, are beyond the range of discussion. We know nothing about them, and are altogether sceptical as to their existence. This we do know, however, that if the Revised Treaties secure certain privileges to foreigners, and if the Local Authorities attempt to interfere with the enjoyment of those privileges, there will be a simple and certain method of correcting the abuse. As to the *Kobe Chronicle's* apprehension that the Government itself may deprive foreigners of their lawful privileges by issuing secret instructions to local authorities in a contrary sense, we do not think the hypothesis worth consideration. The Japanese Government has never shown any disposition to violate its treaty engagements. In the extremely improbable event of its attempting such a flagrant breach of faith as the *Kobe* journal suggests, the Foreign Representatives are at hand to obtain justice for their nationals. The *Kobe* paper, however, seems to have had its confidence in the Japanese Government impaired by an incident which it thus describes:—

The foreign public has not yet forgotten that by secret instructions issued by the Japanese Government a discrimination was made between foreigners and Japanese in the matter of the payment of Customs duty; that this discrimination, which formed a distinct violation of the Treaties, continued for ten years before it was by a mere accident discovered; and that though the practice has now been discontinued, no restitution has ever been obtained.

The facts of this case are very simple. They do not appear to warrant the construction put on them by our *Kobe* contemporary. It having been originally stipulated by treaty that foreign coin should circulate in Japan at its corresponding weight in native coin of the same description, dollars were received at the custom-house at their weight in *bu*, namely, 3.11 *bu* per dollar. In other words, specific duties which appear in the Tariff in terms of *bu*, were converted into dollars at the rate of 3.11 *bu* to 1 dollar, for the convenience of any one desiring to pay in dollars. In 1874, the Japanese Government issued a Notification declaring that *bu* would no longer be received from Japanese subjects, and that the dollar should be reckoned at 3.15 *bu* for payments by them, such being then the market price of the *bu*. For foreigners no change was made. They remained free to pay the duties in *bu*, and the natural assumption was that if they could obtain *bu* in the open market at a better rate than that allowed by the Customs, namely 3.11, they would buy *bu* and use them for making payments. Under such circumstances there can not justly be said to have been any discrimination against the foreigner. On the contrary, the discrimination, if any, was against the Japanese, for whereas *bu* could generally be bought in the exchange shops at a cheaper rate than 3.15, the Japanese importer had always to make his customs payments at that figure. Foreign importers took advantage of the latitude thus given, as is proved by the fact that, during the period 1874-94, they paid into the Customs more than twenty millions of *bu*, obtained in the market at rates varying from 3.15 to 3.45 and received by the Customs at 3.11. Perhaps we ought to qualify this statement by putting it into the form that more than twenty million *bu* were paid into the Customs on behalf of foreigners. The foreigner himself may have handed out dollars at 3.11, and his *compradore* may have been clever enough to buy *bu* and discharge the duties with that coin. Be that as it may, to say that there was any secrecy about the affair on the part of the Japanese Authorities seems quite erroneous. The Notification was published openly, and the Customs Returns showed in detail all the payments made by Japanese direct importers, separating the figures from those paid by foreign importers, and adding the quantity and nature of the imports in every case, so that a

glance at the Returns furnished accurate information as to the exact rates levied from Japanese. It appears probable that had an ample supply of *bu* been obtainable, no objection would have been made to the system. But from over three millions annually the payments in *bu* gradually dwindled to some two hundred thousand, and the question as between 3.11 and 3.15 was then (1894) raised, with the immediate result that the use of *bu* was altogether put an end to. Very likely nine out of every ten foreign importers never examined the Customs returns with sufficient care to detect the above point, and never knew that their *compradores* were making payments on their behalf in *bu*. But from the point of view of the Japanese, there was nothing to suggest such indifference, and certainly neither secrecy nor wilfully unfair discrimination can be justly charged against them.

SOCIAL MORALITY IN JAPAN.

AN American critic, writing from Kyoto to the *Hyogo News*, takes for his text an article recently published in these columns on the subject of the social evil in Japan. He thinks that he has discovered a wide gulf between his own views and those of the editor of this journal, and knowing that his conclusions, like ours, are based on experience spreading over more than a quarter of a century, he endeavours, at the outset, to account for the discrepancy, and finds two explanations; one that whereas the editor compared European countries with Japan, the critic takes as his sole standard of comparison America, with which alone he is acquainted; the other, that whereas the editor's experience is probably confined to Tokyo and a few other treaty-port cities, the critic has travelled widely and lived almost constantly in Japanese hotels from Hokkaido to Kiushu. It is a very singular fact that while analysing thus carefully these hypothetical points of variance, our critic fails to detect the real and radical distinction, namely that he and we are discussing different topics: we spoke simply and solely of the social evil; he speaks almost entirely of social morality. It is, indeed, with a feeling of bewildered amazement that we peruse his comments. How can intelligent controversy be conducted if one of the controversialists wanders entirely out of range of the subject of discussion, and constructively attributes to his opponent opinions which the latter has not given the slightest hint of holding? Our topics were simply the arithmetic of prostitution in Japan, and the wisdom of the licensing system. Our critic attacks us on the subjects of concubinage; the admission of *geisha* to private residences and their employment at entertainments in tea-houses; the immorality of waitresses at inns; the prevalence of divorce; the

looseness of the Buddhist priesthood, and the indifference of the upper classes to these unhappy conditions—not one of which subjects was even remotely alluded to in the article criticized. Taught by experience how necessary it is to guard our views against misconstruction, we were careful to conclude our recent article upon this subject with the words:—"We must ask that our position in this matter be not misunderstood. It is not for one instant our purpose to deny that there are terrible abuses in Japan, and that earnest men * * * may do much good by their efforts to effect reforms." If our Kyoto critic had read these words, he ought surely to have perceived that we were not posing as defenders of Japanese social morality as a whole, and if he had read our article with commonest attention he must have seen that it referred to only one phase of the general question, and that it could not with any semblance of justice be construed in the broad sense attached to it by him.

Into a controversy of the kind now mapped out, we are extremely reluctant to enter. The task is one of immense dimensions and its fitness for the columns of a daily newspaper is very problematical. Moreover, some of the abuses which we had in mind when penning the close of our last article are precisely those now indicated by our critic. But it appears to us that he labours under certain unfortunate misconceptions. For example, he sets out by saying "Japan has, America has not, legalized concubinage." If these words are intended to mean—and they appear to bear only one meaning—that concubinage is recognised by law in Japan, they are diametrically opposed to the truth. Concubinage is not more legal in Japan than in the United States of America. The law does not recognise it in any way. Further, our critic's notion of the *geisha* seems to us to be very distorted. The *geisha* is primarily a dancing girl. She knows perfectly well how to be that and nothing more, and when she is summoned to private residences or to entertainments at tea houses where Japanese ladies and gentlemen are guests, the most rigid moralist could not detect even a shadow of questionable behaviour on her part. She carries the viands to the convives, pours out wine for them, plays the *samisen*, dances and sings with the most absolute regard for all the proprieties. No foreign lady, let her be ever so delicately and fastidiously educated, could be offended by the contributions that the *geisha* makes to social convivialities. We read with much amusement that when the Governor of Hongkong visited Kyoto, "they thought they could do no better than call in *geisha* for his entertainment," and that "the doughty Governor's indignation was not expressed in the mildest phrases." The "doughty Governor's" so-called "indig-

nation"—we speak from knowledge, having been actually present—took the form of enthusiastic applause, and of a statement that anything more graceful, modest, and, at the same time, debonnaire, he had never witnessed. Evidently the Kyoto writer imagines that any entertainment including *geisha* among its features is an immoral orgie of the worst kind. Nothing could well be more erroneous. In all Japan from year's end to year's end there is not to be witnessed any spectacle which, in point of immorality, approaches the *ballets* nightly performed at the principal theatres in great Western cities. On the other hand, that the majority of the *geisha* are immoral, that they exercise an undoubtedly demoralizing influence, and that the graces with which they drape vice tend to hide its deformity, are facts not to be gainsaid. That the abolition of the *geisha* would be a salutary step we can not entertain any doubt. It would indeed be a pity that the beautiful dances and charming customs which they cultivate and perpetuate should be banished from Japanese society. But these things can be preserved without impairment at places like the Maple Club in Tokyo, where the waitresses are trained *danseuses* of the highest proficiency and, at same time, lead lives quite beyond the breath of reproach.

Of course, in speaking thus of the *geisha*, we touch only the fringe of the large subject introduced by our critic. Into its various phases we must decline to follow him here. Nothing that he has written about concubinage in this country, or about the sale of girls by their parents or guardians into a life of shame, seems to us too strong. But we protest most emphatically against being placed publicly in the position of having advanced assertions which we never made and of having formulated theories entirely strange to us. Our statement was that "in point of arithmetic the social evil is no worse in Japan than it is in any Western country." Beyond that we did not go, and we refuse to be now saddled with the duty of defending ourselves against charges which have no basis. We know our critic to be a thoroughly sincere man, anxious to do good and well disposed to Japan. He has challenged us to a needless controversy for in many important respects we think as he thinks, and, at any rate, intelligent and frank discussion of the subject can scarcely be attempted in the columns of a newspaper.

According to the *Tokyo Asahi*, a bill was lately presented to the Municipal Council of Tokyo urging that the monthly professional tax on singing girls should be raised from 1 yen for the 1st class and 50 sen for the 2nd to 4 yen and 2 yen respectively, while the taxes on actors were to be increased to 15 yen instead of 10 yen as heretofore. As for the wrestlers, an increase of 50 per cent. was proposed, story-tellers being taxed 2 yen.

THE QUESTION IN CHINA.

AN "extra" published last evening by the *Fiji Shimpō*, contains the following telegrams from its special correspondent:—

Peking, 15th Dec. 1.05 p.m.

The Government, replying to the inquiry of a certain Foreign Representative, denies positively that Germany has made any demand for territory in the neighbourhood of Swatow (the reference is probably to Samsha harbour in Fukien), and adds that such a demand may possibly be preferred hereafter, but that if it is, England seems likely to oppose it.

Russia, in order to get the Japanese garrison out of Weishaiwei without a day's delay, is taking steps for lending to China the money required to pay off the remainder of the Indemnity.

We are not justified, of course, in accepting the above telegrams as correct, especially the part relating to Great Britain's intentions. There is no doubt that England's interests make for the conservation of the Chinese empire, temporarily at any rate, and that English public opinion, as indeed the public opinion of all civilized nations, would be strongly opposed to an act of spoliation such as the *Fiji's* correspondent attributes to Germany. But between the mere expression of public opinion and its translation into inter-State action there is a wide interval, and the question is, would England be likely to cross that interval for the sake of keeping Germany out of Samsha. There is one fact that must not be lost sight of in discussing this matter. It is the Bocca Tigris Convention of 1846, to which, according to a Reuter's telegram, allusion was recently made by *The Times* in connexion with Germany's alleged proposal to occupy Samsha. The third and fourth articles of that Convention run thus:—

3.—It is stipulated, on the part of His Majesty the Emperor of China, that on the evacuation of Chusan by Her Britannic Majesty's forces, the said island shall never be ceded to any other foreign Power.

4.—Her Britannic Majesty consents, upon her part, in case of the attack of an invader, to protect Chusan and its dependencies, and to restore it to the possession of China as of old. But as this stipulation proceeds from the friendly alliance between the two nations, no pecuniary subsidies are to be due from China on this account.

What is meant by "Chusan and its dependencies?" The Bocca Tigris Convention was negotiated mainly with reference to China's protracted reluctance to admit British subjects to Canton. The first epoch of that reluctance culminated in acts of violence in 1840, the immediate results of which were the despatch of Sir GORDON BREMER's expedition, the occupation of Chusan and Kulangsu, and various military operations. These islands were subsequently held as security for the fulfillment of the engagements made by China in the Treaty of Nanking (1842) namely, residential and trade facilities for British subjects in Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo and Shanghai; the cession of Hongkong, the payment of an indemnity of 21 million dollars, and certain minor concessions. But in the one point of opening Canton, China found herself unable to keep faith, and after

four years of waiting, the British Government withdrew the garrison from Chusan, concluding, at the same time, the Bocca Tigris Convention. Looking merely at the letter of the Convention, "Chusan and its dependencies" may be interpreted to mean the group of islands at the mouth of the Yangtze River. But looking to the circumstances under which the Convention was concluded, its intention would appear to have been the insurance of the whole coast between Canton and the mouth of the Yangtze against foreign aggression. Germany at Samsha would be planted between Hongkong and Chusan. She would virtually command the mouth of the Yangtze as compared with England at Hongkong. Is it probable that England, with the Bocca Tigris Convention in her pocket, would submit to that very material change of conditions? We can not think so. At the time of the Liaotung affair, when public excitement ran so high about the *coup* made by the Three Powers and about the transfer of the centre of gravity of Far-Eastern politics to Berlin—St. Petersburg would have been a more accurate analysis—, we ventured to point out that England, quietly and without seeking any one's coöperation, had made a more momentous and significant stroke off her own bat by sending a squadron up the Yangtze and guaranteeing the neutrality of the greatest water-way in the East, the line of division between northern and southern China. The most superficial observer could not mistake the import of England's action on that occasion. It was an open declaration that she intended to preserve the continuity of the policy mapped out in the Convention of 1846, and that her resolve was to guarantee complete freedom of trade, and full security from foreign aggression, for the regions tapped by the Yangtze River. The idea of England's entering into an agreement, or accepting even the bare suggestion of an understanding, with any European Power to map out mutual "spheres of influence" or lines of partition in China is not to be entertained for an instant. Without pretending to claim any high standard of international morality for the British nation, we do allege that a plundering project of that nature would be hooted throughout the length and breadth of the land. But during the long course of England's commercial relations and unhappy quarrels with China, extending over an interval of 57 years, there has been clearly indicated a policy which may be said to have been traced with the blood of her soldiers not less than with the pens of her diplomats. Virtually by her strength alone the coastwise provinces of Kwangtung, Fukkien, Chehkiang and Kiangsu have been opened to foreign trade, and the water-way from the two last to the seven inland provinces of China—the provinces extending from Burmah

to the lower reaches of the Yangtze—has been kept open. That there has been any deliberate scheme of aggression on such a huge scale, we do not think of asserting. But events have assuredly shaped themselves so that England, if confronted with the contingency of foreign aggression in the districts lying between the mouth of the Yangtze and Hongkong, would be justified in pointing to the history of her relations with China since 1840, and in claiming that a sphere has been delimited for her by a train of incidents not to be misconstrued or minimized.

Japan's position too seems not unlikely to demand very careful consideration at an early date. No one can pretend to think that the conditions under which she was induced to retrocede the Liaotung Peninsula and the northern littoral of the Yellow Sea, have not changed radically, or that the change has not been brought about by the very Powers at whose pressing instance she agreed to surrender the fruits of her victories. She stepped out of southern Shingking because Russia, Germany and France declared that her presence there would render Korean independence illusory. How has Korean independence fared since then? Japan may have to reflect whether she can allow herself to be bought out of Wei-hai-wei with Russian money. Or should the negotiations now going on between Berlin and Peking fail to eventuate in the evacuation of Kiaochow, she may have to reflect whether she can afford to be excluded from both of the peninsulas that command the entrance to the Gulf of Petchili.

SAILING DIRECTIONS.

Captain J. J. Mahlmann's excellent work entitled "The Inland Sea and Coast Pilot, Sailing Directions," has been so much appreciated by sea-faring men that it has reached its second edition. Many additions have been made and corrections inserted so as to bring it up to date, and it is now a volume of 241 pages, abounding in useful information. The author adheres, of course, to his familiar method of compilation—question and answer—which seems admirably suited to impress the main facts of any problem of navigation on the mind of the student. Presumably a thoroughly competent Inland-Sea pilot must carry in his head all the information contained in this book. It is a formidable task, but the effect of Captain Mahlmann's labours in lightening it can not fail to be substantial. At the close of the book there are some most interesting records of typhoons that have visited the coasts of Japan during the past five years. The technique of the volume is very good, and reflects credit on the publishers, the *Higo News Printing and Publishing Company*.

COLLISION IN THE BAY.

About 6 o'clock on Saturday evening a collision occurred off Sagami, at the entrance to Tokyo Bay, between the *Hokushiu Maru*, owned by the Hokuyetsu Kisen Kabushiki Kaisha, and the N. Y. K. steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, Capt. Sommer. The *Hokushiu Maru* was leaving the Bay for Otaru, and the *Kinshiu* coming up to Yokohama, from Kobe. The *Hokushiu* appears to have been trying to cross the bows of the *Kinshiu*, but failed to effect this, crashing into her bows on the port side, about

the break of the fore-castle, and denting in or breaking a number of plates and frames from the water line to the bulwarks. The *Hokushiu Maru* received some damage to her cut water and bow, which is twisted out of shape. Neither of the steamers received any serious damage below the water line, and both arrived in Yokohama harbour on Monday morning.

ENTERTAINMENT TO MR. AND MRS. ADAMS.

Mr. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and Mrs. Kondo entertained Mr. and Mrs. Adams, who are now on a visit to Japan, at the Maple Club on the evening of the 13th instant. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Kato, Mr. and Mrs. Iwanaga, Miss Kondo, Miss Howe, Mr. Kawada, Mr. and Mrs. Kioka, Mr. and Mrs. Ogawa, Mr. and Mrs. Yoshitaka, Mr. and Mrs. Tanaka, Mr. and Mrs. Duer, Mr. J. A. Glover and Captain and Mrs. Brinkley. An exceptionally skilled performance of music on the *koto*, *shamisen*, *shakuhachi* and *kobu* was followed by a display of *legerdemain*, and by many dances of great beauty and artistic merit. Dinner was served in the most elaborate Japanese style, the perennial *saké* being supplemented, however, by claret and champagne.

THE GERMAN COMMERCIAL.

A correspondent of an East Anglian paper, quoted by the *London and China Express*, speaks thus of one of the results that came from the establishment of the German and Austrian mail lines to the Far East:—

It was curious to find that the merchants of Hongkong, shrewd, quick-sighted, active business men though they be, found a satisfactory solution in a fact apparent to them, but which is only an incident flowing from the cause: It was the invasion of the German commercial traveller would fail to fit the German who fills that office. In education a man of high attainments, nearly always a musician, invariably a linguist, well-read in history, familiar with the finer literature of, at least, his own country and the arts of others, polished in manner, and delightful by his wide catholicity in conversation, he came as a revelation to the East. Possessing these personal qualities, he was also gifted with a native shrewdness as to business generally, and a thorough knowledge of every detail of his own particular branch. He was able to describe methods by which the article he sold was manufactured, and to tell where and how the raw material was prepared, and its cost at any stage. Naturally enough the Hongkong merchant was interested and even fascinated by such plausible men, and gave his orders with a lavishness denied to his British correspondents, who were less favoured in address and *savoir faire*. The German commercial visitor was a welcome guest at the clubs, where his music or his conversation was as welcome to the colonial official body as to the merchants; and he gathered there the results of observations continued over periods of years by men who were lookers on, and could form without prejudice more accurate opinions on the current and tendencies of trade and demand than those who viewed it more closely. From this information he made reports to his employers, and they, no less ready than he, were quick to take advantage of them. It may be as well to say here all that will be necessary about the commercial traveller in these articles. In the long journeys I took in various ships in the last few months, I had personal opportunities of meeting several hundreds representing a varied interest, and hailing from Great Britain, the United States, Germany, France, Italy, and Austria. In the close intimacy which steamship travel imposes, no fellow-passenger could fail to find reason for fully endorsing the opinion I have paraphrased above. Considered as a man of the world, the German commercial traveller is far above his competitors, and the success of his trade indicates his capacity in the mercantile rivalry, unless it be attributed to cheaper goods.

The date of enforcing the Leaf Tobacco Monopoly Law is at hand. Prices have risen considerably in consequence of the failure of the tobacco crop this year, and in view of this fact a project is on foot to import leaf tobacco from abroad with a view to keeping down domestic production. The tobacco merchants in the capital, asserts the *Shagyo*, are exerting themselves to present a memorial to the Government, urging that foreign leaf tobacco should be taxed in the same way as the domestic leaf until the revised treaties come into operation.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

Some Liberals in Yamato lately passed a resolution that since they could not place confidence in the existing Cabinet they would present an Address to that effect immediately on the reassembling of the Diet.

According to the *Nichi Nichi*, a scheme is on foot to construct a tramway in Kusa-gori, Tango, to facilitate communications with various sections of the naval port of Maizuru. Another line is to be constructed between Maizuru and Yobemura, a distance of 12 miles, with a capital of 90,000 yen.

A draft of the Penal Code revised last year was submitted to the Judicial Council for approval and further amendments were made. It is now ready for presentation to the Diet. The revised Code, asserts the *Shogyo*, differs widely from the existing system, especially in provisions relating to the increase of punishment for repeated offences.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* states that a reply from the Hawaiian Government with regard to the late emigration affair having recently been received by the Foreign Department, through the Japanese Minister, Mr. Shimamura, necessary instructions are shortly to be given him with a view to the amicable settlement of the complication without the intercession of an arbitrator.

Statistics published in the *Nippon* show that the actual number of Naval Officers on the first reserve on the 1st instant was as follows:—Admiral, 1; Vice Admirals, 9; Rear-Admirals, 8; Captains, 17; Commanders, 11; Lieutenants, 16; Sub-Lieutenant, 1; Inspector-General of Machinery, 1; Chief Inspectors of Machinery, 4; Inspector, 1; Chief Engineers, 4; Engineers, 2; total, together with non-commissioned officers, 108. Officers on the second reserve numbered 82.

Commenting upon the proposed annexation of Hawaii by the United States, the *Kokumin* says that a question must naturally arise as to how the rights of Japan are to be dealt with. Mr. Sherman, in the capacity of Secretary of State, has already declared that he will not impair the privileges now enjoyed by the Japanese in Hawaii, so that the sanction of the annexation scheme by the Senate will not be attended with danger to Japan's rights in the islands.

The kerosene industry of Japan, alleges the *Osaka Asahi*, has made marked progress of late. Twenty-five years ago, the annual output did not exceed 70,000 *koku*, but it rose to 150,000 *koku* in 1835, and to 200,000 *koku* in 1896, while by 1897 it had swelled to 300,000 *koku*. Improvements in the processes of working the wells will, it is expected, enable the producers to realize a considerable profit. The authorities appear to have determined to send experts to Russia and America at the cost of 20,000 yen, for the purpose of studying this branch of industry.

According to the *Tokyo Asahi*, cases of dysentery throughout the empire up to the 9th instant totalled 89,427, of which 22,310 proved fatal. The cities and prefectures from which more than 5,000 patients are reported are as follow:—Tokyo, patients 7,022, deaths 2,101; Kanagawa, patients 6,346, deaths 1,358; Niigata, patients 7,553, deaths 1,767; Gunma, 5,693 and 1,264 respectively; Shizuoka, 5,693 and 1,729; Yamanashi, 9,524 and 2,061; Nagano, 5,309 and 1,220.

The 31st ordinary general meeting of the Tokyo Tramway Company was held on the 10th instant at the Company's Office, when thirty-five shareholders were in attendance, representing altogether 10,595 shares. Mr. Mudakuchi, from the chair, presented the report and accounts. He said:—Owing to an alteration in our bye-laws the period under review consists of five months only. The gross receipts during this period amounted to 20,070,703 yen, the average per mensum being 54,140 yen. December is a month in which great profits are re-

alized, so that had our fiscal period not been changed receipts would have stood at a higher figure. When the appreciation of commodities as well as the rise in wages are taken into consideration, the results of the five months working are far from being unsatisfactory. A dividend of 35 per cent. was declared.

The amount of kerosene oil recently transported from Yokohama to various parts of the country, according to the *Tokyo Asahi*, was as follows:—Anchor brand, 35,390 cases; "Moon," 5,399; "Chester," 128,388 cases; "Comet," 8,684 cases; "Sumatra," 31,357 cases; total, 909,216 cases.

At the time of the enforcement of the Trades Tax Law, newspaper business was exempted from taxation under the classification of "higher trades." For the same reason the Governor of Tokyo, in his estimates for the 31st year, inserted a clause excluding journals from taxation, but this action was vehemently opposed by the standing committee, who have decided to levy a local tax on newspapers just as if journalism was an ordinary occupation.

Information from Formosa received by the *Nichi Nichi* announces that on the night of the 29th ultimo about forty insurgents attacked the local administrative office in Teng Shan prefecture and carried away a sum of 3,700 yen belonging to the Government. In this assault some policemen were severely wounded. Two gendarmes had previously been reconnoitering the neighbourhood and one was shot by the mob from an ambush.

The *Hochi* states that loans issued to the public by the Bank of Japan during last month amounted to 90 million yen. This figure is nearly equal to that recorded at the end of last year, but as demands for an additional 10 millions are likely to be sent in towards the close of the year, the total loans will probably reach 100 millions. Such an enormous figure has never before been attained in the past three years, although a gradual falling-off in the demand for capital is expected in the future. No opportunity seems to present for the Bank of Japan to increase its rates of interest.

According to the *Yiji*, match wood and materials for match boxes exported from Kobe for the ten months ending in October this year amounted to the following figures:—To Hongkong 2,431,850 bundles valued at 23,279 yen; to China 5,916,750 bundles valued at 580,408 yen; to America, 6,000 bundles valued at 5,400 yen; total 8,408,600 bundles worth 82,225 yen. The figures for boxes were—Hongkong 43,215,500 bundles worth 7,006 yen; China, 241,388,400 bundles worth 28,411 yen; India, 540,000 bundles worth 7,002 yen; total 334,643,900 bundles worth 42,420 yen.

With regard to the steady increase of titled members of the Diet, it is rumoured that a further appointment of ten members will be made by special Imperial sanction prior to the opening of next session. The present Cabinet, however, having accepted recommendations from various quarters without due consideration, the number of candidates is reported by the *Mainichi* to have reached 150. The Cabinet is seriously perplexed in regard to the selections to make from this number. Another rumour is afloat that the candidates having already been selected, a day will shortly arrive when some strange and unexpected appointments will be announced.

According to the *Chuo*, the Tokyo Rice Exchange, which has been deliberating for some time upon the comparative quality of foreign rice, has decided as follows:—(1)—Foreign cereals to be received or delivered in place of the domestic product shall come exclusively from Korea, Annam, Siam, and Burmah. (2)—Rice from the three last mentioned countries shall be quoted from 1.50 yen to 3.50 yen lower than the rate fixed for rice dealt with by the Exchange. (3)—One *sho* of foreign rice shall be regarded as weighing 380 *momme*, thus converting it into the same measure as that used for coal. (4)—The

present rules for the receipt and delivery of domestic rice shall be observed in foreign transactions. (5)—The receipt or delivery of foreign rice shall be undertaken by means of samples, and whenever any of extra fine quality is found, the comparative value shall be raised at the time of delivery. (6)—These provisions shall be enforced for time bargains at three months' sight, for which the first meeting will be held in January of the 31st year of *Meiji*.

An Imperial Ordinance was issued on the 9th inst. embodying regulations for the organization of a Forestry Council. The Council, subject to the control of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, is to investigate problems connected with the registration or withdrawal of land set apart for forests; the appraisement of the value for purchase of the same, as well as the settlement of compensation. The date of meeting is likewise to be determined by the Minister on application by a Local Governor. The Council will consist of a president and fourteen members selected from among high officials, as well as from the standing committees of cities or prefectures.

The excess of imports over exports, remarks the *Hochi*, grows larger and larger. Yokohama and Kobe alone during last month returned an amount of seven million yen. Although the return of trade in other ports has not yet been compiled by the Finance Department, and is not therefore at hand for comparison, the figures for last month added to those for October indicate an excess of imports to the amount of 53,315,949 yen; exports and imports from January to October aggregating 131,302,108 yen and 177,868,698 yen respectively. The figures for Yokohama and Kobe for November were, 13,697,992 yen in exports and 20,448,051 yen in imports, which, together with the above, make a total of 145,000,800 yen and 198,316,749 yen respectively.

Arrivals of foreign rice, remarks the *Mainichi*, continue. But as the grain is steadily transported into the interior, prices remain unaltered. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha having entered into a contract for the direct import of 100 tons of Rangoon rice, two or three other merchants immediately followed their example by opening negotiations with three firms in Yokohama—Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., and Messrs. Raspe & Co., for the import of Rangoon cleaned rice to the amount of 500 tons at 4.70 or 4.80 yen per bag. Shiching grain is now quoted at 4.85 yen, while Tonking rice fetches 4.30 yen owing to the scarcity of stock.

The *Kokumin* states that a general meeting of the Cotton Spinning Guild is to be held in Osaka on the 10th instant for the purpose of discussing problems touching the encouragement of this industry the abolition of the Income Tax Law, and the promotion of facilities for foreign exchange. The gist of the bill for the proposed encouragement of the cotton industry is as follows:—

Art. I.—Any member of the guild who takes charge of the export of cotton yarns to foreign countries (Korea, being regarded as on the same footing as Japan, is excepted) shall be granted a subsidy for the encouragement of export.

Art. II.—The money to be appropriated to this subsidy shall be collected in proportion to the amount of manufactures (fine yarns of 20's excepted) undertaken during the 1st half of this year.

Art. III.—In granting an encouragement subsidy steps shall be taken to secure a tender from each member, so that contracts may be concluded.

V.—Parties who have seemed such contract will be at liberty to undertake export either through sellers or direct. The number of bales placed in their care must all be exported within the specified term.

Note.—Cotton yarns for export may be either the product of the contractors themselves or of any of the members, no distinction being made.

Art. VIII.—If the contractor fails to export the goods within the specified period he shall be required to pay double the amount of money contracted for as compensation for breach of faith.

Note.—This however, does not apply to cases in which export becomes impracticable on account of natural calamity or other unavoidable causes.

At the ordinary general meeting of the Progressionist party held on the 12th instant, the following resolutions, as published in the *Nippon*, were passed:—(1)—Steps will be taken to

enquire into the blunders committed by the present Cabinet, so that its responsibility may be clearly determined. (2)—The Party will endeavour to preserve strict discipline among officials and to secure the reform of the administration; to adjust the finances, promote the national resources, and reduce the national armaments to a safer basis, so that the country's prestige may be efficiently maintained. (3)—Opposition shall in no way be relaxed against the government in regard to the increased taxation scheme until such time as administrative reform and financial adjustment have become accomplished facts. (4)—Radical changes in the Formosan civil administration shall be striven for.

According to the *Tokyo Asahi*, the editor of the *Tohoku Nippo*, a daily journal published in Niigata, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and fined ten yen, and the printer to one month's imprisonment with a fine of five yen, for libelling the Ministers of State.

That the Kodokai would, sooner or later, be dissolved could scarcely be doubted, says the *Tokyo Asahi*. Several members recently removed their names from the list, while others have asserted that the party had better return to its original elements at once than continue as at present.

Census returns published in the *Nichi Nichi* show that the number of Japanese residents in Wonsan, Korea, during last month totalled 1,421, of whom 876 were males and 545 females. Together they constituted 324 families. Their numbers have decreased by 59 and five families respectively, as compared with the previous month.

The Japan Military Art Society recently held a meeting at the Municipal Council Hall, Kyoto, to discuss questions relating to the amendment of its regulations and the establishment of branches. According to investigations completed on the 1st instant and published in the *Fomuri*, the number of active members of the Society totalled 78,361 (their contributions amounting to 79,408 yen) while non-active members aggregated 40,375, with contributions of 5,577 yen.

On the afternoon of the 12th instant, a grand meeting of the Liberal party in the Kwanto districts was held at Omiya, Saitama prefecture, when more than 500 members were present. The following resolutions were passed:—(1) Since the present Cabinet has committed every form of blunder and violated the Constitution in all directions, thus bringing about serious corruption of public morality, a strong vote of censure should be passed immediately on the re-assembling of the Diet so that the Cabinet may be radically reconstructed. (2) No confidence being placed in the Cabinet, opposition shall be organised against the increased taxation schemes, which are nothing but a result of the Cabinet's blundering.

The capital of the Tokyo Hydrostatic Electric Company was originally fixed at three million yen, one-third of which was subscribed by the inhabitants of the district where the source of power was situated. These people have since urged the Company to commence business by reducing the capital and reserving the right of distribution of shares until a more favourable opportunity matures. The suggestion was accepted after deliberation and the capital has now been reduced to two million yen. The company proposes to hold a general meeting in January. The first calls on shares will probably be made in February or March.

Investigations completed at the Japanese Consulate in Lyons and published in the *Shogyo*, show that the average supply of silk from China, Italy, Japan, and other countries for the past three years was as follows:—China, 5,292,000 kilogrammes; Italy, 3,266,000 kilogrammes; Japan, 3,102,000 kilogrammes; other countries in the East, 1,326,000 kilogrammes; France 815,000 grammes; Austro-Hungary 277,000 kilogrammes; British India, 276,000

kilogrammes; Spain, 96,000 kilogrammes; total, 4,450,000 kilogrammes. In the above figures, the amounts set down to Japan, China, and British India represent the quantity exported, but those for other countries embody the gross amount of production. According to present figures the ratio of consumption of silk in France is 46 per cent. for China, 21 per cent. for Japan, 14 per cent. for Italy, 13 per cent. for Turkey, and 6 per cent. for other countries.

A meeting of the Cotton Spinning Guild is reported by the *Mainichi* to have been held in Osaka on the 10th instant. After the election of a president and vice-president, a debate was started on problems connected with encouragement of the export of cotton yarns; the promotion of facilities of foreign exchange, and the entire abolition of the Trades Tax. The 1st and 3rd matters were set aside, the 2nd alone being taken up for final discussion. A suggestion previously made to the effect that the best means of arresting the decline of the spinning industry would be to suspend work for four weeks, was rejected. It was finally decided that a committee be appointed to urge the Government to afford special facilities for securing loans for spinning companies, especially in making remittances abroad, and that the committee should be empowered to open negotiations with the Specie Bank or the Bank of Japan in order to attain the above ends. It was further proposed that creditors should be requested to postpone collection of their promissory notes, now amounting to eight million yen, which have been issued by over fifty spinning companies.

Commenting upon the present condition of Korea, the *Tokyo Asahi* says that the alliance between Russia and France, in all matters dealing with the little Kingdom, has now become an accomplished fact. Russia has succeeded in securing supreme authority in the army and finance, while France is endeavouring to take charge of all industrial enterprises. It has been suggested to the Korean court that French experts should be engaged for the furtherance of technical education. This step became apparent when a report was made by the Commercial and Industrial Department to the Foreign Office to the following effect:—With a view to instructing the natives in various branches of industry, French experts should be engaged to teach carpentry, masonry, tile making, joinery, electric-lighting, and glass and porcelain making. Communications have already been opened with the French Minister and the amount of funds to be devoted to these undertakings, through a mutual understanding, has been estimated at 6,000 yen a year. Since the engagement of foreigners, however, has to be conducted through the Foreign Office alone, it is desired that application be formally made to the French Minister in Seoul for the purpose of securing the services of experts as soon as possible.

The Minister of Finance being anxious to comply with the wishes of the Commercial and Industrial Union, recently submitted, according to the *Chuo*, to the Nippon Ginko, the following three points for consideration:—

- (1).—Reduction of discount on all bills.
- (2).—Extension of the limits of goods receivable as security.
- (3).—Greater freedom in the matter of loans, suspension of arbitrary increases in the rates of interest.

It is, of course, within the competence of the Minister of Finance to negotiate with the Bank of Japan on the above three points, but to force them upon the Bank would be most preposterous; such an action would inevitably lead to all snapping of the relations now existing between the Bank and the Ministry. Yet the suggestions having been made by the Premier, the Bank of Japan is under obligation to present a reply to them. It seems that the Bank is diametrically opposed to the 1st and 2nd suggestions, the 3rd alone being acceptable. In fact, this is a course that the Nippon Ginko is very much disposed to adopt. But the greatest difficulty presents itself in the matter of the

Bank's pledging itself to refrain from raising the rates of interest whenever circumstances demand, inasmuch as a guarantee of such a nature would impair its dignity as the central bank of Japan.

The *Shogyo* states that the general meeting of an association "organised for the consummation of financial adjustment," which goes under the name of the *Zaisei Seiri Kisei Domei-kwai*, is to be held on the 7th instant at the Fujimiken restaurant. The proposed subjects of debate are:

- (1) Reduction by 20 per cent. (about 5 million yen) in the amount of ordinary military expenditure for the next ten years.
 - (2) Reduction in the same amount of the ordinary naval expenditure for ten years.
 - (3) Granting of an annual allowance towards the civil administration fund for Formosa for a term of years, in addition to the revenue now realizable.
 - (4) Reduction by half of the expenditure for the maintenance of gendarmes.
 - (5) Undertaking the Formosan railway as a government enterprise.
 - (6) Recourse to foreign loans in future with the consent of the Diet.
 - (7) Entrusting the telephone service to local corporations or private individuals.
- The following matters are to be introduced for special deliberation:—(1) Abolition of Laws for the inspection of silk; for the encouragement of direct export of silk; and of the deep sea fishing encouragement subsidies. (2) Recission of the Tobacco Monopoly Law and the levying of a tax on the area of plantations at a rate corresponding to the amount of import duties. (3) Abolition of the Agricultural and Commercial Banks. (4) Division of the construction expenses for the Shinyetsu railway in the form of shares, so that one half may be sold to the public and the other half held by the Government.

From the *Tokyo Asahi*, we gather that the Osaka harbour bonds were originally intended to be sold at 90 yen per 100 yen face value and to bear five per cent. interest, in order to attract foreign capital. While the scheme was still in progress, Mr. Utsumi, ex-Governor of Osaka, submitted the bonds to various banks in the city for subscription, and eventually the interest was raised to 6 per cent. Some of the members of the Municipal Council advocating the introduction of foreign capital now assert that as the reconstruction of the harbour is not undertaken solely for the advantage of Osaka's inhabitants, but more as a State enterprise, the scheme adopted for raising the loan was far from satisfactory. They are consequently exerting their energies towards getting the plan restored to its original shape. A domestic loan places the term of redemption at seventy-seven years, but with foreign capital amounting to 16,820,000 yen, which could be obtained at once, the works might all be paid for in forty yearly installments. Thus there is a difference of thirty-seven years between the two schemes. Moreover, the foreign capital thus acquired being at five per cent. interest, a surplus of 3,483,172 yen would be saved in interest. Other advantages resulting from the shortening of the period of repaying the loan would be secured by reductions in the municipal taxes, amounting to 7,360,438 yen (appropriation of future profits realizable after the 30th year) and in rents of land aggregating 6,660,000 yen, and also in the amount of fees for piers and wharves, which would amount to no less than 6,077,250 yen, these figures together constituting a total of 20,097,688 yen. Even subtracting from this amount a sum of 3,700,000 yen as maintenance expenditure for 37 years, the enormous saving of 16,797,688 yen is possible.

The price of rice has never been so high since the Restoration, as it is at present. The decrease in stocks at the Fukagawa granaries is quite unprecedented, the figures for October aggregating only 90,000 bags. Under these circumstances the average quotations per *koku* have risen to 14.53 yen. Last month, arrivals from Iae, where the crop was eminently successful, continued to come in freely, while new rice from Kiushiu, together with imported grain, swelled the

stock in Fukagawa to 180,000 or 190,000 bags. Subsequently, big importations of rice from abroad led to a slight falling-off in prices. The appreciation of commodities has also led to a rise in freights. The rate between Tokyo and Yokkaichi, which used to be 33 yen per 100 *roku*, has been raised to 38 yen, and that between Tokyo and Kumamoto to 80 yen instead of 66 yen as heretofore; warehousing fees have increased about 20 per cent. Below is a table showing average quotations and stocks for the past five years:—

Year.	Stock. Bags.	Average price. Yen.
1892	363,330	7.24
1893	667,088	7.98
1894	740,896	8.31
1895	789,293	9.15
1896	753,407	10.60
Dec. 14th, 1897 ..	189,450	13.76

The total imports of rice for the same periods were as follow:—1892, 2,201,546 bags; 1893, 3,309,425 bags; 1894, 2,723,505 bags; 1895, 2,433,834 bags; 1896, 2,336,670 bags; 1897, 2,723,505 bags. Imports up to November this year totalled 1,965,500 bags, which, together with domestic rice, constitute an aggregate total of 300,000 bags.

It is stated that gold dust has been found on the upper stream of the Ishikari River, Hokkaido, and some forty workmen are at present engaged in seeking the precious metal. It is added that the quality of the gold is excellent and some nuggets weighing 7 *momme* and 5 *momme* have been found.

Investigations completed by the Finance Department show that the rates of interest on loans throughout the empire from July to September this year have risen considerably. At present there are sixty principal localities where banking business is carried on, but the highest rates of interest are paid in Miyasaki, Niigata, and Gifu. Kanazawa is reported to show 15.3 per cent, and is followed by Saisho, Akashi, and Izushi, where the rate is fixed at over 15 per cent. Yawata ranks next, with 14.4 per cent. The minimum scale of interest is noticeable in Kagawa, Oita, and Okinawa. Takamatsu and Sayeki are represented to show 7 per cent. only, while Okinawa comes next with 8 per cent. maximum to 7.3 per cent. minimum. The following comparative table shows the average rate of interest for this year and last:—

	30th year. per cent.	29th year. per cent.	30th year. per cent.	29th year. per cent.
July	13.3	12.6	9.8	9.2
August	13.3	12.8	10.	9.4
September	13.3	13	10.	9.6

The highest rate of interest on deposits was paid in Toyama, being 7.5 per cent. Next come Kumamoto, Kiriu, Mito, Tatbayashi, and Kashiwada, where the scale was from 6.6 per cent to 7 per cent. Nagaoka and Shizuoka indicate the lowest, namely at 3 per cent, while Yawata and Tsurooka occupy the second position with 3.5 per cent, and are followed by Saga and Ushitsu with a slightly higher rate. Other districts varied from 6.4 per cent. to 4 per cent. Interest on deposits this year may be compared with the corresponding period of last year as follows:—

	At minimum average. 30th year. per cent.	29th year. per cent.	Maximum average. 30th year. per cent.	29th year. per cent.
July	6.2	5.9	4.5	4.1
August	6.3	5.9	4.6	4.2
September	6.3	6.	4.7	4.2

With regard to the daily rate of discount, it may be mentioned that the highest rate is noticeable in Nabeoka, 5.4 *sen*. Tsuruoka, Akita, and Sayeki rank next with 5 *sen*, the maximum rate being at Yawata, at 2 *sen*. In other localities the maximum was represented at 4.5 *sen* and the minimum at 2.4 *sen*.

The comparative figures for the two years are:—

	30th year. per cent.	29th year. per cent.	30th year. per cent.	29th year. per cent.
July	39.9	34.5	28.8	27.8
August	37.4	34.9	29.8	27.7
September ..	37.8	35.9	30.	28.6

THE MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS.

The Merchants' and Manufacturers' Union and the Chambers of Commerce seem to be now co-operating in opposition to Count Matsukata. It does not appear that the Chambers of Commerce have taken up the project of a foreign loan. At a meeting of their representatives, as well as of the Union's representatives, held in the Imperial Hotel on the 9th instant, no reference was made to the loan by any of the speakers, so far as we can discover. Mr. Watanabe—at one time President of the Imperial University and afterwards Governor of Tokyo—who occupied the chair at the meeting, spoke only of increasing the securities held by the Bank of Japan and raising the limit for the issue of notes.

CHINESE NOTES.

On the night of Nov. 30th, burglars broke into the house of Baron von Reitzenstein at Woosung, and stole a quantity of cutlery, plate and other objects. They also helped themselves freely to wine. Several sentries are said to have been on duty in the immediate neighbourhood of the house, but they did not observe anything irregular.

General Yeh, who distinguished himself by incapacity at Ping-yang, and who has ever since been lying incarcerated under sentence of death, is likely to be pardoned. It is said, a clever memorialist having managed to shift the blame to the shoulders of two dead men, General Wei who was beheaded for cowardice, and General Tso, who died on the field. It is thought that Yeh will be sent to Kiaochow to relieve Chang, who has been summoned to Peking to account for his conduct in "suffering" the Germans.

"The native papers," we read in a Shanghai contemporary, "state that Mr. Huang, the Shanghai Magistrate, has lately received a telegram from the Viceroy at Nanking commanding that special care be taken to prevent any riots against missionaries. 'The Germans,' further says the dispatch, 'have seized the pretext offered by the recent murder by bandits of two German priests in Shantung to hold Kiaochow, and it is important that no further pretexts be given to any foreign Power to be taken advantage of.'"

Another piratical outrage in southern China is thus described:—

Just as the steamer *Humán*, of the Canton-Shanghai Steam Launch Company, was preparing to leave the Canton jetty the other day with a full complement of passengers, the inland mail and some treasure, she was boarded by several men attired in soldiers' uniform, who declared that they had received orders to search for some contraband that had been reported at the Likin Bureau. While the skipper of the launch was showing the pseudo-soldiers over the boat, one of them gave a shrill whistle, whereupon a dozen men who had already come on board in the guise of passengers jumped out of the fore and aft cabins, revolvers in hand and guarded the entrances on either side. At the same time the skipper was knocked down and three others, who apparently knew all about a steam-launch engine, fled into the engine-room and captured the engineer and stokers on watch. All the ship's crew were ordered into the hold and the hatch closed upon them while the passengers were ordered to lie down and keep quiet on pain of being chopped to pieces. Then the leader gave the signal and the launch was unmoored and began to leave the jetty regardless of the hails from several passenger boats that had paid towage money to be towed to various cities en route to Shuntsh. It then became known that the *Humán* had been boarded by pirates, and although there were three or four other steam-launches with steam up ready to start for other inland cities not a single one dared to provoke the vengeance of the pirates by making an attempt to stop them. The captured steamer made for Shuntsh, but just as she was entering the boundary line of that district she was met by a police patrol-launch which belonged to the West River police flotilla. The latter signalled to the pirates the usual question:—"Have you seen any

pirates on the way?" but the pirates pretended not to see the signals which roused the suspicions of those on the police steam-launch. A blank shot was therefore fired across the pirates' bows, whereupon they suddenly swerved round and made for a creek in the neighbourhood of Leliu village. The pirates then ran their launch ashore and before the police could prevent them carried off all their booty, amounting to \$8,200 in gold and silver, and over \$2,000 from the persons and luggage of the passengers. The police managed to capture one of the pirates and he and the passengers were then taken back to Canton. No lives were lost in the affair.

Mr. Arch. Little, in his essay "The Northern Alps," which has just been brought to a conclusion in the *N.-C. Daily News*, says:—

About half-way between Sungp'an and the prefectural city of Lungên, near a small picturesque village called Siao-hoying (small river or side-stream camp) I noticed all at once a thick yellow muddy stream, which I had to ford on my pony, take the place of the pellucid bu-ns and the journey all round from Kuansien and over the pass. This I at once saw must come from gold washing, and on looking round, I distinctly traced a vein of white quartz rock in the dark shales though which the stream has here cut out a deep gorge—and which vein, with several others seen later on, the river has equally cut through. I followed up the side stream and about 300 feet above, where the slippery shale path ascends the shifting precipitous slope of the main river bank, I found a dozen Chinese engaged in quartz mining. They were pounding the quartz with a pestle and mortar; the mortar of stone and pestle of wood iron-shod; the mortar some 3 feet in diameter, the heavy pestle worked by four men. They said they gained each 100 to 200 cash per day on the average but sometimes a lucky day gave them 1,000 or 2,000! There is a rich field undeveloped. From what I have seen hereabouts and, in fact, all along the Tibetan border right round from Sungp'an to Tachienlu, auriferous quartz is present in great quantities. And its development may enable China ere long to follow Japan in introducing a gold currency, thus assimilating herself to the rest of the civilized world, and putting an end to the terrible vagaries in exchange which, of late years, have made life in China, to the business man, anything but a path of roses. But so far the Chinese officials in this province at least are extremely jealous of any foreign help in developing their industries and we may have long to wait before Szechuan emerges from its present state of poverty and opium drunkenness.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The building for the Yokohama Merchandise Museum near the Cricket ground, Yokohama, is now completed and the Museum will be opened for public inspection in the course of January.

Lot No. 12-A, Bluff, comprising 626 *tsubo* of land and one 5-roomed dwelling house, was sold at auction by Messrs. Eytou and Pratt on Wednesday afternoon, being knocked down to Mr. Apar, on behalf of a client, for \$6,600.

The sailors of the *Boston*, *Grasmatchy*, and *Rainbow*, the American, Russian and British cruisers at Chemulpo, had a boat race recently in front of Roze Island. The result was that the Americans won all of the three races, with the Britishers second, and the Russians third.

The *Chung Ngai San Po* contains a paragraph stating that it is reported that Liu Yang-fu, the ex Black Flag Chief has, through the petition of H.E. Chang Chih-tung, been promoted to be Generalissimo of the armies of the five provinces of Nam Yeung, namely, Kwantung, Fokien, Chekiang, Kiangsu, and Hunan.

Our Nagasaki contemporary, writing on Dec. 7th, said:—"The last brick was laid on the walls of the Nagasaki Hotel at noon yesterday. The roof is, we understand, ready for fixing, and will, it is hoped, be finished by the end of the year. Even in its present unfinished state, the building presents quite an imposing appearance on the bund."

The bicycle-tax in Osaka for next year, says the *Hiogo News*, has been fixed at 3.50 yen, a rise of a dollar on this year. There are other public charges incidental to bicycle-riding that will raise the cost to nearly 10 yen. The number of riders nevertheless rose from 50 at the beginning of 1897 to 211 in August. Regulations are being drafted and penalties will be enforced for any breach thereof.

On the 13th inst. two Japanese coolies working in the hold of the P. & O. steamer *Rosetta* in Yokohama harbour, were struck

by some falling cargo, which slipped out of the slings, and received fatal injuries on the head and back. One of the men, named Ogawa, died soon after being conveyed to the Juzen Hospital and the other is not expected to recover.

That hardy annual, the winter *dorobo*, is again abroad in the land and it behooves residents to attend well to the fastenings of their windows and doors. On Sunday, a house on the Bluff was entered, but fortunately the thief was disturbed before he could lay hands on anything. The evening before, another Bluff house was prospected, but with similar results, owing to the vigilance of the dogs.

The *Chinese Mail* announces that a rich coal mine is said to have been found at Lin-chow (South of Kwangtung province). A party of officials have been despatched by the Viceroy of Canton, in the gunboat *Anlan*, to inspect the mine. The discovery, says the *China Mail*, if properly followed up in a sensible manner, should prove to be of great value at the present juncture, when Japan is said to be limiting its export of coal in view of wariike contingencies. We (*Japan Mail*) were not aware of any such action on Japan's part.

The *Malay Mail* mentions that in one mining district in Selangor where there are ten or twelve thousand miners at work, a block of tin ore is on view weighing, it is said, ten piculs, or over half a ton. The miners consider that it would be unlucky to break such a huge block, and so long as the men are kept working, they will retain this splendid specimen, which is being worshipped as a joss. "Tin joss" seems rather a familiar phrase, remarks the *Hongkong Telegraph*. In Hongkong we only worship such things in the abstract.

The condition of the beach running along the bottom of the Bluff from the British Naval Hospital to the Niche, is perfectly disgraceful. It seems to have become the dumping ground of all the refuse of the harbour. On Wednesday the stench arising from the foul matters there accumulated was very appalling. No fewer than sixteen dead dogs, several cats, and innumerable ducks, chickens, and other fowl were rotting just above highwater mark. Surely the Kencho, from a sanitary point of view alone, ought to prevent, or remedy, such a state of affairs.

In H.B.M.'s Court, on Wednesday, before Mr. James Troup, Assistant Judge, Albert William Hilson was charged by the master, William Daniel Cameron, with refusal of duty, on the 11th and 13th inst., on board the steamer *Amarapoora*. It was added in the charge that the accused also behaved in an insubordinate manner. Accused, who is a fireman, pleaded not guilty to both charges. Evidence was given by Patrick Flannigan, chief, and Johannes Carsten, second engineers of the steamer, and accused was convicted on both charges and sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment, or for such shorter period as the steamer remains in port; to forfeit two days' pay and pay the costs of the Court.

According to the *N.-C. Daily News*, a decree dated the 15th of October has been promulgated to all the Viceroys and Governors of provinces consenting to the proposals of Yang Yi-chih, a Cantonese and a member of the Transmission Office, recommending the minting of gold coins in order to prevent the drain of gold that is now going on from the country. The high authorities of the territories where gold is produced are therefore commanded to send at once a note of the annual output of their territories, while the other Governors are exhorted to send explorers over the empire to prospect for the precious metal and report at once to Peking if they find any. The intention is to buy up the gold in the country that is now being sold to foreigners.

After being practically dormant for seven years past, says the *Hogo News*, the Kobe Chapter of Rose Croix, No. 1, was revived on

Monday night, and the Antient rite appears to have a new and prosperous era of working before it in that place. Most Wor. Bro. O. Keil, Commander of the Consistory of Japan, was present, and duly installed the Officers elected for the coming year. They were as follow:—E. H. Hunter, W.M.; G. H. Why-mark, S.W.; L. D. Abraham, J.W., P. M. Skinner, Orator; Dr. Thornicraft, Almoner & Treasurer; F. J. Bardens, Secretary; A. Drewell, M.C.; W. Kerr, Expert; A. Kirby, Ast. Expert; Bros. C. W. Dimock and R. Home Cook were also present, and the proceedings were of a pleasant and successful character.

The *Kobe Chronicle* says:—The house of Yamamoto Toshihiko (formerly an employé of a foreign firm), one of the prisoners arrested in connection with the Custom-house scandal, has been searched by the authorities, and the *Yushin Nippo* states that Yamamoto's father at first denied having received any money from his son. On search being made, however, the man confessed to having received 25 yen which he produced from the pocket of his *kimono*. Subsequently he produced a bank book showing deposits for 350 yen, and also five 100-yen notes. He was then arrested. A clerk in the Financial Department at Tokyo, but formerly in the Kobe Custom-house, has been arrested on a charge of complicity in the frauds, and will be brought down to Kobe for trial.

In his Hongkong share report of Dec. 4, Mr. Erich George writes:—The extreme tightness of our money market has brought business in shares almost to a complete standstill, and I am very much afraid that no improvement will take place until after Chinese New Year. The November settlements, which have been small, seem to have been arranged satisfactorily, although some forced settlement sales in Bank shares and Dock shares have taken place, at rates which have not been made public. The market closes very dull, with hardly any inquiry at all, and it is most difficult to find buyers, except for a few stocks, and rates show signs of weakening further.

In connection with the approaching completion of the Siberian Railway, the *Jewish Chronicle* points out a matter which, sooner or later, the Russian authorities will be compelled to face. It has been found that there is a dearth of young and capable engineers for the exploitation of Siberia, and our contemporary suggests that this difficulty could be overcome by the Government either removing or modifying the disability which deprives Jews of the right of domicile in that region. It ought the more readily to do this since it objects to the employment of foreigners in Siberia. But another potent reason why the Jews should be given a chance is in view of the fact that when, last year, it was found impossible to fill all the vacancies in the Imperial Institute of Engineering at St. Petersburg, 40 Jewish candidates offered themselves, and were at once admitted.

In view of the contradictory reports that come to hand, says the *Daily Press* it is difficult to arrive at the exact position of affairs in Luzon, but that the rebellion is still active is evident from the fact that in a decree issued the other day a line is laid down marking off the districts in revolt. This line it is forbidden to cross without special permission, and persons doing so are to be tried by summary court martial as traitors or spies. The latest papers received also contain an account of an affair in which the Spaniards in dislodging a party of rebels from a strong position on Mount Arayat lost twenty killed and forty-six wounded. Of the rebels ninety-four were left dead on the field and their total losses are supposed to have been much heavier.

Mr. George Jamieson, says the *North China Daily News*, returns very shortly to Shanghai to be Consul-General and Commercial Attaché. This appears to be an attempt by the Foreign Office to carry out the wishes of the China Association, but is really an evasion. What is wanted is an official who can give his whole

time to travelling about and studying commercial questions, with headquarters at Peking; whereas it is a physical impossibility that the Consul-General at Shanghai can properly perform the duties of Commercial Attaché. It is presumed that Sir Nicholas Hannen will remain Chief Judge until the new treaties come into force in Japan, when the British Court at Yokohama will be abolished, and Mr. H. S. Wilkinson will not improbably succeed Sir Nicholas as Chief Judge at Shanghai. But much may happen in the next two years.

What is a "trowser," asks a London contemporary. When used in the plural everyone knows the meaning of the word; but "trowser" in the singular—what is that? Yesterday we were ignorant ourselves, but to-day we are enlightened. A man charged at the Guild-hall with overworking a horse urged as an excuse:—"I don't understand nothin' about 'osses. I'm on'y a trowser in the Whitechapel-road." To which the magistrate: "What is a trowser?" Answer: "Vy, a man as does any hodd jobs. Anythin'."

The immense success of the "soda-water Juju" which was pardonably employed to awe the Niger savages with its popping cork, suggests to the *Globe* that the British are too neglectful of the resources of our civilisation. A balloon, a phonograph, a magic lantern, a few firework set-pieces, and an X ray apparatus would constitute a diplomatic outfit by whose aid the "Man who would be King" might make himself Emperor of all Ungrabbed Africa. The Zulus were similarly terrified by the bagpipes of a Highland Piper, whom they described as a gigantic woman leading a regiment of females, with the white man's god under her arm, and every time she pinched the god he squealed for the black man's blood.

The following paragraph is taken from the *Cooktown Independent*:—There are sixty or seventy pearling boats at Thursday Island owned by Japanese, and each, at a low estimate, is clearing about £200 per annum, which very easily supports a white family, so that it may be safely said the Japanese are supplanting sixty or seventy white families. If Clark and Co. rented all their boats to the Japanese, they could, without much risk, clear about £15,000 per annum, but instead of allowing the industry to pass entirely into the hands of the Japanese they prefer to work the boats themselves. It is proposed that the Government be asked to purchase all the boats owned by Japanese and re-sell them to Europeans, making it illegal for Asiatic aliens to rent or own boats, and that Japanese engaged as servants under contract with pearl-shellers be returned to their country on the expiration of their term of service.

Professor Newman's long and active life will be claimed as a triumph by the vegetarians, teetotallers, and anti-tobaccoists. After middle age he gave up meat and alcohol and he did not smoke. He lived to be ninety-two and was writing learned books till within a couple of years or so of his death. On the other hand, the bibbers of wine and the smokers of pipes may take comfort from Lord Tennyson. The poet lived to be eighty-three, and he kept his intellectual powers and his poetical faculties absolutely undimmed to the close. And Tennyson was assuredly no ascetic. He tried vegetarianism once to oblige Edward Fitzgerald and gave it up after a few weeks. He liked his pint of port, and smoked steadily and persistently. Indeed, he was quite unhappy if he were asked to stay in a house where he was not allowed his pipe at all times. But longevity and vigour in old age have probably much more to do with a man's inherited constitution than his habits. Tennyson was one of a family of twelve, nearly all of whom lived to be over seventy. As poor Emily Tennyson, the betrothed of Arthur Hallam, said, "The Tennysons don't die."

The *Edgar*, cruiser, Captain G. F. King-Hall, was taken from Plymouth Sound into the Channel on 29th October for a commissioning trial, which was unsatisfactory, the feed pipes of

the boilers being found defective. On 3rd November she went out for another three hours' steam trial, which proved satisfactory. The average speed was rather over 19 knots an hour. On return to port she hoisted the flag of Rear-Admiral C. P. FitzGerald, as second in command of the China Station. After having had a slight defect made good she left for the China on 4th November, taking out Admiral FitzGerald to the *Grafton* and relief crews for the *Archer*, *Linnæ*, and *Peacock*. Lieutenant W. Bowden-Smith has been appointed flag-lieutenant to Rear-Admiral FitzGerald.

The following telegram, dated Bombay, Nov. 13, appears in Rangoon exchanges:—"The great rush for British dollars which imposed so heavy a strain upon the resources in men and machinery of the Bombay Mint, has dropped as suddenly as it arose, and the coin is now being made at little beyond the ordinary rate. The deficiency of silver coinage anticipated as a result of the establishment of a gold standard in Japan and the consequent withdrawal of the silver *yen* has been met, at least for the present, though it is quite possible the a rush may recur." There is still great scarcity of money in Hongkong, due, the *China Mail* believes, to the withdrawal of the *yen* before provision had been made for the substitution of other coins.

An Allahabad telegram dated Nov. 17th gives some idea of the severity of the fighting on the Indian frontier. It says that the total casualties in the operations (including the Maizar affair) from June 10th to Nov. 15th are as follows:—

	Killed.	Wounded.
Staff and Departmental Officers	2	6
Regimental Officers	27	60
British Rank and File	59	240
Native Officers	6	30
Native Rank and File	236	658
Followers	9	22
Total	309	1,016
Grand Total	—	1,355

The casualties among British officers have been in British regiments:—9 officers killed and 30 wounded, while in Native regiments the figures are 18 killed and 30 wounded.

A very neat portable telephone for hospitals or private use has been brought out by the London and Provincial Telephone Company. It enables a sick patient to communicate with other residents in the house with a minimum of trouble, more easily, indeed, than with a speaking tube. The advantages of such a means of conversing with patients, especially isolated patients, suffering from infectious diseases, are patent. The apparatus would also be an acquisition in many private houses, if only for this reason, but, of course, it is capable of serving the ordinary needs of a household. Being portable, it can be moved from one room to another. The same inventor has also introduced a small "button" telephone, which can be attached to the wall like an electric bell push. It serves as an electric bell, in fact, but also allows of conversation between the two parties concerned, which a mere electric bell cannot do.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. H. S. Adams, of the firm of Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill, & Co., which occurred on Thursday morning at the General Hospital. It is less than a fortnight since the deceased had to enter the hospital, having developed symptoms of typhoid fever. Until the last two or three days it appeared to his medical attendants that he would pull through the attack, but the treacherous disease took a turn for the worse on Tuesday and Wednesday and working on a by no means strong constitution, terminated fatally on Thursday morning. Deceased was only 29 years of age and had but recently renewed his engagement with Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., in whose employ he had been for about four years, as a valued and esteemed assistant. In social circles, and particularly in the Amateur Rowing Club he will be greatly missed, as his

genial temperament rendered him a general favourite with his associates, who were many. We understand he leaves a widowed mother in England, who was expecting him home in a few months on six months' leave of absence, and for whom much sympathy will be felt in her bereavement. The funeral takes place from Christ Church at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

What is the correct pronunciation of Macdonnell, asked the *Daily Press* of December 7th. The word was wrestled with by the Judge and members of the Hongkong Bar towards the end of the day's proceedings in the Belillos case. Mr. Danby pronounced the word Macdonnell. His Lordship expressed a doubt as to whether there were two n's in the word and then asked if the correct pronunciation was not Macdonnell. Mr. Pollock believed it was usually pronounced that way. Then Mr. Francis, with considerable emphasis, remarked:—"It's Macdonnell. There was a Governor here of that name and he always called himself Macdonnell. Then a Colonel of Artillery came here and he called himself Macdonnell, but he was of French descent." If we possessed an institution similar to L'Academie Francaise difficulties of this sort would be entirely removed. For ourselves, we prefer the accent on the "don," but we should decline to argue with anybody who thought "nell" should be accented.

A correspondent in a home paper says:—A discussion, brought about by the publication of the nationalities of the men of the 1st Battalion Gordon Highlanders who were killed or wounded in the storming of the Dargai heights, is going on in the columns of the *Morning Post* on the purity of the Highland regiments. I can supplement the discussion by some interesting information, and I will take the old 92nd Highlanders as a typical case. When the regiment was raised in 1794, about three-fourths were Highlanders from the Gordon and other estates in the Highlands, and the other fourth came from the lowlands of Aberdeen and the adjacent counties. There were also 31 Irishmen and one Welshman in the regiment, and it appears that there have always been some 60 to 100 Irishmen in the ranks ever since. Of the men enlisted between 1811 and 1825, 716 were Scotsmen (not necessarily Highlanders), 51 English, and 111 Irish. At the commencement of the year 1854 the regiment consisted of 885 Scotsmen, 5 Englishmen, 10 Irishmen, and 1 foreigner. Three years later, including the depot, the regiment contained 1,043 Scots, 7 English, and 40 Irish. In 1861 it consisted of 750 Scots, 70 English, and 108 Irish, while of its officers 23 were Scots, and 22 English and Irish. The 42nd, 71st, 72nd, 79th, 92nd, and 93rd composed the Highland Division in the Crimea, and at the end of hostilities, before returning to this country, they stood thus, including the depots:—6,104 Scots, 361 English, 371 Irish, and 2 foreigners. The purest national regiment at this moment from the territorial point of view, is undoubtedly the Black Watch, which had, according to the latest returns, no fewer than 803 men serving in the regiment who were born in the regimental district. The Gordon Highlanders had 482.

The question of the relative cost of new ships built in France and those of British build has had some interesting and trustworthy light thrown upon it recently by letters which have appeared in a French journal from, amongst others, Messrs. Bordes and Sons, the extensive shipowners of Bordeaux and Paris, well known by and up till within recent years very good patrons of Clyde builders. Commenting on the decline of shipbuilding in France, a writer in a recent issue of the *Economiste Francais* gave as a reason that French builders would not undertake to produce a ship in less than two and a-half years, or for anything less than practically double what a similar vessel would cost in Britain. The article, and especially this part of it, provoked a reply from M. de Cabiol, director of the Chantiers de la Loire Company at St. Nazaire, in which he sought to refute the state-

ment, and declared that his company had just undertaken to build two cargo vessels, and deliver them, one in fourteen and the other in sixteen months, at prices not exceeding 30 per cent. more than English prices. His company was not refusing orders, but, on the contrary, was inviting them, as its yard was not sufficiently employed. The writer added that if more ships were not built in France the fault did not lie with the builders. This has elicited a rejoinder, not from the first writer, but from Messrs. Bordes and Sons, who declare that during the last four years they have had built in France eleven steel vessels measuring 33,000 tons, five of which vessels were built by the Chantiers de la Loire Company. The price that had been asked by British builders for each of these vessels was 630,000*fr.*, whereas the lowest they could get them built for in France was 850,000*fr.*, a difference of 35 per cent. In 1896 Messrs. Bordes offered the Chantiers de la Loire Company an order for two additional ships, but, instead of 850,000*fr.*, the price demanded per ship was 1,150,000*fr.*, or 82 per cent. above the British price. Under these circumstances, of course, Messrs. Bordes were compelled to abandon the idea of building the ships in France, and to purchase them in England. The shipowners of France, Messrs. Bordes say, are ready to admit that the bounties allowed enable them to pay 25 per cent. more for ships built in France than for those constructed abroad, and if they could obtain all the vessels required at these rates, they would certainly not think of joining the agitation for a re-establishment of the half-navigation bounty on foreign built ships. From the experience of Messrs. Bordes with the St. Nazaire Company, in seeing its price for a given size and class of ship jump from 35 to 82 per cent. more than the British price, it would seem as if French builders, having no fear of foreign rivalry under such secure and happy conditions as the bounty system confers, make their charges accordingly.—*Engineer*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CONCERT AT THE CENTRAL TABERNACLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Perhaps more than enough space has already been occupied in your columns on the above subject, but as the one chiefly responsible for the foreign music on the programme, and in part the Japanese, I should be much obliged if you would allow me to say a few words to your readers.

Since the beginning of my connection with the Central Tabernacle, I do not know that there has been any public meeting held there which has made me feel so badly as what occurred on the night of our recent concert. The building was crowded upstairs and down, and throughout the first part of the programme the audience was most attentive, orderly, and appreciative, and everything seemed to be going well. I was congratulating myself upon the success of our enterprise, when, to my chagrin, signs of unrest began to appear among the students in the galleries, at the announcement that the player on the *Satsuma biwa* was late. The chairman assured them that the man had definitely engaged to be present, and had sent no message to the contrary; and as he had not yet arrived, a telegram had been sent him, also a messenger to hurry him up. The "boys" seemed in no mood to accept apologies, but as the other performers ascended the platform, persisted in muttering words of dissent that the man they had come on purpose to hear had not put in an appearance, some threatening to demand back the price of their tickets. These expressions of dissatisfaction were becoming rather distracting to the respectable portion of the audience by the time it came to the Rev. T. McNair's turn to give his auto-harp solo, and continued with each successive piece, until finally it was announced that the tardy *biwa* man had at length arrived. At this the enthusiasm of the students seemed to know no bounds, cries of "No, no," being heard when the chairman said that the Army Band would play, and then the *biwa*. We have had the *Satsuma biwa* at other concerts, and there has always been hearty applause from the student portion of the audience, but I never knew the excitement to reach such a pitch as it did the

other night. They seemed to go fairly wild. A number of foreign guests, who seemed quite unaccustomed to seeing excited Japanese audiences, became quite alarmed, especially as they watched the all but frantic gesticulations of a young fellow who sat on the front row of chairs, and who had evidently been drinking enough *sake* to make him susceptible to whatever enchantment there was in the *biwa* player's performance, his veins standing out like whip cords, and tears rolling down his cheeks, until he finally rose and went to the front of the platform and bowed low before the man who had, so charmed him, the students all the while giving most hysterical yelps at every happy turn in the song, to give vent to the emotion that thrilled them, and, some one afterwards told me, to encourage the player. At this, most of the foreigners present rose and left the building, some actually trembling with fear. The excitement did not subside till the man was done; and most of those who stayed to hear him to the end seemed to think that they had such a *gachiso* that they could not even wait to hear the beautiful selection from the Band with which the concert closed.

Now while the disorderliness of the students cannot be too severely censured, I fear that some of our foreign friends were under a misapprehension as to the exact meaning of what was going on. For example, hissing was heard while Mr. MacNair was playing, and some seemed to have thought it was directed against him; whereas I have never known it to have any other meaning with a Japanese audience than an effort on the part of the quiet portion to silence the disturbance of others. Then, the discourtesy shown by the students was by no means confined to the foreign *artists*, but was equally manifest towards the Japanese musicians who came on in the place of the man whose name on the programme was, they said, their only reason for attending the concert. Again, while the students were most barbarously boisterous, there certainly was not the slightest danger of anything happening to give good ground for fear. But though these things are so, the rudeness shown by the students in affronting the management and the performers in revenge for the inexcusable lateness of the *biwa* player, can find no manner of justification. I am assured by Japanese friends that those thus guilty were not students of reputable institutions. It is to be hoped so; for surely nothing can damage Japan's good name more than such relics of barbarism. I was so ashamed and mortified as I came home that night, that I almost felt as if I could never have the heart or the face to ask a foreign friend to assist in a Tabernacle concert again; nor do I blame those kind friends who came all the way to Hongo that evening, and waited till a late hour to help us, but felt they could not play before such an audience. I sincerely hope that nothing of the kind will ever happen again. I have made up my mind that as long as I have anything to do with the Central Tabernacle, I shall do my best to prevent the recurrence of a like scene; and I feel that, whatever may be its merits, to have no more *Satsuma biwa* is the first step in that direction.

Thanking you in anticipation for kindly inserting this letter,

I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

HARPER H. COATES.

Hongo, Tokyo, Dec. 8th, 1897.

(We do not see why the *Satsuma biwa* should be tabooed. Could it not be put at the end of the programme? It seems a pity to banish an instrument which is a general favorite with the students merely because a few were noisy on a particular occasion.—Ed., J.M.)

THE SENDAI ROBBERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—That was certainly an extraordinary story that you gave to the public in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 4th inst., concerning the Rev. Mr. Hoy, of Sendai. I am sure that all of your readers will agree that the strictures on his course at the close of the article are quite justified by the circumstances, and very moderately expressed.

But what interests me most, as a missionary, is the question as to how the affairs of the German Reformed Mission are managed, that it was possible for such a sum of money to be missing so long a time without detection. It seems to me that the public has a right to know something about that, for the missions here are the administrators of considerable sums of money, given by benevolent persons at home. It would be most unfortunate if the impression should become prevalent that mission affairs are managed in the loose way that seems to have been the case in Sendai.

How was it possible for Mr. Hoy to conceal the loss so long? Evidently it was not possible to do so in the face of a careful examination of the books,

for it had to come out when he handed them over to his successor in office. Had there been then no careful examination all these years? It would seem so. But where was the auditing committee? Is not some explanation from that mission in order? One can have some admiration for the man who, however mistakenly, undertook to bear such a burden himself, and whose tongue is so well bridled. But there is no room for admiration of the mission whose slipshod methods made it possible.

Being a mission treasurer myself, I feel anxious that the general public shall not draw the natural inference as to the way in which the accounts of missions are kept and scrutinized. In our mission such an occurrence would be utterly impossible, and so, I am persuaded, it would be in almost every other.

Very sincerely yours,

ICHABOD QUILL.

December 8th, 1897.

REMEMBER THE ORPHANS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There are three special reasons why exceptionally generous gifts may well be sent at this Christmas season to the Okayama Orphan Asylum. First, because they still have large unpaid rice and medicine bills resulting mainly from the severe epidemic (*sakiri-byō*) that visited them in the early fall. Six tiny graves, twenty-five children at one time confined to the hospital, and the temporary prostration of many of their industries give a hint of the severity of the ordeal (a baptism of fire Mr. Ishii calls it), through which they have been called to pass. Second, as a thank-offering for the successful completion of ten years of useful service to society. In these days of rapid change and frequent failure, it speaks well for this Japanese institution that it has stood the strain of ten trying years of self-denying work. Third,—Not satisfied with past attainments the orphanage is planning for farther development particularly along the line of a more thorough, systematic training of the children entrusted to its care. A day school on a par with regular Government schools is to be opened shortly within the asylum that the children may give most of their time and strength between the ages of ten and fifteen to hard study. Mr. Ishii has faith to believe that the wisdom of the change will be apparent to the institution's friends, and that society at large will furnish the needed assistance. One good teacher has been secured already and the school will be opened in a few days. This is a decided step forward and merits the generous support of all who desire to see these wards of society made something more than mere machines for the lowest kinds of labour. It is pleasant to note in this connection that the *kenkuwai* (local assembly) of Okayama prefecture has recognized, albeit tardily, the great worth of the institution and voted it \$100 a year from the public charity funds. Now let this be supplemented by generous private gifts from both foreigners and Japanese that Mr. Ishii and his loyal supporters, freed from debt and furnished with a better outfit, may go forward in their truly Christian service for the needy children of this empire.

Yours, etc.,

J. H. PETTEE.

Okayama, Dec. 11, 1897.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

On Monday afternoon from 4 till 5.30 the Yokohama General Hospital, as at present restored, renovated and enlarged, was thrown open to subscribers and visitors interested in the good work which has been going on there during the last twelve months or so, under the auspices of Dr. Munro. Only those who were acquainted with the ramshackle place which bore the name of General Hospital, and the very limited and, to say the least, unsatisfactory accommodation and attendance therein provided for the weary sufferer a year or so ago, could understand and appreciate in full the vast change that has been inaugurated in this most useful and necessary institution. The old building has been completely renovated, new Oregon pine floors having been laid over the old flooring, with a padding of felt between the two to deaden the sound of persons walking in their rooms; good ventilation has been secured by the construction of fanlights above each door, and many other sanitary provisions carried out, amongst others the lavatories on both first and second floors having been removed from the main building to small annexes, under a separate roof, but accessible to the hall of the wards by covered-in passages and doorway. In

addition to the renovation of the old building an annex has been built out from the rear of the main block, where a number of rooms and offices have been constructed absolutely essential to a really efficient hospital, such as the Yokohama General Hospital has now become. The new wing includes a dispensary, where, in a large glass covered case, all the medicines and drugs required are displayed and classified; a consulting office; operating room, with beautiful marble floor and operating table, with lavatory adjoining; a laboratory with a number of the latest scientific and surgical apparatus, and in an extension of the wing into the grounds at the rear three rooms, which were originally intended for the accommodation of the nursing staff, but which, owing to the exigencies of the occasion, being segregated from the rest of the building, have for a time been devoted to the treatment of cases of typhus and other semi-infectious diseases. Altogether, without counting these three rooms, there are eight first class rooms and six second class, all on the ground floor, with roomy glass enclosed verandahs on three sides: comfortable and sunny promenades and lounges for convalescents, each room on the ground floor opening on to one or other of the verandahs. On the upper floor there is a large third class ward, capable of easily accommodating twelve beds, though at present only ten are provided, and here the accommodation is also neat, wholesome and airy. There are also on this floor two rooms for segregated cases and other rooms which are occupied as dormitories by the nurses, who have given up their more comfortable quarters in the new wing to patients. The whole hospital is lit with electric light and electric bells are fitted in all the rooms and wards, and it is needless to say that everything about the place is in apple-pie order and as clean as a new pin. The kitchen accommodation at present is said to be not up to the culinary requirements of the institution, and is to be improved, the building in which this important work is carried on being detached, in the grounds, but it has sufficed so far to meet necessities. Another outbuilding contains the hydropathic arrangements of the hospital, which are believed to be equal to anything of their kind in the Far East.

While the building and fitting up of the General Hospital have been thus metamorphosed, Dr. Munro and his conditors have not forgotten that most important factor of hospital efficiency and comfort—attendance and nursing. The staff of the hospital now includes an efficient lady housekeeper, who superintends the arrangements of all the rooms and the cuisine, three well trained and experienced European nurses—delt handed, cheering and companionable—and two native assistants. Anyone who has had the fortune or misfortune to spend a few days or weeks in a hospital will understand the wide difference to a sick man between such administrations and the clumsy services of a native "boy." The back verandah of the hospital looks out upon a plot of land which used to be waste but which is now in course of transmutation into a garden, and by next summer will doubtless "blossom like the rose."

During the afternoon the hospital was visited by quite a number of ladies and gentlemen interested in the good work, who, after inspecting the wards and general arrangements under the guidance of Dr. Munro and the lady nurses, were entertained to tea, coffee, cakes and other refreshments on the back verandah and in one of the rooms. After this most of the visitors gathered on the verandah, where Mr. A. O. Gay, Chairman of the Hospital Committee, delivered a short address. He said, in part, to the ladies and gentlemen assembled:—

"You have been invited to-day to inspect the addition and improvements to the General Hospital. The alterations in the general wards and the addition of an annex were initiated by Dr. Munro, the cost of the former being partly defrayed by Dr. Mœre and the cost of the latter has been provided for by funds kindly given by subscribers. The subscriptions have amounted to yen 4,462.50, of which yen 3,376.74 has already been expended. There are dependencies for balances still due on the building and lighting, which will probably amount to another thousand yen. I take this opportunity of thanking Dr. Munro for his indefatigable efforts in bringing the hospital up to its present efficient condition; the thanks of all the subscribers are due to him and I have no doubt all present will join with me in this."—(Hear, hear.)

Dr. Munro thanked Mr. Gay for his kind remarks in connection with himself. With regard to the expenses of the upkeep of the hospital he considered that something ought to be done by the community. During the last year the expenses for nurses, steward, servants and lighting had alone amounted to 6,000

yen, without allowing anything for medicines and food, while the total income from patients only amounted to 7,000 yen. He was sure that Dr. Mécère had been out of pocket for several years past in conducting the hospital. He thought that in a community like that of Yokohama, far richer than a village or town at home of a similar population, something should be done to put such a necessary institution on a secure basis. At present they were always in difficulties to scrape together enough to pay expenses, and felt no security for the future. One thing he would mention was that there was no place in Yokohama for the treatment of such infectious diseases as typhus fever. Such cases could not be sent to the small-pox hospital, and were sometimes of a scarcely infectious character, but required to be kept separate from other patients. At present they had no accommodation for such cases, but had to make use for the purpose of the new wing built for the accommodation of the nurses. Still he looked forward to the time when the people of Yokohama would come forward and do what they should for such a necessary and useful institution. In conclusion the Doctor thanked Mr. Gay for his kind remarks and Dr. Mécère for his co-operation in the work accomplished.

Shortly afterwards the visitors departed, highly gratified with the vast changes and improvements which they had seen in the construction and administration of the hospital.

MOSQUITO YACHT CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Mosquito Yacht Club was held on Tuesday afternoon at Keil's Building. Mr. W. W. Campbell, the Commodore of the Club, presided and about a dozen members were present.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read by Mr. F. J. Hall, the Chairman ran through the report and accounts, explaining and commenting briefly on each clause and item.

Mr. MURRAY proposed that the report and accounts as presented be adopted.

Mr. FRASER took exception to some of the phraseology, grammar, and spelling in the report, some of which might be printers' errors. He did not want to criticize—(Oh dear, no!)—but he thought these should be corrected, and moved an amendment to the effect that the clerical errors he pointed out be corrected before the report be adopted.

Mr. FRASER's amendment was seconded, but failed to pass, and Mr. Murray's motion, that the report and accounts be passed, was carried. The report was as follows:—

REPORT FOR 1897.

Your Committee have pleasure in presenting this, the Second Annual Report of the Mosquito Yacht Club.

They are glad to be able to state that the year has been again a very successful one; there has been a large increase in the roll of members, which now amounts to nearly 100 and keen interest has been taken in both Racing and Cruising.

The Temple at Tomioka was rented for the summer months on the same conditions as last year and the improvements made there in the way of articles of furniture, matting, steps to the beach, and moorings were much appreciated.

Good use was made of the *Aborigine* as well on week days for sailing and bathing as on Sundays for cruising; and it is with great regret that the Committee have to note the loss which the Club sustained when during the typhoon of the 9th September she went adrift and became a complete wreck upon the northern breakwater. As the matter was fully reported at the Extraordinary General Meeting called for the purpose on 20th September, it is unnecessary to refer to the matter in further detail.

Over yen 600.00 has been subscribed towards the building of a new boat, which has already been commenced and which it is hoped will be ready for use early in the Season.

Very good races were held during the season and many handsome cups presented, of which the following is a detailed list.

The "Nandeska Cup" won by the *Sodesuka*
The "F. H. Tanner Cup" won by the *Nandeska*
The "Sodeska Cup" won by the *Nandeska*
The "Balfour Flag" won by the *Sodesuka*

The "Diamond Jubilee Cup" was sailed for on the 20th of June and 24th July and was won by the *Nandeska* upon both occasions. Messrs. Bramhall and Middleton presented a very handsome cup called the "Abnunt Cup" which, after an exciting race, was won by the *Kodesu*. The single handed race was won by the *Alona* and the *Diamond Jubilee* Cup for small boats by the *Hotaru*.

The Yokohama Engine and Iron Works very kindly gave a valuable cup which was won by the *Kodesu*. Mr. F. J. Hall, presented the *Hotaru* Cup for small boats and this after a close race, was won by the *Sayonara*.

A handsome Ladies' Purse, very kindly collected and presented by Miss Wheeler, was won by *Nandeska*.

It has not been possible to further the scheme of a Club House in Yokohama, but very little inconvenience has been experienced thereby.

The only additions to the fleet this year were the *Kodesu* and the *Hotaru* (which, however, has left the port), but your Committee would like to see several new 17 or 18 raters for next year.

Owing to the difficulties which owners of boats so frequently have with their Sendoes, the committee decided

to issue (upon application) certificates of grade to each boat employed in Club boats and it is with great pleasure that they are able to report that the Chief of Police not only co-operated very willingly but went to the trouble of making a personal call upon the Commodore with reference to having these certificates registered at the Police Station.

On the 15th February a very successful Tea and Coffee concert under the auspices of the Mosquito Yacht Club was organized by Mr. F. Coghill Jackson, which resulted in a substantial addition to the funds of the Club.

On the 17th November 'The Passport' under the able management of Mr. W. G. Bayne was presented at the Public Hall by Amateurs, also in aid of the Club. The very sincere thanks of the members are due to both these gentlemen and to all who so kindly assisted to make both the concert and the theatricals the success which they most decidedly proved to be.

The funds of the Club, as will be seen by the annexed account, enabled your committee to pay off six debentures of the seven outstanding at date of last report; one of them has been very kindly presented to the fund for replacing the *Aborigine* by the holder of same (Mr. L. J. Healing).

With very sincere wishes for the future success of the Mosquito Yacht Club your Committee beg herewith to tender their resignation.

W. W. CAMPBELL,
Commodore.

J. McARTHUR.

F. J. HALL.

E. J. LISKAUD.

S. WARMING.

P. S. BENT.

K. WILSON.

Honorary Secretary.

Dr.

To Aborigine Account:	Yen.
New Mast	35.00
New Jib and Gaff Top Sails	41.00
New Rigging, Carpenter's Work, etc.	74.97
Painting	34.30
One Dingy with Patent Rowlocks	47.35
Chain, Bunt, etc., for Yokohama moorings	9.19
Tomioka Moorings	29.81
Sendo's Clothes	5.75
Sundry Gear, Repairs, etc.	50.75
	359.00

To Tomioka Club House Account:	Yen.
Rent April 15th to Oct. 15th, 1897	82.47
Sampan hire	18.10
Steam launch-hire	44.00
Furniture and Fittings:	Yen 24.00
Matting	38.70
Knives, Forks, Plates, etc.	3.05
Comb and Brushes	3.05
Charcoal, Wood, etc.	4.50
	199.43

To Wages Account:	Yen.
"Aborigine's" Sendo	131.00
Collector's Fee	15.87
Hauling up and Launching the "Aborigine"	17.50
Circulating, Notices, Typewriting, etc.	9.27
	173.73

To Printing and Stationery Account:	Yen.
Advertising, Circulars, Books, Postage, etc.	48.35

To Fire Insurance Account:	Yen.
Premium Insurance of the "Aborigine"	13.59
Less Refund on Cancelled Policy	5.00
	7.99

To Flag Account:	Yen.
5 large Club Flags	35.00
21 small Club Flags	12.05
	Yen 47.05

Less sale of 9 small Flags at 1.25	11.25
	35.80

To General Charges Account:	Yen.
Sampans for Races, etc.	4.30
Cartridges, Oil, Brooms, etc.	7.73
Bonquet for Ladies' Purse	5.00
	Yen 16.99

Less Sale of Fenders, etc.	Yen 2.50
" " Odds & Ends	1.91
	4.41

To Prize Fund Account:	Yen.
5 Silver Cups for Diamond Jubilee Race	91.00
Sundry Prizes for Races	13.00
	Yen 104.00

Less 5 Entrance Fees for Races at Yen 1.00	5.00
	99.00

To Debenture Account:	Yen.
Paid off 5 Debentures at Yen 50.00	250.00
Transfer of Debenture and Interest from 31st Oct. to 30th Nov., 1897, to the funds of the new "Aborigine"	50.00
Interest 2 Debentures per 17th May, 1897	1.90
Interest 6 Debentures per 31st Nov., 1897	21.00
To Balance (Cash in Hand)	770.94
	Yen 1379.43

By Balance brought forward	Yen.
By Subscription Account:	Yen.
51 Old Members at 5.00	255.00
31 New Members at 5.00	155.00
	410.00

By Initiation Account:	Yen.
38 Entrance Fees at Yen 15.00	570.00
	Yen 980.00

By Entertainment Account:	Yen.
Proceeds Tea and Coffee Concert, 15th Feb., 1897	187.70
Proceeds Theatrical Performance, 7th Nov., 1897	212.65
Received from Mr. Payne	Yen 212.65
Less Flowers, Badges, etc.	25.35
	374.77

By Fee Account:	Yen.
9 Registration Certificates	0.50
	4.50

By Interest Account:	Yen.
Interest on Deposit	3.82
	3.82

	Yen 1379.43
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Assets.	Yen.
Per Old Aborigine:	Yen.
Keel, Mast, Spars, Sails, Gear, Steering Wheel, Anchor, etc.	230.00
Dingy with Patent Rowlocks	40.00
Yokohama Moorings	6.00
Tomioka Moorings	13.00
5 large Club Flags	15.00
1 small Club Flag Account	1.25
	317.25

Furniture, etc., at Tomioka.	Yen.
Brought forward from last	25.57
Matting, Knives, Forks, Plates, etc.	50.35
	Yen 63.92

Less 25 per cent depreciation	16.48
	49.44

Cash in Hand	170.94
	Yen 517.43

Liabilities.	Yen.
One Club Debenture	50.00
Interest from 31st Oct. to 30th Nov., 1897	1.00
	51.00

New Aborigine Account:	Yen.
58 Subscriptions at Yen 5.00	290.00
48 collected	240.00
20 uncollected	100.00
Transfer of Debenture N. O. and Interest per 30th Nov., 1896	50.00
	Yen 680.00

Less Cost of raising remains of old "Aborigine," transport of Keel, etc., to Benthon	74.00
	539.29

E. & O. E.	Yen.
S. WARMING, Act. Hon. Treasurer.	Yen.
E. COULT.	Yen.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.	Yen.
Yokohama, 21st December, 1897.	Yen.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the election of officers. He very much regretted that he himself was leaving them. He had been ordered to Hongkong and must go. He should always however retain the deepest interest in the Club. He recommended them to stick together, sink all petty differences, and help the Committee on all occasions.	Yen.
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The result of the balloting for officers was the election of Mr. Blad as Commodore; Mr. F. J. Hall as Vice-Commodore and Hon. Treasurer; Mr. Bent, Hon. Secretary; and Messrs. Murray and Keswick to the Committee.	Yen.
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Some discussion ensued with regard to the new flag boat, Mr. Blad asking the retiring Commodore if work had been commenced on the boat, as he knew of a yacht which could be purchased for \$1,000 which he thought would fulfil all the requirements of the Club. The contract for building the boat ordered was 650 yen, but they all knew that that did not mean anything like what she would cost before being fit to take her place as flag boat.	Yen.
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The CHAIRMAN said the contract for building the new boat had not yet been signed, but work had been commenced on the frames and keel. It was quite within the powers of the Committee to cancel the contract and to purchase a boat if they found one to suit.	Yen.
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A vote of thanks to Mr. Campbell, the retiring Commodore, and to Mr. Keil for the use of the room for the meeting, brought the proceedings to a close.	Yen.
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THE STABBING CASE ON THE "PORT CALDONIA."

VERDICT AND SENTENCE.

The trial of William Cuthbert, a seaman belonging to the British ship *Port Caledonia*, on the charge of killing and murdering Jules Jerrard, another seaman on the same vessel, adjourned from Thursday, was concluded on Saturday in H.B. M.'s Court for Japan, before Mr. Justice Wilkinson and a Jury. Mr. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor, conducted the prosecution and Mr. Lowder appeared for the prisoner.

The Crown Prosecutor called the following evidence:—

Hans Wilhelm Jergen Daehle, examined—I am a German subject and second mate of the *Port Caledonia*. I was so in October last. I knew Jerrard, who is now dead, and William Cuthbert, the prisoner. On the afternoon of the 18th Oct., about 3 o'clock, I saw Cuthbert on deck near No. 2 hatch, between the forward house and the mainmast. No. 1 hatch is forward of the forward house containing the forecabin.

To the Court—The two canvas screens on deck were aft, in front of the cabin; on the after side of No. 2 hatch. There were two distinct screens, 15 or 20 feet apart.

Examination continued—I was standing on the port side of the ship when I first saw Cuthbert; he was coming towards me from the direction of the forecabin, on the starboard side. I noticed his face was bleeding. I went as far as midships to meet him. I asked him what was the matter with his face. He told me Jim had been hitting and kicking him without his fault. He said, "What's a man to do, how am I going to stand this?" I told him to go and wash himself and go about his business. There was blood and coal dust on his face. I left him then. I don't know which way he went then. I went forward. As I was going forward I heard an altercation going on, loud shouting, on deck. I went from starboard to port in the direction of the noise, to the forecabin door, port side. When I got to the forecabin I saw Jim abreast the forecabin door, on deck. He was facing the door. Cuthbert was inside the fore-

castle, just in the act of coming out. I saw no one else in the fore-castle. I saw the mate and I think Olsen outside. When I saw Cuthbert in the fore-castle he had a hammer and a slice in his hands. The hammer was in his right hand, raised, and the slice in his left. His foot was raised to get over the combing. The slice and hammer produced are like those I saw in Cuthbert's hands. I took both hammer and slice away from him. I afterwards put Cuthbert in irons. He was very excited, but did not resist me. He said to me, while I was putting him in irons something like, "I'll let him know whether he's going to strike for nothing." Neither of the men were in my watch. I don't know if Cuthbert had been on shore that morning. I saw that Jerrard had been wounded directly I saw him. From the time I was talking to Cuthbert at No. 2 hatch till the time I heard the altercation at the fore-castle door, was about 10 minutes.

Cross-examined—When Cuthbert was coming toward me he was bleeding from the left eye, I believe, and the lower part of his face. I think I am right in saying the left eye. I don't remember Cuthbert saying he had been fighting with Jim; he said he had been kicking and striking him without cause. Only one of Cuthbert's eyes were wounded. I did not notice any wound on the forehead. He spoke loudly when he complained to me; so loudly what it was possible he might have been heard in the fore-castle. He was greatly excited at the time, like a man smarting under ill treatment. I could perhaps say he was in a phrensy. I do not know where he got the hammer and slice from. When I said it was 10 minutes between the time I spoke to Cuthbert and heard the altercation I meant about that time; I could not say accurately. The combing at the door of the fore-castle is about 2 ft. high. Two men could not pass through the door of the fore-castle together without squeezing themselves very hard. The same remark applies to the passage-way inside the door. I remember seeing the deceased in a shore boat alongside the ship on the 18th Oct. It was some time after the men were turned in after dinner. That would generally be 1 o'clock. I can't remember the time exactly. I did not speak to him when he came aboard. It appeared to me that he had something concealed under his waistcoat or jumper. I could not say the size of the thing concealed.

To the Juror—When I put Cuthbert in irons I did not notice any other wounds on his face than those I saw at first, the slice might have been left in the fore-castle by one of the men at dinner. It was the usual thing for the men to put on their belts and knives when they turned out.

Thomas J. James, surgeon, R. N., examined—I am a member of the College of Surgeons, London. On the 18th Oct. last I was serving on H.M.S. *Immortalite*. On the afternoon of that day I was sent on board the ship *Port Caledonia*. It was about 10 minutes to 4. On going on board I found a wounded man lying on a mattress in the fore-castle. He was wounded in the abdomen, below the navel. The bowels protruded and were badly wounded. A coil of intestines 18 inches long protruded and were wounded in four places. I had a sick berth steward with me. We cleaned the intestines and stopped the bleeding from them, putting on two artery forceps. I had the man removed to the saloon. Dr. Bowie came on board after that and I handed the case over to him, but continued attendance assisting Dr. Bowie. The incisions in the intestines were sewn up, all bleeding stopped and the bowels returned to the abdomen. To replace the bowels the wound in the abdomen had to be enlarged. I consider that was necessary. I administered chloroform and watched the patient while this was being done. I also found a wound on the left side of the chest, about 4 inches below the nipple. I probed this wound and found that it was only superficial. I afterwards assisted Dr. Bowie in a *post mortem* on deceased on the morning the 21st Oct. The cause of death was acute peritonitis, directly following the stab in the abdomen. Independent of the wound the condition of the patient was quite healthy. From the examination of the wound in the abdomen I should say it could be produced by a knife such as that shown me. The wound in the left breast would also have been produced by the same weapon. The direction of the knife in the abdominal wound was probably directly inward. When I first saw the man he had a pair of trousers and shirt on. I examined Cuthbert on the evening of the 19th, by lantern light. I found him bruised about the face and he had been bleeding from the nose. The skin had been grazed off his left eyebrow; I saw no other wound. His face was matted with blood and coal dust. The dead man was a taller and much more powerful man than the prisoner.

Cross examined—The wound in the abdomen might have been given by an upward stroke of the knife from below. The wounded man smelt of spirits. The effect of alcohol on the memory is frequently very marked if a large quantity has been consumed. The graze over the left eye of the prisoner might have been caused by his head having been pushed against a projecting corner or a bulkhead.

Dr. Robert J. Bowie, examined—I hold a degree of Master of Medicine of the University of Munich, and am practising at Nagasaki. I have been practising there since the 1st October this year. Previously I had practised in the San Francisco Polytechnic. I was engaged to attend the *Port Caledonia* from the day of her arrival in Nagasaki. I attended Jerrard for a slight trouble of the eyes. On the evening of the 18th I received a call to attend the ship at once as a man had been wounded. I went on board and found Dr. James already in attendance on the man. Dr. James handed the case over to me. The wounded man was about being put on the table when I arrived on the ship. The wounded man I knew as Jules Jerrard, night watchman of the *Port Caledonia*. I found him suffering from shock and collapse from penetrating wounds in the abdomen, with injuries to the intestines, and from a wound below the navel the intestines protruded about 14 inches in length. The intestine was wounded in four places, and had attached to it two artery forceps. The hemorrhage had commenced again. After a hasty conference with Dr. James we concluded it was necessary to stop the hemorrhage, dress the wounds in the intestines and return them to the abdomen to avoid exposure to the outward atmosphere. This was done and the usual antiseptic dressings applied. Upon further examination Dr. James discovered a wound in the left thorax which he probed and united with three stitches. We made the man as comfortable as possible and applied the usual stimulants, hot water to his feet and injections of brandy, and left him in the care of two attendants. I saw him in the morning when he complained of vomiting, which I attributed to the action of the chloroform. I had already formed and expressed the opinion that death was inevitable. The man died 56 hours after the wounding. I did not attempt to move the man from the ship. In my opinion it would have been fatal. In conjunction with Dr. James I made a *post mortem*. I found the organs generally healthy. Deceased though of slender build was a powerful man. The direct cause of death was acute peritonitis caused by the perforation of the intestine. Deceased, in my opinion, had from the first no chance of recovering from the wound. In surgery we should call it a penetrating stab wound and it could be inflicted with an ordinary sheath knife such as that produced. I examined Cuthbert's face the following morning. There was a contusion and abrasion of the skin over the left eye, and a tooth loosened in the left lower jaw. Subsequently I found his nose had been fractured. I should say that he had received more than one blow. I was present on the *Port Caledonia* when the deceased man was examined by Mr. Longford. The accused was also present. It was on the morning of the 19th, between 11 and 12. Jerrard was suffering from the effects of the shock but mentally he was clear. He was of course weak and I had to stimulate him from time to time. I still considered the case hopeless. I had not up to that time warned Jerrard of his condition.

Cross-examined—The depositions were read over to Jerrard by Mr. Longford. I think if I remember rightly that the accused had a severe black eye and a contusion over the left brow as well as a fractured nose. There were evidences of a blow on the left jaw, which had caused the loosening of a tooth. The injuries sustained by the prisoner showed that considerable force had been used. The contusion over the eye was more noticeable on the 19th than on the day it was produced. The effect on the memory of drinking to excess is to weaken it.

To a Juror—The contusion over the prisoner's eye looked more as if it had been done by striking up against some hard object than by a blow from the fist.

At this stage the Court adjourned till 2 p.m. Upon the Court reassembling after tiffin, Mr. Litchfield called.

Walter Kendal Tresize, who deposed—I am manager of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works. I have prepared a plan of the British ship *Port Caledonia* (produced, Exhibit 4). I went on board and took the measurements of the fore-castle and the plan is an accurate one. The position of the chests, etc., is as I saw them on the 6th December.

Cross examined—The plan is drawn to scale, 1 inch to the foot. The doorway or corridor leading

on to the deck, is 2ft. 7, and the door itself 2ft. 0½ inches wide. The length of the corridor is 2ft. 6. If a man were lying in the top bunk athwartships he could see about two-thirds down the fore-castle diagonally. (Witness here marked the line of vision on the plan.) I saw a canvas bulkhead. It is not a permanent fixture. If the canvas screen were up the range of vision would be more circumscribed. The three tracings presented are accurate copies of the original plan (Exhibits 4 a, b, and c.).

Hans Wilhelm Jørgens Daehre, second mate of the *Port Caledonia*, recalled by Mr. Lowder in re-examination—I do not know whether or not there was a canvas screen between the two tiers of bunks in the fore-castle, on the 18th Oct.

Louis Vadesland, recalled by the Court and asked the same question, deposed that there was a little piece of canvas between Bill's bunk and the next. The canvas was there on the 18th Oct.

Robert August Hildebrand, examined—I am a German subject and a sailor on the *Port Caledonia*. I was lying in one of the lower bunks in the fore-castle on the afternoon of the 18th. The bunk is a fore and aft one, amidships. Witness, after some little difficulty, pointed it out on the plan.

Cross-examined—I know the prisoner by the name of Bill, the dead man we called Jim. On the 18th Oct. I had my dinner in the fore-castle. I can't remember the time. Jim came into the fore-castle a long time after dinner. I was in my bunk. Jim went to Frenchy's bunk and talked to him. Bill was not in the fore-castle then. Jim appeared to be a little drunk. After talking to Frenchy about what he had been buying, he asked who had been spewing in his bunk. After a time Bill came in and Jim said "you have been spewing here, take a bucket and clean it up." Bill refused, as he was not "peggy" that week. Then a quarrel arose, from the witness account of which in very broken English it was impossible to make sense.

To the Court—In the first fight Jim slung Bill on the chest and struck him with his fist and head. Bill went away after the first fight and soon came back again and went up to Jim at his bunk and they talked together. I did not see what took place till I heard Jim call out "I'm cut," then I jumped out of my bunk and saw Jim just by the door, and Bill close to him, the two having a knife between them.

The same witness was then further examined through the second mate Daehre as interpreter, and deposed—When Jim first came in to the fore-castle he went up to Frenchy's bunk and after telling him about his purchases asked him who had been making a mess in the corner. Frenchy did not answer him at once but after a little while Frenchy told him that Bill had been sitting on the bench sick. I do not know whether Jim then got his dinner. Shortly after Bill came in and went to sit down on the bench by Jim's bunk. I could not see whether Jim was in his bunk then. Jim was the first to speak, asking Bill if he had been sick there and telling him to get a bucket of water and clean it up. Bill said, "Who told you it was me, there's more people in the fore-castle." Jim said, "Will you go and get a bucket of water and clean it up." Bill said he would not, as he was not "peggy," Charley was. They said something more and then Jim jumped from the corner and got hold of Bill's arms, both then fought and Jim threw Bill on the chest between the bulkhead and the water barrel. Jim hit him several times with his fist and butted him with his head. Jim used bad language to Bill, who swore back at him and asked him to let him go; and after giving him one more shove against the bulk-head Jim let him go, saying to Bill, "Now will you clean it up." Bill then left the fore-castle. During that time I can not say whether Bill had his belt and knife on him. All the men do generally. Bill came back after a few minutes, perhaps from 2 to 5 minutes. When I next saw Bill he was standing close to the bench by Jim's bunk and said to Jim, "Why did you kick out my eye?" I do not know whether at that time Bill had his knife; Bill and Jim were still quarrelling, but I did not understand properly what they were quarrelling about. They went out of my sight and then I heard Jim call out, "I'm cut," and jumped out of my bunk.

I know the prisoner well. He was the best comrade among the Britishers on that side the fore-castle. He used to make them laugh many a time playing with his cat.

To the Court—I heard there was an examination into this case at Nagasaki. I did not give evidence because nobody asked me and I was not going to run after any man.

To a Juror—I did not see Jim put on his belt and go out. After I heard the cry "I'm cut," and jumped out of my bunk I stood by to see if I could be of any help. I saw Olsen there but I

did not notice the Frenchman. I can't say exactly how long it was between the time of the fight at the chest and when Jim called out he was cut.

Karl W. J. Daelre, second mate, recalled by Mr. Lowder—I believe the prisoner bore a good character generally on the ship; but I cannot say in particular, as he is not in my watch.

Joseph H. Longford, called by Mr. Litchfield deposed—I am H.B.M.'s Consul at Nagasaki. On the 18th Oct. information was laid before me of a stabbing case on the *Port Caledonia*.

On the morning of the 19th I went on board the ship with the prisoner. I found Jules Jerrard lying wounded on the table. I took down a statement made by Jerrard. I administered an oath to him. Cuthbert was present when the oath was administered; he stood close beside me, and all the time I was taking the statement down. Cuthbert was offered the opportunity of putting any questions he liked to Jerrard on the depositions taken. The examination was read over to Jerrard who put his mark to the depositions in my presence, that of the accused and two witnesses. When I went on board my first question to Jerrard was, "Do you know you are about to die?" He answered very emphatically, "No, I don't." I hurriedly drew up a heading to the depositions under the charge of cutting and wounding. I read it aloud before Cuthbert. I can't say for certain whether I read it aloud before taking the evidence, but I believe I did. The original depositions were sent with the others to this Court in a registered package. I acted as Coroner at the inquest on Jerrard. I identify the document produced as the depositions of Jerrard taken and signed by me.

Mr. Lowder—I understand that Mr. Litchfield proposes to read the depositions. I object.

Mr. Litchfield submitted that this was a deposition taken in the presence of the accused, in connection with the facts upon which the present indictment was based, and on which accused had a full opportunity for cross-examination. On the admissibility of this Counsel quoted authorities from *Taylor's Evidence of Law*, 7th Edition; and 24 Vol. Law Journal Reports, p. 5. Counsel quoted the Digest of the Law by Stevens C 17 Art 40. Counsel submitted that he claimed to put in the depositions under common law, which he contended was not set aside by Statute 11 and 12 Vic. 42, Sec. 17.

Mr. Lowder, in support of his objection quoted from *Russell on Crime*, 3rd vol. 4th Edition, Sec. 894, p 481, and cited several cases therefrom. One other reason strengthened counsel in his objection, which was that in the case before them the learned Judge in the Court below did not appear to be very sure whether he read the charge to the accused before he took the depositions.

His Honour—On the first point I consider the Crown is entitled to put in the depositions so far as the charge is concerned, which was one of cutting, and was the actual cause of death. On the other point I do not feel sure, from the frank statement made by the learned Judge below, that the prisoner fully understood his position with regard to the cross-examination of deceased when the depositions were taken, and on this ground I must rule that the depositions can not be read.

The Court at this stage adjourned till 9 a.m. on Saturday.

Upon the Court re-assembling, Mr. Litchfield said he only intended calling witnesses as to character.

John Barry, examined, deposed—I am a Nova Scotian by birth. I have been shipmate for 6 months with the prisoner. He bears a good character and is a good comrade; singing and jolly generally.

John Ford, examined—I am a native of Newfoundland. I have been shipmates with prisoner 6 months. He is a man of good disposition, kindly and jovial.

David Thomas, examined—I am of Welsh nationality. I have been shipmates with accused for 6 months. He is as jolly a man as I ever shipped with. Certainly not quarrelsome; nothing in that way.

Mr. Litchfield then proceeded to sum up the case for the Crown. He did not think it would be necessary to do so at any great length, only to bring out the principal points. The case for the prosecution depended principally on the evidence of four men; the Frenchman Vandeland, the German Hildebrand, and the mate Rull and second mate Daelre. Looking to the evidence of the two witnesses, Vandeland and Hildebrand, it appeared that the quarrel arose over a trivial thing but ended in a serious fight. Both witnesses were illiterate but had showed they had the power of describing a serious fight in very condensed terms, and that accounted for some discrepancies in their evidence. Counsel then read and compared some of the statements made by the two witnesses.

There was an apparent discrepancy; as described by the German the final fight took place directly after the first fight, and not as the Frenchman says after Bill had been on deck and returned to the fore-castle and said to Jim, "Now I will kill you." With regard to the occurrence on deck between the fight and the stabbing, when the mate saw accused bleeding from the nose and with one eye injured, the man's face was so covered with coal dust that it would be impossible to discern a bruise, though a cut and its effects could be seen. The second mate went further into details, and quoted the words of the accused, who asked what he was to do, after having been so treated by Jerrard. Then shortly afterwards accused was seen attempting to strike Jerrard with a hammer and evidently pursuing him in a very revengeful spirit. Then there was the evidence of Olsen, who saw Bill with a knife in his hand, which was grasped by Jerrard, Olsen took the knife away, and then accused picked up the hammer and slice to continue his attack on Jim. The remark made by accused when he was put in irons, "I'll let him know if he can strike me for nothing," showed his determination to carry out the deed which he actually did: these were the principal points in the case for the jury to consider.

Mr. Lowder, in summoning up for the defence, said that although the prisoner was not allowed to give evidence in the box, he was allowed to make a statement and Counsel proposed to read this statement and leave it to the jury to consider how far it could be reconciled with the evidence produced. The statement was as follows:—

"As soon as the mate told me to go and wash my face I went to the fore-castle; I thought Jim was on deck, but he was not. He was standing just inside the door close to his bunk. I had just got my left leg inside the door when he says:—"You'll tell the mate, will you?" And at the same time I got a blow from his right hand. It was meant for my face, but I threw my head up and I got it under the left jaw. He placed his left hand on the back of my neck to try and hold me down, or my head down, but I got my other leg inside the door, and the right side of my face being towards him I got a second blow over the right eye, which knocked my forehead up against the bulkhead. It was while I was in that position, that is to say, with my head held down by the left hand of the deceased, that I drew my knife."

Continuing, Mr. Lowder said that having drawn the knife, the prisoner lost all recollection of what took place.

If the position was as described the prisoner was in such a condition of excitement as to be irresponsible for his actions at the time. Counsel reviewed the evidence, which he submitted bore out the statement of accused. With regard to the Frenchman's evidence it would be clear to the jury that he could not possibly have seen what he had described, from his position in his bunk. Counsel had no intention of suggesting that the witness had perjured himself, but that he had mixed up what he had heard afterwards with what he had seen, as persons of low intelligence were very apt to do. There was evidence to show that there were wounds on accused's face not accounted for in the first fight, and strong corroboration of the statement made by accused that a fresh attack was made on him by Jerrard after he returned to the fore-castle, and that it was then that the knife was drawn by the accused. After the first fight accused had evidently no intention of revenge, as he went to the chief officer to complain and ask him what he should do, and was told to go and wash his face and go about his business. He returned to the fore-castle in obedience to this order not knowing that Jerrard was there, and certainly with no intention of renewing the quarrel. Counsel then referred to the distinction between murder and manslaughter, and argued that malice must necessarily be shown to establish a charge of murder. In this case no malice had been proved. If the statement of the prisoner was believed the fatal blow was delivered in self defence; and if that was established it would be justifiable homicide and the duty of the jury would be to acquit the prisoner.

His Honour, in summing up, said there was no doubt that the accused was responsible for the death of the deceased, and it was for the jury to decide whether he had cleared himself of the charge of murder. He thought the jury might dismiss from their minds the suggestion of Counsel that the act was done in self-defence under a reasonable fear of his own destruction or grievous bodily harm, as was required to justify the homicide. His Honour then explained the difference between murder and manslaughter. The test was whether the accused had time to cool down between the time the injuries were inflicted on him and the time he committed the final act. From

the evidence it appeared that the interval between the time the accused complained to the mate of the injuries inflicted on him by Jerrard and the time he returned to the fore-castle was ten minutes. It was stated in his favour that he returned to the fore-castle in obedience to orders and not from revengeful feelings. If the jury had any reasonable doubt on the point as to whether the prisoner had shown malice aforethought or not, it was their duty to give the prisoner the benefit of the doubt. If they believed that when accused went back to the fore-castle a fresh provocation was given him by the deceased, they would bring in a verdict of manslaughter; if they considered that there had been no fresh provocation and that accused had had sufficient time to cool down before he committed the final act they would come to the conclusion that he had committed murder.

The jury being asked if they would like to retire to consider their verdict, said it was unnecessary, and after a consultation of a few minutes returned a verdict against the accused of guilty of manslaughter and not guilty of murder.

His Honour said the jury had taken a merciful view of the case, in which he entirely concurred. Addressing the prisoner His Honour said that although he had not been found guilty on the capital charge, the crime he had committed was a most serious one. The prisoner was sentenced to five years penal servitude in Victoria Jail, Hongkong, until his removal to Hongkong to be imprisoned in the H.M.'s Consular Jail in Yokohama; the sentence to date from the day of his conviction.

His Honour thanked the jury for their services and the attention they had bestowed upon the case, and absolved them from further service upon a jury for two years from date.

H.B.M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before Mr. JUSTICE HIRAM S. WILKINSON,
TUESDAY, Dec. 14th.

H. E. ELLIAS VERSUS THE P. AND O. S. N. CO.

In this case the plaintiff sued the defendant Company for \$146.25 compensation for an alleged shortage of 19 lbs ivory in two packages shipped in Bombay and delivered in Yokohama on the 19th June per steamer *Ancona*.

Mr. M. Hassan, manager of the firm of Mr. H. E. Elias, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Alf. Woolley, agent of the P. & O. Company, for the defendants.

Mr. F. J. Norman was sworn in as interpreter in Hindustani.

The petition and answer having been put in but not read,

His Honour asked defendant if any letters had passed between the plaintiff and himself.

Mr. Woolley said he had written two and had received several from plaintiff.

Two letters from defendant to plaintiff and four from the plaintiff to defendant were then put in; also the bill of lading.

His Honour said it appeared from the last clause in the petition that there was some ivory still to be delivered.

Mr. Woolley said there was no remainder. He was prepared to deliver all the ivory that had arrived on the bill of lading, but it had not yet been taken delivery of by plaintiff.

Continuing, defendant said he had three defences, first that the packages were landed in apparent good order and condition; second, that with regard to certain statements made in the petition as to the weight of certain packages, he knew nothing about the weight and the statements were neither admitted nor denied; third, insufficiency of packing.

The Court suggested that it would be best to begin with the evidence of the gentleman who had made the survey on the packages.

Mr. Woolley objected to the survey being admitted as evidence on the ground that defendants had not been notified that a survey was to be held and had therefore had no opportunity to have a surveyor on their side in attendance when the survey was made.

His Honour overruled the objection.

Thomas Fellowes Cruickshank deposed that he made a survey report on behalf of Lloyds' agents in this case (report produced). He was called in by the representative of the plaintiff, Mr. Elias. He was appointed by Lloyds' agents to survey for them. He had no special instructions with regard to these particular goods. The statements in the report were all correct to the best of witness' knowledge and ability. The report was signed by witness, and countersigned by Cornes & Co., as Lloyds' agents.

Cross-examined by Mr. Woolley—He had been

appointed for about four years to make reports on behalf of Lloyds' Agents. He did not remember ever before having to report on ivory. He could not say how many ways there were of packing ivory.

To the Court—The outside of the bags showed signs of having been mended. The cord which sewed up the end of the bag was broken and knotted and did not extend to the end of the bag, which, in his opinion, showed that it had been tampered with. Otherwise it was in good order and condition. The ivory was packed in double gunny bags and it was necessary to open the outer one to see what had taken place.

To Mr. Woolley, through the Court—Witness could not remember the weight of package No. 182, but it was in the report. He opened the bags where they were sewn; they were not cut.

M. M. Hassan, the plaintiff, deposed in Hindustani through the interpreter that he had been doing business in Yokohama for about four years. He was continually receiving ivory from Bombay. It was sometimes packed in gunny bags and sometimes in boxes.

His Honour asked the defendant if he complained against the gunny bags in particular in which this ivory was packed or whether his objection was to gunny bags generally as packing.

Mr. Woolley said his objection was to ivory being packed in gunny bags generally, which he considered constituted insufficient packing, against which there was a special clause in the bill of lading.

His Honour said that as a matter of argument he would assume that the packages were shipped in apparent good order and condition but that the bags had been opened and the goods abstracted. What view as to his liability did defendant hold on that point?

Mr. Woolley said he denied any liability whatever in that case.

His Honour said he would rule against him at once on that point and he could not allow defendant to shift his defence.

His Honour asked plaintiff what evidence he had as to the number of pieces of ivory shipped at Bombay.

Plaintiff said he had letters from Bombay.

His Honour ruled that he could not take the letters in evidence but would later on adjourn the case to give plaintiff an opportunity to get direct evidence from Bombay as to the number of pieces of ivory shipped. He did not suppose the defendants would care to go to the expense of a commission to Bombay, but he would suggest that plaintiff should obtain an affidavit from the person who shipped the goods in Bombay, who should show the same to the P. & O. Company's agent there so that the latter might have an opportunity of settling the case there.

Plaintiff remarked that in the bill of lading there was a statement of the weight of the packages, 224 lbs.

Mr. Woolley said that was not the definite weight of the packages, it was only the amount on which freight was charged.

His Honour said that was what he understood and advised defendant to call any evidence he was prepared with.

Mr. Woolley then called John James Efford, surveyor, who deposed that he went to the Custom House on the 13th inst. and inspected two packages, one marked M 182. Other marks on the bag were "P 68" and "pounds 110." He weighed this bag on the scale and the gross weight was 81lbs. the packing was gunny bag and apparently double. A different kind of twine had been used in the sewing from the original. He considered the package to be in fairly good condition excepting places where some holes had been made by the sharp parts eating through the gunny. He did not open the bag to ascertain the nature of the contents, but it was evidently some hard substance like bone. The other package marked M 183 weighed 79lbs. There was no other mark on the bag showing the weight. The gunnies were in a similar condition to No. 182, especially as regarded the twine and sewing up. It appeared as if the sewing had been done since the landing in Yokohama. It would have been impossible to put 38lbs more ivory in the bag marked 110lbs. Witness had carried a good deal of ivory from Ceylon, principally to London. Elephants' tusks from 50 to 80lbs. in weight are usually packed separately in straw and then sewed up in double gunnies, and were usually most carefully stowed in places where theft was impossible. Small pieces of ivory were usually packed in cases, iron hooped, with gunnies outside. He had never carried ivory in gunny bags and did not think it a good way of packing, as the bags are liable to be cut by the sharp edges of the ivory. Witness had never surveyed ivory before in Yokohama. It was the practice when a consignee held a survey of

cargo to notify the ship's agent or owner so that he might be represented by a surveyor himself.

Francis Napier Tillard, master of the *Rusetta*, examined by Mr. Woolley, explained that in Bombay there were four ways in which they received ivory—big tusks entirely unpacked, second, tusks packed in straw and gunny, third, small tusks packed in cases and, fourth, occasionally in gunnies as in the present instance. Out of eleven packages of ivory on the present voyage only two were packed in gunnies, the rest in boxes.

Captain Efford, recalled by the Court, said he did not examine if the holes in the gunny bags went right through. Some of the holes had been mended.

George Palmer, examined by Mr. Woolley, deposed that he had been fifteen years in the employ of the P. & O. Co., at Yokohama as office gunner, in which capacity it was his duty to look after cargo at the hatoba landed from or shipped on board the company's steamers. He landed two packages of ivory, numbered 182 and 183 about the middle of last June. They were in good order and condition.

To the Court—The packages were stowed in the company's godown at the hatoba. He had received them from the bullion room of the ship. He saw no holes whatever in the gunny bags.

His Honour, addressing the defendant, said the case as it stood was that provided it was proved by plaintiff that a larger number or greater weight of pieces of ivory had been shipped than were delivered to the plaintiff it would be with defendant to prove what had become of them or to prove by the bill of lading that he was not liable for the loss. To give an opportunity to the plaintiff to prove the amount of ivory shipped and also to the defendant to get a settlement effected by his Bombay agent, he would adjourn the case until the 15th March next at 10.30 a.m.

BRITISH CONSULAR REPORT FOR NAGASAKI.

(Concluded from Saturday.)

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Except coal, there is really nothing in the list of exports from Nagasaki that merits any special notice, or except as affording employment for British shipping, that is of interest to British trade. Cotton yarn has commenced to appear in the list, having been exported both to Shanghai and Newchwang, but as yet to a very small extent. Timber has hitherto been a prominent item among exports, but now prices on the spot have so risen that it is being largely imported from Western Canada and the United States. Of manufactured goods, such as matting, porcelain, textiles, &c., the whole export is insignificant, though the floor matting produced in the district is both singularly beautiful and varied in its design and fairly substantial and durable in its texture. In the latter respect it appears to be superior to that which is so largely exported from the other parts. Of the whole quantity exported from Japan only about 1½ per cent. goes to the United Kingdom, and it is strange that there its comfort and beauty as a summer floor covering apparently continue to be almost unknown.

Assuming that the value of the foreign trade of Nagasaki makes but a poor appearance when compared with that of the two principal ports in Japan, Yokohama and Kobe, the bulky nature of the principal imports and of nearly all the exports affords enough employment for shipping to enable the port, both in the number and tonnage of vessels that enter it, to hold its own fairly against not only the Japanese, but, with the single exception of Shanghai, against all Chinese ports. The harbour is always crowded, presenting a busy and bustling appearance, and one of the sources of the present prosperity of the port is undoubtedly the supplying of the requirements of the great number of ships that come here, not only vessels of war, but merchant ships.

With the single exception of the French, all lines of mail steamers now running to the East call at Nagasaki both on their outward and inward voyages, and this is the only port of call either in China or Japan of the magnificent vessels of the Russian Volunteer Fleet.

Full statistics of the shipping both of Nagasaki and the ports of Shimonoseki, Moji, and Kuchinotsu are contained in the Table (Annex 4) appended to this Report, and it is unnecessary to recapitulate them here.

The preponderance and advance of British shipping are both very marked. The number of British vessels that entered Nagasaki in 1896 was 335 and the tonnage 746,130, and the total entered both in Nagasaki and the subsidiary ports, 772

vessels of 1,582,479 tons. The steady increase in British tonnage is shown by the following figures of the entries during the last five years:—

Year.	Entered Nagasaki.		Total Entered Nagasaki and Subsidiary Ports.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
1892 ...	219	372,638	410	662,559
1893 ...	232	464,552	482	890,374
1894 ...	250	493,900	726	1,128,208
1895 ...	343	688,608	722	1,389,983
1896 ...	335	746,130	772	1,582,479

PUBLIC WORKS.

Sufficient progress was made in the construction of the Kiushu Railway to enable a short section from the port of Nagasaki to Nagoya, a small town on the Gulf of Omura, to be opened to public traffic during the currency year. From Nagoya passengers are ferried across the gulf in a small steamer, and join the main line from Kumamoto to Moji at Haiki, a town close to the opposite shore. The construction of the section from Nagoya round the northern shore of the gulf to directly join the main line is being proceeded with, but its completion is not expected for at least two years.

The ambition of Japanese engineers is leading them to discuss and contemplate the construction of a bridge across the Straits of Shimonoseki so as to unite the main line of the Kiushu Railway with that of the Sanyo Railway from Shimonoseki to Hiogo, and enable passengers to proceed on one unbroken journey right through from the extreme south of Kiushu to the extreme north of the mainland. As the Straits of Shimonoseki are at their narrowest part fully one mile in width and the current through them frequently attains a velocity of 8 miles, the bridge must be constructed at a height which will enable the very largest ocean-going steamers to pass beneath it, and as the district is subject to the visitation of typhoons of the most violent type, Japan will, should this project ever be successfully carried out, achieve the greatest triumph in bridge building in the world.

Extensive and important works for the deepening and reclamation of large parts of the harbours are now, after several years of planning, being put in hand. It is intended to deepen the harbour to a minimum of 27 feet at low water by excavating some 485,000 cubic *tsubo* of soil. This will be utilised in reclaiming some 180,000 square *tsubo* of land all protected by a strong stone wall on the sea front. The water frontage available for shipping purposes being very limited, insufficient for present and wholly so for prospective requirements, this reclaimed land should be most valuable, and the result of the whole will be to give greatly extended facilities for the anchorage of ocean ships of the largest size, and convert the useless, unsightly, and insanitary tide flats at the head of the harbour into valuable sites for building purposes. These works are to be carried out in six years, and the total cost will, it is estimated, be about 3,100,000 dol. Of this amount the Imperial Government will contribute 800,000 dol., the local government 250,000 dol., and the balance will be raised by bonds, which will be offered for sale from time to time as required. A considerable quantity of machinery will be required for the work, but it has already been contracted for in the United States.

During the current year the laying of a deep-sea telegraph cable from Japan to Formosa, commenced in the autumn of 1896, has been successfully completed, and as this is the first instance in which the Japanese engineers have, unaided by foreign experts, undertaken the laying of a deep-sea cable of considerable length, their completion of the work without serious mishap is a cause of some triumph to them. The present cable extends from the southern point of Kiushu, near the entrance to the Gulf of Kagoshima, via the Loochoo Islands, to the northern point of Formosa, the total distance being about 800 miles. For the purpose of laying the cable, a fine steamer of 2,000 tons, fully equipped with cable tanks and all the best modern appliances, was constructed in England at a cost of about 500,000 dol. The cable, about 1,300 miles in length, was also obtained from England, and brought out to Japan partly in the special steamer, and to a large extent in two British steamers. It was, in the first instance, stored on arrival in four circular tanks specially constructed for its reception on a small inlet in Nagasaki harbour, these tanks and the immediate anchorage and landing places being constructed in so elaborate a fashion that it is evident they are not designed for use in connection with one cable only. Neither the cost of the steamer nor that of the cable appears in the cus-

tons returns, or both would add substantially to the value of the imports from England in 1896.

GENERAL REMARKS.—SHIPBUILDING IN NAGASAKI.

Considerable extension was made in 1896 to the dockyard and engineering works at this port, the largest dock having been lengthened so as to be capable of receiving ships up to 500 feet in length and the construction of a new dock of a length over all of 371 feet having been completed. Very extensive additions were made to the moulding, boiler, and engine shops, and all modern machinery provided that was necessary to render the works efficient in the highest degree. A large machine shed for iron workers, and new saw mills and joiners' shops are now in process of construction, and all the valuable machinery required for them has already been ordered from England. Designs are also in hand for a graving dock of the largest size.

These works, carried on under liberal and enlightened management, with the assistance of European experts in all branches, long since acquired a high reputation for good and economic workmanship in the docking and repairing of vessels of every description and nationality, from ironclad cruisers of the first class down to coasters; and many small steamers for coasting trade in Japan have been built and completed with engines, boilers, and all fittings.

During the past year more ambitious undertakings were started, and the building of ocean-going steamers for the first time undertaken. One steamer of 1,500 tons registered tonnage, built under the strictest requirements of Lloyd's special survey, for one of the principal shipping companies of Japan, has already been completed, and was successfully launched early this year, and another of 6,200 tons registered tonnage, with a speed of 12½ knots, is now under construction, and so far advanced towards completion that her launch may take place in November next. The latter is being built for the National Mail Steamship Company (Nippon Yusen Kaisha) on precisely similar designs to those on which steamers have been recently constructed for the same company on the Clyde, and the result of this experiment, as to whether she can be completed in Japan at no greater cost than if built in England should be, and is by the Japanese themselves, awaited with much interest. The best hopes entertained were that her cost would be no greater, but as many special expenses had to be incurred on her account, it is equally hoped that if this result is attained in the present instance, much better ones will, with the aid of the experience, be attained in the next. Before the present could be commenced at all, considerable alterations had to be made in the arrangements of the yard, so that the machinery necessary for laying the frames and beams of so large a vessel could be suitably placed, new furnaces and sheds had to be built, and workmen hitherto accustomed to deal with frames of at the outside 3 inches in diameter, taught to deal with those of 6 inches, with proportionate increase of length and weight. The services of a distinguished English shipbuilder were engaged, and under his superintendence the construction of the vessel is now proceeding, it being the desire of the Japanese to turn her out complete and ready for sea in no longer time than that in which the same result could have been attained on the Clyde. So well satisfied are they with their present progress, that material is now being ordered from England for a second vessel of the same time type and dimensions for the same owners, and the Japanese may therefore be said to be now well started on a career of ocean steamship building. Two other large steamers are also in progress of construction. One a steamer of 2,500 tons is in frame, but this vessel being intended for the owners of the yard, work is temporarily suspended in favour of the steamers building to order. The keel of another vessel intended to be used as a training ship by the Tokyo Mercantile Marine School is also laid. The latter will be a sailing vessel with auxiliary steam power capable of a speed of 6 knots, built of steel, with cellular double bottom throughout its entire length, of 1,540 tons registered tonnage, and 238 feet in length. Designs are in preparation for two salvage steamers to be built principally of wood, but with bulkheads and ballast tanks of steel, and a large amount of work is being done as well in the construction of steam launches and general repairs. Under the latter heading 24 vessels of war of various nationalities, of an aggregate tonnage of 63,104 tons, and 65 merchant steamers, of 190,668 tons, were docked during the year, and 36 vessels of 21,047 tons placed on the slips.

Generally speaking, the year 1896 was a fairly satisfactory one to both foreign and Japanese traders in Nagasaki, and very marked evidence

has been given of the confidence that is held in the future of the port by the enormous rise, amounting to full 500 per cent. on the prices of three years ago, at which land has been sold during the year. For a miscellaneous trade, supplying the wants of the inhabitants at large, there is not much prospect at least for some years to come.

There is no demand for piece goods and the rest of the miscellaneous articles that are imported to so large an extent into Kobe and Yokohama, and the native middlemen, while much smaller in their ideas and transactions than in the two larger ports, are characterised by equal lack of faith and disposition to fulfil the term of any contract involving a possible loss. But at the same time, as before remarked, there will be a continued demand for requirements of the shipbuilding, mining, and spinning industries sufficient to maintain the import trade of Western goods on at least its present level.

The Island of Formosa has not yet answered the expectations formed of it by the Japanese, but in whatever wealth it may ultimately bring to Japan, Nagasaki as the nearest port must have a large share, while the opening of the Siberian Railway must also tend greatly to its advantage, and from its proximity to the Pacific terminus of the railway, give it also a large share in whatever trade Japan may develop with Siberia. And, finally, the connection of the port with the interior of the Island of Kiusiu by rail should make it the distributing centre of whatever goods of foreign production the people may ultimately find they require.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

INDIA COUNCIL BILLS.

London, Dec. 9.
Tenders will be received on the 15th inst. for India Council Bills to the amount of forty lakhs of rupees. The Secretary of State sells bills at £97 9s. 8d. for about ten millions sterling, instead of thirteen millions as estimated in the Budget.

THE BRITISH ARMY.

London, Dec. 10.
The Marquess of Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, speaking at Edinburgh, sketched the army programme for Great Britain, which he said required three Army Corps at home to repel possible invasion, with ability to mobilise two more for offensive purposes abroad, and to despatch small bodies as required without mobilization. The Army should also be able punctually to supply India and the Colonies, and it was proposed to regroup regiments of infantry on a basis of four battalions instead of two, and to re-engage a small number of reservists annually for extra pay, to be in readiness in case of operations not justifying the calling out of the whole of the Reserve. He hoped to be able to provide for the soldier a clear shilling a day, and also to enlist men for home service for three years with the option of entering the Reserve or remaining with the Colours. He was determined that the Army should not be deficient in artillery.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

London, Dec. 11.
The *Times* correspondent at Peking telegraphs that Germany has undertaken to evacuate Kiaochow, receiving instead, as a coaling station, Samsao, in Fuhkien.

The *Times*, in an article on Germany's action in China, says that it implies the redistribution of the balance of power in the East, and recalls the British Rights Convention of 1846 in reference to a group of islands at the mouth of the Yangtze, saying that the time may come when Great Britain may have to claim them.

London, Dec. 13.
The *Times* statement that Germany had undertaken to evacuate Kiaochow, receiving instead San-sha, in Fohkien, as a

coaling station, is positively denied in Berlin.

Reuter's correspondent at Peking telegraphs that China has yielded practically on all points in the Kiaochow affair, and that Germany has definitely refused to leave that place.

London, Dec. 13.

The Emperor William goes to Kiel to say farewell to Prince Henry. The squadron will sail on the 16th instant.

THE ADVANCE ON KHARTOUM.

London, Dec. 14.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at Bristol, said that an Egyptian force will, in due time, advance to Khartoum, and that the Government will, if necessary, ask Parliament to aid Egypt in the achievement of that task.

OPERATIONS IN AFRICA.

Major Jenkinson occupied Bona unopposed on the 17th November. The French claim Bona to be within their hinterland.

THE WEST AFRICA COMMISSION.

London, Dec. 14.

It is understood that in an interview, the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, said that Baron de Courcel, French Ambassador in London, had distinctly facilitated the settlement of the matters in dispute between England and France in West Africa.

THE ITALIAN CABINET.

The Marquis di Rudini has informed King Humbert that he is unable to reconstruct the Cabinet.

THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE.

A ballot has been taken among the striking engineers, 95 per cent. of whom have rejected the proposals of the masters.

THE NEW ADMIRAL.

London, Dec. 15.

Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Seymour, C.B., has been appointed to succeed Sir Alexander Buller as Commander-in-Chief on the China Station.

THE RUSSIAN PRESS AND KIAOCHOW.

The Russian Press, in dealing with the subject of the capture of Kiaochow, gives vent to profound dissatisfaction at Germany's action, but the Russian Government remains impassive.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

U. S. NAVAL APPRENTICE DROWNED.

SUSPICION OF FOUL PLAY.

Nagasaki, Dec. 13, 6 28 p.m.
Last night, Apprentice Epps, belonging to the U. S. Flagship *Olympia*, was found drowned in the harbour. It is believed that he was murdered by sampan-men.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

PROTECTION OF CHINESE BRITISH SUBJECTS.

Singapore, December 6.

The Governor of the Straits Settlements telegraphed to the Consul at Amoy asking for the release of a Straits-born Chinaman incarcerated in a native prison in China while travelling with a Straits passport.

The Consul replies that the Minister refuses protection because the Straits-born man had not registered at the Consulate until after the suit in which he is concerned had begun.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)
RAILWAY COLLISION.

Yokkaichi, Dec. 16.
Last night two passenger trains collided on the Kansai Railway and several passengers were more or less injured.

THE KOREAN CABINET.

Seoul, Dec. 16.
Min Chhong-mik has been appointed Minister of Finance.

INDIAN COTTON.

Osaka, Dec. 17.
Yesterday the first sale of new Bombay cotton was made at yen 17 and 16.50. The Naigai Wata Kaisha bought 1,500 bales at 17 yen per picul for two months delivery.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at 184, Creek-side.

The Tokyo Chess Club holds its meetings at 3, Uchi-Saiwai-cho Ichome (next to the Tokyo Club).

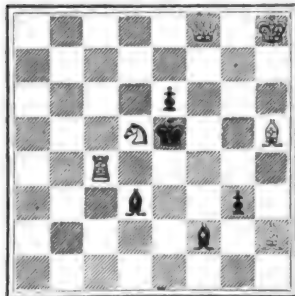
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 349.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—R to Q 4 | 1—K takes R |
| 2—B to B 2, mate | 1—P takes R |
| 2—B to Q 6, mate | 1—R to Kt 3 |
| 2—Q to B 4, mate | 1—R to Kt 4 |
| 2—Q to Q 6, mate | 1—R to Kt 5 |
| 2—R to Q 5, mate | 1—Any other |
| 2—R to B 4, mate | |

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., J.W.E., D.D., and F.B. (Tokyo).

PROBLEM NO. 351.

By J. KING, Singapore.



White to play and mate in three moves.

We have pleasure, says the *Singapore Free Press*, in submitting to our readers the above problem by a local author of merit. Mr. J. King, although of a retiring disposition, especially of late years, is known as one of the best solvers we have. He can also with justice claim to be the *doyen* of problem composers in Singapore, and, bold as the attempt might appear, has competed on several occasions with credit to himself in the home tournaments against some of the very best European composers.

CONCERNING PROBLEM 349.

A correspondent of *The Sporting and Dramatic News*, London, charges Mr. O'Hara with cribbing his problem (our 349). This writer declares that the problem is a facsimile of one of Pospisil, published in *The Illustrated London News*, some five years ago. This seems to be the second offence of Mr. O'Hara in the way of borrowing other folks' ideas, and the editor of *The American Chess Magazine* suggests that probably he "will try something original next time, or not try at all."

FREE INSTRUCTION CLASSES.

In answer to the notice which appeared in a previous issue we have received the names of two gentlemen who desire a few lessons in Chess. We hope that more will come forward next week, when the classes begin.

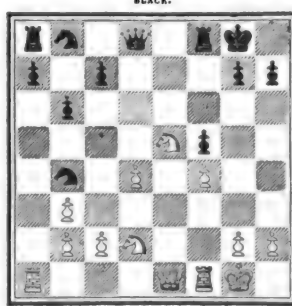
CHESS IN AMERICA.

There is a peculiar smartness or crispness in American chess quite in harmony with the gen-

eral nature of all things American, says Mr. Gunzberg. The appended short match skirmish will have quite a refreshing effect on lovers of the game who get a surfeit of modern chess strategy in match play. The game was played and won by Mr. Chadwick, the secretary of the Brooklyn Chess Club.

White—Chadwick	Black—Otto.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4
2 P KB4	P Q4
3 Kt KB3	Q PxP
4 Kt P	B Q3
5 P Q4	Kt KB3
6 B B4	Castles
7 Castles	P QKt3
8 QKt B3	B K2
9 Q Kt xq	B Kt5
10 B K3	B Q4
11 B Kt3	BxB
12 RPxB	Kt Q4
13 B Q2	P KB4
14 KtP	BxB
15 KtB	Kt Kt5

Position after Black's 15th move.



There is little to be said of the game up to the present. After White had firmly established his Kt on K 5, Black played energetically in order to prevent the threatened accumulation of White's attack. The game is principally remarkable for the ending, which was as follows:—

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 16—Q Kt to B3! | 16—Kt takes P |
| 17—Q to B3 | 17—Kt takes R |
| 18—Q to B4, ch | 18—K to R sq |
| 19—Kt to Kt 5! | |

A very effective move.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 19—Q to B3 | |
| 20—Kt (Kt 5) B 7, ch | 20—Kt to Kt xq |
| 21—Kt to R 6, ch | 21—K to R sq |
| 22—Q to Kt 8, ch | 22—R takes Q |
| 23—Kt to B 7, ch | 23—Q takes Kt |
| 24—Kt takes Q, mate. | |

TOURNAMENT GAME BY HERR ENGLISH.

We append a specimen of the play of Herr B. English, whose death we announced in our last issue.

White.—H. V. Gottschall.	Black.—B. English.
WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P K4	P K4
2 Kt QB3	Kt QB3
3 P Kt3	B B4
4 B Kt2	Kt B3
5 P Q3	P Q3
6 Kt K2	Kt Kt5
7 Castles	P B4
8 Kt Q5	PxP
9 BxP	Castles
10 B K3	BxB
11 PxR	RxR (ch)
12 QxR	Kt K2
13 R K xq	P B3
14 Kt xK (ch)	Q xKt
15 Kt B3	Q Kt4
16 Kt Q xq	B K3
17 Q K2	P Q4
18 B B3	R KB sq
19 R B xq	R B3
20 P KR4	Q Kt3
21 Kt Kt2	P K5
22 PxP	Kt K4
23 Kt B3	RxB
	Resigns

RUY LOPEZ.

Ruy Lopez was a Spanish priest, who lived in the sixteenth century, and is commonly supposed to have invented the opening which bears his name. In an Italian translation of his treatise on chess, dated 1584, several ways of opening a game are given, but amongst them we have failed to discover the Ruy Lopez. In the *Lancet* of 1823 the following is given as the Ruy Lopez opening:—"The opening in which Ruy Lopez chiefly delighted, and to which his name was actually given, consists in playing queen to king's second, after the king's pawn has been played two squares and the king's bishop to queen's bishops fourth on both sides, and then playing the king's bishops pawn two squares. This is a safer game than the king's gambit, since the second player, if he takes the pawn, cannot attempt to sustain permanently the gambit pawn without greatly injuring his position." If this be true, it is only bare justice to relieve his memory of the stigma of having discovered the duller, dreariest, and least enterprising opening which is to be found in "the books." We used to think that if Ruy Lopez expiated his sins by a long spell of purgatory it served him right—now we don't, says the *Sydney Mail*.

THE CHESS BOARD.

My little love, do you remember,
Ere we were grown so sadly wise,
Those evenings in the bleak December,
Curtained warm from the snowy weather,
When you and I played chess together,
Checkmated by each other's eyes?
Ah! still I see your soft white hand
Hovering warm o'er queen and knight;
Brave pawns in valiant battle stand;
The double castles guard the wings;
The bishop, bent on distant things,
Moves sliding through the fight.
Our fingers touch, our glances meet
And falter; falls your golden hair
Against my cheek; your bosom sweet
Is heaving; down the field your queen
Rides slow, her soldiery all between,
And checks me unaware.
Ah! me! the little battle's done;
Dispersed is all its chivalry!
Full many a move since then have we
Mid life's perplexing checkers made.
And many a game with fortune played.
What is it we have won?
This, (this at least, if this alone:
That never, never, never more,
As in those old, still nights of yore—
Ere we were grown so sadly wise—
Can you and I shut out the skies,
Shut out the world and wintry weather,
And, eyes exchanging warmth with eyes,
Play chess as then we played together.
—The late Lord Lytton ("Owen Meredith.")

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	C. of R. de l'iro	Fri. Dec. 17
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Mr. Dec. 20
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hohenzollern	W. Dec. 20
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Fri. Dec. 24
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Verona	Su. Dec. 26
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Peru	Su. Dec. 26
Europe	H. M. Co.	—	W. Dec. 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Dec. 30
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Fri. Jan. 7

- Left San Francisco via Honolulu on the 27th Nov.
- Left Vancouver on the 7th inst.
- Left Hongkong on the 16th inst.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	Belgie	Sa. Dec. 28
Hongkong	P. & O. Co.	Rosetta	Su. Dec. 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Mr. Dec. 30
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saiko Maru	Tu. Dec. 31
Europe, via Hongkong	N. D. L.	Hohenzollern	Th. Dec. 27
Portland, Or.	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Sa. Dec. 25
Europe, via S'hal.	M. M. Co.	Saghalien	Su. Dec. 26
America	P. M. Co.	Peru	W. Dec. 29
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Fri. Dec. 31
Victoria, B.C., via Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Braemar	Sa. Jan. 1

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. F. Allen, 11th December.—Otaru via ports, 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, F. N. Tillard, 12th December.—Hongkong via ports, 3rd December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 840, W. Shimizu, 12th December.—Kutchinotsu, 7th December, Coal.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.
Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 12th December.—Kobe, 11th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, F. L. Sommer, 12th December.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 11th December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, December 12th.—Yokkaichi, December 11th, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tainan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,540, Whall, 12th December.—Liverpool via ports, and Singapore, 25th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, F. W. Horton, 12th December.—Otaru via ports, December 8th, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panten, 13th December.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 11th December, Mails and General.—Doddwell Carill & Co.
Della, German steamer, 3,200, Christiansen, 14th

December.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 7th December, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, S. Nishimura, 14th December.—Yokkaichi, 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, Y. Minamide, 14th December.—Yokkaichi, 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,837, W. H. Wright, 14th December.—Portland Or., 27th November, General.—Dodwell Carill & Co.

Emile, German ship, C. Oltmann, 15th December.—Barry, 24th July, Coal.—R. Isaacs & Co.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, N. P. Pollock, 15th December.—London via ports, and Kobe 14th December, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,054, Lidin, 16th December.—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe 15th December, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,507, J. W. Ekstrand, 15th Dec.—Kobe, 14th Dec, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 15th December.—Otaru via ports, 10th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 16th December.—Hongkong via ports, 7th December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, T. Kitano, 16th December.—Hakodate, 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, K. Nakajima, 16th December.—Yokkaichi, 15th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 17th December.—Shanghai via ports, 11th December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, J. Nagao, 18th December.—Yokkaichi, 17th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,682, W. Townsend, 11th December.—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salazie, French steamer, 2,089, Paul, 12th December.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, M. Yagi, 12th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,816, I. Rorison, 14th December.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 14th December.—Australia via Kobe, and Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Pantou, 12th December.—Victoria B.C., and Tacoma Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 14th December.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Beethoven, German ship, 1,714, Thulen, 16th December.—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—Captain.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, Y. Minamide, 16th December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Redpole (6), British gun-boat, 805, Lieut.-Com. E. H. Gratton, 16th December.—Nagasaki.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,837, W. H. Wright, 17th December.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell Darill & Co.

Pah Ling, British steamer, 2,875, H. L. Allen, 17th December.—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Port Caledonia, British ship, 2,320, D. Anton, 17th December.—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Rosetta*, from Hongkong, via ports:—Mr. Bent and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Grosser, and 2 children, Mr. Hemlin, Mr. Yataka Kano, and Mr. Mahomed, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Leigh Hunt, The Hon T. S. Fasset, Mr. Fasset, Mr. Wm. Stoffregen Mr. G. W. Brockhurst, Captain Truebridge, Mrs. L. Meede, Mrs. John Pantou, Mrs. W. G. Pearce, and Mr. and Mrs. Lyndon and 2 children in cabin.

Per British steamer *Malacca*, from London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Cole Watson, and Mr. Healing, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Loomis, Miss M. F. Hampton, Miss M. Scott, Mrs. C. F. Draner, Mr. H. Kessler, Capt. Shishikine, Mr. W. W. Ayers, and Mr. R. N. Ohly, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Miss S.

F. Henman, Miss V. C. Murdoch, M.D., Miss A. Chapin, Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Shapleigh and infant, Mr. W. S. Ward, Mrs. Crowell, and Mr. L. Cox, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Capt. and Mrs. McLean and child, Mr. K. Keswick, Mr. F. Kiene, Mr. S. Ishibashi, Mr. Guggenheim, Mr. K. Kondo, Mr. F. J. Collins, Miss Schmidt, Mr. J. Tsuda, Mr. Fuchizaki, and Mr. N. Nakayama, in cabin; Mr. J. Iwonoff, Mr. Takeshita, Mr. Sam. Bernstein, Mr. T. Nakamura, Mr. Matsumura, Mr. P. Shimomi, Mrs. Ah Su, and Mr. T. Kikuchi, in second class, and 30 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Sanuki Maru*, for London and Antwerp via ports:—Mr. W. C. Vaughan, Mr. T. Parker, Mr. M. Hewitt, Madame Kouishi, Chief Eng. A. G. Gilmour, Lieut. Shnda, Mr. Pleiz, Eng. Wm. A. Johnstone, Mr. C. Dowling, Mr. K. Shinakawa, James McMurray, Mr. Thomas Bishop, Alex. McSwan, and Mr. McCullum, in cabin; 8 in European steerage, and 23 in Japanese steerage.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. G. Goly, Mr. F. S. Goodison, Mr. K. Akaba, Mr. N. G. Hockridge, Mr. Thomas Roll, Mr. Arratton, Mr. Sh. M. Shambou, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Dodwell, Mr. and Mrs. K. Nausser, Mr. H. T. Lafford, Dr. and Mrs. Warneret, Miss Waine, Miss Miller, Mr. Avada Thul, Rev. H. Miller, Mr. R. Ley Kore, Mr. H. C. W. Blyth, Mr. H. N. Van Keulen, Mr. W. J. Callender, Mr. Geo. W. Little, Mr. Remerskireh Mr. Cartieret, Mr. P. Hayet, Mr. Meissonier, Mr. A. P. W. Mohamed, Mr. Magind, Mrs. and Miss Lanthomme, Mr. Veau, Mr. Cachapelle, Mr. Nivert, Mr. H. E. Schulz, Mr. S. Yamada, Mr. S. Tatsuki, Mr. S. Tolaw, Mr. S. Yoshizu, and Mr. Wee Choon, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Penniman, Capt. O. Kimura, Mr. Wm. S. Foffrey, Mr. L. Plimbeck, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mr. H. J. Davidson, Mr. Dankwert, Mr. W. G. Hockridge, Mr. J. H. Longford, Mr. F. Tomita, Mr. J. Adachi, Mr. Kawamura, Mr. S. Ishir, Mr. M. Ishie, Mr. M. Vinclmerschil, Mr. and Mrs. Chiene and daughter, and Mr. J. E. Nesbitt, in cabin; 75 Japanese, and 3 Chinese, in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Marseilles via ports:—Raw Silk 812 bales, and Waste Silk 466 bales.

Tea and Silk per British steamer *Victoria*, for Victoria B.C., and Tacoma Wash.:—

TEA.				
CANADA & WEST.	COAST.	UNITED STATES.	PAKISTAN.	TOTAL.
Hongkong 287	—	27	—	314
Poochow 3,607	—	—	—	4,203
Shanghai 1,847	—	232	—	2,089
Kobe 1,135	—	—	—	1,179
Yokohama 1,036	778	308	—	2,122
Total.	6,175	3,798	571	10,550

NEW YORK.		
SILK.	TOTAL.	
Hongkong 61	145	
Shanghai 145	610	
Yokohama 620	826	
Total	826	

The following were the silk shippers per N. P. steamer *Tacoma*, which sails for Tacoma, Wash., to-day, the 14th Dec:—

Bales.	
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	122
Vivanti Bros.	330
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	158
Total	610

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Nothing has been done in shittings and yarns, and only a few small transactions in fancies and woollens, for the new year, are recorded. There has been a further fall in the prices of raw cotton, some Bombay cargo having been placed at \$17.75 a picul. Total imports of cotton from July 1st to the 14th inst. have been 148,848 piculs.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

PER PICUL.	
Grey Shittings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shittings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	2.80 to 3.35
Grey Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 39 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shittings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 3 1/2 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25

Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 42 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawn, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

PER YARD.	
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Common	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

PER PICUL.	
Nos. 16 & 24, Singles	\$38.50 to 39.50
Nos. 28 & 32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38 & 42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
Nos. 2/60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	78.00 to 79.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

PER PICUL.	
American Middling	\$10.75
Indian Broach	17.75 to 20.00
Chinese	20 to 20 1/2

ARTICLES.

Very little business doing, and large concessions must be made in prices to effect any movement.

PER PICUL.	
Round and square 4 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.20 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Tin Plates, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Pig Iron, fin. 4	2.05 to 2.20
Hoop Iron (1 to 13 inches)	5.00 to 5.25

KROSENK.

A fair business has been done at former rates.

PER PICUL.	
American	\$2.05 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.10
Langkat	1.96

SUGAR.

A fair business has been done in Brown at slightly hardening rates, sales since the 1st amounting to 18,625 piculs Manila, China, and Java, and 2,450 piculs Formosa; arrivals have been 22,299 piculs all sorts. White refined is in fair demand at firm rates.

PER PICUL.	
Brown Takan	\$4.50 to 4.55
Brown Manila	4.50 to 4.55
Brown Daitong	3.90 to 4.00
Brown Canton	4.00 to 4.50
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 7.00
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A number of transactions have been effected during the week both for Europe and the United States at hardening prices, which at the close are fully \$50 above the lowest price reached last month. Stocks amount to 10,000 piculs against 20,700 piculs at same date last season. The *Victoria* took 630 bales in the 14th and the *Tacoma* 610 bales, for America, and the *Salazie* on the 13th 812 bales for Europe.

QUOTATIONS.

Nominal	
Filatures—Extra g 1/2, 10/12 den.	\$30 to 340
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	320 to 330
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kekedas—Extra	840 to 850
Kekedas—No. 1	850 to 860
Kekedas—No. 11	790 to 800
Kekedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kekedas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

The market is fairly active and prices are very firm. Present stocks are estimated at 9,760 piculs. Settlements since the 1st instant amount to 3,825 piculs. The *Salazie* shipped 460 bales for Europe on the 13th instant.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushi, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushi, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 57½
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 22½

TEA.

There has been scarcely anything doing in the tea market during the week and no prospect of any transactions of consequence in the future as stocks are small, amounting only to 246,000 cattie of inferior grades. The *Victoria* shipped 139,395 lbs for the United States and Canada on the 14th inst. Total settlements for the season amount to 212,830 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Choice	Nominal.
Choice	\$31 to 32
Finest	31 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 30
Medium	24 to 25
Good Common	22 to 23
Common	20 to 21

EXCHANGE.

Steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0½
— — Bills on demand	2/0½
— — 4 months' sight	2/0½
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/0½
— — 6 months' sight	2/0½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.54½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.58½ to 9
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 to 2 ½ d.
— Private 10 days' sight	4 to 4 ½ d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	74½ to 5
— Private 10 days' sight	77½
On India—Bank sight	160
— Private 30 days' sight	165
On America—Bank bills on demand ..	49
— Private 4 months' sight	50½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.06
— Private 4 months' sight	2.10½
Bar Silver (London)	26½

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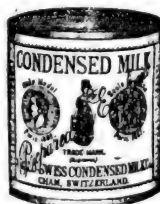
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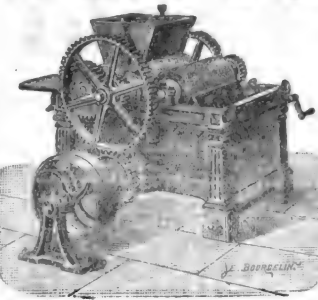
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YOKOHAMA, DEC. 25TH, 1897.

月三年五十二拾明 VOL. XXVIII.
西曆一千九百零八年十二月三十日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, whatever intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 25TH, 1897.

BIRTH.

At No. 113, Bluff, on Friday, the 17th inst., the wife of WM. T. PAYNE, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 8th December, 1897, at the Union Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. G. J. Williams, HARRY KAYE CECIL FISHER, to MAY AMANDA GREENE.

DEATHS.

At No. 237, Bluff, December 19th, ISABELL, wife of H. F. ARTHUR, Esq.

On Sunday, Dec. 19th, 1897, at Torano-mon, Tokyo, RUTH, the beloved wife of Commander M. SQUIRE, R.N.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SIR FRANK LOCKWOOD, the famous English Q.C., and caricaturist, is dead.

RUSSIA, with the consent of China, has occupied Port Arthur as a temporary winter base.

Owing to political disturbances in China, Marshal Marquis Yamagata has postponed his departure to Kyoto.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE left Shimbashi Station for Hayama, Miura-gun, on the morning of the 21st inst.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE having attained his majority, has been allotted a seat in the seventh divisional section of the House of Peers.

A TEAM of Kobe school-boys visited Yokohama

this week and inflicted two crushing defeats on Yokohama lads at Association football.

We note that 10,000 yen out of the 20,000 yen required for the rebuilding of Christ Church, Yokohama, has already been subscribed.

ACCORDING to latest investigations, the number of Japanese residents in Siberia is 2,201, of whom 1,422 are residing at Vladivostok.

A FIRE that broke out in a storehouse at Yokohama railway station on Wednesday night destroyed goods to the value of 1,000,000 yen.

Most conflicting news comes from China in regard to the movements of the squadrons of the Powers, and Germany's attitude in the Kiaochow deliberations.

HEAVY snowfalls are reported from the northern and north-western provinces, where trains are blocked in drifts and persons are perishing from the intense cold.

MR. TAKANO, ex-Judge of the Formosa High Court, who held the first class, fifth grade, of the Fifth Order of Merit, has been deprived of his rank and title.

AFTER leaving Kiel, the German squadron for the Far East called at Spithead to enable Prince Henry to bid farewell to Queen Victoria, his grand-mother.

THE fighting among the Afridi hills on the Indian frontier still continues, the tribesmen making a desperate defence. Losses on both sides are very heavy.

THE political situation is very interesting at present, though the only certain thing is that all the political parties in the Diet are dead against the Government.

THE Managers and Secretaries of the various sections in both Houses of the Diet were elected on 21st inst. On the 24th the Diet was formally opened by the Emperor in person.

A LARGE junk called the *Elju Maru*, owned by Mr. Hanada Tomitaro of Hiroshima Prefecture, sank off Shingawa about 4 p.m. on the 15th inst. All the *sendo* were saved.

ALPHONSE DAUDAT, the well-known French novelist and critic, has been stabbed to death by an obscure actor. He was entering the Adelphi Theatre, London, when the deed was done.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU, Superintendent of the General Staff Office, who recently went to Tsushima and Loochoo on a tour of inspection, returned to Tokyo on the afternoon of the 17th instant.

THE re-building of the Ryogoku Bridge, Tokyo, will commence early next year. It is expected to be finished by October of 1899. The new bridge will cost about yen 280,000 and will be built of iron.

THE Communications Department lately gave an order for the supply of electrical plant for the installation of a telephone service between Tokyo and Osaka. It is to be delivered by the end of January.

THE amateur Theatians of Yokohama will give a performance of "Confusion" about the 8th of January. They then journey to Kobe where they play "The Passport" and "Confusion."

THE Commander of the P. & O. steamer *Malacca* was knocked down on the Pier on Tuesday, through the breaking of a cargo sling, and now lies at the General Hospital with an injured thigh.

MR. TAKAHASHI KOREKIYO, Vice-President of the Yokohama Specie Bank, and Messrs. Kawa-

kami, Ito, and Kimura, of the Bank of Japan, who are ordered to Europe for the inspection of banking systems there, will leave on the 11th of January next.

THE Government subsidy toward repairing the damages caused by the autumn floods is estimated at yen 1,000,000. Niigata Prefecture requires the largest share of the subsidy, and is followed by Toyama, Fukui, Gumma, Saitama, Tokyo, and others.

BEFORE the German squadron in charge of Prince Henry of Prussia left Kiel for the Far East, the Emperor and the Prince delivered some extraordinary speeches which have aroused much comment. Indeed, the German press accuses Prince Henry of blasphemy.

THE export of straw braid from Kobe is gradually increasing year after year. The amount exported from January to October last, together with that during the corresponding period of last year (1896), was as follows:—1897, 2,684,488 bundles valued at yen 1,437,601; 1896, 1,924,973 bundles valued at yen 831,008.

SPORTSMEN are increasing in number year by year. The following table gives the number of shooting licenses granted by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce during this year, together with those issued last year. In 1897 up to Dec. 20th, first class (sportsmen) 22,440; second class 182,947; total second class 182,947; total 205,412. In 1896, first class (hunters) 26,672; second class 174,493; total 200,165.

ON the night of the 9th inst. a number of tenant farmers in Shita-gun, Shizuoka Prefecture, surrounded the house of Mr. Konogai, the landowner, requesting a reduction in their rent, which they pay in kind. A policeman patrolling the vicinity, upon hearing the noise came up and tried to suppress the disturbance. He was severely handled by the farmers, his uniform being torn to pieces. On the 17th inst. seven farmers were arrested and sent to Shizuoka prison.

THE dearest of weeks in a phenomenally dull season has been entered upon for wholesale business of all kinds. Even when funds are redundant and trade generally prosperous the week or two before and after New Year are proverbially flat and unprofitable from a mercantile point of view; but this year, with money tight as a dam, and banks and companies in difficulties all over the country, the general stoppage in business is accentuated. To add to the troubles of local merchants, about a million dollars' worth of silk, curios, and other goods have been destroyed by a fire which occurred at the storehouses of the Yokohama railway station on the night of the 22nd instant. A vast amount of goods for transport had been accumulating at the station for some time—owing to lack of sufficient transport facilities—when the fire occurred, and so far as we can learn, the greater portion of this, owned principally by Japanese, was uninsured, and it is said considerable litigation is likely to ensue, the question being raised as to the liability of the Railway Department as general carriers. In imports nothing has been doing with the exception of a few sales of sugar and kerosene for immediate requirements. In exports the boom in the silk market which commenced two or three weeks ago has subsided, and very few sales have been effected during the past week, while prices are fully maintained, stocks being smaller than usual at this period of the year. Some small transactions have taken place in tea, principally of low grades, but the season is practically over and what remains is very common stuff. Exchange on China is slightly improved.

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The *Fiji Shimpō* publishes an article on the subject of the Codes and the Revised Treaties. It shows, in some detail, that the promulgation of the remaining portions of the Codes during the first half of next year is essential to the operation of the new Treaties in July 1899, and it recounts the story of the unceasing and urgent efforts made by the nation ever since 1870 to achieve that object; in other words, to gain admission to the comity of nations on equal terms. Statesman after statesman essayed the task and sacrificed their political careers in the attempt, and it was not until England suddenly adopted a liberal line in 1893 that success came at length in sight. Now, at the eleventh hour, when the consummation of the great work depends upon one more simple and easy step, there is danger lest the much hoped-for end should be deferred owing to the squabbles of political parties. The *Fiji* writes forcibly but does not suggest any course to be adopted by the Diet. It simply urges the passing of the Codes, since all parties are agreed as to the national expediency of that measure. Inasmuch, however, as a very large majority of the members of the Lower House are determined, according to present indications, to introduce either a motion of want of confidence in the Cabinet, or an Address to the Throne in that sense, and inasmuch as the Cabinet seems equally determined to dissolve the House should it adopt such a course, the *Fiji's* article would have been more practical had it indicated some means of saving the Codes from the fate that must overtake all Government Bills in the event of dissolution.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* discusses the same subject, but regards it in a different light. It endeavours to show that the Government is merely seeking to intimidate the Diet by holding up before it the failure of Treaty Revision unless the Codes are passed. In support of that singular proposition the *Nichi Nichi* alleges that the operation of the Codes is not by any means the only preliminary essential to be made. In fact, the duty of making preparations may be said to have devolved upon the present Cabinet, the task of revising the Treaties having been virtually achieved by the Ito Ministry. Formosa, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, is the field where the Government's neglect is most conspicuous. Formosa is an integral part of the Japanese empire. The Codes must be in force there as well as in other parts of Japan before the year's notice required by the Treaties can be properly given to the various Powers. No steps have been taken, however, to bring Formosa within the purview of the Codes, and it will thus be possible for Western Governments to say, "we stipulated that your new laws should be in force throughout the whole empire, not in a portion of it only, before notice was given to us of your intention of carrying out the Revised Treaties." It may be contended, indeed, that as Formosa did not belong to Japan at the time when the first of the Revised Treaties were negotiated, their provisions can not properly be said to extend to that island. If that be the Government's view, the fact should be made public as soon as possible. If, on the other hand, while regarding Formosa as an integral part of the empire, the Government does not see its way to enforce the new Codes there, then due notice should be given to the Foreign Powers of this country's inability to discharge the obligations which it undertook when concluding the Treaties, and of the necessity of postponing the operation of the latter. Such is the exceedingly crooked stick with which the *Nichi Nichi* essays to belabour the Cabinet.

The vagueness that disfigures the platforms of all the political parties is severely criticised by the *Kokumin Shimbun*. Not one of the political associations arrayed against the Cabinet puts forward an intelligible statement of the reasons of its opposition. Some talk of the military expansion programme as too great for the

resources of the country, but they do not say how or to what extent they would reduce it, or whether their idea is only to lengthen the period for carrying it out. Then, again, there is an outcry against increasing the taxes, but those that condemn the measure do not explain how the administration of the State is to be conducted unless an addition be made to the taxes. Every one would be pleased to dispense with a measure so unwelcome as increased taxation, but what people want to know is how it can be dispensed with. Reform of the administrative organization is another ground for attacking the Government. In what does administrative reform consist? As to that the parties are absolutely silent. In former years, every one understood that the chief aim of such reform was to reduce administrative expenses. Count Okuma has exploded that idea. He has pointed out that administrative reform might, in certain cases, involve the appointment of additional officials and the outlay of larger sums. Government and Opposition alike are anxious to effect administrative reforms, but the Opposition carefully refrain from offering any explanation of their idea of such reforms. Opposition is all very well. It is wholesome and useful. If men hold different views, they are under a moral necessity to criticise each other. But when opposition takes the form of simple obstruction, when parties fighting against the Cabinet lack the manliness to state their views clearly and confine themselves to firing shots under the cover of darkness, they expose themselves to the reproach of struggling, not for the assertion of principles, but for the sake of grasping power and office.

In the *Nippon* we find a carefully reasoned article with reference to the holding of shares by foreigners in Japanese companies, a subject which is now receiving much attention, in consequence of the very general desire for the introduction of foreign capital. In the case of several companies the rules contain a provision explicitly limiting the shareholders to Japanese subjects. Such companies are, for instance, the various Exchanges, the Bank of Japan, the Specie Bank, and so on. Similarly foreigners are excluded from enjoying the privileges granted by the Law for encouraging Navigation and Ship-building, and the Mining Regulations. On the other hand, no such discrimination appears in the Law of Companies which forms part of the Commercial Code. But there is always the practical difficulty that so long as foreigners are exempted from Japanese jurisdiction, they can not be made amenable to the disciplinary or punitive provisions of a Japanese Company's by-laws. Besides, since ownership of real estate by aliens is illegal outside the Settlements, any shares with which such ownership is connected could not be held by foreigners. It is obvious also that actions at law arising out of the affairs of a company would have to be carried into a Consular Court if a foreigner were defendant, and there would then be the very irksome contingency that appeal might be made to a tribunal in some distant country of Europe or America. From these various points of view, the difficulties that lie in the way of admitting foreign shareholders before the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, are apparent. And there is the further obstacle that many of the Companies have received their charters on the basis of rules excluding foreigners, so that an amendment in the sense of admitting them would involve application to the Government for special permission. The experiment is about to be tried, it is said, by a railway company in Kiusiu. There is, however, a precedent which seems to show that permission could not be obtained from the Authorities. It is connected with the recently established Industrial Bank. A foreigner being among the applicants for shares, stock was allotted to him, but the Government subsequently concluded that he could not be allowed to hold it without risk of serious embarrassment, and he was consequently induced to withdraw his name. The inference is that applications from

companies in the sense of admitting foreign shareholders would not be entertained by the Authorities.

The *Osaka Asahi* contains an article on the same subject from the pen of Mr. Takahashi, who, as our readers may remember, was formerly editor of that journal and subsequently became Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, which post he resigned recently. Mr. Takahashi notes the general desire among Japanese business men to invite foreign capital, and the consequent idea of making foreigners eligible to hold shares in Japanese companies. As to the latter point, there are, of course, many difficulties to be encountered pending the operation of the Revised Treaties, but the chief difficulty is that foreign capitalists do not trust Japanese merchants and would not be inclined to place money at their disposal. That is an insuperable difficulty at present and how long it may take to overcome it, there is no telling. Appreciating the fact, many publicists advocate the plan of a large foreign loan—say 200 million yen—the Government acting as borrowers and pledging the credit of the country, and the proceeds being applied to redeem the War Bonds. It appears from what Mr. Takahashi writes that this plan was mooted officially several months ago, and that its formulators then believed that a 3½ per cent. loan could be placed abroad at 90, or perhaps 88. Of course the consent of the Diet would have to be obtained. It would appear, however, that the Cabinet did not favour the project, and though Count Okuma is now understood to endorse it—we (*Japan Mail*) do not know what grounds exist for such a statement—Count Matsukata's recent Memorandum to the Merchants and Manufacturers' Union is very emphatic on the subject of all such heroic measures, and believes that their adoption would involve much greater financial confusion than that now existing. Count Matsukata's plan is to let things take their natural course. He foresees that there will be a foreign market by and by for Japanese securities, and in his Memorandum he indicates certain securities which are likely soon to find favour with Western capitalists. It is impossible to avoid the conviction—that is Mr. Takahashi's opinion—that Count Matsukata is right. A large foreign loan and the redemption of a great bulk of War Bonds would doubtless relieve the present tension of the money market and supply the capital needed for new enterprises. But it would also have the effect of materially increasing the volume of the currency, driving up prices which are already distressingly high, and disturbing the balance of trade. Altogether Mr. Takahashi supports Count Matsukata, and hints that the adoption of the gold standard must now be admitted to have been a wise and far-seeing measure, since without it the possibility of utilizing foreign capital would have been altogether remote. At the same time, he condemns the step taken by Count Matsukata six months ago in selling forty million yen worth of War Bonds to a British syndicate, for he thinks that the conditions of the sale were such as to add to the difficulties of similar sales by private individuals, and that the terms were too favourable to the syndicate.

The *Shogyō Shimpō* discusses the same subject. It notes, as beyond question, that a great dearth of cheap capital is felt and that the withdrawal of large sums of floating capital to meet the war expenditures is one of the chief causes of the present tension. From that point of view, the programme formulated by influential merchants and manufacturers appears, at first sight, eminently suited to ease the situation—namely, the programme of raising a large foreign loan and redeeming the War Bonds. But it is more than questionable whether such an operation could be successfully accomplished at present. The London money market is by no means in a favourable condition. A high rate of interest—four per cent.—is fixed by the Bank of England. In Berlin the figure is still higher—five per cent.—and in New

York, despite of exceptionally large exports of wheat and cotton and consequent imports of specie, the rate of discount is three per cent. Evidently money is not to be had on easy terms abroad at present. People seem to forget, too, that what they now propose to do on a large scale is precisely what the Government has been doing unsuccessfully on a comparatively small scale. The Government has been bringing over the Indemnity, lodging it in the vaults of the Bank of Japan, and authorizing the Bank to issue notes against it. Indeed, the Bank's note issues have now reached a sum considerably in excess of the legal limit. These operations have had the effect of cheapening Japan's gold and appreciating the price of foreign gold for Japan, which means, of course, that an undue impulse is given to imports. In fact, the Government's large purchases of drafts abroad have necessarily turned the rate of exchange against Japan. People see this at last, and are urging the Government to desist from buying drafts, yet, at the same time, they are advocating a step which would greatly enhance the same evil. The *Shogyo* thinks that the situation requires profounder thought than some folks seem disposed to give to it.

LITERARY NOTES.

George Augustus Sala, in the closing months of his life, dictated to his wife the last work of fiction that was to issue from his busy brain. It is a strange book at first sight, for among scenes of London life, the life of the upper ten, there flits a supernatural figure, a Mephistopheles, whose apparition tends to stir a sense of impatience in the practical reader. Mrs. Sala, in an interesting preface, a kind of fragmentary yet most realistic memoir of the great *litterateur*, makes a kind of apology for the appearance of this Satan, and tells us that she did not want the supernatural element introduced, but that Sala would have it so. The fact is that were this figure eliminated, the author's purpose in writing the book would disappear. He set himself to show how subtly the spirit of evil works in casting and directing the programme of extravagance, lust, dissipation and gluttony pursued by the fashionable world of our era, and he concluded that the ugly fact could be most forcibly impressed upon the perception of the reader by the occasional apparition of a personal devil. For the rest "Margaret Forster" derives much of its interest from the vivid insight that it affords into the doings and sayings of London Society. On such a subject Sala was competent—who more competent?—to write with the pen of an exact historian, and it must be confessed that his picture of the ways of the great metropolis is not calculated to enhance our admiration for the ethics of the Occident as coded in the conduct of "refined" folk to-day. Some, when they have read this book, will probably doubt whether the quiet, monochromatic existence of an Eastern treaty-port does not possess solid advantages compared with the high-pressure, artificial and thoroughly sensuous life that Sala so ably depicts. As for Margaret Forster, the heroine, charmingly as she is painted and attractive as are the vivid lights and deep shadows of her character, one is perplexed to think how a girl coming from Australia after she has emerged from her teens, a girl whose youth has been passed among colonial people and colonial ways, can suddenly make her *début* upon the London stage, and not merely adapt herself to her new environment but develop from the very outset a strong affinity with fashions and habits virtually strange to her. However, that wonderful versatility, that ready capacity for steering clear of solecisms under the most trying social conditions, belongs to most women. Men seldom, if ever, possess it. Sala has dared a great deal in his portraiture of "Margaret" but his success is correspondingly great. The book will certainly be very popular.

The besetting difficulty of writers of fiction now-a-days, the difficulty of finding something novel to write about, has been cleverly surmount-

ed by the author of "Those Dreadful Twins." He makes the little lads "Bosen" and "Middy" tell their own adventures, and so capitally are the characters sustained throughout, that, aided by delightful pictures of the twins at various epochs of their career, the reader gets to know them and love them as though he had actually passed a month in their society. The sayings and doings of two boys of nine may seem trivial subjects to offer to the reading public, yet we venture to predict that any one who takes up this volume will find it much too entrancing to be easily laid aside. "Bosen" and "Middy" are just two physically and morally healthy English lads. Nothing remarkable happens to them. They have not anything extraordinary to tell. In fact, if we come to analyse the book, its only noteworthy point is that neither of the lads ever acts from an evil motive. All the mischief that they do, all the scrapes that they get into, have their origin in the most innocent and childish conceptions. It seems probable that the author's object was to emphasize that fact; to show how necessary it is to be careful in considering the doings of children, lest, by misconstruing their sentiments, injustice—than which nothing so fatally warps a child's disposition—be constantly perpetrated. "Middy" and "Bosen" are never bad, though they often bring about situations which would turn the mind of many a roughly judging parent to that most abused of all precepts, "spare the rod spoil the child." We do not know who the author of this chapter of their biographies may be. He conceals his name, of course, adhering to the fiction that the twins themselves are the writers. But he must be a man with a deep insight into the hearts of children, and a profound love for "the angels of God in disguise."

Edward John Trelawny was one of the turbulent, ungovernable Englishmen who, in all eras since the days of Elizabeth, have found the United Kingdom too small for their "sovereign instincts," and have sought broader fields of action beyond the seas. It is characteristic of these adventurers that, while objecting strenuously to every form of control exercised against themselves, they are eminently masterful in their dealings with others. With the principles of liberty on their lips, their own conduct is guided by the most uncompromising canons of tyranny. Many of them contributed materially to the building of the British empire. Trelawny, however, was not one of these. He was simply a species of soldier of fortune, passing from country to country in search of fighting, plunder and glory, and finding the restraints of civilized society intolerable. Some of the lustiest years of his life were spent in the East—Java, China, India, the Malay Peninsula, and so on—and this part of his career is embodied in the "Adventures of a Younger Son," which has just been reprinted by the well-known publisher, Mr. T. Fisher Unwin. We can only say of it that it is a volume filled from cover to cover with exciting adventures, and that, though Trelawny doubtless employed his imagination actively to embellish his stories, there is sufficient truth to render the book highly interesting.

FIRE AT YOKOHAMA RAILWAY STATION.

A MILLION YEN BLAZE.

On Wednesday night, about 11 o'clock, fire broke out in a warehouse at the Yokohama Railway Station and quickly spread to the adjoining storehouses, which were nearly all burnt to the ground, together with the accumulation of goods stored within them. The loss suffered by delivery companies and owners of the goods is estimated to be very great; it is said not less than a million yen, much silk, rice, *saké*, etc., being destroyed. The flames were subdued after about one hour and a half. Besides the goods destroyed by fire or water a large quantity were stolen. The origin of the fire has not been discovered, but is thought to have been the result of a coolie lighting a fire to warm himself, in the immediate vicinity of some alcohol.

CHRISTMAS.

We wish our readers a merry Christmas and many happy returns of the day. It must be confessed that some among us can not see this festive season approach without misgivings as to the things that the immediate future may have in store. Even as we write, a majority of the Japanese people are talking earnestly of a war between the Great Powers, England on one side and France, Germany and Russia on the other. It is, indeed, a pleasant contribution to our pride in the old country as well as a significant answer to those that aver the decadence of British prestige, to know that, according to the estimate of the Japanese, the Union Jack could hold its own against the Tricolour and the two Eagles, so long as the struggle was confined to the Far East. But much more consolatory is the conviction that no real danger of such a terrible conflict presents itself, for the moment at all events. More, however, can not be said. Materials for trouble are certainly beginning to accumulate, and it is humiliating to be obliged to admit, as we hang up the mistletoe at this very late epoch of the nineteenth century, that our much vaunted civilization never before presented itself so strikingly in the likeness of a ravening beast. The gospel of this Christmas is not glad tidings of peace on earth and good will among men, but a gospel of international pillage universal preparation for battle. Civilization grows more civilized, but the methods of its propagandists remain at least as barbarous as ever. Truly "with trembling fingers do we weave the holly round the Christmas hearth."

FUNERAL OF MRS. H. F. ARTHUR.

The funeral of Mrs. H. F. Arthur, whose untimely death after barely three months of married life, has drawn forth universal expression of sorrow from the foreign community of Yokohama, took place on Tuesday morning. The first part of the mournful ceremony was performed at Christ Church, where the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., officiated. There was a large attendance at the Church. Afterwards the procession was formed and proceeded to the Cemetery where the concluding rites took place. The coffin was covered with beautiful wreaths testifying in an eloquent manner to the sympathy felt for the young wife's early removal from our midst. The pall-bearers were:—Messrs. A. M. Delf, Dr. C. H. Hall, J. H. Boag, A. Unger, W. S. Stone, and F. L. Elliott. Amongst those who attended the funeral and at the graveside were:—Messrs. J. Komori, E. C. Fox, M. L. Ellis, C. H. Bain, G. Morton, L. D. and V. E. Abraham, J. Tornoe, S. Ackman, A. R. G. Clarke, C. F. Heinlien, E. W. Brown, J. G. Doering, E. Adet, C. E. Miller, Dr. Munro, F. W. Thomas, R. C. K. Johnson, etc. Those who sent wreaths were:—Messrs. C. T. Benny, H. Dare, A. R. G. Clarke, A. Unger, C. F. Heinlien, W. S. Stone, E. W. Brown, L. Eppinger, J. H. Boag, W. L. Keane, H. Rose, J. H. Rosenthal, D. E. Simon, H. A. Poole, H. J. Ginn, J. Morion, G. W. Bramhall, J. G. Doering, E. Adet, C. J. Strome, E. T. Osborn, E. V. Thorne, Dr. C. H. Hall, A. M. Delf, M. Russell, F. P. Solomon, J. Martin, L. D. and V. E. Abraham, Mrs. C. M. Bramhall, Messrs. F. C. Jackson, F. L. Elliott, J. Tornoe, S. Isaacs, E. C. Fox, Dr. A. G. Smith, G. T. Marsh, and A. Manley. Many ladies were present at the graveside.

Twenty-six thousand dollars are to be spent on the erection of a British Consulate at Chungking, and \$85,000 on a summer residence for the British Minister at Peking.

COUNT OKUMA ON FINANCE.

"The embarrassment in the field of finance," Count Okuma is represented as saying to one of the staff of the *Tokyo Asahi*, "is a result of the war with China, and will not terminate until the Indemnity has been finally disposed of. We have heard much talk lately about an excess of currency. Many people are disposed to attribute to that cause the great appreciation of prices now experienced. But I am unable to perceive that the currency is redundant. There were 150 million *yen* of paper in circulation in 1887, and since that time not only has the population increased by seven or eight millions, but a considerable addition has been made to the empire. It does not seem that three hundred million *yen* is too large a circulation at present. Neither do I see that there is any occasion to adopt means of collecting the money in circulation for the purpose of converting it into capital. Signs are already apparent that the consuming power of the provincial districts is weakening, and the factories are beginning to reduce their output. In Yokohama and Kobe quantities of imported goods are stored and no markets can be found for them. Appreciation and depreciation of prices are produced by the working of natural economic laws. There is no occasion for artificial interference. The condition of economic society to-day may be compared to that of a fever-stricken patient. When the fever subsides, weakness sets in. The fever of industrial enterprise caused by the war has now begun to abate, and there is a sense of general enervation. With regard to the proposal for redeeming War Bonds in order to create a supply of floating capital, it certainly has something to recommend it. But the fact is that the Bonds originally subscribed for by productive manufacturers have already left the hands of the latter, and been scattered here and there, so that their redemption would not add anything to the store of available capital. Moreover, although so much is said about scarcity of capital and tightness of money, an examination of the reports of the various banks shows that nearly every one of them has a larger capital now than it had before the war. Evidently the lack of capital now felt is not attributable solely to the War Bonds. At the same time, the Government would not be performing its duty if, on the pretext that business men have brought the trouble on themselves, it took no action whatever. Some measure of relief ought to be adopted. Perhaps the best and most feasible would be to sanction a further issue of notes over and above the legal limit. According to present indications, the extra issue will amount to 40 million *yen* before the end of the year, and if additional issues be sanctioned, there will probably be apprehensions lest the prices of commodities should be forced upward still more. But in truth what has to be rather feared is a rapid and general depression of prices by and by owing to trade stagnation. I greatly question whether the Premium Bonds which there is talk of issuing will achieve the purpose contemplated by their projectors. In the ordinary course of financial events the Government has to float a domestic loan of over 40 million *yen*, and if, in addition, Premium Bonds of small denominations are to be put upon the market, the

prizes falling to the Bonds successful in the lottery will have to be very substantial in order to constitute sufficient inducement. Certainly if the proceeds of the sale of these small bonds are to be applied to redeeming War Bonds, the number of subscribers for the former will have to be very considerable. The post-bellum embarrassment may not yet have reached its acutest stage, but I am confident that a healthier state of things will supervene before long. Finally, as to the introduction of foreign capital, I regret to say that without a Government guarantee the thing is impossible. The credit of Japanese merchants is not yet sufficiently established. There is nothing for it but to reconcile ourselves to that fact."

THE SENDAI BURGLARY.

People that have been perplexed—and there are many such we imagine—to understand the strange phases of the Sendai burglary, recently reported in these columns, will welcome the explanation now furnished by the Secretary of the Reformed Church Mission whose letter we publish elsewhere. The facts of the case, as originally communicated to us, though substantially correct, seem to have invited misapprehension owing to a somewhat defective form of phraseology used when referring to the transfer of the Mission's books by Mr. Hoy to Mr. Schneder. Our account suggested that the loss of the money could no longer be concealed when the time for handing over the books came, and suggested also, inferentially, that concealment had been possible up to that time owing to the accounts' not being subjected to careful audit at fixed periods. Mr. Noss shows that all such hypotheses are unjust and incorrect; that, in point of fact, the loss having been made good by Mr. Hoy himself, no indication of it appeared in the accounts; that the transfer of the books did not necessitate any departure from the silence hitherto observed by Mr. Hoy; and that the auditing of the accounts was always performed carefully and regularly. It is our duty to note these corrections explicitly and in detail so as to correct the false impression for which our language was responsible. As to Mr. Hoy's reasons for hiding the loss and taking its heavy burden on his own shoulders, the chief motive seems to be clearly indicated by Mr. Noss. Mr. Hoy was engaged in carrying on a work the inception of which had been due almost entirely to his own exertions, more or less in opposition to the opinion of the Church to which he belongs. He had obtained the required funds with difficulty, and he must have felt that their loss by burglary would, if reported, be a death blow to the whole project. It was a cruel dilemma. Discussing it quietly at this distance of time and entirely removed from the influences that swayed him, we do not venture to pronounce any judgment on his procedure. There is, of course, the abstract fact, not to be gainsaid or minimized, that to conceal such crimes is a violation of public duty. Burglars who break into houses with drawn swords in their hands, are a danger to society, and no man is justified in conniving at their escape from the pursuit of justice. On that count Mr. Hoy was wrong, but we are not without appreciation of the difficulty of his position or of the sacrifice that he made.

THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON.

Peking, 2 p.m., 18th December.
Several vessels of the Russian Pacific Squadron have suddenly entered Port Arthur. The purpose of the movement is not yet known here.

The above telegram was received on the 19th instant by the *Fiji Shimpō* from its special correspondent in Peking, and published in an "extra." The same journal, in its morning number, gave a telegram despatched from Nagasaki on the 18th instant, saying that the Russian ships, nine in number, which had hitherto been lying there, went out of port that day for a destination unknown to the public. Evidently these nine ships could not have been part of the squadron referred to in the Peking telegram, but possibly they also were bound for Port Arthur. The ships spoken of in the Peking telegram must have entered Port Arthur on the 17th, or the 18th at latest, and the Nagasaki ships could not reach that place before the 19th or 20th. Prior to last winter, the habit of the Russian Pacific Squadron was to winter in Japanese ports, the bulk of them making Nagasaki their head-quarters. Last winter, however, Nagasaki ceased to be so largely frequented, several of the ships being distributed between Chemulpo and Kiao-chou. It might be supposed that since Kiao-chou is now monopolized by a German squadron, Russia has adopted Port Arthur as an alternative. But such a measure must, of course, have been preceded by some arrangements with the Chinese Government, and the Peking telegram re-produced above says that the object of the ships' entry into Port Arthur was unknown in the Chinese capital. The *Fiji Shimpō* suggests that the movement may be interpreted in one of three ways, namely, as part of a coöperative plan with Germany and France for the partition of northern China; as an offset to the activity said to be displayed by the British squadron; or as a demonstration against Germany's proceedings at Kiao-chou. We think that the two latter suggestions are untenable and that the first is incredible. On the other hand, we are not prepared with any working theory to fit the facts, supposing them to be indeed facts. Of course, if an English squadron is at Sam-sha, there is no particular reason why a Russian squadron should not be in Port Arthur. It will probably occur to a good many persons who set themselves to interpret the present situation, that Japan is dreadfully in the way at Wei-hai-wei. Will she stay there?

SECRET FUNDS.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* alleges that whereas the sum allowed by the Diet to the Cabinet as a secret service fund is only thirty thousand *yen*, the Imperial Household Department supplements that amount by a hundred thousand yearly. In times of peace, our contemporary goes on, the Cabinet having no special uses for the money, employs it for the purpose of establishing relations with political parties or bribing members of the Diet. But it has now been entirely expended, and there is need of two hundred thousand *yen* to enable the ministry to get over the next session of the Diet peacefully. We do not know how this story will be received by the Japanese public, but to us it sounds perilously like an attempt to connect the Household Department with dishonest practices.

FOREIGNERS AND JAPANESE SECURITIES.

There is a good deal of desultory talk just now about the expediency of allowing foreigners to purchase shares in Japanese companies. The general tendency is evidently in favour of removing all restrictions, to the end that foreign capital may be attracted to Japan. We observe with some surprise that the subject is treated as though it were novel, whereas it has often been discussed from one point of view at any rate. Time and again foreign local journals have charged the Japanese with pettiness and illiberality because they did not place their railway shares and so forth within reach of foreign investors, and time and again it has been pointed out, by way of reply, that so long as Treaty Limits exist and so long as trade beyond them is interdicted to aliens, foreign ownership of such securities would be illegal. For, most unquestionably, any person holding shares in a railway that runs beyond Treaty Limits, or in a tramway company, or in a factory situated in the provinces, must be considered to be trading in the interior. If it be lawful for him to own shares, it must be lawful for him to exercise the functions of a shareholder and take part in the control or supervision of the company's business, which means that he would be trading beyond Treaty Limits. Moreover, he would not be amenable to Japanese law in respect of violations of the company's regulations, or of acts exposing him to claims on the part of Japanese subjects doing business with the company. Hence the discussion now taking place, as to whether the share market generally should be thrown open at once, must be counted premature. Nothing of the kind can be accomplished until Consular Jurisdiction is abolished. Another thing is quite certain, namely, that foreigners before becoming shareholders in any company will want to have a voice in the management of the company's affairs. Without that, they will never invest to any considerable extent. Whether the ownership of shares does not involve part ownership of all a company's property—land, buildings, machinery, and so forth—is another question that has to be considered.

THE YORO-IN.

The letter from Mr. J. Cooper Robinson, which appears in our correspondence columns, is interesting not merely for its own sake but as showing the spirit of charity that pervades the foreign community of Yokohama. That men like Mr. Robinson are to be found in no small number, men that devote their lives to acts of benevolence, is happily a truth with which all are familiar. Moreover, at times of public calamity or wide-spread disaster, the lists of subscriptions contributed by the foreign communities in the Settlement indicate a disposition truly worthy of praise. But in this story of the *Yoro-in* at Nagoya we catch a glimpse of an under-current of charitable effort which flows silently and unostentatiously, carrying to the unfortunate succour and comfort of which the donors and the recipients are alone cognizant. The "Four Girls" and their "fair" suggest the outlines of a beautiful picture whose details imagination delights to fill in.

THE HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

The *Hawaiian Annual* for 1898 gives a *précis* of the complications that occurred last year in connexion with Japanese immigration. According to the writer of the *précis*, the whole question turned on the *bonâ fides* of the immigrants' possession of fifty dollars each. He alleges that at first the immigrants were all contract labourers, but that several thousands were subsequently brought over by Japanese emigration companies which lent each man fifty dollars to show to the Hawaiian Authorities on landing, in order that he might qualify for admission as a free labourer, the money being returned immediately afterwards to the lenders. The Hawaiian Government, he goes on to say, becoming aware of this fraud, subjected the immigrants to a strict scrutiny, and finding that only a small percentage of them were *bonâ fide* owners of the regulation sum, summarily refused to allow the others to remain. It may be assumed, we suppose, that the version contained in the *Hawaiian Annual* is the version generally accepted in Hawaii, and if that be so, the Hawaiians are doubtless convinced that Japan is wholly in the wrong. But the facts as they appear from the official correspondence, are very different. The Hawaiian Government based its action in sending away the immigrants, not on the *mala fides* of their monetary qualification, but on the allegation that while professing to be free labourers, they had in reality come under contract, their contract being with the Japanese Emigration Company which provided a steamer to bring them over. The mere fact of coming under contract would not have disqualified them, of course; but Hawaiian law requires that such contracts shall receive the endorsement of the Hawaiian Immigration Authorities before being implemented, and no endorsement had been sought in the case of these particular Japanese. It was an extraordinary position for Hawaii to take. The contract contemplated by Hawaiian law is a contract between the labourer and the planter into whose service he is about to enter. The contract between the rejected immigrants and the Emigration Company was a contract relating solely to their return passage in the event of their failure to find employment. It did not concern the Hawaiian Authorities in any way, except that it furnished an additional guarantee against the contingency which the Immigration Law was specially framed to avert, the contingency of an immigrant's being left without employment, sustenance or means of leaving Hawaii. We have never been able to comprehend how the Hawaiian Government expected to find in such a plea any solid basis for its action. That, however, was the basis that it selected. Not until long after the event, not until the rejected immigrants had returned to Japan and dispersed to their houses—so that any intelligent investigation of their pecuniary circumstances at the time of their landing at Honolulu had ceased to be possible—did the Hawaiian Government supplement its original contention by a reference to the *bonâ fides* of the men's possession of fifty dollars. Naturally Japan declined emphatically to entertain that belated plea. Hawaii was in fact playing fast and loose; at one moment calling the men contract labourers and challenging their qualifications as such; at another, calling them free labourers and impugning their quali-

fications in that character. The *Hawaiian Annual's* version is evidently based on mere hearsay.

TOKYO LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The Tokyo Literary and Musical Society met on the evening of the 18th instant in the Hall of the Parish Building, Tsukiji. About fifty members were present. His Excellency the United States Representative presided, and called upon the special committee appointed at the previous meeting for the purpose of compiling rules, to present its report. The Committee submitted a draft of the rules, and after a brief debate they were endorsed by the meeting with some trifling amendments. It is unnecessary to publish the rules in detail, but we may explain that their chief provisions were that the Society should have a President, two Vice-Presidents and a Standing Committee of nine—not less than four of the latter being ladies—, elected annually; that all the business of the Society should be entrusted to the standing Committee, and that the meetings should be every alternate Monday. His Excellency Colonel Buck was elected President, and for Vice-Presidents the choice fell upon Mr. Von Treutler, German *Chargé d'Affaires*, and Captain Brinkley. This business concluded, the following programme was performed, each of the pieces being rendered most successfully:—

Pianoforte Solo Polish Dance
Miss Schereschewsky.
Recitation The Rivals..... Miss Spencer.
Double Duet, "Merrillie Singing"..... Mrs. Wadman,
Miss Allen, Miss Spencer, M. S. Garst.
Violin Quartette..... "Cavalleria Rusticana"
The Misses Page and Mr. Noel Page.
Recitation..... "Love in a Balloon"..... Miss Spencer.

"ENFORCEMENT."

The *Japan Times* is "at a loss to understand the importance which seems to be attached by our Yokohama contemporaries to the word 'enforcement' as applied to the operation of treaties in this country." Well, indeed, may our Tokyo contemporary be surprised. This affair, utterly paltry in itself, has furnished a striking example of the almost phenomenal disingenuousness of certain Yokohama newspapers. They themselves, finding the term "enforcement" in a clumsy translation made by their own *employés*, wrote paragraphs complaining of the spirit displayed by the use of such a word. The Japanese Government, they said, had appointed a committee to make preparations for "enforcing" the Revised Treaties, from which it might be inferred that the unfortunate foreigner was to be mercilessly forced to implement his bad bargain. We pointed out that the Japanese word translated "enforcement" had no such significance as that assigned to it: it meant merely "putting into operation." At that one of the journals in question turned round and asked why on earth the *Japan Mail* was making a fuss about a term: the Treaties would have to be put into force any how, and there was no occasion to discuss forms of expression! Very candid and consequential, is it not? It reminds us of the vagrant who, being detected by constables as he was on the point of setting fire to a cathedral, complained that one could live quite comfortably were it not for those confounded bobbies.

"GREAT JAPAN."

We observe that what we wrote about the expression "Great Japan" has given rise to some misunderstanding. The *Japan Times* concludes that we interpret the name to be that of the main island only, as distinguished from the smaller islands forming part of the Japanese empire. Perhaps we wrote loosely, not deeming it necessary to guard against an interpretation obviously so untenable. Our meaning was that the use of the word "great" (*dai*) probably had its origin in a desire to distinguish the main island from the adjacent islets. Ultimately, as every one knows, the term *Dai Nippon* came to be applied to the whole group of islands, but the question of interest is, how and whence did the prefix "great" originate. Was it a geographically distinctive prefix, or did some one conceive the idea of using it for the purpose of glorifying Japan? We have no information bearing upon the question, but have always supposed that the employment of the prefix was suggested by the comparatively large size of the main island, and that, as time went by, the logic of the term became obscured by the habit of employing it.

The *Japan Times* says that the prefix "Great" (*Dai*) was originally adopted in the case of this country because the Chinese sovereigns, in their official communications to the Japanese Court, always described their dynasty as the "Great Sung," or the "Great Tsing," and so on. The Japanese, according to our contemporary's view, deemed it essential to the preservation of the national dignity that a Rising Sun Rowland should be given for the Celestial Oliver, and so they called their country "Dai-Nippon." That is a very interesting but not a novel suggestion, probable enough on the face of it. Of course, our idea as to the geographical origin of the prefix *Dai* was purely conjectural. It seemed not unlikely that as the island of *Nippon* received the distinctive appellation *Hondo*, or "main island" so it might ultimately have come to be called *Dai-Nippon*, or "big Nippon," in contradistinction to the very much smaller islands—as *Kiushu*, *Shikoku*, *Yezo*, *Tsushima*, etc.—that were incorporated with it in the empire of Japan. The *Japan Times* calls our suggestion "a fantastic theory propounded in a moment of thoughtlessness." It may be fantastic. As to that the public can judge. But it certainly was not "propounded in a moment of thoughtlessness." We have never discovered in early Japanese history any evidence that bears out the derivation which our contemporary now endorses. Chinese annals, exceedingly scrupulous as to the etiquette of names and titles, do not fail to note the styles adopted by foreign potentates in addressing the ruler of the Middle Kingdom. They take careful account of the fact that the Emperor Mōmū—or Wen-wu, as they call him—named his reign *Tai-ho* (*Ta-pao*), but of course readers of Japanese history are well aware that the term *Tai-ho* was adopted on account of the discovery of precious metals in Japan, and not with any idea of exalting the rank of the State. It seems difficult to believe that if the Japanese had adopted the honorific *Dai* merely as a set-off against the Chinese *Ta*, no explicit notice of the fact should be found in the annals of either empire. Such a notice may, indeed, exist, and the editor of the

Japan Times may be acquainted with it. If so, he would place the public under an obligation by stating the reference. Meanwhile, we admit that his theory is very plausible, and that it derives force from the recent action of the Koreans, who signalized the elevation of their petty Kingdom into an empire by adopting for it the title of *Tai-Kan*. In short, this hypothesis amounts to saying that *Ta*, *Dai*, or *Tai* has the significance of "imperial" or "royal" rather than that of "great" when used as a prefix to the name of a country.

THE BUDGET FOR 1898-9.

The Budget for next fiscal year, taking the appropriations for the Departments at the figures originally sent in to the Finance Minister, totalled ~~258,830,000 yen~~, according to the *Fiji Shimpō*. From that amount the Minister cut off 28,610,000 yen, reducing the total to 230,220,000 yen. Owing, however, to vehement complaints preferred by the various Departments, it was finally decided to restore 3,953,000 yen, so that the ultimate figure stood at 234,170,000 yen. The greater part of the restorations was on account of public works, but some was for increases of salaries and of staffs. Additional outlays on these latter accounts are, of course, certain to be severely criticized, and the Finance Minister was most unwilling to make any appropriations for them. But the Departments concerned made offer of a compromise, cutting down their outlays under items of new enterprises provided that the Minister agreed to the proposed increase of Administrative expenditures. It is most unlikely, however, that the Diet will consent to any increase of the kind, its normal outcry being for economy in that very direction. Hence the Departments may look forward to getting neither the blue-bottle nor the bee, as the Japanese proverb has it.

COUNT MATSUKATA.

If we may credit a story told by the *Nippon*, Count Matsukata has again been the recipient of advice pointing to his resignation. On this occasion the advisers are said to have been Baron Iwasaki, Mr. Oishi Masami and another. They proceeded to the Premier's house on the 15th inst., and told his Excellency that popular opinion being now irrevocably unfavourable to him, and the attitude of foreign Powers towards the Far East being such as to cause much uneasiness, nothing could be more unfortunate for his own reputation as well as for the national interests than to provoke a fruitless conflict with political parties. They therefore urged him to resign. Count Matsukata is represented as having betrayed symptoms of great regret and as having indicated his sense of the mistakes committed by Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima, to which he attributed the present embarrassing state of affairs. He declared his determination to refrain hereafter from manœuvring with political parties; to submit his policy in a straightforward manner to the Diet, and to resign at once if he found a majority opposed to him. It appears to us that the *Nippon*, in constructing this story, has travelled very far beyond the limits of public credulity.

LEGATIONS IN TOKYO.

The new Legation of Austria-Hungary in Tokyo is rapidly approaching completion. It stands inside the Yotsuya gate in Kioicho, just opposite the residence of his Imperial Highness Prince Kacho, commanding a beautiful prospect in every direction and occupying one of the most eligible sites in Tokyo. Until the scaffolding is removed, the ultimate appearance of the building is difficult to judge, but the proportions suggest a fine structure, of an aspect at once handsome and pleasing. Mr. Conder is, we believe, the architect, and he seems to have been as successful as he was with the German Legation, completed a few months ago. It may now be said that the Representatives of Great Britain, Germany, Russia, Italy, and Austria-Hungary are worthily housed in the capital of Japan. France has a good though not an elevated site, but has hitherto been content with a building which, having been designed originally for the residence of a private Japanese gentleman, falls somewhat short of the standard of a Legation. She will doubtless redress the balance before many years. Spain possesses an excellently situated plot of land—at the back of the Peeresses School—but it may be presumed that the stupendous financial efforts which she has recently been obliged to make on account of military affairs, do not leave her much leisure for legation-building in the Far East. The Brazilian Minister has been eminently practical. Unable to find in Tokyo any private house capable of accommodating his family and his staff, he appropriated the whole of the Tokyo Hotel, and by a few dextrous changes, converted it into a suitable, though of course a very-far-from-picturesque, domicile. It is a pity that some one does not deal similarly with the Imperial Hotel. Its principal achievement at present is to create among foreigners a conviction that the Japanese are a thrifless people, without organizing capacity or intelligent observation. As for the Legation of the United States, the tardiness of the Washington Government to provide a suitable building is becoming a subject of public comment. The site is spacious and admirably situated, but the house is a wooden structure of the flimsiest description. Hastily run up and roughly put together at the outset, the passage of years has deprived it of its only title to respectability, newness, and it is now a veritable eye-sore, as ugly as it must be uncomfortable. It can never have been intended to be anything but a very temporary structure for it is huddled away in the southerly corner of the grounds so that the principal rooms face west and north, aspects almost unendurable for a residence in the climate of Japan. Such an extraordinary situation must have been chosen solely for the purpose of leaving the northerly side of the grounds available for building operations, but as year follows year without any sign of an attempt to build, the whole thing is growing quite a jest. We must say that considering the immense wealth of the United States and the magnitude of American interests in Japan, the Government's carelessness in this matter is unaccountable. The consulate-general in Yokohama is a poor enough affair in all conscience, but the Legation in Tokyo is incomparably poorer, and even as Englishmen we do not like to see the stars and stripes floating over such an edifice.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Naturally on the eve of the Diet's meeting considerable excitement prevails in political circles. The 24th instant at 10.30 a.m. has been fixed for the ceremony of official opening. On the 21st instant the Houses came together for purposes of organization. Out of the full membership—316—of the House of Peers 242 assembled, and out of the 300 members of the Lower House, 255. This work of organization, as our readers may probably remember, consists in dividing the members into sections and electing heads of sections and secretaries—arrangements which have reference solely to the convenient discharge of business during the session. After the opening ceremony on the 24th, the only work done will be the preparation of replies to the Speech from the Throne. On the 25th, the Standing Committees—the Budget Committee, the Disciplinary Committee, and the Petitions Committee—will be elected, after which the Houses would rise, under ordinary circumstances, for the New Year's recess, coming together again on the 10th of January. But the question now asked is, will the Opposition insist on introducing a vote of want of confidence before the New Year's recess, or will they postpone the step until afterwards. According to present appearances they will force the measure to the front at once. Indeed, the only doubt seems to be whether the resolution shall be brought forward before the Standing Committees are elected, or whether the more regular course would not be to take it when the elections have been concluded. The Progressionists are said to be in favour of the former plan, whereas the Liberals, or some of them at any rate, advocate the latter. In any case it seems tolerably certain that the measure will be proposed. But will the Government allow the House to divide on it? That is the next point of uncertainty. Hitherto these attempts on the part of the Opposition to obtain a vote of want of confidence or to pass an Address to the Throne impeaching the Cabinet, have generally been staved off—unless their rejection appeared certain—by an order of suspension, followed by a sentence of dissolution if the Opposition finally insisted on carrying the question to a division. The idea of temporary suspension is to give the House time to calm down and reconsider its course, just as a recess may be taken during the progress of an ordinary sitting for the purpose of allaying undue excitement. But it is alleged that, on the present occasion, the Opposition want to turn the tables. That is to say, instead of being forestalled by the Cabinet and sent home to their houses and inns for an interval of cool reflection, they wish to assume the position of pronouncing judgment on the Ministers and sending them home, so to speak, to their official residences for a period of quiet thought. According to this latter programme, the House of Representatives, instead of rising for the New Year's recess, would suspend its sitting until the conclusion of the period of mourning for the late Empress Dowager, namely, January 11th, declaring, at the same time, that the purpose of the suspension was to enable the Cabinet to consider its position—*i.e.*, to resign—failing which form of "consideration," the House would pass an Address to the Throne on re-assembling. In order to prevent any intervention

on the part of the Government, the plan of the Opposition, it is said, is to press the hostile resolution to a division immediately after it is read, but, of course, that is not feasible. There will always be time for the Government to intervene, if it pleases to do so.

Meanwhile, there is the usual talk of a union of the two great political parties, the Progressionists and the Liberals. Opposition to the Ministry being the dominant mood of nearly all the parties, their differences of platform seem, for the moment, comparatively insignificant. But on this occasion the project is discussed with exceptional intelligence. Political leaders are warned to be careful lest they mistake consensus of destructive opinion for unity of constructive purpose, and thus form a coalition which must fall to pieces when confronted by the problems of statesmanship that the time presents. On the other hand, some of the Tokyo journals speak of a new party—the National Party (*Kokumin-to*)—as being in process of formation. We cannot attach much importance to the enterprise. The names of the projectors are those of men without reputation or influence.

The most curious feature of the situation, in our opinion, is the fact that while the parties in opposition are clamouring for the overthrow of the Cabinet, no one seems to take any thought for the resulting situation. There is simply a longing to pull down. We cannot tell, of course, on what grounds the resolution of want of confidence will be based. It has hitherto been understood that the Government's proposal to increase the taxes was one of the most prominent grounds of dissatisfaction, but if the resolution is introduced on the first day of the session, that is to say, before the Budget has come up for discussion, the question of taxation can scarcely be introduced with propriety. Be that as it may, however, it is tolerably evident that a change of Cabinet while the Diet is in session would not improve the Budgetary situation from the point of view of the Opposition. A Ministry coming into power now could not possibly draft a new Budget in time for the Diet's discussion before the 24th of March. Either the present Cabinet's Budget would have to be adopted, or the Budget of the current fiscal year would have to be repeated.

Concerning the remnant of the Codes, the passing of which is so essential to the operation of the Revised Treaties, the best suggestion yet made appears to be that of the *Shogyo Shimpo*, namely, that the Bill embodying these important laws should be submitted to the Lower House accompanied by a special message from the Emperor recommending its adoption as a matter of urgency. The House would certainly contrive to pass the measure were that plan adopted.

THE LATE MRS. SQUIRE.

Although Mrs. Squire, whose decease on the 19th instant was yesterday announced, had been ailing for some months, her death came as a terrible shock to the Tokyo community. An attack of typhoid fever towards the close of the summer was followed by lung trouble, and as long ago as the middle of October a fatal termination became inevitable. Mrs. Squire had been for several years in

charge of the ladies' college called the *Shorei-kai*, and in that capacity had won universal esteem and respect. She was a lady of very exceptional accomplishments, a noble sense of duty and untiring steadfastness of purpose. Circumstances subjected her to a test such as happily has to be endured by few of gentle nurture, but long ignorance of the uses of adversity did not impair her capacity to meet it with fine courage and to conquer it by sheer force of resolute earnestness. Her life was an eloquent lesson to the weak and shiftless. No words of ours can measure the sympathy that is felt with her young family in their grievous affliction.

The remains of the late Mrs. Squire were interred on the 21st instant in Aoyama cemetery, whither they had been followed by a large number of sorrowing friends. The first part of the service was performed at the Church of St. Andrew, the Venerable Archdeacon Shaw officiating, assisted by all the Clergy of the Episcopal Mission. An element of the deepest sadness was imparted to the ceremony by the presence of the deceased lady's children, of whom two are still of very tender years, and by the fact that Commander Squire had reached Tokyo from Canada only in time to take part in the obsequies of his noble wife, but not in time to say the last farewell, the hope of which seems to have been present with her most vividly at the end. St. Andrew's Church could barely find accommodation for the crowd of mourners, among whom the students of the *Shorei-kai* and many Japanese ladies were conspicuous. The cause of female education in Japan has sustained a heavy loss by the death of this gifted and earnest lady, and we are persuaded that her memory will long be held in grateful reverence.

THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

A telegram from Peking says that the Russian Government, before sending men-of-war to Port Arthur, had obtained China's consent to use the place as a winter station, not in perpetuity, of course, but for one season. Another telegram from Shanghai alleges, on the authority of a ship-master who recently passed in the neighbourhood of Chusan, that an English squadron is busily making preparations there—whatever that may mean. It is not easy to make out exactly where the British ships really are. Some time ago they were said to have assembled at Samsha. Then we heard of them at Hongkong, and now they are supposed to be at Chusan. Nothing seems certain except that they are keeping in the region south of the Yangtze. As for the proceedings of Russia and Germany, additional grounds for the suspicion that they are acting in concert will naturally be found in the latest news about Port Arthur. That the German Government established an understanding with St. Petersburg before the occupation of Kiao-chou must be taken for granted. Kiao-chou had been lent to Russia temporarily as a winter station, and Germany would never have seized it without coming to some arrangement with its occupant. Port Arthur is, of course, a far more desirable station, and Russia doubtless is not at all displeased to have found a good excuse for the change.

THE MITSUI BANK.

Vernacular newspapers contain references to the Mitsui Bank in connexion with the publication of its latest report. We wrote pretty fully on the subject some years ago, but it may interest our readers to be reminded that the Bank is an unlimited liability concern and that depositors are secured, not merely to the extent of the capital and the reserves, but also to the extent of the whole property of the Mitsui family. There are five branches of the well known family—Mitsui Hachiroemon, Mitsui Motonosuke, Mitsui Takayasu, Mitsui Hachirojiro and Mitsui Morinosuke. Each carries on a vast business and has great wealth. It was in the year 1675 that the family first turned its attention to commerce. Up to that time its various representatives, through successive generations, had obeyed the *samurai's* creed and stood entirely apart from everything connected with trade. Doubtless the first of the Mitsui merchants was a man of great business capacity. Probably, also, he owed something of his success to his relations with the aristocracy. At all events he built up a great connexion, being honoured with the patronage of the two Courts—that of the Emperor and that of the Shogun—and organizing machinery of wide public value for the management of financial transactions. At the Restoration the Mitsui stood easily at the head of all banking concerns in Japan, but it was not until 1876 that the now celebrated Mitsui Bank (*Mitsui Bunko*) was established to combine the business hitherto carried on by various agencies throughout the empire. Two hundred and twenty-two years is a long life for a commercial enterprise, and when we consider that throughout the whole of that time the Mitsui family, though engaging in several branches of trade on an immense scale, never once had to confront anything like disaster, and never once saw its credit threatened, we have to admit that the record is very remarkable, and that the business capacity of the family is established beyond all doubt. The last half-yearly report of the Bank contains these figures:—

	Yen.
Paid up Capital	2,000,000
Reserve	2,510,000
Public Loan Bonds, Local	
Loan Bonds and Bullion	6,960,000
Shares and Debentures	7,230,000
Deposits	25,480,000

OPENING OF THE DIET.

The Emperor is to leave the Palace at 10.30 a.m. on the 24th instant and proceed direct to the House of Peers. All those invited or entitled to be present are to assemble at the House of Peers by 10 a.m. at latest, wearing full uniform or tail coats. They are required to leave their over-coats, umbrellas, &c., in their vehicles, to alight from and dispose the latter as directed by the officials in waiting, and to present their cards—bearing not only their names and official rank but also a statement of their decorations, if any—at the vestibule of the House of Peers. The persons entitled to attend without invitations are, holders of first-class Orders, Peers of the Musk and Golden Pheasant Chambers, foreigners ranking as *Choku-nin*, holders of third-class Orders and upwards, *Sonin* officials from the fifth-class upwards.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

The newspapers received by the last Canadian mail place us in possession of the sequence of ideas and events in Germany from the time of the receipt of the news of the missionary murder in southern Shantung until the occupation of Kiaochow by a German squadron. As this incident seems likely to rank among the most extraordinary in the annals of international procedure, it will be interesting to trace briefly the attitude of German opinion towards it. Intelligence of the murder of the missionaries was, of course, telegraphed to Berlin without delay, but at first it seems to have been received with incredulity so far as the general public was concerned. The Government, however, acted with remarkable promptitude. On November 7th, the following news was telegraphed from Berlin to *The Times*:—

After having been semi-officially discredited, the news of an attack on German missionaries in the south of the Shantung province has now been confirmed by official despatches. The mission station of Yen-chan-fu was assailed, a missionary named Nies was murdered, and another named Ziegler is reported as missing. A third inhabitant of the mission station named Stenz escaped. It is announced that "the measures demanded by the situation have been adopted by the German Government." As a German cruiser division is at present in Chinese waters, the *Berlin Neueste Nachrichten* thinks it opportune to insist that "a pledge for the fulfilment of the German demands for reparation should immediately be seized." The reference is doubtless to the long cherished German project of obtaining a coaling station in China, with regard to which, by the way, contradictory rumours have lately been current in Berlin, asserting and denying that the acquisition has already been effected. The journal just quoted urges that "the present occasion is one on which the despatch of so strong a section of our small fleet year by year to Chinese waters should at last be justified by action."

The point of chief importance in the above is that, as early as Nov. 7th "the measures demanded by the situation had been adopted by the German Government." Now on Nov. 7th the German Representative in China was travelling in the Yangtze valley. On Nov. 9th he returned to Shanghai from Hankow; and on Nov. 8th, or, at latest, Nov. 9th, the German squadron of three ships, then lying at Woosung, was ordered to hold itself in readiness to proceed to Shantung. In view of these dates, it is at least certain that the occupation of Kiaochow was contemplated by the Berlin Government before any intimation had been received of the attitude that the Peking Cabinet would be likely to assume towards the affair.

From Nov. 7th to Nov. 15th, the affair does not appear to have evoked further comment from the Berlin public. The German ships, it will be remembered, left the mouth of the Yangtze (Woosung) on the morning of the 12th and the occupation of Kiaochow was effected on the morning of the 14th. The following day—Nov. 15th—the Berlin correspondent of *The Times* telegraphs:—

The intelligence that the German cruiser division in East Asia has received orders to proceed to the coast of Shantung, in which province German missionaries were recently murdered by the natives, and to demand immediate satisfaction, continues to call forth comments and suggestions in the organs of the Central party. The *Berliner Neueste Nachrichten* finds that the great Bay of Kiaochow, on the south of the Shantung Promontory, "would afford an excellent point d'appui for the German fleet in East Asian waters, and has, in fact, long been regarded by German commercial circles in China as a worthy object of German ambition." The journal just quoted asserts that as

English interests lie further south and Russian further north, the German occupation of the bay need not affect them. Besides, after all, Germany did not join France and Russia in settling the differences between China and Japan in order to strengthen French or Russian interests, but rather to promote her own. "These can only be secured by the occupation of a harbour suitable for the German mercantile marine and the navy in East Asia." Further delay will only serve to diminish German prestige in China. And if other Powers should object, it is the duty of Germany to remember that she has too long paid consideration to the claims of others and that it is high time for others to recognize her legitimate aspirations.

The *Post*, which states that Kiaochow is the immediate objective of the German cruiser flotilla, is not informed as to whether it is the intention of Germany to take possession of the bay, but has no doubt that in view of the recent insult to the German officers at Wuchang-fu, the Government "will press its claims against China in an emphatic manner and will also demand guarantees against a repetition of the outrages."

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

Cologne, November 15th.

In connexion with the recent murder of two German missionaries at Yen-chan-fu in Shantung, the *Kölnische Zeitung* this evening publishes the following telegram from Berlin:—

"The German cruiser division has landed a force in Kiaochow Bay, the nearest port to the place where the murders were committed, in order to exercise pressure on the Chinese Government with a view to obtaining early and complete satisfaction for the demands made by Germany in connexion with the murder of the two German missionaries and the destruction of the German mission station."

Here we find a leading Berlin journal frankly advocating the doctrine that because Germany has aspirations with regard to Chinese territory, she has a right to be satisfied; because she wishes for a *point d'appui* in Far Eastern waters, therefore she is entitled to possess herself forcibly of a Chinese port. It is impossible to be more ingenuously immoral. Readers will notice, too, that Germany's object in joining France and Russia to drive Japan out of Liaotung, is described to have been the promotion of interests "which can only be secured by the occupation of a harbour suitable for the German mercantile marine and the navy in East Asia." Of course it does not follow for a moment that the views expressed by a Berlin journal represent the motives of the Berlin Government's action. As to the latter, we can not speak. But a newspaper like the *Neueste Nachrichten* may be regarded as a fair exponent of intelligent German opinion, in some degree at any rate, and from that point of the index that its utterances furnish of modern international morality in Europe is instructive.

Our next batch of intelligence is dated at Berlin, Nov. 16th:—

Blue-jackets have been landed from the German cruiser division in the harbour of Kiaochow. It is semi-officially stated that the object of the occupation is "not only to enforce the claims of the German Empire against the Chinese Government in respect of the massacre of missionaries, but also to obtain guarantees for the future safety of German subjects in China."

The *Vossische Zeitung* expresses the hope that the German Government will not evacuate Kiaochow until full satisfaction is given by China for all the grievances of German subjects in that country. But it makes the alternative suggestion that the Government "should insist on obtaining the cession of the harbour as reparation for the insult to the German flag. Resistance on the part of the Chinese Government is scarcely probable. The occupation of Kiaochow appears have been effected without opposition."

The *Cologne Gazette*, however, calls to mind the fact that, according to report, the Governor of Chuli had the intention of establishing a strong naval station at this very point, which commands the southern entrance to the Gulf of Pechili. There were also at one time rumours that China had ceded Kiaochow to Russia. In any case, it appears to be somewhat unlikely that the Germans without further ado, be allowed to establish themselves there on *permanence*.

The German cruiser division now at Kiao-chou consists of the battleship *Kaiser*, the second-class cruisers *Irene* and *Princess William*, and the third-class cruiser *Arcona*. The total complement of men is 1,642. The chief in command is Rear-Admiral von Diederichs.

Commenting on a telegram from Paris which states that the negotiations between France and several Powers regarding common measures for the protection of Christians in China have had a successful result, the *Berliner Neueste Nachrichten* expresses its opinion that these negotiations are directed against the action of Germany and that the reports of their success must be received with caution.

Not only in Radical journals but also in the organs of the Clericals the view is expressed that the conflict with Hayti and the attack upon German missionaries in China are being employed in order to influence German public opinion in favour of extensive naval plans. It is pointed out, however, that there are some 31,000 German subjects resident abroad and that they are so scattered over the face of the earth that even a greatly increased navy could hardly in all cases protect their interests without great difficulties being encountered and loss of time being involved. The Clerical *Kölnische Volkszeitung* remarks:—"The further development of the navy is in no wise rejected by the nation, but it is believed that the rate at which naval estimates have been voted in the past has been rapid enough, especially during the last ten years, and that if it is maintained all that is necessary will be achieved."

A semi-official journal states that the Navy Bill will be the occasion of the opening of the Reichstag at the end of the present month by the Emperor in person. His Majesty has not been present at the opening ceremony since December 4, 1894. The recent attitude of the Government organs afforded indications that in authoritative quarters there was some hesitation about the precise form in which the claims of the navy should be advocated. The *North-German Gazette*, however, returns this evening to the charge on the subject of the defence of the German coasts. "In a future war," it says, "we must reckon absolutely with an attempt to effect a landing on the part of the enemy. The French would not in any case begin a war against us without a powerful ally. But with the aid of such an ally they do not need to reckon with our united land forces, and would therefore have troops at their disposal for employment against our coasts." The *North-German Gazette* does not think that coast defences insure adequate security. "Heligoland has great importance for the defence of the German shore, in so far as it can render the sojourn of a hostile fleet in the neighbouring waters very difficult. But the range of its guns does not embrace the coast and the mouth of the Elbe."

The reference made above to an insult to the German flag has no value. What the writer had in mind was the stoning of German blue-jackets on the occasion of the German Representative's visit to the Viceroy Chang Chi-tung, but as ample reparation was obtained for that outrage, it disappeared from subsequent consideration.

On Nov. 17th, the Berlin news takes this form:—

Arguments continue to be marshalled in favour of a permanent occupation of Kiao-chou by Germany. The *Kreuz Zeitung* has no manner of doubt that satisfaction for the outrages on German subjects must be found in the seizure of some point on the coast "which will serve as a permanent harbour of refuge and a coaling station. This is an excellent opportunity to do what ought to have been done long ago." The *National Zeitung* accuses The Times of inciting Russia against the plans of the German Government and of hinting that England, in the event of their realization, would transfer her sympathies to China. But the *National Liberal* organ consoles itself with the reflection that Germany would never in any case be able to count on English sympathies in East Asia.

In some quarters the statement published by the *Cologne Gazette* on Berlin authority that a landing had been already effected by the German fleet is treated as open to doubt. The *Imperial Gazette* did not publish the telegram which sent back the intelligence from Cologne. It is furthermore pointed out that the Government of China has not, so far as can be ascertained, refused to give the satisfaction demanded; nor is the place of landing sufficiently near the scene of the outrages to enable the German forces to exercise an effective protection over the missions. On the whole the probabilities are in favour of the accuracy of the

Cologne Gazette's information. Should the intelligence prove to be premature it would have to be regarded as an eminently official *ballon d'essai*.

It will be seen that on no side was the remotest suggestion offered as to the right of a civilized Power to find in the acts of a gang of Chinese bandits a pretext for the seizure and permanent tenure of a portion of China's territory.

On Nov. 18th, the intelligence sent to London did not bear directly on the Kiao-chou affair:—

Berlin, Nov. 18.

The German cruiser *Kaiserin Augusta*, which for some time past has been anchored off the Pigeons, returned to Canea to-day for the purpose of taking on board the German quota of the European troops stationed on the island. The detachment consisted of an officer and 12 men belonging to the *Kaiserin Augusta*.

The inference drawn from this movement on the part of the *Kaiserin Augusta* is that the vessel has received orders to repair to Hayti, since the *Gefion* which would seem to have been originally intended for this service, cannot be made ready in time. It remains, however, to be seen whether this surmise be correct. The resources of the German Admiralty appear to be heavily taxed at the present moment, and great activity among the vessels which can be employed on foreign service is anticipated within the next few days. Meantime the Government maintains its silence with regard to the German troubles abroad. According to the *Post*, however, they formed the subject of conversation between the Emperor, the Imperial Chancellor, and the heads of the Admiralty and the Naval Cabinet on Monday afternoon, when energetic action was decided upon.

From these paragraphs it appears that it is already that say, before there was any talk of sending out an additional squadron under Prince Heinrich—the resources of the German Admiralty were said to be heavily taxed. These incidents will at least afford to the German nation some idea of the task that devolves upon Great Britain in keeping her flag floating on every sea throughout the world.

The latest news we have is dated the same day as the above (Nov. 18th), but despatched subsequently from Berlin:—

Shanghai, Nov. 18.

Kiao-chou Bay, on the south-east coast of the Province of Shan-tung, a harbour of great strategic importance, was seized by the German squadron on Sunday last as a measure of reprisal for the murder of two German missionaries at Yen-chau fu on the 1st inst. The battleship *Kaiser* and the cruisers *Prince William* and *Arcona* landed 600 men. The Admiral accompanied the force, which took possession of a hill commanding the Chinese camps. After seizing the telegraph station and the magazine without fighting, the Admiral sent a message to the Chinese General either to evacuate his position or surrender his arms. The General, having no ammunition, decided to retire.

Prior to the Yen-chau-fu massacre, Germany had been endeavouring to obtain a naval station in South China and the present opportunity was, therefore, in all probability seized to account. Two steamers have been chartered here to convey stores and material to the fleet. The occupation will apparently be more than a temporary one.

Berlin, Nov. 18th.

The German Press continues to be singularly ill-supplied with intelligence from Kiao-chou. To-day, indeed, the latest information is contained in telegrams from London, except for one brief piece of news which has had to make the journey from Berlin to Cologne and back again to Berlin before being published here. According to the *Cologne Gazette*, the facts above Kiao-chou Bay were occupied by 5,000 Chinese troops armed with the Prussian Jäger rifle, and having 14 Krupp cannon. As no battle is reported, the *Cologne Gazette* concludes that the Chinese retired without fighting.

The absence of official intelligence regarding the relations between the Chinese and German Governments is stated to be due to the fact that the Berlin Cabinet has not yet made up its mind as to the course it intends to pursue. Deliberations are being carried on between the Departments of State concerned, but it is said that no definite decision has yet been arrived at. In the event of a refusal on the part of the Chinese Government to accede to the German demands a prolonged

occupation of Kiao-chou would be rendered necessary, even if this did not belong to the original intention of the German Government. The active hostility of the Chinese must also be reckoned with as a possible eventuality, and in this case the cruiser division now in the Bay of Kiao-chou would have to be reinforced and its absence from other parts of Chinese waters be made good. Any such steps, however, could only be taken after elaborate consultation with the Admiralty, and with due consideration for the capabilities of the German navy.

Bishop Anzer of Shan-tung, who is making a stay in Germany, was received in audience yesterday by the Emperor.

According to the Catholic organ *Germania*, Bishop Anzer has received a further telegram from South Shan-tung stating that the recent murder of German missionaries was committed in the village of Chang-kia-chuang and was probably planned beforehand. It would appear from the telegram that the Christians defended themselves and wounded some of their assailants. It is added that nothing is being done by the mandarins to discover the guilty parties, and that none of the murderers have yet been arrested. The door of the episcopal residence at Yen-chau-fu had been broken open by the Chinese mob.

Here we are told—in a conjectural form, however—that the absence of official intelligence regarding the relations between the Governments in Berlin and Peking was due to the fact that the Berlin Cabinet had not yet (Nov. 18th) made up its mind as to the course to be pursued. Whether that statement is worthy of credence we can not tell, of course. But it is worthy of note that Baron von Heyking's return to Peking took place on the 18th of November, and that from no quarter can any indication be obtained that demands of any kind were formulated in Peking, or negotiations of any kind opened with the Chinese Government prior to the seizure of Kiao-chou. We are almost compelled to conclude that the Chinese Government was not approached until after the German Representative's return to Peking, which was several days subsequent to the seizure of Kiao-chou.

We append the article published by *The Times* on the subject, in its issue of Nov. 18th:—

By the steps it has taken to obtain redress for the recent murder of two German missionaries the German Government has shown a just appreciation of the Chinese character. Instead of wasting time in making remonstrances at Peking, which would assuredly have been met as usual by the innumerable dilatory devices of Chinese diplomacy, the Germans have landed a force in Kiao-chou Bay, in order to bring to bear the only kind of influence that Chinamen seem able to understand. That bay is said to be the nearest place to the scene of the murders. Whether that be the case or not, it is a very convenient and advantageous place for the German fleet, and will no doubt serve as well as any others for the purposes in view. Kiao-chou Bay, which is situated some distance to the south of the Shan-tung peninsula, is a large sheet of water completely landlocked and entered by a comparatively narrow channel. It may, therefore, be readily imagined that it would form an admirable naval base for any Power maintaining a fleet in Chinese waters. The German Press, aware of its merits from this point of view, is already reveling in the thought of a permanent occupation. In this respect it probably outruns the ideas and intention of the German Government. It is one thing to occupy a Chinese harbour in order to obtain redress for palpable grievances, but quite another thing to contemplate retention of the place in perpetuity. Other nations might find themselves compelled to transfer their sympathies from Germany to China were occupation to continue after the actual dispute has been settled. Russia in particular might be tempted to regard such occupation as an unfriendly act, since she is known to have recognized the strategic advantages of Kiao-chou long before the German missionaries came to a violent end. It is probably a mere coincidence that these unofficial promptings to seize the harbour appear immediately after the interference of Russia with the application of funds which it was hoped that Turkey would spend in German dockyards. In any case it is not at present necessary to assume that the action

of the German Government is prompted by any motive but the desire to exact reparation for the murder of German subjects.

The experiment is one which we ourselves have tried on one or two occasions, with results so excellent as compared with any obtainable by diplomatic negotiation at Peking that there is reason to wonder why we do not always follow the more effectual method. Outrages upon Europeans, if not directly instigated by the local authorities, are at all events always preventable by them. Generally speaking, direct instigation can be very satisfactorily proved. Attacks upon missionaries or traders usually follow upon the sedulous dissemination of incendiary writings in which the most atrocious crimes are laid to the charge of the foreigners. Left to themselves the common people are tolerant and indifferent, otherwise it would be impossible for foreign residents to enjoy as they do long periods of immunity from molestation. It is the literary, or official, class who from time to time stir up the populace to violence in order to further some end which they happen to have in view at the moment, or perhaps merely to satisfy animosities which the supineness of civilised Governments encourages them to believe that they can indulge with impunity. Consequently it is the local officials whom we ought always to hold responsible alike for actual outrage and for the gross infringement of treaty rights which goes on continuously and persistently. There is very little use in applying to the central Government to enforce responsibility. It has comparatively little control of the local governors, and that little it certainly will not waste on behalf of mere barbarians when its own demands call for all its efforts. But, on the other hand, the central Government is in no hurry to make common cause with the local authorities. The coercion of a Viceroy, even by the landing of troops or the shelling of his residence, is not an act of war against the Chinese Empire. The Viceroy has to take the whole responsibility for all that happens in his province, and if he comes to blows with a foreign Power he must settle the matter as best he can. It took our Foreign Office a very long time to understand that China is not a highly-organized State after the European model. Many despatches have been framed upon the theory that this country was bound to keep the Chinese Empire on its feet, and that to press for the redress of grievances was to endanger its stability. It may be doubted whether the misconception does not still linger in official minds. As a matter of fact, grievances must be redressed, if at all, by suitable appeals to the governor within whose province they arise. They can always be redressed in that way if we know how to make the appeal sufficiently moving; and the central Government will no more put its own forces in motion to help the Viceroy than it will to compel him to do justice.

With regard to more purely commercial troubles there is a wide field for the application of the same principle. After infinite delay and difficulty this country makes a commercial treaty with China securing certain rights for British merchants. But the ink is hardly dry when the local authorities at every trading centre proceed to neutralize all the provisions of the treaty by imposing local taxes and disabilities. If appeal be made to the central Government it plunges into interminable argument and negotiation, which may ostensibly terminate in one way or the other, but which never affords any practical redress. Again and again our vacillating policy has led to a war, at the close of which we get concessions on paper. But the war is not more effectual than the treaty, and the result is that British merchants in China are to-day demanding practically the same things that were supposed to have been secured for them thirty or forty years ago. The truth is that the central Government has not the power, even if it had the will, to make its promises effectual. The proceeds of the taxes which throttle British trade do not go to Peking, and the officials in each province simply go upon the principle of taking all they can get. It is to these gentlemen that we must apply, with arguments that they can appreciate. Among these arguments gunboats occupy an important place.

It is a strange revelation to find *The Times* alleging that Great Britain has, on one or to two occasions, tried experiments of the nature of the Kiao-chow seizure. Great Britain has much to answer for, many of the processes by which her empire has grown to its present dimensions will not bear scrutiny. But never yet did she send a naval squadron in time of absolute peace to invade the realm of a friendly Power and seize a portion of its territory

by way of preliminary to stating a grievance. We have persistently clung to the hope that no such sin could be laid to Germany's charge, but it appears now as though no ground for further doubt exists.

THE BELGIAN MINISTER.

We have much pleasure in being able to record the return of His Excellency Baron d'Anethan to Tokyo in completely restored health. When Baron d'Anethan left Japan last spring he was suffering from a malady which would probably have baffled medical diagnosis a few years ago. After the attack of typhoid fever by which the Baron was prostrated in the summer of 1896, a portion of the microbes retained their vitality and effected a lodgment in one of the ribs. Constant pain and other distressing symptoms ensued, and Drs. Baelz and Scriba, correctly diagnosing the cause of the trouble, performed an operation which, though affording temporary relief, did not effect a radical cure, and had to be repeated on a more extensive scale in Europe. The Paris experts found it necessary to remove the whole of one rib and a small portion of the breast bone, the latter, happily, being only slightly affected, though had the operation been delayed much longer, the sternum would have been involved beyond the possibility of surgical aid. Recovery proved extraordinarily quick owing to the patient's excellent constitution, and the Baron is now a hale and hearty man, to the great delight of his innumerable friends and the no small gain of his country.

MRS. CAHUSAC'S SCHOOL.

The Christmas breaking-up exercises of the Girls' High School, conducted by Mrs. Cahusac and her able assistants, took place on Saturday afternoon in Van Schaick Hall, before a considerable attendance of parents and friends. The stage was decorated with shrubs, flowers etc. and looked quite Christmas like. The Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, who presided, opened the proceedings with a few words of introduction and then the following programme was performed. Miss Leach playing the accompaniments to the vocal numbers and directing the calisthenics:

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

- 1.—Christmas Carol... "In the Field with their Flocks..." F. Farmer.
Chorus.
- 2.—German Song... "Die Lorelei"
Friedrich Tilcher.
1st and 2nd Classes.
- 3.—Calisthenics... "Dumb Bells"
3rd Division.
- 4.—French Song... "L'avril est là"
J. B. Wekerlin.
1st and 2nd Classes.
- 5.—Calisthenics... "Scarf Drill"
Senior Division.
- 6.—Song... "Good Morning Tommy Tomkins"
S. G. Pratt.
3rd and 4th Classes.
- 7.—French Action Song... "Ramenant les Moutons"
3rd and 4th Classes.
- 8.—Action Song... "Gipsy Song"
Emily B. Farmer.
1st and 2nd Classes.
- 9.—Calisthenics... "French Bar Bells"
Senior Division.
- 10.—Pianoforte Solo... "Gigue"
Miss Florence Wales.
- 11.—Action Song... "Fairies' Moonlight Song"
Emily B. Farmer.
3rd and 4th Classes.
- 12.—Calisthenics... "Rings"
Senior Division.

PART II.

TABLEAUX VIVANTS.

- I.—Cleopatra Miss Una Ackman.
Attendant..... Miss Violet Neville.
- II.—Mary Queen of Scots..... Miss Muriel Harrington.
Attendants { Miss Pauline Cleveland.
 Miss Marion Watson.
- III.—Queen Elizabeth Miss Florence Wales.
Sir Walter Raleigh..... Master George Neville.
Attendants { Miss Edith Wilson,
 Master Jimmy E-dale.
 Master Basil Cahusac.
- IV.—Boadicea..... Miss Una Brockelbank.
Show-Woman..... Miss E. Herb.
Chorus of Maids in Waiting.
Miss Hilda Watson. Miss Annie Bunting.
Miss Bessie Burns. Miss Ettie Kuhn.
Miss Vera Irwine. Miss Alice Mendelson.
Miss Gladys Howard. Miss Edith Bunting.
Miss Maydie Cahusac. Miss Edna Mendelson.
Miss Iris Irwine. Miss Bertie Cahusac.

IMPERIAL DIET.

ELECTION OF SECTIONAL CHIEFS.

The eleventh session of the Imperial Diet was called to order on the 21st instant. The number of members present in the House of Peers totalled 242 out of the 316 which compose the Chamber. The number present in the House of Representatives was 255, there being only 45 absentees. The sectional chiefs and vice-chairmen for the Upper House were elected by lot as follows:—

- 1st Section—
Chief Prince Tokugawa Iyesato.
Vice Mr. Nagayama Morihiro.
- 2nd Section—
Chief Viscount Uri Kimmasa.
Vice Baron Fumakoshi Yei.
- 3rd Section—
Chief Viscount Hayashi Tomoyuki.
Vice Mr. Itani Shigeakata.
- 4th Section—
Chief Baron Aoyama Tei.
Vice Baron Ozawa Takeo.
- 5th Section—
Chief Prince Nijo Motoshiro.
Vice Mr. Okabe Choshoku.
- 6th Section—
Chief Viscount Tani Kanjo.
Vice Viscount Soga Yujun.
- 7th Section—
Chief Viscount Ito Sukemaro.
Vice Viscount Kyogoku Takanori.
- 8th Section—
Chief Baron Honda Chikao.
Vice Mr. Matsuo Kozo.
- 9th Section—
Chief Marquis Godai Chujiun.
Vice Mr. Namura Taizo.

The chiefs and managers in the Lower House were elected as follows:—

- 1st Section—
Chief Mr. Takei Sozemon.
Manager..... Mr. Eto Shinzaku.
- 2nd Section—
Chief Mr. Suyeyoshi Takaharu.
Manager..... Mr. Ogino Rokuro.
- 3rd Section—
Chief Mr. Suzuki Shigetō.
Manager..... Mr. Kanaoka Mataemon.
- 4th Section—
Chief Mr. Tanikawa Takatada.
Manager..... Mr. Naohara Morijiro.
- 5th Section—
Chief Mr. Yoshitomi Kan-ichi.
Manager..... Mr. Rai Toshinao.
- 6th Section—
Chief Mr. Sato Shozo.
Manager..... Mr. Morimoto Hanasaburo.
- 7th Section—
Chief Mr. Wada Hikataro.
Manager..... Mr. Hamaguchi Kichieemon.
- 8th Section—
Chief Mr. Takemura Tobei.
Manager..... Mr. Takeuchi Toramatsu.
- 9th Section—
Chief Mr. Yoshida Rokuzai.
Manager..... Mr. Kawakita Kanshichi.

The clock which was actually made by the Royal hands of Louis XVI. came into the possession of a member of the Rothschild family two or three years ago. It is probably the most valuable clock in existence, its present owner having given no less than £33,600 for this remarkable timepiece.

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY.

THE members of the Asiatic Society present at its last meeting are said to have adopted a resolution—final or preliminary, we do not know which—in favour of winding up the affairs of the Society and dissolving it. The principal ground for such a proposal seems to be that contributions to the Transactions have not only become few, but have also ceased to be of a character likely to add much to the public's knowledge of Japan or to the Society's reputation as a learned association. It is not to be denied, of course, that the Transactions during recent times have contained little that is either particularly interesting or particularly novel. Neither can it be denied that materials for the compilation of essays are not within such easy reach as they used to be. We do not intend to suggest that materials are lacking, or even that they have become scarce. Twenty, or twice twenty, subjects could be catalogued, each worthy of study and each inviting investigation. But the standard of research has changed. There confront us, indeed, among the papers contributed to the Society in the past a number of monographs by men like SATOW, ASTON, CHAMBERLAIN, MCCLATCHIE, GUBBINS, WIGMORE, LLOYD, CONDER and others, which must always be regarded as models of scholarly research and analytical and synthetical skill. But side by side with these admirable essays we find a multitude of minor contributions which, though valuable and interesting enough in the times when every spark of information showed appreciably in the darkness that enveloped things Japanese, would now-a-days be counted far too trivial and superficial to deserve preservation in the records of a learned society. Every month, at the meetings of Japanese associations or in the pages of Japanese magazines papers are read or printed which reach a far higher level of scholarship than a majority of the fugitive researches appearing in the Transactions of the Asiatic Society, and it is natural that as this comparison grows more striking, there should grow up also a corresponding unwillingness to invite it. In short, the Asiatic Society no longer counts for so much, or anything like so much, as it formerly counted among exponents of Japanese ethics, traditions, literature and history, and one can easily sympathise with the conviction evinced by the voting at the last meeting, the conviction that having outlived its opportunities for being conspicuously useful, the Society had better be quietly laid away in its grave. It is to be hoped, however, that the resolution will be reconsidered. To dissolve the Society is one of the easiest possible undertakings; to resuscitate it, one of the most difficult. We need not dwell upon its claims to consideration as a venerable institution, bearing upon its roll of members many names

that will live in the history of the Far East; neither need we speak of the excellent work that it has accomplished in the part. No special account will be taken, perhaps, of that class of sentiment. Points possessing a greater claim to the attention of practical men are, in the first place, that the Society is financially vigorous; in the second, that a new era of usefulness may at any moment open for it, and, in the third, that its continued maintenance involves no serious outlay or trouble. If its affairs threatened to fall into a state of pecuniary embarrassment, or if its membership were gradually dwindling, there might be reason to adopt some timely and drastic course. But it enjoys a good income and is in possession of a considerable accumulation of money. Why proceed hastily to its destruction? The dearth of valuable essays may be only temporary. It does not appear that the German Asiatic Society is much better supplied at present, yet nothing is heard of its dissolution, and a comparative want of tenacity is not the kind of trait that an Anglo-Saxon institution might be expected to display. We are persuaded that the life members, of whom there are a good many, would vote unanimously against burying the Society, and it must be remembered that the life members have a paramount right to be consulted. The case seems to be one calling eminently for a little trust in time.

LAND TENURE BY FOREIGNERS.

IT seems to be the fate of some questions that present themselves for discussion in Japan to be tossed backwards and forwards between controversialists until they lose their original shape altogether and become wholly transformed issues. The problem of land tenure by foreigners under the Revised Treaties is an illustration. Nothing could possibly be simpler than the question as it presents itself for practical solution. The third article of the Revised Treaty provides that British subjects in Japan "may lease land for residential and commercial purposes, conforming themselves to the laws, police, and customs regulations of the country like native subjects." In other words, British subjects will be entitled to lease land according to the provisions of Japanese law. What, then, are those provisions? They are that land may be leased for a fixed period, the length of which is determinable by the lessor and the lessee and can not be subsequently altered by the Law Courts; or that it may be leased for an indefinite period, in which case the assistance of the Law Courts may subsequently be invoked by lessor or lessee to make the period finite. Nothing could be simpler. To reduce the matter to concrete terms—a British subject will be competent to lease land for any term of years to which the lessor agrees, and will enjoy absolute

security of tenure during that term. It may be a term of ten years or it may be a term of a hundred years: the law imposes no limit. Practically speaking, that is the only privilege with which the foreigner has any concern. It is necessary that he should understand the contingencies to which he exposes himself if he rents land for an indefinite term, and we have consequently explained in the clearest manner what those contingencies are. Business men, however, are not likely to conclude indefinite contracts. They will want to know exactly what is before them, especially if they contemplate the erection of buildings on the rented land; and they will therefore sign leases for a fixed term. The one point of importance is whether they can obtain a long enough term, and since the Civil Code contains no restriction whatever in that respect, it follows that the lease may run for whatever length of years the contracting parties agree to fix.

It ought to be impossible to obscure so clear an issue, however facts be perverted or arguments misconstrued. Yet it has been obscured and bewilderingly obscured. An inexplicable difficulty seems to be caused, for example, by the word "superficiary" which appears in the Japanese Code. The *Kobe Chronicle* writes about a superficiary thus:—

A "superficiary," as has been already explained, is a person who has acquired somehow or other a title to occupy and use the land of another, for the purpose of erecting buildings or planting trees on it, and who, having thus improved the property, wakes up some fine morning with the brilliant idea that he would like a lease. Thereupon he applies to a law court to have his period of occupation "limited," and the court, on receipt of such application, is competent to fix the period at "not less than twenty years and not more than fifty," or presumably it may reject the application altogether. When dealing with this remarkable doctrine on a previous occasion, we suggested that any man who erected buildings and planted trees on land before acquiring a legal title to it, duly signed, sealed and registered, would be displaying sufficient eccentricity to warrant his being placed in charge of his friends. It is simply absurd to put forward such a contention as affecting the argument one way or the other. No tenant is likely to place himself in the power of his landlord by undertaking improvements or constructive work before the conditions and terms upon which the ground is held have been decided.

It is indeed absurd to put forward such a contention. There we are entirely at one with our Kobe contemporary. But the absurdity is due solely to the *Chronicle's* amusing obtuseness. We are bound to assume ordinary intelligence on the part of a journalist, but the inevitable consequence of such an assumption in this case is distinctly unpleasant. The foreigner who "acquires some how or other a title to occupy and use the land of another," and who having occupied and used it for a time, "wakes up some fine morning with the brilliant idea that he would like a lease," is one of the quaintest fictions that a perplexed controversialist ever devised to cover his discomfiture. Of course the *Kobe Chronicle* knows perfectly well that a "superficiary" is a lessee; a person who has acquired, not "some how

or other," but by duly concluded and registered lease, a right to occupy and use the land of another. If his lease is for a fixed term of years, his waking thoughts need never be illumined by any "bright idea" of the kind invented by our imaginative contemporary; if it be for an indefinite period, he may indeed be disturbed from time to time by thoughts of his own improvidence. The *Kobe Chronicle* professes to believe that the possibility of concluding leases for an indefinite period is put forward by us as a point of "immense practical importance." That is mere persiflage; wearisome persiflage. The possibility of concluding a lease for a definite period, amply long enough to justify any kind of building or planting operations, is the point upon which we have always insisted as practically important.

Another singular difficulty relates to the provisions of the Revised Treaty. We recently stated that "if the Revised Treaty secures certain privileges to foreigners, and if the local authorities attempt to interfere with the enjoyment of those privileges, there will be a simple and certain method of correcting the abuse." Our contemporary replies that the Revised Treaty gives no privilege whatever in the matter of leases to foreigners. We suggest that if the *Kobe Chronicle's* memory were strong enough to recall the sequence of its own arguments, a misunderstanding of this nature would not occur. Its original contention was that any liberty of contract granted by law might be rendered illusory by secret instructions from the Japanese Government to the Local Authorities, without whose coöperation a lease can not be registered. Our answer was that the representatives of each nationality could prevent any such abuses. Thereupon the *Kobe Chronicle* retorts that the Treaties give no privilege whatever. Of course they do give a privilege. They give the privilege of leasing land subject to the provisions of Japanese law. The *Kobe Chronicle* is apparently incapable of perceiving that its own apprehension lest the Japanese Government should go behind the law would be absolutely meaningless unless the Treaty secured to foreigners the rights established by the law.

Concerning the general question of obtaining some further guarantee from the Japanese Government as to the tenure of land by foreigners, we fear that the attempt would be futile. That foreigners should be placed on precisely the same footing as native subjects in this matter, namely, that they should be allowed to own land as well as to lease it, would be a wise and most desirable extension of the Treaties. Japan is blind to her own interest when she withholds that privilege. But it is one thing to ask her to extend

the scope of the Treaties so as to secure to foreigners all the rights created by her laws; it is another and a very different thing to ask her to specially exempt foreigners from the purview of her laws. This second proposition would be contrary to the spirit by which she has been animated in all her efforts to revise the Treaties, and would be contrary to the spirit of the Revised Treaties themselves. She would feel compelled to answer that her laws are the only security she can offer, and that no diplomatic pledge is necessary to guarantee their impartial administration. If there be any uncertainty about the exact nature of the privileges that the Civil Code confers in the matter of land leasing, we presume that steps will be taken diplomatically to place the question beyond the reach of doubt. But for the rest we do not see that anything can be judiciously attempted until the light now breaking upon Japan becomes strong enough to enable her to decipher her true interests between the lines of her injurious prejudices.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF JAPAN.

The annual communication of the District Grand Lodge of Japan was held at the Masonic Temple, Main Street, Yokohama, on Monday evening under the presidency of the Right Worshipful the District Grand Master of Japan, Bro. William Henry Stone. There was a very large gathering of the Brethren. After the usual business had been transacted, the D. G. M. invested his officers for the year as follow:—

Wor. Bro. T. C. Thornicraft, M.D.	D.D.G.M.
Alt. Woolley, W.M., 1092	D.S.G.W.
D. McDonald, M.D., W.M.,	
2015	D.J.G.W.
Rev. E. Champneys Irwin,	
M.A.	D.G. Chap.
Geo. Hodges	D.G. Treas.
P. M. Skinner, W.M., 1401	D.G. Reg.
H. Moss	Pres. D.B. of G.P.
C. D. Moss	V. Pres. do
H. J. Sharp	do do
O. Keil	D.G. Sec.
A. Bellamy Brown, W.M.	
1263	D.S.G.D.
Bro. E. L. James	D.J.G.D.
L. Ph. von Hemert	D.G. Supt. of W.
W. M. Wentworth	D.G.D. of C.
P. Launay	D.G.S.B.
H. J. H. Grumble	D.G. Org.
Rev. W. J. White	D.G. Pitt.
F. J. Lias, 1092	D.G. Steward
F. W. Thomas, 1263	D.G. Steward
V. E. Abraham, 1401	D.G. Steward
J. H. Curtis, 2015	D.G. Steward

A banquet followed, at which the Rt. Wor. D. G. M. Bro. Stone took the chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toast were all duly honoured.

ACCIDENT TO A P. & O. COM-MANDER.

A nasty accident happened at the pier on Tuesday afternoon whereby Captain Pollock, of the P. & O. intermediate steamer *Malacca*, received serious injury. He was engaged watching from the pier the discharge of some iron rails when a sling broke and the loose steel wire end swung round catching Captain Pollock on the thigh. The force of the blow was so severe that the Commander fell down unconscious. He was picked up and conveyed to the General Hospital where he still remains. The *Malacca* left harbour this morning on its homeward voyage in charge of the chief officer.

JAPANESE FACTS AND COMMENTS.

According to the *Tokyo Shimbun*, recent arrivals of snake gourds in Yokohama amounted to 800,000 pieces, but as no orders have been received from abroad the trade is absolutely dead; a most unprecedented state of affairs.

According to investigations completed by the Finance Department and published in the *Mainichi*, the exports and imports of bullion during November were as follow:—export of gold, 4,220,846 yen; import, 106,511 yen; export of silver, 729,661 yen; import, 1,349,074 yen; total export, 4,950,507 yen; import, 1,455,586 yen. Thus an excess of 3,494,920 yen in exports over imports is noticeable.

The amount of convertible notes issued above legal limits on the 13th inst. did not exceed 26 million yen, asserts the *Fiji Shimpō*. On the 16th instant, however, it swelled to 27,300,000 yen. No serious changes will occur during this week in spite of the end of the year being at hand, but it seems probable that a sudden increase will be noticeable by the 22nd or 23rd instant. Thirty-five millions will, it is supposed, prove hardly sufficient to meet the demand at the end of the year.

Now that the year is almost at its close, serious pressure is felt in the money market. It is probably owing to this that an enormous amount of public loan bonds were offered for sale during the past few days. On the 15th inst. Consols were quoted at 92.80 yen and War Bonds at 93 yen. Yet they failed to find buyers, and in the afternoon quotations fell suddenly to 92.50 yen and 92.60 yen respectively. Such depreciation has never been experienced, alleges the *Hochi*, since the 23rd year of Meiji.

The capital of the Agricultural and Industrial Bank subscribed by various Tokyo banks amounts to the following figures:—Mitsui Bank, 16,872 shares; Ome Bank, 10,315 shares; 78th National Bank, 5,412 shares; Kiobashi Bank, 4,773 shares; Mansei, 3,002; Shinagawa, 2,840; 3rd National Bank, 2,494; Tokyo branch of the 78th National Bank, 1,735; Shitaya, 1,456; Kojimachi, 1,446; Agricultural and Commercial Bank, 1,253; 1st National Bank, 1,253; Commercial and Industrial Bank, 520.

The Government's project of issuing small loan bonds from five to twenty yen has attracted public attention for the moment, asserts the *Chuo*. The amount to be issued is 50 million yen. The scheme can only be rendered successful through the coöperation of the various banks. Bankers, however, have begun to urge that as the project is calculated to impede the development of their savings deposit business they ought to oppose it. Arguments to that effect have, it is said, been received by the Finance Department from all parts of the empire.

Commenting upon the advisability of dissolving the Industrial Bank, the *Forodsu* says that while the Bank is provided with a capital of 2,500,000 yen, loans issued by it do not exceed 450,000 yen, the balance being deposited with the Bank of Japan at three per cent interest. It would have been far better if the Bank had not existed at all. Having been proven detrimental to the public interest, resolute steps should be taken to dissolve the institution. Should any circumstances exist by which dissolution cannot be carried out, then measures might be adopted for effecting the amalgamation of the Bank with the Nippon Ginko, so that profits might be shared with the latter and the Government's protection abolished. Such a scheme would secure advantages both for the Government and the Bank.

Owing to the continued rains of last summer and the scarcity of mulberry leaves, the rearing of silkworms in Kanagawa prefecture this year has been unsatisfactory. Yet, compared with the previous year, no great difference is observable, for the autumn moths have turned out splendidly. The prevalence of dysentery having decreased the number of producers, a reduction

of 994 *koku* in the amount of cocoons as compared with the previous year is noticeable. Below are the details:—

	Summer. koku.	Autumn. koku.
Cocoons	751	3,318
Pierced cocoons.....	11	39
Tama	102	452
Waste cocoons	88	406
Total—summer cocoons, 952 <i>koku</i> ; autumn cocoons, 4,215 <i>koku</i> .		

The *Hochi* states that the shares of the Bank of Japan which till recently were quoted at 360 or 370 *yen* have suddenly risen to 380 *yen*, and even at this high rate are not easily procurable. While other shares and public bonds have shown a downward tendency, the shares of the Nippon Ginko alone are steadily increasing in value. Surely there must be some reason for this anomaly. The recent fluctuations in silver appear to have enabled the Bank to realize a profit of 7,300,000 or 7,600,000 *yen* on its specie reserve, and this amount is to be taken into the profits and may be distributed among shareholders as a special dividend at the general meeting to be held in February next. The Nippon Ginko's shares are of 300 *yen* face value, of which 150 *yen* are paid up. It is proposed that the balance of 50 *yen* which still remain unpaid should now be paid-up out of the extra profits above referred to.

The price of commodities has begun to show a downward tendency, but, says the *Foros*, we have scarcely any reason for congratulation. We take it only as a happy phenomenon when depreciation of commodities is secured as the result of a falling-off in the rates of interest and in the expenses of productive industry. At present the scale of interest rises daily while industrial expenses are in no way decreased. Yet products obtained by means of capital paying high interest and high industrial expenses already begin to fall in price. Nothing can be more anomalous than such a state of affairs. The present depreciation of commodities seems to have resulted, not from development of economic affairs, but from the serious embarrassment of the financial community. The disorganization of finance is at its climax and threatens the whole empire. These and these alone are the direct causes for depreciation. The fall in prices of commodities therefore must be regarded as a matter of regret rather than of congratulation.

A report from Consul Uchida in New York as published in the *Mainichi*, gives the details of the import of silk into America for one year ended June last, as follow:—

From	Account. Bales.	Value
Europe (European production).....	5,030	3,856,318
Europe (other than European production).....	258	888,195
Hongkong	5,336	1,221,661
Shanghai.....	10,520	4,008,702
Japan	24,771	10,368,583

Total.....46,501 19,833,686
It will be seen that Japan supplies America with 53.3 per cent. of its silk; Shanghai with 22.6 per cent., Hongkong with 11.5 per cent., and Europe with 12.6 per cent. Japan therefore takes up more than one-half of the total import of silk to America, China supplying only one-third, and one-tenth is provided by France, Italy, and other European countries. From these facts it is plain that Japanese silk ought to have a great future in America. But it must be remembered that the favour enjoyed by Japanese silk there does not arise from superiority of quality, but from cheapness. Under these circumstances anxiety is entertained by many sericulturists on the ground that failure to improve the quality will be surely attended with serious results.

The clamours raised by the public against the scarcity of capital do not, asserts the *Tokyo Asahi*, necessarily imply a scarcity of funds, but rather represent public want of confidence in banking methods. This so-called deficiency of capital is not a problem that has arisen for the first time to-day. It existed when extravagant

expansion became the order of procedure in both government and private undertakings after the war with China. Notwithstanding the fact that the people contributed 200 million *yen* in the form of War bonds, their aggregate capital invested after the war in connection with railways, companies, banks, and other undertakings swelled from 300 million *yen* to 1,400 millions. Such an increase being virtually five-fold, the amount of notes and coins put into circulation ought to have been doubled at least. But that was not the case. That the economic world has been able to continue operations up to the present without serious difficulty is owing to the enforcement of the system of promissory notes. In short, the financial administration of the country from the outset stood on a speculative basis. Any excesses indulged in under this system were therefore bound to impair credit and produce a panic, and its consequences are now being felt all through the financial community. To talk of a deficiency of capital in utter disregard of the loss of credit and to endeavour to promote speculative enterprises are motives to be condemned as being the outcome of pure selfishness.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A steel steamer of 6,150 tons, with 3,500 horse power, which is being built at the Mitsu Bishi shipbuilding yard at Nagasaki, has been granted a certificate entitling the owners to receive a subsidy in accordance with the Shipbuilding Encouragement Law.

The *Yushin Nippo* states that Majima Shōtarō (an ex-clerk in the Kobe Custom-house), one of the prisoners arrested in connection with the Custom-house scandal, died on the night of the 14th inst., in prison, from an affection of the lungs.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

Mrs. Barnabas Brough, the novelist, mother of the well-known actor, Lionel Brough, died in London on Nov. 24th in her 95th year. Her husband was a dramatic author and all the members of the family have displayed a marked literary or histrionic aptitude.

A series of violent collisions occurred at Antwerp on the evening of 6th November between a number of sailors of the Japanese vessel *Tosa Maru* and the Antwerp police. The sailors were in the end driven back to their ship, but the police were compelled to use their arms, and two of the Japanese were wounded and taken to hospital.

We learn that an examination of the bottom of the N.Y.K. steamer *Kinshiu Maru* made by the Company's diver, shows that damage was done by the recent collision, under water, from the water line to the first plate above the keel. None of the plates under water have been actually fractured, but they are dented, and the rivets broken or started.

The details of the recent Congo massacre show that the Belgians had a very bad time for a while. A priest was captured and stripped of his clothes, but afterwards the native gave him a tusk of ivory and let him go. Doubtless he was glad; but a tusk of ivory is a poor substitute for trousers on return to civilisation. Baron Dhanis himself fared scarcely better, for he escaped in his shirt. For a time, indeed, remarks the *Globe*, the Belgians may be said to have experienced all the naked horrors of war.

Another American press yarn is authoritatively knocked on the head, though it is an open question whether the story will die the death it should. It relates to the alleged discovery in the Vatican of Pilate's report to Tiberius on the crucifixion of Christ. Upon the tale reaching Rome, Father Denifle, Director of the Papal Archives, said, "Such a find is utterly impossible. The oldest manuscript in these archives does not date back so far." Father Ehrle, Perfect of the Apostolic Library of the Vatican, said:—"The Vatican library has been overhauled frequently. No manuscript is older than the third century.

Several copies of two apocryphal (spurious or of doubtful authenticity) documents from Pilate to Tiberius exist, the chief versions of which have been published by Fieschendorf."

West Londoners are nearly all living in flats nowadays, remarks a home paper, and this no doubt explains the rapidly growing custom of taking the principal meals at a restaurant. Small flats are not particularly convenient for cooking, and young married couples, women living together, and sometimes whole families, are to be met evening after evening in the restaurants round Oxford Street and the Edgware Road.

On Saturday night, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, a jinrikisha coming wildly down the hill with an *alo-oshi* riding in the vehicle, collided violently with another jinrikisha in which Mr. Ch. Braess was riding. Mr. Braess was thrown violently out of the vehicle, but fortunately, though badly bruised, he escaped without injury of a serious nature. The man who was in the shafts of the other jinrikisha had to be removed to hospital.

Admiral Thomas Massie, who succeeded Sir Provo Wallis as Father of the Fleet, is a hale and active man of 95, full of stirring memories, and "ready," as he avers, "to go to sea again, if his country wants him." He was born three years before Trafalgar, and has vivid memory of the Waterloo rejoicings. He joined the service as a midshipman in 1818, and took part in the battle of Navarino. He reached flag rank before leaving the navy at the age of 58. Admiral Massie is a well known and revered figure at Chester, where he takes his walks abroad daily with the regularity of clockwork.

Two Japanese boatmen were arrested on the 15th inst. at Inasa, Nagasaki, by the police on suspicion of being concerned in the murder of Frank Epps, late apprentice on the U.S. Flag-ship *Olympia*. It now appears, says the *Nagasaki Press*, that the deceased paid a visit to Inasa on Sunday evening, and on returning engaged a sampan from that village to convey him to his vessel. This information was notified to the Police on Wednesday morning, who till then had been prosecuting their inquiries among the boatmen on this side of the harbour. Inquiries were at once instituted at Inasa, with the result as above stated.

Among old Japan hands present at the China Association dinner held at the Hotel Metropole on 4th November, we notice the names of Mr. J. Rickett, Mr. Jas. Dodds, Mr. A. Winstanley, Mr. W. M. Stuchan, Mr. Heimann, Mr. G. T. How, Mr. F. D'Iffanger, and Mr. A. J. H. Carllill. The Chairman was Mr. William Keswick, of whom it was remarked:—"Mr. Keswick's experience of Shanghai and Hongkong goes back to the back of beyond, if we take 'beyond' to mean the Treaty of Tientsin. It goes back, in Japan, to the days when the foreshore of Yokohama was bare, save for fishermen's huts. There are, on the committee, other men of great experience, but none, we believe, who go back so far as he. And the younger men who are now in China, pushing forward the work which these began, will be the first, we are sure, to recognise the value of the knowledge which such experience implies. Historical knowledge tends to simplify many problems which appear hopeless when no such solvent is at hand.

A daring raid on a South African bank is reported in a dispatch from Cape Town to *The Times* under date of November 27th. The bank in question is known as the Standard, and is situated at Claremont, a suburb of Cape Town. A masked man entered the counting-room of the bank, locked the door, and by some unknown means broke the neck of the cashier, though no marks of violence could be found on the body. When the manager of the bank appeared the robber shot and wounded him slightly. The police then rushed in and the robber, seeing that all chance of escape was gone, shot himself dead.

Some time ago an officer of artillery called upon Sir John Adye at Simla for a certificate of

his being alive, as without this he had found it impossible to draw some pay and allowances due to him. As he seemed to all intents and purposes lively enough he got what he wanted, but on examining the document he remarked: "Oh, I see you have dated it August. This is no use. I have already sent them in one of this kind, but they say they must have a certificate stating that I was alive in July." This, of course, was a different matter, and demanded circumspection. However, after consideration, Sir John gave him a paper, in which he certified that to the best of his belief the officer was alive in the previous month. Surely this is red-tapeism in excelsis!

The three following items of news are taken from Australian papers with the headings originally given them:—

WHAT A JAW!

Auckland, November 11.—The New Zealand House of Representatives sat continuously for thirty-three hours discussing the Estimates.

MAKING SURE!

Brisbane, November 18.—A miner named Thomas White has committed suicide at Georgetown by blowing his head off with a dynamite charge.

GOOD OLD BRUMMAGEN!

London, November 17.—It has transpired that certain gunmakers in Birmingham have been supplying large quantities of arms to the tribesmen on the Indian frontier.

For some years past the senior bishopric in Japan has been a source of considerable uneasiness to the Church Missionary Society, remarks a London journal. On the formation of the bishopric in 1883 the Society agreed to pay £500 per annum towards the Bishop's stipend, and so long as the first Bishop (Dr. Pool) lived all went well. But he was succeeded by Dr. Edward Bickersteth, whose theological position was not altogether that of the Society, and the more extreme of its friends clamored for a withdrawal of the grant. In common fairness, however, the Society would not yield to the demand, though it was repeatedly pressed upon it. Now, however, it is determined to make a stand. Bishop Bickersteth has been succeeded by Bishop Awdry, a staunch High Churchman, and the Committee have passed a resolution that "they cannot enter into an agreement for a contribution by the Society towards the maintenance of the bishopric in South Tokyo."

Dr. Albert S. Ashmead, of New York, says there are lepers in that city "very close to the Four Hundred." He alleges that leprosy is not due to filth, and points out that leprosy spreads in Japan where the commonest coolie takes his daily bath. He contends that it is contagious and not hereditary, and alleges that isolation and sanitary government of the leper's family (including abstinence from the common spoon and bowl, same beds, and absolute separation from bodily contact of children and grandchildren from leprosy father or mother and grandparents) have prevented the transmission of the disease to children or grandchildren. He adds, however, that "it is spread by the contact of the mucus of the mouth, for instance, bacillus charged with the same spoon. The bacillus cares not either for filth or cleanliness; he wants only an entrance through broken skin or mucus."

We take the following details in regard to Sir Edwin Arnold's recent marriage to the Japanese lady, Mrs. Watanabe, from *The Home Journal*:—"The poet-journalist first met his present wife, his third, in Yokohama, in 1891, when he visited Japan with his daughter Edith. He was already, in a dilettante way, a believer in the mysteries and beauties of Buddhism. One morning Miss Edith Arnold went to the Legation in great distress. She said that her father had gone crazy. He claimed to have married the pretty widow of Colonel Watanabe, of the Japanese army, but, so far as she could discover, no ceremony had been performed, which shocked her European ideas greatly. Mr. John F. Swift, the U.S. Minister, called on

Arnold, who introduced him to his bride, and explained that they had been married by the Japanese method of drinking a cup of tea together. "It is the custom of the country, and will be as binding on me as would a pompous ceremony in a cathedral," said the poet, whereat his daughter and friends had to be satisfied."

Very many people in Kobe, remarks the *Chronicle*, will regret to hear that Mr. Egawa, the Superintendent of the Kobe Customs, has sent in his resignation because of the recent scandals, and that his resignation has been accepted. Mr. Egawa has been Superintendent for more than fifteen years, and foreigners whose business has brought them into contact with him have always found Mr. Egawa a courteous and obliging official. Mr. Minakami Hiromi, a revenue inspector in the Finance Department, has been appointed to the position, but until his arrival Mr. Yamaoka Gigo, the appraiser, will perform the duties of Superintendent. Two Chinamen, named Kyu Kai so and Cho Jo-sho, who were living at No. 27, Kaigan-dori, Kobe, and an ex-tidewater named Fukui Suteichi, were arrested on Thursday in connection with the Custom-house scandal.

A distressing fatality is recorded in a telegram appearing in the American papers that came to hand on Saturday. The dispatch is dated London, Nov. 23, and reads:—"The Countess of Lathom, while returning from a shooting party to-day, was thrown out of a trap and killed near Wigan, Lancashire. The Countess was formerly Lady Alice Villiers, second daughter of the fourth Earl of Clarendon. She was married to the Earl of Lathom in 1860. They had four children, two sons and two daughters. The eldest son is Lord Skelmersdale. The Earl of Lathom is the Lord Chamberlain of the Household of Queen Victoria; English Freemasons need no reminder of the exalted position Lord Lathom holds in the craft, being next to the Prince of Wales."

CORRESPONDENCE.

MISSIONARY BOOK-KEEPING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—To what extent the public might sympathize with the criticism of Rev. W. E. Hoy in the *Daily Mail* of Dec. 2nd, we of the Mission to which he belongs could not judge; but we have lately been aroused to a sense of the mischief that may be done by a few misleading turns of expression in that article. One sentence reads:—"Last year, however, before leaving for America, he [Mr. Hoy] had to hand over his books and affairs to the Rev. S. S. Snyder and it became necessary to inform the latter of what had happened." It was, by the way, not last year, but just three years ago; and it was not Rev. S. S. Snyder, but Rev. D. B. Schneider, who served as Mr. Hoy's substitute while he was in America; and Mr. Hoy is still, as he always has been, the trusted Treasurer of our Mission. But it is the mere imagination of the writer that is responsible for the assertion that "it became necessary to inform." The books were all in order and Mr. Hoy was free to tell or not to tell. His motives were those of a friend and entirely personal. If he had no other motive, it was his plain duty to warn his successor. In fact three men did later make a similar attempt on Mr. Schneider. Of this the police were duly informed.

After the robbery, Mr. Hoy had at once on his own credit here, but mostly on the security of relatives possessing means in America, borrowed money to make up the loss, of course securing his family by having his life insured. So he made the loss a personal one. To be sure, the Missionaries that can take up such a burden are not numerous. But the fact is that Mr. Hoy could and did. At the end of the fiscal year the books were audited regularly and a financial report returned to America as usual; what Mr. Hoy was doing with his personal means was none of the Mission's business.

The minutes of the Mission in the handwriting of Mr. Schneider testify that in April, 1891, he, as one of the auditors, examined the Treasurer's Annual Report and found it correct. He likewise audited the Financial Report of the Committee that erected the building for the Tohoku Gakuin, and a special meeting of the Mission was called to ratify it in October of the same year. Mr. Schneider is

now in America, and his address is Reading, Pa. The Treasurer of the Board in America, is Joseph L. Lemberger, of Lebanon, Pa., a man of affairs who would never tolerate slovenly book-keeping. The mission would be most happy if some one really interested in the financial honour of the missionaries would take the pains to ascertain from these gentlemen the facts, and have our books in Sendai investigated, which might easily be done through a committee of residents. We should consider it a favour. It is this very lesson of the necessity of strict book-keeping that we have been continually urging on the Japanese Christians with whom we are associated, and it is for their sakes also that we wish all doubt of our financial integrity removed.

But Mr. Hoy is more than our treasurer, he is a beloved brother. And now that we have been constrained to speak of his official relation to our mission, we cannot stop at that. As Treasurer he has been above reproach. As an individual, his action may be praised or blamed. It is difficult for any one to understand the motives that impelled him to such a strange sacrifice, and impossible for another to judge what was his duty under the circumstances. His whole life has been a preparation for that decision. It is his experience that gave him courage to dare what most men would not have dreamed of doing. One who knows the wonder which he (and, in justice let it be added, his family) accomplished in the way of economy and self-denial before ever the robbery occurred, is not so much surprised that he decided as he did. And it is only necessary to know the circumstances under which that money had been raised in America, the opposition in the Church to Mr. Hoy's policy of establishing an educational plant in Sendai, and the fiery zeal with which he overcame that opposition, then one can begin to understand how he felt that he dared not either give up his project or ask the Church for that money a second time. Once resolved to make the loss a personal one, he had no choice but to keep it a strict secret. We who know Mr. Hoy honour him because he did what he believed to be his duty. Let those who are capable of a similar sacrifice for duty's sake reproach him.

For the Mission of the REFORMED CHURCH in the U.S.,

CHRISTOPHER NOSS, Secretary.

Sendai, 16th Dec., 1897.

THE NAGOYA YORO IN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Would you kindly allow me space for a few lines about the above-named "Home for Destitute Children and Aged People," which was begun shortly after the great earthquake of Oct. 28, 1891?

At that time you were good enough to publish a letter, from the late Rt. Rev. Bishop Bickersteth, describing the sad state in which I found many of the poor people. As a result of this letter I almost immediately received a sufficient amount of money to enable me to rent a house and take in about a dozen of the most helpless cases. A year later I found myself in possession of sufficient funds to buy a plot of three hundred *tsubo* and build a house to accommodate about thirty people. The work thus begun has gone on steadily, and, for some time past, the building has been quite full. The first person admitted—a great grand-mother, then eighty-four years of age—and two old men admitted soon afterwards, are still with us, but the character of the inmates, as a whole, has changed considerably. At first they were nearly all aged people, while now the most of them are boys, the numbers being ten of the former and twenty-one of the latter. The maintenance of this rather large family has been provided for, almost entirely, by voluntary subscriptions from foreigners in Japan and other friends in Canada, England, and the United States. No appeal for funds has ever been made, with the exception of the late lamented Bishop's letter above mentioned, and all real needs have been supplied. The plan followed from the beginning has been to give full information as to how the Home is being conducted by means of an Annual Report, and to go straight to Him whose is the silver and the gold for all that is required. During the past year, owing to the great rise in prices and an increased number of hungry boys, the expenses of the Home have been larger than ever before. We began the year with but a small balance and we shall close it apparently with about the same amount in hand. The treasury has never been very full and never quite empty. The funds are disbursed only by myself and the Home is entirely under my own direction. The larger part of the funds comes from persons to whom I am personally known, but,

occasionally, nice little sums are received from persons with whom I have had no previous acquaintance. These are very pleasant surprises and often come in most opportunely. Let me just mention one of them.

A few days ago I received a letter from Yokohama, enclosing a cheque for yen 79.25, with the information that it was the result of a "Fair" held at the end of last month "by four girls." I am not informed as to what the "Fair" was like but suppose that these four girls, with the permission and assistance of their parents, provided some kind of an interesting evening or afternoon for their friends who assisted in making up this nice sum. I beg therefore, in this way, to thank most heartily all who assisted them, and especially the "four girls" themselves, for their very kind help. Let me add that if any of these, or other friends, should be passing through Nagoya with time or inclination to see for themselves what the Yoro-In is like, I should be most happy to afford them an opportunity of doing so. They would find some of the old men sweeping up the pebbles or making straw sandals; the women, cooking, washing, or making and mending clothes under the direction of a matron. From 9 a.m. till noon the boys are in the school room, with some other poor children from the neighbourhood, and in the afternoon from 1 till 5 o'clock they are to be found in the work room learning to make and paint porcelain and other earthenware. This work was only begun about a year and a half ago but one boy has already become proficient enough at it to earn enough to pay for his board and we hope to have others in a similar position before long.

Yours,
J. COOPER ROBINSON.
Nagoya, Dec. 16 1897.

THE CLUB HOTEL, LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the Hotel on Monday afternoon to consider and sanction a scheme for the improvement of the building of the Club Hotel, at No. 5-8, Yokohama, by adding thereto eight rooms and making other improvements to the buildings, and to consider and sanction the increase of the capital of the Company by the issue of two hundred and fifty additional shares of one hundred dollars each and to sanction the allotment of such shares to Shareholders of the Company in proportion to the number of shares held by each Shareholder on the 30th November, 1897.

Mr. Litchfield presided and there were present Messrs. H. C. Pigott, S. Thompson and R. Ward, Directors, and Messrs. M. Russell, E. Jones, Cummins, Bennett, Dare, G. Booth, Robinson, C. D. Moss, J. W. Hall, and C. Fearon, Secretary.

The Chairman read the notice convening the meeting and stated that the scheme for the improvement of the hotel was to construct in the rear of the premises, where the lavatories now were, a three storied structure, with improved accommodation on the ground floor, and above this two storeys for bed rooms and chambers. This would give them eight extra bed rooms. He considered that in justice to their manager, with whom they had entered into a new agreement, they were bound to allow him every chance to do his best for the shareholders. The estimated cost of the new structure was 8,200 yen, and for gas, hot water, etc., 350 and 1,500 yen—in all about \$10,000 for the new quarters. If they could not enlarge the present building they must make it lighter and cleaner, and it was proposed to make a skylight above the hall, the cost of which would be \$13,000, or allowing for something over the estimate, say \$15,000 at the outside. In addition to this they required something for furniture for the 8 new bed rooms, say \$200 or \$250 per room, including bed linen. It was also suggested that when these repairs had been effected it would be advisable to obtain a new steam launch. To carry out this scheme the Directors brought before the meeting the proposal to increase the capital, which they were empowered to do by the articles of association. With regard to the mode of allotment proposed it was not essential to carry it out exactly as proposed, provided the principle laid down was adhered to; the other parts of the resolutions spoke for themselves.

Mr. PIGOTT proposed the adoption of the first resolution, which was—"That the plans and estimates laid before this meeting are approved and the directors authorized to carry out the construction of the new building in accordance with the same."

Mr. HALL seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. BENNETT asked how long it would take to

carry out the proposed changes, and Mr. PIGOTT replied, about two and a half months.

Mr. PIGOTT then put the second resolution, which was as follows, to the meeting:—

II. (a).—That under the powers conferred by the Memorandum and Articles of Association the capital of the Company be increased by the issue of two hundred and fifty New Shares of \$100 each paid up in full, in addition to the sixteen hundred like shares already existing.

(b).—Such new shares shall rank for dividend as and from the 1st day of April, 1898.

(c).—Such new shares shall be offered to the shareholders on the register on the 30th day of November, 1897, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Directors shall determine, in the proportion of one new share for every six existing shares held by them, and such offer shall be made by notice to be issued not later than the 31st day of December, 1897, specifying the number of the new shares to which the Shareholder is entitled and the rate of issue of such shares, and stating that the offer will be deemed to be declined unless an acceptance of such offer in writing is delivered to the Secretary of the Company or to the Company's Bankers, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, at Yokohama, on or before the 15th day January, 1898, together with such sum per share for each new share so accepted as the Board shall determine.

(d).—Upon acceptance and payment within the time above-mentioned the Shares so accepted and paid for shall be allotted accordingly.

(e).—After the 31st day of March, 1898, any Shares not then accepted and paid for shall be disposed of by the Directors either to Shareholders or two others as they may deem advisable at the best price obtainable therefor, not less than the nominal value thereof, and any premium obtained thereon shall be dealt with by the Board in their discretion.

In reply to a question, Mr. PIGOTT said none of the new shares would be offered to non-shareholders. They would all be taken up by shareholders at par. There would be none left over.

Mr. BENNETT seconded Mr. PIGOTT's second resolution and it was carried *nem con*.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. Booth, brought the proceedings to a close.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of members of the Nippon Race Club was held at Keil's Building on Wednesday afternoon, the President, Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., being in the Chair. There were also present, Dr. Wheeler, Vice President, Messrs. Gerard Lowder, W. W. Till, Tom. Thomas, W. F. Mitchell, V. Blad, S. Isaacs, A. C. Read, H. Blum, E. Knaff, A. Dumelin, W. R. Bennett, M. R. H. Harris, and H. Tennant, Secretary.

At five minutes past four o'clock the CHAIRMAN rose and said—Punctuality, gentlemen, is the soul of business, and I think that we should proceed to the business before us, without waiting longer for the attendance of members still absent. The first thing upon the agenda is to read and confirm the minutes of the last annual general meeting, but I think it would save time if some gentleman would propose that the minutes be taken as read.

Mr. THOMAS proposed and Mr. DUMELIN seconded that the minutes be taken as read.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Our next business is to receive the report and accounts of the Executive Committee. They have been printed and circulated and doubtless are familiar to all of you. The Committee, as usual, have to congratulate you upon successful meetings and also upon the fact that we have a larger credit balance than we had in 1896.

Dr. WHEELER proposed and Mr. ISAACS seconded that the report and accounts be taken as read and duly passed.—Carried.

The ballot for the new executive committee was next taken, Messrs. A. C. Read and W. R. Bennett being appointed scrutineers. The ballot resulted in the re-election of all the old committee—Messrs. W. W. Till, Arakawa Yoshitaro, E. Knaff, T. Thomas, V. Blad, S. Isaacs, and J. C. Nicholson.

The CHAIRMAN thought that these gentlemen would consent to resume their arduous labours, and as silence gave consent he took it that they would serve again for another year.

Mr. TILL—Quite so.

Mr. LOWTHER proposed and Mr. HARRIS seconded a vote of thanks to the Committee for their past services.

This was carried with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN said that the business of the meeting had thus been brought to a speedy con-

clusion. He thought, casting his mind back to the meeting of two years ago when they had such a long discussion about troublesome *momban*—(laughter)—and other things, that they were to be congratulated upon being a club without a history and therefore without complaints.—(Laughter.) The meeting now stood adjourned till that date next year.

Mr. TOM THOMAS—Before we go I should like to propose a vote of thanks to our Chairman and President.—("Hear, hear.")

Mr. TILL seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I thank you, gentlemen. I have always considered myself a most unsatisfactory President, owing to my absolute ignorance of the subject and also to my inability to win races.—(Laughter and applause.)

The meeting then separated.

REPORT.

In presenting the accounts for the year 1897, the Executive Committee have again to congratulate the members on a highly successful season.

Compared with last year the accounts show a notable increase. In improvements and repairs the Committee have expended 2,100.00 yen as compared with 1,700.00 yen in 1896, an increase of 400.00 yen. The income of the Club has increased, the Pari Mutuel and Lotteries yielding 4,029.56 yen as compared with 3,956.32 yen in 1896, an increase of 2,073.24 yen, and the Members subscriptions 3,160 yen against 2,730 yen, an increase of 430 yen. This expansion of revenue enabled the Committee to offer in prizes 12,110 yen as compared with 9,805 yen last year, an increase of 2,305 yen.

The contemplated addition of land, mentioned in the last Report, and sanctioned at the General Meeting, has been completed at the estimated cost of 2,150 yen. A new grass cutter has also been added to the Club property at a cost of 200 yen.

A lease for a large plot of ground, 1,400 *tsubo*, has been entered into for a term of 20 years, and the rent for half that period figures in the accounts, namely, 420 yen. This acquisition was found necessary owing to the great increase in the number of carriages attending the Races, the Committee considering it best to provide space for them if possible. This ground will in future be available for turning out ponies. In spite of the above-mentioned expenditure the Club closes the year with a credit balance of 4,284.87 yen against 4,721.52 yen at the end of 1896.

Although considerable improvements have been effected during the past twelve months your Committee are of opinion that further sums have yet to be spent before the race compound can be considered in proper order.

The Club's lease of a portion of the present carriage paddock expires in May, and it may become necessary to purchase the ground at cost of 2,387.10 yen.

In accordance with Rule 4 the Committee now retire.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Yokohama, Dec 17th, 1897.

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE HONORARY TREASURER FOR THE YEAR 1897.

Dr.	Yen.	Cr.	Yen.
To Purchase of Ground as decided at General Meeting, December, 1896	2,150.00		
" Rent of Race-course for 1897	790.00		
" Rent of New Carriage Paddock, rent in advance for 10 years	420.00		
" Momban's Wages, keeping of the Course, etc.	695.32		
" Repairs to Grand Stand, Stables, Fences and rails	566.38		
" Additions:—			
16 New Stalls	301.60		
Fence round New Carriage Paddock	312.75		
Other additions and alterations	508.07		2,812.42
" Filling up at the 1/2 mile post	420.00		
" Grass Cutter	300.00		
" Expenses in connection with Meeting	631.85		
" Printing, including Race-books and Advertising	631.85		
" Secretary's Salary to Dec. 31st, 1897	800.00		
" Collector's Fee to Dec. 31st, 1897	100.00		
" Fire Insurance (yen 5,000) on Grand Stand, Stable, and Pari Mutuel to the 30th Nov., 1898	95.00		
" Prizes, Spring Meeting—half forfeits added, entries for Champions deducted	5,085.00		
" Prizes, Autumn Meeting—half forfeits added, Entries of Champions deducted	6,485.00		
" Cost of 8 China Ponies, Spring, 1897	1,802.25		
" Cost of 17 China Ponies, Autumn, 1897	2,790.15		
" Cost of 15 Country-breds, Autumn, 1897	2,370.00		6,962.40
" Bankers' and Brokers' Cop	284.80		
" Balance Deposit with the H. & S. B. Co.	1,900.00		
Cash in Hand	3,384.84		4,884.84
			39,185.31
By Balance brought forward			
" Members' Subscriptions	4,781.52		
" Entries, Spring Meeting	3,100.00		
" Entries, Autumn Meeting	1,540.00		
" Gate Money and Sale of Books, Spring Meeting	3,755.00		
" Gate Money and Sale of Books, Autumn Meeting	1,539.00		
" Rent of Refreshment Rooms, 2 Meetings	1,073.25		
" Rent of Stalls, Jockeys' Licenses, Spring Meeting	100.00		
" Rent of Stalls, Jockeys' Licenses, Autumn Meeting	670.00		
" Pari Mutuel, Spring Meeting	610.00		
" Pari Mutuel, Autumn Meeting	1,051.00		
" Lotteries, Spring Meeting	1,286.84		
" Lotteries, Autumn Meeting	1,456.38		
" Interest on Bank Account (to 30th June 1897)	71.24		
" Registration of Name and Colours	5.00		
" Received for 8 China Ponies, Spring, '97	1,802.25		
" Received for 17 China Ponies, Autumn, '97	2,790.00		
" Received for 15 Country-breds, Autumn, '97	2,370.00		6,772.84

Cash received for Presentation Prizes—

The Durand Cup	...	300.00
The Bankers' and Brokers' Cup	...	225.00
The Worthington Cup	...	100.00
The Eclairer Cup	...	100.00
The Philomel Cup	...	100.00
		625.00

39,185.31

E. O. E.,

Yokohama, 5th December, 1897.

V. HEAD, Hon. Treasurer.

Examined the Subscriptions and Vouchers with the books and found same correct.

S. WAKINO.

THE CURE OF DOUBT.

The following sermon was preached at the opening of the recent annual meeting of the West Japan Presbyterian Mission, by the Rev. G. W. Fulton of Fukui, Echizen. The sermon was listened to with much interest and profit by all. At the earnest request of the Mission, Mr. Fulton somewhat reluctantly consented to allow the sermon to be put in print. It is therefore by order of the Mission, and through the courtesy of the *Japan Mail*, now offered to the public in the hope that many readers may find it both interesting and helpful.

T. T. A.

ANNUAL SERMON BEFORE THE WESTERN JAPAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AT ITS SESSION IN OSAKA, NOV. 11TH-17TH, 1897. PREACHED BY THE RETIRING MODERATOR, REV. G. W. FULTON, FUKUI, ECHIZEN.

Text: Luke 7, 20:—"Art Thou He that should come, or look we for another?"

It is not necessary for me to explain whose these words are, or in what connection they were spoken. As to the reason for their utterance there are differences of opinion. There are those who think it is belittling to the "greatest born of woman," and inconsistent with the praise bestowed by Christ, to imagine John at this juncture to doubt as to the person and work of the Redeemer; and they would make of this incident merely a silly attempt of John to work faith in his disciples by bringing them into contact with Jesus: hoping that if they put this question to Jesus, it would call forth an answer winning them for all time to the Saviour whom he came to announce. But that as for John, he never harboured any thought of Jesus other than he had preached in the days of his successful ministry in the wilderness and on the banks of the Jordan.

But when we take into account John's surroundings, and spiritual depression, which would naturally result from long confinement in a Galilean prison; when we consider also the comparative meagreness of John's knowledge of Christ, the deficiency of his ideal of what Christ should be as indicated in his fiery discourses; and when we pause to reflect that his great prototype, even the courageous and mighty Elijah, had his moments of weakness, and could leave on record the scene under the juniper tree; and then too when we remember that Christ said in His reply, "Go and tell John," so and so, it seems better to accept the commoner interpretation that John's message was the offspring of doubt. That the great forerunner, from stress of circumstances, from deficiency of knowledge, from imperfection of faith-vision, here for a time gave way to human weakness, and came to doubt the very essentials of his life-purpose and ministry.

Calling two of his disciples he sent them to Jesus saying:—"Art Thou He that should come, or look we for another?" We see here the deadly disease; Jesus sends back the cure:—"Doing in their presence many of His marvellous works. He said:—"Go your way and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached. And blessed is he whosoever shall not be offended in me."

The subject suggested by this incident is The Cure of Doubt, and I trust a brief consideration of this topic may begeth and helpful. But prior to suggesting the remedy, it is in order to refer briefly to the disease itself. First then, two or three thoughts on the general subject of doubt.

As one of these, it is to be born in mind that every one is liable to an attack of this malady. Perhaps no one would ever have thought of John being one of its victims. And yet here he is prostrate in its grasp. It may come to us like some hidden germ gnawing away secretly at the vitals of our faith; it may be the result of deliberate exposure, from association with sceptics and the perusal of sceptical literature; it may be as from contagion, when the air is full of it, and when the fashion of the age is to be liberal in theology; or it may be contracted while in the path of duty, in the pursuit of truth, as the result of honest inquiry. When the mind, failing to find entire rest in the

old categories, and compelled to face the many new problems constantly demanding solution, starts out to seek new views to truth, and on the way unfortunately falls into this slough of despond, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

In the security of Eden this insidious questioner found its way, and poisoned the mind of our First Parents, and out in the wilderness hesitated not to assail the pure mind of Christ. Many of the pillars of the church, men of loftiest mind and most pious hearts, in all ages, have confessed to seasons of mental conflict, when the very essence of the faith hung in the scales of doubt; and it does not cease to be so now.

The most recent and startling instance perhaps is that of Rev. B. Ray Mills. That mighty man of God, who swayed multitudes by his earnest faith, and the proclamation of a pure and simple gospel, has, within a few months, been caught in the meshes of doubt, and in the most inexplicable manner seems to have made utter shipwreck of the Faith. Having preached to others, he has become, in a sense at least, a castaway. Again I say, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

Another thought:—A period of doubt, though grievous at the time, and exceedingly dangerous as to its consequences, may in the end be one of the greatest of blessings. A man is stricken with disease and for a while all his energies are prostrated, and his life hangs in the balance. But if recovery is complete, he is freed forever from the germs which make him a prey to that malady, can walk with freedom among those who are afflicted with it, and from the resources of his own experience can afford sympathy and help such as he was incapable of before.

And so with the man who has passed through a period of doubt. For a while he will be spiritually prostrated. His religious life will be unsatisfactory, and religious activity well nigh impossible. The shadow of death hovers over all that is vital in his creed and life, and he knows not what the issue may be. But if he recovers from this spiritual malady; if Faith emerges from the conflict triumphant with victory, that man has gained an experience that will strengthen himself, and be a constant succour to others in distress. Jesus said to Peter, "Simon, Satan hath desired to have you that he may sift you as wheat; but I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not; and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." A man whose faith has been once sifted in the pitiless veil of doubt, has doubtless rid it of much of the chaff of theory, and the dust of tradition, and with greater confidence can reveal to men the pure wheat of a practical, experimental, and sincere religion.

Further, a few words in regard to the proper treatment of doubt. In what has been said, I do not wish to be understood as in any sense meaning to encourage the spirit of doubt. A man is far happier and more useful if he is fortunate enough to escape it. That early morning on the lake, when Jesus bade Peter come to him walking upon the waters, as long as Peter believed he was successful and full of ardour and joy; but when doubt arose in his mind, he felt the terrors of death within him. Perhaps, indeed, there is no suffering to be compared to the mental distress of the man standing on the bridge of faith uniting two worlds, who feels the pillars now begin to totter beneath him. And what man is there who can have any heart to persuade others of that which he himself stands in doubt. True faith is health and life to the soul, and is that which is to be desired and striven for by everyone.

But it is the privilege of very few perhaps to abide constantly in this ideal state. Living in a world of doubt and unbelief, it is almost impossible not to be affected at times by the contagion about us. Since the days of Christ there has scarcely been any time when some citadel of the Faith has not been in process of attack. Round and round the assault has been made, and we are accustomed to regard such a state of affairs as not really injurious, but in the end profitable to Christianity. Constant motion keeps the waters from becoming foul. Such being the case, the men who are alive to the spirit of the age in which they live, cannot fail to take account of the problems under the fire of discussion. The questions raised are not usually silly ones, but such as are supported by strong argument and reasons. Our own age is no exception. The religious world to-day is full of questions whose bearing affects vitally the fundamentals of our faith. Scholarship, devout scholarship even, is divided as to their solution. The study of Comparative Religion and the Criticisms of the Scriptures have become the parents of a multitude of troublesome off-pring, which are now cast upon the world awaiting its disposal of them. Their mission is to create doubt and uncertainty everywhere.

One by one they come in turn to touch the whole gamut of our theology. How are we to treat these doubts?

One way is simply to stamp them out by force of will:—"I will have none of these things. I will consider no problem affecting adversely the Faith of our Fathers. I will read no literature on the subject, or discuss with anyone the merits of the question." We have in the world a considerable number of such persons, who doubtless have their use.

I believe if a doubt arises in our minds, we ought to give it honest recognition and a fair hearing. These questions are too vital to be pushed aside as mere troublesome intruders. For the sake of our own peace of mind as well as for the sake of obtaining power rightfully to influence others, we ought to face these difficulties fairly, go to the bottom of them, and if they are removable, why, better pull them up by the roots rather than lop them off above ground, to appear again whenever the spring rains come.

But while we owe to every doubt honest recognition and thorough consideration, at the same time they ought to be conservatively treated and conservatively acted upon. The great temptation is when one's mind is all aroused with new thoughts and new theories, to mistake temporary conclusions for real faith, and to proclaim loudly with tongue and pen one's adherence to positions and views which a more mature consideration would pronounce dangerous and untenable. From having yielded to such temptation many men have injured themselves irretrievably, and have lost an influence which they never could regain even though they sought it with crying and with tears. It occurs to me it would be well if we were to give every doubt or new theory about two years probation on the average. Half that time for thorough study and investigation, and the other half for mature reflection. Through such a gateway not many traitors would be allowed to enter the citadel of our faith.

In the second place, we are to consider the cure of doubt. Regarding sound faith as life and health to the soul, and as the *summum bonum* to be sought after, where are we to go for relief when questions affecting the vital realities of our spiritual lives come surging in like waves upon us, from the vast sea of doubt?

I shall attempt to answer this only from the human side. It is taken for granted that every one will first of all constantly and earnestly seek the guidance of the Divine Spirit who has been promised as the guide unto all truth. But from the human side, what aids shall we seek, what powers employ to secure the rest and peace and power of a pure, sincere, and intelligent faith?

(1).—We may go to the Creeds of Christendom. We may seek encouragement from the testimony of the saints of all ages. No man will hastily set aside that which has been the belief and comfort and stay of millions of the best men and women the world has ever seen. This will always remain a checking influence to the ravages of doubt and liberal thought.

But I venture to say it will rarely if ever give peace to the troubled mind. Man is so constituted as to believe that progress is the natural law in everything; and that each age is competent to improve on the past. Hence it will never be possible to bind down one's faith by chains of traditional belief. It may be that the faith of the Fathers is correct and not to be improved upon, but the attempt to force belief upon ourselves just because the Fathers have held it, will always fail in the extremity. A similar logic would serve to fasten Buddhism forever upon these Oriental nations, the very thing which we wish to frustrate.

Or again, we may seek aid from the deliverances of ecclesiastical bodies of our own time. This too will have its weight and influence. Like the voice of the Fathers, the voice of the Brethren who we love and honour, will command our confidence and consideration. But this too, like the former, is of an external character, and will not suffice to quench the fires within. The fact is, with a full knowledge of their faith, the doubt has already arisen in the mind in regard to the belief of the Fathers and the Brethren, and mere testimony and reproof from these sources must fail to persuade or satisfy. Like as the mere command of the physician cannot wipe out disease from the earth, so the authority of the church, whether past or present, will be unable to secure the faith of its adherents from the ravages of doubt.

(2).—We may turn to Reason. Doubt is a fluctuation of mind arising usually from lack of knowledge or evidence. It is the natural and necessary thing to use our God-given faculty of reason to secure again the equilibrium of faith. If knowledge is defective the intellect must be brought into play to furnish argument, weigh positions, and give judgment. Our reason

when rightly guarded is the strongest ally to faith. Many of our doubts and fears will flit away like shadows when we turn the search-light of Reason upon them. Faith's position will only become clearer in the light of reason, and stronger when buttressed and fortified by its invulnerable proofs. We need not fear to think freely; we need not hesitate to investigate widely; we need not shrink from reasoning fairly, whenever doubt comes to throw suspicion upon any of the tenets of our Faith.

But we must never forget that Christianity is a supernatural religion. Reason will never succeed in completely scaling its heights or sounding its depth. In the nature of things there are some truths of the spiritual world too high and too deep for men's minds. No doubt we are coming to know more of these things, but it is the glory of Christianity that it is incapable of being exhausted by man's reasons. Failing to recognize this, and wishing to make the sway of reason complete, how many noble and exalted minds have we seen plunged into the pitiful despair of a hopeless rationalism.

(3).—When reason fails to answer doubt's questions, where shall we go? It is man's happy fortune that he is endowed with a certain practical sense which he will depend upon, without waiting for reason's deductions, and trust even when reason fails. It may be a species of instinct, or the result of experience, or a combination of these; at any rate it is something which we may all possess, and whose suggestion we are accustomed to act upon.

This faculty becomes a most valuable aid in solving the questions of doubt. It draws from what it sees and hears and feels and knows and has experienced, and its conclusions are most emphatic. Scepticism comes, bringing its host of unanswerable problems and irreconcilable difficulties, and would fain persuade the mind that such a medley of contradictions and impossibilities cannot be the true way of life for man. Practical sense reaches down, gets hold on experience and answers:—"Yes, there are problems here I cannot answer, and difficulties I cannot reconcile, but I know well the history of my own life: I remember what I was before, and I know what I am now. I will not be deceived into throwing away that which has wrought this mighty change within me." Or again it takes hold upon fact. It looks out upon a world of ignorance and misery and sin, and notes the changes being wrought by Christianity. It sees enlightenment following everywhere in its train; it sees happiness and prosperity unheard of before; it sees purity and righteousness gradually filling the earth; and in the very face of doubt it cries out: This must be the power of God.

It makes good use also of the blank alternative. When doubt comes to cast its shadow of suspicion everywhere, when perplexed and troubled the mind is tempted to give up everything, the man's practical sense comes to the rescue, and like the disciples in Galilee he says:—"To whom shall I go? If Christianity be not true, then where is truth to be found? If not to Christ, then to whom shall I turn for the solution of the many mysteries of life?" Standing there upon the brink of that precipice, and facing the blank abyss beyond, the man comes to himself and says:—"Until I find something better I will not give up what I have. We thank God for this faith in our practical sense. It is a check to the bold ambitions and ventures of our reason, and is the most successful opponent of doubt.

It is important to note that Christ's answer to John's disciples was practical. He spent no time in quoting creeds to them, nor did He attempt to convince them by any process of argument. He showed them a sample of what He was doing, told them to read His character and mission through that, and to remind their master of the blessedness of abiding in the Faith. And so to-day it is the real practical power of Christianity—what Christ is doing in one's own heart and in the world, that furnishes the bond that binds so many millions unchangeably to him. When Thomas was plunged in doubt and melancholy, refusing to hear argument or to believe any human testimony as to the resurrection of Jesus, it was by simply showing him the nail-prints in His hands and feet, and the spear-thrust in the side, that won from Thomas that heartfelt confession of faith and allegiance. And so it is because men have beheld Jesus in a vivid, real, faith-vision, that they are willing to commit their all unreservedly to Him.

Thus man's practical reason, whether relying upon the sure testimony of experience, or the no less certain witness of actual fact; or appealing to the common sense principle of holding on to the good until something better appears; man's practical reason, I say, will hold the castle of Faith, even when all other friends desert it, and loes gather thickly around. Let me say to all who are

harrassed with perplexing doubts, or who are puzzled to know where to stand amid the conflicts of the present time, or who are trembling as to the issue of the battle waging about us—let me say to such:—Give more scope to your practical reason, let it have a freer hand in settling the problems of faith; do not fail to consult it wherever doubt and uncertainty exist. It will surely teach wisdom; it will supply strength; it will give peace. It will, in fact, be the very friend in need.

In conclusion, I would have you note that this question of John expresses the very sum and substance of present day doubt or literal thought: "Art thou He that should come, or look we for another?" To be sure many subordinate questions are raised, but if you examine the main trend of all, you will find that it points ultimately to these two questions:—Is Christ the final messenger? Is Christianity the final religion?

Are we to hold as heretofore to the unique position of Christ, as the one that was to come from God? Or are we to make him one of many? A great moral and religious teacher, the last and best of all it may be, but still only one of many who were to come into the world?

Is Christianity the one religion for man? The only God-preached way of life, the only hope of salvation? Or is it to be classed only as the last and best in the religious development of the race? With the final religion yet to come, an electric composite of the best that is in all? These are the great questions that include all the others.

Pure reason, unguided, unguarded, adopts the latter position. Liberalism, which is rationalism, will inevitably land us here. I do not say that all reason is on this side. For Christianity is certainly rational in a very true sense. But the whole tendency of modern liberalism following reason as its unerring guide is in this direction.

We must look to the practical sense of the Christian Church to rescue Faith from this situation. And it will not fail to do its duty. It will answer that the Christ whom we have believed—the unique Christ, the Divine Christ, the Living Christ—is necessary to satisfy the needs of the human heart; that the sinless life and perfect character; the matchless teaching and wonderful works of Jesus while upon earth; and the power for truth and righteousness for holiness and love which He even now wields over the world by His invisible Spirit, these proclaim Him to be the one who was to come. We may not be able fully to understand the mystery of His person, the meaning of His salvation, or the power by which He is surely bringing the world to His feet, but we recognize the facts, real, visible, and proved in our experience, and we dare not call Him other than the Only Begotten of God. We will not "look for any other."

It will answer also that Christianity has in it already all that is good in other religions, is itself complete. Complete in doctrine and morality; perfect in ideal and reality; sufficient in its power to accomplish all that religion is meant to do. It may leave some difficulties unsolved; it may present some mysteries too deep for us to fathom; but it has been tasted and found sweet; it has been tested and found trustworthy. Through a history of nearly two thousand years it has satisfied human need in every known clime and under every conceivable circumstance, and has shown itself irresistibly to be the power of God to elevate, to purify, to save mankind. We accept this as from God, His own declared way of life for man, and we will not "look for another."

Both the person of Christ and the religion of Christ demonstrate themselves to our practical reason as beyond improvement. We can imagine no higher conception. Faith's position is abundantly justified.

Reverting again to the Galilean crisis, you remember when the multitude were turning away from Christ He said to the Twelve in that tender, entreating way:—"Will ye also go away?" They, too, perhaps, had their doubts, were seriously perplexed at some of His teaching; and may be some of them were about to follow in the footsteps of the multitude. But Peter—practical Peter—came to the rescue and saved the cause:—"Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that Thou art that Christ, the Son of the Living God."

And so shall it be with us. Doubt will continue to work its ravages in the world, and we shall not escape its insidious attacks. But like Peter our practical sense, divinely illumined, will be our final deliverer, and his clear, positive, joyous conviction will ever remain the faith of the Church,—and our faith.

U.S. CONSULAR COURT.

(Before F. J. GOWRY, Esq., Consul-General and Judge, sitting with Associates.)
MONDAY, DEC. 20TH.

HAY *versus* THE AMERICAN TRADING COMPANY.

In the U. S. Consular Court on Monday morning, before Mr. J. F. Gowry, Consul-General and Judge, proceedings were resumed in the suit of A. Stanley Hay *versus* the American Trading Company, for libel, claiming damages to the amount of *yen* 10,000, which were adjourned a week ago. Messrs. Varnum and H. J. Davidson were sworn as Associates.

Mr. Litchfield opened his case by stating that plaintiff sued the defendants for damages, the defendants having libelled the plaintiff by publishing in certain Japanese papers statements to the effect that the plaintiff had been dismissed from his connections with the defendant firm for dishonest conduct. The notice was addressed to plaintiff's constituents and was calculated to injure his character and business. Counsel then read the petition and answer, as follows:—

The petition of A. Stanley Hay, the above-named plaintiff, shows as follows:—

1. The plaintiff is a citizen of the United States of America resident in Yokohama.
2. The defendant Company is a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Connecticut in the United States of America and carrying on business at No. 28, Yokohama.
3. From the year 1895 to 30th June, 1897, the plaintiff was manager of the engineering department of the defendants at Yokohama aforesaid, under an agreement with the said Company in their behalf.
4. At the time of entering into the agreement with the defendant Company to manage the said engineering department the said plaintiff was the duly authorized agent in Japan for the Worthington Pumping Engine Company and other manufacturers.
5. On the 22nd day of August, 1897, the defendant Company falsely and maliciously wrote and published of the plaintiff in Japanese language in the *Kogyo Zasshi*, a journal of engineering published in Tokyo, Japan, the words following, (the Japanese ideographs are here quoted) which said words being translated into the English language have and were understood by the persons to whom they were so published to have the meaning and effect following, that is to say:

There is a person of the name of A. S. Hay. He was formerly connected with our Company but in consequence of his dishonest conduct the connection has been severed (meaning thereby that the plaintiff had been guilty of dishonesty and had been removed from the position in the American Trading Company in consequence of such dishonesty); notwithstanding this fact, however, the person in question (meaning the plaintiff) is advertising himself as the agent of the manufacturers of the pumps described on the foregoing page, although he possesses no authority or right to do so (meaning thereby that the plaintiff had not and never had any authority from the Worthington Pumping Engine Company to act as their agent).

Should he continue this improper conduct in future he will be dealt with accordingly.

American Trading Company, No. 28, Yokohama, and No. 17, Kobe.

6. That by reason of the said advertisement the said plaintiff has suffered much injury to his character and distress of mind and has been much prejudiced in his business, and the said plaintiff claims ten thousand *yen* as compensation therefore.

The plaintiff therefore prays this honourable Court:—

1. That the said defendant company be ordered and decreed to abstain from further publishing the advertisement aforesaid.
2. That the said defendant Company be decreed to pay the said plaintiff the aforesaid sum of ten thousand *yen* as damages.

The answer of the defendant Company to the petition of the plaintiff:—

1. They say that they are not guilty.
2. They admit the allegations contained in the first three paragraphs of the petition.
3. In answer to paragraph 4 of the petition they say that although the plaintiff was at some time prior to the 3rd day of February, 1896, the Agent for the Worthington Pumping Engine Company, the defendant Company on the 3rd February, 1896, and to the knowledge of the plaintiff, became the sole Agents in Japan for the said Company, and have remained so ever since.

4. The "Kogyo Zasshi" or "Engineering Magazine" is a journal printed in Japanese ideographs and published twice a month in the city of Tokyo.

5. In the numbers of the said journal which were issued in the year 1897, from the months of January to September inclusive, the plaintiff published an advertisement in which he represented himself to be the sole Agent of the Worthington Engine Company; and upon the said advertisement being brought to the notice of the defendant Company, they caused to be inserted in the said journal, as they well and truly

and lawfully might, an advertisement of which the following is the translation—"Worthington Duplex Pumps and Condensers, Boiler Feed Pumps, Tank Pumps for Railway Stations and Domestic use, Hydraulic Pumps, Marine Feed and Bilge Pumps, Delivery and Irrigation Pumps, Fire Pumps for Houses, Factories, Stations, etc., Independent Jet Condensers, and Air Circulating Pumps. Many of the above Pumps are now in use in Japan, and no complaints have ever been made by Parties for whom we have imported them.

The American Trading Company, No. 23, Yokohama and No. 17, Kobe, Sole Agents for Japan."

6. Immediately following the advertisement aforesaid, the defendant Company, as they well and truly and lawfully might, caused to be inserted in the said journal the notice which is set out in ideographs in the fifth paragraph of the petition of the plaintiff, and which is the libel complained of, excepting only the heading thereof, which was inserted at the office of the said journal; but the defendant Company deny that the said words or ideographs being translated into the English language have, or were understood by the persons to whom they were published to have the meaning and effect attributed to them in the petition of the plaintiff; and they also deny that the express averments of the petition have the meaning attributed to them by innuendo:

7. The defendant Company deny that they falsely and maliciously wrote and published of the plaintiff the words or ideographs of which the notice aforesaid is composed, and they say that the said words or ideographs and the matters contained in the alleged libel are true in substance and in fact.

8. And for fuller and more particular justification of the alleged libel and of the publication thereof the defendant Company say that as the agreement and business connection of the plaintiff with the American Trading Company was about to expire on the 30th day of June last, they on the 9th day of May wrote and offered to continue to employ him for a further period of three years and on an increased stipend, in the capacity he then held, viz—*as Manager of the Engineering Department of the defendant Company*; that on the 11th day of May last, in consequence of certain matters and things that had come to their knowledge, a conversation was had between the President and the agent of the defendant company and the plaintiff, in course of which the plaintiff was asked whether he had not applied for and received and neglected to account for certain commissions or rebates from suppliers of goods covered by contracts and orders passing through the Engineering Department of the defendant Company; that the plaintiff denied the accusation implied in the said question; that the said denial by the plaintiff was untrue, inasmuch as he had received a sum of \$3,231.68 from the Ingersoll Sargent Drill Company of New York as commission on account of goods purchased from the said Company by the defendant Company in execution of an order obtained by the plaintiff as *Manager of the Engineering Department*; that whereas it was the duty of the plaintiff to have reported the receipt of the said commission and to have paid the same over to the defendant Company immediately on the receipt thereof by him, he nevertheless concealed from them the fact of his having received the said commission and neglected to pay the same over to the defendant Company until after his said concealment and neglect had been discovered by the defendant company; by reason of which improper conduct on the part of the plaintiff, the defendant Company refused further to consider the renewal of the agreement and business connection between themselves and the plaintiff, and informed him of their determination to sever the same.

Save as aforesaid the defendant Company do not admit any of the allegations contained in the petition of the plaintiff.

Signed J. F. LOWDER,
Counsel for the defendant Company.

Continuing, Counsel said that although the defendants deny the meaning ascribed by plaintiff to the Japanese notice, they accuse him of appropriating certain commissions. If the defendants had stopped at notifying in the advertisement that plaintiff's connection with the American Trading Co., and his agency for the Worthington Pump Co., had ceased, they would have been within their rights; but when they accused plaintiff of dishonest conduct they laid themselves open to a charge of libel. Counsel then gave a summary of plaintiff's career for the last few years and the circumstances under which he obtained the agency for the Worthington Pump Co., of New York and other manufacturers in America. It then became necessary for plaintiff to make arrangements for financing these agencies. His first arrangements with the American Trading Co., was made with Mr. Stone in July, 1894, for one year at \$100 per month and 15 per cent. commission on all profits arising through the business done in machinery. From July '94 to '95 Mr. Hay did business under this agreement satisfactory to both parties, and in July '95 a fresh agreement was offered by the defendants for two years, under which the general charge of the American and English engineering department was given to plaintiff, who was to receive 25 per cent of the

profits, 200 yen per month being advanced to plaintiff, to be deducted from his share of the profits, the business being carried on as a department of the American Trading Co. The letter making this order was dated 9th July, 1895, but was not immediately replied to and on the 23rd July another letter was addressed by defendants to plaintiff, which was replied to by plaintiff on the same date, in which he desired to make certain changes in the proposed contract. He was willing to make a fresh contract receiving not less than 200 yen per month, and such other amount at the end of each year as would make up 30 per cent of the profits made on the business, plaintiff taking the sole control of the American engineering department and all business conducted in his name as manager, the American Trading Company appearing as the principal except in one or two cases of Japanese Departments in Tokyo, with which he had already made contracts direct on behalf of various companies he represented, and with the exception of other cases in which a mutual arrangement was arrived at. On the 26th July a letter was sent by defendants to plaintiff agreeing to the payment of 30 per cent. of the profits and the rest of the terms to be as proposed in their letter of the 9th July. This offer was accepted by plaintiff. That was the position in 1895 and on that agreement plaintiff continued to work till June 1897, when a change took place in the arrangement between plaintiff and the Worthington Pump Co., which elected to appoint the American Trading Co. as their agents in Japan. Plaintiff remonstrated with the Worthington Co., on their change and some correspondence ensued, and was closed on August last year in which it was definitely stated by the Worthington Co. that Mr. Hay was no longer authorised to represent them. In spite of this the business relations continued between the defendant firm and plaintiff till this year. On the 9th May, 1897, the defendants wrote to plaintiff offering to pay him 400 yen a month as manager of the engineering department, all business to be conducted in the Company's name, and plaintiff to be subject in all matters to the control of the company. To that letter plaintiff made no reply. On the 13th May plaintiff received another letter from the agent of the defendant Company in which reference was made to some conversation between plaintiff and Mr. Stone in which it was asked whether he had not applied for and received certain commissions. This was not replied to and led to a letter from the defendants breaking off the relationship between the defendant and plaintiff. There was a conversation between the plaintiff and the agent and president of the Company on the 11th May, in which plaintiff justified himself in receiving the commission referred to provided he accounted for it. The contract between plaintiff and defendants expired in June 30th, 1897, and was not renewed. After waiting a reasonable time plaintiff instructed Mr. Wallford to apply to defendants for a statement of the engineering account, and on the 21st July a letter was received by plaintiff from the defendants which was answered by his counsel on the 23rd July. These were the facts leading up to the publication of the libel complained of. The burden of proving the justification of the offensive matter lay on defendants.

At this stage the Court was adjourned till 1.30.

Upon the Court reassembling at 1.30 p.m., Mr. Litchfield called Mr. Kimura Iwata, editor of the *Kogyo Zasshi*, a trade journal published in Tokyo twice a month, who deposed—From time to time I have inserted advertisements in the paper with reference to pumps. I have published such in reference to the Worthington Pumps, under instructions from Mr. Hay. The copy of the journal produced was published on the 22nd August 1897. I recognise the advertisement marked 9 as having been published in that number. On the reverse page there is an advertisement, marked 10, in reference to Worthington pumps. The advertisement marked 10 was put in by Mr. Hay. The advertisement on page 9 related to Worthington pumps and was inserted according to instructions received from the American Trading Company. Copies of the journal are sold wholesale and also distributed by post and delivered by coolies. The persons to whom the journal is supplied are principally Japanese. We received instructions from Mr. Hay to discontinue his advertisement, but I do not remember the date; it was between August 22nd and the end of September.

Cross examined by Mr. Lowder—On page 10 there is an advertisement signed A.S. Hay, describing himself as sole agent of the Worthington Pumping Engine Co. in Japan. I received that advertisement from Mr. Hay about the 8th January, 1897; that was the first date it appeared in the journal. It was continued from that date till September, 1897. I do not remember if it ap-

peared in the number of Oct. 8th. I think it was from Mr. Hay that I received instructions to discontinue the advertisement. On page 8 of the number for 22nd August there is a notice from the American Trading Company that they were agents for the Worthington Pump Engine Co. I think this was the first publication of the advertisement. It is still continued. On page 9 of Exhibit A is also a notification headed in Japanese *Dai-ri Sasho*, also signed by the American Trading Company, which was inserted for the first time on the 22nd August. I received instructions from the company to discontinue this advertisement about the same time that Mr. Hay withdrew his. The heading *dai-ri sasho* (which meant, Counsel said, "fraudulent representation of agency"), may have been added in the office and not have been in the advertisement as ordered. The words *kin koku* mean, I think, "attention." The meaning of the latter could not be synonymous with the word *sasho*. If the advertisement was sent with the words *kin koku* at the top, and appeared under the words *dai-ri sasho*, the latter must have been added in the office. The advertisement was received in the Japanese language, as was also I think Mr. Hay's advertisement on page 10. I have never been asked by Mr. Hay to produce the original of the advertisement on page 9, headed *dai-ri sasho*. I have not got the original of that advertisement; it was returned.

Re-examined—I received the instructions to insert the advertisement on page 10 from Mr. Hay personally. The original of this I think was not returned, but was thrown into the waste paper basket.

Alexander Stanley Hay, the plaintiff, examined by Mr. Litchfield—I am a citizen of the United States, born of American parents in England. My parents have been settled in Philadelphia for 15 years. I went to one or two technical schools and served four or five years in engineering offices and workshops and on steamers between Philadelphia and Europe, as cadet and assistant engineer. When I came to Japan I was a year in the N.Y.K. and had been backwards and forwards to the States several times. I am a junior member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. I came to Japan first in 1892, as a passenger, left here in August 1893 for home, and returned to Japan in 1894. I made arrangements before I left Philadelphia with several engineering manufacturers to work for their interests in Japan. After I arrived here I called on the American Trading Company and saw Mr. Stone, who was then their agent. I had brought some introductions to him from New York. I had some conversation with regard to an engagement and afterwards received from Mr. Stone the letter dated July 2nd (Exhibit B). I replied to the letter July 6th accepting the terms offered with the exception of any commissions I might receive independent of the company. After writing the letter I may have had some conversation with Mr. Stone, and in July 1894 I became the so called manager of the engineering department at the American Trading Co., and the agent of the manufacturers who supplied the goods. There had been no engineering department in the company before. I took steps to do business for the agencies. For the first half year there was little to be done but after that I did a fair business. During '94 and '95 I did my best for the manufacturers in the United States and it resulted in orders being sent to them through the American Trading Company. Orders were sent to the Worthington Pumping Engine Company. I explained fully to Mr. Stone the circumstances of the agencies I held from the United States and showed him my agreements with the manufacturers. I came fully equipped with all necessary price lists and catalogues of the companies I represented, and after I had made my arrangements with the American Trading Co. I used to go with an interpreter looking up business and making contracts and I think nearly all the business done was transacted in this way and the goods shipped here to my specifications. In some cases special agreements were made that payment was not made till the machinery was set up and adjusted. I attended to all these matters personally. Prior to July 9 there was some conversation regarding a renewal of contract. I received the letters of 23rd and 26th July, and replied to the latter accepting the amended terms therein offered. That was my new agreement with the American Trading Company. Business increased considerably—there were a Japanese and myself in the engineering department. All orders to the United States were sent as before through the American Trading Co. and all the correspondence relating to orders came through and was kept by the company. When I renewed my contract in 1895 I still remained the agent of various engineering companies, among others the Worthington Pump Co. The change

in the agency of that company was first brought to my notice in 1896, by a cablegram received by the American Trading Co., as agents in Yokohama. The cablegram was to the effect that the selling agency had been transferred to the American Trading Co. I asked the agent for an explanation and was told that he had no explanation to give then, but that I should probably get one in the future. I was very much annoyed at the action of Worthington Pump Co.

At this stage the Court adjourned till 2 a.m. on Tuesday.

THURSDAY, DEC. 21ST.

On the Court resuming the examination of the plaintiff, A. Stanley Hay, was resumed. He further deposed—I asked an explanation of the defendant company with regard to the Worthington Company's agency. I did not get the explanation and subsequently wrote to the company, and received a reply. Afterwards there was considerable correspondence between the company and myself on the subject. The last letter I received from the Worthington Co. was on Sept. 20th of this year. On the same day that I received the letter I went to Tokyo and wrote out a letter in English to the editor of the *Kogyo Zasshi* instructing him to take out my advertisement of the Worthington Pump Co., and to put in another advt. to the effect that I had been agent of the Co. but had severed my connection with it, also that I was still prepared to supply various pumps, and give advice as to their application, etc. I am willing and desirous that the correspondence between the Worthington Company and myself should be produced. The contents of the principal letter communicated to one of the officials of the American Trading Company. (Letter from the Worthington Company dated 21st July offered, but objected to by Mr. Lowder unless the letter, or copy of letters from plaintiff to which it was a reply was produced)—I have not a copy of that letter. My advertisement in the *Kogyo Zasshi* of January 1897, was put into Japanese by the translator associated with me in the American Trading Co. It was not sent by me personally. It was continued until September last, when I gave instructions for its discontinuance. My attention was drawn to the advertisement which appeared in the *Kogyo Zasshi* of 22nd May by some Japanese. I received the letter dated May 9th from the American Trading Co. Previous to May 9th there had been no discussion between the defendant company and myself with regard to my commissions. I did not reply to the letter of May 9th in writing. I received the letter dated May 13th from Mr. Stone. There was a conversation between Mr. Morse, Mr. Stone, and myself on May 11th. It was in reference to the proposition made by the company to myself for a further contract for three years. The company offered to make a new contract for three years from July 1st, at a salary of 400 yen a month, and not share in the profits. On my part I was to attend as before to all engineering business, and turn over all my price lists, etc., and all correspondence to the company, and to be manager of the engineering department. I was asked to give an answer at once as the president was going to Korea on the 14th, and he wanted to settle the matter at once. I replied that before I gave a decided answer I wanted to write to my friends and get their opinion before I made a new contract. The agent asked me to put into writing such answer as I could give at the time. I said I was willing to do so but that a few days did not matter. On the morning of the 12th, having urgent business in Tokyo, I did not give any answer. On my return on the afternoon of the 13th I found on my desk the letter dated the 13th. On reading it I immediately went to the agent of the company and asked him the meaning of the letter. He replied that as I had not answered their letter of the 9th they intended to cancel the offer and that the president and agent desired to see me in the office. A conversation followed between us there. The agent said that by not replying to their letter I had slighted the president and himself, and that I had done something for which I was liable to be put in gaol by receiving and concealing money on account of business done between the companies with which I had done business on behalf of the American Trading Company. They asked me if I had so received money and I said I was willing to give an answer in Court but not to them then and there. Then the president gave instructions to the agent to take action against me in the U. S. Court on the 14th. At that time I had received some commissions from companies I had had dealings with, which I had put in my statement at the end of the contract time. I had told the president of the company on the evening of the 13th, at his house, what I had received and what I expected to

receive, and that I considered myself a partner in the engineering business; that any commission I received would be accounted for in my statement at the end of the contract and that I should also expect a statement from the company of any balance due to me on my share. He said he would speak to the agent the next morning, when I found they had taken no proceedings in the Court as threatened. The agent said if I had answered their letter of the 9th, it would have saved all this trouble. I continued in the employ of the company till the 30th June, when I received a letter declining to enter into any fresh agreement with me. Between the 13th May and the end of June I had made no proposition regarding a renewal of the contract. I was agent of the Ingersol Sargeant Drill Company. I had not succeeded in getting any orders to place with that company before January this year, when I obtained an order which I placed with them. I first notified the company that I had obtained a contract for such machinery. The orders went through the American Trading Company. (Press copy of letter addressed by plaintiff to the Ingersol Sargeant Drill Co. put in and read.)—I have no press copy book, only sheets. The order amounted to \$8,027, and was sent through the American Trading Co. The contract and estimate had been agreed to by the agent of the American Trading Co. and all the calculations were checked by the company. The order was sent in exactly the same way as other orders for machinery, through the American Trading Company. I received the reply produced, dated February 16th, from the Ingersol Sargeant Drill Company. In my letter of January 9th to the Ingersol Company, which was not copied, I had referred to the question of commission or discount. I wrote them that I was expecting to close this contract for machinery and that owing to my relations with the American Trading Co., and what I had seen the latter do in the case of the Worthington Co., I requested them to send any commissions or discount given on the order, direct to me. I cannot explain what I refer to regarding the Worthington Co. unless all the correspondence is produced, as it would show how the Worthington agency was taken away from me by misrepresentation. I was not satisfied with the way I was treated by the American Trading Company with regard to the Worthington agency. I received the letter dated March 30th from the Ingersol Sargeant Drill Company, covering a draft for \$1,600, or 3,221.68 yen as commission at 20 per cent. on the account paid by the American Trading Co. for drills, etc. I paid the money received as commission to the American Trading Co. and received a receipt dated May 18th, and I said at the time I intended it to have gone into my statement at the end of the two years. Thirty per cent. of this I considered was my own share. At that time, May 18th, I did not know how my account stood with the American Trading Co. I had asked but could get no particulars. Other commissions were received in the same way and put in my statement dated July 6th, and at the same time I asked for a full statement of account, but this I have been unable to get so far. The commission or rebate were different with various companies. There were more trade discounts from list prices and in some cases a special bonus to the representative for technical work done. I do not admit that I am bound to turn over into the business every commission, rebate, or bonus received by me, though in my statement of 6th July I put in every commission or bonus I had received or expected at that time to receive. The 20 per cent. allowed by the Ingersol Company was the only commission or rebate received from the company, and I considered it my duty as a partner in the business to put it into my statement at the end of my term, and acquainted the company of it at the time. With regard to the Worthington Company, I never received any commission direct from the Company, there was a discount of 25 and 5 per cent. allowed off the list prices, in the invoice.

At this stage the Court adjourned till 2 p.m. Upon the hearing being resumed after tiffin, the examination of the plaintiff was continued.—I severed my connection with the American Trading Company on the 30th June this year. Since then I have done very little business.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder.—When I said I had to find some one to finance my business, I meant to finance orders I took as agent for manufacturers in America. The agreement made between the defendants and myself in the letters dated July, 2nd, 1894, and July 6th, is what was referred to by my counsel in the statement that it became necessary to make arrangements for the financing of my business. After having heard the letters read I still believe it was my business, done by me through the American Trading Company. They were the financial principals and I

the technical principal. I cannot give an opinion as to who was the responsible principal. So far as the financial part was concerned the defendant company was the principal, and were responsible for payment of orders. I had the agencies, and we worked together for our mutual benefit. The note in red ink in the letter handed to me looks like Mr. Stone's handwriting; I think it is his. The note is dated 12th July and the letter which it is written on is my letter of the 6th July. The note is to the effect that a verbal arrangement had been come to between the defendant company and myself in the terms of the letter. I don't recollect making the verbal arrangement with Mr. Stone.

Mr. Lowder.—In your letter you raised an objection to paying in any commissions which you might receive in any business done otherwise than through the American Trading Co. Was that objection withdrawn in conversation with Mr. Stone?

Plaintiff.—In the first year I did agree to turn over to the defendant company all commissions that I might receive. I make a distinction between the first agreement in 1894 and the second in 1895-6 as regards paying over these commissions. In the last two years' contract I did not make any special agreement as to commissions or other moneys at the time I signed the contract. As I was a partner with the defendant company in the business I consider it was my duty under the second agreement to pass over to them all commissions received. I considered it a partnership because my remuneration was to be 30 per cent of the profits, 200 yen monthly being advanced to me, and at the end of the year the balance of the 30 per cent. was to be paid to me; on my part I put into the partnership my agencies, time and technical work. If there were no profits the American Trading Company were to have no claim against me for the 200 yen a month advanced to me. I signed my name as manager of the engineering department; not as managing partner. I had no power to draw money from the bank as a partner, nor to pledge the credit of the Company. If in supplying orders a loss was sustained, 70 per cent of it would fall upon the defendant company and I should lose my 30 per cent. I believe that between partners the utmost good faith is necessary. There was an accountant department in the American Trading Company, through which all payments for the engineering department passed. I said in examination that I believed myself entitled to hold the Ingersol Co.'s commission till the settlement of accounts at the end of the term of agreement.

Mr. Lowder.—I shall be glad if you will read through the letters on which our agreement was made, and point out where is your authority for holding back commissions.

Plaintiff.—There is nothing in the agreement referring to commissions or discounts. But I considered I was doing no harm whatever if I accounted for any receipts at the end of my contract time. I considered it my right as a partner to hold over any commissions I received till the end of the contract. I think it was the duty of the Company to account to me at the end of every year. I received an account at the end of June 1896. I did not receive any moneys in the first year of the second contract. It was my duty, at any time I was asked, to give information to the company as to any commissions I had received. I did not think it my duty to pay any commissions I received into the accountant's department immediately on receipt.

Mr. Lowder.—Whence did you obtain your right to retain such moneys for a single minute?—The moneys came from companies with which I had special contracts. I was the agent, and had friends in the different companies and naturally these moneys and commissions were sent to me. I do not claim any special right to retain such sums. I never said I had. I received the Ingersol commission I believe some time in the month of May; it may have been the latter part of April. I had an account in the Hongkong and Shanghai Savings Bank. I had no account with the Chartered Bank of Australia. I deposited the 3,200 yen commission with the Mitsui Bank, to which I transferred my account at that time. The sum was paid in on May 7th, perhaps a day or two after I received the cheque. I paid it into the Mitsui Bank instead of the accountant's department simply because I intended to hold it until the account between the American Trading Co. and myself was settled. I paid it in to my own account. I did not tell the company of it at the time. My account was not due till June 30th. I believed I had a right to hold the money provided I accounted for it at the end of my contract, or at any other time if I was asked about it. In the meantime the American Trading Co. ran the risk of losing the money if I was a dishonest man. I can only explain having no copy of the letter written by me to the Ingersol Co. on January 9th, by having forgotten to copy it or be-

ing in a hurry. I asked them in the letter to send the commission direct to me. The order sent on 18th January went through the American Trading Company, I don't remember whether the letter of 18th January was seen by anyone in the American Trading Co. I asked them in it to keep my correspondence confidential. My explanation for having given these secret instructions is that while I had been agent for the Ingersol Company for two years I had been able to do no business for them and I was afraid of being treated by the American Trading Co. in the same way as I had been in regard to the Worthington Pump Company, which resulted in my losing that agency, and its transfer to the American Trading Co. It is hard to estimate the money loss of the agency. It is now that I feel the loss, having left the American Trading Co. They did try to get the agency of the Ingersol Co. away from me, but I wrote to the company the mail before the American Trading Co. did. I did not intend to put the commission in my own pocket, but to turn it over at the end of the contract. You may have your opinion on that point and of course I have mine. I received from the Philadelphia Engineering Works \$100 gold. The date was some time in 1896; I believe in the second half. I think I deposited the \$100 in the Bank to my account. This \$100 was outside all commission and discount. It was put in my statement of July 6th 1897.

At this point the hearing was adjourned till 10 a.m. on Wednesday, the 22nd inst.

WEDNESDAY, December 22nd.

Mr. Litchfield appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Lowder for the defendant company.

Mr. Lowder resumed the cross examination of the plaintiff—I received the \$100 gold bonus from the Philadelphia Engine Works at the end of June. It was not a commission but I put it in my account. I cannot say exactly when I received the commission of \$72 from L. Schlutee & Co. I don't remember whether I told the agent of the American Trading Company the exact amounts, but I told him they would appear in the account. I did not keep a special account of what commissions were due. I do not know of any commissions being paid to any agent of mine in America, but I sent a power of attorney to my brother to collect any commissions due to me. I do not know whether a commission of \$211 from the Port Wade Electric Company was paid to my brother. I do not remember whether Mr. Morse returned from the United States in March. I don't remember whether about that time Mr. Stone asked me if I had received any commissions from America, more especially from the Worthington Company, or that I had written to my brother to collect 5 per cent. from the company on the order sent through the American Trading Co. I remember the conversation between Mr. Morse, Mr. Stone, and myself on the 11th May last. Two days before I had received a letter proposing a new agreement for 3 years. The conversation took place in Mr. Morse's private office. I said that I wanted to consult my friends at home and the companies I represented before I gave an answer. I don't remember Mr. Morse during that conversation asking me if I had received any commissions, and my replying "not one cent." I believe Mr. Morse did mention something about my writing to my brother about a 5 per cent. commission from the Worthington Pumping Engine Co. I don't remember the exact words. I don't believe that I stated to Mr. Morse that I had never written such a letter. I believe I said it would appear in my statement. On the evening of May the 13th, at Mr. Morse's house, I believe I also stated that I should account for all commissions received in my statement at the end of my engagement. In conversation with Mr. Morse in the office on the afternoon of the 13th, I declined to state before Mr. Stone, whether I had received any commissions from America, but would give a full explanation in Court if they took proceedings as they threatened. I had a conversation with Mr. Trigloan on the afternoon of 13th and he advised me to go up to Mr. Morse at his house and make a full explanation to him, and I did so. I did not tell Mr. Morse that I came to make a confession. I had no confession to make. I remember I told him different matters which I wished him to thoroughly understand. I gave him an explanation and told him what I had received and what I expected to receive in the way of commissions and that all would go into my statement. I don't remember what specific items I mentioned beside the Ingersol commission. Mr. Morse seemed satisfied and said he would see Mr. Stone in the morning. The agency of the Worthington Company was improperly taken away from me by the people with whom I was associated—I do not consider

they were my employers, but that I had a share in the business. I don't think a copy of a letter dated Oct. 15th, 1895, from the American Trading Company in New York to the branch here, regarding the Worthington Pump Co.'s agency was given to me by Mr. Stone. I might have seen the letter. I do not remember a copy of another letter from the New York office of the American Trading Co., dated Dec. 14th, on the same subject, being handed to me by Mr. Stone, nor another dated Jan., in which it was stated the agency had been taken from me. I never saw the latter letter. Mr. Stone showed me a telegram on the 3rd Jan. from New York to the effect that from the end of that month the agency for the Worthington Company was to be transferred. I don't know whether the American Trading Co. had at that time accepted the agency. The matter was not discussed between Mr. Stone and myself. I asked for an explanation of the transfer from Mr. Stone, but could get none. I received a short letter from the Worthington Company informing me of the transfer, and dated the 3rd January, 1896, the same day that the cablegram was received. The advertisement of Worthington pump, etc., in the *Kogyo Zasshi*, I inserted in January 1897, and continued up till Sept. 20th. I don't know whether the translation of "sole agent" is right. I believe I subscribed myself as "agent" simply. The Worthington Company had written to me desiring me to continue a kind of agency for sales. I may have told Mr. Stone that I was advertising in the Japanese paper.

Mr. Lowder—Yesterday you made a charge against the American Trading Co. that they tried to take the Ingersol agency from you. Have you any evidence to that effect, or will you withdraw it?—I have no written evidence of it but I heard it in conversation and thought it quite probable, as the company had treated me in that way with the regard to the Worthington Company. I am quite willing to withdraw the charge. I don't think my writing to the Ingersol Company would tend to prevent the defendant company getting the lowest terms from the Ingersol Co. I believe I showed Mr. Stone my bank book some time in 1896. Some one had seen it on my desk and had remarked that rather heavy deposits were being made by me when I was only supposed to be receiving 200 yen per month. I heard these rumours and went to the agent and spoke to him about it, showing him my book. It was somewhere about May, 1897, I think. I explained that I had had a small legacy left me, about £90, which I paid in to my account in several instalments. The bank book was the Hongkong Savings Bank pass book. I don't know whether I said anything to the agent at the time about commissions. About that time I transferred my account to the Mitsui Bank. The first deposit I made in that Bank was the 3,200 yen from the Ingersol Co. That was on the 7th May. I did not change the account for the purpose of concealment; but because I could get a better rate of interest at the Japanese bank. The 3,200 yen did not all belong to me; part of it did. It was left to my honesty to pay it in at the end of the agreement when a statement of account was made. I have not advanced any right to pay myself. It on settling up my share of the profits did not amount to the sum of the commissions I retained of course it would have been my duty to return the balance. When I received the commission I believed I was within my rights to retain it till I made up my statement.

This concluded the cross-examination of plaintiff and the Court adjourned till 2 p.m.

Upon the Court reassembling after, the plaintiff was re-examined by Mr. Litchfield—

He said:—The book produced is one of the pass-books of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. I believe that according to the rules I cannot deposit more than 250 yen at one time. The interest allowed is at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum. The other book produced is my deposit book at the Mitsui Bank. In that Bank I can deposit any amount at one time. The rate of interest allowed by the Bank is 5 1/100 per cent. per annum. I have not received any direct communication from the Worthington Co. on the point of selling their pumps only in Japan, referred to in the letter of the American Trading Co. of 15th Oct. 1895. I received a letter from the Philadelphia Engineering Works on May 26, saying that they had received the order for certain machinery through the American Trading Co., and that as I had quoted a price under their net rates there was no further reduction to be allowed, but as I had been working in their interests they had decided to allow me \$100 as compensation to myself. This was the \$100 which appeared in my statement of account of July 6th, 1897. The item of \$125 from the Philadelphia Engineering Works was the sum referred to in the letter dated 21st

May 1896, addressed to me, in which 2½ per cent. commission on an order for \$5,000 was promised. This item appeared in my statement as a commission due. My letter of 6th July to the American Trading Co. was a reply to their letter to me of 30th June.

To an Associate (Mr. Davidson)—I received a statement of account from the American Trading Co. at the end of the first year. I did not render them any statement then as I had none to make. I also received a statement up to June 1896, but none since. I have several times verbally demanded a statement of account but was put off on account of the office being busy. I did not publish the Worthington pump advertisement in any other engineering journal except the *Kogyo Zasshi*. I believe that the notices published in the *Kogyo Zasshi* by the American Trading Company were not inserted in any other engineering journal. All the engineering business done by the American Trading Co. during my connection with them was not done through me and my department, as was called for by my agreement. My contract with the Worthington Pump Company was in writing and was terminable at one month's notice. I am familiar with the misrepresentations which were made by the defendant Company to the Worthington Company. They were embodied in a letter written to me by the Worthington Company and I can further prove them by a witness now in Yokohama. (Letter produced and put in; exhibit S). The letter was dated July 26th and explained that the change of agency was made not through any dissatisfaction with plaintiffs management of the business but because the company understood that plaintiff had entered into the employment of the American Trading Co., on a salary, and that they understood that all their goods would be handled by plaintiff as before. They regretted that plaintiff should feel injured by their action and were willing to make any reparation in their power.)

Plaintiff, continuing, said—From my way of looking at it, the letter actually showed that the Worthington Company considered me to a certain extent to be their agent still. On receiving the last letter from the Worthington Company, objecting to my representing myself as the agent of the Company after the agency had been transferred to the American Trading Co., I withdrew the advertisement in the *Kogyo Zasshi*.

At this point Mr. Lowder said that if the Court desired it he was quite willing to withdraw his objection to the production of the series of letters between the Worthington Company and plaintiff, and the letters were put in as exhibits, and read by Mr. Lowder.

Mr. Lowder to plaintiff—Where, in the correspondence read, do you find any authority to act as agent for the Worthington Co. after the agency was transferred?—In their letter of July 21st, 1896, the Worthington Co. state:—"We made the arrangement with the American Trading Co. with the express understanding that you were to handle the goods and we have no expectation of doing any business without your assistance." In the letter of July 30th, 1897, they say to my brother that they propose sending one of their own men to Japan to go over the ground carefully, as they believed they could do better than they were for themselves. These were the only letters on which I founded my belief that I was still an agent of the Worthington Company.

The hearing of the case was here adjourned till 10 a.m. on Thursday.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "JAPAN TIMES.")

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

London, Dec. 16.

The brigades comprising Sir William Lockhart's force have been engaged in the severest fighting with the Afridis that has occurred since the capture of Dargai, and there have been heavy casualties, principally owing to night attacks on the rear guard and the waggon train. Lieut. West, of the Gurkhas, was killed; and Captain Norrie and Lieutenant Champain, of the Gurkhas, and Lieutenant Shortt of the Scots Fusiliers, were wounded.

A CONTRADICTION.

An official despatch denies the massacre at Bahr Gazal of Major Marchand and his following while on an expedition to the Nile as recently reported.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

In a test match at Sydney, Stoddart's team made 551, to which Prince Ranjitsinghi contributed 175. The Australians, after being all out for 237, followed on, and had got 126 runs with one wicket down.

MRS. CAREW.

London, Dec. 17.

Sir Matthew White Ridley, Secretary of State for the Home Department, has directed that Mrs. Carew shall undergo her life sentence at Aylesbury Convict Prison.

CRICKET IN AUSTRALIA.

In the test match at Sydney the Australian were all out for 408.

THE LATE FIRE IN CRIPPLE-GATE.

At the enquiry into the recent great fire in the City of London, a witness proved that there was an out-break in Walter Brown's show-rooms in two places simultaneously. The City Solicitor stated that it was clear that the fire was not accidental.

STARTLING MURDERS.

London, Dec. 18.

Alphonse Daudet and an actor named Ferrise were stabbed to death as they were entering the Adelphi Theatre by a former super named Archer.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

The Emperor William, at a banquet given previous to the sailing of the German squadron for China, in toasting Prince Henry, said that his mission was intended to be effective for the protection of his countrymen, but if anyone attempted to affront or prejudice Germany, strike with your mailed hand. Prince Henry, in an extraordinary speech, said—My only desire is to preach abroad the gospel of your sacred majesty.

The steam liner *Darmstadt* has been chartered to carry the German force intended for Kiao-chou and has already sailed.

London, Dec. 20.

The German China Squadron has arrived at Spithead. Prince Henry has proceeded to Osborne to take leave of the Queen.

THE ENGLISH AND GERMAN PRESS AND THE EMPEROR WILLIAM.

The English press generally, commenting on the recent utterances of the Emperor William and Prince Henry of Prussia, ridicules the extravagance of the Kiel speeches which are more suitable to heroes of melodrama. The German papers are tolerably outspoken in their comments, and especially in their references to Prince Henry's speech, which, they say, either verges on blasphemy or is altogether incomprehensible.

DEATH OF SIR W. E. MAXWELL.

The death has occurred of Sir W. E. Maxwell, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Gold Coast.

THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST.

London, Dec. 21.

The Times, in discussing the occupation of Port Arthur by a Russian squadron, states that Great Britain cannot remain indifferent to the changes now taking place, which, by their effects upon the Peking Government and the redistribution of naval power, may seriously affect British commercial supremacy.

The Times re-affirms the advantages of the possession by Great Britain of Chusan and some of the smaller islands at the mouth of the Yangtze, where a self-supporting station could be easily established.

The Times believes that the Japanese Government is likely to demand the retention of Wei-hai-wei.

DEATH OF SIR FRANK LOCKWOOD.

The death is announced of Sir Frank Lockwood, Q.C., M.P.

THE CRYPTOGRAM.

By R. A. Cleland, New Zealand.

A letter and parcel for you, uncle, both from Naples. The parcel must be of value, for it is registered. I had to sign for it.

"Why, it is from Anstruther. Let me see. He says he has been poking about the ruins of Pompeii for some time; has seen many wonderful things—houses, baths, theatres; no 'New Women' or 'New Boys' though. What's this! has made a discovery—forward to me—hopes I may be able to make it out. Give me the parcel quick."

So saying the professor jumped up in a state of the greatest excitement, and began opening the package, which was so securely fastened that his patience was nearly exhausted before he unfolded the contents.

"Why, it is an ancient manuscript; here is Pliny's name on it. It is of immense value!"

Professor Landel lived within a stone's throw of the South Kensington and Natural History Museums, which institutions, being a man of leisure, he was in the habit of visiting almost daily. He was an enthusiastic antiquarian and archaeologist, who was never tired of applying his great learning to the elucidation of the mysteries of the past, so that his excitement on receipt of the letter just described may be easily imagined. His niece, Ella Currie, was a fair-haired, blue-eyed maid, rather under than over the average height, of a particularly happy disposition, inclined to take a too superficial view of the professor's labours, but in spite of this his confidante and adviser. She was his right-hand man, if such an expression may be allowed, and to her he would unfold his plans, confide his hopes, and discuss the discoveries he had made before publishing them to the world. These two now eagerly examined the manuscript which lay before them, and of which the following is a copy.

Pro.....

.....- C - p - - - - - p - P - - - /
- p - E - - - - - P - Ep P p - - /
 P - P - - - - - T - - C R /
 Al.....ties.....ere

C.....Plinius.....dus.

It was written on papyrus, was in good preservation, and was all perfectly legible except the parts indicated by the dotted lines.

"It's a cryptogram," said Ella. "How delightful! Perhaps it's a love letter. Fancy old Pliny writing a love letter! I have read how to decipher them. You have to look for the letter which appears oftenest, and it is an 'e'; then you take the next one, and it is 'i' or 'l'—or is it 'c'? I'm sure I forget; but we will soon find out. Let us try."

"My dear girl," said the professor, testily, "do not jump to conclusions so fast. I believe the document is written in cipher, but your rule will not apply, for there are not sufficient letters altogether to form an intelligible sentence. It is something much deeper than an ordinary newspaper puzzle, and will take much time and patience to solve."

"Oh, I know what it is, uncle. It is music, see the bars. It's the sol-fa notation, only they used different letters at that time. What was the Latin for 'doh'?"

"How absurd you are, child. You forget that this manuscript was written sometime before A.D. 79, the year in which Pompeii was destroyed, while Curwen, the inventor of the tonic sol-fa system, died quite recently."

"How aggravating!" exclaimed Ella. "But, uncle, is it not possible that Mr. Curwen accidentally hit upon the same method of writing music as was employed by the ancients?"

"That is certainly worth consideration," replied the professor, thoughtfully, "and I think I will consult Herr Metronome on the point. Another idea strikes me. Caius Plinius Secundus, called the Elder, was a literary man who wrote on natural history, art, and sciences; but at the same time he was an admiral of the Roman navy, and I would not be surprised if the mysterious document was an order to the fleet in cipher, or a plan of naval manoeuvres. I think I will write to Commander Navicula as well as to Metronome."

"Yes, do; and at the same time would it not be well to ask Cousin George what he thinks?" suggested Ella, who was a good deal interested in Cousin George, "he is so clever."

Well, I do not see what a barrister can know about it, but if you wish I will consult him also, only I fear that between his law and his chess he will have little time to devote to it."

The professor set to work, and by the evening had made three copies of the cryptogram. He wrote explanatory letters to his three friends, and sent a copy to each, requesting them to reply at their earliest convenience. For the next three days uncle and niece could talk of nothing else. They made all sorts of suggestions, but without arriving at any satisfactory result, so that it was a great relief when a letter at length arrived from Herr Metronome. It was in the following terms:—

Dear Professor,—The cryptogram which you sent me, and on which you ask my opinion, is undoubtedly music—the uniformity of the bars proves that—and it is in the notation which is now called the tonic sol-fa. Although I have searched every authority, I have been unable to find the Latin words which the letters indicate, and I have therefore been compelled to treat them as arbitrary signs denoting a musical sound or note just the same as our own doh, me, soh. Now in reading a cryptogram the rule is that the letters appearing oftenest are those most commonly used, so that it did not take much discrimination to see that p stood for doh and P for me. It would weary you if I detailed the methods I adopted to find the other notes and to arrange the dashes; suffice it is say that I have satisfied myself that the result which I now set before you is what was intended by the author. Singularly enough, you will see it bears a wonderful resemblance to a well-known tune, and, stranger still, the instructions for its performance indicate the title.

Yours faithfully, A METRONOME.

PROLUSIO.

—:— | —:— | —:— | —:— | d:— | d:m |
 :—d | :—m | r | d:— | m:d | m:— | —m |
 f:sl |

Ald languere sine tristitia canere.

To be sung with faintness, without hardness—piano. Caius Plinius Secundus.

"That seems perfectly satisfactory," said the professor meditatively, "but how strange it is that after a lapse of more than 1,800 years Mr. Curwen should have adopted a musical notation which he could not possibly have known was used by the Romans. It shows—"

"Gracious, uncle, it's 'Auld lang syne!' Just listen to this," and Ella hummed over the well-known tune.

"What an extraordinary thing; it makes the discovery more wonderful than ever. There is nothing new under the sun. It just shows—"

Again the professor was interrupted, this time by the postman's knock. Ella flew out of the room, and almost immediately returned with another letter, which she handed to her uncle. "From Navicula. Let us hear what he has to say," said the professor, tearing it open. "Humph! he has got a solution also. Just listen to this my dear —"

Dear Professor,—The cryptogram which you sent me, and on which you ask my opinion, is undoubtedly the plan of a naval manoeuvre. The letters signify the names of the ships, and the dashes denote the distance apart in cables as follows:—

PRONUNCIATUM.

Pylhus	reguator	
Publcola		
Tiberius	pictor	Cesar
Catullus	Ereptor	plautus
Romulus		
Philippus		pacivius
Eversor		Pompeius
polybius		
Paulus		
propretius		

Alius ex alio classis in tres divisiones procedere (one after the other the fleet will advance in three divisions).

CAIUS PLINIUS SECUNDUS.

The above shows that the Romans were tacticians, and knew how to manoeuvre a fleet; and by the way, it is worthy of notice that the names

of the warriors are in capitals, while those of the literary men are in small letters, showing that in those days the sword was mightier than the pen.—Your faithfully,

C. NAVICULA.

"It is very extraordinary that we should get two solutions quite contradictory, and both feasible from two men who are both equally positive as to the correctness of their conclusions. I don't know what to think."

"Wait until you hear from Cousin George," said Ella; "he will let us know which of the two is correct."

In due course his letter arrived, and was as follows:—

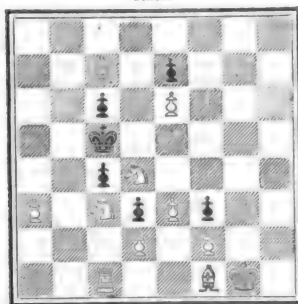
Dear Uncle,—At the first examination of your mysterious document I could make nothing of it. I thought it might perhaps be a summons in cipher or an affidavit or other legal writing, and spent many hours trying to decipher it, but in vain. Suddenly a light dawned upon me. I saw that each division, or bar, as I may call it, contained eight dashes or letters. There were eight bars, making altogether sixty-four separate signs—seventeen letters and forty-seven dashes. Now, as you know, I am a bit of a chess enthusiast, and it occurred to me at once that this might signify a chess board with seventeen pieces on it, represented by letters. Further examination revealed the fact that if I counted the dashes and substituted figures I had a position in the Forsyth notation. Feeling that I was on the right track, I set to work to discover what the letters stood for, and in this did not experience much difficulty. C., count, a tutor, or curvus, bent, signifies a bishop, the latter term being an allusion to the shape of the piece; P., pedes, a foot-soldier, pawn; R., rex, king; E., eques, a horseman, knight; T., turris, a tower, castle, or rook. The capital letters indicate white pieces, the small letters black and now the cryptogram would be stated in the Forsyth notation as follows:—

PROBLEMA.

8 | 2 B | p 3 | 2 p | P 3 | 2 k 5 | 2 p K | 5 |
P | K | P P 2 | 3 P | P 2 | 2 R 2 B K | 1 |
Albi trahunt et in tres motus reprimere.

DIAGRAM OF ABOVE POSITION.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Whether this is a correct interpretation of your manuscript I must leave you to decide, certainly it is intelligible and on examination you will find the problem is a good one, taking into account the difficulties under which Pliny must have labored. It is very strange, no doubt, that Mr. Forsyth, of Edinburgh, should adopt the same method of indicating chess positions as was used by Pliny before the destruction of Pompeii, and can only be accounted for by the "similarity of ideas in great minds." With love to Ella—I am,

Your affectionate nephew,

GEORGE.

"Well," said Ella triumphantly, "I knew Cousin George would solve it; he can do anything. What awful rubbish the others made of it; they simply turned everything to suit themselves. I have no patience with such people, while George—"

"Gently, gently, we have no certainty that George is right, and there is much to be said for the views of the other gentlemen. I feel this is too great a discovery to be kept secret and I will therefore send the particulars and the whole of the correspondence to the papers and allow the public to judge for themselves." So saying, the professor dismissed Ella, and set to work to get his manuscript ready for the press.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246 Wm. Ward, 18th December,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 27th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003. Henry Pybus, 20th Dec.—Vancouver B.C., 7th Dec., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,622, F. Birmann, 21st Dec.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 12th Dec., General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, A. Gow, 21st Dec.—Victoria B.C., and Tacoma, Washington, 29th Nov., Mails and General.—Dodwell Carill & Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Bleeker, 23rd Dec.—Hongkong, 17th Dec., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

DEPARTURES.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 18th Dec.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 19th December,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Rosetta, British steamer, 2,039, N. P. Pollock, 19th Dec.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Della, German steamer, 3,200, Christiansen, 20th December,—Havre, and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, Henry Pybus, 21st Dec.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Saio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,652, G. W. Conner, 21st Dec.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, Chief Officer, 22nd December,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Columbia, British steamer, 1,689, A. Gow, 23rd Dec.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell Carill & Co.

Wm. H. Smith, American ship, 1,811, Brown, 23rd December,—Manila, Philippine Islands, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco, via Honolulu:—Edward Bedloe, U.S. Consul at Canton, Dr. and Mrs. A. Abrams, Miss Virginia Hodges, Rev. Geo. D. Fitch, Mr. T. Ueta, Mr. Cha. Wuttiki, Mr. and Mrs. J. Howard, Mr. J. Ings, Mr. A. Don, and Mr. F. T. de Souza and son, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver B.C.:—Mr. E. L. Thorne, Mr. J. A. D. McBain, Rev. A. and Mrs. Lea, Mr. S. Fujimura, Mr. T. Sassa, Colonel H. P. Haskell, Dr. H. de H. Carreron, Mr. J. Sakurai, Miss Takase, Mr. T. Furuya, Mr. J. Harris, Mr. Thos. Walsh, Mr. C. T. Oldham, Mrs. Awaysa, Mr. J. Nishikawa, Mr. E. W. Griffith, Mr. Z. Horokishi, Mr. H. W. Lew, Mr. S. Kishibiki, and Mr. H. Bulman, in cabin; 6 second class, and 23 in steerage. In Transit, for Kobe:—Mr. R. H. Smart, and Mr. R. Howie, in cabin, and 9 in steerage. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. Sturman and child, Mr. J. G. Bullard, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Ewan, Mrs. Stoff, and Miss Stayner, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Miss T. Miller, Mr. D. W. Craddock, and Miss J. D. Eppes, in cabin; 3 in second class, and 299 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Columbia*, from Victoria B.C., and Tacoma, Washington:—Messrs. C. F. Snyder, Mr. D. Kuhl, Mr. J. Ciemingham, Mr. C. Rosenthal, Rev. A. E. Shortland, Mr. E. W. Budgett, Mr. P. Hinkley, Mr. Thienband, and Mr. Williams Jr., in cabin; 5 Japanese and 72 Chinese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. T. Ohana, Miss Ada Booth, Dr. and Mrs. Colbourne, Mr. S. Koushi, and Mr. S. C. Mc. Blubsbergen, in cabin; Miss Shackleton, Miss Bullock, Mr. H. C. Jensen, and Prof. M. Ogata, in second class, 2 Chinese in third, and 18 Chinese on deck. For Kobe:—Mr. M. Wessel, Mr. Z. Chernizek, and Mr. R. Koga, in second class. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. Rone Osuga, and Mrs. Othama, in second class.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Silver, Mr. J. S. Ransome, Mr. W. R. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Harrison, Admiral Sir Nowell and Lady Salmon, Mr. Duncan M. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Weithimer, Mr. W. J. Blackhall, Mr. Alf. Woolley, Mr. W. B. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Barretto, Mr. D. M. Clarkson, Mr. J. Conder, Mrs. E. W. Tilden, Prof. Clay MacCanley, Mrs. Chas. M. MacCreary, Miss M. C. Clarke, Mr. Chas. Rogers, Prof. Divers, Miss Divers, Mr. Becker, and Mr. E. L. Blundon, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco:—Mr. L. Cox, Mrs. Croswell, Mrs. A. Chopin, Hon. J. Sloat Fassett, Mr. Newton C. Fassett, Miss S. F. Hennen, Mr. F. C. Hotelling, Miss V. C. Murdock, M.D., Mr. F. Morsberger, Dr. A. L. Shapleigh, Mrs. A. L. Shapleigh and infant, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Townsend, and Mr. W. S. Ward, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import market generally is utterly stagnant, with the exception of a few small transactions in fancy cottons and woollens to meet immediate demands for the New Year holidays. No business of consequence can be anticipated for at least three weeks or a month to come. Quotations are purely nominal.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.50 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	1.80 to 3.35
P. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 35 inches	0.18 1/2 to 0.25
Velvets—Black, 55 yards, 21 inches	7.75 to 9.90
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12-3 inches	0.75 to 1.00
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2 yds, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 1/2 yds, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.40 to 2.70
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 1/2 yds, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.

	PER PIECE.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 37 inches	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Medium Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 21 yards, 37 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 yds 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 yds 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds 56 inches	0.50 to 0.85
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 1/2 yds	0.50 to 0.60

COTTON YARNS.

	PER 100 LBS.
No. 16 24, Singles	\$3.50 to 39.50
No. 28 32, Singles	41.00 to 43.00
No. 38 42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
No. 32, Doubles	46.00 to 48.00
No. 42, Doubles	51.75 to 54.50
No. 2 60, Plain	61.00 to 62.00
No. 2 80, Plain	75.00 to 77.00
No. 2 100, Plain	99.00 to 100.00
No. 2 60, Gassed	72.00 to 79.00
No. 2 80, Gassed	89.00 to 95.00
No. 2 100, Gassed	112.00 to 124.00

RAW COTTON.

	PER 100 LBS.
American Middling	\$19.75
Indian Broach	17.75 to 20.00
Chinese	20 to 20 1/2

METALS.

Nothing doing, or expected to be done, till after the holidays. Prices remain nominal.

	PER PIECE.
Round and square 1/2 inch. and upward	4.15 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.20 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	5.10 to 5.30
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.20 to 10.50
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.50
Pig Iron, per box	5.90 to 6.00
Hoop Iron (1 to 1 1/2 inch)	5.00 to 5.25

KEROSENE.

Some small transactions have taken place but no business of consequence can be expected still after the New Year holidays.

	PER 100 LBS.
American	\$2.05 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.10
Langkat	1.96

SUGAR.

A small, steady business in Brown has continued during the week for the supply of confectioners, at firm rates. White refined is also in fair demand at former prices.

	PER 100 LBS.
Brown Takao	\$4.50 to 4.55
Brown Manila	4.50 to 5.35
Brown Daikong	3.90 to 4.00
Brown Canton	4.00 to 4.50
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 7.00
White Refined	7.30 to 8.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The business, which received a new impetus about a fortnight ago, has now dropped to a very small amount, sales during the period from the 18th to 24th instant only amounting to about 850 piculs, at firm prices. Stocks are light, scarcely anything having come into the market since

last week when the total visible supply stood at 10,000 piculs of all sorts. The *Rosetta* took 1,138 bales for Europe on the 21st inst.; and the *Belgic* 1,184 bales for America on the 18th. Quotations are nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nominal
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	\$330 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	920 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	840 to 850
Kakedas—No. 1	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 14	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

A small business only has been transacted since the 18th inst., at former rates. The *Rosetta* shipped 231 bales for Europe on the 21st inst.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$115 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 67½
Noshi—Bushi, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushi, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Joshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 57½
Kibiso—Filature, Best	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 22½

TEA.

The total transactions of the six days terminating on the 24th inst. amount only to about 20,000 catties, while stocks are reduced to 226,900 catties, of all sorts, mostly very inferior. The only shipments during the week have been 260 packages by the *Belgic* on the 18th, and a few parcels by the N. Y. K. steamer *Matsuyama*, on the same date, both for America. Quotations are nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nominal.
Choice	\$31 to 32
Finest	32 to 33
Fine	30 to 31
Good Medium	28 to 29
Medium	24 to 25
Good Common	22 to 23
Common	20 to 21

EXCHANGE.

Silver ¼ higher than reported yesterday without rates being affected in any way.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/0½
— Bills on demand	2/0½
— 4 months' sight	2/0½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0½
— 6 months' sight	2/0½
On Paris—Bank sight	254½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	258½ to 9
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 to 2 ½ d.
— Private 10 days' sight	4 to 4 ½ d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	74½ to 5
— Private 10 days' sight	77½
On India—Bank sight	160
— Private 30 days' sight	165
On America—Bank Bills on demand	49
— Private 4 months' sight	50½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.06
— Private 4 months' sight	2.10½
Bar Silver (London)	26 ⅞

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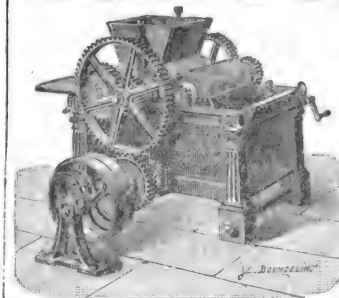
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9632

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for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its
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could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls,
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spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas,
and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up
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May 1st, 1897.

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COPIES of the NEW TARIFF, as passed
by the Imperial Diet, can be obtained at
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